

A Proletarian Mirage

By KAREL HUJER

One German poet, a contemporary of Karl Marx, wrote: "Every century the Almighty sends us a satanic genius in order to tempt humanity." This really sounds like a Biblical statement. After Marx was exhumed from a forlorn and overgrown tomb in Highgate Cemetery in London and reburied in the same cemetery next to Herbert Spencer, a quotation from Marx was engraved on a new sumptuous monument: "Historians cleverly describe the world, the question is how to change it!" When Marx died in 1883 in filth and dire poverty, he never dreamed that in Russia, which he hated, a 13-year-old boy, Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov, later known as Lenin, would bring Marx's statement to an ominous fulfillment and plunge Russia and with it the entire world into an incomparable blood bath in the name of Marx.

Born in the Rhineland, deep in the Western world, son of a rich lawyer, Marx obtained a fine education and moved in privileged circles. His wife, a baroness, was a sister of the interior minister of Kaiser Germany. His arrogant character eventually ordained for him the sad life of a wandering gypsy who rarely washed himself, combed his hair or changed his underwear. Whenever possible he got drunk. He vegetated in the benevolence of his friend, Friedrich Engels. His wife was disinherited because of her husband, and their two daughters committed suicide. When his vain pilgrimage on earth ended in hatred, jealousy and contempt of humanity, he left behind a maze of unrelated delusions which started in his early verse, "We are monkeys of a frozen god."

Nevertheless, the chimeras of this pitiful life became the inspiration of rioting mobs. His picture began to be carried during workers' demonstrations. His ideas became the creative, revolutionary passions of intellectualizing groups. Ironically, with the rise of communism, Russians under the diabolic guidance of Ulyanov-Lenin have gone through an unparalleled hecatomb of blood and permanent slave labor camps (gulags) in Marx's name. All the problems which emerged 60 years ago with the Bolshevik November, 1917, usurpation of power are consequences of this one tragic life, and his enslavement continues to be with us.

Marxistic dogma, now reinforced in the enslaved world under the name of Marxism-Leninism, is founded upon two-thirds of humanity that is directly under the heels of a police-ruling communism. Its enticing promises of proletarian paradise are preached in the remaining free world and cleverly expounded in western schools of learning. If Marx considered religion as an opiate of the people, it is marxism today that is the marijuana for an unsuspecting and carefree

generation in our Western world, where it took centuries of suffering to extract every precious grain of freedom. These human rights are now under the menacing danger of extinction.

There is yet another aspect of the encroaching grip of this proletarian mirage. Marxism-Leninism comes with the glory of science as some kind of salvation. The paradise it promises in a godless cosmic mechanism negates any morality and responsible humaneness in the form of pragmatic convenience and ephemeral expedience. Marxism which had its formative period during the 19th century's triumphant rise of physical science is founded on obsolete premises now outdated by the expanded horizons of a new physics that places in doubt the exclusive dictate of the primacy of matter in the universe. Marx's "frozen god" and Lenin's figure of a monkey gazing at a human skull that still remains as a sacred memento on his desk in the Kremlin very aptly illustrate the vision of a materialistic universe. Marx based his doctrine of man's economic determinism on the dominating view of the deterministic universe of Newtonian physics: "There is nothing in this universe that man cannot eventually discover and understand." Marxism-Leninism stipulates that the universe is knowable, computable, predictable, from which it naively arrives at the absence of any god. Further, that life and all its higher qualities is a mere complex combination and vibration of ultimate particles of matter, and marxism asserts that its teaching is based on scientific method. To this the American theologian Reinhold Niebuhr comments that "the communist world that dreams of the mastery of man by gradual extension of the 'scientific method' . . . represents the ultimate despair of human existence."

All the prophecies of Marx in the domain of economy and history have proven false. Marx utterly failed in his judgment of a human being, that all man wants is his plate and shelter. Not only has Marxism not realized this material premise but it has completely failed to realize that ultimately man does not live by bread alone. This becomes ever more poignant because Marxism strives for a soul-less man. Lastly, authoritarian marxists today, no matter how loudly they proclaim themselves the custodians of science, will ultimately perform by the very power they possess in Communist countries all acts that invariably choke the spirit of free scientific inquiry, the only true condition for the advancement of science. There is no question that in Marxism-Leninism we face the greatest delusion the mind of man has ever conceived.

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