

# Janine Africa and Janet Africa

written by Struggle - La Lucha

March 8, 2020



Janine Africa and Janet Africa. SLL photo:  
Greg Butterfield

**Janine Africa and Janet Africa** are two of the surviving MOVE 9 activists who recently won release after decades in prison. They described the hell they went through in Pennsylvania prisons. They and the other MOVE 9 members were beaten by guards.

Upon arriving in prison, Janet and Janine were immediately put in “the hole” — solitary confinement. The warden told them they would stay there and they did stay there for a long time.

In 1985, the women were told that their children had been killed while they were still in solitary confinement. The guards told them their children were dead without further explanation. They had to rely on overheard conversation among other prisoners in the prison yard to glean that the Philadelphia police and FBI had bombed the MOVE house on Osage Avenue on May 13, 1985, killing six adults and five children.

Janine Africa and Janet Africa have not been crushed by the horrendous ordeals they have suffered. They say it is the unbroken solidarity of the MOVE family and support of many others that gave them the strength to survive.

Janine said: "For 41 years, they have tried to beat us down. They have tried to take our health. They have tried everything to stop us because they couldn't stop us no other way.

"We have a family that is so strong and supportive. They had our backs and we rode on their strength and that made us strong. We can't stop talking about it because we know how important that is.

"We are out here fighting for everybody, whether you are white, Black, Chinese. We know this system is on pins and needles because we are coming out!"

*Read about Janine and Janet Africa's historic visit to Southern California at [tinyurl.com/vhhaxr8](https://tinyurl.com/vhhaxr8)*



---

# Julia ‘Pachamama’ Fernández

written by Struggle - La Lucha

March 8, 2020

**Julia “Pachamama” Fernández** on the the U.S. coup against Bolivia’s first Indigenous president, Evo Morales of the Movement Toward Socialism (MAS):

“I was just told by a woman in Bolivia that the Juana Azurduy program has been suspended by the de facto government. And, it’s a stipend program that’s designed to provide health and nutrition benefits, basically for pregnant mothers and young children in underserved sectors of the population — so that’s been suspended.

“And it’s clear that most of the most vulnerable communities which predominantly comprise our Indigenous peoples in the rural areas are the ones being most affected. That, along with the expulsion of our Cuban medical doctors, has basically created panic within the sectors.

“We have elders, we have children, pregnant women and men, which includes those protectors of democracy who were assaulted and shot during those peaceful marches in Senkata and Sacaba, who still have not received medical attention, so

they are the most vulnerable. For me that spells out G-E-N-O-C-I-D-E. For me that's what's happening.

"Basically, the Indigenous movement is being forced to rebuild amid all the chaos happening in Bolivia. Right now, there's like a series of intimidations, of persecution and unlawful detention of innocent MAS supporters, false accusations against grassroots journalists and against MAS political leaders — even, you know, false allegations against the presidential candidate Luis Arce Catacora.

"The focus-in spite of what they're facing-is to really stay together against all odds. And the Bolivian Indigenous peoples have fought and won the gas and water wars in the past. The May elections may not be fair, but international volunteers will arrive to be witnesses of the upcoming historical events happening in Bolivia. And as for the Bolivian people, their courage and their strength will pull them through."

*Read the full interview at [tinyurl.com/ta2hbre](https://tinyurl.com/ta2hbre)*

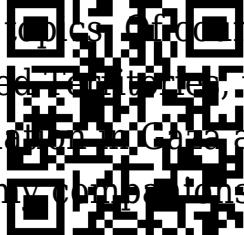
---

# Khalida Jarrar

written by Struggle - La Lucha

March 8, 2020

**Khalida Jarrar** is a leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, member of the Palestine Legislative Council and advocate for prisoners. She has been jailed many times by the Israeli occupation, and was imprisoned again in October 2019:

"Palestinians imprisoned for political reasons are discussing many topics of course, the events of the day, those outside the prison, those in the Occupied Territories, the arrests, the demolitions of homes, the killing of protesters, the situation in Gaza and other political issues take up a large part of the discussions. But many compositions in prison also speak about their rights as women in Palestinian society." 

"There have been very many protests. I think the one that became particularly well-known was the one calling for respecting our privacy. In an Israeli prison, you are monitored through cameras placed almost everywhere. Even during our time in the yard, the most longed-for moment for anyone who is forced to live almost all the time in a prison cell. Some Palestinian prisoners are religious women who are

carefully guarding their privacy.

“For 63 days, we refused to go out of our cells. As punishment, we were transferred to Damon prison, where conditions are harsher. There as well, we were punished on several occasions because we didn’t follow orders that made no sense and were abusive. For a whole month, we could not receive any visits from our families. And they always spoke to us in Hebrew, a language that many of us did not know.”

*Read the full interview at [tinyurl.com/tdxn7as](https://tinyurl.com/tdxn7as)*



---

## **California graduate students expand strike for cost-of-living adjustment**

written by Struggle - La Lucha  
March 8, 2020



If you go on the [website](#) of University of California graduate student workers who are now fighting for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to manage extremely high rents, you will see daily updates like this:

“UC Wide Blackout – today, March 5. At UCSC, both entrances to campus have been closed since 5:30 a.m. No class, no work! Come to the picket for food and community. Wear black! ...

“We are disappointed that UCSC administration, UCOP, and the UC Regents have consistently refused to negotiate in good faith in order to find an amicable solution to the needs of UC students and workers, instead choosing to retaliate against precarious community members and prolong strike activity.”

Those graduate student workers at U.C. Santa Cruz, members of United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 2865, representing 19,000 student workers at the U.C. system, began a wildcat strike in December after unfruitful negotiations with administrators. They are demanding a \$1,412 per month COLA to meet skyrocketing rents in the area.

That militance reflected the anger at the news last Friday that U.C. Santa Cruz had issued termination letters to 54 [graduate students](#) and the frustration of student workers across the U.C. campuses who pay well over 50 percent of their salary on rents, leaving little for food, health care and transportation, especially if they have children.

Veronica Hamilton, vice president of U.C. Santa Cruz's graduate student association and chair of the campus unit of UAW Local 2865, was quoted in the Los Angeles Times on Feb. 28 regarding the challenges of workers: "Housing is expensive in Santa Cruz, and student workers have a difficult time living on the typical stipend of \$2,400 a month before taxes.

According to the [Cost of Living Adjustment White Paper](#) done by U.C. graduate students, a one bedroom apartment in the city of Santa Cruz costs over \$1,800 per month, eating up 75 percent of that \$2,400 stipend.

And it's not just Santa Cruz that has extraordinarily high rents. Workers at the Berkeley campus suffer from area rents costing over \$1,700 per month for a one bedroom apartment.

Instead of negotiating in good faith, the U.C. administration reportedly decided to spend an exorbitant amount of money in one week — money which could have been used to pay a liveable wage — on riot police bussed in from other campuses to intimidate and terrorize striking students and their supporters.

Yulia Gilichinskaya, a fourth-year Ph.D. student in Film & Digital Media who has insider knowledge of meetings with administrators, told [Salon on Feb. 25](#) that the university spent \$300,000 per day on cops.

Students were beaten with batons and arrested. And this police violence occurred on other U.C. campuses as well.

The work done by graduate students with regard to academic achievement, according to faculty, is irreplaceable. In fact, of great concern to the faculty is how the hostile tone of the U.C. administrators, especially U.C. President Janet Napolitano — who threatened the workers with firing early on — could possibly help contribute to getting the work of the faculty done.

"Napolitano never addressed who would replace grad workers," James Sirigotis, a fifth-year Ph.D. student in Sociology, told Salon in that same article.

Sirigotis, who was one of the protesters physically injured by the expensive terrorist police force, noted that faculty members understand this contradiction: "What was the plan if they were willing to fire these TAs? How do you expect us to be able to teach? How do you expect the university to operate?" he continued.

The strike has now expanded to other U.C. campuses. On Feb. 27, U.C. Santa Barbara and U.C. Davis graduate students joined the strike.

After receiving news about the fired student workers many more grad student workers joined the strike and pledged to not accept any of those newly opened positions. According to the grad students' website:

"About 80 grad students withheld Fall grades and, as of Feb. 28, are out of a job next quarter. [Fifty-four](#) had already received Spring appointments and were [dismissed](#), and the rest simply won't get hired (they received notice that they "[will no longer be considered](#)" for these appointments). But the fight isn't over! More TAs will withhold Winter grades, and [559 grads have pledged](#) to refuse TAships vacated by dismissed grads. The strike continues. Together, we win! See you on the picket."

The U.C. administration, in an attempt to break the strike and solidarity, offered \$2,500 for one year, amounting to about \$200 per month instead of the \$1,412 requested. The money goes to all Master of Fine Arts and Ph.D. students at U.C.

Santa Cruz only, excluding other master's programs and applies to graduate students in general, not to graduate student workers, allowing the offer to not fall under a union contract.

In a statement regarding that offer, UAW Local 2865 President Kavitha Iyengar writes:

"While we are glad to hear this news [of the \$2,500 stipend offer], it is not enough, for three reasons: first, because it is not under the framework of a union contract and thus not legally enforceable, it is not guaranteed. Second, it is limited to workers at Santa Cruz. As our framework for a COLA demonstrates, workers at every single campus are rent burdened and need this relief. And third, even with these funds, student workers are still rent burdened."

To get caught up on the strike, you can visit the various social media sites for the nine U.C. campuses participating, found on the website <https://payusmoreucsc.com/>.



# ICE deploys paramilitary units against sanctuary cities

written by Struggle - La Lucha

March 8, 2020

In the wake of plainclothes Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents shooting an [unarmed tourist from Mexico](#), President Donald Trump deployed a hundred members of the Border Patrol Tactical Unit (BORTAC) — the Border Patrol's equivalent to SWAT police — to 10 cities.

Most of these cities are sanctuary sites that limit cooperation between local law enforcement and federal police like ICE and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Armed with stun grenades and sniper training, these units are now tasked with invading migrant communities around the country. Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Newark, N.J., New Orleans, New York and San Francisco are all targets.

As Democratic politicians rebuke Trump for what they call a political attack against the liberal policymakers of sanctuary cities, they graciously line their own pockets with federal funds from Trump's Operation Relentless Pursuit. The initiative increases federal police presence and distributes an additional \$71 million towards federal law enforcement in Albuquerque, Baltimore, Cleveland, Detroit, Kansas City, Memphis and Milwaukee. It seems that liberal policymakers at sanctuary sites are more upset about the lack of federal policing money than they are about the assault on their communities. Moreover, it's clear that this is an onslaught from the ruling class on migrant communities and Black communities alike.

And as if this all-out racist attack on our cities wasn't enough, the Supreme Court has continually affirmed the state's right to terrorize oppressed communities.

On Feb. 25, the Supreme Court dismissed a civil case by the family of 15-year-old Mexican citizen Sergio Adrián Hernández Güereca against U.S. Border Patrol agent Jesus Mesa.

In 2010, the border police agent fired his weapon over the border from Texas, killing the unarmed teen as he stood on Mexican soil. Despite video evidence to the contrary, Mesa's claim to self-defense against "thrown rocks" was upheld by the U.S. criminal justice system, and the U.S. denied Mexico's request for Mesa to be extradited to face criminal charges in Mexico.

But the facts of Hernández Güereca's murder weren't at issue last week. Instead, the Supreme Court ruled on whether federal agents could be subject to lawsuits from foreign citizens in the case of cross-border shootings. Citing national security concerns, the Supreme Court ruled 5-4 that federal agents are constitutionally immune to being sued for killing people in foreign countries. Considering that the U.S. partakes in thousands of criminal attacks on foreign countries every year, the Supreme Court's apprehension over "national security" seems well-warranted.

The ruling had an immediate ripple effect in the courts and on the family of José Antonio Elena Rodríguez. In 2012, Elena Rodríguez was shot ten times through a border fence by CBP agent Lonnie Swartz. Like Hernández Güereca, Elena Rodríguez was killed for allegedly "throwing rocks." Though Swartz was the first U.S. law enforcement officer to be indicted in relation to an over-the-border killing, he was acquitted of all charges. Now, less than a week after setting their precedent against Hernández Güereca's family, the Supreme Court returned the lawsuit against Swartz to a lower court. That makes two cases of civil-suit immunity for child-murder within a week.

The liberal justices, led by Ruth Bader Ginsberg, dissented to the majority-conservative court's decision. But that's all they could do within the confines of an unambiguously racist injustice system. A sanctimonious dissent is inadequate. When

was the last time the Supreme Court affirmed the people's right to food or flu vaccines? Blocked an illegal war or unjust sanction? The Supreme Court continues to prove that its main role is to justify the wealthy capitalists' war upon oppressed and working people.



---

## **International Women's Day ... 43 Palestinian women in detention**

written by Struggle - La Lucha  
March 8, 2020



On this International Women's Day, there are 43 Palestinian females held in Israeli prisons and detention centers, including 16 mothers, 8 injured prisoners, 12 sick prisoners and 4 administrative detainees held without charge or trial. Those female prisoners also suffer from long sentences with a maximum of 16 years. All of the Palestinian female prisoners are held in Damon Prison since November 2018.

## **The arrest of Palestinian women and girls**

Since the beginning of the occupation, over than 50 years ago in 1967, over 10,000 Palestinian women have been arrested and detained by Israeli occupation forces. In the past year, and just like previous years Palestinian women and girls are routinely arrested from the streets, Israeli military checkpoints, and during violent night raids on their homes. Those military incursions are accompanied with the presence of Israeli soldiers, intelligence officers, and police dogs, during which destruction of household items and property damage takes place. They are blindfolded and handcuffed, and they are forcibly taken to a military jeep. Women also continued to suffer torture and ill-treatment in interrogation centers, in addition to difficult and deteriorating detention conditions at Damon prison which once was a stable for horses and a storage for tobacco.

Some of the arrest cases of female prisoners from last year, included but was not limited to human rights defenders, such as Khalida Jarar, and Widad Bargouthi. Ex-Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) member, Khalida Jarar was arrested on 31 October 2019. Soldiers broke into her house at around 3:00 am to arrest her. This is her third arrest in the past five years, she in fact, was just released in February 2019.

Widad Bargouthi who is a lecturer at Birzeit University was arrested on 1 September 2019, she given a list of charges which was mainly incitement through facebook. Additionally, Widad was taken to al-Mascobiyya interrogation center during her detention period, in an attempt to pressure her son, Qassam Bargouthi, who was under interrogation at that time. Widad received conditional release on 16 September 2019, which included 40.000 NIS bail, and house arrest in area C in the West Bank. Later on, the judge at Ofer military court

## **Targeting Female University Students**

Through out the past year the Israeli Occupation Forces targeted university students including female students. Those female students were arrested from their houses after the middle of the night, they were taken to detention and interrogation centers and some of them were subjected to severe torture and other ill-treatment. This all prevents their access to education and leads to the violation to their right to an adequate education. The majority of the targeted students were also charged with university activism, this does not only criminalize their student activism but it is also a violation of their right to peaceful assembly and association.

- **Mais Abu Gush / 23 years old**

Mais, who is a fourth-year university student at Birzeit university and studying journalism was arrested on 29 August 2019 in a raid on her house. Mais's family house was violently raided by a large numbers of Israeli occupation forces that were heavily armed and escorted by trained security dogs. Abu Gush was then transferred to al-Mascobiyya interrogation center, where she was subjected to severe physical and psychological torture and ill-treatment, for around one month. After around one month, Mais was transferred to Damon prison and was provided with list of charges, which included participating in university activities and coordinating a summer camp, she is still waiting her trial.

- **Samah Jaradat / 23 years old**

Samah graduated from Birzeit university in summer 2019 with a sociology degree. She was arrested by the occupation forces on 7 September 2019. A special force unit raided her house after the middle of the night and arrested her. She was taken to al-Mascobiyya interrogation center where she spent around one month in interrogations before she was transferred to Damon prison. During her interrogation Samah suffered from torture and ill-treatment methods, which included stress positions, threat of the family members, solitary confinement and watching other detainees interrogated and tortured. Jaradat received a list of charges that included

university activism and is detained waiting her trail.

- **Shatha Hassan / 20 years old**

Shatha Hassan a student at Birziet university was arrested on 12 December 2019. Soldiers broke into her house after the middle of the night and arrested her. After three days of her arrest, Shatha was given a three-month administrative detention order that should be finishing on 11 March 2020. However, administrative detention can be indefinite, thus, Shatha's administrative detention order is subject to renewal.

- **Leen Awad / 22 years old**

Leen Awad who is a university student at the Palestinian Polytechnic University was arrested from her house in Bait Omar, Hebron on 25 February 2020. Israeli occupation forced raided her house after the middle of the night, they damaged its belongings and confiscated several laptops and cellphones. Leen was then taken Etzion detention center and then Hasharon prison where she was interrogated about her student activism. On 3 March 2020, the Israeli military court at Ofer gave Leen conditional release which included 20.000 NIS bail by a third party and a fine of 1500 NIS.

It is also worth mentioning that the female prisoner Bayan Azzam from al-Ezarrya was arrested on 11 March 2017 and sentenced to 40 months in prison. Bayan is a university student at al-Quds open university and is considered to be the oldest student among female prisoners.

## **Torture and Ill-treatment against Female Prisoners**

Upon being taken to interrogation and detention centers, female Palestinian detainees are routinely denied an explanation of their rights and the reason for their arrests. Often, they are denied attorney access and held for several days under

interrogation where they are subjected to torture and ill-treatment. The methods of torture and ill-treatment used against female Palestinian prisoners cause severe physical and mental suffering. Interrogation methods include prolonged isolation from the outside world, inhumane detention conditions, excessive use of blindfolds and handcuffs, sleep deprivation, denial of food and water for extended periods, denial of access to toilets, denial of access to showers or change of clothes for days or weeks, being forced into stress positions, yelling, insults and cursing, and sexual harassment.

In the past year, the case of Mais of Gush was one of the most extreme cases of female prisoners who were subjected to torture and ill-treatment. Mais spent around one month at al-Mascobiyya interrogation center where she suffered from severe physical and psychological methods of torture.

One other case was Hiba al-Labadi, who was arrested on 20 August 2019 from the border checkpoint between Jordan and the West Bank. Hiba was transferred to Petah Tikva Interrogation center where she spent around one month under interrogations. Al-Labadi informed Addameer's lawyer in a visit the detention conditions she suffered from; this lawyer's visit came after Hiba was banned from lawyers' visits for a total of 25 days. Hiba was subjected to long interrogation sessions, sleep deprivation, humiliation, and the use of her family members in order to pressure her. After her interrogation period she was given a six-month administrative detention order without charges or trial. This made Hiba to start a hunger strike protesting her arbitrary detention. Hiba was on a hunger strike for 40 days, she suffered extremely throughout her hunger strike period. She finally stopped her hunger strike when the Israeli occupation authorities decided to release her.

Furthermore, the case of female prisoner Halima Khandaqji who was arrested on 1 January 2020. Halima informed Addameer's lawyer of her detention conditions

during her interrogation period which was at al-Mascobiyya interrogation center. Halima suffered from long interrogation sessions, stress positions, humiliation, and the threat of arresting her ten-year-old son and two daughters.

## **Women under Administrative Detention**

There are four Palestinian female detainees who are held at Israeli prisoners under administrative detention. Those four detainees are held without any charges or a trial, they in fact, are detained based on the so called “secret file” that is not shared with them or with their lawyers. The first among them is Shuruq al-Badan from Bait Fajar, Bethlehem. She was arrested on 15 July 2019 and given a six-month administrative detention order that was renewed for another six months. Then comes Alaa' Basir from Qalqilia who was arrested on 24 July 2019, she was issued a four-month administrative detention order that got renewed twice. Israeli occupation forces also arrested the journalist Bushra al-Taweel on 11 December 2019 and placed her under administrative detention. Finally, the university student Shatha Hassan who was issued a three-month administrative detention order.

## **Medical Negligence against Female Prisoners**

There are eight injured female prisoners and twelve sick female prisoners who suffer medical negligence by the Israeli Prison Services (IPS). The female prisoners constantly report to Addameer's lawyer in regards of the negligence they suffer from. They informed the lawyer of the unprofessional discriminatory treatment they receive from the doctors and nurses. For instance, some of the prisoners said that a doctor or a nurse can use one injection with more than one of the prisoners, or use an open injection with them. They also constantly report that most of the time they do not receive their medication.

For example, prisoner Israa Ja'abes still suffers from her injuries and burns obtained during her arrest. Also, prisoner Ansam Shawahneh informed Addameer's lawyer

last month that she has been suffering extreme pain in her bones. She informed the doctor at the prison clinic several times but was only given mussel reliefs. After a while she was transferred to the hospital where they did several tests and realized that she has inflammation in her bones and that her body needs to take vitamins. However, she was not given the proper treatment until now.

Also, a number of the Palestinian female prisoners suffer from blood pressure, diabetes and a number of other sicknesses that require constant and adequate medical care.

### **Palestinian Females in the Context of Occupation Law**

Israel is accountable for its actions in the occupied territory, particularly the ill-treatment of women during arrests and transfers. Article 12 of General Recommendation 28 by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the Core Obligations of States Parties states that:

“Although subject to international law, States primarily exercise territorial jurisdiction. The obligations of States parties apply, however, without discrimination both to citizens and non-citizens, including refugees, asylum-seekers, migrant workers and stateless persons, within their territory or effective control, even if not situated within the territory. States parties are responsible for all their actions affecting human rights, regardless of whether the affected persons are in their territory.”[\[1\]](#)

Furthermore, Article 3(1)(c) of the Fourth Geneva Convention (1949) forbids “outrages upon personal dignity, in particular, humiliating and degrading treatment”. This happens regularly for female prisoners, particularly during transfer and strip-searching. Furthermore, according to international humanitarian laws, the Four Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols, the occupying power is obligated to protect female prisoners. Israeli occupation authorities are in fact,

obligated to keep female prisoners in separate facilities than men, maintain their supervision to be only by women and provide them with their basic hygiene and health needs. In addition to this, female prisoners are, like the majority of Palestinian prisoners, held in historic Palestine territory and outside the occupied territory. This is in direct contradiction of articles 49 and 76 of the Fourth Geneva Convention which forbids the occupying power to deport protected persons, and specifically detainees, from the occupied territory.

Testimonies by Palestinian women and girls highlight the brutality of the arrest process as well as conditions inside Israeli interrogation, detention and prison centers, and even hospitals while in custody. The abuse, ill-treatment, and torture of Palestinian women and girls take place within the context of the ongoing occupation of over 50 years and annexation of Palestinian lands. In the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against women, States Parties emphasize "that the eradication of apartheid, all forms of racism, racial discrimination, colonialism, neo-colonialism, aggression, foreign occupation and domination and interference in the internal affairs of States is essential to the full enjoyment of the rights of men and women."[\[2\]](#)

---

[\[1\]](#) UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), General Recommendation No. 28 on the Core Obligations of States Parties under Article 2 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 16 December 2010, CEDAW/C/GC/28.

[\[2\]](#) UN General Assembly, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, 18 December 1979, United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1249, p. 13.

Source: [Addameer](#)



---

# The anti-refugee frenzy will not pass!

written by Struggle - La Lucha

March 8, 2020

*[Statement by the Communist Revolutionary Action in Greece.](#)*

For some days now, Greece is in a state of siege. Not by the refugees and immigrants who are trapped on the islands and across the Greek-Turkish border, but by the Mitsotakis regime, the state and the extreme right. Under the pretext of an alleged “asymmetric threat”, the regime is militarizing a humanitarian crisis while orchestrating an unprecedented racist mobilization with the open support of the state, imposing a state of terror, junta and apartheid from the Evros river to the islands of the Aegean. The closing of the borders and the push-back operations in the Aegean pose not simply a blatant violation of human rights, but a series of criminal and murderous acts concealed behind a non-existent threat.

Emboldened, the fascist filth set up roadblocks, stop and search cars on the island of Lesvos (committing, among others, the crime of impersonating a police officer) in order to prevent refugees from moving across the island or to simply lynch leftists, anarchists, volunteers and NGO employees. Similar gangs of cannibals prevent refugees – including women and children – from reaching the shores, throwing rocks at them and swearing at them while the coast guard have been given a clear command to repel the boats approaching Greek territorial waters. If this situation continues, the refugee camp of Moria will turn into the Warsaw Ghetto. The departure of the NGOs endangers even the daily breadline of the camp.

Throughout the land and sea borders, military exercises with real fire carried out by the Greek armed forces pose a clear warning, not directed towards the armed forces of another state, but towards unarmed people seeking asylum. Firing or covertly threatening to open fire against unarmed people is a nothing short of a war crime, especially when there is no military conflict in the region that might justify “collateral damage”. The far-right government of Athens is pandering to its electoral clientele pretending to be dealing with an “invasion” and a “breach of national territory”. This is a mere fraud, a fraud that could stand in no national or international court. The country is not under any external attack, but under a clear violation of human, individual and democratic rights perpetrated by the regime of New Democracy. In addition, the state of siege allows fascists across the country to carry out their own plan of status-in-statu terrorism with the tolerance, if not the full coverage, of the official state.

Fortress Europe cannot function without regimes like the ones of Salvini, Orban, Kurz and now Mitsotakis. The far right legitimizes its existence, and it is the golden reserve of the system and the Empire. The far-right lumpen scum defend the Empire, NATO and the EU, at the same time that its slogans are supposedly against the Germans who are «turning Greece into a storehouse of souls». Their talk about “decongestion of the islands” is nothing but a lie. What they actually mean is to have

the refugees drowned in the sea. They lie when they talk about the hell that the camp of Moria is. These vermin are in favor of Dachau and Auschwitz, they hate refugees and are currently showing it without any pretense. This is nothing less than a fascist threat. The Left has nothing to do with the concerns of the cannibals. We are an entirely different world, and there is no possibility of coexistence on this planet.

The recent meeting between PM Mitsotakis and the right-wing mayors leading the anti-refugee movement in Northern Aegean concluded in an agreement. Closing of the borders and push-back operations instead of rescue operations - and the rest is left at the hands of the Greek Ku Klux Klan. The snake's egg of fascism has long existed in the islands, and it was there even during the recent conflicts with the SWAT police - and it had no intention to help the refugees, but to make their lives unbearable until they leave the country. The «frontiersmen of the Aegean» are nothing more than cops of Fortress Europe and enforcers of the Dublin Regulation. They are the mercenary force of the EU and NATO, guarding the borders of the Empire. The government that accuses Erdogan of using the refugees as a tool is trying to hide its own hideous plan, which is to foment a state of war against Turkey through an unprecedented military operation at the borders combined with an aggressive stance across the eastern Mediterranean - backed, of course, by NATO and the Empire. If an offensive geopolitical design exists in this crisis, this design wholly belongs to the Greek state that is trying to present itself not as the perpetrator that it is, but as a... damsel in distress.

The class movement, the Left, the anti-fascist forces, every democratic citizen must mobilize here and now to stop the racist delirium of the Athens regime together with the cowardly far-right gangbangers who are terrorizing militants as well as women and children.

Down with Fortress Europe and the barbed wires at the border! Abolish the EU-

Turkey Treaty!

Asylum for refugees, residence permits for immigrants!

Hosting of migrants in open facilities (that is, facilities from in they may enter and exit freely), right to work, access to healthcare and education, free movement throughout the country!

Down with the discrimination against refugees and immigrants!

No tolerance for the fascist gangs, the far-right mob and the regime of Athens that is encouraging them!

All out on Thursday, March 5, 18:30 at Propylae - march to the parliament!

Communist Revolutionary Action  [Avantgarde](#)



---

## Los Angeles: International Women's

# Day

written by Struggle - La Lucha  
March 8, 2020

**NO LAS  
HEMOS  
OLVIDADO**

ÚNETE A NOSOTRXS EN HONRARLAS

DOMINGO 3/8/2020

1:30-4:00PM

MacArthur Park

2230 W 6th St, Los Angeles, CA 90057

**#FueElEstado**

Evento presentado por:  
GUATEMAYA L.A. MUJERES EN RESISTENCIA

Sunday, March 8, 2020 at 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM PDT

McArthur Park, LA Ca.  
653 S Alvarado St, Los Angeles, California 90057

"WE HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN THEM" GuateMaya L.A. Mujeres en Resistencia, invite you to participate this International Women's Day in an event honoring 41 girls killed and 15 injured at the Hogar Seguro, and thousand of girls and women around the world victims of systemic and patriarchal violence. We will be exhibiting photos of the 56 girls, hosting performative art, reading testimonials and poems, and concluding with a candlelight vigil.

[\*\*#NosFaltan41 #NosDuelen56 #LasNiñasdeGuatemala #IWD2020\*\*](#)

"NO LAS HEMOS OLVIDADO" GuateMaya L. A. Mujeres en Resistencia les invita a participar el Dia Internacional de la Mujer a un evento en honor de las 41 niñas asesinadas y 15 heridas en el Hogar Seguro y las miles de ninas y mujeres victimas de violencia institucionalizada y patriarcal. Tendremos exposicion de fotos de las 56 ninas, arte performativo, lectura de testimonios y poemas. Concluiremos con una vigilia de velas.

[\*\*#NosFaltan41 #NosDuelen56 #LasNiñasdeGuatemala\*\*](#)

Las Niñas no se tocan, no se violan y no se queman.

About GuateMaya L.A. Mujeres en Resistencia

Founded in 2018, GuateMaya L.A. is a Los Angeles based grassroots organization committed to resisting colonial and patriarchal systems that generate violence. The members represent the vast diversity of the Mayan/Guatemalan diaspora and allies. The organization is built on pillars of the empowerment of women, concepts of memory and social justice, as well as solidarity and cross-border connections. By hosting educational community events GuateMaya L.A. has been able to bring attention to issues facing underrepresented groups, specifically women and indigenous peoples, in the U.S. and around the globe.

On [Facebook](#)



---

# New Orleans: International Working Women's Day March

written by Struggle - La Lucha  
March 8, 2020



**INTERNATIONAL  
WORKING WOMEN'S DAY  
MARCH & RALLY**

**MARCH 8, 2020 | 1PM**

**MEET AT CONGO SQUARE & MARCH  
TO THE STEPS OF CITY HALL**

**WOMEN DEMAND HIGHER WAGES!**



**IT'S A WAGE WAR! HANDS OFF! ARMS UP!**

Sunday, March 8, 2020 at 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM CDT

Congo Square  
New Orleans, Louisiana

We welcome you to join us in support of the 2nd Annual International Working Women's Day Rally and March on Sunday, March 8th, hosted by the New Orleans Peoples Assembly and the New Orleans Hospitality Workers Alliance, to support the continued building/strengthening of a revolutionary women's movement.

Super Brief Background:

We know that Black women, women of color, and all nationalities in the southern states are the most impacted, and the most socially restricted by attacks on reproductive rights and capitalist exploitation of our labor (both paid and unpaid labor). We also know that women are a powerful force of resistance to all that oppresses us, as we work to build the world which we know if both possible is needed. Working women in New Orleans, Louisiana join only 4 other southern states in Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee in making a minimum wage of \$7.25, though with the increasing cost of living would need at least \$35 dollars to meet a decent minimum wage. However, we feel that it best to fight for a LIVING wage! We want our bread and roses!

And...out a a population of over 400,000 at least 1/3 of the city is made of hospitality workers to serve the tourism industry, and many workers in the French Quarter make less than \$4 per hour due to the idea of tips making up the difference, which proves to be inconsistent time and time again. If our children and families are to have any chance at life, they will need LIVING wages for their work, and a city that adheres to equitable housing, education, healthcare, we could go on. It's all connected!!!

The collective leadership and organizing of women workers, trans and non binary folk, is crucial to the path to revolution.

Here is some information for you, and ways you can get or continue to be involved:

Event Details:

Date: Sunday, March 8th

Time: 1:00pm

Meeting Location: Congo Square

Rally & March to Steps of City Hall

Rally & March Theme:

Women Demand Higher Wages

It's a Wage War!

Hands Off! Arms Up!

Ways To Immediately Get Involved:

(1) You can share about this event and rally up family, friends and neighbors and join in at the rally and march. You can come alone and meet new people there, or you can organize a group of people you know to join us during the rally and march. Feel free to share the invite and flier with your network of invitees.

(2) You can contribute any amount to support the effort for materials and organizing needs for the day of the event, and the actions to follow. Please visit New Orleans Peoples Assembly website at: <http://peoplesassemblyneworleans.org/donate> | You can simply click "CONTRIBUTE" at the top of the site, and know that no contribution is too big or too small for our gratitude!



---

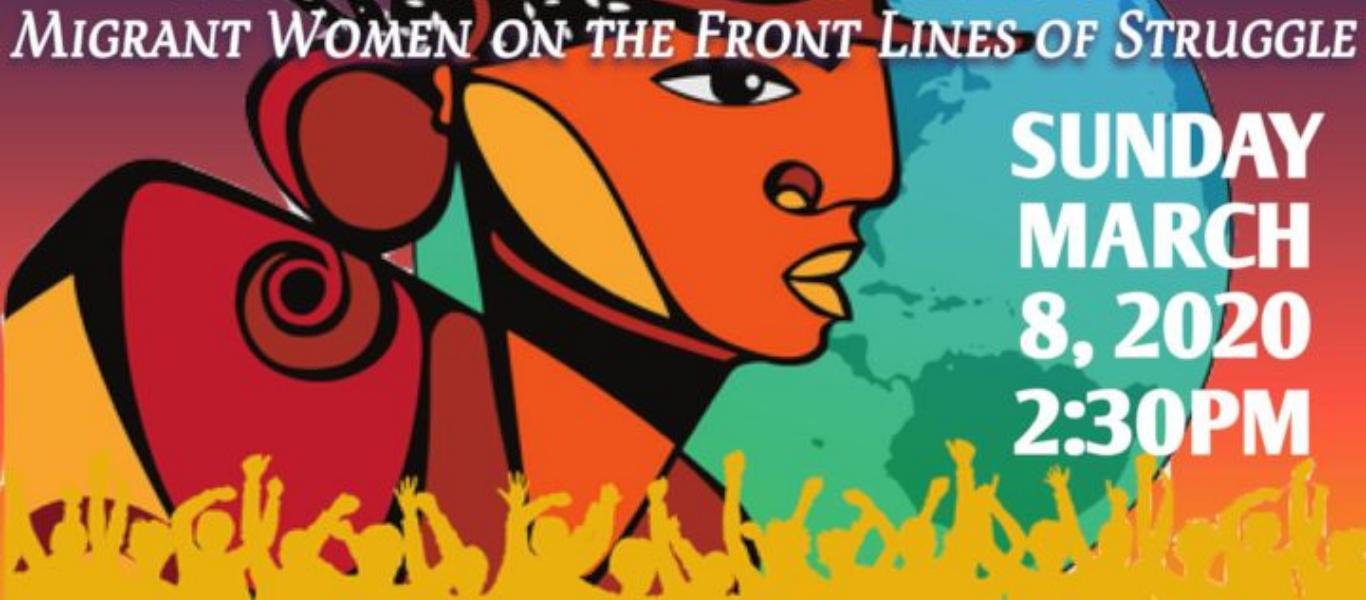
# **International Women's Day: Migrant Women on the Front Lines**

written by Struggle - La Lucha  
March 8, 2020

*Celebration of*

# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

*MIGRANT WOMEN ON THE FRONT LINES OF STRUGGLE*



**SUNDAY  
MARCH  
8, 2020  
2:30PM**

FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKER

## **ALINA DUARTE**

Alina Duarte, journalist and Latin American expert, will talk about migrant Latina women, why they have to flee their countries, and the perils they face traveling through Central America, Mexico, and the U.S. border.

**Owen Brown Interfaith Center  
7246 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD 21045**

WITH MUSIC BY

## **CONJUNTO BRUJA**

Join us for food, music, and greetings from women struggling for peace and justice around the world. This event is free and open to the public.

Sponsored by Friends of Latin America  
& Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
of Columbia (UUCC)

Sunday, March 8, 2020 at 2:30 PM – 5:30 PM EDT

Owen Brown Interfaith Center

7246 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, Maryland 21045

Join us for food, music, and greetings from women struggling for peace and justice around the world. This event is free and open to the public.

Featuring keynote speaker: Alina Duarte

Journalist and Latin American expert will talk about migrant Latina women, why they have to flee their countries, and the perils they face traveling through Central America, Mexico, and the US border.

With music by Conjunto Bruja

Conjunto Bruja is a Latin-Mideast folk ensemble of Baltimore Chingonas on cajón, guitar, charango, Irani setar, and ranchera-inspired vocals. Through their music, las Brujas explore folk traditions and verses from around Latin America and the Middle East. Their diverse cultural backgrounds influence the “corazón” of their music, bridging dynamic sounds from Bolivia, Peru, Mexico, Guatemala, and Iran.

Sponsored by Friends of Latin America and Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

On [Facebook](#)

