

Prashant

Why I read the WSWS

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Congratulations at completing 15 years.

Art brought me to WSWS, as I saw your reviews on Daniel Barenboim. Touching reviews by your Arts editor, analyzing artists such as Corin Redgrave reminded me of similar art movements in India.

In my student days in Mumbai I had been involved in community work in Mumbai slums and had been in touch with some far-left Maoist groups. The Maoists have many sympathisers in the art and journalist world.

The articles serve as a meta-analysis of different international trends. For me personally, it helped understand some of the issues relating to Maoism and its role, as this has a lot of support in the underdeveloped world. The WSWS also helped to clarify much of the lies that are parroted about Trotsky in left-circles. In our student days when there was no Internet, we would just listen to what seniors told us. Thus, as in many (most) activist circles, the source of knowledge is from within the group itself, a skewed perspective can develop that results in roadblocks as one progresses further and gets more involved in such groups.

Over the years I found many interesting articles and analysis as I tried to find out the dynamics behind conflicts such as former Yugoslavia. I am an Indian doctor who has stayed and worked in the Arab world for almost a decade, in Tripoli. When I would talk to Serbians they uniformly had a very different view of the conflict than what I had read in the mainstream media.

Your perspectives on Haymarket and Neo-Marxism make essential reading for all people interested in the movement of the working people.

The Arab spring-Libyan chapter has seen many interesting associations. I stayed in Libya throughout the conflict and wrote anonymously, some of which got published in WSWS too. The way the armed population

responded after their brutal suppression in February, the fall of Tripoli in August, and how a client regime tries to work out things while oil reserves are protected by the West all show the many layers of international dynamics.

We are a small group of readers here, who regularly read, discuss, summarize the articles. Your arts section continues to be the most interesting. The use of rhetoric in other sections sometimes is difficult to understand.

Keep writing and educating.



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