



## **Resistance within the Plantation of Captive Nations: Obstacles, Dangers, and Paths for the U.S. Anti-Systemic Movement**

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**Abstract:** The United States of America is the most consolidated and powerful settler-state at a world scale in the late neo-colonial period. The existence of an anti-systemic resistance movement within the Imperial metropole of the settler-capitalist world-system has world-historic significance. This article argues for the existence of an emerging U.S. anti-systemic movement and considers what the obstacles, dangers, and paths are for such movement. The article presents a new model of the class composition within the United States to answer questions of class organization. In other words, the article analyzes the objective conditions of the United States as it relates to the anti-systemic movement in general and the subjective conditions of the anti-systemic within the United States in particular. The article then discusses the obstacles and dangers ahead for the U.S. anti-systemic movement. It finally recommends a singular path for consolidation of the U.S. anti-systemic movement.

### **Introduction**

The United States of America is the most consolidated and powerful settler-state in the late neo-colonial period. Why is it the most consolidated? How did it become the most powerful empire in human history? In this article, the author presents a new model of describing the United States of America as a “Plantation of Captive Nations”, which elucidates the social relations of the imperial apparatus both on a world scale as global hegemon and as capitalist entity within its fortified borders. We will examine why accumulation on a world scale produces a false consciousness among the captive diaspora of humanity.

Additionally, we shall provide an existence proof for a US anti-systemic movement and examine why a totally anti-systemic movement is theoretically possible but does not concretely exist. An analysis of the various obstacles ahead for the US anti-systemic movement is presented and we shall state the potential dangers for such movement. There will be a sketching of the four strategic trajectories that are possible for anti-systemic movements given their history within the United States. Finally, the author will recommend a path for anti-systemic movement consolidation.

### **Amerocentric Order**

The development of a world-system follows one fundamental rule: systemic change flows from the periphery to the core (Amin 1976). It is from this singular characteristic the topology of barbarism is laid bare. How else could tiny encampments established by the backwater of the extreme periphery of the pre-Columbian world order become a global empire? Americanism, the ideology of the world empire, promises salvation by the great light bringer as it creates a new world order where the anointed may choose to do what thou wilt. The wiles of the Americanist



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entity ensnare entire societies for the behemoth to devour with its unceasingly hungry maw. The accumulation of waste from de-development produces the prima materia needed for reanimation: revenants rise to take the remaining souls for their master (Kadri 2015).

The development of proto-Americanism broadly had three phases: (1) the origins of European settlements in North America from the arrival of Columbus in 1492 to the establishment of the first Anglo settler-colony of Jamestown in 1607 (Horne 2020); (2) the expansion of the permanent Anglo settlement in North America produces the construction of Whiteness cum ideology and the period of European inter-imperialist conflict until the Glorious Revolution of England in 1688, which reconfigured the class hierarchy with the mercantilist class reigning supreme (Horne 2018); and (3) the road from the ultimate victory of the Great British crown as *rex mundi* to a counter-revolution by reactionary coalitional forces composed of Colonial financiers, planter aristocracy, and settler workers in 1776 (Horne 2014).

The nascent settler confederation eventually congealed into a settler-state, where the coalition of class forces consolidated into a dictatorship of the settlers. With the means to reproduce the settler-colonial system of class rule, the Americans liquidated the first nations of North America to provide living space for the destiny of the settler class to be manifested. The expansion of the settler-state required an expansion of the trans-Atlantic market for Africans as property and their perpetual enslavement to be able to sustain the scale of destruction needed for the old glory of the red, white, and blue to extend from sea to shining sea.

The de-development of the first nations on North American soil and super-exploitation of slave labor produced the surplus value necessary to create the Capitalist mode of production. There is no honor among thieves and no promise holds on stolen land. From Jefferson to Hitler, the dream of every man a king means to own is to rule – this is what so-called Western civilization is (Césaire 1955).

### **Plantation of Captive Nations**

The development of a settler-colony into the greatest empire in human history is the teleological conclusion of accumulation on a world scale. This state and its imperial reach are the global dictatorship of the ruling settler-capitalist class. The 1991 triumph of world empire against the developing democratic ambitions of most of humanity was a catastrophic blow to planetary liberation. Washington is triumphant and, in its foolish pride, has declared a permanent war against all of humanity (Amin 2004).

If imperialist war is the eve of socialist revolution (Lenin 1917a), then permanent war is the eve of world revolution. Yet everywhere the revolutionary subject is bound in chains. Unlike its fascist kin Nazism and Zionism, Americanism is so hegemonic many inhabitants of the United States do not even recognize it, let alone recognizing as having any ideology at all. This fact is an enormous barrier to the development of class consciousness and maturation of anti-systemic movements who wish to transform such a social order.



If we wish to comprehend the total complexity of the global hegemon, then we must move beyond the crude analytical methodology where capitalism is the singular class regime. The development of the world empire precedes the history of capitalism as a form of social organization. Contrary to pervading dogmatic misunderstandings of imperialism, empire is not exclusive to capitalism. Most importantly, fundamental to the construction of capitalism as a mode of production is thievery. Settler-colonialism is the perpetual reproduction of stolen land, stolen labor, and stolen life. The continuation of thievery can be seen with neo-colonial regimes on a world scale as this undergirds the class regime of settler-colonialism (Ajl 2024). To use precise scientific terminology, the United States of America and its allies are the collective dictatorship of monopoly and finance capital using militaristic and economic imperialism to perpetuate the regime of settler-colonialism through neocolonial practices. The blindness plaguing many people within the United States is quite simple: settler-imperial being produces fascist consciousness as Amerocentric order is apartheid on a world scale (Yeros & Jha 2020).

However, if the plantation never ended, then who are those held captive by the US? A curious development of US settler-capitalism is the requirement of importing labor from elsewhere to perpetually create an expanding settler class able to reconstitute the internal contradictions within the capitalist class regime. This cuts both ways. There are those who migrate due to their alliance with imperialism, capitalism, and settler-colonialism and there are those who migrate due to imperialism destroying their countries, capitalism plundering their national resources, and settler-colonialism displacing them from their homeland. The result is the same: the composition of social forces within the United States is the diaspora of humanity.

The fate of the world diaspora inside the empire is tied to the historical process of their origins and the liberations of their nation. To be American is to foolishly accept the creed of America: theft is a virtue and giving is a vice, what is mine is mine and what's yours is also mine, always look out for number one. The only hope for the cohering of progressive forces into poles of resistance against the world-system is the re-proletarianization of these social forces by delinking from the Americanist entity, the plantation of captive nations, through the construction of a truly anti-systemic movement.

### **Labors of the Modern Heracles**

If would-be leaders in an anti-systemic movement within the belly of the beast are a reification of heroism in the age of imperialism, epoch of settler-colonialism, era of monopoly capital, and period of late neo-colonialism, then the labors testing the modern Heracles necessitates being told for the path to victory to be elucidated.

The following taxonomy can best be understood as six obstacles for progressive advancement of an emerging anti-systemic movement which must be overcome to produce a totalizing resolution of the immanent contradictions within the interlocking system of systems and six dangers for such movement to guard against to prevent defeat by the dominant class forces of reaction. In plain



terms, these are the contours of hitherto existing class struggle. Only a complete overcoming of all twelve tasks can the conditions be ripe for the overthrow of the existing social system and begin the process of social transformation toward an alternative vision for a sustained project of advanced collective human organization known as civilization.

### *Obstacles*

- (1) Principal contradiction on a world scale: the dynamics of the imperialist core and exploited periphery produce global contradictions preventing the victory of world socialism and the fall of capitalist reign (Lenin 1917a) (Amin 1976).
- (2) Capitalist ideological hegemony: politics must always be in command as ideology is subordinate to it (Mao 1942).
- (3) Fragmented class structure: the most organized class is the class which rules (Lenin 1902) (Mao 1937c).
- (4) Unresolved internal contradictions: we live under class dictatorship, only through the democratic flourishing of the people can world history progress (Fanon 1963) (Mao 1957).
- (5) Prevalence of reformism: if the enemies of the people are in power, then the people cannot negotiate with such a power structure (Jackson 1972).
- (6) Absence of revolutionary cadre and organic leadership: the goal of revolutionary leadership is to create the means to replace oneself (Mao 1943).

### *Dangers*

- (1) Repressive state apparatus: class regimes are regimes of force and will not simply allow being replaced (Lenin 1917b) (Fanon 1963).
- (2) Bourgeois cooptation and class collaboration: dominant classes will seek to divide and convert proletarians into class traitors (Lenin 1902).
- (3) Racial, national, and gender chauvinism: adopting the ideology of who oppresses you can only be used to continue oppressing you (Fanon 1963).
- (4) Failure to resolve internal contradictions and factional splits: only unity can produce struggle and only struggle can produce unity (Mao 1937a; 1937b; 1937c).
- (5) Ultra-leftist adventurism: leading the masses requires patience as being haste can alienate potential allies (Lenin 1920).
- (6) Rigid dogmatism: socialism must be scientific in theory and practice (Mao 1929).

### **The City of Woe, or Strategic Trajectories**

The United States of America has never successfully had a fully anti-systemic movement in its history, but this was not without trying. A graveyard of attempts litters the history of anti-systemic movements within the US, all of which have been crushed by the weight of the historic task facing such resistance forces. Whether due to intense state repression, forces becoming compromised, or simply an inability to resolve the contradictions internal to an anti-systemic movement, the result has been the same: *failure*. When examining these various movements, one can observe broadly



four patterns of strategic trajectory: (1) collapse, (2) splintering, (3) cooptation, and (4) consolidation. The first three has been the path of all US anti-systemic movements due to an inability to harbor solutions for the obstacles and dangers common to such movements. Only by overcoming all obstacles and dangers can there be a consolidation of the anti-systemic forces into a totalizing anti-systemic movement with the capacity to initiate and complete a process of social transformation to enact systemic change.

### *Collapse*

The most severe failure of an anti-systemic movement is when such movement fails to overcome critical obstacles to consolidation and succumbs to hazardous conditions of mass scale state repression or is unable to address subjective contradictions internal to the movement. In other words, the forces collapse to the extent of being neutralized and completely disintegrates as a collective force – no leadership, no unified base, and no ability for collective action. The demobilization and shattering of organized proletarian forces can be described nothing less than a complete and total victory for the allied forces of the ruling class in a particular society.

Two prominent examples of anti-systemic movement collapse come to mind. The first is the Knights of Labor of the 1890's, which can be considered the first major attempt at an anti-systemic movement within the United States following the maturation of monopoly capital. While being moderately anti-systemic at best due to its pursuance of reform of capitalism, the movement collapsed following a mass crackdown in reaction to the Haymarket Affair fueling anti-labor sentiment, a significant amount of class collaboration and cooptation coalescing around the creation of the AFL, and failure to address both internal contradictions in general and racial chauvinism in particular.

The second example was the Occupy Wall Street movement in 2012, which briefly emerged following the collapse of the existing financial order ruling since the 1970s' neo-liberalization and financialization of the capitalist world-system. The collapse came about from its deliberately horizontal, leaderless incoherence and strategic ineptitude preventing the anti-systemic movement to forge any meaningful defense from the carceral expulsion of encampments, lack of capacity to reproduce political agents willing to participate in extralegal direct occupation of lands to produce counterhegemonic ideological shift in the public consciousness, and insufficient inertia to counterweight the internal contradictions.

When anti-systemic movements collapse, there is a mass demobilization that produces ideological confusion and breeds opportunist tendencies toward reformism and bourgeois cooptation. Why bother building alternative power structures when there is no alternative?

### *Splintering*

Another trajectory for anti-systemic movements is when there are significant unresolved internal contradictions and factional splits on various positions, whether ideological, strategic, or tactical,



which are never resolved and are magnified through some combination of prevalent ultra-leftist, dogmatic, and opportunist tendencies that leads to movement to fragment into smaller formations leading to a splintering of the anti-systemic movement. This is the most common trajectory for US anti-systemic movements which had at least a moderately developed anti-systemic character.

To illustrate this tendency, we shall briefly examine three prominent US anti-systemic movements that resulted in a splintering. The first is the Socialist Party of America, which was the first successful consolidation of a partially anti-systemic movement in the history of the country. The creation of this organization was an enormous victory for the possibility of socialist organizations within the United States as it led the most successful electoral campaigns for socialists holding public office until the Democratic Socialist insurgency of the late 2010's and early 2020's. The historic principled opposition to the First Imperialist Wars of the 20<sup>th</sup> century led to a high-level of state repression against the anti-systemic movement which hollowed out the party of cadre and leadership. As can be surmised, the party's reformist tendencies gained momentum and the inability to resolve the internal contradictions between the reformist and revolutionary tendencies led to a split of the revolutionary pole aligned with the Bolshevik revolution to create the Communist Party USA in 1919.

The second movement we shall examine is the Students for a Democratic Society which splintered into various formations in 1969. While the SDS was subject to state repressive tactics such as infiltration and surveillance, the fundamental cause of this historic splintering was due to a total failure to resolve ideological and strategic contradictions within the organization between an uncompromising ultra-left faction known as the Weather Underground calling for an immediate armed insurrection and everybody else. This example was so cataclysmic it is the quintessential example of the danger ultra-leftism has played in US anti-systemic movements, albeit not as important historically as pretty much every other danger.

The third and most important example is the late Black Panther Party of the 1960's and 70's. Other than the Communist Party USA, the Black Panthers were the closest the United States has had to a truly anti-systemic movement as it partially overcame almost all obstacles, except resolving its internal contradictions. This is precisely the weakness exploited by the extremely high-level of state repression utilizing the full operational capacity counterinsurgency campaigns have available to them: surveillance, infiltration, misinformation, confusion, converting cadre into informants, and outright assassination of leadership. Unfortunately, the historic advance of this anti-systemic movement was cut short because it was successfully overcoming the obstacles needed to consolidate.

The splintering of anti-systemic movements is a favorable result for the ruling class as it produces distrust, sectarianism, and cooptation of deradicalized segments of formerly united anti-systemic resistance forces to use as proxies for your class rule.

### *Cooptation*



The last strategic trajectory to be avoided is also the most obvious for those who reject the hegemonic ideology, but endgame for those with reformist tendencies, which is the reproduction of the existing system through a different arrangement of class rule either through a disavowal of social transformation or compromising with dominant class alliance with the mistaken belief of “building power.”

To understand this phenomenon, let us examine the Civil Rights Movement. While never truly approaching the shape of anti-systemic character as any other example we have engaged with, there is without question the world-historic impact this movement has had in global consciousness. Begun in the 1950s, the Civil Rights Movement began with the hope to dash racial chauvinism once and for all in order for the common prosperity of all descendants of those stolen from Africa to flourish within the US. While this movement continues to exist today, it inhabits a moribund vessel seeking to consume all whom wish to bite into its rotten fruit for sustenance. The movement led by the morally unimpeachable Martin Luther King Jr. who spoke of a received dream of salvation for all of humanity has become fully integrated with the coming of Black settler dominion personified: Barack Obama. The same movement for political rights led to positional advancements of world imperialism not seen since Ronald Reagan, the conqueror of the Soviet Union. We have not fully understood the magnitude of such betrayal.

For an anti-systemic movement to prevent becoming a vehicle of cooptation requires a revolutionary cadre and combatting reformist tendencies within the movement as the failure to lack of the former is dialectically intertwined with the persistence of the latter. There is no such thing as a revolutionary reformist cadre, it is a contradiction.

### *Consolidation*

With over a century of sustained defeat, victory seems impossible. For a US anti-systemic movement to be victorious, there does need to be extremely favorable conditions over a sustained period to maintain a strategic trajectory progressing towards systemic change. The only path for triumph against the forces preserving the ruling order is to consolidate the progressive poles within the imperial core towards alignment with the anti-systemic movements of the rest of humanity. The closest analogues to such a trajectory were the Communist Party USA in the 1930’s and the early Black Panther Party of the 1960’s, but they were not able to maintain this consolidation process for the sufficient period necessary to be able to emerge victorious.

The importance of resolving internal contradictions within an anti-systemic movement is paramount while maintaining a very sophisticated defensive posture towards the various dangers, especially high levels of state repression and cooptation. This is why the development of revolutionary cadre and reproduction of organic leadership from all oppressed nations will be principal to overcoming the task ahead of us. If the social forces within the United States are the diaspora of humanity and an anti-systemic movement wishes to truly be anti-systemic at its highest level, then there must be revolutionary cadre from the entirety of the diaspora of humanity. The immensity of what is being described does not evade recognition by the author, but this appears to



be merely one step towards consolidation of anti-systemic forces. However, if the anti-systemic movement were to be aligned with overcoming the internal contradictions within such movement, which is necessarily pooling from the diaspora of all of humanity, of all captive nations, then such movement is also aligned with overcoming the principal contradiction on a world scale: the liberation of humanity from the yoke of world imperialism.

## Conclusion

Much has been left unsaid. It is the author's position there are many potential research avenues in this domain of inquiry, which are severely understudied for a multitude of reasons. The reconceptualization of the world order away from the Eurocentric power structure persisting for centuries towards a collective imperial cartel with the United States as a global Godfather known as Amerocentrism has been spoken about but not with precision (Amin 1988).

A deeper series of investigations on the exact nature of Amerocentric order in its totality from 1492 until today and its intimate relationship in the extant capitalist world-system still needs further clarification. Furthermore, the depth of the plantation of captive nations model is unknown as this is original architecture to the best of the author's knowledge. Additionally, the twelve labors taxonomy is a novel composition of hitherto existing revolutionary theory. Finally, there is no history of the US anti-systemic movement as one continuous progression towards ultimate victory. The article is a humble attempt to begin establishing such a unified theory.

To discuss the world-system as it really is to ascertain an alternative arrangement for collective human civilization leads to disquieting recommendations for the dominant classes but galvanizing for the world's oppressed majority. The character of anti-systemic movements in their subjective conditions have a superficial veneer of distinction, but when such movements are totally aligned in their anti-systemic logic with the principal contradiction on a world scale, much remains the same. As above, so below. In the final analysis, the recommended vehicle of organization for the US anti-systemic movement to consolidate is a Communist party.

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