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Capitalism's Crises

Class Struggles in South Africa and the World

Volume 2 in the Democratic Marxism Series

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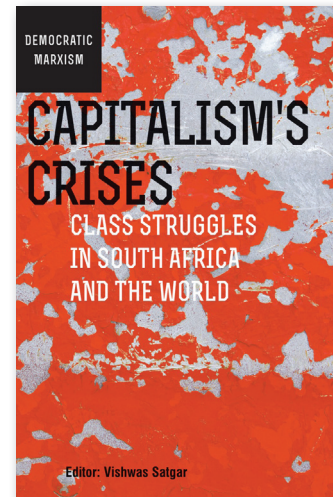
The global economic crisis is far from over and has been considered the worst crisis in the history of modern capitalism. This is a multi-dimensional crisis. Yet, it has been claimed that only more finance centred growth and neoliberal economics mainly in China, India and Brazil will avert a deepening of the crisis. *Capitalism's Crises* breaks new ground in understanding the complexity and depth of the crisis while also highlighting the response of left agency.

The contributors, from various political, intellectual and activist backgrounds across the world, draw on a non-dogmatic Marxist approach to explain the systemic and conjunctural dynamics of crisis inherent to global capitalism. The analysis asks what is historically specific to capitalism's crises while avoiding catastrophic or defeatist claims. At the same time the volume situates left agency within actual patterns of resistance and class struggle to clarify the potential for transformative change

The cycle of resistance strengthened by the World Social Forum and transnational activism is now punctuated by the experience of the Arab Spring, the agency of anti-systemic movements, left think tanks, the Occupy Wall Street Movement, labour unions, left parties in Europe such as Syriza and Podemos and peoples' budgeting in Kerala, India. On the down side we are witnessing the waning of the Workers Party (PT) in Brazil and serious challenges for South Africa's once powerful labour movement and still formative social justice activism. All these developments are assessed in this volume.

This is the second volume in the Democratic Marxism series. It elaborates on crucial themes introduced in the first volume, *Marxisms in the 21st Century: Crisis, Critique and Struggle*

Vishwas Satgar is Senior Lecturer in International Relations at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. He is the editor of the Democratic Marxism series.



'This volume shows that the processes of global change start from the peripheries of the world system. And for the visible future that reality will continue to govern the struggles for the emancipation of labour and peoples ...
— Samir Amin, is a leading Marxist intellectual and author of numerous books including *Capitalism in the Age of Globalization: The Management of Contemporary Society*.

The new global left is fighting the struggle with new instruments of transformation ... drawing attention to the plurality of left political forms, new approaches to power and ways of analysing the current crises of capitalism.'

— Dinga Sikwebu, is a former national educator of the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa) and is presently the union's national coordinator of the United Front.

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