



This fact in one way or another effects all our ideas or values in life. This is true of all classes that make up society. Conflicts in most cases relate then to the spoils of labour.

### CAPITAL

Secondly one needs at all times to view the world, conflicts, problems from the points of view of the whole. In much the same way we look at a painting. One stands back from it and gains an overall impression of the artist's work. One may then go closer and look at some aspect which has caught our eye, realising however that it is still part of the picture. In this manner we look at the whole world and see that Capitalism dominates everywhere. From this view it is easy to see that all problems such as wars, poverty, racism, sexism, destruction of the environment, relate back along one path or another to the system of Capitalism.

### EVERYTHING CHANGES

Thirdly everything is in process of change, nothing stays the same. People are born, experience youth, maturity and finally death. Likewise hunter gatherer society gave way to class society, in which, feudalism gave way to capitalism. Capitalism which had a beginning will by the same logic sooner or later have an end.

### CONTRADICTIONS

Many people, the world over are involved in opposition to their rulers and are seeking change. In South Africa this opposition is to Apartheid - Capitalism. People seek to change their present

conditions of life to a better one. Dialectics is an understanding of the general laws which govern this process of change or potential for change.

In the language of dialectics the essence of these laws is "Development through Contradictions".

Society only changes as a result of contradictions inside it. It is these contradictions surfacing in conflict between people and classes that moves history forward. Looking now at a concrete example one will be able to see the three aspects of dialects at work in understanding the forces at work in moving history forward.

#### (1) SIMPLE UNITY

This is when we see the objects or society before any change takes place.

For example Apartheid-Capitalism. This is a class society in which one class exploits another. These two classes are inseparable under Capitalism./In other words you cannot have a racist capitalist without a black worker and likewise black workers created the power of white capital. They are locked together in one system.

#### (2) THE NEGATION

Now the opposite of a racist capitalist is a black worker in every sense of the word. This is when we see the object or society give rise to its opposite or contradiction. The capitalist is rich the worker is poor. The capitalist are few in number, the black working class is large in number. The capitalist exploits, the worker is exploited. The capitalist uses the rod of racism; Apartheid, the black worker has

consistently fought against Apartheid and all forms of oppression. The South African system produces its own gravedigger the Black working class. The fact that the capitalist and the worker are the opposite of one another continually throws them into conflict with each other. From the workers side, conflict is expressed in terms of Trade union activity, strikes, demonstrations etc. The conflict is called class-truggle and is the motor of history.

#### (3) THE NEGATION OF THE NEGATION.

This is when we see the opposites, or contradiction resolved into a greater unity. This is then in terms of our example is when the heart of the matter, exploitation which is the root of conflict is done away with. In other words when workers through revolutionary social changes create Socialism. The greater unity in this sense is the unity of the means of production created under the law of capital but now controlled by the workers themselves.

The last point of the dialectical process stresses that quantity changes into quality. In the course of struggle the working class is in the process of emancipating itself. It is changing from a downtrodden mass, full of divisions, to a collective in full command. When this happens the future of Humankind liberated, can fully partake in determining its future.

In understanding how things can change, we are in a much better position to fight against the oppression and exploitation we experience.