

Wednesday 10. 6. 2009 – Semperdepot, M1
– open to general public

20:00 Reading: “Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses” by Louis Althusser (1970) and “New Born Ideology” by Agon Hamza

Althusser

"The school (but also other State institutions like the Church, or other apparatuses like the Army) teaches 'know-how', but in forms which ensure subjection to the ruling ideology or the mastery of its 'practice'. All the agents of production, exploitation and repression, not to speak of the 'professionals of ideology' (Marx), must in one way or another be 'steeped' in this ideology in order to perform their tasks 'conscientiously' - the tasks of the exploited (the proletarians), of the exploiters (the capitalists), of the exploiters' auxiliaries (the managers), or of the high priests of the ruling ideology (its 'functionaries'), etc."

download the english and/or german version of the text here:

<http://m1.antville.org/tags/Downloads/>

Hamza

"How do we stand with regards to the field of ideology within the realm of society? The question itself poses certain difficulties which for all of us are already well known. When we talk about ideology in society, aren't we basically talking about political struggles which take place within the space of a social reality? As Mao Zedong said, "Except in the desert, everywhere else there is always a left, centre and right." Liberals tell us that the notion of "ideology" is no longer operative, because liberalism won over other ideologies and their perverted forms (totalitarianisms). Therefore they announce the end of ideological struggles, and our world is portrayed as a post-ideological era (prefix "post" goes for everything, from political, to cultural or even theoretical realms). However, where does this lead us? To Althusser, of course, and I think it's very important to take the difficult road of dialectical materialism and repeat Althusser's remark on the use of philosophy – using "scientific knowledge against all the mystifications of ideological 'knowledge'." Demystification can take place only in the field of the political. As Althusser says, it's "politics which decide everything," not politics in general, but "Marxist-Leninist politics." We should use Marxist-Leninist tools to demystify the certain form of ideology in Kosova, the one which I call "New Born Ideology."

http://www.reartikulacija.org/RE6/ENG/deepthroat6_ENG_hamza.html

READING

AGON HAMZA

LOUIS ALTHUSSER