

THE GRASSROOTS LIBERATION MOVEMENT, KENYA

SOLIDARITY STATEMENT WITH THE KURDISH MOVEMENT ON THEIR KURDISH FESTIVAL: THE STRUGGLE TOWARDS SELF-DETERMINATION. 17th September, 2022.

A SPARK OF INTERNATIONAL RESISTANCE: LINKING THE KENYAN AND KURDISH LIBERATION STRUGGLES

We send you solidarity greetings from Kenyan comrades and friends in struggle,

The Grassroots Liberation movement in its entirety wish to express solidarity in struggle and greetings of good hope and great optimism to the future of our liberation struggles.

The Kenyan society has just recently held elections characterized by a myriad of circumstances exposing the neoliberal mess we are exposed to, as a society. The electorates, however, have chosen peace, preferred to the processes of the ruling class characterized elections, as they are tiring and threatens the common peace, harmony and cultural integration of a society.

The Kurdish festival is coming at a very significant moment, historically. The world is torn apart, choosing the path between self-determination and regression towards restoration of capitalism. So far, the Kenyan and Kurdish societies hold and preserve major similarities that can express the projection of the systematic crisis we are compelled to serve. We express our gratitude and congratulations to the Kurds, for their continued consistency in the struggle towards the national liberation process. Kenya, used to exist as a similar society, waging a similar struggle, a number of years ago. Today, we are 50 years beyond the national liberation struggles waged against colonialism, but still tied onto the same handcuffs of dependency, economic domination and policy control through loans: structural adjustment programs and state policies that interfere with the sovereignty of the country. This fact, legitimizing the need for an internal need to wage a National Liberation Process and any other necessary means against imperialism.

50 years after attaining our independence, issues of food insecurity in major parts of the country remains a dear worry to most Kenyans. Housing is a critical question among the working class masses. Clean water unavailable in most households. World markets dominance in our countries economic infrastructural development shows the kind of state the Kenyan masses should be aware of. One that antagonizes its people to maintain imperialist's interests. On this day, we write and are glad of your invite to participate in this important honorable gathering. A gathering that reminds us of our vows to renew, our commitments and revolutionary tasks in the revolutionary struggle ahead.

We appreciate the tireless contributions of the Kurds towards defeating imperialism in their day to day undertakings. We commit our solidarity and renew our bilateral and international solidarity, which is one of the principle that all oppressed people of the world should uphold resolutely. The task to liberate our lands and control our wealth should be embowed in our blood flow. To this day, the Kurdish territories are still under the occupation of the Turkish, Syria, Iraq and Iranian states. We recognize the developments made in consecutive years towards establishing Kurdistan as a sovereign republic but still emphasize that they should be practical and based on a path towards self-determination, towards freedom for the Kurdish People.

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The Kenyan masses, through the Grassroots Liberation Movement, express the will to continue with the liberation struggles through a common, dissemination of an international political program. The Kenyan society, from its colonial past, and National liberation struggles, contains a rich significance with the Kurdish society from its geo-political and culturally rich history. Just as the Kurds, the Kenyan society is dominated by imperial powers which siphon our wealth and interfere with our internal sovereignty. The Mau-Mau, just as the Kurds waged an uncompromising agitation with the colonialist British empire leading to the suppression of the peasant-influenced movement.

There is also a need to debunk the imperialist lie on labeling liberation movements as terrorist movements we continue to acknowledge we can apply any means to get freedom. As Walter Rodney the revolutionary of our time says, the only free among the oppressed are those who fight to destroy the system. Colonial Britain labelled Kenya's nationalist liberation movement, MAU-MAU, a terrorist organization and criminalized all people associated with it. Similar tactics are applied in labelling the PKK a terrorist organization, with an intent to terrorize the people from fighting for their freedoms.

They killed and maimed the revolutionary fighters like Dedan Kimathi who they thought had an unapologetic position towards their colonial masters. They killed Dedan Kimathi just as they sold the Kurdish revolutionary fighter and world icon, Abdullah Ocalan of the PKK, who was abducted on our lands in Nairobi Kenya, on the 1999, February 15. Later imprisoned in Imrali Island and held in harsh conditions of the neoliberal state. Abdulla Ocalan continues to unify us through the struggle lens of endurance and inspires the spirit of resistance in our daily attempts to overthrow the oppressive establishment. The lands that the Mau Mau fighters fought for, was actually used, through the aid of CIA and Turkish intelligence. A fact that remind us to continuously condemn the militarization and invasion of independent territories by imperialist forces.

We cannot forget the revolutionary war that has been waged year to year, consistently by the PKK, other progressive movements and the women combatants who fight side by side with their men have waged a resolute struggle against world imperialism, which continues to be an integral source of inspiration to the world fighters for world peace and social justice.

The Grassroots Liberation movement has since taken initiative to conscientize our masses on the nature of the struggle we are waging. We have embarked on a political program that incorporates an international aspect to uphold international solidarity among integrating our struggles. The Grassroots Liberation movement is incorporated within the mass base of popular movements among the informal grassroots societies such as the Social Justice Movement that organizes within Nairobi. It is politically guided and philosophically inspired by the democratic confederalism thought, similar to the Kurdish model of organizational discipline. We have recognized the importance of incorporating the dearest and closest facets of the conditions that oppress our societies, to mean, incorporating the women question and ecological sustainability model. Our struggle has extended to establishing a women guard, cognizant that women liberation is important and moves hand in hand with the cultural and political developments of our society (as projected in a conversation recently with Nullifer of the Peace in Kurdistan movement and Women Weavers with our women comrades). We have established an ecological green guard to foster and encourage an environmental conscious society towards achieving a society of self-determination. A society that produces what it needs, with everything being available for everyone who needs it.

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We have thus so far held different seminars, and symposiums on several occasions, handling various questions ailing our society. Some of them being:

1. Rasta and Resistance- an introspection into the Kenyan liberation struggles and the international Rastafarian culture contribution in achieving African liberation.
2. The 21st century as the century for women liberation.
3. Ecological Justice as a Revolutionary paradigm.
4. The legacies of Walter Rodney- A Pan-African inspiration of the thoughts of Walter Rodney.

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A Pictorial of the seminars,

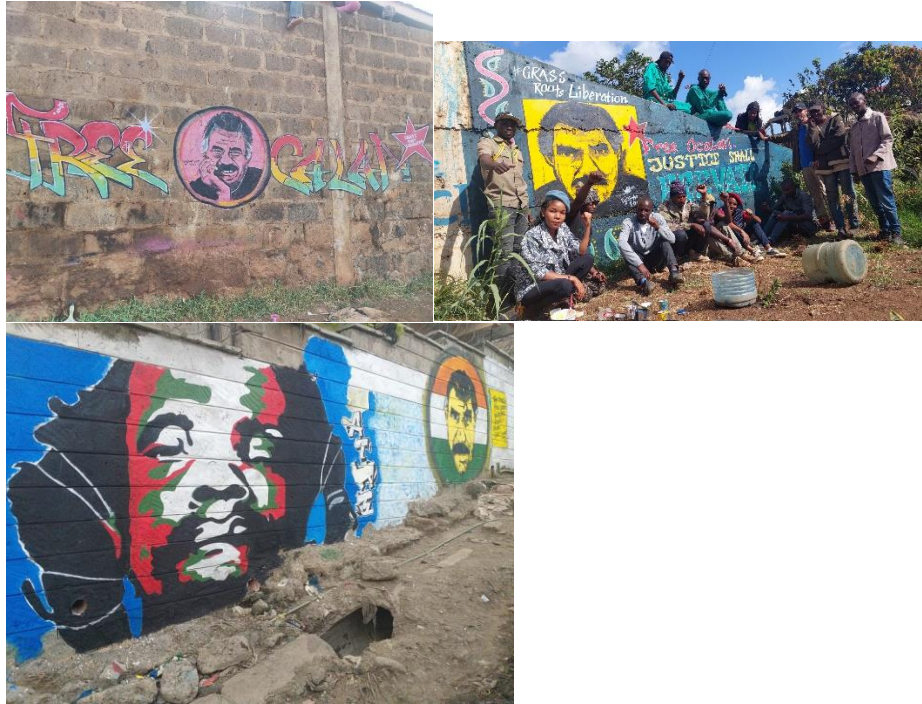


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The Kenyan masses, shall continue sensitizing our communities through:

1. Art, murals on Abdullah Ocallan and music



2. Political Education through the continuation of seminars, symposiums, and the newly established Abdullah Ocallan Study Circle.

3. And commemorative events in the ecological justice front.



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Going forward, we express our will to continue dispensing a collaborative approach in achieving similar goals such as:

- I. An international solidarity network with the Kurdish people addressing various cultural and political questions.
- II. A need to establish a collective approach towards strengthening grassroots social organizations working towards similar goals and objectives.
- III. A need to continue sensitizing the population on the role of our martyrs, who have sacrificed and given their lives to the liberation of our people.
 - A remembrance of the three martyrs; Sakine Cansiz(Sara), Fidan Dogan and Leyla Saylemez.
 - A remembrance of the struggles of the Kenyan freedom fighters and their similarities with the Kurdish revolutionaries.
 - The need to continue pushing for the #FreeOcalan campaign.
- IV. The need to continue linking our ecological justice struggles: towards building an international advocacy campaign model.
- V. Campaign to have the remains of Field Marshall Dedan Kimathi exhumed from Kamiti Maximum prison and given a decent burial and the unconditional release of Abdullah Ocalan.
- VI. Continued demands for land redistribution as a struggle for disengagement with British imperialism.
- VII. The need to keep our political front of agitation against the ever spreading fascist entrenchment into our territories through the demilitarization program of Kenya-East Africa and Kurdish territories active. The entrenchment of the Nato established bases in our territories. The core of the world imperialism: militarization.

<https://twitter.com/Grassrootslib>

Freedom to Ocalan Freedom!

Long live Solidarity!

Long live the struggle towards Self-Determination!

Long live Kurdistan!

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THE GRASSROOTS LIBERATION MOVEMENT, KENYA

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