

Brutal Crack-Down on Student Protest in Kerala (India)

Students were attacked during a protest against the Kerala government's policy regarding admission to private medical colleges and increasing commercialisation of education



on June 29th. At least 26 students, two of them seriously, and five police officials were injured. Students were about to remove barricades outside the state secretariat. When the police caned them, they retreated into the compound of the Uni-

versity College. Students began to throw stones, while the police used tear gas and entered the campus. This is the second time in less than a week that police used force to tackle

student protests. The students say that the management of private colleges was given a free hand in the admission process. The protest march was organised by the Student Federation of India (SFI).

Call for Feedback:

Uniting in our Struggle Globally in November 2011?

During the last Global Chat Meeting (June 12th), which was joined by about 30 activists around the world, the participants decided to publish the following call and invite to another Global Chat Meeting on July 31st to discuss the feedback.

We suggest coordinating actions in our struggle against the increasing commercialisation of education and for free emancipatory education on

the global level together for November 2011. We suggest using the International Joint Statement, which is currently being endorsed by close to 80 groups in 30 countries, as a content basis. So instead of creating a new one we encourage everyone to support and help to re-circulate the already existing one. Nonetheless everybody is free to initiate an alternative statement, of course. Further-

"Los Indignados" Reclaim Syntagma Square in Athens

Mass protests and general strikes have invigorated Grecians and brought the country's wheels of commerce to a grinding halt. Syntagma Square, in Athens, has been occupied for nearly two months, with protesters calling for an end to sanctions forced on them by the IMF and their own government. Two recent days of General Strikes, called for June 28 and 29, left thousands of Greek residents broken and bloodied, but they came out victorious after rebuilding Syntagma Square and continuing the fight for justice.

The sight in the square was something I had to see for myself during a recent trip to Athens. Syntagma Square has become its own tent city complete with chemical toilets, a media center, yoga workshops, information booths, a kitchen, trash pick-up, and emergency services. It's enough to make any activist proud.

Squares and streets throughout Greece continue to fill with people

more, we suggest calling for a global day of outrage for free emancipatory education on November 17th, 2011. We call on all peoples' assemblies,

searching for change, though mainstream media typically reports only the most violent of these activities. Reports from protesters maintain that both uniformed and undercover police officers make up much of the violence, with police using expired and prohibited tear gas on protesters.

Every Sunday evening at 9PM general assemblies are held. The democratic process is in its most pure state here, since everyone who wishes to speak has at least 1.5 minutes to do so. After that, the audience may hand-signal that the speaker's time is up, at which point the speaker may or may not continue speaking. Essentially, how long the speaker stays on the microphone is up to the hundreds of people (from children to the elderly) sitting or standing in the crowded square. Majority rules. Resolutions are proposed and voted on by the masses, and the minutes of the meetings are recorded and put on the Internet that same evening. The collective

groups and networks identifying with our struggle to discuss this idea locally and give feedback to everyone on the ISM platform.



Alternatives, such as a Global Week of Action (Nov.14-20th) or a Global Month/Wave of Action, should be considered as well.

One important question is how we can connect the different activities worldwide as part of the Global Day/Week/Month/Wave of Action better. Everyone is asked to think of

voice guides the direction of the movement in Athens, but everyone is heard. I admit I could not understand a word of the all-Greek proceedings; unfortunately I am a typical monolingual United States citizen. However, the energy and the passion for life and change exhibited by the shouting children and old women banging on cooking pots, is a universal language. (So for the English updates, I go to this site: www.metamute.org).

The brave and democratic measures continue in Greece, Spain, Germany, and all over the world. The actions of these dedicated masses have brought hope and vigor to those who hear about them, including those in the U.S. A.. People's Assemblies are beginning to spring up around the globe, and they need to start appearing in the U.S. A.-- if they can maintain a truly democratic process without being co-opted. That is always the challenge.

ideas on this regard. A Special Chat Meeting to coordinate common actions based on the feedback from peoples' assemblies, groups and networks around the world is scheduled for July 31st, 2011 at noon EST/ 4pm GMT/ 6pm CET/ 9.30pm IST on ism.speege.com.

Feedback can be given through the ISM (global) mailing list (international_students_move@lists.riseup.net) and be posted inside the forum: www.ism-global.net/coordinations_nov2011 Questions? Suggestions? Contact: united.for.education@gmail.com.

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