Using Democratic Institutions to Smash Democratic Aspirations (the Brazil Model): The Twenty-Fifth Newsletter (2019)
PS: coming up at the end of the month is a symposium on ‘Revolution Today: Political Islam and the Tasks of the Left’ to be held at our offices. It is a two-day event, which we are holding alongside the Centre Ibn Rochd des Etudes et des Recherches.

Warmly, Vijay.

On Ola Bini, jailed for over two months in Ecuador.

At Putli Ganju,

The persecution of Lula is a story that is not merely about Lula, nor solely about Brazil. This is a test case for the democracies of Latin America and the aspirations of the people. It is the methodology of democracy without democracy, a Potemkin Village of liberalism.

What was the real corruption in this case?

Yutaka Takanashi, Tokyo-jin, 1983.

What has been the role of the United States in the Lava Jato investigation?

Clarity now emerges around the political persecution of Lula. But what is still blurry for many is the actual case... Why was Lula arrested?

Lola Alvarez Bravo, Unos suben y otros bajan, 1940.

Is there evidence against Lula?

There are two narratives that exist to answer this question. The first—the official narrative, propagated by the left-wing media—uses the same tactics used to discredit Lula. But it is important to note that the left-wing media also has its own agenda. The second instance of corruption is the role of the United States in this case, and the payment to Dallagnol's department for services rendered.

What was the real corruption in this case?

Messages seemed to constantly be exchanged between the Moro and the Lava Jato team led by Dallagnol. These have now been revealed by The Intercept. Odd how the US Department of Justice officials visited Judge Moro during the investigation, and how US Assistant Attorney General Kenneth Blanco said it would transfer 80% of the fines it received from Petrobras to the Public Prosecutor's Office to set up an 'anti-corruption investment fund'. It is fair to say that this is a payment that expresses alarm at what they see as procedural irregularities in the case against him. The Intercept also published reports that included data about the Interbank. This data was obtained through undercover investigations. It is a significant development in the fight against corruption. The Intercept has been covering the case against Lula from the beginning.

The Intercept that expresses alarm at what they see as procedural irregularities in the case against him. They call for the immediate release of Lula. The political motivations are now on the record: they, on behalf of the oligarchy, did not want Lula – who remains the Workers' Party (PT) candidate for President of Brazil – to run against them in the upcoming elections.

Former OAS director Léo Pinheiro, who had been convicted of money laundering and corruption in 2014 and was to serve 6 years and 6 months in prison, was given evidence against Lula; for this evidence, his sentence was reduced. There was no material evidence against Lula.

Asociación Americana de Juristas – a non-governmental organisation with consultative status at the United Nations – has called Lula a political prisoner. Lula was convicted of corruption and money-laundering, despite a lack of solid evidence. The Brazilian Code of Criminal Procedure says that one can only go to prison when their appeals run out. Article 5 of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption says that only a court may determine that someone is guilty of corruption. The United Nations Convention Against Corruption says that only a court may determine that someone is guilty of corruption. This newsletter is dedicated to providing a primer on Lula and the case against him.