

When the Prison doors open the real dragons will appear



New York City Jericho-P.O.B. 774, Bronx, NY 10458

Jan. 2, 2005

Greetings and Best wishes for Changes in 2005

I want to send you a report of the Safiya Bukhari International Human Rights/Pick up the Work weekend of December 10-12, 2004. As well as let you know that I will be sending you all a copy of the information I received from my last trip to the French section of the Basque Country on Dec. 3-5 regarding the peace proposal of Batasuna to the Basque people on the 30th of Nov. 2005.

This report was composed by Sis. Hira Al-Amin of Lansing Mi. from reports from the National and NYC chapter. I also enclosed a group of pictures from all events to give you an idea of the international support and solidarity we received. If you have any questions please let me know and I will try and answer them.

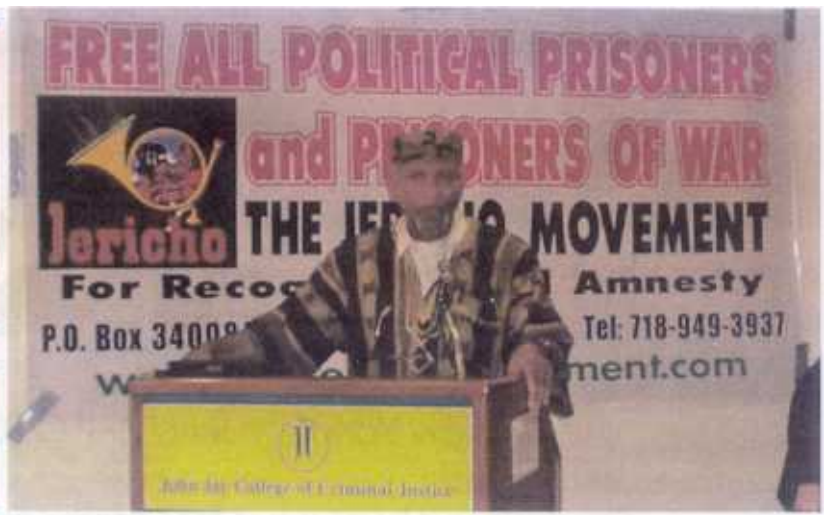
Also Anne Lamb/ NYC-J and my self took a trip on the 31/1 to see Seth as he was snatched up and then spent 4 days traveling from Clinton Corr. to Wende about 300 miles further west. He is looking much better than when he was at Clinton. He has been to see a doctor who has taken the time to review his medicine and has taken him off the hugh amount of insulin he was being given at Clinton. He is also getting his sugar levels checked twice a day-finger sticks- which they would not do for him in Clinton without being in the hospital. Even though this facility is further away they seem to have a better medical facility, and are helping him get his physical health together, though he would prefer to be at a facility closer to New York City. He sends greetings to all.

As you can see, we are trying out a new letterhead. If you can improve on this, please feel free to do so and send us a copy to the P.O. Box. I didn't know how to put the bars over the dragon. Do you think it's necessary? Should the dragon be smaller?

As our comrade Bill Dunne would say "The future holds promise"

Naulette & Hira Amin

NYC-J



Notes from the Pick Up The Work!
Safiya Bukhari International Human Rights Weekend

by Sister Hira Al-Amin

Beginning with a cultural evening filled with music, poetry & statements of solidarity with all political prisoners, we celebrated the life and struggles of our fallen comrade, Sister Safiya Bukhari. This past December 10-12 commemorations, rallies, networking sessions & committee presentations was a wonderful effort initiated by The Jericho Movement's New York City committee. With contributions of many PP/POW committees, friends & supporters, we celebrated the release of the "*PICK UP THE WORK Resource Guide*", honoring the work of Sis. Safiya Bukhari. The event opened Friday evening with the viewing of a short film about the life & work of Safiya Bukhari, including a tribute from Mumia Abu-Jamal. A recorded statement from Brother Jalil A. Muntaqim was played as well.

Baba Herman Ferguson was very happy to give us a report that our first shipment of school supplies had arrived in Tanzania, and have already been distributed! Please be sure to support the Jericho Movement's *Jericho AIDS Orphans School Supply Project* and bid on *The Jericho Political Prisoner Art Auction Project (JPPAAP)* on Ebay (2_struggle_4). Efa Nwangaza, the Jericho Movement National Co-chair, presented the beginning supplies for a second shipment, a collection of over 1,000 pencils, many notebooks, and other school supplies raised by various student organizations from colleges and individuals in Georgia and South Carolina. Let's keep up the good work and encourage all our religious groups, fraternal orders, community groups, organizations, associations, and Political Prisoner support groups to organize and help gather these tax deductible donations.

The cultural presentations were filled with many forms & expressions of love and solidarity, in remembrance of, and from our Freedom Fighters. The dynamic rhythms & poetic recitations of the "*Presente!*" from Boston Jericho; & Hector from "*The Welfare Poets*" of NYC, were uplifting, enlightening, and also reaffirming to our solidarity in the fight to win acknowledgement and freedom for ALL Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War.

Mariposa recited her poetry with passion and tenderness that captivated the entire audience. *Rosemari Mealy* also graced the audience with her lovely presence and read the poetry of some of our departed brothers who have been executed, and some who are currently waiting to be executed presently on death row. A Lakota Indian Brother spoke on behalf of Leonard Peltier and played a heartfelt flute solo. Several other representatives read statements from other Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War, including Deirdre from The Irish Freedom Committee, and Brother Russell Maroon Shoats II in behalf of his father. We want thank the Rev. Luis Barrios for providing us the space at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in Manhattan for our program. We give special thanks to Paulette, Anne, Elspeth, Ben, and Sally.

The morning of December 11th began with a 9am-1pm "Networking for Activists Session" led by Baba Herman & Mama Iyalua Ferguson from the New York Jericho National Office. We discussed many issues pertaining to supporting our Freedom Fighters & celebrated the victory of our comrade David Wong! We pray that 2005 will bring more legal victories for our PP/POWS. The Jericho Movement engaged in information gathering & sharing with individuals from groups such as: Anti-Imperialist activists Elspeth from Resistance in Brooklyn, Tibby from The Coalition to Free Mumia, and Brenton, D & Missy, from the **Break the Chains Collective**.



Photo by Paulette D'Auteuil

Also, special thanks to Claude from **The Freedom Archives**, Zindzhi from the Atlanta **Malcolm X Grassroots Movement**, Kali from **Jericho/Malcolm X Grassroots Movement** Bay area, and Jaye, the Calendar Committee Representative for the 2005 Freedom for Political Prisoners & Prisoners of War Calendar (a must have!) Thanks for your input!

A Rally and Demonstration at the Dag Hammarskjold Plaza took place on Saturday afternoon from 2pm-5pm. The crowd was composed of people from and in support of movements all across the globe, including: representatives from Prolibertad & The Puerto Rican Movement, The Cuban Five Committee, The Irish Freedom Committee, and Basque Region Human Rights Observatory. The statements of Political Prisoners Jalil A. Muntaqim, and Mumia Abu-Jamal were played via audio recording during the rally. Solidarity Statements were recited for The MOVE 9, Mumia, A. Shaka Cinque & Herman "Hooks" Wallace of *The Angola 3*, and David Wong. Thanks to the Buddhist Monk who performed a beautiful prayer for peace and to the PP supporters. Other statements of Solidarity were read by Jason Corwin for Leonard Peltier, and Autumn of Critical Resistance for EZLN (Zapatista Movement) who spoke about a program in which North American comrades work in solidarity with our Zapatista comrades in Chiapas Mexico, and a very powerful statement Samia of Al-Awda in support Palestinian PP/POWS held in Israeli jails, and Zindzhi Olughala from the Atlanta **Malcolm X Grassroots Movement**.

Sunday December 12th events included a 9am-2pm Working Meeting, in which the April 2005 Conference, *From Attica to Abu Ghraib* was discussed. There was also a suggestion from Filipino comrades about an *International Day of Solidarity* with PP's to be held on December 3rd through out the national and international community. The group broke into various sub-groups: legal, international, technology, youth, publicity, and fundraising. The NYC-Jericho took responsibility for setting up a list serve that will allow interested people to continue the discussion around these issues and the questions raised by the political prisoners as to how Jericho and other organizations can improve material and political support. The list serve will go out about the 5th of Jan and will be: pickupthework@fifthhorseman.net

When reflecting on the life of Human Rights Activist, all-out fighter for Liberation, Sister Safiya Bukhari, we say, **PICK UP THE WORK!** At least send the prisoners a note to let them know that they have not, and will not be forgotten! The demise of our comrade Safiya Bukhari, who co-founded The Jericho Movement's website, has left us with a mission that has yet to be fulfilled. Safiya was a passionate, dedicated revolutionary woman, who was once a political prisoner herself. She served nearly 9 years in prison, and after one escape and recapture, she served 3 years 9 months of her sentence in maximum security before finally being released on parole in 1983. After winning her own release, Safiya dedicated her life to winning freedom for the comrades she left behind, still locked away in cages. She used every means she could to support and win release for our **FREEDOM FIGHTERS** still behind the walls.

Safiya was a prolific writer & created fact sheets on individual political prisoners and their cases. We must continue her struggle! Safiya worked tirelessly day and night, even though she suffered from a prolonged illness herself. She served as Vice President in the Provisional Government of the Republic of New Afrika, was the longtime WBAI 99.5 FM radio co-producer of "Where We Live", and also co-founded the New York Free Mumia Abu-Jamal Coalition in 1992. Her energy is sorely missed and needs to be remembered and followed as an example for all of us who struggle for our **FREEDOM FIGHTERS** still trapped behind those walls. Safiya traveled extensively to promote the Jericho cause. She even designed and made political prisoner buttons, t-shirts, bumper stickers, and mouse pads. She never stopped!

We would like to take the time to thank each of the collectives, committees, groups & individuals who placed their adds in this important "**PICK UP THE WORK** Resource Guide": **Spear & Shield Publications**, **It's About Time** (Committee to Celebrate the Founding of the **Black Panther Party**), **Kazi & The Jericho Boston Chapter** (the **PRESENTE!** Troupe really put on brilliant performance!), **Sally O'Brien**, **The California Coalition for Women Prisoners**, **Behatokia** (Basque Human Rights Observatory), **The MOVE Organization** (**FREE THE MOVE 9!**), the **International Concerned Family & Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal**, **Anarchist People Of Color** (illegalvoices.org), **The Irish Freedom Committee** (in Solidarity with Irish Republican POWS!), the **New York Committee to Free the Five** (Free the Cuban Five!), **askatasuna**, (Basque Movement against repression and for the freedom of all Basque political prisoners), **Resistance in Brooklyn (RnB)**, **FREE ALVARO NOW!** Committee (freearvaro.org), the **Friends of Marilyn Buck** (order Marilyn's CD, Wild Poppies: info@freedomarchives.org), **2005 freedom for Political Prisoners & Prisoners of War Calendar Committee** (a must, order: www.twelvemonths.org), **The New York State Taskforce for Release of Political Prisoners** (MXGMNY@hotmail.com), **Break the Chains Collective** (<http://www.breakthechains.net>), **The Freedom Archives** (<http://www.freedomarchives.org/>), **The Osborne Association** (serving prisoners, former prisoners and their families), **Wopashitwe Mondo Eyen we Langa** (formerly known as David Rice) & Efia Nwangaza), the **David Wong Support Committee** (www.freedavidwong.org), **The International Action Center** (www.iacenter.org), the **New York City Free Mumia Abu-Jamal Coalition** (www.freemumia.com). **The BRECHT FORUM** (www.brechtforum.org), **The East Coast Friends of Marilyn Buck** (fomb@yahoo.com), **PROLIBERTAD FREEDOM CAMPAIGN** (<http://www.ProLibertadWeb.com>), **Justice Community Works**, **Where We Live** & WBAI (www.wbai.org), **Siempre Pa'lante--The Justice Committee** (www.jc-ny.org), the **36th Annual National Day of Mourning Committee** (annual event November 2005 is dedicated to Freedom Fighter Leonard Peltier (<http://home.earthlink.net/~uainendom/>), and the **4strugglemag: Views, Thoughts, and Analysis from the Hearts and Minds of North American Political Prisoners and Friends** (www.4struggle.org). Thanks to everyone for their insights, participation and support!