# ***ART OF PROTEST***

System Of A Down (a.k.a SOAD) is an Armenian-American heavy metal band, from Glendale, California, formed in 1994. The band currently consists of Serj Tankian (lead vocals, keyboards), Daron Malakian (vocals, guitar), Shavo Odadjian (bass, backing vocals), and John Dolmayan (drums).

“System of a down as a name of the band  is not political statement more like social statement” says Daron Malakian in the interview in 2002. In the same interview Serj Tankian says that he loves music, and writing music but he doesn't like fame. The band also adds that they don't talk precisely about one thing. they sing about many different things, they just catch a moment, event and share their feelings and opinions ( https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lho8EyAGC2w ).









System of a Down is their debut album released on June 30,1998 The text on the original poster is:"A hand has 5 fingers! With these 5 grab the enemy!" This slogan inspired part of the text contained on the back of the System of a Down album:"The hand has five fingers, capable and powerful, with the ability to destroy as well as create".Later,it is written in bold letters:"Open your eyes, open your mouths, close your hands and make a fist"



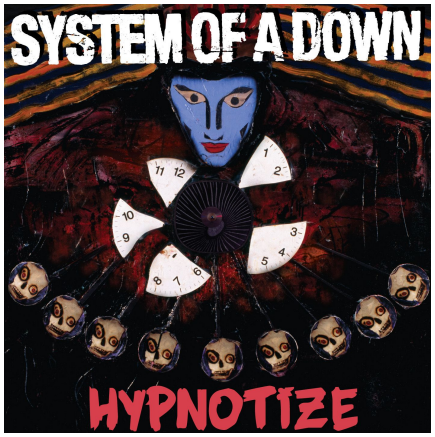

Toxicity their second studio album was released on September 4, 2001.The album peaked at number one on both the Billboard 200 and the Canadian Albums Chart, sold 220,000 copies. All of Toxicity's singles reached the Billboard Hot 100. The final single, "Aerials", went to number one on both the Mainstream Rock Songs chart and on the Modern Rock Tracks chart.




Steal This Album! Is their third studio album released on November 26 2002 and the album peaked at number 15 on the US Billboard 200.In early 2002,




Mezmerize is their fourth album released on  May 17, 2005. The album was number one in at least 12 countries, including the US Billboard 200, with 453,000 copies. The hit single "B.Y.O.B." won a Grammy Award in 2006 for Best Hard Rock Performance.
( https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zUzd9KyIDrM )




Hypnotize is the band's fifth album released on November 22, 2005, six months after the release of its companion album Mezmerize. Mezmerize and Hypnotize both debuted at number #1 on the Billboard 200 albums chart, making the band one of the few to achieve this with two albums in the same year. Hypnotize remains the band's last studio, although the band resumed playing concerts in 2011.



The album mezmerize was inspired and written in protest against the iraq war 2003-2011. Most of SOAD's songs criticize society, government. Soldiers side is the first song of album.

This song is full of heartbreak and hopelessness.

The official music video is blurry, but we still can see dead people, soldiers, war machines ad deconstruction.

With this song they want to show us, that many young men who go to war but only few will come back "All young men must go He's come so far to find the truth He's never going home", everyone is mourning,everyone lost someone. No matter who is mourner, a sinner or a joker, everyone is going to die "Maybe you're a sinner into your alternate life



Maybe you're a joker, maybe you deserve to die" "Maybe you're a mourner, maybe you deserve to die". It's a pessimistic song,a sad one, it shows how hopeless reality is, and by sending young men in war, they kill those men, and the future.



# "Soldier Side"

(lyrics)

Dead men lying on the bottom of the grave
Wondering when Savior comes, is he gonna be saved
Maybe you're a sinner into your alternate life
Maybe you're a joker, maybe you deserve to die
They were crying when their sons left
God is wearing black
He's gone so far to find no hope
He's never coming back
They were crying when their sons left
All young men must go
He's come so far to find the truth
He's never going home

Young men standing on the top of their own graves
Wondering when Jesus comes, are they gonna be saved
Cruelty to the winner, bishop tells the King his lies
Maybe you're a mourner, maybe you deserve to die
They were crying when their sons left
God is wearing black
He's gone so far to find no hope
He's never coming back
They were crying when their sons left
All young men must go
He's come so far to find no truth
He's never going home
Welcome to the Soldier Side
Where there is no one here but me
People all grow up to die
There is no one here but me
Welcome to the Soldier Side
There is no one here but me
People on the soldier's side
There is no one here but me

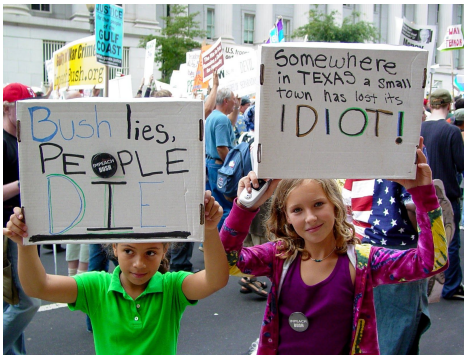
# "B.Y.O.B."

(lyrics)

Why do they always send the poor?
Barbarisms by Barbaras
With pointed heels.
Victorious, victories kneel.
For brand new spankin' deals.
Marching forward hypocritic
And hypnotic computers.
You depend on our protection,
Yet you feed us lies from the tablecloth.
La, la la, la la, la la, la la,
Everybody's going to the party, have a real good time.
Dancing in the desert, blowing up the sunshine.
Kneeling roses disappearing
Into Moses' dry mouth.
Breaking into Fort Knox,
Stealing our intentions.
Hangars sitting dripped in oil,
Crying, "Freedom!"
Handed to obsoletion,
Still you feed us lies from the tablecloth.
La, la la, la la, la la, la la,
Everybody's going to the party, have a real good time.
Dancing in the desert, blowing up the sunshine.
Everybody's going to the party, have a real good time.
Dancing in the desert, blowing up the sunshine.
Blast off. It's party time,
And we don't live in a Fascist nation.
Blast off. It's party time,
And where the fuck are you?
Where the fuck are you?
Where the fuck are you?
Why don't presidents fight the war?
Why do they always send the poor?
Why don't presidents fight the war?
Why do they always send the poor?
*[4x]*
Kneeling roses disappearing
Into Moses' dry mouth.
Breaking into Fort Knox,
Stealing our intentions.
Hangars sitting dripped in oil,
Crying, "Freedom!"
Handed to obsoletion,
Still you feed us lies from the tablecloth.
La, la la, la la, la la, la la,
Everybody's going to the party, have a real good time.
Dancing in the desert, blowing up the sunshine.
Everybody's going to the party, have a real good time.
Dancing in the desert, blowing up the sun
Where the fuck are you?
Where the fuck are you?

Why don't presidents fight the war?
Why do they always send the poor?
Why don't presidents fight the war?
Why do they always send the poor?
*[3x]*
Why do they always send the poor?
*[3x]*
They always send the poor *[2x]*

Since 1990 conflicts begin to rise in irac. January 1991 US and Britain invade Iraq in first gulf war.




Problems increase between Iraq and US after terrorist attacks in New York and Washington in September 2001. US responds by threatening war in Afghanistan. Stop the war coalition launched if London in September 2001. 7 October 2001 US, Britain and other western forces launch war in Afghanistan. The war was supported by majority of americans citizens, it was seen as response of terrorist attacks in 11 september 2001. Most vocal opposition came from pacifist groups and groups promoting a leftist political agenda; in the United States, the group A.N.S.W.E.R. was one of the most visible organizers of anti-war protests, although that group faced considerable controversy over allegations it was a front for the extremist Stalinist Workers World Party. Over time, opposition to the war in Afghanistan has grown more widespread,15 february 2003 two million march against iraq war in London. More protesters take place in following weeks, including walkouts by hundreds of school children across Britain.20 march 2003 Britain US and other forces invade Iraq.14 April 2003 US declares victory in iraq.28 April 2003 US soldiers fire on protesters in Fallujah demanding troops out. They killed 13 unarmed people.
April 2009 Britain begins its withdrawal from Iraq
December 2011 last US troops leave Iraq
Millions of people staged mass protests across the world in the immediate prelude to the invasion, and demonstrations and other forms of anti-war activism have continued throughout the occupation.

