

Introduction to Communism

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Chapter 1

What is communism?

Communism is a system where the means of production are owned by the community. The means of production are the tools that are needed to produce something. For example, machines in a factory are means of production.

It is different from the system most of the world has now. That system is called capitalism. It lets certain people or groups own the means of production while all other people work for them.

Because the owners the means of production under capitalism, who

are also called the bourgeoisie, want to continue owning them, they often spread lies about what communism is and what happens while we get to it.

Often, they say that communism is when everyone owns everything. This is wrong. Only the means of production are owned by the community. The things that aren't used to produce something, also called personal property, can still be owned by a single person. Someone can still own a watch or a bicycle under communism. But the factories that produce watches or bicycles are owned by the community.

Sometimes they also call anything the state does communism. This is also wrong. Actually, there is no state under communism. It just isn't nec-

essary. There are no reasons to fight about the means of production because they're already owned by everyone. And if someone wants to get them for themselves or starts a fight about personal property, the community will resist them.

Very often they say that communism is impossible, that humans will naturally try to get the most for themselves and only themselves. But they're wrong. Early humans did not have a single group owning the means of production. It was better for them to help their community, because they couldn't live without it: the community defended each other against the many dangers that were there.

Some say that the times have changed, the systems became more complicated, and communism can't exist

now. It's true that it's not possible to immediately make a society communist now. This is why there is a step towards it called socialism. Socialism is possible, and it exists right now in a few countries.