

# **THE NEED FOR SCIENTIFIC & TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION AMONG THE NON-ALIGNED AND OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

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Third World Countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America have a common history of colonial occupation and exploitation by the metropolitan powers of Western Europe.

Liberation movements in many of these countries have had to defend their hard-won political freedom against neo-colonialist economic exploitation. The Non-Aligned group of countries have come together in an attempt to consolidate this defence; but it has been found that modern Science & Technology, instead of being developed indigenously as a weapon for this defence, is used more often as a weapon of neo-colonialist exploitation which sometimes even reveals itself in naked violence. Today any third world country that attempts to make its own development revolution, runs the risk of armed intervention and not merely economic blockade, if its development strategy does not win the approval of the Big Powers.

How can Science and Technology be used by third world countries in their struggle for ultimate liberation? What are the lessons of the heroic struggle of Vietnam to defend its revolution against the world's mightiest nation? What are the lessons of the revolutionary struggles led by men like the immortal Guevard in Latin-America and the unforgettable Cabraal in Africa? How will these lessons influence the destiny of the world's most populous nations that are amongst the Non-Aligned countries of Asia?

This paper, whilst discussing these and other issues, argues that Scientific and Technological cooperation among the Non-Aligned and other developing countries is a pre-requisite to their defence against neo-colonialist intervention and exploitation.