

BANDUNG2 Position on Copyright

This document sets out the position of the Bandung2 movement vis-à-vis the issue of Copyright.

Definition

Copyright can be, and has been, variously defined. For example, as

- the legal protection given to authors which protects them against unauthorised copying of their work.
- the legal right granted to an author, editor, composer, playwright, publisher, or distributor to exclusive publication, production, sale, or distribution of a literary, musical, dramatic, or artistic work.
- a bundle of exclusive rights granted by law to the creator of an original literary, artistic, or other intellectual work - including songs and sound recordings.
- the exclusive legal right to reproduce, publish or otherwise control the use of a work, granted to the creator, author, composer, artist, publisher, etc. for a specified period.
- the right to copy or duplicate material such as images, music, and written works. Only the owners of the information can grant this right.

It has been claimed that:

copyright laws protect intellectual property from misuse by other individuals. Ideas and information in print or electronic form are the property of the person who created them. You must obtain permission to use copyrighted material. You may use copyrighted materials for educational purposes if you adhere to the fair-use guidelines.

It has also been claimed that:

*copyright is an **incentive** to authors to create so that the public may have **access** to and be enriched by their works.*

Counter-Racist Analysis

The contemporary global power system that is White Supremacy (Racism):

1. *invented* the concept/power-construct/mechanism of copyright;
2. *determines* what copyright means in the world today; and
3. *controls* (through White Supremacist (Racist) law) how this mechanism is implemented, applied and enforced.

Statement

Under contemporary conditions of White Supremacy (Racism),

1. copyright refers to the rights afforded/granted BY the White Supremacist (Racist) power system TO others (Whites and non-Whites) that ALLOWS/ENABLES the latter to reproduce works (of White Supremacists, Whites and non-Whites).
2. it is the White Supremacists (Racists) who DETERMINE what are to be considered RIGHTS. In this sense, RIGHT=WHITE, which means that copyright is functionally equivalent to copy-WHITE.
3. copyright is a means by which the White Supremacists (Racists) prevent access to and dissemination of information that is of functional value (or utility) to non-White victims of Racism (White Supremacy) and White counter-Racists (race-traitors).
4. it is both JUST and NECESSARY to reproduce ANY and ALL information, irrespective of whether protected by copyright [=copy-WHITE] or not, in order to further access to and dissemination of information that is of functional value (utility) IF the ends served by such activity directly contribute to the eradication of the system of White Supremacy (Racism) and its replacement by a system that guarantees JUSTICE for, and, thereby, PEACE, to all people.

Summary

No copyright
= No copy-WHITE
= Do Not copy White Supremacy (Racism)