

The image of the “pyramid of the capitalist system” has been reproduced in different versions. The earliest version is from a Belgian Labor Party campaign poster from 1900.

The image illustrates the Marxist idea that capitalism is a system of economic power resting on a class hierarchy where the workers are at the bottom and the ruling classes—the bourgeoisie, the clergy, and the political rulers—sit on top of them, exploiting their labor.

