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The Ultimate Trial of American Liberals

By Yoav Litvin
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The United States of America stands on the precipice of a transition that will define it forever. The current neoliberal order that has championed unfettered capitalism, gutted and privatized many social welfare institutions and destroyed other safety nets has been proven a failure. It has enriched a select few, mostly white people living in urban centers, and in so doing has disenfranchised and incarcerated here at home and expanded its blood sucking tentacles abroad, waging wars on nations that resist its economic agenda. As a result, the Clinton and Obama version of corrupt and morally-bankrupt neoliberalism has fortified a class of people that are rightfully disgruntled.

Right-wing forces have waited in the shadows for exactly such an opportunity. These reactionary, conservative, xenophobic, homophobic, nativist, misogynist and white supremacist groups have latched on to the legitimate anger of the disenfranchised working class to propel Donald Trump into the White House and take both houses of congress.

Liberals that supported Hillary Clinton have a choice. They can either fall behind their champion Barack Obama, “have faith in democracy”, and peacefully submit to a smooth transition of power to Donald Trump and his electorate, or they can come together and fight that transition, a process that started on the streets of many cities these past few days.

Those who believe that the fight can be waged solely in congress are deluding themselves. American politicians are largely bought and paid for and their chameleon-like duplicitous qualities are infinite, as they quickly change their tune to assure there is no interruption in cash flow to their corporate puppet masters. Soon they will turn into a rubber stamp for Donald Trump's policies. Pressure on politicians is important and can yield some results, but that pressure has to come unwaveringly and relentlessly from the streets. This is a fight for our freedoms and the lives of all those threatened by these reactionary forces.

Now that the neoliberal order has been finally exposed as a losing, out-of-touch disaster, it is time for liberals to accept the failure of their ideology and join with radical forces in the fight for the revolution that will lead to true justice, equality, sustainability and democracy. The alternative is submitting to Donald Trump and the dark forces he represents.