

RALLY IN SUPPORT OF THE MAPUCHE POLITICAL PRISONERS IN CHILE!!

Mapuche Political Prisoner Patricia Troncoso in Critical Health Condition, more than 105 days in Hunger Strike

FOR THE LIFE OF PATRICIA TRONCOSO!

FREEDOM FOR ALL MAPUCHE POLITICAL PRISONERS IN CHILE, NOW!

January, Friday 25, 12 noon, 2008

Chilean Consulate in Melbourne,

Floor 13, 390 St Kilda Road, Melbourne

MAPUCHE POLITICAL PRISONERS ON HUNGER STRIKE

Mapuche political prisoners Jaime Marileo, Patricia Troncoso, Juan Millalen, Hector LLaitul and Jose Huenchunao, secluded in the jail of Angol (southern Chile), had commenced a hunger strike last October 10, 2007 to demand the release of more than 20 indigenous Mapuche activists political prisoners, end to the militarization of the traditional Mapuche territories; and an end to repression against Mapuche activists and communities.

"The objective of the hunger strike is to demand the freedom of all the Mapuche Political Prisoners, as well as denouncing the harassment and militarization of the Mapuche Territories. Moreover, this action is to denounce the framing that has been implemented to condemn our people of different crimes. "As a Mapuche activist said".

Today after three months of this action, Patricia Troncoso still carried out the hunger strike in a very delicate health condition; she is 26 kilos less and is in the hospital just waiting answers from the Chilean government or die. She declared; if her death contributed to the liberation of the Mapuche people she will keep her action. "Patricia Troncoso medical report stated...Her health is now seriously deteriorating, she is experiencing considerable weight loss, her basic bodily functions are beginning to fail, and she is currently falling in and out of consciousness and periodically unable to speak." As International Organisation Against Torture has been reported.

"Patricia Troncoso who began her fast in early October was taken to the hospital from her jail in the southern city of Angol to treat her deteriorating health. She and three others were found guilty of "terrorism" for a series of "called" arson attacks on Mapuche lands, but owned by forestry companies. Their first trial ended in a mistrial, while in the second prosecutors used the testimony of an anonymous hooded witness to get a conviction. The four were charged and sentenced under a set of anti-terrorism laws passed during the Pinochet dictatorship. Efforts to reduce their charges from terrorism failed after negotiations broke down between the Mapuche, senators and the government. The Mapuche want prosecutors to stop using the anti-terrorist act. They are also demanding the return of Mapuche lands,

currently in the hands of forestry companies be returned to Mapuche communities. The government says it is willing to listen and negotiate but not “under” pressure, now the government is waiting for Patricia Troncoso’s death”.

The Chilean media is shamefully censoring the plight of the Mapuche people, for reasons of self-interest and neoliberal policy. Economic and political benefits are keeping the Mapuche efficiently suppressed; it would not do well for the media to publicise the Mapuche's protests concerning the restitution of ancestral land, when that land is currently producing a lot of profit for large companies and greedy capitalists, such as the forestry industry.

We appeal to the international community and to those humanitarian organisations that follows the principles of democracy and human rights to end these injustices by demanding from the Chilean government urgent clarification to these grave concerns.

We urgently request support in any way as possible, assisting to the rally this Friday January 25, 12 noon at the Chilean Consulate in Melbourne, 390 St. Kilda Rd., St Kilda. Organising activities in you city or state, sign the petitions and write letters, emails and faxes to the Chilean authorities (addresses below) expressing you concern and demanding the release of all Mapuche political prisoners and respect their lives.

Help to save the life of Patricia Troncoso

Not to mining, forestry and energy exploitation on Historic Mapuche Territory!

Stop the destruction of Mapuche Land!

The people mobilising and demanding its rights...achieve victories!

Building solidarity with Latin America and grassroots movements in our region

In Solidarity

Chilean Popular and Indigenous Network
redchilena@bigpond.com

Co-organised with Latin American Solidarity Network (LASNET)
www.latinlasnet.org

More info: Contact Marisol on 0413 597 315 or write to
lasnet@latinlasnet.org or
latin.american.solidarity.network@gmail.com

Chilean authorities

Mrs. Michelle Bachelet

President of Chile

Palacio de La Moneda

Santiago, Chile

Tel: 0011 56 2 690 4000

Fax: 0011 56 2 690 41 38

Fax: 0011 56 2 690 4958

E-mail: jgarcia@presidencia.cl

Carta a la Presidenta online = <http://www.gobiernodechile.cl/contacto/contacto.asp>

Mr. Edmundo Prez Yoma

Minister of Internat Affairs

Palacio de La Moneda,

Santiago, Chile

Tel: 0011 56 2 690 4000

Fax: 0011 56 2 6904 958

Fax: 0011 56 2 699 2165

Email: mepinozar@interior.gov.cl

Mr. Alejandro Foxley Rioseco,

Minister of foreign Affairs,

Catedral 1158, Piso 3, Santiago, Chile,

Fax: 0011 56 2 696 87 96,

Email: minrel@minrel.cl ; mdelaguarda@minrel.gov.cl

Autoridades chilenas/ Chilean authorities

Carta tipo: enviar carta a la presidenta de Chile. [Clic Aquí](#)

Autoridades religiosas/Religious authorities

Monseñor Sergio Contreras Navia

Vicuña Mackenna 779, Temuco

Fono: 45-214644,

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Dirección electrónica:

temuco@episcopado.cl

Monseñor Antonio M. Casamitjana

Arquidiócesis de Concepción.

Barros Arana 544, Concepción

Fono: 41-620670,

Fax: 41-232844

Dirección postal:

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concepcion@episcopado.cl

Otras personas que tambien puede contactar

- Monseñor Manuel Camilo Vial
- Luisa Reyes
Secretario

Otras personas que tambien puede contactar

- Arzobispo Monseñor
Antonio Moreno Casamitjana
- Arzobispo emérito Monseñor
José Manuel Santos Ascarza

<http://www.iglesia.cl/temuco/main.htm>

Direcciones :

- Misión Permanente de Chile ante las Naciones Unidas en Ginebra, 58, Rue de Moillebeau (4° piso), CH-1209, Ginebra, fax: + 4122.734.52. 97, misionchile@misginchile.org
- Misión de Chile ante la Unión Europea , 106 Rue des Aduatiques, 1040 Bruselas, Bélgica, Fax.: +32 (02) 736 49 94, embachile@embachile.be
- Sra. Paulina Veloso Valenzuela, Ministra Secretaría General de la Presidencia, Palacio de La Moneda, 1160 Entrepiso, Santiago, Chile, fax: + 562. 69.04.329, gjoignant@minsegpres.cl
- Sr. Belisario Velasco Barahona, Ministro del Interior, Palacio de la Moneda s/n, Santiago de Chile, fax: (+562) 69 68 740, lguzmanp@interior.gov.cl
- Sr. Carlos Maldonado Curti, Ministro de Justicia, Morandé 107, Santiago, Casilla 21, Santiago, Chile, fax: (+562) 698 70 98, tel: +56-2-6743100; minju@reuna.cl; minju@minjusticia.cl

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- Sr. Tucapel Jiménez F., Presidente
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 - Cárcel de Angol : Pedro Aguirre Cerda
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718072/718560; fax: +56-45-711560

Señora: Michellel Bachelet

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[Carta a la Presidenta online](#)

Sr. Enrique Edmundo Tapia

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