

INTERNATIONAL CALL TO ACTION

12-24 SEPTEMBER 1993



Beginning at 15:09 on 12 September and continuing through 24 September, people around the world will protest the U.S.-backed Peruvian regime's schemes to kill Dr Abimael Guzman.

Dr Abimael Guzman (Chairman Gonzalo), Chairman of the Communist Party of Peru (PCP), is the recognised leader of millions in Peru.

On 12 September 1992, the U.S.-backed Fujimori regime captured Dr Guzman. On 24 September, Fujimori displayed Dr Guzman to international media in a metal cage in an attempt to discredit him. Dr Guzman destroyed their plans and delivered a powerful speech that was televised worldwide.

He is now imprisoned in an underground cell and has had no contact with his family, friends or lawyer for almost a year. Thousands of other political prisoners in Peru are also locked away, suffering malnutrition, tuberculosis and isolation from friends and family.

On 3 August 1993, Peru reinstated the death penalty. Fujimori has repeatedly threatened Dr Guzman's life, and as recently as April he said: "Personally I would have preferred the death penalty for him. He deserves it."

A worldwide outcry is needed from everyone who believes the life of this political leader must be defended.

The Peruvian government must be compelled to end his isolation. The regime must be prevented from using the death penalty against him and the other political prisoners.

DEFEND THE LIFE OF DR ABIMAEEL GUZMAN!

International Emergency Committee to Defend the Life of Dr Abimael Guzman

Dr Abimael Guzman's life is in grave danger.

For almost one year he has been locked in an underground bunker on a naval base in Lima. He endures absolute solitary confinement in a windowless concrete cell specially designed to limit contact even with guards (who the regime is afraid he would influence). His lawyer, Dr Alfredo Crespo, has himself been condemned to life imprisonment simply for daring to defend him.

On 3 August 1993, Peru's Congress passed the death penalty for acts of "terrorism" or "treason", making Peru the first Latin American country to allow it. Within days, the U.S. granted Peru "most favorable trade status", and the New York Times announced that Peru had improved their human rights record.

U.S. political and financial support for Fujimori is increasing exactly at a time when mass detentions are on the rise and political prisoners are being tried by hooded judges with virtually no right to defence. The military routinely conducts house-to-house searches in the shanty towns. Even the possession of a leaflet or book can result in arrest on the charge of "apology for terrorism" with sentences of 12-years to life in prison (where political prisoners are subject to military assaults, even massacres). Mass graves containing the bones of people disappeared by military death squads keep turning up.

Unable to counter the advance of the People's War in Peru by other means, the regime is adding the death penalty to its arsenal. They are prepared to hold Dr Guzman and the other political prisoners hostage: Fujimori has already announced his intention to execute political prisoners for actions of the People's War occurring after their arrests.

With Dr Guzman, the U.S rulers are trying to set a precedent. Their problem: how to deal with the revolutionary leader and organisation which presents the greatest threat to U.S. domination of Peru and the world. Their "solution": demonise Dr Guzman and the PCP using methods many people around the world are familiar with - using their domination of the world media to spread an unending stream of CIA-inspired lies. Through such means, they actually want people to believe that the crimes committed by the Fujimori regime are for the greater good of the Peruvian people and humanity and should be tolerated. But anyone who has ever been lied about by this same bought-and-paid-for media will know whose greater good is being served by these wild fabrications.

And anyhow, what right do the U.S. imperialists have to decide who is a "legitimate" leader of the people and who is not?! Many people around the world - even many who do not fully agree with the politics of Dr Guzman - are coming to see that defending his life means standing up for the "outlawed" political prisoners everywhere. And it means standing against the entire reactionary agenda of the U.S.-imposed "New World Order".

During the past year a broad and diverse campaign, coordinated by the International Emergency Committee to Defend the Life of Abimael Guzman (IEC), has arisen on 5 continents. Tens of thousands have signed the Call to defend Dr Guzman's life. Thousands more have written letters of protest or have taken action in a worldwide campaign that has included people from all walks of life: peasants in Colombia, Nepal, Bangladesh and India; workers in petroleum refineries in Bogotá and auto factories in Detroit; immigrant workers in Los Angeles and Germany; members of parliament in Turkey, Nepal, Switzerland, Italy, Catalonia and England; professors, lawyers, human rights activists, musicians and actors.

On 14-15 May, thousands participated in IEC International Days of Action. Peasants at a traditional festival in Bolivia composed a song for Dr Guzman; in the US, IEC supporters delivered Dr Guzman's 24 September "speech from the cage" in 10 cities. 700 people marched in Mexico City; the Peruvian Consulate in Hamburg, Germany was occupied. Such actions over the past year have played a part in limiting the ability of the Fujimori government to kill Dr Guzman.

But Dr Guzman remains in solitary confinement. And the Fujimori regime now has another weapon they want to use against him and other political prisoners - the death penalty.

The IEC is calling on people around the world to tell the U.S.-backed Fujimori regime that we won't let them get away with their plans to kill Dr Guzman and other political prisoners. That we will expose all their outrageous crimes. That the murderous conditions of solitary confinement must end.

DEFEND THE LIFE OF DR ABIMAEI GUZMAN!

*Beat Back the Murderous Attempts of the Fujimori
Regime against Political Prisoners in Peru!*

**DOWN WITH THE DEATH PENALTY!
END THE SOLITARY CONFINEMENT!**

at 15:09 on 12 September, the beginning of the 12-day escalation, a great international outcry - a cry for justice - will resound around the world.

From 12 September to 24 September, the campaign will erupt with street theatres, public meetings, radio programs, video-showings, pickets, leafletting and demonstrations.

On 24 September, Dr Guzman's "speech from the cage" - a 10-minute address which so stung the Fujimori government and which they still fear - will be heard everywhere.

In London, join the London Branch of the International Emergency Committee to Defend the Life of Dr Abimael Guzman at the following actions:

- 12 Sept: 2:30 p.m. Hyde Park ^{SPEAKERS} Corner for street theatre and leafletting
MARBLE ARCH ☉
- 15 Sept: 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. across from Amnesty International Office, 1 Easton Street, for sign-holding and leafletting ANGEL ☉
- 18 Sept: 11:30 a.m. - Trafalgar Square for street theatre and leafletting
- 19 Sept: 1:00 p.m. - Camden Town tube stop for leafletting
- 24 Sept: 12:00 p.m. - street theatre and sign-holding
57, SLOANE ST., KNIGHTSBRIDGE ☉ PERUVIAN EMBASSY,
- 25 Sept: 11:30 a.m. - Brixton (meet at front of Pizza Hut)

We encourage everyone to write letters-to-the-editor, call in to radio shows, and distribute information at public meetings, churches, offices, schools, etc. For more information contact the London Branch by writing:
London IEC, Box 33, 136-138 Kingsland High Street, London E8 2NS.



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