

URGENT ACTION

SOLDIERS THREATEN MURDER VICTIM'S RELATIVES

An Indigenous man was fatally shot by soldiers on 3 February: his relatives have been threatened to stop them calling for justice. Their lives are in danger.

According to eyewitnesses, soldiers shot a 27-year-old Indigenous Tepehuan man in the head on 3 February. **Carmen Puerta Carrillo** had been driving his car in the community of Baborigame, municipality of Guadalupe y Calvo, in the northern state of Chihuahua. According to passengers **Raúl Puerta Carrillo** and **Jesús Mendez Escudero**, the car had been travelling one block away from the military barracks in the community when soldiers opened fire without warning or provocation. Carmen Puerta Carrillo died the following day in hospital.

His wife, **María Elizabeth Chaparro Almodóvar**, made a formal complaint to the Federal Attorney General's Office in the town of Hidalgo de Parral on 17 February, and three people - Raúl Puerta Carrillo, Jesús Mendez Escudero and **Jesús Puerta Carrillo** - have come forward as witnesses to the shooting.

Two of his sisters, **Ofelia de Jesús Puerta Carrillo** and **María de Jesús Puerta Carrillo** were called to the military barracks on 12 February, where they have said they were warned not to file a complaint or things would go badly for them. The dead man's brother, Raúl Puerta Carrillo, says he was visited by an army captain on 20 February and a colonel on 21 February, who offered to cover costs related to the death of Carmen Puerta Carrillo.

The lives of all those who witnessed the murder of Carmen Puerta Carrillo, and his relatives, are in grave danger.

Please write immediately in Spanish or your own language:

- Demanding that the authorities provide protection to all Carmen Puerta Carrillo's family and all witnesses to the shooting, including María Elizabeth Chaparro Almodóvar, Raúl Puerta Carrillo, Jesús Mendez Escudero, Jesús Puerta Carrillo, Ofelia de Jesús Puerta Carrillo and María de Jesús Puerta Carrillo, in strict accordance with their wishes.
- Urging a full, impartial investigation by the civilian judicial authorities into the shooting of Carmen Puerta Carrillo, with the results made public, and all those responsible brought to justice.
- Calling for all allegations of human rights violations committed by the armed forces to be investigated and tried by the civilian judicial authorities.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 11 APRIL 2012 TO:

Attorney General of the Republic

Marisela Morales Ibáñez

Paseo de la reforma 211-213

Col. Cuauhtémoc, México D.F., C.P.

06500, México

Fax: +52 55 5346 0908 (keep trying and ask for "fax")

Email: ofproc@pgr.gob.mx

Salutation: Dear Attorney General

Minister of the Interior

Dr. Alejandro Poiré Romero

Secretaría de Gobernación

Bucareli 99, 1er. piso, Col. Juárez

Delegación Cuauhtémoc

México D.F., C.P.06600, México

Fax: +52 55 5093 3414

Email: secretario@segob.gob.mx

Salutation: Dear Minister

And copies to:

Human rights organization

Comisión de Solidaridad y Defensa de

los Derechos Humanos AC

Email: cosyddhac@prodigy.net.mx

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

According to the authorities, nearly 50,000 people have been killed in Mexico since December 2006 during violence between drug cartels and other gangs, as well as the security forces. Some 50,000 military personnel have been deployed in a wide area, including Chihuahua state, to combat criminal gangs. Human rights violations committed by the armed forces have risen sharply, including extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearance and torture, but virtually no military officials have been brought to justice. The military authorities continue to claim jurisdiction to investigate and try such offences, despite a National Supreme Court ruling in 2011 that all such cases should be dealt with by the civilian justice system. Amnesty International has frequently received reports of relatives and witnesses facing threats when filing criminal complaints and military authorities routinely pressuring families to accept limited financial assistance in return for relatives not pursuing judicial cases.

Name: Relatives of Carmen Puerta Carrillo, and witnesses to his murder

Gender m/f: Both

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