

Mumia Abu-Jamal für die Rosa-Luxemburg-Konferenz 2016

Transkript

### **The Luxemburg Conference**

Wie geht's meine Freunde in Deutschland? Lang lebe John Africa. Lang lebe Samiya Abdullah.

It's been one year, since Samiya, our beloved daughter, returned to the ancestors.

We remember her here, as she was here, not long ago.

What is the state of play in the USA, today?

We are witnessing here, as you are there, the growing crisis of capitalism. As social forces fight for a better life there, they fight for life itself here, against the system that appears to be more and more repressive every day.

In Germany, we read of the social and political pressures posed by the increasing flow of refugees from Syria and other embattled countries. The US with four times the population of Germany, will accept one tenth the number of Syrian refugees.

Yet we cannot ignore that refugees are flowing in fright, from a war supported by US-imperialism. And these are but ripples from the illegal, corrupt, and stupid US-invasion of Iraq, which caused havoc in the region, and continues to do so today.

In a nutshell, the capitalists want war abroad and repression at home.

The neo-liberal press and the political classes fitfully stoke the fires of fear, to keep workers distracted from their interests, to continue doing the bidding of the corporate state.

In America immigrant has become a dirty word, especially if the immigrant is an Arab. Political voices call for the banning of all Muslims from the United States. And while similar calls may be heard from Germany, or France, or Britain, they come from minority parties on the fringe.

In America they are center stage. In America, there is also a war at home. Or be it one-sided?

Just recently I read a sparkling statistic comparing US-police violence to British police violence. In one month, March 2015, US-police killed 111 people. That is contrasted with the fact, that this number exceeds the number of persons killed by all police in the United Kingdom since 1900. Moreover, in the entire year of 2013, British cops opened fire three times, killing no-one.

This is staggering. Black youths in the US, organizing primarily as 'Black lives matter!' have shone a harsh and unflattering light on the US-police practice. And have consequently drawn heavy criticisms from right wing and fascist forces in US-society. They have also been beaten and shot by these forces in an unsuccessful attempt to intimidate or silence them.

They march on. A living tribute to their ancestors, like Martin Luther King Junior, Dr. Huey P. Newton, Fannie Lou Hamer and Kwame Turé.

There have been shameful cases of cops shooting people, lying about it on police reports, only to have videos released later, showing unprovoked murders. This in the age of Obama, which quickly fades into history, while black communities are economically under siege and police behave as if they are in Iraq or Vietnam.

The specter of mass incarceration remains a cancer on the American body politic, largely unchanged from the age of Bush. For many in Black and Latino America, prison remains the public response of first resort, even as states nearly go broke and close public schools in dark communities.

Nor is there any real relief in sight in the realm of politics as the Obama era winds down and the Democratic Party prepares for the ascension of Queen Hillary, the wife of Bill Clinton, the architect of the modern day incarcerated state.

If there is any bright light in Babylon, it is the mass protests and organizing done by black youth all across America. Begun by black women, they are bright, energetic, uncompromising. Every time they take to the streets, they prove that Black lives matter, especially in America, the prison house of nations.

Danke Comrades! Bewegung! On a move! Hier spricht Mumia Abu-Jamal.