



THE CRISIS OF CAPITALISM: A Marxist Analysis by Professor Eriņç Yeldan

Thursday 11 December 2008, 12.30 - 2pm



Once Karl Marx's words used to be thought of as being "outdated", and yet nowadays people are actually talking about capitalist crisis. This crisis has exhibited the anarchic, unstable and crisis prone nature of the capitalist system. As Marx said : "The greatest obstacle that capitalist accumulation faces is capital itself."



Professor Eriņç Yeldan is a Marxist economist who has analysed the current crisis. In an interview with the Turkish newspaper *Millyet* he said: 'This crisis is fundamentally a phenomenon of decoupling of the frantic speculative games (and gains) of the liberalized financial world from the reality of the real economy. Together with financial liberalization, the short sighted, speculative judgment of finance capital leapfrogged ahead of the goals of industrialization. For example, James Petras and Henry Weltmeyer have calculated that, for each \$1 used in the real economic sector, there is a turnover volume of \$25-30 in the global financial markets. The "Tulip Period" has come to an end for the global finance network which has been detached from the world of production and real earnings, and has enjoyed its days of speculative profits, speeded by virtual transfers. This phenomenon has appeared in the US as a mortgage crisis, i.e. housing credit, whereas in Europe it is liquidity In fact, overall capitalism is a system of chaos and anarchy.'

Prof. Yeldan received his Ph.D. from University of Minnesota, USA, and joined the Department of Economics at Bilkent in 1988. He served as Chair to the Economics Department between 1998 and 2003. During 1994/95 he was a visiting scholar at the University of Minnesota where he taught *Applied General Equilibrium Analysis*. He later visited International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, D.C. and worked as a research associate. During 2007/2008 he was a Fulbright scholar at University of Massachusetts, Amherst and at Amherst College. Dr. Yeldan's recent work focuses on development macroeconomics and on empirical, dynamic general equilibrium models with emphasis on the Turkish economy. He is one of the executive directors of the *International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs)*, New Delhi, and also a fellow of the Economic Research Forum (ERF), Cairo. His papers have appeared in numerous journals including the *European Economic Review*, *World Development*, *Journal of Policy Modeling*, *The Developing Economies* and *Journal of Development Economics*. He was a recipient of Young Scientist Award of the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA) in 1998.



WLRI: Room JS3-96 London Metropolitan University,
31 Jewry St, London EC3N 2EY
11th December 2008, 12.30 -2.00pm, (with sandwich lunch)

Spaces at this event are limited, please register in advance
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