



EMERGENCY BULLETIN 38

International Emergency Committee To Defend The Life of Dr. Abimael Guzman

Address: BCM . IEC, 27 Old Gloucester Street, London WC 1N 3XX, U.K. Telephone / Fax : 44-71- 482 0853

1 October 1993

12-24 SEPTEMBER:

A POWERFUL OUTCRY FROM AROUND THE WORLD TO DEFEND THE LIFE OF DR ABIMAEEL GUZMAN AND OTHER POLITICAL PRISONERS

On 12 September 1992, when Dr Abimael Guzman was captured, in a face to face confrontation with a high ranking enemy of the Peruvian people's revolution, he made a short but powerful and profound statement: "You may be able to kill me, but you'll never be able to kill my ideas."

Fujimori may have thought that after a year of total isolation, Dr Guzman would become a forgotten prisoner. If so, events in Peru and around the world have proven him absolutely wrong. Dr Guzman's ideas are powerfully present through the Party he leads. His work is undeniably alive and continues to threaten the edifice of the Old Order in Peru. And his physical presence is immensely felt by friend and foe.

Within days of Dr Guzman's arrest, hundreds of thousands of colourful posters in tens of different languages were posted with a unified message: "Defend the Life of Dr Abimael Guzman!" Millions of leaflets were distributed explaining who he is and why it is important to defend his life. Hundreds of thousands of copies of Dr Guzman's defiant speech from the cage on 24 September 1992 have been distributed; video images of his speech have been viewed in the remotest corners of India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Colombia, Mexico, Bolivia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Turkey.... And IEC supporters in dozens of countries have delivered the speech in neighborhoods, city centers, and Embassies.

During the past year the IEC has sent 4 international delegations to Peru; it has held a powerful founding conference; the cases of Dr Guzman and other political prisoners have been taken to international court; and millions of people across the world have heard about Dr Guzman and the crimes being committed by the Fujimori regime. Abimael Guzman - even though imprisoned in the most inhuman conditions - continues to be Fujimori's nightmare. In fact, Fujimori continues to be so afraid of him that he is now attempting to implement the death penalty in order to kill Dr Guzman and other political prisoners. He has been prevented from doing so mainly by the heroic struggle of the Peruvian people, but also because of the international campaign. In fact, Fujimori has been so stung by the campaign that he has publicly vowed to defeat IEC by name.

During the past year, the rulers of many governments have done their best to counter the IEC Campaign. In some places like the US, counter-campaigns orchestrated from the highest levels have systematically promoted disinformation against the Communist Party of Peru and the People's War it leads. In other places, like Turkey, well known IEC supporters have been killed by reactionaries. But the determination of people to defend the life of Dr Guzman has been unwavering and the campaign has surged forward.

Tens of thousands of people, with many different political views and from different walks of life, living in dozens of countries, have come together to defend the life of a revolutionary leader - a leader who has been slandered by the rulers and their media. They have marched, picketed, burned flags, occupied Embassies, leafletted, held meetings, interviews and forums, shown videos, hung banners... the campaign has given birth to many new forms of action. IEC supporters have raised many tens of thousands of dollars, which has enabled the campaign to be truly international and all the more powerful in defending the life of Dr Guzman and the other political prisoners in Peru.

The faces and voices of the people of Peru have been brought powerfully to hundreds of thousands of people through the video "People of the Shining Path", which has been shown in homes, in prisons, at churches and universities, and at meetings in peasant villages in many countries.

The imperialists have had some resources, and the fact that they hold power over the media has given them some strength. But the campaign has had a much more powerful weapon: a just cause and the people of the world. Whenever there has been a forum, Abimael Guzman's case has been presented.

One year after the campaign began, it is stronger than ever. During the international escalation from 12-24 September 1993, millions heard about the campaign for the first time, and many have joined it. News of the campaign and the events in Peru were printed in newspapers around the world, and on the anniversary of Dr Guzman's defiant 24 September 1992 speech, his words rang out from streetcorners, from the roofs of buildings, in poor neighborhoods and rich city centers, and in front of Peruvian Embassies and Consulates around the world.

One year after Dr Guzman's capture, his life is still in danger. It is no time to let down our guard. Instead the campaign must grow and expand. That is what is happening. As one IEC chapter reported: "Here is a report of the 12 days of action. Before that, we want to tell you that they were 12 great days of action! We made contact with many people who were very interested in the campaign, the People's War, and in general the whole situation in Peru. Many of them are interested in participating in more campaign activities." The report, which came from a relatively small chapter, ended: "As you can see there were SOME GREAT DAYS OF ACTION!! We have learned a lot. We think that it was very important for us to have in mind that these were INTERNATIONAL DAYS OF ACTION (all over the world). It gave us a lot of strength (power!!)"

When the strength of thousands of people in some areas are combined with the strength of dozens in others, a truly strong and international voice is heard around the world.

Following are some of the new reports that have come in....

TURKEY: During the 12-24 September escalation, prisoners in Turkey's notorious dungeons took powerful actions and made statements protesting the Fujimori Regime's attempts to kill Dr Guzman, either extra-judicially or through the death penalty. And there have also been reports of intensified repression against the prisoners for the actions they are taken.

Urla Prison (City of Mugla): Political prisoners in Urla Prison held a hunger strike on 23-24 September in solidarity with Dr Abimael Guzman. On 21 Sept they made the following public declaration:

"The US-supported Fujimori dictatorship is trying with all its might to kill Dr Guzman. It is trying to put the death sentence back on the agenda. The whole world is in solidarity with Dr Guzman. The Fujimori dictatorship will not succeed. The International Emergency Committee (IEC) that was formed to defend the life of Dr Guzman has called for action days to stop the plans of the Fujimori dictatorship, and to free Dr Guzman. In answer to this Call we are going on a hunger strike on the 23rd and 24th of September.

Long Live Proletarian Internationalism!
Down With the Fujimori Dictatorship!
Free Dr Guzman!"

Signed: Hacay Yilmaz, Author; in the name of the prisoners of TDKP/GKB, Emrah Pak; Prisoners of the TKEP Tuncay Atmaca; Supporters of the Magazine "Revolution", Mustafa, Dincer.

This statement later appeared in Gundem newspaper.

Cankiri Prison: IEC Coordinating Committee received a 4 page handwritten letter in support of the International Campaign and the People's War in Peru from a political prisoner, supporter of the TKP/ML Maoist Party Centre. He also reported that he went on a 4 day hunger strike from 21-24 September.

Nevsehir Prison: The daily newspaper Gundem reported that prisoners identifying themselves as supporters of PKK, TKP/ML/TIKKO, and TDKP went on hunger strike and stated: "We support the Action Days called by the IEC and are on hunger strike for Abimael Guzman and the Peruvian revolution, and against the death penalty in Peru."

Aydin Prison: Supporters of DevSol sent messages of support for Dr Guzman and the IEC Campaign.

Other News from Turkey:

Izmir: A press conference was held by lawyer Sennur Akkaya at the local offices of the DEP (Democratic Party- an electoral party which supports the struggle of the people of Kurdistan) which reported on the escalation. The statement from the Urla prisoners and Dr Guzman's 24 Sept speech were read to representatives of the press.

Adana: The Organization of Contemporary Attorneys and the Human Rights Organization of Adana held a press conference in front of the US Consulate in Adana to protest US policy in Peru and the treatment of Dr Guzman. The video of Dr Guzman's speech was later shown in their offices.

Istanbul: Ragip Zarakolu, IEC Steering Committee member, journalist and member of the 2nd international delegation to Peru, showed the video of Dr Guzman's 24 Sept speech to the Doctor's Association of Istanbul on 24 Sept 1993. Mr Zarakolu also held a press conference on 29 Sept on the IEC Campaign, which was covered in the newspapers Jumhuriyet, Gundem, and others, with a total circulation of over 100,000. The press conference was arranged by the "68 Foundation", an organisation of activists from late 1960s.

IEC has received word that a DEP member of Parliament, Mehmet Sincar, who is a signatory to the IEC Call, was assassinated. The IEC Coordinating Committee strongly condemns his murder. IEC has also been notified that five members of the editorial board of Ozgur Gelecek have been arrested. One is a member of the IEC Chapter in Istanbul. IEC also condemns the Turkish government for this attack.

BANGLADESH: On 21 Sept a "Photo and Poster Exhibition on Dr Abimael Guzman and the Peruvian People's Struggle" was inaugurated by a renowned mass leader, Ms. Jahanara Imam, Convenor of *Ekatturer Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee* (a mass organisation against war criminals). 1,500 people viewed the exhibition during its 6-hour opening in front of the National Press Club. Women and student leaders spoke during the inauguration.

On 11 Sept a press conference was held in Dhaka to announce the program of the 12-day campaign. In addition to representatives of participatory organizations who support the IEC, a well known lawyer also participated. News of the press conference was published in 8 leading daily newspapers.

MEXICO: On 20 September lawyers and human rights activists held a press conference to denounce the death penalty in Peru which was attended by several major newspapers and wire services. There was significant coverage in at least one newspaper, the daily El Financiero.

On 24 September a 3/4 page ad containing the text of Dr Guzman's speech was published in La Jornada, one of the largest dailies in Mexico City. Many organizations and individuals contributed to raising the large amount of money needed to publish this speech.

AUSTRALIA - In Melbourne IEC supporters showed "The People of the Shining Path" video and distributed IEC literature from stalls at La Trobe University and Victoria University of Technology on 8, 9, 14, 15 September. On 18 September they held a picket at Amnesty International. On 20 September a large banner was seen over the main Melbourne/Sydney freeway). In Alice Springs, the video "Yankee Go Home" was shown by an aboriginal supporter of the IEC Campaign. "Defend the Life of Abimael Guzman" stickers were seen in Melbourne, and also at the Peruvian Embassy in Canberra and the Peruvian Consulate in Sydney.

U.S.: On 24 Sept Dr Guzman's speech was delivered in many cities, including in front of the White House and the Peruvian Embassy in Washington D.C.; at the U.S. border with Mexico, at Hunter College in New York; at Federal Plaza and Harvard University Square in Boston; and at Kent State University and Cleveland in Ohio. Programs on the IEC campaign and events in Peru were held in Boston, New York, and Hawaii. Following are a few highlights:

San Francisco: At noon on 24 Sept IEC chants echoed off downtown buildings as enthusiastic IEC supporters approached the Peruvian Consulate. They were met by "authorities" of the U.S. State Dept, who claimed it was up to them to determine who could see the Peruvian Consul!! Finally a group of 5 IEC supporters handed the Peruvian Consul General 400 signed petitions protesting the death penalty in Peru, delivered a strong verbal condemnation against the actions of the Peruvian government, and were finally escorted out of the building as shouts of "Yankee Go Home" and "U.S. Out of Peru" rang through the halls.

By 12:45 the Dr Guzman's speech was being delivered in front of the Federal Building. A marching rendition of "Movimiento Feminino Popular" (a song familiar to IEC supporters as the song sung by the women prisoners at Canto Grande in the video "People of the Shining Path") was performed. Street theatre featuring Fujimori begging for money from the US was also performed.

At 15:09 Dr Guzman's speech was given in two languages in the Mission District, an area with a large Latin population. Banners, stickers, petition decorated the area, and a huge banner flew over the intersection (and has remained there for days afterwards).

Activities during the week preceding the 24 Sept events included a "Wall of Truth" display and lively agitation at the University of California campus.

Chicago: On 24 Sept IEC supporters held a successful demonstration at Federal Plaza, where speeches were given by Rev. Yasutake of the Interfaith Prisoners of Conscience Project, the Irish American Students Association, a Guatemalan group, and the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru. The demonstration was covered by the press. The FBI also attended and attempted unsuccessfully to intimidate young supporters. Later Rev Yasutake and Father Robert Bossie met with Senator Carol Mosely Braun to denounce the death penalty in Peru and demand that the lives of Dr Guzman and other political prisoners be defended.

COPENHAGEN, DENMARK: On 13 Sept IEC supporters held a 4 hour action in front of the Peruvian Embassy. Beginning on 13 Sept activists also went to the City Center to distribute leaflets and talk with people about the campaign. During the nights several hundred "newspaper walls" were set up, with information about the IEC campaign. These became controversial, and made people more curious about the campaign. Five large banners were hung in the city and a lot of graffiti appeared. On 23 Sept another demonstration was held at the Peruvian Embassy. During the activities IEC members were interviewed by a TV journalist, were invited to an elementary school to speak, and made contact with a left newspaper which then devoted a full page to the IEC Campaign, publishing a very favorable article on Peru, along with Dr Guzman's speech on 24 Sept.

LONDON, ENGLAND: IEC supporters distributed 11,000 copies of the Call to Action throughout London, including in immigrant neighborhoods and underground trains. Street theatre and protests were held at several London locations including Amnesty International's international headquarters. On 24 September Dr Abimael Guzman's speech was delivered in front of the Peruvian Embassy. On 25 September another protest initiated by ATIK and Comite Sol Peru was held at the Peruvian Embassy.

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND: On 12 Sept IEC supporters leafletted and displayed a big poster of Dr Guzman at a talk by Rigaberta Menchu. During the escalation they also distributed leaflets and put up posters at Auckland University. A radio program about the revolution in Peru was aired on student FM radio. On 21 Sept the video "Shantytowns and Prisons" was shown at the University, and a resolution to be presented to the Peruvian Consul was passed. The statement begins: "This meeting of New Zealand citizens records its strong protest at your Government's inhuman treatment of Dr Guzman and other political prisoners and prisoners of war in Peru..."

MALMOE, SWEDEN: On 12 Sept two IEC members were interviewed on local radio stations, and a series of street rallies were held in central Malmoe. During the escalation, graffiti appeared on walls, leaflets were distributed in the cities of Malmoe and Lund, and a large banner hung from a highway overpass in Malmoe for several days. On 13 Sept a rally was held in front of the Peruvian consulate in Malmoe and on 24 Sept an energetic demonstration was held in downtown Malmoe.

PETITIONS FILED BY LIMA LAWYERS WILL BE ARGUED ON 4 OCTOBER:

U.S. lawyers Leonard Weinglass and Peter Erlinder will be arguing for the petitions filed by the Lima lawyers in front of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (ICHR) on Monday, October 4 at 12:30 p.m. This is an important victory, since it has been struggle for the international lawyers to even be able to participate in the proceedings. Weinglass and Erlinder were named and authorized by the Lima lawyers to serve as co-counsel (because repression in Peru makes it impossible for the Lima lawyers to argue at the hearings themselves).

This case is being argued at a time when Peru's US backers are attempting to put a public stamp of approval on the murderous Fujimori regime. Fujimori himself is currently in New York trying to sell the assets of Peru to imperialist investors, while at the same time appealing to the United Nations for financial assistance for his regime, which is known internationally for its outrageous crimes against its people. The US-controlled media is doing its utmost to avoid any mention of these crimes. It's no wonder that they want to cover up the existence of the petitions filed by the Lima lawyers, which put the Fujimori government on trial for its crimes against Dr Guzman, for crimes against political prisoners, and for crimes against lawyers who defend political prisoners. IEC encourages people to continue writing letters to the ICHR. Although the formal hearing is on 4 October, deliberations on the case will continue long after that date. Only if they continue to be reminded that the people of the world will hold them politically responsible for the crimes of the Fujimori government if they don't act, will the ICHR be forced to act at all! The Fax No. of the IACHR in the US is 202-458-3992.

Following are excerpts from a letter sent to the IACHR from Nepal:

"...the Fujimori Government of Peru has violated every norm of international human rights standard by confining Dr Guzman in an isolated cell. Besides this, documents reveal that the Fujimori government has inflicted upon Dr Guzman inhuman torture. The Fujimori government's only intention seems to be to annihilate Dr Guzman physically..."

"...in this critical hour we share common concern with all mankind who maintain an unbiased approach in the application and observance of accepted human rights standards in the case of Dr Guzman. The prime duty

of yours and your organization is to save the precious life of Dr Guzman. We, on behalf of millions of justice-loving people of Nepal, appeal to you and your organization to save the life of Dr Guzman..."

This letter was signed by four members of Nepal's parliament, the Chairman of the Nepal Human Rights Committee and Nepal Bar Association, the President of the Nepal Intellectual Council, the Vice-Chairman of the Forum for Protection of Human Rights, the Vice Chairman of the Nepal Journalists Association, among others.

FUJIMORI CONFRONTED BY PROTESTS AT LAWYERS' BANQUET, NEW YORK CITY

The following report appeared on Reuters wire service on 30 September:

"Peru's President Alberto Fujimori pledged on Thursday to continue jailing attorneys suspected of links to left-wing guerrillas despite protests from hecklers who accused him of abusing human rights.

"'A person who is a terrorist, even a lawyer, will be imprisoned and sentenced by our Peruvian law," Fujimori told a rowdy luncheon hosted by the New York City Bar Association.

"Fujimori, in New York for the U.N. General Assembly session, took part in a conference on Thursday on Peru's economic status hosted jointly by the bar association, the U.S. Foreign Policy Association and a Peruvian lawyers' group.

"He was interrupted frequently by five hecklers protesting against what they said was the jailing of lawyers defending left-wing political prisoners in Peru."

Reports from IEC supporters confirm that this large gathering of investment bankers, international business lawyers and journalists did not go as Fujimori and his US backers had planned, not at all. Fujimori was disrupted the moment he began to speak, and he remained on the defensive for his entire speech as one lawyer after another got up to denounce his treatment of the lawyers who defend political prisoners in Peru. Though Fujimori's whole trip to New York had been designed to present a false picture of the new "democratic" Peru to the world, he was forced to admit their actual reactionary practices against the people to this international gathering (the day before going to the UN to ask for money and an official blessing).

Outside the hotel where Fujimori spoke, a demonstration of about 50 people took place, organised by IEC, the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru and people from different affiliations.

A leaflet which circulated inside the hotel as Fujimori was speaking read: "FUJIMORI - BUTCHER OF THE ANDES... Protest his jailings and murders of the political opposition in Peru. Protest his Tortures and Jailings FOR LIFE of the Lawyers who Defended Them. *If you like Hitler -- You'll Love Fujimori.* If you sit still when they lock up the Political Lawyers in the morning... They'll Be Back for YOU at Night." On the reverse side of the leaflet were quotes from Ramsey Clark and the US National Lawyers Guild protesting the reinstatement of the death penalty to be used against Dr Guzman, and protesting the treatment of the lawyers who defend political prisoners. After Fujimori's speech had been thoroughly disrupted, the disrupters walked out. Within the next few minutes about 50 other people left. One IEC supporter concluded: "They had heard enough."

REFERENDUM IN PERU SET FOR 31 OCTOBER:

Fujimori has issued a decree ordering a referendum on Peru's 226-article draft Constitution on 31 October. The draft Constitution, which received the unanimous vote of Fujimori's hand-picked Constituent Congress, reinstates the death penalty and endorses Fujimori's dictatorial powers. The vote will be a simple "yes" or "no". Fujimori describes the referendum as follows: "In short, what is this Constitution? It is the fruit of April 5 [1992, the date of Fujimori's notorious "self-coup" when he suspended the Constitution]... As a result of this whole process the

referendum will consolidate and will even legitimise [the April 5 measures]." (Reuters; 6 Sept 1993)

Fujimori's own statements reveal that the vote is nothing but another way to legitimise its attacks against Dr Guzman and the People's War. Most analysts predict that since the only ones who vote will be those who recognise the legitimacy of the regime in the first place, the Constitution will be approved. Even if it were not approved, the very fact that this "plebescite" is held is going to be used by Fujimori (and his Yankee backers) to say that "democracy has been restored in Peru". A "no vote" will legitimize the murderous regime already in place, and the repressive decrees enacted by Fujimori at the time of the coup will not be changed. Today more than 2,000 political prisoners have been tried under Fujimori's new rules. They have been tried by hooded generals in military tribunals, with no right to defence. Most have been sentenced to life in prison.

Now, at the very moment when Fujimori is attempting to use the vote to legitimise his regime with this referendum, the people of the world must use every means possible to expose his murderous policies against Dr Abimael Guzman and the other political prisoners.

LETTER TO FUJIMORI OPPOSING DEATH PENALTY SIGNED BY 44 AT AI CONFERENCE:

On 6 August at a Commission of Inquiry of the Death Penalty held in Boston, US, 44 people signed a letter to Fujimori circulated by IEC which opposed the reinstatement of the death penalty in Peru. The Commission was sponsored by Amnesty International and was held in conjunction with AI's International Council meeting. Signatories on the letter included people from Finland, Netherlands, Iceland, Italy, Switzerland, Mauritius, Japan, U.S., Canada, Brazil, England, Barbados, Belgium and Jamaica. Some of those who signed were:

Maria Abesamis (UK) UK Centre for the Study of Capital Punishment
Stephen Bright (US) - Director, Southern Center for Human Rights
Muneer Deeb (US) - former death row inmate; Amnesty International USA, Survivor Committee
Belisario Dos Santos, Jr (Brazil) - Lawyer, member of Commission on Justice and Peace of the Archdiocese of Sao Paulo
Albert Gans (Belgium) - Amnesty International Council Member
Rick Halperin (US) - Amnesty International Council Member
Peter Hodgison (UK) - Director, Centre for Capital Punishment Studies, University of Westminster
Paul Hoffman (US) - Amnesty International Council Member
Sonia Jacobs (US) - Former deathrow inmate, member, Amnesty International
Minister Robert Muhammad (US) - Nation of Islam, Houston, TX
F.A. O'Connor (Jamaica) - Jamaica Council for Human Rights
William Schabas (Canada) - Dept of Judicial Sciences, Univ of Quebec
H. Schwarzschild (US) - Director, New York Office of the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty; Director Emeritus, Capital Punishment Project, ACLU
Lester Springer (Barbados) - Amnesty International Council Member

Following are excerpts from this letter:

"I want to add my name to the list of those opposed to the institution of the death penalty in Peru... Although the Peruvian government has the support of the United States Government, your government does not have my support in this action.

"Since Peru has killed political prisoners extra-legally, under your leadership and during previous administrations, a legalized death penalty would be a dangerous weapon in the hands of the Peruvian government. The intention is to use it against those who are labelled as "terrorists" - a very loosely defined term. It is one step toward legally killing opponents of the government such as guerrillas, their relatives, the lawyers who defend them, the doctors who treat them, union leaders, teachers, students, peasants, and other supporters.

"Most especially, this is one step toward ensuring your stated wish - to see Dr Abimael Guzman put to death..."

IEC CAMPAIGN ATTACKED IN SWITZERLAND:

A letter written by the IEC Chapter in Switzerland to the Peruvian Ambassador in Peru, has become the focus of a reactionary attack against the IEC (especially IEC supporters in Switzerland). After being warned by families of political prisoners in Peru that an imminent attack against prisoners at Canto Grande Prison was about to take place, IEC Switzerland wrote a protest letter to the Ambassador of the Peruvian Embassy. It read, in part:

"We together with our sisters and brothers around the world, including the oppressed people of Peru, strongly condemn any such attempts and seriously warn those involved in this GENOCIDE, including Alberto Fujimori himself, government officials, armed forces and their representatives abroad (like you), that the whole world is watching! If you dare to commit such a crime, you shall pay for it very dearly..."

"If anything happens to these prisoners of war, millions will hear about it and you and your government will be held directly responsible."

On 13 August 1993 the Peruvian Ambassador wrote a letter alleging that the letter written by the IEC Switzerland was a direct threat against the Peruvian government and its representatives, including the Ambassador. The Ambassador's letter went on to allege that there were no political prisoners in Peru, and that instead the political prisoners were "criminal gangs" who the government had to imprison in order to "pacify the country", and that the IEC was a pro-terrorist organisation. He then sent the letter to the Swiss police and the press.

A Police Commission initiated a campaign of harassment against IEC supporters. Suddenly the media, which has been remarkably unwilling to condemn Peru for its murderous treatment of political prisoners, including outright massacres, targetted the very people who were protesting a predicted massacre of political prisoners in Peru, and accused them of threatening the life of the Ambassador of Peru, of being a pro-terrorist group, and of disseminating falsified information.

In the face of such reactionary attacks, it is important to escalate the campaign, and to use the reactionary attacks in the press to spread the campaign and to unite even more broadly to defend the life of Dr Guzman and other political prisoners in Peru.

New Signatories to the IEC Call:

During the 12-24 escalation many hundreds more people signed the Call.

Following are just a few:

Selcuk Ferid (Australia) - Journalist

Ipek Calislar (Turkey) - Journalist, Jumhuriyet

H. Trabanino (El Salvador) - Student, Victoria Univ of Tech, Australia

Kavinda Weerajekera (Sri Lanka) - Student, Victoria Univ of Tech, Australia

Barbara Haak (Brazil) - Student, Victoria Univ of Tech, Australia

Serdar Akyel (Australia) - Chemical engineer and writer

Marcel Leereveld (Australia) - Linguist, La Trobe University

Alick Jackomos (Australia) - Historian, author of Living Aboriginal History of Victoria

Roberta Picton (Australia) - Student, Victoria University of Technology

Fahmida Riaz (Pakistan) - Poet and Writer, author of We, Sinful Women.

Mushtaq Lasharie (U.K.) - Chairperson, Third World Solidarity

R. M. Ahmad (U.K.) - Writer and Translator

Dr Safia Safwat (U.K.) - Lawyer; Member of the Permanent Bureau, Arab Jurists Union

Ali Reza Khan (U.K.) - Coordinator, Ethnic Community Service

Tassaduq Ahmed (U.K.) - Samaj Chetona Collective

Amin Mughal (Pakistani in exile) - Journalist

- END -