

WE WILL DO THIS AGAIN IN MARCH AND APRIL.

THE CAMPAIGN FOR A CIVIL RIGHTS INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE OF MUMIA ABU-JAMAL: STAGE II

ALL OUT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, DC, MONDAY APRIL 26 (TWO DAYS AFTER MUMIA’S 56TH BIRTHDAY)

On November 12, 2009, we delivered approximately 20,000 letters to the Department of Justice in Washington, DC, following a press conference at which Amnesty International, the NAACP, the National Congress of Puerto Rican Rights, the Riverside Church Prison Ministry, the Campaign to End the Death Penalty, and members of the Muslim community participated.

We are now embarking on the second stage of this campaign, fully aware that this is not an easy struggle, but one that will take consistent and prolonged efforts by the grassroots movement for justice for Mumia. The court system has closed its doors to the possibility of a new trial for Mumia, and has left only alternatives for him: EXECUTION or LIFE IN PRISON WITHOUT PAROLE. The demand for a civil rights investigation was tried once before, but the Department of Justice a the time said the case was still in state courts and many appeals were still possible. That is no longer the case. The US Supreme Court has supported the Third Circuit's rejection of a new trial. We must force the Department of Justice to conduct an investigation into the outrageous frameup of Mumia, which dates back to when he was only a teenager and the question of a crime wasn't even raised, This has been a four decades’ history of a conspiracy to silence yet another Black visionary, truth-telling, voice, in this case with the ultimate silencing by execution.

BELOW IS THE LETTER TO ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER CALLING FOR A MEETING WITH HIM ON APRIL 26 TO DISCUSS THE HISTORY OF THIS CASE. We will also have a press conference on that day as well as a demonstration in front of the Department of Justice. BE THERE ON MONDAY, APRIL 26, TWO DAYS AFTER MUMIA’S 56TH BIRTHDAY.

LETTER SENT TO ERIC HOLDER LAST WEEK:

Campaign for a Civil Rights Investigation of the Case of Mumia Abu-Jamal
P.O. Box 16, College Station, New York, NY 10030
Website: www.freemumia.com

February 19, 2010
Contacts:
Pam Africa, 215-476-8812
Dr. Suzanne Ross, 917-584-2135

Attorney General Eric Holder
Cc: Assistant Attorney General Thomas E. Perez
Dear Attorney General Holder:

We write to you about the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal. We are sure you know quite a bit about this case and about the person behind the "case." As you probably have heard, we are asking the Department of Justice to review the extensive history of civil rights violations in this case, dating back to even before there was any issue of a crime involved, to the present day. We are eager to meet with you to discuss these violations. An international delegation will be available to meet with you on Monday, April 26. We certainly hope that it will be possible for you to arrange to see us at that time. By the beginning of April, we will provide you with a legal brief addressing the issues involved.

This letter, and the request we are submitting for a meeting, is our second approach to the Department of Justice in the past few months. Last November 12, we delivered approximately 20,000 letters (online and in hard copy) to the Department of Justice after holding a press conference at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. Henry Louis Gates, Jr, Cornel West, Noam Chomsky, Charles Rangel, Ruby Dee, Angela Davis, and Alice Walker were among the signers. We delivered the letters to the Department of Justice spokesperson, Alejandro Mijar. We explained to Mr. Mijar why we are calling for a civil rights investigation into Mumia's case and also conveyed to him that we hoped to meet with you when we next came to the Department of Justice. This exchange with an official from the department was arranged by telephone by Dr. Suzanne Ross in conversation with the Office of the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, Thomas E. Perez, through his secretary, Nathaniel Gamble.

We wish to return in April with many of us listed below as well as other national and international leaders representing unions, anti-death penalty groups, religious, legal, and human rights organizations. On April 26 we will explain the police, prosecutorial, and judicial patterns in this 28 year legal case that could hardly be said to represent the law but rather the lack of law. Clearly this is a very political and highly charged case. As such, the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal cries out for a review of the decades-long history of lawlessness and injustice.

We hope to hear from you in the very near future and very much look forward to sharing ideas about how a civil rights investigation might contribute to establishing fairness and justice in a case where an innocent man, a rather remarkable intellectual leader and visionary, is being railroaded to execution.

We are attaching a number of documents to give you a picture of the issues involved, the work we've done to educate people about a civil rights investigation, the support we've gotten, and some of the activities we've conducted. These are not legal documents. We will submit those in advance of our meeting with you.

Yours for justice,

National Conference of Black Lawyers
The Riverside Church Prison Ministry
Pam Africa, Chair, International Concerned Family & Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal
Sion Assidon, member of Moroccan Association of Human Rights, former political prisoner
Alan Benjamin, San Francisco Labor Council Executive Board member; International Liaison Committee of Workers and Peoples
Patrick Braouezec, former Mayor of Saint-Denis, France; current member of the French Parliament
Dr. Marvin Cheatham, NAACP, Baltimore City, President
Sister Empress Phile Chionesu, Founder and President General of the Original Million Woman March and Universal Movement, Philadelphia, PA
Michael Coard, Esq., Philadelphia, PA
Martha Conley, Esq., Pittsburgh, PA
Mireille Fanon-Mendes France, Chairperson, Frantz Fanon Foundation, Member of International
Association of Democratic Lawyers
Larry Hales, Students and Youth for Mumia
Leslie Jones, Esq., Ithaca, NY
Jeff Mackler, Director, Mobilization to Free Mumia Abu-Jamal (San Francisco)
Nada Khader, WESPAC Foundation
Cynthia McKinney, Former Congressional Representative, Atlanta, GA
Suryea Peterson, Westchester Martin Luther King, Jr. Institute for Non-Violence, Board member
Dr. Suzanne Ross, Co-chair, Free Mumia Abu-Jamal Coalition (NYC)
Sundiata Sadiq, Ossining NAACP, former President
Fignole St. Cyr, Autonomous Unions of Haiti, President
Dr. Michael Schiffman, English Department, University of Heidelberg, Germany
Professor Mark Taylor, Princeton Theological Seminary, Educators for Mumia
Leon Williams, Esq., Philadelphia, PA