

Colombia Again at the Crossroads. Peace, What Peace?



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Opinion

A deep scar runs through Colombia, the South American country, for decades, is a deep wound that does not stop bleeding. Colombia is a rural country, invisible in large cities. Many towns were built without state intervention, Macondo, the mythical town immortalized thanks to the pen of Gabriel García Márquez in the famous novel *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, exemplifies this situation. Since the founding of the Republic of Colombia in 1819, and except for two short periods of dictatorship, from 1904 to 1909 and from 1953 to 1957, Colombia has lived under the framework of democratic rules; Although certain political actors boast when they say that Colombia has the most stable democracy in Latin America, without a doubt it can be affirmed that Colombia has had the most stable democracy, yes, but also the bloodiest [1].

According to the Historical Memory Group, in its report *Basta Ya! Colombia: Memories of War and Dignity*, published in 2013, the Colombian armed conflict has left approximately 220,000 deaths from 1958 to 2012, "the proven participation of state agents as perpetrators of crimes is particularly disturbing for society, the State as a whole, and for themselves, given the particular degree of legality and responsibility that falls to them". In addition to the direct participation of state agents in the violation of Human Rights, all the cases documented by the Historical Memory Group record with remarkable regularity the collusion and omissions of members of the Public Force, with actions that violate Human Rights and alliances with powerful groups that by violent methods defend economic and political interests, or greedily seek access to more land and / or resources [2].

In Colombia it is necessary to unearth memory as part of the commitment to non-repetition, it is necessary to honor certain parts of history and memory to re-tell the story; not from the hegemonic and obligatory memoirs, but from the place of dissident memoirs that until now have not had a place - or at least not enough - in official speeches, because "in the monopoly of the official version, the other it is already condemned as a monster". In

societies such as Colombia, polarized by the effect of a systematic construction of heroes and villains, denaturing the presence and reading of the framework through which an interpretation of violent events is imposed on us implies a change of view, of paradigm. It is also an ethical commitment that passes through the subjectivation of the painful experience, because without this it is very difficult to think about the reconciliation of the nation [3].

In Colombia with a capital P, P for Precarious, Paramilitary Peace, we are witnessing a genocide that is occurring right now. Since the signing of the peace agreement between the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, the People's Army FARC-EP and the Government of Colombia in November 2016 to date, between leaders, social leaders, human rights defenders and signatories of the agreement, more than thousand of people, these murders have occurred mostly under the mandate of the current president Iván Duque. Despite the fact that the signing of the peace agreement represented a hope of ending the armed conflict in the Colombian nation, five years after its signing, Colombia again finds itself between state perfidy and bloodshed, Colombia again in the crossroads [4-6].

Peace, what peace?

What are you talking about old man?

They are war machines

Peace, what peace?

If you promised to tear peace to pieces

and true to your word

you water the peace that bleeds us with blood

perfidy and treason are the flag

State genocide the banner

hymn string
your unnameable name gross out
Your olive green heroes acted as executioners
in liters of blood the measure
necessity as a lure
What could go wrong?
Gouge out their eyes
mutilate your memories
shoot in the back
the pit awaits us
Poor humanity
its existence spoiled
unburied death
on the lookout for your absence
Silence I have said!
don't ask me where your dead are
I'm not going to tell you
accomplice silence is the watchword
Shut up
shut up for once
Downriver swarms infamy
it corrodes me
hatred and fright
the thirst for blood does not end with crying
And then you sing
and dances
and you rise with the hurricane wind of your watery lament

reside
you insist
and you start again
Oh! Beloved Latin America
Our Abya Yala of every day
give us the new moon of your amazement to ride the nightmare
remind us as much as necessary
that there will always be another sky
beyond the sky
that we take by storm
One
two
three
germinates
Germinate now!
that good at last
germinate now

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