

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 41/048/2008

12 September 2008

UA 251/08 Torture

MEXICO Enrique Gómez Hernández (m)

---

Inmate Enrique Gómez Hernández has been tortured at Los Llanos state prison, in San Cristobal, Chiapas state. He had escaped from the prison in 2004, and was only returned there on 22 August.

He is serving a 25-year sentence for murder. Enrique Gómez told his wife that on the day he was put back in prison, at least five prison guards in civilian clothes attacked him. They made him run barefoot on gravel and whenever he stopped, they beat him with a stick. They then put his T-shirt over his face, and sprayed his body with teargas and hit him. When he fell to the ground, they kicked him in the back and legs. The guards threatened to beat him even more and leave him tied to a prison fence if he complained to a human rights organisation.

Since 26 August, a local human rights organisation has been asking permission to visit Enrique Gómez, with an independent doctor who would examine him and record the torture, but the prison director has so far refused.

Enrique Gómez is now held in a building called the "special observation area", where he is at risk of being attacked by prison guards and other inmates.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Reports of torture and other ill-treatment are common in Mexican prisons. Amnesty International documented attacks on prisoners by other prisoners, in Los Llanos prison earlier this year in UA 111/08 (AMR 41/019/2008, 25 April 2008). The authorities have not yet conducted adequate investigations into allegations of abuses.

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in Spanish or your own language:**

- calling on the authorities to ensure that Enrique Gómez is protected from further torture or other ill-treatment;
- calling on them to order a full, prompt and impartial investigation of the torture he suffered, publish the results and bring those responsible to justice;
- urging them to ensure that he has access to appropriate medical attention and legal counsel, and is allowed to file a complaint about the torture with the relevant authorities and local human rights organizations;
- asking them to ensure that all prison officials are trained in and adhere to the UN Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment and the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

**APPEALS TO:**Governor of Chiapas

Lic. Juan José Sabines Guerrero  
Gobernador del Estado de Chiapas  
Palacio de Gobierno, 1º piso, Col. Centro,  
C.29000, Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, México

**Fax: +52 961 618 8050 (When you hear the recorded message, please dial ext. 21122)**

**Salutation: Dear Governor/Señor Gobernador**

Minister of Justice of Chiapas State

Lic. Amador Rodríguez Lozano  
Ministro de Justicia del Estado de Chiapas  
Libramiento Norte s/n, tercer nivel  
Col. Infonavit "El Rosario", CP 29049  
Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, MEXICO

**Fax: +52 961 61 657 24**

**Salutation: Dear Minister/Señor Ministro**

Coordinator of Chiapas State Prisons

Lic. Juan José Mora Mora  
Secretario Ejecutivo  
Consejo de Ejecución de Sanciones Penales y Medidas de Seguridad  
3a. Poniente Sur No. 157, Col. Centro  
C.P. 29000 Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, MEXICO

**Fax: +52 961 61 33 154**

**+52 961 61 21 821 (if someone answers say "me da tono de fax, por favor")**

**Email: jmora@secesp.chiapas.gob.mx**

**Salutation: Dear Secretary/Señor Secretario**

Chiapas Human Rights Commission

Lic. Juan Carlos Moreno Guillen  
Presidente de la Comisión Estatal de Derechos Humanos de Chiapas  
Comisión Estatal de Derechos Humanos de Chiapas  
Boulevard Comitán 143, Col. Moctezuma  
Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, MEXICO

**Fax: +52 961 639 6615 (if someone answers say "me da tono de fax, por favor")**

**Email: jmoreno@congresochiapas.gob.mx**

**Salutation: Dear President/Señor Presidente**

**COPIES TO:**

Centro de Derechos Humanos Fray Bartolomé de Las Casas, A.C.  
Calle Brasil 14, Barrio Mexicanos, 29240 San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas, MEXICO  
**Email: accionurgente@frayba.org.mx**

and to diplomatic representatives of Mexico accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 24 October 2008.