

Worker-communist Party of Iraq

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Worker-Communist Party of Iraq** (Arabic: الحزب الشيوعي العمالي العراقي, translit.: *Hizb al-Shuyu'i al-'Ummali al-'Iraqi*) is a Marxist political party in Iraq and amongst Iraqi exiles. Rebwar Ahmed is the current leader of this party. It was Established in July 1993 through a merger of communist groups.^[1]

They opposed both Saddam Hussein and the American-led new administration.^[2] Under the Ba'athist regime, the group was persecuted, and so operated primarily in the Kurdistan region, and overseas in the United Kingdom and Australia (where they were among the founders of the Socialist Alliance).

The Party was also persecuted in Kurdistan and went underground in 2000 after numbers of attacks by Patriotic Union of Kurdistan.^[3]

They are involved in the Federation of Workers Councils and Unions in Iraq, the Organization of Women's Freedom in Iraq and the Union of the Unemployed in Iraq. They have produced a newsletter called *Iraq Weekly* and an English newspaper called *Forward*.

It is a sister party of the Worker-Communist Party of Kurdistan and previously had a good relation with Worker-Communist Party of Iran - Hekmatist. In March 2005, members of the WCPI, along with members of other groups and other individuals, formed the Iraq Freedom Congress with the purpose of forming a secular and democratic Iraq.

Contents

- 1 Published works
- 2 See also
- 3 External links
- 4 References

Published works

- Batatu, Hanna. The Old Social Classes and New Revolutionary Movements of Iraq, *London, al-Saqi Books. 1978, republished, 2004. ISBN 0-86356-520-4*
- Salucci, Ilario. A People's History of Iraq: The Iraqi Communist Party, Workers' Movements and the Left 1923-2004. Haymarket Books (2005) ISBN 1-931859-14-0

Worker-communist Party of Iraq	
الحزب الشيوعي العمالي العراقي	
Chairperson	Rebwar Ahmed
Founded	1993
Ideology	Workerism Communism Third camp
Political position	Far-left
Website	
wpiraq.net (http://wpiraq.net/)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Politics of Iraq Political parties Elections 	

See also

- Worker-communist Party of Kurdistan
- Worker-communist Party of Iran
- Mansoor Hekmat

External links

- Worker-Communist Party of Iraq (in English) (<http://www.wpiraq.net/english/>)
- Worker-Communist Party of Iraq (in Arabic) (<http://www.wpiraq.net/arabic/>)
- Worker-Communist Party of Iraq (old website) (<http://www.wpiraq.net/english/archive.html>)
- The Organisation of Women's Freedom in Iraq (<http://www.equalityiniraq.com/english.htm>)

References

1. http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/not_in_website/syndication/monitoring/media_reports/2588651.stm | BBC profile of the Party
2. http://www.rationalrevolution.net/war/communism_in_iraq.htm | April 9, 2003 Statement
3. <http://www.greenleft.org.au/node/21947> | 2000

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Worker-communist_Party_of_Iraq&oldid=654437659"

Categories: Communist parties in Iraq | Worker-communist parties | Political parties established in 1993 | 1993 establishments in Iraq

-
- This page was last modified on 1 April 2015, at 03:02.
 - Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.

Third camp

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Not to be confused with Third Position or Third Way

The **third camp**, also known as **third camp socialism** or **third camp Trotskyism**, is a branch of socialism which aims to oppose both capitalism and Stalinism, by supporting the organised working class as a "third camp".

The term arose early during the Second World War, and refers to the idea of two "imperialist camps" competing to dominate the world: one led by the United Kingdom and France and supported by the United States, and the other led by Nazi Germany and supported by Fascist Italy.

Contents

- 1 Origins of the term
- 2 Organizational support of the three camps theory
- 3 Other uses of the term
- 4 See also
- 5 References
- 6 External links

Origins of the term

"Third Camp" is a term which first emerged during the first days of the Second World War. From the 1930s and beyond, Leon Trotsky and his American acolyte James P. Cannon described the Soviet Union as a "degenerated workers' state," the revolutionary gains of which should be defended against imperialist aggression despite the emergence of a gangster-like ruling stratum, the party bureaucracy. While defending the Russian revolution from outside aggression, Trotsky, Cannon, and their followers at the same time urged an anti-bureaucratic political revolution against Stalinism to be conducted by the Soviet working class themselves.

Dissidents in the Trotskyist Socialist Workers Party, witnessing the collaboration of Joseph Stalin and Adolf Hitler in the invasion and partition of Poland and Soviet invasion of the Baltic states, argued that the Soviet Union had actually emerged as a new social formation, neither capitalist nor socialist. Adherents of this view, espoused most explicitly by Max Shachtman and closely following the writings of James Burnham and Bruno Rizzi, argued that the Soviet bureaucratic collectivist regime had in fact entered one of two great imperialist "camps" aiming to wage war to divide the world. The first of these imperialist camps, which Stalin and the Soviet Union were said to have joined as a directly participating ally, was headed by Nazi Germany and included most notably fascist Italy. The "second imperialist camp," in this original analysis, was headed by England and France, actively supported by the United States.^[1]

Shachtman and his co-thinkers argued for the establishment of a broad "third camp" to unite the workers and colonial peoples of the world in revolutionary struggle against the imperialism of the German-Soviet-Italian and Anglo-American-French blocs. Shachtman concluded that the USSR's policy was one of imperialism and that the best result for the international working class would be the defeat of the USSR in the course of its military

incursions. Conversely, Trotsky argued that a defeat for the USSR would strengthen capitalism and reduce the possibilities for political revolution.^[2]

With the demise of fascism in World War II and the emergence of Soviet-controlled governments in Central and Eastern Europe, the "three camps" conception was modified. Now the leading imperialist camp was held to be that of the chief capitalist powers — the USA, the United Kingdom, and France — with the Soviet Union consigned to a second imperialist camp.

Over time, Shachtman's aggressive calls for the defeat of official Communist nations' expansionism (the second camp) drifted rightward into support for the capitalist nations (the first camp). This position has led orthodox Trotskyist groups to declare the position reactionary. However, some supporters of the three camps analysis split with Shachtman and continued to develop their analyses of the changing world situation.

Organizational support of the three camps theory

The Congress Socialist Party of India also adopted a Third Camp position, with the slogan “We want neither the rule of London or Berlin; nor the rule of Paris or Rome; nor that of Tokyo or Moscow.” (September 1939).^[3]

A third camp position is held today by the Workers Liberty groups,^[4] *New Politics*,^[5] and by some in the multi-tendency Marxist organization Solidarity in the United States, as well as some in the Democratic Socialists of America and the Socialist Party USA.

Other uses of the term

More recently, a movement by the Worker-Communist Party of Iran and its leaders such as Hamid Taqvaei and Maryam Namazie, together with groups including Left Worker-communist Party of Iraq, has emerged calling for a "Third camp opposing US militarism *and* Islamic terrorism"[1] (<http://www.thirdcamp.com/indexe.php>). This, however, is unrelated to the Trotskyist third camp theory, as neither organisation comes from a Trotskyist background.

See also

- Anti-Bolshevik Communism
- Anti-Stalinist left
- Centrism
- Neoconservatism

References

1. See, for example, "Against Both War Camps — For the Camp of World Labor!" the May Day 1940 manifesto of the Workers Party, the political offshoot of the SWP established by Burnham, Shachtman, and Martin Abern in April 1940. (*Labor Action*, "Special May Day Preview Number," May 1, 1940, pg. 1.)
2. A series of sharply critical articles and letters from Trotsky's debates with Shachtman was published posthumously under the title *In Defense of Marxism*. Cannon's polemics against Burnham and Shachtman are contained in the book *The Struggle for a Proletarian Party*.
3. Sherman Stanley "India and the Third Camp" (April 1940) (<http://www.marxists.org/history/etol/writers/judd/1940/04/india.htm>)
4. Workers' Liberty and the “Third Camp” (<http://www.workersliberty.org/node/3186>)

5. Alan Johnson "The Third Camp as History And a Living Legacy" (<http://www.wpunj.edu/newpol/issue27/johnso27.htm>)

External links

- Max Shachtman, The Soviet Union and the World War (<http://www.marxists.org/archive/shachtman/1940/04/ussrwar.htm>)
- Leon Trotsky, Balance Sheet of the Finnish Events (<http://www.marxists.org/archive/trotsky/works/1940/1940-finnish.htm>)
- Pierre Frank, Under Pressure of the Coming War, Imperialism Beckons “Third Camp” (<http://www.marxists.org/history/etol/writers/frank/1951/12/3rdcamp.htm>)
- Tony Cliff, Marxism and the theory of bureaucratic collectivism (<http://www.marxists.org/archive/cliff/works/1948/xx/burcoll.htm>)

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Third_camp&oldid=601063639"

Categories: Trotskyism | Marxist theory

- This page was last modified on 24 March 2014, at 17:50.
- Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.

