



CALL FOR SUPPORT

We are human rights defenders, peace and justice advocates, lawyers, jurists, academics, church people, and political activists who have come together to convene the International Peoples Tribunal on Crimes against the Filipino People by Pres. Benigno S. Aquino III and the US Government represented by Pres. Barack Obama.

We will be holding this tribunal in Washington DC from the 16th to 18th of July 2015 at the behest of victims of human rights violations and other crimes committed under the Presidency of Benigno S. Aquino III in the Philippines. The victims and their relatives -- belonging to a wide spectrum of social classes and sectors in Philippine society -- are represented by the Ecumenical Voice for Human Rights and Peace in the Philippines (EcuVoice), KARAPATAN (Alliance for the Advancement of the People's Rights), Hustisya! (Victims United for Justice), DESAPARECIDOS (Families of the Disappeared for Justice), SELDA (Society of Ex-Detainees Against Detention and Arrest), BAYAN (New Patriotic Alliance), Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (Peasant Movement of the Philippines) among others.

The Tribunal's verdict shall be based on a thorough and fair assessment of the evidence by leading public figures of recognized achievement and high moral stature, in accordance with applicable legal standards.

Like other peoples tribunals, the IPT 2015, as a court of public opinion, derives its legitimacy from the people as the ultimate source of the authority of all national and international laws.

As such the IPT's findings and recommendations will carry strong moral and persuasive force. We shall transmit these to the United Nations, various Parliaments and governments, as well as broad international organizations in order to add pressure on the Philippine government to end impunity in the country. The IPT 2015 shall serve due notice to the perpetrators of gross human rights violations and plunder that impunity shall not go unchallenged by the people.

We call on all freedom loving peoples of the world to support the victims, witnesses and the Filipino people in making their oppressors accountable for their crimes!

The Rev'd Canon Barry Naylor

Chairperson, Global Council, International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines (ICHRP)

Jeanne Mirer

President, International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL)

Vanessa Lucas

Chair, Philippines Subcommittee, National Lawyers Guild

Antonio Tujan, Jr.

Executive Director, IBON International

