

## 12 YEARS OF INJUSTICE - FREE THE CUBAN FIVE VISITATION RIGHTS FOR THE FAMILIES NOW!

*By Morteza Gorgzadeh*

On Sept. 12th, some 50 people rallied in support of the Cuban Five -Gerardo Hernández, Antonio Guerrero, Ramon Labañino, Rene González and Fernando González- anti-terrorist political prisoners in U.S. jails since September 12<sup>th</sup>, 1998 for the "crime" of exposing violent/terrorist acts against Cuba originating from U.S. territory.

The Consul General of Cuba in Toronto, Jorge F. Soberón Luis, Consul Raúl Delgado Concepción and Consul Julio Enrique Pujol Torres attended the meeting, accompanied by Basilio Gutierrez, the Vice President of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples (ICAP) and by Raul Cardoso, the Director of the North American Division of ICAP. The meeting first heard from Basilio Gutierrez, who informed us that the legal venues for fighting for the freedom of the Cuban Five have been exhausted and that the only thing that could help bring the Cuban Five home to their loved ones, is the ever continued and growing international solidarity with their cause.

Professor Keith Ellis was kind enough to read us the poem "Más Que Una Proclama" by Antonio Guerrero in Spanish and English, as well as reading and translating a message of solidarity and a poem by Rafael Cancel Miranda -a central leader of Puerto Rico's independence movement- in which he stated: "The Five Cuban Patriots represent the right of survival of our peoples –of all our peoples- not only of the Cuban people. Fighting for them, we are fighting for ourselves."

In the cultural segment of the program, the audience enjoyed a performance by Ruben "Bennie" Esguerra who delighted everyone with his indigenous/hispanic music and vocals. As well, we enjoyed the performance of a special indigenous ceremonial dance led by sister Violeta Miguya from Guatemala.

The main message that came out of the meeting, was the need to do more and to not stop fighting until the Cuban Five are free, because this is a campaign that needs an ever growing movement to inform the general public, thereby enabling us to break the walls of silence imposed by the mass media around the case of the Cuban Five.

It was also stressed that the government of Canada shall intervene on behalf of the Cuban Five and it shall demand their freedom, taking into consideration the fact that Fabio di Celmo, a permanent resident of Montreal, was killed by one of the bombs planted in a Havana hotel in 1997 by some of the terrorists that the Cuban Five were trying to stop.

After a question and answer period, the meeting was adjourned while a new song for the Cuban Five, by Orula, was playing and everyone was invited to join the campaign and to pick up the available informational materials.

The meeting was organized by Toronto Forum on Cuba and sponsored by the Latin American Solidarity Network-Toronto (LASN).

## **12 AÑOS DE INJUSTICIA – LIBERTAD PARA LOS CINCO DERECHOS DE VISITA PARA LAS FAMILIAS DE LOS CINCO YA!**

*Por Morteza Gorgzadeh - Traducción por Sabrina Johnson*

El 12 de septiembre, unas 50 personas se manifestaron en apoyo de los Cinco -Gerardo Hernández, Antonio Guerrero, Ramón Labañino, René González y Fernando González- antiterroristas presos políticos en cárceles de los Estados Unidos desde el 12 de Septiembre, 1998 por el "delito" de poner al descubierto los actos terroristas contra Cuba provenientes del territorio de los Estados Unidos.

El Cónsul General de Cuba en Toronto, Jorge F. Soberón Luis, el Cónsul Raúl Delgado Concepción y el Cónsul Julio Enrique Pujol Torres asistieron a la actividad, acompañados por Basilio Gutiérrez, el Vicepresidente del Instituto Cubano de Amistad con los Pueblos (ICAP) y por Raúl Cardoso, el Director de la División de la América del Norte de ICAP. Basilio Gutiérrez presentó el primer discurso, en que nos informó que las posibilidades legales por luchar por la libertad de los Cinco, se han acabado y que lo único que podría ayudar para que los Cinco vuelvan a sus seres queridos, es la constante y cada vez mayor solidaridad internacional con su causa.

El profesor Keith Ellis amablemente leyó el poema "Más Que Una proclama" de Antonio Guerrero en Español e Inglés, también leyó y tradujo un mensaje de solidaridad y un poema de Rafael Cancel Miranda -un líder central del movimiento por la independencia de Puerto Rico- en que afirmaba: "Los Cinco Patriotas Cubanos representan el derecho a la sobrevivencia de nuestros pueblos —de todos nuestros pueblos— no solo del pueblo cubano. Luchando por ellos, luchamos por nosotros mismos."

En el segmento cultural del programa, el público disfrutó la actuación de Rubén "Bennie" Esguerra, quien deleitó a todos con su música indígena/hispana y con su voz. Además, disfrutamos la presentación de una danza ceremonial indígena especial realizada por el grupo de la hermana Violeta Miguya de Guatemala.

El mensaje principal que salió de la actividad, fue la necesidad de redoblar todos nuestros esfuerzos y no dejar de luchar hasta que los Cinco son libres, porque se trata de una campaña que necesita un movimiento cada vez mayor para informar al público en general, hasta que logramos romper los muros de silencio impuestos por los medios de comunicación sobre el caso de los Cinco.

También se destacó que el gobierno de Canadá deberá intervenir para los Cinco y deberá exigir su libertad, teniendo en cuenta el hecho de que Fabio di Celmo, un residente permanente de Montreal, fue asesinado por una de las bombas colocadas en uno de los hoteles en La Habana en 1997 por algunos de los terroristas cuyos ataques los Cinco trataban de impedir.

Después un espacio para preguntas y respuestas, la sesión concluyó, mientras que de fondo sonaba una nueva canción para los Cinco, realizada por el grupo Cubano Orula, y todos fueron invitados a unirse a la campaña por la liberación de los Cinco héroes y a recoger el material informativo disponible.

La actividad fue organizada por el Toronto Forum on Cuba y patrocinada por la Red de Solidaridad Latinoamericana-Toronto (LASN).



**Rafael Cancel Miranda  
Puerto Rico**

**Mensaje para el Toronto Forum on Cuba  
12 de septiembre de 2010**

Compañeras y compañeros del Foro de Toronto en Solidaridad con Cuba

Saludos y mis respetos a la memoria del reverendo Lucius Walker y del patriota puertorriqueño Juan Mari Bras, recién fallecidos.

Como todos saben, para mí hubiese sido más que un honor estar ahí presente entre ustedes, pero como no le reconozco legalidad alguna a la imposición por el gobierno yanqui en 1917 de la ciudadanía estadounidense sobre los puertorriqueños —ciudadanía que el parlamento puertorriqueño de entonces rechazó— no uso el pasaporte estadounidense. Solo viajo como puertorriqueño, y al exigir el gobierno estadounidense el pasaporte de ellos para salir del territorio puertorriqueño hacia el extranjero, no podré estar presente donde quisiera estarlo, entre ustedes. Sobre todo, tratándose de un encuentro de tanta relevancia como lo es el respaldo a la excarcelación de Los Cinco Hermanos Patriotas Cubanos, que por ser antiterroristas, los terrorista de la CIA y de otros grupos terroristas al servicio del imperialismo, los ven como un peligro.

Los Cinco Patriotas Cubanos representan el derecho a la sobrevivencia de nuestros pueblos —de todos nuestros pueblos— no solo del pueblo cubano. Luchando por ellos, luchamos por nosotros mismos. Todos sabemos que los terroristas de la CIA y los personeros que se prestan a aterrorizar a los pueblos por los intereses del capitalismo estadounidense no tienen escrúpulos. Lo mismo asesinan adultos que asesinan niños para saquear los recursos naturales de nuestros pueblos.

Podríamos enumerar varios ejemplos como la llamada Operación Cóndor, la Operación Fénix, el asesinato de Salvador Allende (de cuya coordinación el nefasto Henry Kissinger se responsabilizó años más tarde y que costó miles de vidas al pueblo chileno), campamentos de tortura en varios países latinoamericanos y operaciones genocidas a las cuales les ponen nombres bonitos, pero engañosos, como si los nombres pudieran esconder los crímenes sangrientos que han cometido y cometen contra nuestros pueblos.

Gracias a los Cinco Hermanos Cubanos Antonio, Gerardo, Fernando, Ramón y René. Gracias por dar la cara por todos nosotros. Su sacrificio no será en vano.

Compañeros y compañeras, quisiera estar entre ustedes porque ustedes representan y son la conciencia del verdadero ser humano. Asegurémonos que los terroristas del imperio anglosajón estadounidense sean conscientes de que los pueblos estamos pendientes de la vida de Los Cinco Hermanos Cubanos, pues de no ser así la vida de Los Cinco no estaría asegurada. Ellos nos dan fuerza, pero a la vez, nosotros somos su fuerza. Mantengámonos alertas y no descansemos ni un minuto en nuestra lucha por la excarcelación de Los Cinco pues, al mismo tiempo, estaremos garantizando su vida.

Vuelvo y repito que para mí hubiese sido un honor haber estado ahí con ustedes y es mi esperanza que en ocasiones futuras nos encontremos unos y otros y podamos darnos un fuerte abrazo. Y si orgulloso estoy de Los Cinco Hermanos Cubanos, así de orgulloso estoy de sus familiares que han sabido ir de la mano de Los Cinco en el digno, aunque azaroso camino que les ha tocado recorrer.

Un fuerte abrazo para cada uno de ustedes en nombre del pueblo patriota puertorriqueño. Gracias.

**Rafael Cancel Miranda**  
11 de septiembre de 2010



**Rafael Cancel Miranda**  
**Puerto Rico**

**Message for the Toronto Forum on Cuba**  
**September 12, 2010**

Compañeras and compañeros of the Toronto Forum on Cuba

Greetings and my respects to the memory of the recently fallen Reverend Lucius Walker and Puerto Rican patriot Juan Mari Bras.

As we all know, it would have been more than an honour for me to be present among you here today, but since I don't see any legitimacy in the imposition by the Yankee government in 1917 of U.S. citizenship on the people of Puerto Rico—citizenship which the Puerto Rican legislature of the time rejected—I do not use a U.S. passport. I only travel as a Puerto Rican, and since the U.S. government requires me to have a U.S. passport to leave Puerto Rican territory to travel abroad, I will not be able to be where I would like to be today, with you. Especially for a meeting as important as this one, to support the liberation of The Five Patriotic Cuban Brothers, who, because they were antiterrorists, are seen as dangerous by the CIA terrorists and other terrorist groups serving imperialism.

The Five Cuban Patriots represent the right to the survival of our peoples—of all our peoples—not only of the Cuban people. Fighting for them we fight for ourselves. We all know that the CIA terrorists and those people who lend themselves to terrorizing people in the interests of U.S. capitalism have no scruples. They murder adults just as they murder children in order to steal the natural resources of our peoples.

We could enumerate several examples such as Operation Condor, Operation Phoenix, the assassination of Salvador Allende (the coordination of which the dreadful Henry Kissinger took responsibility years later and which cost the Chilean people thousands of lives), torture

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camps in several Latin American countries and genocidal operations to which they attached pretty but deceptive names, as if names could hide the bloody crimes that they have committed and continue to commit against our peoples

Thanks go to the Five Cuban Brothers, Antonio, Gerardo, Fernando, Ramón and René. Thanks for standing up for all of us. Your sacrifice will not be in vain.

Compañeros and compañeras, I wish to be among you because you represent and are the conscience of true human beings. Let us ensure that the terrorists of the Anglo-Saxon U.S. Empire are aware that our peoples are watching out for the lives of the Five Cuban Brothers, because, if we didn't do so, the lives of the Five would not be protected. The Brothers give us strength, but, at the same time, we are their strength. Let us remain alert and let us not rest a minute in the struggle for the Liberation of the Five, since, at the same time, we will be saving their lives.

I reiterate that for me it would have been an honour to have been there with you, and it is my hope that on future occasions we will meet and be able to give each other firm hugs. And if I am proud of the Five Cuban Brothers, I am also proud of their families that have known how to accompany the Five in the dignified, although hazardous, road that it has befallen to them to travel.

A big hug for each one of you in the name of the patriotic Puerto Rican people. Thank you.

Rafael Cancel Miranda  
September 11, 2010

## Los cinco hermanos cubanos

*Gracias, Fernando, Gerardo,  
Ramón, René, Antonio,  
por combatir los demonios,  
de un imperio desquiciado.*

<p>Los cinco hermanos cubanos, presos por tener conciencia, por proteger la existencia, de su pueblo amenazado.</p> <p>Los cinco hermanos cubanos meten miedo al imperio porque aun estando presos fortalecen a sus pueblos.</p> <p>Los cinco hermanos somos tú, yo, Fidel, el Che, Dolores Huertas, Malcolm X, musulmanes o cristianos.</p> <p>Los cinco hermanos cubanos son hermanos palestinos, son Mandela, son Sandino, son iraquíes, son afganos.</p> <p>Los cinco hermanos cubanos son los niños hambreados, son nuestro Túpac Amaru, son nuestros originarios.</p>	<p>Los cinco hermanos cubanos, presos de los terroristas, son la conciencia viva de los pueblos soberanos.</p> <p>Y se hacen de oídos sordos los canallas del imperio, pero hasta que los liberemos, jamás podrán silenciarnos.</p> <p>Los cinco hermanos cubanos son la espada de Bolívar y son la esperanza viva de que seamos hermanos.</p> <p>Los cinco hermanos cubanos, hermanos tuyos y míos, en nombre del Che los bendigo y les extiendo la mano.</p> <p>Los cinco hermanos cubanos vencerán junto a nosotros pues si nos juntamos todos lograremos librarlos.</p> <p><i>Rafael Cancel Miranda 17 de agosto de 2010</i></p>
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## The Five Cuban Brothers

*Thanks, Fernando, Gerardo,  
Ramón, René, Antonio,  
For combating the devils  
Of a plunging empire.*

<p>The five Cuban brothers, imprisoned for their awareness, for protecting the existence, of their threatened people.</p> <p>The five Cuban brothers strike fear in the empire because even as prisoners they strengthen their people.</p> <p>The five Cuban brothers Are you, me, Fidel, Che, Dolores Huertas, Malcolm X, Muslims or Christians.</p> <p>The five Cuban brothers are Palestinian brothers, are Mandela, are Sandino, are Iraquis, are Afghans.</p> <p>The five Cuban brothers are the hungry children, are our Túpac Amaru, are our first people.</p>	<p>The five Cuban brothers, prisoners of the terrorists, are the live conscience of sovereign people.</p> <p>And the rogues of the empire turn a deaf ear, but until we free them, they won't be able to silence us.</p> <p>The five Cuban brothers are Bolívar's sword and are the living hope that we will all be brothers.</p> <p>The five Cuban brothers, your brothers and mine, I bless them in the name of Che and I hold out my hand to them.</p> <p>The five Cuban brothers will win together with us since, if we all join together, we will free them.</p> <p><i>Rafael Cancel Miranda 17 de agosto de 2010 Trans. Keith Ellis</i></p>
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ANTONIO GUERRERO

## MAS QUE UNA PROCLAMA

La dignidad es mas que una proclama  
no se pregona  
habla por si misma.  
La dignidad es una semilla que se siembra y crece  
es una paloma blanca  
es una novia unica.  
La dignidad es estar justamente donde se es util  
es cada vez que te caes volverte a parar.  
La dignidad es un hecho real  
siempre hay que defenderla  
es contra un Goliat lanzar la onda  
con toda tu verguenza y tu valor.  
La dignidad es facil para el pobre  
dificil para el rico  
es repartir tu pan luego comer  
es no asociarse nunca a una injusticia  
es sin reclamo amar.  
La dignidad tiene una bien definida frontera  
es vivir sin el miedo al que diran  
es cantarle las cuarenta a la mentira.  
La dignidad es plena independencia  
es el camino a la paz.  
La dignidad se deja poseer  
no la dejes partir  
"es como la esponja: se le oprime  
pero conserva siempre  
su fuerza de extension".

*Escrito el 18 de octubre de 2002*

ANTONIO GUERRERO

## MORE THAN A PROCLAMATION

Dignity is more than a proclamation  
it doesn't advertise itself  
it speaks for itself.  
Dignity is a seed that is sown and grows  
it is a white dove  
it is a sole fiancée.  
Dignity is being precisely where it is useful  
it is getting back on your feet whenever you fall.  
Dignity is something real  
it is always necessary to defend it  
it is firing the slingshot against Goliath  
with all your indignation and your courage.  
Dignity is easy for the poor man  
it is difficult for the rich man  
it is sharing your bread and then eating  
it is to never be party to an injustice  
it is to love unconditionally.  
Dignity has a well defined frontier  
it is to live without fear of what people will say  
it is to speak truth to lies  
Dignity is full independence  
it is the path to peace.  
Dignity allows itself to be possessed  
don't let it leave you  
"it is like a sponge: it can be squeezed  
but it always keeps  
its power of bouncing back".

*Written on October 18, 2002*

*Trans. Keith Ellis*

*Gerardo Hernández*

## **Desire**

I'll tell you how deeply I appreciate your sleeplessness,  
your infinite silence and your immense valor,  
and you'll know how I long to return to the peerlessness  
of your land, to be reborn in your arms and feel your ardor.

It will get to you in tears of passion and delight,  
for hidden in my chest my return I'll await,  
and how dearly I'd love, during this long night,  
for you to read these verses which to you I dedicate.

***Fragment of a poem written to his mother while he was in "the hole"***

*Translated by Julio Llópiz and Keith Ellis*

*Ramón Labañino*

## **Debt**

I gave her all my loyalty  
my absence  
every endeavour.  
To honor her  
I remained silent [...].  
Thus today I am content,  
When I see you multiplied  
In a thousand flags and mothers.

## **To my daughters**

I granted them their lives,  
splashed their love with dew,  
magnified their souls in mine  
and their issues made me grow.

My lone life has become three,  
so three are my wishes and my fates,  
three my grateful merriment,  
three my fortunes and my plans.  
I would live only for you  
my whole self and what I am.  
I am so far from you today  
thus I cannot enjoy your happiness,  
but you should know how much I love you  
wherever I am,  
wherever I am,  
I shall live eternally for you!

*December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2001.*

*E. D. C. Miami FL.*

*11<sup>th</sup> Floor, West Wing, Cell 6 (upper part)*

## To you who are waiting

To you Ely, because love conquers all

To you who are waiting  
On the warm wetness  
Of my last kiss,  
Over the waves of a tender  
Flow of passions.

To you who are waiting  
for the right moment  
to embrace nostalgia  
and ease every second  
of this eternal waiting.

To you who are waiting  
come hell or high water  
have faith and keep fighting  
beat everything and everyone,  
remember it is two of us battling  
in this long waiting,  
and after we reach our victory  
we will get back  
all our debts.

*November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003  
U. S. P. Beaumont, Texas*

## Sometimes

Yes, it is true  
Sometimes  
It feels hard to wake up  
having nothing of what you love  
but among all you hate.

Sometimes  
it feels hard to be without you  
without your lips  
without your warm hugs  
or without your silhouette  
stuck to mine  
in each free space.

Sometimes  
it is painful to long for  
my daughters by my side  
to look forward hopelessly  
to an “I love you” or a “Dad”,  
to dream of a sweet kiss  
or an innocent tear I could  
wipe away gently  
and lovingly.

Sometimes  
it feels hard to desire  
to be surrounded by people  
by the laugh of children  
by the joy on the streets  
by the warm breeze of our coasts  
by the unbelievable green  
of our mountains.

Sometimes  
it feels hard to yearn to be  
walking barefoot  
along the white sand  
or swimming on the intense blue  
of our ocean  
so it wipes away our griefs.

Sometimes  
it feels hard to wish  
to see our flag fluttering  
flowered with martyrs and heroes  
in some square  
of our island.

Sometimes  
It feels so hard  
to wake up here  
longing to be there  
and this I cannot deny...

But I also understand  
quite well  
how hard and heroic it is:  
to fight against an unmeasured gigantic injustice  
against a rich and mean power  
against a modern Neo-Fascism  
to protect our peoples  
against the crimes of an Empire.

This is why  
sometimes  
even when it is hard to wake up here  
I deeply appreciate  
living and fighting this Mission  
which allows us to recognize  
much better the meaning of:

the adverb      Faithfully  
the verb        I fight  
the noun        Homeland  
and the optimism in the slogan "We will win (Venceremos)!"

*February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006*

*Translated by Julio Llópiz and Keith Ellis*

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