

May Day 2013

On this Mayday 2013, to our Friends, Allies, Compañeras y Compañeros, the First of May Anarchist Alliance wishes warm and revolutionary greetings! To our enemies and those who continue to betray, exploit and oppress humanity, be warned, the struggles for liberation and social justice continue to press forward – sometimes in small gestures of love and decency, at other times in popular and social revolutionary insurrection.



We have witnessed two years of global upsurge and struggle – with its acute signs starting in Tunisia and Egypt and spreading out across Africa, Asia, Europe, the Americas and a thousand points in between. As the resulting optimism has started to wane, we are now faced with the limits and complications of what has been an early stage of mass and radical social action. These struggles called into question the entire logic and authority of the System and in a fully democratic and “from below” fashion. All questions of politics and organization were put on the table, discussed, debated, tested and retested. We can’t ignore many of the real problems that the movements faced, but for a moment, and in such a dynamic way, the hegemony of the System was called into question. Its supremacy had been challenged.

We are still far from freedom, but its possibilities have been seen and have ignited new hearts while rekindling sparks within the minds of the older generations! Freedom is a flame that can’t be dimmed!



Now our tasks are two fold. On one hand we have to identify and promote the lessons from these last few years of struggle. This has to be done in a popular way through education and active participation in the ongoing social justice movements. Much has been done, we can’t lose sight of these exceptional experiences. For example, the centrality of class struggle was a running theme in movements across the world during this period, but as struggles have ebbed, many veterans have become confused on this score. First of May Anarchist Alliance reiterates our longstanding emphasis on a working class

orientation for our own group and for social struggles more generally: where the class struggle has been joined, we are unequivocally on the side of the exploited and oppressed.

Second, the conscious revolutionary, anti-capitalist and libertarian movements must cohere themselves. We must engage all those who have been radicalized in this most recent period, developing an active periphery of thinkers and doers. Part of the importance of the period has been the explosion of all sorts of ideas within ongoing, participatory, and directly democratic frameworks. This is essential and underlies the type of movements we need. But part of this means being able to see what is important while also developing critical estimates of what has and hasn't worked. As a group of anti-authoritarian and anarchist revolutionaries, First of May Anarchist Alliance is working to promote the necessity and importance of the radical and directly democratic features found in much of the struggle, while simultaneously attempting to clarify and build a new praxis based on these liberatory potentials.

We believe that the current task for our own group and for the broader liberation movements is to build real resistance to any and all ideas and practices that imprison, degrade and destroy humanity. The ruling classes (the bosses, multi-national corporations, and military institutions) represent the most organized anti-human system. However, other movements exist whose interests are at diametric ends from ours. We are and will remain in a struggle against reactionary, anti-human and fascist



politics and movements, which themselves seek to challenge and destabilize the current order in the hopes of establishing new regimes. Whether these movements are comprised loosely of individuals alienated and detached from actual organizations, but who exercise lethal destructive force, or mass movements who exist as actual rivals to established governments, we oppose them.

The basis of these movements is a potent mixture of extreme authoritarianism, hierarchy, patriarchy, and chauvinism (racial, ethnic, national and religious). The ideologies, strategies and tactics of these movements reduce the world a simple schema of "what ever it takes is justified". This is a dangerous tendency and it must be fought. Even amongst sections of the self-professed "Left" such views hold sway. War is a reality, but liberatory movements cannot succumb to elitism. Elitism is the politics of the ruling class and the fascists. We must choose a different path.

Against Capitalism and the State! For Dignity, Justice and Freedom – For Anarchy!

First of May Anarchist Alliance (M1) – May Day 2013
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