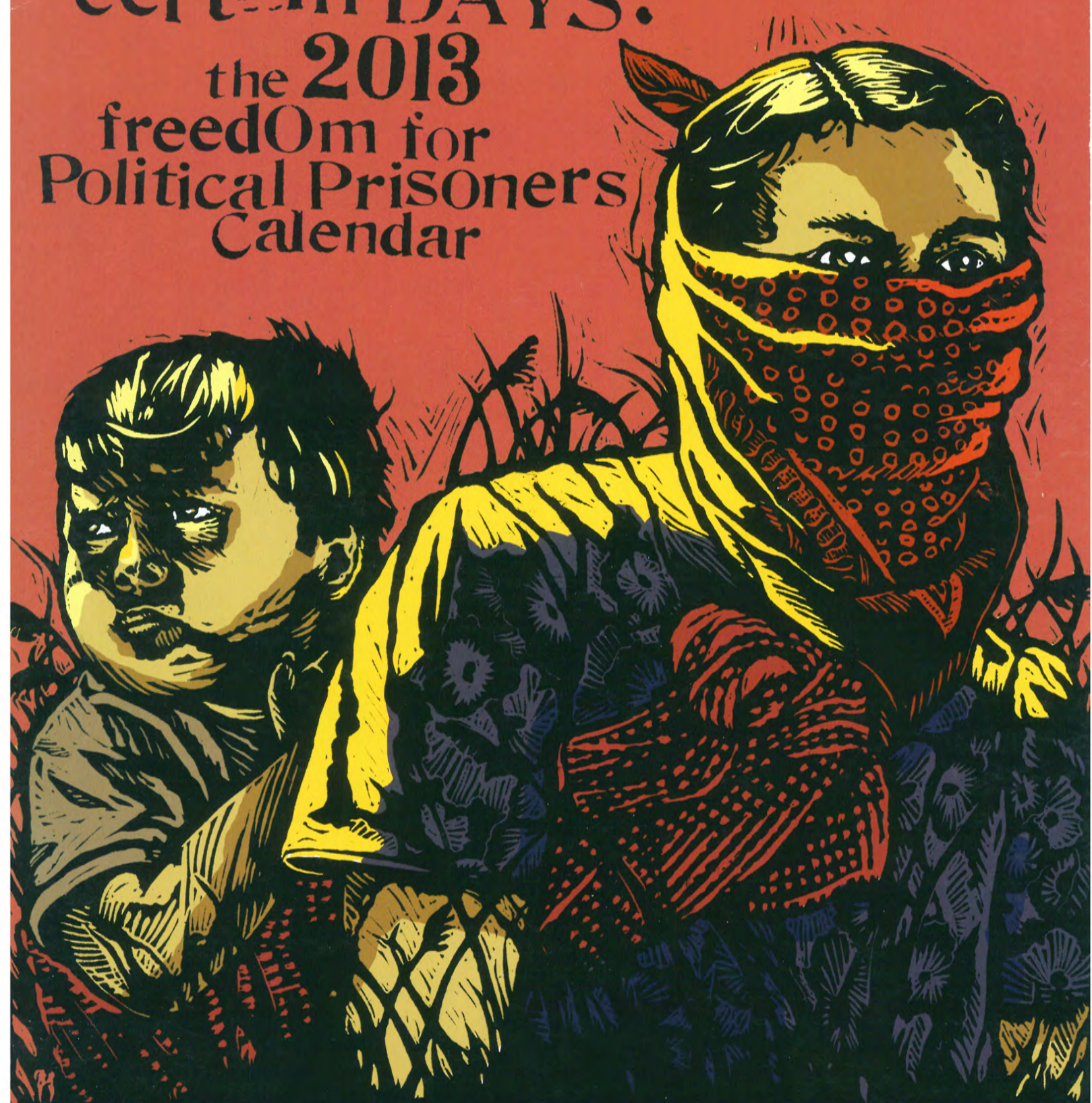


**certain DAYS:**  
the **2013**  
freedOm for  
Political Prisoners  
Calendar



**RESISTING THE RULE OF THE 1 PERCENT**

# intro- ductions

**the calendar:** *Certain Days: Freedom for Political Prisoners Calendar* is a joint fundraising and educational project between outside organizers in Montreal and Toronto and three political prisoners being held in maximum-security prisons in New York State: Herman Bell, David Gilbert and Robert Seth Hayes. The initial project was suggested by Herman in 2001, and has been shaped throughout the 12-year process by all of our ideas, discussions, and analysis. During that time, many different individuals, including some in New York City, have contributed as members of the calendar collective. All of the current members of the outside collective are involved in day-to-day organizing work other than the calendar, on issues ranging from refugee and immigrant solidarity to community media to prisoner justice. We work from an anti-imperialist, anti-racist, anti-capitalist, feminist, queer and trans liberationist position.

**the context:** Today's struggles against war, capitalism, imperialism and colonialism are rooted in the history of earlier struggles for justice, including the mass movements of the 1960s and 70s. Many political prisoners and prisoners of war featured in this calendar were organizers during that period: members of the Black Panther Party or the American Indian Movement, Puerto Ricans fighting for their homeland, or white anti-racist allies working in solidarity with oppressed peoples. Many of them have been in prison SINCE THAT TIME - 30 years or more. Yet these prisoners are not relics of past movements. They are still active in their political work, and despite the hardships of organizing in prison, they continue to organize for justice in the present day: justice behind bars and justice on the streets. This calendar is our tribute to them.

**Free all political prisoners! Free all prisoners of war!**

**Robert Seth Hayes** was arrested in 1973, after police opened fire on his apartment while he was home with his wife and children. This occurred as a result of the U.S. government's illegal Counterintelligence Program (COINTELPRO), in a climate dominated by portrayals of black militants as murderers and cop-killers. Seth, a former member of the Black Panther Party, was convicted for the death of a NYC transit cop and for the attempted murder of the cops who stormed his apartment. He received a sentence of 25 years to life, and is being held at Sullivan Correctional Facility in Fallsburg, New York. In 1998, Seth was diagnosed with diabetes, and has been struggling with prison administrators to get decent healthcare for his disease. Seth became eligible for parole in 1998, but despite an excellent prison record, Seth's sixth bid for parole was denied in 2008. You can find out more about Seth and listen to his solidarity statement with Six Nations here: [www.sethhayes.org](http://www.sethhayes.org).

Robert Seth Hayes  
#74A2280  
Sullivan Correctional Facility  
P.O. Box 116  
Fallsburg, New York  
12733-0116 USA



**Herman Bell** has been a U.S. political prisoner for over 40 years. A former Black Panther, he was involved with political community work and subsequently went underground because of relentless FBI and police attacks on the Party. Herman was captured in New Orleans in 1973 and illegally extradited to New York to stand trial with Albert Nuh Washington, Jalil Muntaqim, Francisco Torres and Gabriel Torres on charges of killing two NYC police. Though the jury could not reach a verdict the first time, the NY District Attorney persisted and used many illegal tactics to obtain convictions for Herman, Jalil and Nuh. Herman was also a founder, along with Carol Dove and Michael Vernon, and core member of the Victory Gardens Project, a collaboration between inner city and rural community groups in the northeastern U.S., in which food, as the organizing tool, was grown and distributed free of charge back into the communities. In 2007, Herman was extradited to San Francisco for prosecution of a 38 year-old unsolved cop-killing case. He was charged along with Jalil Muntaqim and six other former Black Panthers, now known as the San Francisco 8. In July 2009, he pled to reduced charges and received 5 years probation. Herman maintains this was a strategic decision which would help the defense of the others and would allow him to return to New York and continue fighting for freedom. The plea in no way jeopardized the other defendants in the case. His decision paved



the way for the dismissal of four of the SF8, once Jalil Muntaqim joined Herman in accepting a plea for probation.

Herman Bell  
#79-C-0262  
Great Meadow Correctional Facility  
11739 State Route 22, P.O. Box 51  
Comstock, New York  
USA 12821-0051

**David Gilbert** is a longtime anti-imperialist. He became active around the civil rights movement in 1960, and later organized against the Vietnam War. He spent 10 years as part of an underground resistance to imperialism. Working as an anti-racist ally of the Black Liberation Army in 1981, David and others were captured in connection with an attempted expropriation (theft for political reasons) of a Brink's truck in Nyack, NY. David was sentenced to 75 years to life and is currently being held at Auburn, a maximum-security prison in New York State. In 1986, David became active as an advocate and educator around AIDS in prison after his codefendant Kuwasi Balagoon died suddenly of AIDS while still in custody. He is the author of *No Surrender: Writings from an Anti-Imperialist Political Prisoner*, which can be ordered from AK Press. He also just completed *Love and Struggle: My Life in SDS, the Weather Underground and Beyond*. It can be ordered from pmpress.org, PM Press, PO Box 23912, Oakland, CA 94623 USA. He is also the subject of a mini-documentary, "Lifetime of Struggle," which is available from AK Press or the Freedom Archives ([www.freedomarchives.org](http://www.freedomarchives.org)).



David Gilbert  
#83-A-6158  
Auburn Correctional Facility  
P.O. Box 618  
Auburn, New York  
USA 13021

[www.certaindays.org](http://www.certaindays.org)

# Certain Days 2013

## Resisting the Rule of the 1%

It may be cliché to say that we live in interesting times, but at this moment in history it is undeniably true. While the cracks in the walls of this unjust system have been showing for quite some time, the past 18 months or so have seen a remarkable number of instances of ordinary people coming together en masse to say 'enough!' From the Arab Spring to the Occupy movement, it seems that the simmering inequalities in people's lives have reached the point of boiling over into the streets. With much less media attention but no less significance, prisoners all over California – over 6,600 at one point – undertook a mass hunger strike last summer in an attempt to bring some relief to the deplorable conditions in which they are held; when the hunger strike resumed at the end of September 2011, 12,000 inmates refused meals. This action in turn inspired work strikes, hunger strikes and other actions in various prisons across North America.

Resistance to the rule of this global elite – the '1%' as described by the Occupy movement, though in fact they are far less than that – makes sense to so many both inside and outside the prison walls at this particular time. It is clearer than ever how the wealth and power of such a small group of people is directly dependent on the poverty and oppression of the rest of humanity.

Not too long ago, there was another moment in history when masses of people around the world were coming together to take control of their lives. In the 1960s and 70s, as multiple countries threw off colonialism, mass movements including Black Power, women's liberation and resistance to the Vietnam war were sweeping this continent. It's no coincidence that the spark of hope for change blew over into the prison yards, resulting in widespread organizing inside – most famously, the Attica rebellion in the U.S. and the Kingston Pen riot in Canada.

Predictably, one response of the powers that be to the social upheaval of that period was mass incarceration. Particularly in the U.S. (though Canada is following suit) a huge increase in the number of people locked up has kept organizers off the streets, resources stretched thin, and created a very real and effective threat to anyone who might think of fighting for change. Targeted incarceration of the leadership of movement organizations like the American Indian Movement, the Black Panthers, and many others dealt a major blow to these struggles as well. Some of them have been in prison since that time. Yet these political prisoners are not relics of past movements; despite the hardships of organizing in prison, they continue to organize for justice in the present day.

This is a history that the "1%" would rather have us forget, for to understand it only strengthens the movements taking root today. Part of the philosophy of Certain Days is that by learning from the past experience of political prisoners, and looking to movement history in general, we can be better informed today, draw inspiration, and also learn from past mistakes, rather than repeating them.

Looking back over the past couple of years at the Arab Spring, the Occupy movement, the California prison hunger strikes, and more recently the Quebec student strike, we thought it was apt to reflect on these events and draw some connections between them.

The Certain Days Collective:  
Amy Schwartz, Helen Hudson,  
Karen Emily, Nora Butler Burke  
and Sara Falconer

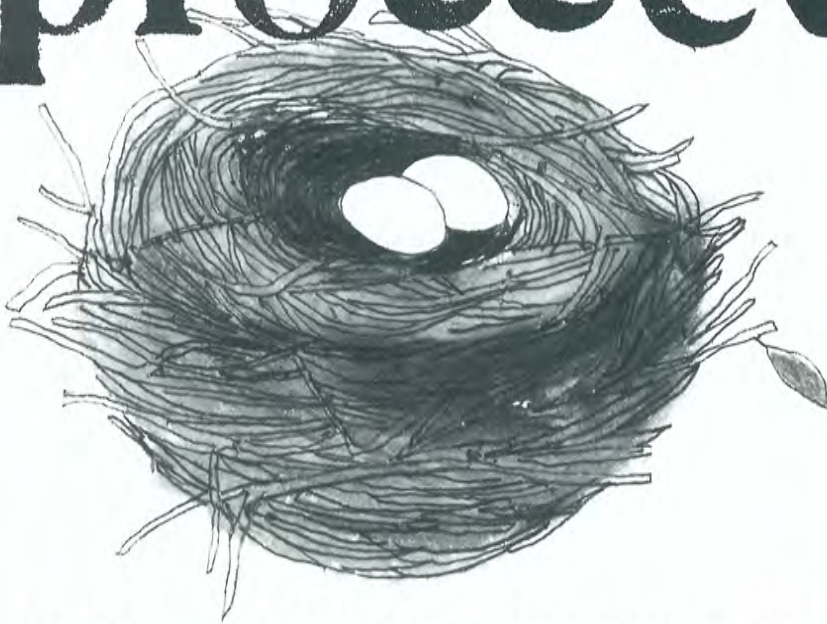


Art by Kevin 'Rashid' Johnson,  
Minister of Defense, New Afrikan  
Black Panther Party - Prison Chapter

**Thanks to all  
who have made  
this calendar  
possible,  
including**

A.J. Withers  
Addameer  
Ali, Cory, and everyone  
else on Mandy's support  
team  
Andrew Flowers  
Anna Mathen  
Anna Kruzynski  
Anne Hansen  
Alex Hundert  
Aric McBey  
Beit Zatoun  
Bristol ABC  
CKUT and Prison Radio  
Claude Marks  
Daniel McGowan  
Dave Cunningham  
Dave Solidarity  
Dee LeComte  
Denver ABC  
L'École de la Montagne  
Rouge  
Emy Storey  
Favianna Rodriguez  
Freda Guttman  
Freedom Archives  
Guelph ABC  
Jaan Laaman  
Jaggi Singh  
Jesus Barraza  
Joan Ruzsa  
Josh MacPhee  
JustSeeds  
Kara Sievwright  
Karl Kersplebedeb  
Kevin 'Rashid' Johnson  
Laura Whitehorn  
Leonard Peltier  
Lillian Bector  
Lynne Stewart  
Mandy Hiscocks  
May First Tech Collective  
Melanie Cervantes  
Monica Donovan  
Mumia Abu-Jamal  
Nancy Jacot-Bell  
Naomi Jaffe  
Naomi Moyer  
Natalia Saavedra  
Nate Buckley  
Open Door Books  
P&L Printing  
Peak Collective  
Peter Collins  
QPIRG Concordia  
Rachel Sarrasin  
Reina Gossett  
Saad Tlaa  
Sandra Jeppesen  
Santiago Armengod  
Sharon Martinas  
Syrus Marcus Ware  
Tadamon!  
Wi: journal of mobile  
media

# proceeds



**this  
calendar is  
a fundraiser**

*all of our proceeds will  
be divided between  
the following organizations:*

## **SIX NATIONS LAND DEFENDERS LEGAL DEFENSE FUND**

provides support to front line Haudenosaunee land defenders who have been criminalized and targeted by the state. At Six Nations, the last six years have seen harsh criminalization of Haudenosaunee Land Defenders. Dozens of people have faced criminal charges and several have served substantial time in jail. The fund is administered and coordinated by the April 28 Coalition which includes organizers from Six Nations as well as established allies from various unions and activist organizations. Contact the April 28 Coalition ([kanonhstaton@gmail.com](mailto:kanonhstaton@gmail.com)) for more information, or donate directly at <http://bit.ly/K39HCN>.

"Since 2006 there has been a particularly insidious wave of criminalization and demonization aimed at Haudenosaunee people who are asserting the sovereignty of the Six Nations Confederacy and defending the land. The tactics used in everyday policing operations against Six Nations, like with other Indigenous nations, are exactly the type of oppressive state security that the rest of the southern Ontario "activist community" got a taste of around the G20." - Alex Hundert, G20 political prisoner

**ADDAMEER** (Arabic for conscience) Prisoners Support and Human Rights Association is a Palestinian non-governmental, civil institution which focuses on human rights issues. Established in 1992 by a group of activists interested in human rights, the center's activities focus on offering support for Palestinian prisoners, advocating the rights of political prisoners, and working to end torture through monitoring, legal procedures and solidarity campaigns.

[addameer.org](http://addameer.org)

## **Sell Certain Days & raise funds for your project/group**

distribute the calendar in your community  
sell the calendar at your events

**Bulk orders (10+ copies) \$8 each**  
Make \$4 per copy you sell



**contact us**  
[info@certaindays.org](mailto:info@certaindays.org)

**order directly**  
[certaindays.org](http://certaindays.org)

## **THE NEW YORK STATE TASK FORCE ON POLITICAL PRISONERS**

is dedicated to winning the release of political prisoners in New York prisons. All but one of these seven prisoners are past members of the Black Panther Party and Black Liberation Army and have spent about 30 years in prison. The Task Force includes representatives of the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement, New Afrikan Liberation Front, Jericho Movement and Resistance in Brooklyn.

NY State Task Force on Political Prisoners  
MXGM c/o The Bandedes  
66 Van Buren Street  
Brooklyn, NY  
11221 USA

(all cheques should be made to Malcolm X Grassroots Movement with NYSTFPP in the subject line).



# updates

## A Statement from the Pelican Bay Human Rights Movement in Commemoration of the 1st Year Anniversary of the California Hunger Strike

[prisonerhungerstrikesolidarity.wordpress.com](http://prisonerhungerstrikesolidarity.wordpress.com)

There has been a great deal of progress made on several levels with our human rights movement primarily from the international exposure that it garnered, but in particular, from the perspective of the power of the people (prisoners) finally being realized after 20-plus years of continued struggle from within California's torture chambers (slave camps) and abroad. It is evident that progress has manifested as a result of our hunger

strikes in July and September of 2011. It is a beautiful feeling to be a part of this transformation in which the politics of "petty prison culture" is being pushed to the side in favor of unity amongst all racial nationalities.

The positive energy amongst the captive prisoner class is definitely alive and well within the belly of the beast. Prisoners are now greeting one another with love and compassion, whereas before, greetings amongst prisoners constituted misplaced hatred, animosity, racism, etc. We must continue to wage struggle, by building upon our positive direction and objective of unity, to replace the negative "petty prison culture" that once existed amongst us. Our positive examples of unity can and only will be sustained through practice so that the seeds of hope and change can be spread to every gulag within the U.S.

## Reflecting on the California Hunger Strike and the Struggle Forward: An Interview With Antonio Guillen, Pelican Bay SHU prisoner and hunger strike representative

**PHSS:** What have been the biggest challenges to furthering this struggle? What are you most hopeful for/about?

**Antonio:** I think the biggest challenge we face today is the same enormous challenge we had to face at the beginning of this struggle—the CDCR's (California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's) unwillingness to change! The culture and tradition that contributes heavily to this reluctance is based on CDCR's need for power, control and retribution. After years, and even decades, of dealing with CDCR, we've come to learn that they do not offer anything in the form of change, unless it substantially increases their own position. It is in the same spirit that CDCR has approached our demands for change. As is quite evident in their original proposal for a step down program (Version 5.5 of March 2012).

The one thing I hope for the most is that the many sacrifices people have suffered do not go in vain—especially the three men who offered up their lives! Johnny Owen Vick (PBSP AdSeg), Hozel Alanzo Blanchard

(Calipatria) and Christian Gomez (CSP Corcoran AdSeg). I know the price of change can sometimes be steep but compared to what we are asking, which is well within reason, it should have never cost so dearly.

**PHSS:** How do you think your struggle relates to other fights happening inside and outside prisons all over the world right now? What are the connections? How can we forge stronger ones?

**Antonio:** I think most, if not all, human rights struggles have a common theme—equality and justice! People, regardless of what side of the wall they are on, just want to be treated fairly and the wrongs done to them righted. It is a basic human desire that countless people have fought for and died over since the beginning of time—and, right now is no different. I understand that the very nature of prison is not meant to be an enjoyable experience. And, in no way am I (or any other SHU prisoner I know) expecting to be coddled as we pay our debts to society. But, after being subjected to years and, in many cases, decades of continuous abuse by the torturous policies and regulations that are specifically designed to keep people in a perpetual state of isolation, it then becomes more than just a non-enjoyable experience. Rather, it becomes a cesspool of anguish and misery that rots the soul! This is not something that is unique to the SHU's of California prisons. This same type of abuse is happening all across our nation and in certain parts of the world. People from all over are feeling the same type of anger and frustration at having to suffer the same type of brutal and degrading treatment. So, it is not surprising, in the least, that the collective conscience has risen in all corners of the world to say, "That's enough!"

**PHSS:** How would you like people to support you on the outside?

**Antonio:** I thought about this question for some time and to be honest I couldn't be more amazed at the outpouring of support from people all across the world. It is truly a humbling experience and one that has caused me to acknowledge, and believe, in the power of humanity—a true awakening of the spirit!

As for the continued support itself, I believe the outside support teams (mediation, litigation and media) have done an excellent job and strongly encourage each of you to stay the course. I do suggest, however, that more pressure be put on legislative leaders to draft and or amend laws to end the use of long-term solitary confinement and the security housing units in general. I know this may be a lot to ask for but the legislature can enact laws to ensure that positive change occurs rather than have to rely solely on CDCR to do the right thing—which is the same as hoping for a miracle.

I would like to end this letter with a poem that was given to me. I don't know how old it is or who the author is, but it holds a powerful truth...

*I Am the People*

*I am the people and the people are me, for our goals are the same, we struggle as one.*

*Forever, I push forward, towards the destined horizon. Although, my path may be long and full of sacrifices, I will never give in, for the rewards are too great, or which I cannot describe.*

*I will always have faith in my fellow warriors. Where we began and where we will go. For if I lose faith, I lose faith in me.*

*My struggle is that of equality and justice, it is knowledge I seek. I stand next to my brothers who will never be weak.*

*If it is battle, then let it be. I have come this far and believe in we. For I am the people and the people are me!*



4strugglemag  
4strugglemag.org

Addameer  
addameer.info

Against Prison  
againstprison.wordpress.com

Anarchist Black Cross Federation  
abcf.net

Bored But Not Broken  
boredbutnotbroken.tao.ca

Break the Chains  
breakallchains.blogspot.com

California Coalition for Women  
Prisoners womenprisoners.org

Chicano Mexicano Prison Project  
uniondelbarrio.org/laverdad/cmpp

Colours of Resistance  
coloursofresistance.org

Critical Resistance  
criticalresistance.org

Denver Anarchist Black Cross  
denverabc.wordpress.com

The Freedom Archives  
freedomarchives.org

Green is the New Red  
greenisthenewred.com

Guelph ABC  
guelphabc.noblogs.org

It's About Time: Black Panther  
Party Legacy & Alumni  
itsabouttimebpp.com

Journal of Prisoners on Prison  
jpp.org

Just Seeds justseeds.org

Kersplebedeb leftwingbooks.net

The Louisiana Justice Institute  
justiceroars.org

Malcolm X Grassroots Movement  
mxgm.org

National Jericho Movement  
thejerichomovement.com

Prison Activist Resource Center  
prisonactivist.org

Prison Justice  
prisonjustice.ca

Prison Policy Initiative  
prisonpolicy.org

Prison Sucks prisonsucks.com

Prisoner Correspondence Project  
prisonercorrespondenceproject.com

ProLibertad Freedom Campaign  
prolibertadweb.com

The Sentencing Project  
sentencingproject.org

StoryTelling & Organizing Project  
stopviolenceeveryday.org

TGI Justice Project  
tgijp.org

Tracking the Politics of 'Crime'  
& Punishment in Canada  
tcp-canada.blogspot.com

**SOME WEBSITES  
WE LIKE**

# DEFINITIONS

**Political Prisoners:** A political prisoner (PP) is someone who is held in confinement for actions, support of, or membership in a group struggling for freedom from oppression, an oppressive government, oppressive governmental policies, or exploitation of peoples, animals or the Earth. PPs were politically conscious and active in liberation movements prior to their imprisonment. Some examples of PPs held by the United States include Virgin Islands political prisoner Hanif Shabazz Bey, black political prisoner Veronza Bowers, North American anti-imperialist prisoner Marilyn Buck, who passed away in 2010, and eco prisoner Eric McDavid.

**Prisoners of War:** A prisoner of war (POW) is a national combatant who is held in confinement for acts in support of people struggling for freedom, self-determination or independence from an oppressive, colonial or racist governmental regime or its policies. Jalil Muntaqim, Sundiata Acoli, and Antonio Camacho Negrón are three examples of POWs currently held in the U.S. prison system.

**Politicized Prisoners:** Many prisoners – such as Ruchell Cinque Magee, George Jackson, Alfred Woodfox and Herman "Hooks" Wallace of the Angola Three – were not initially imprisoned for their political actions but became politically conscious and active while in prison. The political activity of these politicized prisoners is accompanied by harsh state repression and these prisoners deserve recognition for their contributions to movements inside and outside the prison walls.

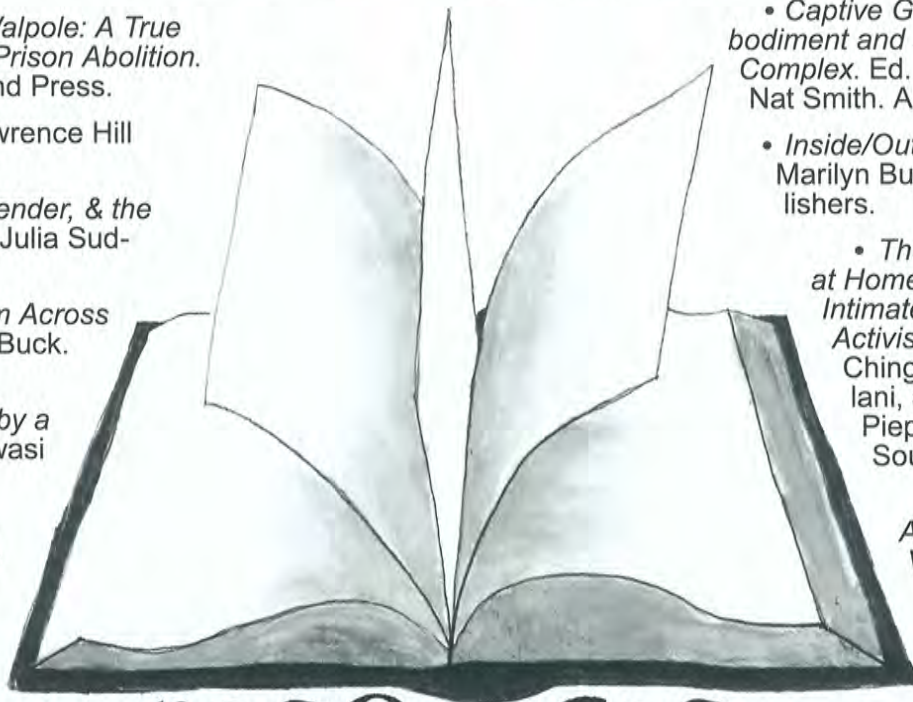
**Political Imprisonment:** We believe that all forms of imprisonment are political, as the so-called "justice" system and its prisons are state weapons of social control. In Canada and the United States, people are targeted by the police and sent to prison in the context of capitalism, colonialism, white supremacy and patriarchy. Law enforcement targets particular communities and particular crimes, while turning a blind eye to the criminal activities of the dominant class. This discrepancy is only exacerbated when the large mass of people lack adequate legal representation and are faced with disproportionately long sentences. As a result, more than 90% of U.S. cases end in a plea bargain, where defendants are forced to make a deal with the state in order to avoid the cost of trial and long sentences – whether or not they are guilty. It is therefore no surprise that Indigenous people, people of colour, youth and poor people are disproportionately represented in prison.

**Women in Prison:** There are well over 100,000 women in prison in the U.S. today and over 70% are mothers. The majority are in prison for economic crimes. The most typical convictions resulting in imprisonment for women are property crimes, such as cheque forgery and illegal credit card use. The "war on drugs" has also exploded rates of women's imprisonment. For example, New York State's female prison population increased by 500% from 1977 to 2003 – about twice the rate of males – overwhelmingly as a result of the 'war on drugs.' Of the women convicted of violent crimes, the vast majority were convicted for defending themselves or their children from abuse. In California alone there are 600 women in prison for killing their abusers in self-defense. Average prison terms are twice as long for killing husbands as for killing wives. 54% of women in prison are women of colour, and women of colour are the fastest growing population in U.S. prisons today.

**ICE Detention Centers:** ICE detention facilities in the U.S., and so-called Immigration Prevention Centres in Canada are but the latest way these countries imprison migrants and racially profiled people residing within their borders. From the imprisonment of citizens of Japanese origin in both the U.S. and Canada during WWII to the current systemic targeting and imprisonment of Arabs, Muslims and people of South Asian descent, imprisonment targets people who are deemed "undesirable" or politically threatening to the current social order. "Anti-terrorist," Islamophobic, and anti-immigrant State propaganda is used to garner public support to justify the wars at home and abroad on indigenous peoples, immigrants, refugees, people of colour, workers, poor people and social movements.

## SOME BOOKS WE LIKE:

- *Love & Struggle: My Life in SDS, the Weather Underground, & Beyond.* David Gilbert. PM Press.
- *Green is the New Red.* Will Potter. City Lights Publishers.
- *A Little Matter of Genocide: Holocaust & Denial in The Americas 1492 To The Present.* Ward Churchill. City Lights.
- *Marshall Law: The Life & Times of a Baltimore Black Panther.* Marshall "Eddie" Conway & Dominique Stevenson. AK Press.
- *Lucasville: The Untold Story of a Prison Uprising,* 2nd edition. Staughton Lynd. PM Press.
- *Defying the Tomb: Selected Prison Writings & Art of Kevin Rashid Johnson featuring exchanges with an Outlaw.* Kersplebedeb.
- *Floodlines: Community & Resistance From Katrina to the Jena Six.* Jordan Flaherty. Haymarket Books.
- *Can't Jail the Spirit: Political Prisoners in the U.S.* Editorial El Coqui.
- *Resistance Behind Bars: The Struggles of Incarcerated Women.* Vikki Law. PM Press.
- *Settlers: The Mythology of the White Proletariat.* J. Sakai. Morningstar Press.
- *Are Prisons Obsolete?* Angela Davis. Open Media.
- *Prison Writings: My Life is a Sun Dance.* Leonard Peltier. St. Martin's Griffin.
- *Imprisoned Intellectuals: America's Political Prisoners Write on Life, Liberation & Rebellion.* Ed. Joy James. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.
- *Forced Passages: Imprisoned Radical Intellectuals & the U.S. Prison Regime.* Dylan Rodriguez. Univ. Minnesota Press.
- *When the Prisoners Ran Walpole: A True Story in the Movement for Prison Abolition.* Jamie Bissonette. South End Press.
- *Assata.* Assata Shakur. Lawrence Hill Books.
- *Global Lockdown: Race, Gender, & the Prison-Industrial Complex.* Julia Sudbury. Routledge.
- *Wild Poppies: A Poetry Jam Across Prison Walls.* (CD) Marilyn Buck. Freedom Archives.
- *A Soldier's Story: Writings by a New Afrikan Anarchist.* Kuwasi Balagoon. Solidarity.
- *Fascism, Blood in My Eye, & Soledad Brother.* George Jackson.
- *All Things Censored,* v. 1. Mumia Abu-Jamal. AK Press.
- *No Surrender: Writings From An Anti-Imperialist Political Prisoner.* David Gilbert. Abraham Guillen Press/Arm the Spirit.
- *Arm the Spirit: A Woman's Journey Underground & Back.* Diana Block. AK Press.
- *Igniting a Revolution: Voices in Defense of the Earth.* Ed. Steven Best & Anthony J. Nocella, II. AK Press.
- *Hauling Up the Morning: Writings & Art by Political Prisoners & Prisoners of War in the U.S.* Eds. Tim Blunk & Ray Luc Levasseur. Red Sea Press.
- *Let Freedom Ring: A Collection of Documents from the Movements to Free U.S. Political Prisoners. Resistance in Brooklyn.* PM Press/Kersplebedeb.
- *Conquest: Sexual Violence and American Indian Genocide.* Andrea Smith. South End Press.
- *Uprooting Racism: How White People Can Work for Racial Justice.* Paul Kivel. New Society Publishers.
- *Outlaws of America: The Weather Underground & the Politics of Solidarity.* Dan Berger. AK Press.
- *Words without Walls: Writing & Art by Women in Prison in Nova Scotia.* Books Beyond Bars. Halifax.
- *The War Before: The Writings & Speeches of Safiya Bukhari.* ed. Laura Whitehorn. Feminist Press.
- *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West.* Dee Brown. Picador.
- *State of Exile.* Cristina Peri Rossi, translation & introduction by Marilyn Buck. City Lights Books.
- *Beautiful Trouble: A Toolbox for Revolution.* Assembled by Andrew Boyd with Dave Oswald Mitchell. OR Books.
- *A Beautiful Storm Has Come* (forthcoming). Kara Sieve-wright and David Cunningham. MakerofNets.ca
- *Captive Genders: Trans Embodiment and the Prison Industrial Complex.* Ed. Eric A. Stanley and Nat Smith. AK Press.
- *Inside/Out: Selected Poems.* Marilyn Buck. City Lights Publishers.
- *The Revolution Starts at Home: Confronting Intimate Violence Within Activist Communities.* Ed. Ching-In Chen, Jai Dulani, and Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha. South End Press.
- *Normal Life: Administrative Violence, Critical Trans Politics and the Limits of Law.* Dean Spade. South End Press.



# resources

Calendar Committee  
% QPIRG Concordia  
1455 de Maissonnaive Blvd, O.  
MONTREAL, QC  
H3G 1M8 CANADA

# AIR MAIL

00101/1803

*M...H...U...N...M...I...H...N...H...H...H...*

or who said it first or who said it last; figure out how you can use it to better the life or yourself and our people. The movement of our people that has existed ever since Columbus landed in the Caribbean belongs to all our people. It needs no sanction from anyone. It belongs to no man or no woman. It truly belongs to our people because it is the spirit of our people saying, "We want to regain what we lost and protect what we have for ourselves and our future generations."

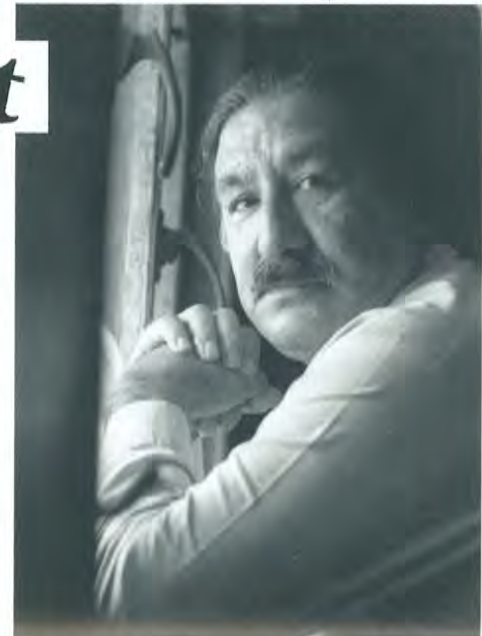
Our teachings have always shown us how to find our own vision through prayer and fasting and sacrifice. These things help bring forth the elements of our spirit and make us stronger and help us face the challenges of life. I hope that in hearing my words some of you, if not all, will be inspired in a good way. My greatest hope is that you will think about these things and apply them to your life as you find the truth of them. And sometimes I know we have to return to what we said, maybe have someone speak it to us again or read it again, but whatever happens I sincerely pray and hope that all our lives will be better and for the better and not just for our people but for all people. Because our way is not just another way of life it is THE way of life. It is life seeking life, it is life protecting life, it is living in such a way that all things are reborn every Spring.

If you feel or have come to believe that you have a calling to do a certain thing for your people, if you prayed about it in ceremony and you feel this is a true thing in your life, then you should educate yourself with every part of that calling. Don't wait for it to come to you. Go find that knowledge. Knowledge is strength – knowledge is power – knowledge is survival – knowledge and truth comes from the Creator and belongs to everyone. Don't worry about who said what

I'll close for now, thank you for your time, thank you for listening, remember the sacrifices of those who lived and died for you. May the creator bless you always in all ways.

# Leonard Peltier's

bloodline is Ojibwa and Dakota Sioux. He is a native of Great Turtle Island of the Ikce-Wicasa—the common people, the Original people. Leonard has been wrongly imprisoned for 36 years. Convicted of the murder of two FBI agents following a shootout on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in 1975, his case represents one of the worst miscarriages of justice in U.S. history. During his incarceration, Leonard has developed into a Master Artist. Leonard has reached international acclaim as a remarkable man, artist, writer, and humanitarian. Leonard's art inspiration comes from his beliefs and commitment to the Native American People and their culture.



# Thoughts on the Occupy Movement from Inside Prison

"The American dream was never meant for everybody to realize."

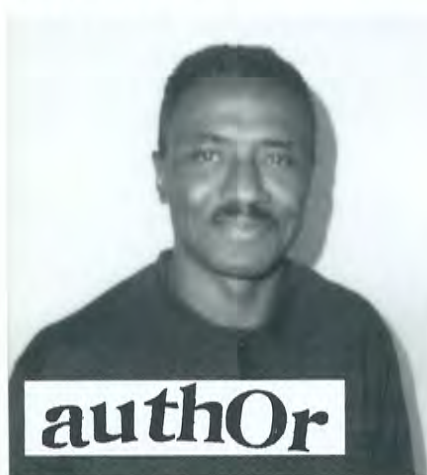
It's easy to think this as I sit here in prison, in a visiting room, or in a mess hall, or as I stand in a prison "recreation" yard. Here, I see long columns of black and brown faces marching lock-step to their cells. I can't help but look at my fellow prisoners and see captured Afrikans in coffles being marched to sea and into holds of waiting slave ships.

You probably know that the United States has the highest documented incarceration rate in the world. Two-point-four million souls...and counting. U.S. prisons operate on punishment and retribution, not "rehabilitation." For the past 39 years, I have lived in a series of U.S. "correctional facilities" – warehouses that stockpile human beings. These warehouses serve the economic interests of other human beings in depressed rural communities, where industries have disappeared, and job security resides in maintaining a large prison population. We prisoners – the poor, the marginalized, the irrelevant – are products of an antiquated Jim Crow political agenda that exists to own and control people of colour. Meanwhile, the 1% who own and control the "free" market continue to make a killing, and now, given the current trend toward privatization, it's even possible to buy stock in their prison system.

Yet from inside prison, I get the idea that the Occupy movement might finally begin to change all this. Occupy's genius is that we prisoners – and you outside prison – make up the 99%. That we have something in common. And by resisting the rule of the 1%, we might begin to create some actual justice.

From here, the Occupy movement looks and feels like a social tent that is big enough to accommodate a wide range of pressing social issues. It has the potential to be a political platform, to help the young as well as the old – anybody who is tired of being messed over by Wall Street, banks, corporations and elected officials, to finally say, Enough.

**Herman Bell** is a political prisoner and member of the Certain Days collective. For more information about Herman, see his bio on the inside of the front cover.



**Santiago Armengod** is a Mexican printmaker, organizer and illustrator, who attempts to communicate the urgency of radical change through his artwork. He enjoys and spends most of his time working with projects and collectives he is part of: Justseeds, La Furia de las Calles, ZAM, Colectivo Cordyceps and ECPM68.



Sundata Acct #39794-066  
(Square) P.O. Box 3000  
USP Allenwood  
White Plains, NY 10607  
U.S.A.

# february

MAILED FROM  
U.S. PENITENTIARY

Certain Days c/o QPIRG Concordia  
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. O.  
Montreal QC  
H3G 1M8 CANADA

In giving voice to the passionate indignation, the anger, the pain, the frustration of hard-working, tax-paying, law-abiding people, you Occupy activists may finally be able to create a movement that will stop the 1% from destroying our lives, and the very life of this planet.

But activists not only educate and organize people around momentous social issues; they can also wind up in prison. By the early 1970s, many of us in Black Liberation movements had been taken off the streets. In making the fight for jobs, healthcare, education, and social justice our life's work, we made conscious choices that put us in harm's way. I, along with several comrades, was sent away to long years in prison with the words "to-life" at the end of our sentences. Yet we political prisoners – and all prisoners – have wives, children, grandchildren – loved ones left outside to suffer – whose suffering exacerbates our own.

So be careful. If you get too good at Occupying, some of you young activists may wind up in a cell next to mine or next to some other political prisoner such as Albert Woodfox or Herman Wallace or Ed Poindexter, who, like me, were imprisoned long before most of you were born.

A social movement involves suffering and sacrifice. That's a fact, and a poignant reminder of what Frederick Douglass told us long ago: Power concedes nothing without a demand. All the more reason to resist the rule of the 1%. The 1% don't want you to realize your dreams, "American" or otherwise.

We have to fight for our dreams.

# It Didn't Start with Occupy, and it Won't End With the Student Strike! The Persistence of Anti-Authoritarian Politics in Québec

What we are seeing today in Québec is a public moment of a much more ingrained movement that has been around for decades. The rhizome analogy allows us to better understand the anti-authoritarian movement in the province: a rhizome is like a root that runs underground; once in a while a shoot breaks the surface.

To identify traces of this movement, let's start with the first big contemporary shoot. April 2001, Québec City: huge street demonstrations took place against the third summit to negotiate the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). From our perspective, the Occupy Montreal Movement, and the social justice mobilization anchored in the ongoing student strike, can also be seen as new shoots of this rhizomatic movement.

These moments of public protest represent a turning point in history for several reasons: 1) activists began explicitly targeting symbols of capitalism; 2) many people have been arrested with subsequent politicized trials, and most importantly; 3) they signalled the emergence of an anti-authoritarian movement that is at the heart of what we are seeing today. Indeed, these shoots emerged from a shared root, a political culture—a way of thinking, doing and being—grounded in shared values and principles which can be defined according to three main characteristics.

First, we can identify an explicit critique of the root causes of the social problems. This explicit discussion links all of these problems to systems of exploitation – capitalism, colonialism, racism, patriarchy, heterosexism, etc. – that work together, reinforce each other, and disadvantage the majority of the world's population. For the anti-authoritarian movement, is it impossible to eradicate injustice unless these systems are all dismantled. This is precisely what we are hearing now in the streets when capitalism is named by the Occupy Movement as the source of the loss of our social services, and when students oppose tuition hikes because of the capitalist logic of the commodification of education.

Second, we find an explicit critique of representative democracy and the State, as well as experimentation with new types of political organization based on decentralized, horizontal direct democracy. This critique supersedes the notion that if we replace one political party with another, things will be better. It means that people who are directly affected by a political issue must be involved in the decision-making process on that issue. At the core of this movement are two fundamental principles: self-determination and self-organization. CLASSE exemplifies this kind of organizing: general assemblies are held in departments, CEGEPS and universities, then delegates participate in weekly spokescouncil meetings where they coordinate decisions and actions. There are



# march

no representatives or leaders, just people working together and experimenting with new, empowering, horizontal, and equitable social relations.

Third, the movement isn't constrained to one mode of expression. This respect for a diversity of tactics is the result of over 10 years of work by anti-authoritarians to get this principle accepted by mainstream social movements. This principle does not rest on the idea that anything goes in any given situation, but implies that the debate about the legitimacy of various tactics must occur within the movement, and should be decided for each situation by the people taking action themselves. The mainstream media, along with State politicians, tend to create an image of the "good" versus the "bad" protestor in an effort to divide and conquer. However, during the current strike, movement spokespeople, for the most part, have not denounced tactics such as economic disruption, contributing to the maintenance of a certain unity and a strong sense of solidarity within the movement.

To return to the rhizome metaphor, what happens underground between the eruption of big shoots is what builds the strength and collective empowerment of these important moments. People are working every day, in their communities—based on neighbourhoods, workplaces, shared identities or even just friend groups—to consolidate a burgeoning organizational interface that forms an anti-authoritarian commons.

Digging below ground level, we can see the anti-authoritarian roots underlying and nurturing the many shoots that have begun erupting over the past ten years. We can see the links between what otherwise may appear fragmented groups and collectivities in an organizational interface that prefigures the kind of political, social and economic institutions we are building not just for tomorrow but also for today.

In 2001, we used to say, "It didn't start in Seattle, and it won't end with Québec." Perhaps now we might proclaim, "It didn't start with Occupy, and it won't end with the student strike." The student strike has now evolved into a national and perhaps even international social movement that goes beyond the original opposition to the tuition hike. For this shoot to become a mature, fruit-bearing plant, let's hope more and more people will engage in this politics of proximity inspired by an anti-authoritarian political culture.

*Editor's note: a longer, more complete version of this article originally appeared in Wi: Journal of Mobile Media, and can be read online at: [wi.mobilities.ca](http://wi.mobilities.ca)*

authors

**Sandra Jeppesen**, Assistant Professor, Interdisciplinary Studies, Lakehead University Orillia; **Anna Kruzynski**, Assistant Professor, School of Community and Public Affairs, Concordia University ([anna.kruzynski@concordia.ca](mailto:anna.kruzynski@concordia.ca)); **Rachel Sarrasin**, PhD candidate, Political Science, Université de Montréal. All are members of the feminist research collective called the Research Group on Collective Autonomy (Collectif de recherche sur l'autonomie

collective or **CRAC**). Website: [crac-kebec.org](http://crac-kebec.org). Contact: [info@crac-kebec.org](mailto:info@crac-kebec.org). The use of they/we in this article indicates that the authors are making this contribution as participants in the antiauthoritarian movement, and, within this movement, as members of CRAC, which is documenting and analyzing the movement.

« L'ENTENTE »



## L'École de la Montagne Rouge

est une initiative de jeunes créatifs conscients principalement issus du baccalauréat en design graphique de l'UQAM. Par ses actions, ses réflexions et ses recherches graphiques, l'ÉDLMR propose une approche esthétique différente et originale des mouvements de révolution, ainsi qu'une façon alternative de laisser une trace de ce Printemps québécois.

L'École de la Montagne Rouge is the initiative of conscious, creative youth, composed mainly of students in the graphic design program at l'UQAM (the Montreal campus of the University of Quebec). Through its actions, reflections, and experiments with graphic art, l'École de la Montagne Rouge offers a fresh aesthetic approach to the revolutionary movement, as well as an alternative way to leave a record of the Quebec Spring.

artist

www.madisoninfoishop.org

april

00101/1803

Certain Days  
% QPIRG Concordia  
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. O.  
Montréal, QC H3G 1M8

According to Ameer Makhoul, an Israeli “citizen,” a civil society leader, himself a political prisoner, among the many achievements of the strike was the readiness of international solidarity movements to launch broad campaigns to support the prisoners in their struggle, thus internationalizing it. April 17 was established in 1979 as Palestinian Prisoners Day, and this year gained prominence as it was widely commemorated around the globe.

Another achievement was to highlight and give impetus to the ongoing Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaign against the largest security service in the world, G4S, whose branch, G4S Israel, provides security equipment and services to prisons inside Israel and the Occupied Territories, security services and guards to businesses inside illegal settlements and to Israeli police headquarters in the West Bank. The European Coordination of Committees and Associations for Palestine marked Palestinian Prisoners Day by announcing that the European Union declined to renew its contract with G4S in view of its role in enabling Israel's violations of international law. A very important victory for the BDS movement!

Since occupying the Palestinian Territory in 1967, Israel has detained about 750,000 Palestinian citizens, including 12,000 women and tens of thousands of children. Currently, about 6,000 detainees are held in Israeli prisons, including 35 women and 285 children.

Addameer: [addameer.org](http://addameer.org)  
Bt Selem: [btselem.org](http://btselem.org)

Who Profits: [whoprofits.org](http://whoprofits.org)  
Tadamon!: [tadamon.ca](http://tadamon.ca)

**Tadamon!** (Arabic for “solidarity”), is a Montreal-based collective which works in solidarity with struggles for self-determination, equality and justice in the ‘Middle East’ and in diaspora communities in Montreal and beyond.

**Jesus Barraza** is an activist printmaker based in San Leandro, California. Using bold colours and high contrast images, his prints reflect both his local and global community and their resistance in a struggle to create a new world. Barraza has worked closely with numerous community organizations to create prints that visualize struggles for immigration rights, housing, education, and international solidarity.

Printmaking has allowed Barraza to produce relevant images that can be put back into the hands of his community and spread throughout the world. He believes that through this work and the work of Dignidad Rebelde, he is playing a role in keeping the history of graphic art activism alive.





december

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

february

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |    |    |

# january

Su M T W Th F S

|                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                      | 1<br>1959 - Cuban revolution victorious<br>1994 - Mexico: NAFTA signed; Zapatista uprising<br>1804 - Haitian independence is won<br>New Year's Day<br>Last day of Kwanzaa | 2<br>1973 - San Quentin prisoners strike                                             | 3                                                                                                                                      | 4<br>last quarter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 5                                                                                                     |
| 6                                                                                                                                                   | 7                                                                                                                    | 8<br>1912 - South Africa: ANC founded                                                                                                                                     | 9                                                                                    | 10                                                                                                                                     | 11<br>new moon                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 12                                                                                                    |
| 13<br>2012 - G20 protestor Mandy Hiscocks sentenced to 16 months<br>1970 - CA: W.L. Nolen, C. Edwards & G. Miller murdered by Soledad prison guards | 14<br>2011 - Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali flees to Saudi Arabia                                        | 15<br>1983 - BPP member Lorenzo Kom'Boa Ervin released from prison                                                                                                        | 16                                                                                   | 17<br>1969 - L.A.: Panthers Bunchy Carter & John Huggins murdered<br>1991 - U.S., Canadian & other imperialist U.N. forces attack Iraq | 18<br>first quarter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 19<br>2006 - OR: Jonathan Paul arrested for horse slaughterhouse arson. Later sentenced to 51 months. |
| 20<br>2001 - U.S. anti-imperialists Linda Evans & Susan Rosenberg released                                                                          | 21<br>2001 - Teddy "Jah" Heath, former Panther, one of the NY 21, dies of cancer in prison<br>Martin Luther King Day | 22                                                                                                                                                                        | 23<br>2007 - San Francisco 8 arrested                                                | 24<br>Mawlid al-Nabi (Sunni)                                                                                                           | 25<br>1787 - MA: Shays' Rebellion. Farmers revolt against imprisonment for debt.                                                                                                                                                                                               | 26<br>full moon<br>1944 - Angela B. Davis born                                                        |
| 27<br>1974 - Minnesota Prisoners Union formed at Stillwater                                                                                         | 28                                                                                                                   | 29<br>Mawlid al-Nabi (Shi'a)                                                                                                                                              | 30<br>1972 - Derry, Ireland: Bloody Sunday<br>1968 - Tet Offensive begins in Vietnam | 31                                                                                                                                     | <div> <p>"Occupy is not the answer. Occupy is the opening. The question is how to take advantage of the opening... It is a wonderful time to be alive."</p> <p>- Angela Davis and Grace Lee Boggs. <a href="http://decolonizeoakland.org">decolonizeoakland.org</a></p> </div> |                                                                                                       |



93

AYER, HOY Y SIEMPRE

**SOLIDARIDAD**

CON LAS COMUNIDADES ZAPATISTAS

january

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

march

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

# february

Su M T W Th F S

On February 20, 2012, demonstrations were held throughout the U.S. for a "National Occupy Day in Support of Prisoners," including in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Austin, Denver, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York. Family and community members of prisoners, former prisoners, and people directly affected by the prison industrial complex spoke out against the destructive impacts of imprisonment. "Those of us housed in solitary confinement throughout California and Amerika, support "Occupy Wall Street" and understand the necessity to resist against corporate greed. We will no longer willingly accept the subjugation, oppression and exploitation of humanity. Banks and the "prison industrial complex" are corporate empires that prey on the souls of humanity. Therefore we officially join you all in struggle." - Pelican Bay Human Rights Movement Hunger Strikers in Solidarity (PHSS) Sitawa Jamaa, s/n Dewberry C35671; Todd Ashker C58191; Antonio Guillen P81948; and Arturo Castellanos C17275. [occupy4prisoners.org](http://occupy4prisoners.org)

1

2

1960 - Greensboro, NC:  
Sit-in against segregation

|                                                                                  |                                                                                                         |                                                             |                                                                         |                                                 |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3                                                                                |  4<br>last quarter     | 5                                                           | 6                                                                       | 7                                               | 8                                                                                                                                                         | 9                                                          |
|                                                                                  |                                                                                                         | 1913 - Rosa Parks born                                      | 1976 - Canada: AIM member Leonard Peltier captured by police            | 1997 - CA: Norma Jean Croy released from prison | 1968 - SC: Orangeburg Massacre. Police fire into crowd of anti-segregation protestors, killing 3.                                                         |                                                            |
| 10                                                                               |  11<br>new moon      | 12                                                          | 13                                                                      | 14                                              | 15                                                                                                                                                        | 16                                                         |
| Chinese New Year                                                                 | 2011 - Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak resigns, following 18 days of widespread protest                | 1971 - Raiford Prison, FL: 63 peaceful hunger strikers shot |                                                                         | Valentine's Day                                 | 2003 - Oakland: After 35 years, Lil' Bobby Hut-ton's gravesite receives tombstone<br>2008 - ON: Algonquin spokesperson Bob Lovelace sentenced to 6 months |                                                            |
| 17                                                                               |  18<br>first quarter | 19                                                          | 20                                                                      | 21                                              | 22                                                                                                                                                        | 23                                                         |
|                                                                                  | Civic Holiday (ATLA, SASK, MAN & ON)<br>President's Day (U.S.)                                          | 1942 - 120,000 Japa-nese-Americans sent to internment camps |                                                                         | 1965 - NYC: Malcom X assassinated               |                                                                                                                                                           | 2006 - Olympia, WA: Joyanna Zacher & Nathan Block arrested |
| 24                                                                               | 25 <br>full moon     | 26                                                          | 27                                                                      | 28                                              |                                                                                                                                                           |                                                            |
| 1976 - SD: AIM activist Anna Mae Aquash found dead<br>Día de la Bandera (Mexico) |                                                                                                         | 1973 - SD: Oglala Sioux & AIM seize town of Wounded Knee    | 1989 - Caracas, Venezu-ela: Popular revolt against neo-liberal policies |                                                 | Feb 29 2004 - U.S. troops remove democratically elected Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide                                                          |                                                            |

# « L'ENTENTE »



february

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |    |    |

april

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |

march

Su M T W Th F S

"So we heard the proposition last night, 'We need to dismantle the United States.' This sounds kind of preposterous and silly to most people but the question is, 'Why? Why does it sound so absurd to say that we don't want to live under a settler state founded on genocide and slavery?' That the proposition seems silly shows the extent to which we have so completely normalized genocide that we cannot actually imagine a future without genocide."

- Andrea Smith, March 2011, at Critical Ethnic Studies and the Future of Genocide

1 2

1954 - Washington, D.C.: Puerto Rican Nationalists attack U.S. congress

2006 - SHAC 7 convicted & sentenced to 3-6 years

3 4 5 6 7 8 9

last quarter

International Sex Workers' Rights Day

1857 - Dred Scott decision

1970 - NYC: 3 members of Weather Underground die in accidental explosion

1971 - PA: "Citizens Commission to Investigate the FBI" raid FBI office exposing COINTELPRO documents

International Women's Day

10 11 12 13 14 15 16

new moon

1976 - WA: George Jackson Bridge member John Sherman liberated

Daylight Savings Time begins

1976 - WA: George Jackson Bridge member Mark Cook captured

1988 - 500 Palestinian police resign in protest of Israeli policies

1973 - North Carolina Prisoners' Union formed

International Day Against Police Brutality

1792 - Denmark becomes first Western country to outlaw the slave trade

2003 - Palestine: ISM volunteer Rachel Corrie killed in by Israeli forces

17 18 19 20 21 22 23

first quarter

1992 - Escaped Puerto Rican political prisoner Luis Colon Osorio is recaptured

2008 - The K16, aboriginal leaders opposed to mining on First Nations land, sentenced to 6 months

Spring Equinox

Human Rights Day (South Africa)

24/31 25 26 27 28 29 30

full moon

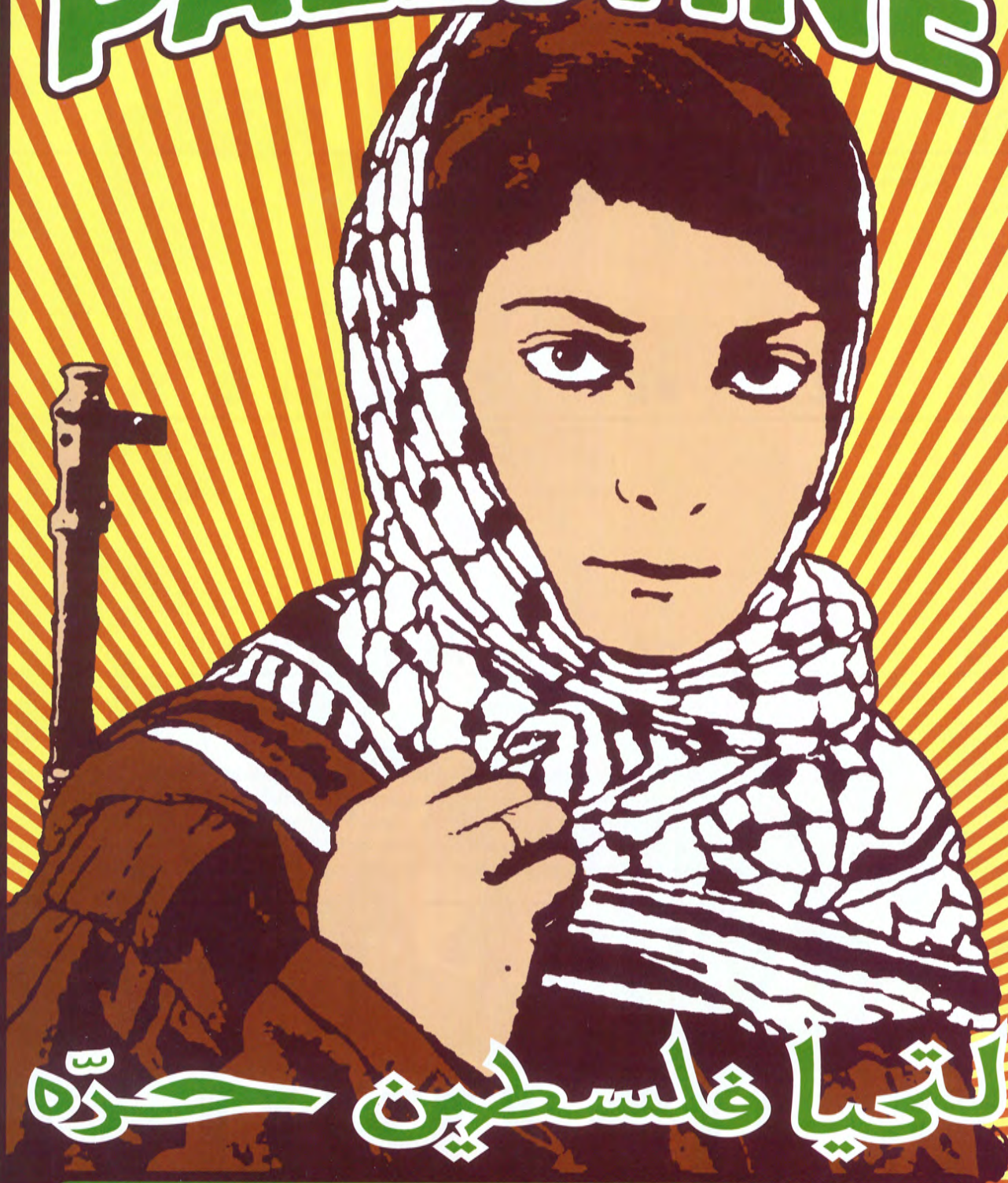
Easter Sunday  
Cesar Chavez Day  
(CA & TX)

1977 - NJ: Assata Shakur convicted of murder & sentenced to life + 33 years in prison

Passover begins

Good Friday

LONG LIVE FREE  
**PALESTINE**



لِتْحْيَا فِلَسْطِينَ حُرَّة

**¡VIVA PALESTINA LIBRE!**

march

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

may

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

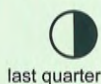
# april

Su M T W Th F S

1

2

3



4

5

6

Easter Monday

Last day of Passover

1968 - Memphis, TN:  
Martin Luther King Jr.  
assassinated

1980 - Chicago, IL:  
11 Puerto Rican FALN  
Nationalists captured

1968 - Oakland, CA: BPP  
member Bobby Hutton  
murdered by police

7

8

9

10



11

12

13

Holocaust  
Remembrance Day

1999 - 3,000 unarmed  
Zapatistas retake San  
Andrés from Mexican Army

1988 - NY: Japanese  
American anti-imperialist  
Yū Kikumura captured

2006 - ON: Millhaven  
Prison hunger strike  
and uprising

14

15

16

17

18



19

20

1971: ON: Kingston  
Penitentiary riot lasts 4  
days; 2 prisoners killed

1965 - SDS leads 1st  
national march on DC  
against Vietnam War

Palestinian Prisoners Day

1977 - Leonard Peltier  
convicted of killing 2  
FBI agents

1981 - Sekou Odinga  
gets life sentence for  
Brinks robbery

21

22

23

24

25



26

27

2008 - ON: Week-long  
standoff at Tyendinaga Mo-  
hawk territory; Shawn Brant  
& 11 others face charges

Earth Day

Freedom Day  
(South Africa)

28

29

30

2000 - Coxsackie, NY:  
Black Panther Albert  
Nuh Washington dies of  
cancer in prison

1899 - Warner, ID:  
1,000 miners dynamite  
their mine protesting  
working conditions

1975: Saigon surren-  
ders; Vietnam united

Visit [SundiataAcoli.org](http://SundiataAcoli.org) to stay abreast of Sundiata's parole situation and additional ways you can express support/solidarity with his parole effort. Sundiata and his Freedom Campaign, SAFC, send their sincerest condolences to the family and comrades of Christian Gomez, the prisoner who died in the California Prisoner's Hunger Strike – and we send our warmest shout out of solidarity and strength to all those participating in or supporting the California Prisoner's Hunger Strike.

# THE MIGRANTS

ON THE NORTHERN  
MOST TIP OF TUNISIA

HAVE TAKEN  
ADVANTAGE OF A  
NO LONGER A

10000S OF  
TUNISIANS

FUNCTIONING  
BORDER POLICE

THEY TAKE  
FLIGHT ON  
BOATS

THE SPIRIT  
OF STRUGGLE

IS SMUGGLED OUT  
OF NORTH  
AFRICA

TO STORM

THE  
FORTRESS STATES  
OF EUROPE



CENTURIES OF  
COLONIAL

EXPLOITATION  
WILL

BE REPAID

ONE WAY OR  
ANOTHER

april

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |

june

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

# may

Su M T W Th F S

On May 7, 2012, the hunger-striking prisoners at Ohio State Penitentiary (OSP) began eating again. Sources inside say that the hunger strikers are satisfied and feel they achieved results. The main concerns were in regards to commissary costs, state pay rates, phone costs, length of stay, and harsh penalties for petty conduct reports.  
denverabc.wordpress.com

1

1886 - International Workers' Day founded  
**May Day**

2

1973 - NJ: BLA member Zayd Shakur killed by police, Assata Shakur captured



last quarter

3

4

1970 - OH: National Guard open fire on student protestors at Kent State, killing 4

1973 - NJ Turnpike: Sundiata Acoli captured

5

6

7

8

9



new moon

10

11

Cinco de Mayo

1800 - Abolitionist John Brown born

1857 - Beginning of Great Mutiny against British Imperial rule in India

12

13

14

15

16

17

18



first quarter

Mother's Day

1985 - Philadelphia: Police drop bomb on MOVE home, killing 11 people

1970 - MS: Police open fire on student protestors at Jackson State, killing 2

2004 - Poet & activist Gloria Anzaldúa dies  
**Nakba Day**

1954 - U.S. Supreme Court declares school segregation illegal

19

20

21

22

23

24

25



full moon

1890 - Ho Chi Minh born  
1925 - Malcolm X born

1996 - Abdul Haqq released from prison  
**Journée nationale des Patriotes (QC)**  
**Victoria Day (Canada)**

2001 - NC: Eddie Hatcher sentenced to life without parole

26

27

28

29

30

31



last quarter

2008 - 7 aboriginal leaders (K16 & Bob Lovelace) freed from jail after blocking mining on their land

Memorial Day (U.S.)



**EVERYTHING  
FOR  
EVERYONE**

may

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

# june

july

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

Su M T W Th F S

On June 26, 2012, nearly 100 people marched alongside Mohammad Mahjoub in Toronto, while a lively street festival took place in Montreal, and dozens joined a rally in Fredericton to support one of Canada's three remaining security certificate detainees. This Day of Action was organized to demand freedom for Mahjoub, Harkat and Jaballah; justice, apologies, reparations and citizenship for all five security certificate detainees; and accountability for all officials responsible for injustices against these men. Mahjoub has been detained for 12 years without charges. "I used to ask the Government of Canada to charge me or release me. But now I have a very simple demand to Jason Kenney and Vic Toews: Immediately withdraw the case against me; apologize to me and my family here and in Egypt; and clear my name!" insisted Mr. Mahjoub who walked at the front of the demonstration in Toronto flanked by supporters chanting "End Security Certificates" and "Justice for Immigrants, Freedom for Refugees." [supportmahjoub.org](http://supportmahjoub.org)

2007 - Joyanna Zacher & Nathan Block sentenced to 7 years, 8 months

1975 - WA: George Jackson Brigade bombs DOC headquarters in support of Walla Walla prisoners

|                                                                                                                       |                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                       |                                                        |                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2<br>2011 - geronimo ji-jaga dies of a heart attack in Tanzania                                                       | 3                                                                     | 4<br>2012 - CeCe McDonald sentenced to 41 months<br>2007 - Daniel McGowan sentenced to 7 years<br>1972 - Angela Davis acquitted of murder & kidnapping charges<br>1989 - China: Tiananmen Square massacre | 5                                                                                                                                                                                        | 6<br>2000 - Kingston, ON: Prison for Women formally closes                                                                                            | 7                                                      | 8<br>new moon            |
| 9                                                                                                                     | 10<br>1997 - L.A.: geronimo ji-jaga released after 27 years in prison | 11                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 12                                                                                                                                                                                       | 13<br>1971 - Classified documents on Vietnam (Pentagon papers) released<br>1983 - Toronto: <i>Bulldozer</i> prison abolition journal raided by police | 14                                                     | 15                       |
| 16<br>first quarter<br>1976 - Soweto, South Africa: 700 students killed in uprising against apartheid<br>Father's Day | 17                                                                    | 18                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 19<br>1953 - Ethel & Julius Rosenberg executed by the state<br>Juneteenth                                                                                                                | 20                                                                                                                                                    | 21<br>National Aboriginal Day (NWT)<br>Summer Solstice | 22                       |
| 23/30<br>full moon<br>last quarter<br>St. Jean Baptiste Holiday (Quebec)                                              | 24                                                                    | 25                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 26<br>1859 - San Quentin prison: Francisco Lallo leads mass breakout of Chicano & Indian prisoners. 40 escaped & 10 killed<br>2012 - G20 protestor Alex Hunderl sentenced to 13.5 months | 27<br>1969 - NYC: Stonewall resistance                                                                                                                | 28                                                     | 29<br>1905 - IWW founded |



june

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

august

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

july

Su M T W Th F S

1 2 3 4 5 6

1977 - SD: Leonard Peltier receives 2 life sentences for deaths of 2 FBI agents

2011 - Indefinite hunger strike begins at Pelican Bay & other prisons throughout California

Canada Day

1963 - CA: Soledad prison food strike

1977 - WA: George Jackson Brigade plants bomb at state capitol in support of striking segregated prisoners

Independence Day (U.S.)

7 8 9 10 11 12 13

new moon

1971 - Terre Haute, IN: Prisoners stage 3-day strike

Nunavut Day  
Ramadan begins

1978 - NY: Women at Bedford Prison strike to protest beatings & harassment

1990 - Quebec: 500 police attack Mohawks in Kanehsatake

2006 - Israeli Defense Forces begin 33-day bombing of Beirut & South Lebanon

14 15 16 17 18 19 20

first quarter

2010 - Marilyn Buck is paroled

1981 - New Afrikan Freedom Fighter Day

1848 - Seneca, NY: Women's rights convention

21 22 23 24 25 26 27

full moon

1898 - U.S. colonization of Puerto Rico begins

28 29 30 31

last quarter

On July 16, 2012, prisoners began hunger strikes at Bertie CI in Windsor, Scotland CI in Laurinburg, and Central Prison in Raleigh. Targeting a wide range of conditions related but not exclusive to solitary confinement, the prisoners have vowed not to eat until their demands are met.

Visit [prisonerhungerstrikesolidarity.wordpress.com](http://prisonerhungerstrikesolidarity.wordpress.com) for ongoing hunger strike updates.



july

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

september

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |

# august

# Su M T W Th F S

1 2 3

In Canada, the Conservatives tabled their omniness legislation, Bill C-10: The Safe Streets and Communities Act, in the House of Commons. After nearly two months of committee hearings – with opposition members, experts and some victims' rights advocates urging the government to reject or make amendments to the bill, along with public policing officials and other victims' rights advocates urging the swift passage of the legislation – the omniness was passed in December 2011. [tpcp-canada.blogspot.ca](http://tpcp-canada.blogspot.ca)

2010 - NY: Marilyn Buck dies of cancer

Lailat al Qadr

|                                                                         |                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                           |                                                                              |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4                                                                       | 5                                                              | 6<br>new moon<br>2009 - Sydey, NS: Donald Marshall Jr. dies<br>1945 - Hiroshima: U.S. drops atomic bomb, killing approx. 150,000<br>1990 - UN economic sanctions against Iraq begin<br>1999 - Laura Whitehorn released | 7<br>1970 - Marin County, CA: Jonathan Jackson, William Christmas & James McClain killed during liberation attempt        | 8<br>1977 - NY: Napanoch Prison Rebellion against klan guards<br>Eid-al-Fitr | 9<br>1945 - U.S. bombs Nagasaki, Japan, killing approx. 80,000<br>International Day of the World's Indigenous People | 10<br>1970 - Tombs Prison, NY: Prisoners stage rebellion<br>Prisoners' Justice Day                  |
| 11<br>1999 - U.S.: 11 Puerto Rican political prisoners granted clemency | 12<br>1968 - Ohio Penitentiary: Prisoners take over for 3 days | 13                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 14<br>first quarter                                                                                                       | 15                                                                           | 16                                                                                                                   | 17<br>1955 - NY: Strike at Comstock prison                                                          |
| 18                                                                      | 19                                                             | 20<br>full moon<br>1985 - OH: Prisoners take over supermax unit to air grievances over radio<br>2003 - Anti-imperialist Kathy Boudin granted parole                                                                    | 21<br>1971 - Soledad Prison, CA: George Jackson assassinated by prison guards<br>1831 - Nat Turner slave rebellion begins | 22<br>1989 - BPP founder Huey Newton killed                                  | 23<br>1927 - MA: Anarchists Sacco & Vanzetti executed                                                                | 24<br>2003 - NY: Black liberation fighter & political prisoner supporter, Safiya Bukhari dies at 53 |
| 25                                                                      | 26<br>Discovery Day (Yukon)                                    | 27                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 28<br>last quarter                                                                                                        | 29                                                                           | 30                                                                                                                   | 31<br>1970 - Chicano Moratorium Against the War. 3 killed by LAPD in anti-war protest               |

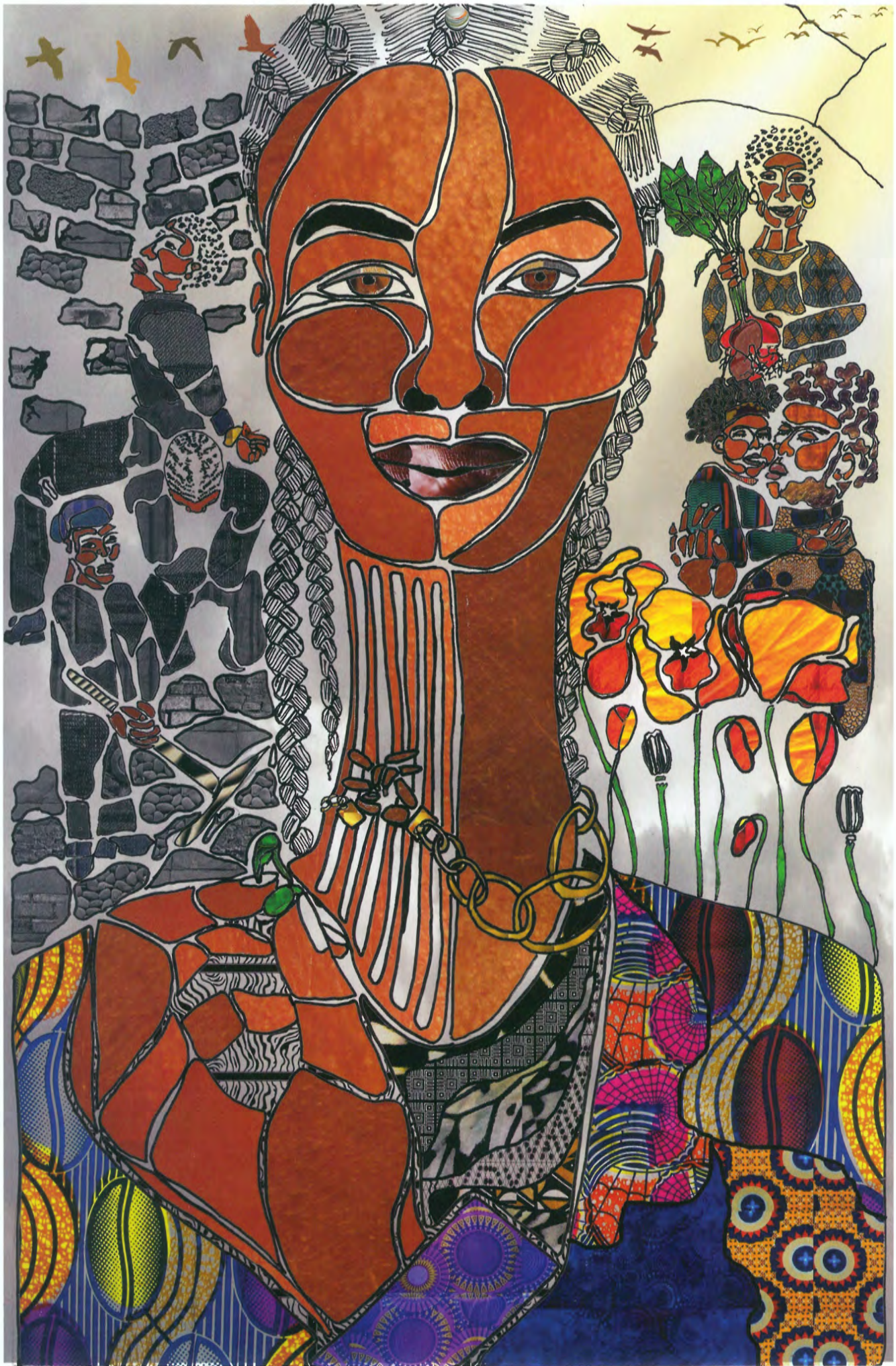


Image created by Naomi Moyer May 2012

august

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

october

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

# September

Su M T W Th F S

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

new moon

1971 - Jackson, MI:  
Prisoners form  
labour union

1973 - New Orleans:  
Herman Bell captured  
**Labour Day**  
(U.S. & Canada)

Rosh Hashana

8 9 10 11 12 13 14

first quarter

2001 - NYC: Planes de-  
stroy World Trade Center,  
Bush's "war on terror"  
begins

1971 - NY: Attica Prison  
Rebellion begins

1973 - Chile: U.S. helps  
overthrow Allende

1977 - South Africa: Steve  
Biko killed in prison

1971 - Massacre at  
Attica Prison: NY  
state troopers fire;  
prisoners & guards  
killed

Yom Kippur

15 16 17 18 19 20 21

full moon

1982 - Lebanon:  
Massacre at Sabra &  
Shatila refugee camps,  
hundreds of Palestin-  
ians murdered

**Mexican  
Independence Day**

1968 - Mexico City: Army  
invades UNAM university  
in response to protests

1971 - KS: State prison  
food strike

22 23 24 25 26 27 28

last quarter

1898 - Birth of the  
Puerto Rican Nation,  
El Grito de Lares

2005 - Puerto Rico:  
FBI assassinates  
Filiberto Ojeda Rios

2000 - PA: Political pris-  
oner Jihad Abdulmumit  
released from prison

**Native American Day**  
(CA)

2000 - Palestine:  
2nd Palestinian  
Intifada begins

Autumn Equinox

29 30

On September 29, 2011, 11 indigenous prisoners in three Chiapas state prisons started a hunger strike and fast, demanding their freedom. Two more joined the fast and two others were released, leaving five on a total hunger strike and six fasting 12 hours per day. Then, in a move analyzed by the hunger strikers as an attempt to break up the protest action, the government transferred Alberto Patishtán to a federal prison in the distant state of Sinaloa. He had been the protest's spokesperson from the state prison number 5 in the municipality of San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico. Visit [compamanuel.wordpress.com](http://compamanuel.wordpress.com) for updates.



**OAKLAND  
IS OCCUPIED  
OHLONE LAND**

**DECOLONIZE THE 99%  
DEFEND MOTHER EARTH**

DESIGN & LABOR DONATED BY [DIGNIDADREBELDE.COM](http://DIGNIDADREBELDE.COM) WITH SUPPORT FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS LIKE YOU  
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY OF RESISTANCE 2011

september

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |

november

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

# october

Su M T W Th F S

1 2 3 4 5

new moon

<< [www.certaindays.org](http://www.certaindays.org) >>

1968 - Mexico City: Tlatelolco Massacre, thousands killed during protest

6 7 8 9 10 11 12

first quarter

2001 - U.S. begins bombing Afghanistan

Day of the Heroic Guerrilla

1967 - Che Guevara killed in Bolivia

2008 - NYC: Jericho 10th Anniversary National March to UN

13 14 15 16 17 18 19

full moon

1979 - DC: 100,000 people at 1st march for lesbian & gay rights

1968 - Presidio Mutiny, military prisoners strike against Vietnam War

Native American Day (South Dakota)

Columbus Day (U.S.)  
Thanksgiving (Canada)  
Día de la Raza (Mexico)

1966: Oakland, CA: BPP founded

1968 - U.S. federal court prohibits use of whips on prisoners

Eid-al-Adha

1859 - WV: Abolitionist John Brown leads attack on Federal Armory

1969 - LA: BPP member Walter Toure Pope murdered by cops

20 21 22 23 24 25 26

last quarter

1981 - Nyack, NY: Brinks robbery by BLA & allied anti-imperialists

1963 - Folsom, CA: Strike protesting 4 cents/hour wage

National Day Against Police Brutality (U.S.)

27 28 29 30 31

1967 - Oakland, CA: Huey Newton arrested

1984 - Millhaven, ON: Doug Stewart, of the Vancouver 5, ends 27-Day Hunger Strike

Halloween

"If there is no struggle, there is no progress." - Frederick Douglass

4struggle.org: Views, thoughts and analysis from the hearts and minds of North American political prisoners and supporters. Subscribe and help subsidize our 500+ free prisoner subscriptions! P.O. Box 97048, RPO Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto, ON, M6R 3B3 Canada

To the Family of our brother Josefa ...  
 this is on behalf of all the brother and  
 sister here at villa wood I.D.C ...

your IRAQI Brother  
 Saad Tlaa

Sep. 27, 2010

7 days after ...



MARIA BROWN

Aliy Faicul Sumari

MUJINZARE

LAHUCI Lepard - ZIF

Thani

Khalid

BRITISH

Wang Wei

MUNIRAH Adnan

SUBINSHAN

DASTAKHOSH NIKOO  
 YASIN YOUSFS

ARIFF

Shah F

Rinkat

Vilive Baro

Vu Ying Ping

Ala Ismail

Thaer

Ahmoad  
 Ahmed

october

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

december

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |

# november

Su M T W Th F S

1 2

"Being in prison, in solitary was terrible. It was a nightmare. My soul still cries from all that I witnessed and endured. It does more than cry – it mourns, continuously. I saw men so desperate that they ripped prison doors apart, starved and mutilated themselves. The same people who make the laws that favour the bankers, make the laws that fill our prisons and detention centers. We have to continue to make the connection between Wall St. and the prison industrial complex. The growth of the private prison industry is just one symptom of this unholy alliance. I stand in solidarity with the Occupy 4 Prisoners rally and hope these rallies shed further light on the insidious effects of prisons for profit and politics." - Robert King, Angola 3. [angola3.org](http://angola3.org)

1855 - Osceola leads fight against forced Seminole removal

1979 - NJ: Assata Shakur liberated from Clinton Women's Prison

1950 - Puerto Rican activists attempt to assassinate U.S. President Truman

Day of the Dead (Mexico)

3 4 5 6 7 8 9

new moon

Daylight Savings Time ends  
Diwali

1970 - NY: Rebellion at Auburn prison

Al-Hijra (Muharram New Year)

1972 - NJ: Work strike at Clinton Women's Prison

10 11 12 13 14 15 16

first quarter

1831 - VA: Slave rebel Nat Turner hanged

1887 - IL: Haymarket martyrs hanged

Veteran's Day (U.S.)  
Remembrance Day (Canada)

1969 - Chicago: BPP member Spurgeon "Jake" Winters murdered by police

Ashura

17 18 19 20 21 22 23

full moon

1983 - Mexico: The Zapatista National Liberation Army is born

1803 - Victory of Haitian revolutionaries in anti-slavery & independence struggle at Vertières

1969 - Alcatraz Island: Indian occupation demands return of island to original inhabitants

1922 - Leavenworth Prison: Ricardo Flores Magon assassinated

2011 - Alleged G20 co-conspirators strike plea bargain together that frees 11 while 6 serve jail terms

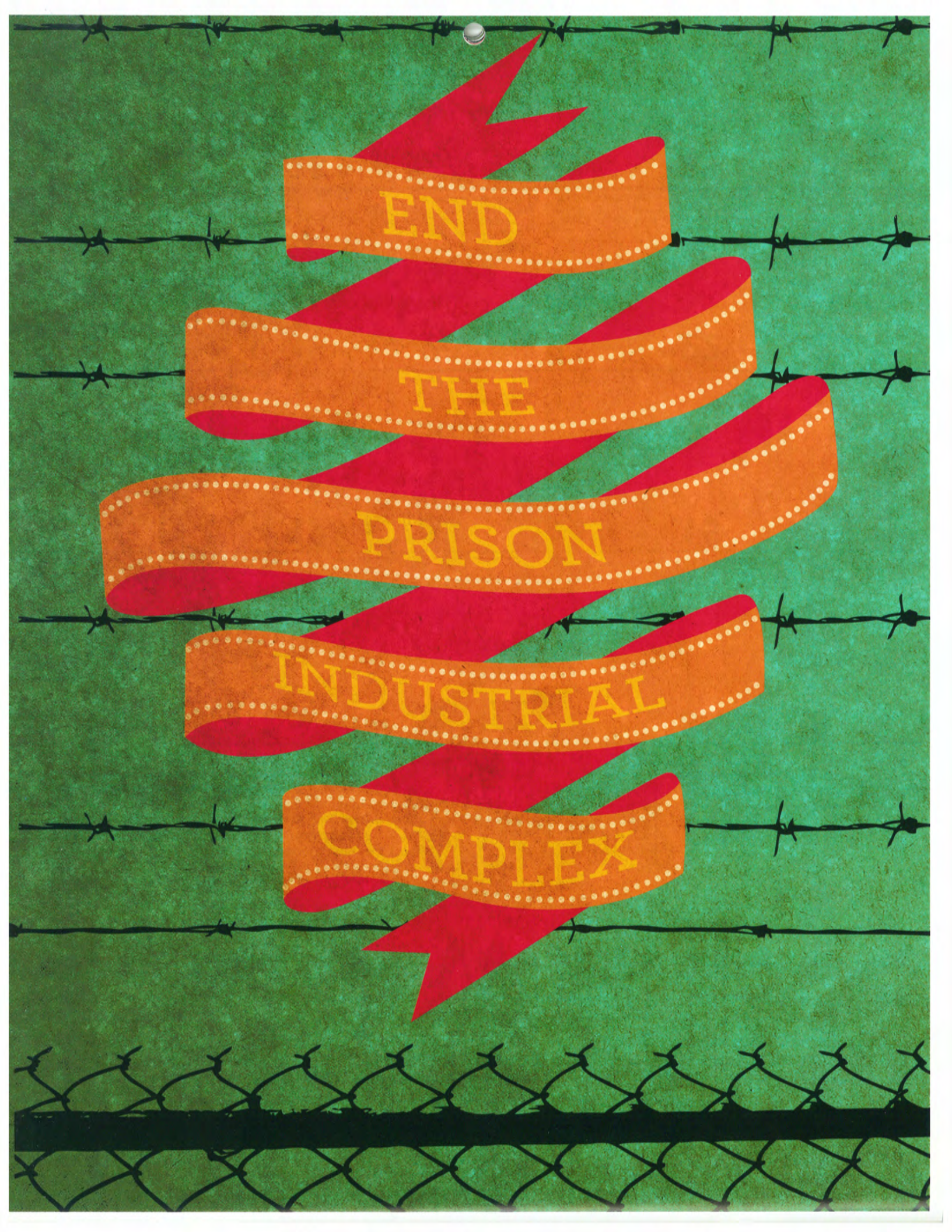
24 25 26 27 28 29 30

last quarter

International Day Against Violence Against Women

Chanukah begins  
Thanksgiving Day (U.S.)

1999 - Seattle, WA: Demonstrations against the WTO



END

THE

PRISON

INDUSTRIAL

COMPLEX

november

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

january

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

# december

Su M T W Th F S

|                                                                                                |                                                                      |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                    |                              |                                                                                        |                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1                                                                                              | 2                                                                    | 3                                                                                                                                           | 4                                                                  | 5                            | 6                                                                                      | 7                                             |
|                                                                                                | new moon                                                             |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                    |                              |                                                                                        |                                               |
| 1955 - AL: Activist Rosa Parks refuses to give up bus seat, leading to bus boycott             | 1859 - Abolitionist John Brown hanged                                | 1969 - Chicago: Panthers Fred Hampton & Mark Clark killed by Chicago police                                                                 |                                                                    |                              | 1989: 14 women killed by anti-feminist in the Montreal Massacre at École Polytechnique | 2005 - Daniel McGowan & Bill Rodgers arrested |
| World AIDS Day                                                                                 |                                                                      |                                                                                                                                             | Chanukah ends                                                      |                              | 1987: 1st Palestinian Intifada begins                                                  |                                               |
| 8                                                                                              | 9                                                                    | 10                                                                                                                                          | 11                                                                 | 12                           | 13                                                                                     | 14                                            |
|                                                                                                | first quarter                                                        |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                    |                              |                                                                                        |                                               |
|                                                                                                | 1981 - Philadelphia: Mumia Abu Jamal shot & accused of killing a cop | Human Rights Day                                                                                                                            | 1979 - FL: Puerto Rican POW Angel Rodriguez Cristobal assassinated |                              | 1903 - Ella Baker born                                                                 | 1972 - Framingham, MA: Women prisoners strike |
| 15                                                                                             | 16                                                                   | 17                                                                                                                                          | 18                                                                 | 19                           | 20                                                                                     | 21                                            |
|                                                                                                |                                                                      | full moon                                                                                                                                   |                                                                    |                              |                                                                                        |                                               |
| 1890 - ND/SD border: Sitting Bull (Tatanka Iyotaka), chief of Lakota Sioux, killed by soldiers | 1972 - Walpole, MA: State Prison run by prisoners for 4 months       | 2010 - Mohammed Bouazizi sets himself on fire in protest of harassment by repressive state police, sparking massive protests across Tunisia |                                                                    |                              | 2011 - G20 protestor Leah Henderson sentenced to 10 months                             | Winter Solstice                               |
| 22                                                                                             | 23                                                                   | 24                                                                                                                                          | 25                                                                 | 26                           | 27                                                                                     | 28                                            |
|                                                                                                |                                                                      |                                                                                                                                             | last quarter                                                       |                              |                                                                                        |                                               |
| 2005 - Bill Rodgers dies in jail of an apparent suicide                                        | 2006 - SF, LA: Former Panther & grand jury resister John Bowman dies |                                                                                                                                             | Christmas Day                                                      | Kwanzaa begins<br>Boxing Day |                                                                                        |                                               |
| 29                                                                                             | 30                                                                   | 31                                                                                                                                          |                                                                    |                              |                                                                                        |                                               |

"I speak now for all the two million but of course, particularly on behalf of those political prisoners who actively fought and tested this unjust system and now suffer in SHUs, and other forms of solitary, for that. When they were captured in the heady political days of the '60s and '70s, we were convinced that fundamental change was inevitable – indeed that it was right around the corner. It still remains inevitable, but now we understand the protracted struggle necessary to breach this evil system. I for one am recruited to accomplish the freedom of political prisoners and as my comrade Chairman Fred says 'FREE 'EM ALL' !!!"

– political prisoner Lynne Stewart. [lynnestewart.org](http://lynnestewart.org)

Michael Davis Arrived 11/19/97  
Box 244  
Graterford, PA 19426-0244

INMATE MAIL  
PA-DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



UNITED STATES POSTAGE  
PAID  
\$ 00.600  
02 11  
0004375158 MAY 11 2005  
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 19426

# may

## AIR MAIL

## Egypt: No to Military Trials

"Yoskot Yoskot Hokm el Askar!" Down, down with military rule, an angry mother cries in the Cairo press syndicate. She is one of thousands of parents whose sons and daughters have been arrested, kidnapped, detained and tortured by the Egyptian military and subjected to the now infamous military trials.

Activists formed the group No to Military Trials to resist and condemn the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF) use of military trials and violations against civilians. Since SCAF assumed interim governance of Egypt during the Egyptian Revolution that forced former president Hosni Mubarak to step down in February 2011, at least 12,000 civilians, among them many children under the age of 16, have been subjected to speedy military trials, usually without any access to lawyers, witnesses, or evidence, under conditions of indefinite detention, abuse and torture. Shahira Abouellail, one of the founders of No to Military Trials, says SCAF has been using the trials as a means to create a climate of fear in Egypt. "Military trials are basically the abduction of civilians and the almost automatic sentencing as a form of punishment for participating in the revolution, with no due process."

The group has been working tirelessly to advocate for people detained, tortured and tried through military trials. Working hand in hand with groups such as Kazeboon, which broadcasts videos in public spaces of security forces' abuses, as well as with lawyers and human rights organizations, the group has managed to obtain the release of a number of people detained. The activists have created a national sentiment against military trials for civilians in Egypt through their awareness campaigns, such as getting

on public buses and speaking to the riders, filming testimony of detainees, constant pressure on the media and a hotline that detainees and their families can use to get support.

The new Egyptian government has released a number of prisoners, but the military, while making promises to end the practice, continues to fill its jails with civilians, using as justification Article 375, an all-inclusive law against thuggery that can be used to cast a label on any person the military targets. In the context of Egypt's endemic poverty, they use the term "baltageya" or "thug" to tarnish the reputation of those detained, an ambiguous, classist word often used interchangeably with the term poor, says Abouellail. "The poor enjoy almost no rights and enjoy almost all of the abuses. If you need to contain the revolution you need to contain the poor."

The military's indirect message of master and slave is reflected by detainee testimony, says Abouellail. "Detainees we've worked with say they've been told 'You've crossed the line when you decided to look up at your masters.' This is very indicative of why we are seeing such a systematic targeting of poor people and labeling of an entire class as thugs."

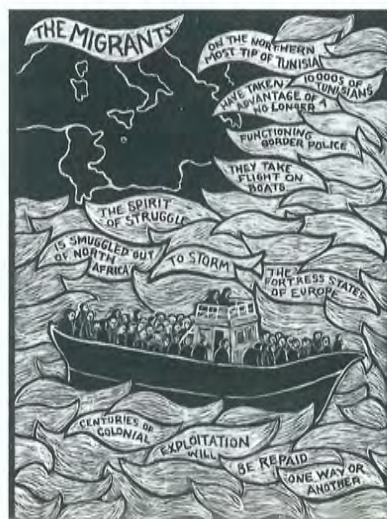
Members of No to Military Trials have been kidnapped and threatened for collecting and publicizing testimonies by detainees. With a new government in place in Egypt, and high-level politicking pushing demands for social justice out of the public conversation, the group continues its focus on the end of the military's abuses and a call for human rights and dignity for all Egyptians.

**Kara Sieviewright** is an artist, designer and writer who makes comics, websites, prints, and books. She is from the West Coast but is living in Toronto. Her recent writings and drawings are found at [makerofnets.ca](http://makerofnets.ca).

**David Cunningham** lives in east Vancouver and makes zines and writes posts from Moment of Insurrection ([wordpress.com](http://wordpress.com)). Some of his stuff is in other publications like 4StruggleMag. David visited Tunisia and Egypt in early 2011 during the ongoing intifada. Kara created the comic A Beautiful Storm Has Come with illustrations from his writings and interviews. Both try to act and create in ways that extend the anti-imperial resistance in their everyday lives.



**Lillian Bector** is a freelance journalist based in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. She has been closely following the developments in Egypt since the beginning of the 2011 Revolution and is the producer of the radio series Voices From Egypt on CKUT Radio. She is a reporter for Free Speech Radio News and has worked as a journalist, associate producer and researcher at the Canadian Broadcast Corporation (CBC) and Radio Canada International (RCI). She was a researcher on the RCI web project Me, the Muslim Next Door. She contributes to The Real News Network, Pambazuka News, CKUT Radio and Jadaliyya, among other publications and websites. Previously she worked for more than a decade in the San Francisco Bay Area in community development and as a community organizer.



## Bored But Not Broken

We are in a period of increased criminalization of dissent, and it is in that context that I was spied on, arrested, and sentenced for resistance against the G20 summit. But let's not be fooled – poverty, drug use, desperation, and lack of status, among other things, are also criminalized. Many (and probably most) women are in jail for political reasons. Racist immigration policies. Underfunded and inaccessible drug addiction treatment centres, low-income housing, and shelters. Lack of proper care and support for people with mental health issues. Lack of viable options for abused women... and the list goes on. Most prisoners are political prisoners.

To be in jail for political actions, a political prisoner in the usual sense of the term, feels different. I chose the life that landed me in jail from many other options available to me. The fact that I had other options helps to set me apart, as do all of my combined privileges and the life circumstances they've led to. The first and last month's rent in the bank, a storage locker full of my things, and the great job waiting for me when I get out. Knowing that I will have a place to stay and a supportive community waiting for me. The fact that I was deemed eligible for bail and so could prepare for my sentence on the outside. My good health, which means that I don't need to rely on the medical services here. The amount of mail I get, the always-filled visit slots, knowing that most things I need are just a letter or a phone call away.

Knowing that people on the outside are paying attention and that if I was thrown in the hole indefinitely, someone out there would figure it out.

It is a somewhat unusual and very privileged position to be in, and it makes me feel awkward and like a bit of an imposter at times. But it also makes doing this time relatively easy. Compared to a lot of well-known political prisoners, my sentence is very short and feels like a small sacrifice. In the end, by agreeing to do some time, the six of us who pleaded guilty ensured that 11 other people's charges were dropped, leaving them free to go back to their organizing. A possible deportation was avoided, and no legal precedent of a conspiracy conviction was set – not bad, all things considered.

Plea deals open themselves up to fair criticism: they reek of capitulation, of negotiating with the enemy, of backing down from a fight. But they can also stem from a realistic assessment of privilege and the potential consequences of our decisions for our communities. Sometimes solidarity is simple; someone needs to go to jail? You can't, but I can? Done.

Incarceration isn't pleasant but it is far from unbearable for people in good health with a supportive community. Fear of being jailed should never hold people back from doing what needs to be done in the struggle for justice.

---

**Mandy Hiscocks** was arrested and charged with conspiracy and counselling as a result of police infiltration into radical organizing groups in the lead up to the G20 summit in Toronto in June 2010. In November 2011, the 17 co-accused in the "G20 Main Conspiracy Group" negotiated a collectively agreed upon deal with the Crown in which all conspiracy charges were dropped and six people took counselling convictions. Their jail sentences ranged from 5 to 16 months. Mandy was sentenced to 16 months at Vanier Centre for Women on January 13, 2012, and has chronicled her experiences there at [boredbutnotbroken.tao.ca](http://boredbutnotbroken.tao.ca).



**Josh MacPhee** is an artist and activist whose work revolves around themes of history, radical politics, and public space. His most recent books are *Signs of Change: Social Movement Cultures*, co-edited with Dara Greenwald, and *Celebrate People's History: The Poster Book of Resistance and Revolution*. He also is a member of the political art cooperative Justseeds.org and a co-editor of *Signal: A Journal of International Political Graphics*. He lives in Brooklyn, NY.



## Souls on Ice

From a series entitled *Statements from People in Prisons for February 20th – National Occupy Day in Support of Prisoners*, occupy4prisoners.org/statements-from-people-in-prisons

When I heard of the call, raised in Oakland, California, to "Occupy the Prisons," I gasped.

It was not an especially radical call, but it was right on time.

For prisons have become a metaphor; the shadow-side, if you will, of America. With oceans of words about freedom, and the reality that the U.S. is the world's leader of the incarceration industry, it's more than time for the focused attention of the Occupy Movement.

It's past time.

For the U.S. is the world's largest imprisoner for decades, much wrought by the insidious effects of the so-called "drug war"—what I call, "the War on the Poor."

And, Occupy, now an international movement, certainly has no shortage of prisons to choose from. Every state, every rural district, every hamlet in America has a prison; a place where the Constitution doesn't exist, and where slavery is all but legalized.

When law professor Michelle Alexander took on the topic, her book, *The New Jim Crow*, took off like hotcakes – selling over 100,000 in just a few months.

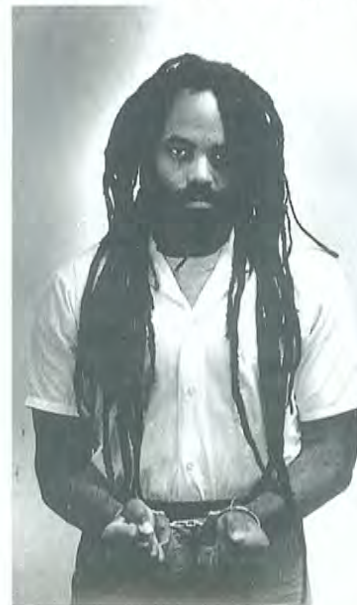
And where there are prisons, there is torture; brutal beatings, grave humiliations, perverse censorship—and even murders—all under a legal system that is as blind as that statue which holds aloft a scale, her eyes covered by a frigid fold of cloth.

**Peter Collins** has been a tireless activist on many prisoners' rights issues and has been instrumental in movement to end the PIC. He is an artist, musician and writer who has used his many talents to advocate for social change. Through his work as a peer health educator in Bath Penitentiary, he became an outspoken advocate for the health of prisoners and in 2008 won the Award for HIV/AIDS and Human Rights by the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network and Human Rights Watch.



artist

**Mumia Abu-Jamal** is a Black writer and journalist, author of six books and hundreds of columns and articles, former member of the Black Panther Party and supporter of Philadelphia's radical MOVE Organization, who has spent the last 30 years in prison, almost all in solitary confinement on Pennsylvania's Death Row. His demand for a new trial and freedom is supported by heads of state from France to South Africa; by Nobel laureates Nelson Mandela, Toni Morrison, Desmond Tutu; by the European and Japanese parliaments and by city governments from San Francisco to Detroit to Paris; by distinguished human rights organizations like Amnesty International; by the Congressional Black Caucus and other members of the U.S. Congress; by the NAACP and labor unions; and by scholars, religious leaders, artists, scientists and countless thousands of others who cherish democracy, human rights and justice.



Mumia Abu-Jamal  
#AM 8335  
SCI Mahanoy  
301 Morea Road  
Frackville, PA  
17932 USA

author

# july

So, what is Occupy to do?

Initially, it must support movements such as those calling for the freedom of Lakota brother Leonard Peltier, the MOVE veterans of August 8, 1978, the remaining two members of the Angola 3: Herman Wallace and Albert Woodfox, Sundiata Acoli, Russell "Maroon" Shoatz, and many other brothers and sisters who've spent lifetimes in steel and brick hellholes.

But, the Occupy Movement must do more.

As it shifted the discussion and paradigm on economic issues, it must turn the wheel of the so-called "Criminal Justice System" in America, that is in fact, a destructive, counter-productive, annual \$69 billion boondoggle of repression, better known by activists as the Prison Industrial Complex.

That means more than a one-day event, no matter how massive or impressive. It means building a mass movement that demands and fights for real change, and eventually abolition of structures that do far more social damage than good.

It means the abolition of solitary confinement, for it is no more than modern-day torture chambers for the poor.

It means the repeal of repressive laws that support such structures.

It means social change—or it means nothing.

So let us begin—Down With the Prison Industrial Complex!

# Sylvia Rivera Law Project's Gender Self-Determination Teach In at Occupy Wall Street

# august

Sylvia Rivera and countless other trans and gender non-conforming people have a strong legacy of leadership the movements for self determination. Maybe you were there that night, or already know that "Whose streets? Our streets" was first chanted at the 1969 Stonewall Rebellion, a queer and trans uprising against the policing of our communities. It was first chanted by trans revolutionaries, including Sylvia Rivera.

After the Stonewall uprising, Sylvia Rivera, Marsha P. Johnson and Bubbles E. Lee formed STAR: Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries. You might have taken part in or known that STAR's first action was to OCCUPY New York University! STAR decided that occupying NYU was necessary after the university refused to allow two queer dances to happen and called in the police to disrupt a sit in protesting NYU; STAR explained to their allies why they were occupying NYU rather than leaving with everyone else.

They wrote: "All we fought for at Weinstein Hall was lost when we left upon the request of the pigs.... You people run if you want to, but we're tired of running. We intend to fight for our rights until we get them."

You might have worked with her or know that that same year Sylvia Rivera helped to organize the first annual Christopher Street Liberation March (now known as corporate Gay Pride), which ended

on purpose at the Women's House of Detention in order to connect against the mass incarceration of people of colour, queer people, and trans people with organizing done by other revolutionary organizations like the Black Panthers. It was no coincidence Joan Bird and Afeni Shakur, members of the Black Panther 21, were currently held in the Women's House of Detention when the Christopher Street Liberation March arrived there chanting, "Free Our Sisters, Free Ourselves!"

Like many of us, Sylvia Rivera knew that the police and prisons were fundamentally racist and transphobic institutions designed to control our lives and deliver our deaths. She also knew that it was vital to connect with other organizations doing revolutionary work to promote self-determination. In order to free our siblings and free ourselves, Sylvia knew she had to help build a mass movement.

**Chrishaun "CeCe" McDonald** is a young African American transgender woman who was charged with two counts of "second degree murder" after an incident in which her attackers hurled racist and transphobic insults at her and her friends, and she was violently assaulted. CeCe accepted a plea deal, and was sentenced to 41 months on June 4, 2012. She was incarcerated by the state of Minnesota in a male prison. [supportcece.wordpress.com](http://supportcece.wordpress.com)



## authOr

### Reina Gossett

is a trans activist working at the Sylvia Rivera Law Project as Director of Membership and was formerly director of the Welfare Organizing Project at Queers for Economic Justice as well as a Soros Justice Fellow on staff at Critical Resistance. She believes creativity & imagination are crucial for growing strong communities and practicing self determination.

## artist

### Syrus Marcus Ware

is an identical twin, visual artist, activist, researcher and educator. His work investigates African diasporic trans history and aims to promote prison abolition.

Syrus is a founding member of the Prison Justice Action Committee of Toronto, and helped to start Toronto's Prisoners' Justice Film Festival. He is part of the PJD Planning Committee, and a past member of Friends of MOVE Toronto. For the past 8 years, Syrus has worked with Blackness Yes to produce Blockorama, the black queer/trans stage at Toronto's pride festival, Syrus also hosts the weekly radio show, "Resistance on the Sound Dial", heard Saturdays on CIUT 89.5FM.



This month's image honours

**Marsha P. Johnson**, a revolutionary trans activist, Stonewall instigator, Andy Warhol model, drag queen, sex worker, starving actress, and Saint, as well as a downtown NYC fixture from the 1960s through her too-soon demise in 1992. She was a co-founder, with Sylvia Rivera, of Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries (STAR) in the early 1970s. Johnson persevered through a life embodied by her middle initial P, which stood for "Pay It No Mind." Marsha P, Johnson's body was found floating in the Hudson River off the West Village Piers in 1992. The police recorded her death as a suicide, but her friends believe that she was a victim of a violent crime. Efforts to get the police to conduct a serious investigation were unsuccessful.

## Resisting the Global 1%

The divide between the 1% and the rest of us in the U.S. is obscene, but nothing compared to what prevails on a world scale. 1,200 billionaires (less than 0.00002% of the world population!) hold a combined net worth greater than the 2 billion poorest human beings. This stark contrast isn't just a matter of who gets to sail around on yachts or cavort on landed estates. Close to a billion people in the "developing countries" are undernourished; 1.1 billion don't have access to safe water; each year 7.7 million children under the age of five die from easily preventable causes.

"Developing countries" is the misleading mainstream mantra. A more accurate term would be "perpetually ravaged." The poles of wealth and poverty, light-years apart in magnitude, are intimately connected in how the global economy works. The towering wealth and power of the giant transnational corporations and banks, mainly headquartered in the U.S., Europe and Japan, of course have come in part from race, class and gender exploitation at home. But they have also built in very large measure on the mammoth and devastating pillage of the global South.

While the forms have changed, the predatory patterns have prevailed since 1492: from the horrific genocide of the natives and massive looting of the Americas, to the inhumanly brutal but extremely lucrative centuries of slavery, to the systematic and devastating theft of colonialism.

Today, starvation wages and the wholesale plunder of their natural resources keep the vast majority in the South (ex-

cept for a thin layer of very well-paid collaborators, as well as a small middle class) in abject poverty. The need to enforce this highly damaging but very profitable predation on the wretched of the earth has been the real basis—regardless of the various rationalizations given—of the U.S.'s almost never-ending wars over the past 65 years.

We can't conceivably end the rule of the 1% without confronting the global basis of their unprecedented wealth and power. We can't possibly turn around the devastating damage to the planet if we don't stand with those trying to protect their land, forests and water. We don't really believe in the inspiring slogan, "Another, better world is possible" if we are unaware of the ¾ of humanity living in the South.

Most importantly, those most severely impacted by the system are usually the ones who are most conscious and who fight the hardest. The courageous tens of thousands who poured into the streets of Tunisia and Egypt; the workers who took over shuttered factories in Argentina; the villagers who are planting trees to stop the advance of the desert in Niger; the farmers, often led by women, who are militantly resisting mega-dams in India—these people and many others provide the inspiration and hope for qualitative change. In the North we need to keep the dimension of international solidarity, we need to keep anti-imperialism, in the forefront of our consciousness and actions if we hope to see a more humane, sane, and sustainable world.

## authOr

**David Gilbert** is a political prisoner and member of the Certain Days collective. For more information about David, see his bio on the inside of the front cover.



Image created by Naomi Moyer May 2012

**Naomi Moyer** is a visual artist and writer from Coast Salish Territory and now resides in Toronto. She works through many mediums such as stencils, lino cut, silk screens, wood cut, photography, charcoal, pastel, paint, ink and fabric. Naomi's writing explores identity, personal struggles and family history. She was a member of Hogan's Alley Memorial Project participating in the memorialization of Vancouver's first black community and is committed to community and social justice. Her art has been part of No One Is Illegal's People's History of Canada Poster Project, she has designed t-shirts for Haiti Solidarity B.C. and Stop War, her writing has been published in *We Have a Voice: An Anthology of African & Caribbean Student Writing* in BC, her art work has been published in *West Coast Line*, *Briarpatch* and *al-Majdal Quarterly*. Naomi, as well, has designed a poster for the Annual Memorial March for Missing and Murdered Women in Montreal.



# Kari-Oca 2 Declaration: Indigenous Peoples Global Confer- ence on Rio+20 and Mother Earth

Excerpt: full statement at [indigenous4motherearthrioplus20.org](http://indigenous4motherearthrioplus20.org).

## The Institutionalization of Colonialism

We see the goals of UNCSD Rio+20, the "Green Economy" and its premise that the world can only "save" nature by commodifying its life giving and life sustaining capacities as a continuation of the colonialism that Indigenous Peoples and our Mother Earth have faced and resisted for 520 years. The "Green Economy" promises to eradicate poverty but in fact will only favour and respond to multinational enterprises and capitalism. It is a continuation of a global economy based upon fossil fuels, the destruction of the environment by exploiting nature through extractive industries such as mining, oil exploration and production, intensive mono-culture agriculture, and other capitalist investments. All of these efforts are directed toward profit and the accumulation of capital by the few.

Since Rio 1992, we as Indigenous Peoples see that colonization has become the very basis of the globalization of trade and the dominant capitalist global economy. The exploitation and plunder of the world's ecosystems and biodiversity, as well as the violations of the inherent rights of Indigenous Peoples that depend on them, have intensified. Our rights to self-determination, to our own governance and own self-determined development, our inherent rights to our lands, territories and resources are increasingly and alarmingly under attack by the collaboration of governments and transnational corporations. Indigenous activists and leaders defending their territories continue to suffer repression, militarization, including assassination, imprisonment, harassment and vilification as "terrorists." The violation of our collective rights faces the same impunity. Forced relocation or assimilation assault our future generations, cultures, languages, spiritual ways and relationship to the earth, economically and politically.

We, Indigenous Peoples from all regions of the world have defended our Mother Earth from the aggression of unsustainable development and the over exploitation of our natural resources by mining, logging, mega-dams, exploration and extraction of petroleum. Our forests suffer from the production of agro-fuels, bio-mass, plantations and other impositions of false solutions to climate change and unsustainable, damaging development.

**Melanie Cervantes** is a Xicana activist-artist whose role is to translate the hopes and dreams of justice movements into images that are life-affirming and that inspire people to take action. Employing vibrant colours and hand-drawn illustrations, her work moves those viewed as marginal to the centre – featuring powerful youth, elders, women, and queer and indigenous peoples. Her most revered mentor is her partner and fellow printmaker Jesus Barraza, with whom she formed Dignidad Rebelde, a collaborative graphic arts project that translates stories of struggle and resistance into artwork that can be put back into the hands of the communities who inspire it. Melanie has exhibited at several galleries and museums, and her art has reached Mexico, Slovenia, Palestine, Venezuela, Switzerland and Guatemala. Her work is in public collections of the Center for the Study of Political Graphics, the Latin American Collection of the Green Library at Stanford, and the Hispanic Research Center at the Arizona State University as well as various private collections throughout the U.S.

## artist



# October

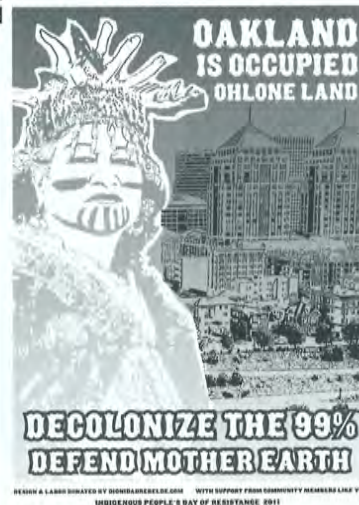
The Green Economy is nothing more than capitalism of nature; a perverse attempt by corporations, extractive industries and governments to cash in on Creation by privatizing, commodifying, and selling off the Sacred and all forms of life and the sky, including the air we breathe, the water we drink and all the genes, plants, traditional seeds, trees, animals, fish, biological and cultural diversity, ecosystems and traditional knowledge that make life on Earth possible and enjoyable.

Gross violations of Indigenous Peoples' rights to food sovereignty continue unabated thus resulting in food "insecurity." Our own food production, the plants that we gather, the animals that we hunt, our fields and harvests, the water that we drink and water our fields, and the fish that we catch from our rivers and streams, is diminishing at an alarming rate. Unsustainable development projects, such as mono-cultural chemically intensive soya plantations, extractive industries such as mining and other environmentally destructive projects and investments for profit are destroying our biodiversity, poisoning our water, our rivers, streams, and the earth and its ability to maintain life. This is further aggravated by climate change and hydroelectric dams and other energy production that affect entire ecosystems and their ability to provide for life.

Food sovereignty is one fundamental expression of our collective right to self-determination and sustainable development. Food sovereignty and the right to food must be observed and respected; food must not be a commodity to be used, traded and speculated on for profit. It nourishes our identities, our cultures and languages, and our ability to survive as Indigenous Peoples.

Mother Earth is the source of life which needs to be protected, not a resource to be exploited and commodified as a 'natural capital.' We have our place and our responsibilities within Creation's sacred order. We feel the sustaining joy as things occur in harmony with the Earth and with all life that it creates and sustains. We feel the pain of disharmony when we witness the dishonor of the natural order of Creation and the continued economic colonization and degradation of Mother Earth and all life upon her. Until Indigenous Peoples rights are observed and respected, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty will not be achieved.

## authOr



**Kari-Oca 2** is the international gathering of Indigenous Peoples for Rio+20. "We recognize the significance of this second convening of Indigenous Peoples of the world and reaffirm the historic 1992 meeting of the Kari-Oca I, where Indigenous Peoples issued The Kari-Oca Declaration and the Indigenous Peoples Earth Charter. The Kari-Oca conference, and the mobilization of Indigenous Peoples around the first UN Earth Summit, marked a big step forward for an international movement for Indigenous Peoples' rights and the important role that Indigenous Peoples play in conservation and sustainable development."



## Prisons as Power: The New Jim Crow

In the early days of Occupy Wall Street, a group of prison justice activists gathered in Zuccotti Park to do a teach-in on the prison system. We were discussing questions to spark discussion. "We should ask, 'Why do people commit crimes?'" one person said. Instead the group decided to ask, "Why do people go to prison?" That, we felt, gets more quickly to the root of the issue: The prison system serves purposes far removed from the supposed goal of making communities safe from crime: prisons isolate and repress Black, Latino and other communities of colour.

That reality ties prison justice (including political prisoners) to the gap between the 1% and the 99%. The prison system, and law enforcement as a whole, is how the 1% maintains power. Prisons exist to prevent and repress resistance, especially from communities that have rebelled in the past.

I began doing work in support of prisoners in the early 70s, just after Attica. When I served my own prison time from 1985 through 1999, I witnessed the change that happened as the 60s and 70s segued to the 80s: an unprecedented explosion in mass incarceration. Prisoners didn't need statistics to know how crowded the joints were becoming. I spent years in cells built for one person but now housing four of us. Across the country, prison common areas became dormitories for the thousands upon thousands of people newly locked up for growing sentences. Ensuring that the human beings living in these overcrowded hells would not rise up and attack their jailors—and further diminishing their humanity—prison systems increased the use of solitary confinement and control units.

These new prisoners are disproportionately Black and Latino/a.

Mass incarceration is the state's response to the great uprisings against the rule of the 1% in the 1960s and 70s. And to create effective resistance now, the 99% will have to challenge not only the number of people in prison but also the founda-

# december

tions of the prison system itself.

From the civil rights movement to the Black power movement, the 20th century witnessed a stirring resistance by Black people, in particular, against oppression—and it frightened the ruling class. One response was COINTELPRO, a systematic FBI strategy carried out in league with local police agencies to crush resistance, particularly Black resistance.

COINTELPRO sent young Black people the message that, if you want to be a Black revolutionary, you were going to end up dead or in prison. As a result of COINTELPRO and the militant reaction it generated among Black and other liberation forces, political prisoners remain among the millions of U.S. prisoners. Jailing leaders helps destroy radical organizations.

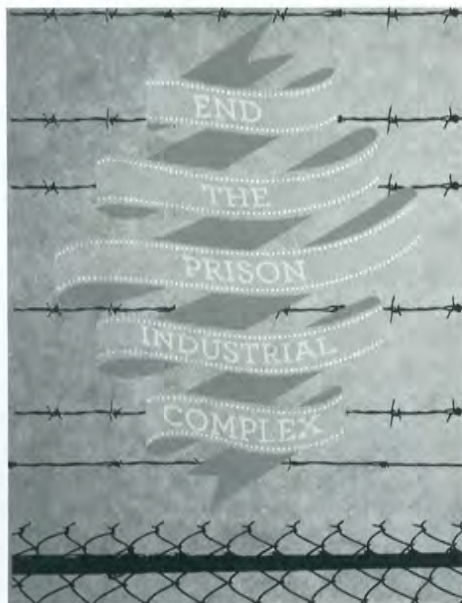
Mass incarceration plays a similar role: Destroying communities destroys the base of resistance, preventing a rebirth of Black revolution. Having done my time in women's prisons, I saw how jailing young Black and Latina women supports this, preventing them from having or raising children, rendering families so fraught and impoverished by the need to support imprisoned family members that they can't begin to protest or build a base for resistance.

But now prisoners across the country are mounting hunger strikes and giving voice to the realities of prison repression, sowing the seeds to defeat this repression. Their efforts are as critical as the rise of the Occupy movement. Repression is indeed breeding resistance, among those who recognize the venal and soul-killing nature of capitalism, and among those targeted by the repression that keeps capitalism in place.

Prisoners, and political prisoners in particular, are at the heart of this challenge. We need to heed the challenge—to occupy resistance.

## authOr

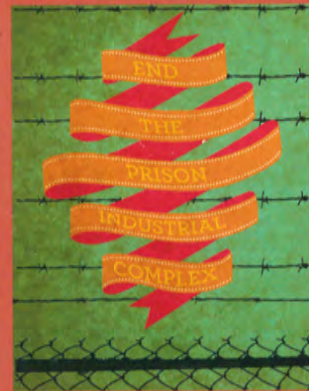
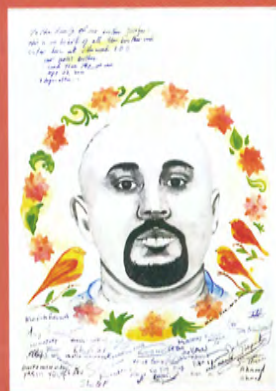
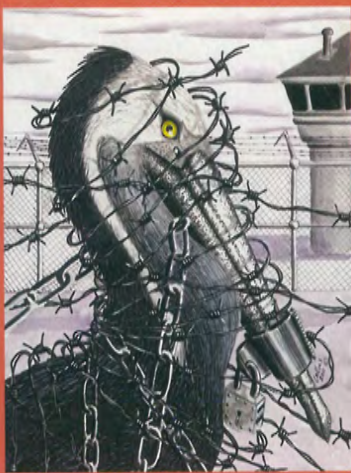
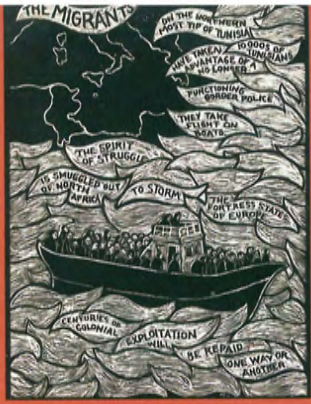
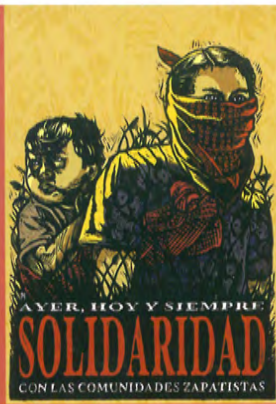
**Laura Whitehorn** spent 14 years in federal prison for the Resistance Conspiracy case. Released in 1999, she lives in New York City with her partner, the writer Susie Day. Laura edited *The War Before*, by Safiya Bukhari (feministpress.org).



**Natalia Saavedra** is graphic designer at The Public studio and also part of The Radical Design School collective based out of Toronto. RDS is a group of people interested in creating anti-authoritarian spaces that combine both Design art and grassroots activism while reaching out to marginalized communities that have been historically excluded from institutionalized art and design. Nat is involved in radical queer people of colour organizing through Anti authoritarian caucuses and conferences.

## artist





**Featuring** Herman Bell \* David Gilbert \* Saad Tlaa  
 Rachel Sarrasin \* L'École de la Montagne Rouge  
 Kara Sievewright \* Santiago Armengod  
 Mandy Hiscocks \* Josh MacPhee \* Peter Collins  
 Lillian Bector \* Mumia Abu-Jamal \* Kari-Oca 2  
 Melanie Cervantes \* David Cunningham  
 Naomi Moyer \* Jaan Karl Laaman  
 Laura Whitehorn \* Natalia Saavedra \* Tadamon!  
 Syrus Marcus Ware \* Reina Gossett \* Jesus Barraza  
 Leonard Peltier \* Sandra Jeppesen \* Anna Kruzynski

# COntact

[www.certaindays.org](http://www.certaindays.org)  
 info@certaindays.org  
 certain days  
 c/o QPIRG Concordia  
 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. O.  
 Montreal, QC  
 H3G 1M8 CANADA

\$12 (\$5 for prisoners)  
 ISBN: 978-0-9881283-0-9