

March 1, 1983

Dear Narihiko ITO:

I was happy to hear, from your letter of Feb. 21, that you found my work on Luxemburg "exciting." I don't know whether you transformed into a category both my reference to Sen Katayama and Rosa Luxemburg (p.14, ftn. 13) and the one on page 86, ftn. 17. The reason I call attention to it now is that I actually had hoped that in your projected work on Luxemburg, you would greatly expand "the Japanese connection." Sen Katayama had always meant a great deal to us young Marxists, but this year is the first time that I had met a young Japanese poet, Keiko Gibson, who had translated into English some of the essays and poems of the great feminist poet, Yosano Akiko, who had written "Mountain-Moving Day" for Japan's first feminist journal, and also the most famous Japanese anti-war poem, "Never Let Them Kill You, Brother," against the Russo-Japanese War. Since both the anti-war and the feminist aspects of the question greatly interested me, especially as it concerned the relationship of Yosano Akiko to Sen Katayama, I entered into a correspondence with the young Japanese poet, Keiko, here, and will visit her in Urbana, Illinois next month while I am on my lecture tour and speaking at Urbana on Luxemburg to a Third World Women's Conference.

1905, which, as you know, occupies a turning point in Luxemburg's life and therefore in my book, Rosa Luxemburg, Women's Liberation and Marx's Philosophy of Revolution, was especially developed by me in relationship to its impact on Asia (no doubt you know that Ivar Spector has written a great deal about that in his book, The First Russian Revolution), but I developed further its specific impact and relationship to Women's Liberation, both in Japan and in Iran, where the women were the first ones to establish an anjuman.

Frankly, I was hoping that you would review my book and point to the world aspects as they have inter-related with the revolutions that permeated Luxemburg's life, in 1905 and 1919. Is there any possibility that you would find the time to do that?

I'm sorry to say that my very heavy schedule this year of lectures in the U.S. around the book, which is actually around three books, since both Marxism and Freedom and Philosophy and Revolution were reprinted by my publisher for this centenary year, makes it impossible to attend the conference in Paris (not to mention I also have no money for such a trip). However, I have sent your kind invitation to a colleague of mine, Dr. Kevin Anderson, who will be in Paris at that time, and was deeply involved in the new book. In fact, one of his reasons for being in Paris is to act as my literary agent in trying to get a French edition. I will ask him to please contact you at the Conference. I trust he would have a chance to present my work from the floor. (I refer to him in an important note on p. 139, on the French edition of Capital, on which he has made a considerable contribution.)

Yours,

P.S. Here, for your enjoyment, is a beautiful picture of Luxemburg and Sen Katayama with other leaders at the 1904 Congress. To get the multidimensionality of just a few of my lectures, here are a few of the announcements

15453

Narihiko ITO

Feb. 21. 1983

Dear Raya Dunayevskaya,

Thank you very much for your exciting book on Rosa Luxemburg und K.Marx. I have been surprised that you have published your book so early despite of the loss of its manuscript.

I send you here a invitation letter to the Rosa Luxemburg-Symposium in Paris at the end of May held in connection with a Marx centenary.

I would be very glad, if you could find a time to come there.

With a fraternal greeting

*N. Ito*

15454