



Tajikistan 1992–1997

- Invade: to protect
- Exterminate: mass murder

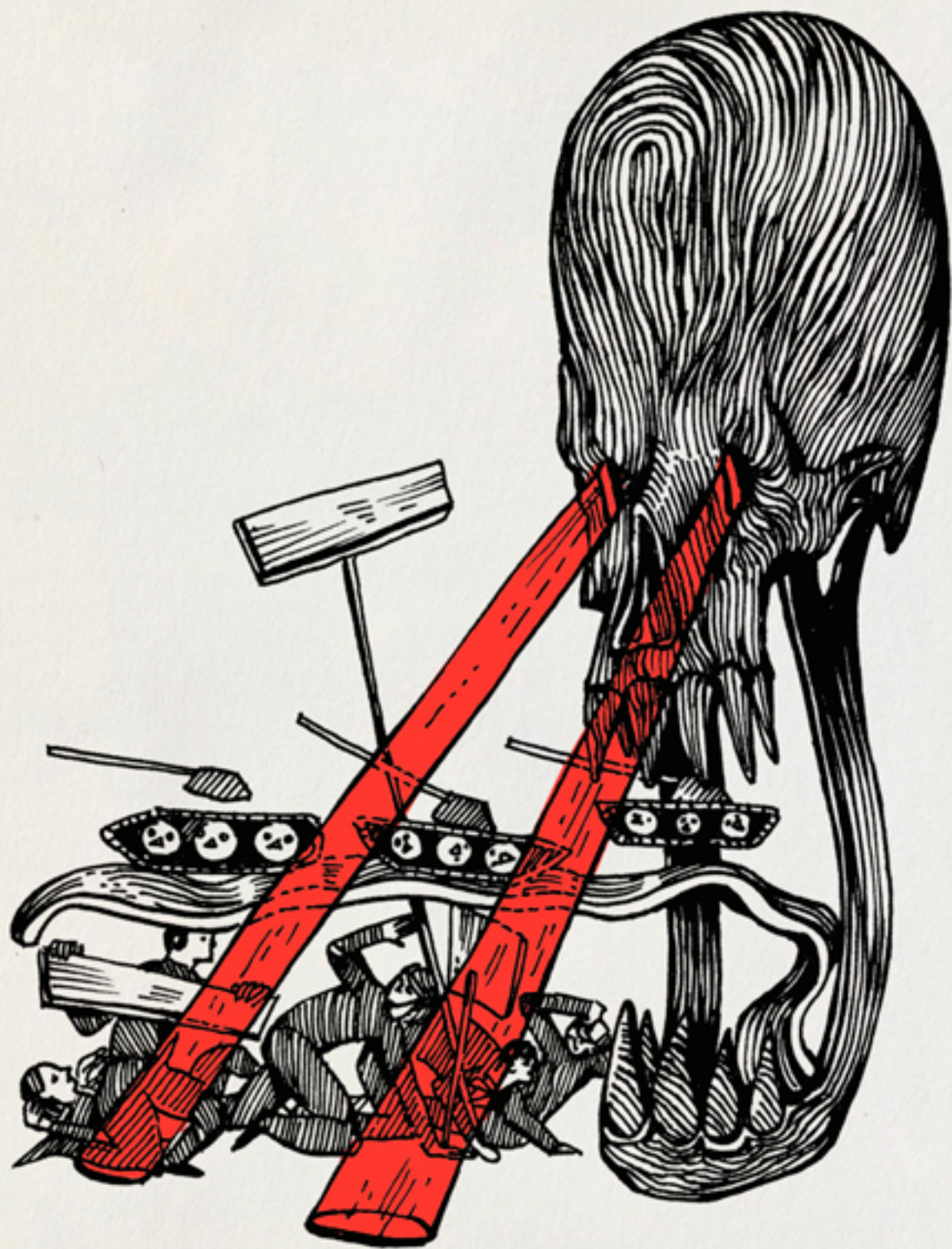
Amid the collapse of the Soviet regime, Tajikistan leaves the Russian empire in 1991. The legacy of Russian colonial policies [1], which included identity erasure, manipulative rebordering, militarizing the country for imperial goals, and settler colonialism [2], contribute to the outbreak of civil war [3]. The Russian empire regroups, now with a “democratic Russia” label, and intervenes, citing the protection of ethnic Russians and Russian speakers [4, 5]. In reality, the Kremlin uses Russian troops stationed in the country to secure the victory of pro-Russian communists over pro-democratic and anti-colonial Islamist groups [6, 7]. The war ends in 1997, killing tens of thousands and displacing every fifth Tajik. At the same time, Moscow secures a loyal tyrannical regime for decades to come.



Syria 2015–2023

- Gaslight: manufacturing disinformation
- Invade: to protect
- Exterminate: mass murder

Syrians launch a pro-democracy uprising and are about to kick out a local tyrant. It threatens the future of a key Russian military base in Syria [1, 2, 3]. Moscow sends colonial troops to assist a satellite regime under the excuse of stopping "imminent genocide". The Kremlin carpet bombs Syrian cities, targets civilians with chemical weapons, and commits a wide range of grave war crimes [4, 5, 6, 7]. Mass murder, assisted by Russian colonial troops, kills over 600,000 [8] and displaces more than 6,700,000 Syrians [9]. The international community consents and allows the Russian empire to walk away emboldened for new colonial conquests [10, 11, 12].



Qazaqstan

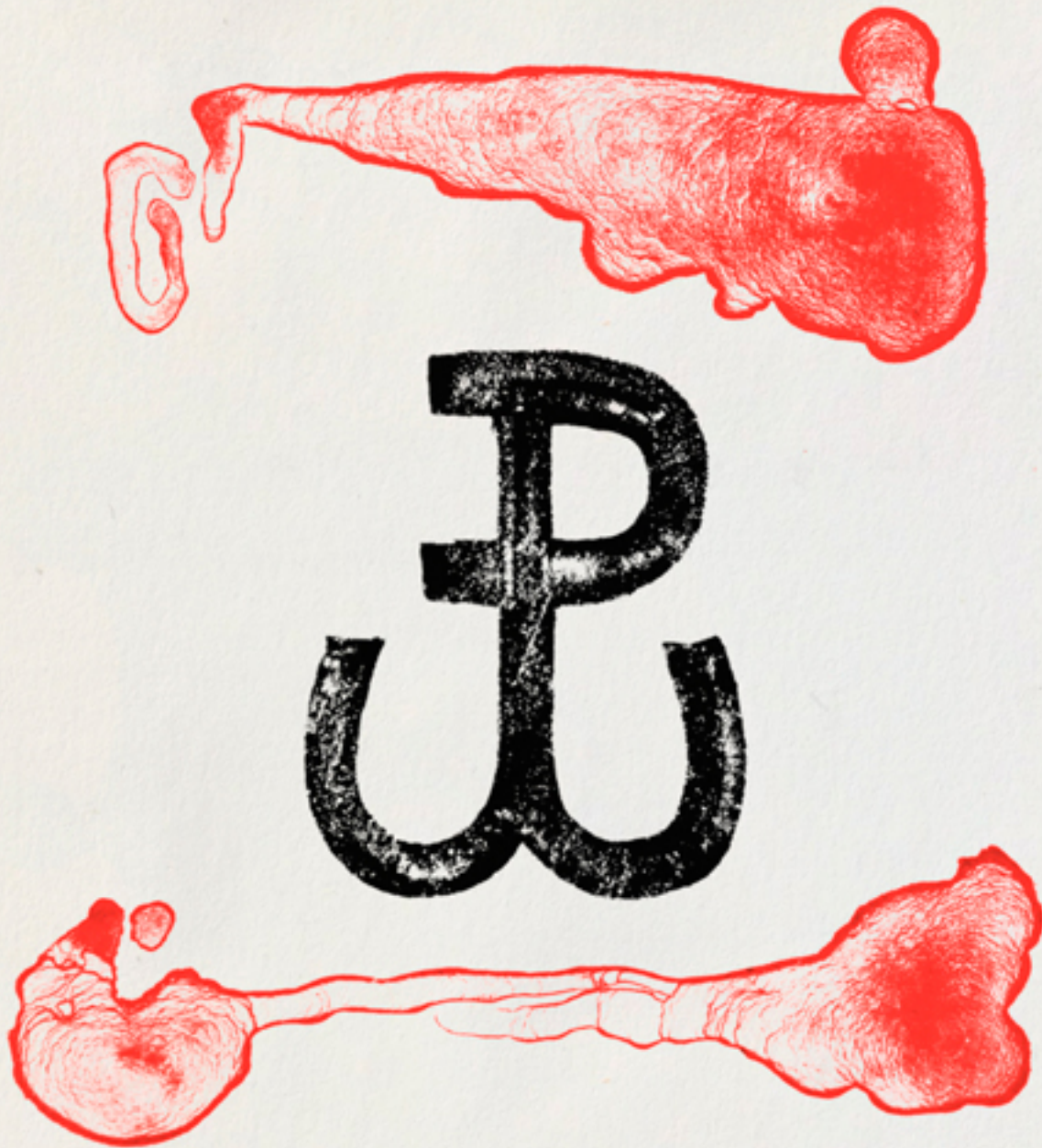
1986

- Gaslight: manufacturing disinformation
- Invade: to protect
- Exterminate: failed, Russia is kicked out

After centuries of violent, exploitative colonial rule by Moscow, Qazaqstan revolts against Russian colonialism. The Jeltoqsan Uprising is a student-led, pro-democracy and anti-colonial movement. It is provoked by Moscow installing an outsider to rule the Qazaq colony. The Kremlin manufactures disinformation, branding the peaceful uprising as "hooligans" and "extremists", and dispatches kill squads against it: dozens of protesters are slaughtered. The crackdown backfires for Russians as Jeltoqsan turbocharges the independence push in Qazaqstan and inspires other anti-colonial movements within the collapsing empire [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6].

Poland 1937–1947

- 7 Gaslight: manufacturing ethnic divide / disinformation
- Invade: to protect
- Exterminate: genocide



Russian attempts to colonize Poland have been on and off for centuries. Planning another one, the Russian empire, now with the communism label, starts with the ethnic cleansing of the Polish population on newly-colonized Eastern European lands, mostly in Belarus and Ukraine. In 1937, it manufactures disinformation about Poles being foreign spies and launches genocide, slaughtering over 111,000 of them — every fifth living under Russian rule — with the excuse of “protecting” Russia [1, 2, 3, 4]. In 1939, as a facade for a secret colonial deal to divide Europe with Nazi Germany, Moscow claims the protection of ethnic minorities in Poland, invades it, and partitions it up together with Berlin [5]. In the following World War II years, Russian colonial troops kill approximately 150,000 [6], deport over 320,000 [7], and rape up to 100,000 [8] Polish citizens [9]. The Kremlin installs a Soviet satellite regime in Poland by 1945. Tens of thousands of Poles resist Russian occupation in the anti-colonial *Wolność i Niezawisłość* (“Freedom and Sovereignty”) guerilla movement between 1944 and 1953, but most get killed or deported [10, 11]. Russia oversees the falsification of the 1946 referendum [12] and the 1947 parliamentary election to solidify the power of the satellite regime [13]. The international community consents [14].



Buryat Mongolia 1917–1937

- Gaslight: stoking divide
- Invade: to liberate
- Exterminate: ethnic cleansing

The indigenous Siberian nation of Buryats-Buryaad has been colonized by Russians since the 17th century [1]. Amid the 1917 revolutions in Russia, it leaves the Russian colonial empire and proclaims the State of Buryat-Mongolia [2, 3]. The nation forms a provisional government [4] but gets sandwiched by the civil war between Russian communists and monarchists. A new state has to share overlapping authority over the same territory with a military regime of Russian settler-colonists. The latter infiltrate the Buryat-Mongolia government, stoke political and ethnic divide, and disband it by absorbing it into a Russian-controlled regime in 1921. Communist invasion fully takes over the Buryat territories by 1923 to “civilize it out of feudalism”. Mass terror, destruction of the traditional livestock economy, Russification of the Buryat language, and cultural erasure follows. Moscow crushes any following attempts at local anti-colonial rebellions. Tens of thousands [5] are slaughtered or become refugees by 1937 [6].