Nnamdi nwajide

3/29/23

BR:communism and marx’s ideals from the manifesto

The communist manifesto is one of the most influential pieces of literature ever written.The reason for this is because of the fact that this piece of writing influenced many of the events and ideas for thought of the 20th century and beyond.The historical context was very important surrounding the time period this piece was written in which this was the time during the industrial revolution. A  time in which we can look back to see that the conditions and norms surrounding workers at the time was not desirable. Though Communism and Socialism were very broad ideas before Marx and Engels wrote the manifesto as well, both of these ideas at the time were mainly associated with the working class.For this Cpa i will be going over many of the points that were discussed in this piece of literature.

 One of the first points that this writing goes over is that Marx argues that class struggles, or the exploitation of one class by another ruling class is the main motivating force behind all historical changes.Marx also said that these struggles between the ruling classe’s motivations which is to try and exploit workers as much as possible and the working classes motivations which is to get as much as possible makes these two classes antagonistic to each other.Which means that at some point a revolution is inevitable from the workers and a different new class then emerges as the ruling class.Marx says this when he says that“And here it becomes evident that the bourgeoisie is unfit any longer to be the ruling class in society and to impose its conditions of existence upon society as an overriding law. It is unfit to rule because it is incompetent to assure an existence to its slave within his slavery, because it cannot help letting him sink into such a state that it has to feed him instead of being fed by him. Society can no longer live under this bourgeoisie; in other words, its existence is no longer compatible with society.”This quote is talking about how the bourgeois is unfit to rule over the working class because of the fact that their motivations are to make the working class a slave to it.

Another one of the main points in the manifesto that i wanted to go over is the idea of historical materialism that was created by Marx in the manifesto.To go into the specifics historical materialism is an analysis that looks at history and its past through the lens of class struggles.As well this idea looks at the fact that society as we know it is constantly changing over a long period of time in that the economic systems that we use change overtime.This idea was groundbreaking at the time because many people then and still today think that capitalism is the end mode of production for the rest of history.Though Marx challenged this idea and even went so far as to say that capitalism is just apart of one of the developments along human society and that socialism is the inevitable next stage.This idea is very interesting since many people today would still hold the idea that Capitalism is the last stage in human development and our systems of production will not change though Marx argued against this very fact not just stating Historical Materialism but also claiming that Capitalism is destined to fall.

The final talking point I will be going over from Marx in the communist manifesto that really stuck out to me was the fact that he talked about how the Proletariat is a unique class.He further goes on to explain that the working class is very unique in that they are fully aware that they are being exploited this was not entirely true in other societies as well as one of his other most important  point is the fact that they have to destroy the entire system of class exploitation he says this when he says”The immediate aim of the Communists is the same as that of all other proletarian parties: formation of the proletariat into a class, overthrow of the bourgeois supremacy, conquest of political power by the proletariat.”In this quote Marx is going over what I stated earlier in that one of the main end goals of communism is for the working class to overthrow the ruling class and they are called to do it.As well he went further on to explain that after the proletariat is finished with overthrowing the ruling class the Proletariat will become the new ruling class which fulfills Marx’s vision of communism.

The communist manifesto is one of the most famous and revolutionary literary pieces of all time.This piece of literature inspired the famous russian revolution and overthrow of the Czar government in russia in the 20th century which caused a lot of events thereafter.Even today there are many countries that some would call Communists or Socialist.Not only this but so many leaders all the way up to today have been inspired by Marx’s teachings and have truly resonated with him.Not only leaders but many civil rights activist in the 60’s to beyond were usually socialist such as MLK,Angela davis, and Huey newton,and  and a lot of their aims had those socialist principles in mind.