



# EMERGENCY BULLETIN 30

## International Emergency Committee To Defend the Life of Dr Abimael Guzman

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### INTERNATIONAL DAYS OF ACTION

On May 14 and 15, IEC chapters and supporters worldwide mobilized people to join hands with the poor of Peru and act in unity to defend the life of Abimael Guzman.

From reports that have reached the IEC Coordinating Office so far we can conclude that the International Days of Action (IDA) were an important success in the course of the campaign, and were striking for their high level of international unity and coordination. In Peru itself, besides events of significance to the people's war in general, the IDA were marked in the shantytowns of Lima, and significant actions also occurred in many other countries around the world. But reports are still not in from a number of countries where activity took place. We urge the respective Steering Committee members to please send in information about the IDA quickly, so that we can give a full report in the next Emergency Bulletin. We regret greatly that technical difficulties have delayed this EB, but several more will be out very shortly.

### CONFERENCE SPEECHES AVAILABLE:

An 80-page pamphlet with all the speeches (in English) from the IEC Founding Conference will be ready next week. Please call in, fax or post orders. The pamphlet will cost £5 (sterling), and we can post copies suitable for reproduction in your own country.

### REPORT FROM YURI KOCHIYAMA, MEMBER OF THE 4th IEC DELEGATION

Excerpts from her speech, "Eyewitness in Peru: A Learning Experience of People in Struggle"

"First, I want to thank the International Emergency Committee to Defend the Life of Dr Abimael Guzman, who gave me the opportunity to go to Peru with an international delegation with the hope of investigating the prison conditions of Dr Guzman, and other political prisoners and lawyers. This did not happen, as doors closed on us whenever we mentioned Dr Guzman's name. But we did get to eyewitness the significance of shanty towns in Lima.

...For years I had read about Shining Path or Sendero Luminoso in various newspapers and magazines, and wondered and questioned its political validity as a true revolutionary entity. Or, were they the terrorists that some liberal newspapers depicted them to be?

Now that I have actually gone to Peru, and heard from different sources, and kept abreast of news accounts and through TV reports (even though they were all the government's network), one can discern 'between the lines.' An all-out people's war against the rich and powerful was absolutely necessary for the survival of the peasants and indigenous. The main enemies were the dictatorial Fujimori government, and U.S. imperialism.

More than anything I had seen or heard while in Lima, it was actually through going to a shanty town that I could understand more clearly what the revolution was about.(.....)

When we reached a shanty town, which was like a well-organized village, we learned that there was no water and no electricity. They had to send people out to buy water. They sold them on home-made cars, using bicycle wheels. It made me think of the axiom: 'Necessity is the mother of invention.' As for their dwellings, they were all about the same size; and they were made by the people themselves with home made bricks, sliced-up canes, and burlap. It was hard to see what the inside of their homes were like as it was dark. I don't think there was too much inside. Their possessions must have been minimal.

We watched the men make bricks with a wooden gadget, filled with mud. Little boys were also helping. What was amazing was that the bricks were all uniform-sized, not broken up. The way they did it was by putting sand in the wooden gadget so that the mud would not stick to the sides when they tossed the mud out.

We watched women in communal kitchens, chopping up vegetables, enjoying each other's company, laughing and talking as they worked, and their children underfoot, playing.

And speaking of children, there were children everywhere.

And they were very friendly. They would come around us, so we took a lot of pictures. There were dogs and chickens running around here and there, and they were like part of the family (or maybe the family meal).

The animals were all on the thin side, even the pigs. The whole atmosphere in the shanty towns was so cool. I never heard anyone yelling at each other, or fighting. And mothers never screamed at their kids. The communal atmosphere was beautiful. Fathers were even seen helping mothers hang out the wash.

Our guides pointed out to us "The Great Wall" (that's what they called it). "The Great Wall" they were building to protect themselves from attacks by the Peruvian army and police. There were sentries here and there. Women also did sentry duty.

One person explained to us that they had only been in this shantytown about a year, that they had to move out last year as they had been attacked many times. Many of their people were killed or arrested and taken away to prison. They had to find a new place... and this was the place they chose. It was at the foot or the side of a mountain. There was no area of good soil to grow their own food, but they said that there were shanty towns that did have small farms.

I wanted to give you this general physical description of a shanty town. But the significance of a shanty town is their spiritual strength, their political understanding, their will to undergo difficulties despite lack of material goods, their optimism in the face of extreme poverty, their determination to struggle and win. They were serious about the eventual victory.

One of the spokespersons, a woman, said 'Guzman's capture was a great loss, but that will not stop us. We continue no matter what happens. Happiness for us is the revolution. We will make a new way of living in Peru, a new kind of society where every human being counts.'

Another said: The situation in Peru is very bad. Crisis is rising. People suffering. Repression growing. No work. Where there are jobs, the salary is minimal. That's why we decided to fight. People will give their life for real change.'

Phil and I were asked to say a few words to our hosts and hostesses (who were all key people in this shanty town). We both were so moved by the courage, determination, humbleness, and

genuineness of these people, that we both broke down and literally cried. We thanked them for opening the door to us, knowing that they risked their lives to let us in to their shanty town compound. We let them know how much we admired what they were undertaking, as there was no other struggle in the Western Hemisphere where the impoverished peasants and indigenous have been able to continue such a long span of actual armed struggle - and moving forward. Twelve years through much sacrifice -- we told them we had never been so inspired, and that we would tell the story to our fellow comrades in America.

I also let them know that the major Black leaders and organizations are supporting them. I contacted them before I left. While we were in Peru, support faxes came from Kwame Toure (the former Stokely Carmichael/Chairman of AAPRP); Father Lucas the radical Black priest from Harlem); and the Black Panther Party. Also, the President of the Republic of New Africa, Kwame Afho (which also includes NAPO - the New African Peoples Organization) signed one of the calls for support. The Malcolm X Commemoration Committee, through Herman Ferguson, said they tried over and over to get a fax through to Peru, but for some reason were not able to do so.

The trip to the shanty town was the most unforgettable and moving moment, for it clarified and reinforced the meaning of class war, people's war, and the struggle for total change. More than that, it revealed the intense commitment of Abimael Guzman and his Shining Path people.

The most apt description of the Sendero Luminoso was given to us by one of the few active lawyers left in Peru. He was our advisor throughout the trip. He likened the Shining Path to a river. He said, that 'often water is scooped out of the river -- but the river keeps flowing.'

Let's help keep it so."  
Yuri Kochiyama - 23/APR/93

#### PERU PRESS COVERAGE

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It has been drawn to the attention of the IEC office that excerpts from the Peruvian press reprinted in EB 28 and 29 may have given rise to some confusion. For example, one excerpt includes a statement from the reactionary Peruvian press that the 4th Delegation called for a "new trial" for Dr Guzman. In fact, the 4th Delegation made no such call. The press was actually referring to the IEC Call itself, which denounces Dr Guzman's so-called trial as a farce. The logic of these reactionaries is that, if these IEC people call his trial a farce, then they must want a new, "better" trial. Neither the IEC nor the 4th Delegation ever made such a call.

Another excerpt deserves explanation as well: the headlines from Expreso that "Fujimori says, even though lawyers come here, there will be no pardon for Abimael". Though never stated, what the reactionary press is trying to imply here is that someone -- either the IEC delegations or perhaps even Dr Guzman himself -- has asked for a "pardon". This is completely untrue. Furthermore, this is part of a new effort by the regime to slander and demoralize the people's war and the PCP by spreading the idea that its members and even leaders are "repenting" and giving themselves up. On the contrary, one of the most remarkable features of the people's war in Peru is the indomitable courage and refusal to capitulate of its captured fighters, above all Dr Guzman himself. Imprisoned revolutionaries have everywhere turned their dungeons into what they call "shining trenches of combat". And, on the one occasion the regime allowed Dr Guzman to be heard in public, when they were counting on portraying him as defeated and humiliated, he shattered

their plans by his courageous and unbowing defense of his revolutionary principles. It is a sign of the regime's weakness and desperation that they are reduced to spreading baseless rumors and lies.

The IEC office will continue to present excerpts from the reactionary press in Peru, since such information about what the Fujimori regime is saying and doing is of use to those active in this campaign, but we will make a greater effort to clarify any possible confusion.

#### NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

INDIA: Professor R. Khasnabis, of Calcutta University, wrote to IEC recently from the "Free Gonzalo Committee, West Bengal." He sent signatures from 207 people of West Bengal on a statement to Amnesty International (AI) demanding that they "intervene to save the life of Comrade Gonzalo".

It should be pointed out that, despite all the outrageous violations of international law surrounding the case of Dr Guzman, and despite the huge number of demands such as this one from West Bengal, AI has continued to refuse to take up the case of Dr Guzman. An article by IEC activist J. Marga exposing the role of AI in this case and countering its lie that the people's war has committed an equal number of "violations of human rights" is available from the IEC office.

NETHERLANDS: A group in the Netherlands called "Solidariteits-komitee Met Het Volk Van Peru" (Solidarity with the People of Peru) have sent a message of sorrow and indignation concerning the murder of Metin Can in Turkey (a delegate to the IEC Conference who was killed by the death squads just days before he left for the Conference). They also sent congratulations to the IEC for its successful Founding Conference.

The group also sent a protest against the Ministry of Justice of the Netherlands who "arbitrarily and unjustly refused" to accept the application of Professor José María Sison for political asylum in the Netherlands.

Prof. Sison, founding Chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines, and a prominent signatory of the IEC Call was an invited speaker at The IEC Founding Conference but could not attend in person as he was not granted permission to travel from the Netherlands to Germany. The IEC Coordinating Committee also has sent a letter condemning the actions of the Dutch government in denying political asylum to Prof. Sison. The IEC has been informed that a campaign of protest by various groups is being organized to overturn this decision.

#### ADDITIONAL MESSAGES OF SOLIDARITY FROM THE FOUNDING CONFERENCE:

Many organisations and individuals were represented at the Founding Conference of the IEC in Germany, and many others sent messages of solidarity. We have listed most of these in our Bulletins. The following are the groups from Turkey who sent messages. There was a delay in publishing these due to translation problems.

Human Rights Organization, Adana  
Contemporary Lawyers Association, Adana  
Adana Rights and Liberty Association, Adana  
Committee to Defend the Life of Abimael Guzman, Adana  
Maden-Sen, Mining Branch Public Workers Union, Ankara  
Ercan Kanar, General Secretary, Assistant and Head of the Istanbul Office of Human Rights Association, Istanbul  
Yeni Demokrat Genclik, Istanbul

Savase Karsitlari Dernegi, Association of War Opponents, Izmir  
Petrol Workers Trade Union (Aliaga Office), Izmir  
Town Officials Trade Union (Tum.Bel.Sen.), Izmir  
Education and Science Workers Trade Union (Egit-Sen), Izmir  
Izmir Lawyers Board of Directors, Izmir  
Committee to Defend the Life of Abimael Guzman, Kurulu  
Dogan Demirci, Shp Uskudar Branch  
Professor Server Tanilli, Strasbourg University, France  
Prisoners at Buca Prison:

In the name of the Dev-Sol prisoners: Ali Riza Kurt

In the name of the TDKP/GKB prisoners: Murat Ozel

In the name of the TIKB prisoners: Tuncay Celikel

Prisoners at Gaziantep Special Type Prison, Turkey:

TKP/ML-TIKKO, KAWA, PRK(Rizgari), TEKOSIN and a group of  
patriotic revolutionaries

In the name of the 94 PKK prisoners: Sabri Ok, Mustafa Ayata

Prisoners at Malatya Prison:

In the name of the Dev-Sol prisoners: Fevzi Tekin

Can Yucel, poet, Turkey

Communist Party of Turkey/Marxist-Leninist, Provisional Unity Center

Communist Party of Turkey/Marxist-Leninist, Maoist Party Center

Devrimci Sol, Turkey

#### NEW SIGNATORIES

Efrén Capiz - General Coordinator of La Union de Comuneros Emiliano  
Zapata (UCEZ), a well-known peasant organization, Michoacán,  
Mexico

Bagher Mómenni - Iranian historian and writer

Ashanti Chimurenga - New African activist and attorney

Jaleh Pirnazar, Mehdi Marashi - Professors of Farsi language,  
University of California, Berkeley, US

Mr Nadji - Distributor of NAGHD\*, periodical in SF Bay area, US

5 Members of Black Artist Group, London, UK: Salome S. Russell, artist;  
F. Rocha Kalk, ceramics artist; Graham Spencer, social  
worker; Justin Gomez, artist; P. McPherson, poet, artist

#### Bangladesh signatories:

M. Nurun Nabi, Md. Sahidullah, Munir Murshed - Joint Conveners, and  
12 members of the Solidarity Council of Peoples War of Peru,  
Bangladesh (SCPWP,B)

Rafiqun Nabi, Hamiduzzaman, Bulbon Osman, Shishir Bhattacharja,  
Abdus Shakur, Junabul Islam - Artists cum Teacher, Dhaka  
University

Dr. C. R. Abrar, Syed Azizul Haq, Badrun Nahar, Prof. Sirajul Islam  
Chowdhury, Dr. Hasanuzzaman, Harun Rashid - Teachers, Professors,  
Dhaka University

Dr. Ahmed Sharif - Renowned retired Prof., Dept. of Bangla, Dhaka  
University

Monsur Musa - Prof., International Language Institute, Dhaka  
University

Hasanul Haq Enu - Secretary General, National Socialist Party  
(J.S.D.)

Mujahidul Islam Selim - Member, C.C., Communist Party of Bangladesh  
(C.P.B.)

Ayesha Siddiqa - Librarian, Dhaka University

Jahan Ara Begum - Asst. Librarian, Dhaka University

#### Pakistan signatories:

Syed Hasan Zaheer - Research officer, University of Karachi

Muhammad Agam Choudhry - Secretary General, P.R.T.C. (Peoples Labour  
Union Punjab)

Professor Dr. Hakim Nadir Abbas - Lahore

Shahid Mahmood - Tahir hospital, Lahore  
Saeed Akhtar - Rtd. engineer, Punjab  
M. Asrar Ahmad - College teacher, Music Composer, Lahore  
M. Ilyas Butt - Fashionviews (monthly magazine), Lahore  
Hian M. Bashin - Advocate, High Court Bar Association, Lahore  
Asger Khadim - Advocate, High Court, Lahore  
Aurangzeb - Advocates, Lahore  
Amir Ali Khan - Advocate, Lahore  
Ch: Mohammad Lafif Ayaz - Advocate, High Court, Lahore  
M. Awais Sheikh - Advocate, High Court, Lahore  
Raja Zulgarnain - Advocate, High court, Lahore  
Ehsan Wyne - Advocate, High Court, Lahore  
Masood A. Malik - Advocate, High Court, Lahore  
Muhammad Riaz Lone - Advocate, Lahore  
Muhammad Ashraf Khan - Advocate, Pakistan People's Party, Lahore  
M. Nasim Kashmiri - Advocate, Pakistan People's Party, Lahore  
Bakhatgir Ahmad - Staff reporter, Lahore  
Azhar Jafri - News Photographer, Lahore  
Shafiq Awan - Journalist, News International, Lahore  
Shafik Mirza - The Jang, (daily), Lahore  
Mohammad Idris Bistt - Journalist, Daily Intekhab, Lahore,  
Rashid Butt - Journalist, Staff reporter, Musswat (daily), Lahore  
Rana M. Tahir - Photographer, " Daily Pakistan", Karachi  
Asif Mehmood - Journalist, Lahore  
A. R. Choudhri - News photographer, Lahore

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