Ayotzinapa Parents Hold Press Conference, Solidarity Actions Continue



Mexico City, December 18 (RHC-teleSUR) -- The family members of the 43 disappeared Ayotzinapa students Wednesday accused Mexico's Attorney General Jesus Murillo Karam of covering up the participation of the Mexican army and federal police in the deaths and enforced disappearances of the students.

During a press conference, they reiterated their demand for a direct investigation of all police and military forces involved, as well as organized crime groups.

Family spokesman Felipe de la Cruz said that the authorities want people to forget about the State crimes committed here, as often happens, but he said that "in this case, the army, federal police, Iguala local police, ex Governor Angel Aguirre, and the President of Mexico himself have to own up to what really happened in Iguala."

De la Cruz and other parents accused Enrique Peña Nieto's government of using an "iron fist" strategy through physical attacks on demonstrators and reports filtered to the press by Mexico's Intelligence Agency (CISEN) that their lawyer Abel Barrera of the Tlachinollan Center is involved with guerrilla groups.

They also denied that they themselves are being manipulated, as stated last week by Mexican Secretary of the Navy, Vidal Soberon.

Family members refuted press reports that Ayotzinapa students and dissident teachers attacked the police in the early morning hours last Sunday in Chilpancingo. They insisted that, in fact, it was the federal police who attacked the activists preparing a huge concert scheduled for that day, resulting in a number of injuries including those sustained by a reporter from Regeneración Radio and a student from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), who was hit in the face with a tear gas cannister.

That afternoon, in a Mexico City shopping mall, a group of cabaret actors began to count out loud from 1 to 43, as each one dropped to the floor and lay still. They then jumped up and dispersed as a young woman wailed.

Actresses Cecilia Sotres y Paola Izquierdo explained to the press that the performance was to remind people of the demands for justice for Ayotzinapa students killed, wounded and disappeared on September 26th.

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