



2009: From Oakland to Iran to Copenhagen —

The World Cries Out for Revolution

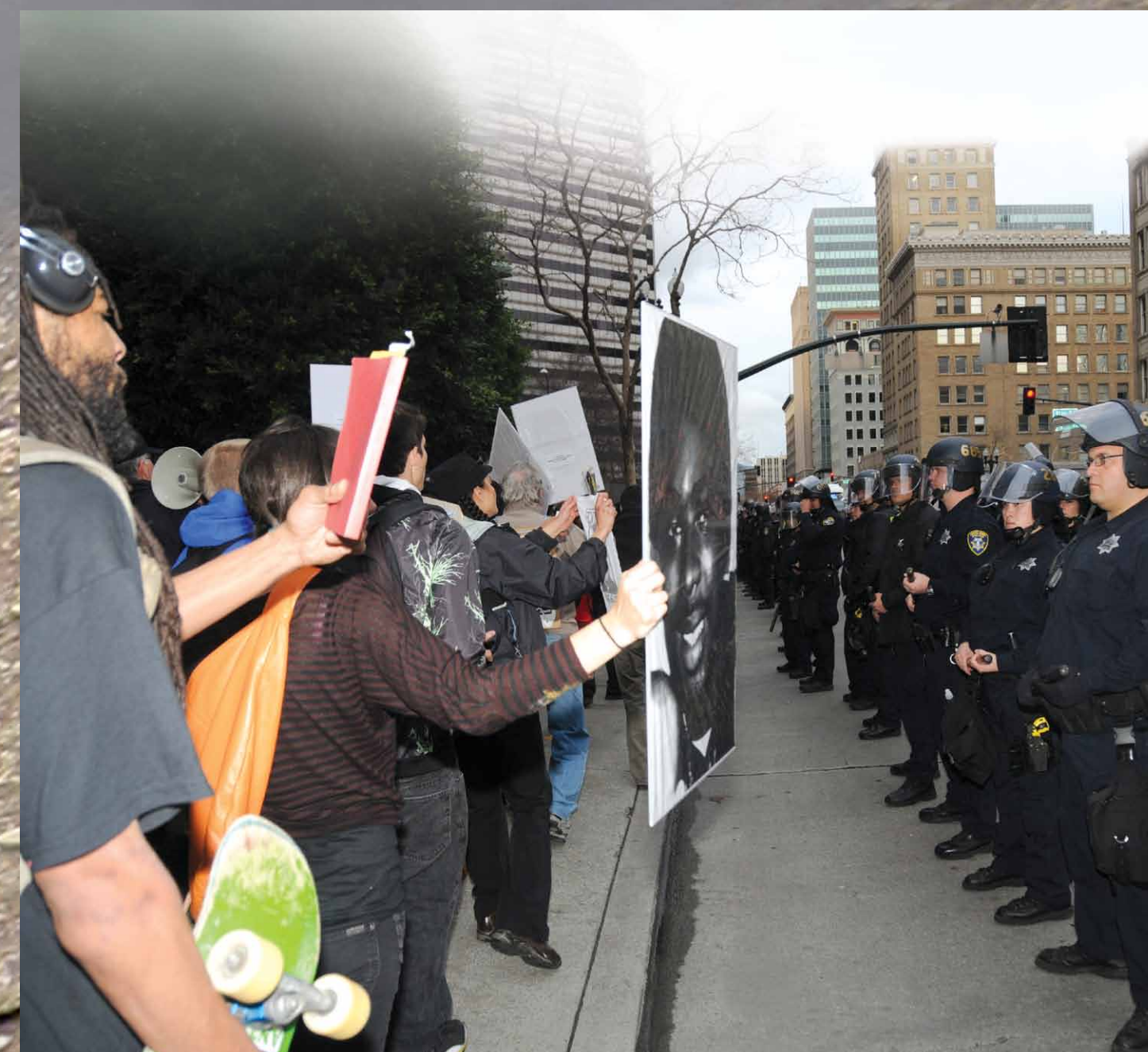
Above: In June, widespread and determined protests broke out against the hated Islamic fundamentalist regime in Iran after the apparent theft of the election by President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. Thousands poured into the streets in the capital, Tehran, and across Iran—with youth at the leading edge, including many women. The regime responded with bloodthirsty repression, but that only further stoked the anger and protests of the people. Increasingly, some are beginning to demand an end to the rule of the Islamic fundamentalist regime. Revolutionary forces led by the Communist Party of Iran (Marxist-Leninist-Maoist) have been working to bring forward a new, revolutionary path in opposition to both imperialism and religious theocracy.

Photo: AP



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Above: Planet Earth is facing an extreme and urgent emergency. It is a scientific fact: there will be even bigger and irreversible destruction of the planet's ecosystems, unless the way humanity interacts with the environment on a world scale changes in dramatic ways. At the end of the year, a major climate summit took place in Copenhagen. But the main players at Copenhagen were concerned about preserving their capitalist system and gaining competitive advantage against each other—NOT the future of the planet. And protesters demanding real steps to save the earth faced violent repression. Obama flew into Copenhagen on Air Force One for a few hours to make his appearance as the imperialist godfather, forced a meaningless "agreement" that does nothing to actually address global warming, and then flew back out.



Special to Revolution

Right: 2009 was ushered in the early hours of January 1 with the murder by police of Oscar Grant, a 22-year-old Black man—shot in the back as he lay face down on a train platform. This time, powerful protest erupted, and the powers-that-be, in a rare exception, have been forced to put the murdering cop on trial. Oscar's murder was the first of many murders and brutalities committed by police across this country in 2009. On October 22, the National Day of Protest to Stop Police Brutality, people across the U.S. marched, rallied, and spoke out to declare "Enough is enough!"