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URGENT ISSUES FORUM/FORO URGENTE: The Assassination of Berta Cáceres and the Future of Indigenous and Afrodescendant Environmental and Land Rights in Honduras

Friday, April 8, 2016

9 AM - 2 PM

Presentation Room, Charles E. Young Research Library

On March 2, 2016, award-winning Lenca environmental and indigenous rights activist Berta Cáceres was assassinated in her home in Honduras. She had received multiple threats from military and paramilitary groups linked to the mining and dams interests that she opposed. Gustavo Castro, a Mexican activist who was in Berta's home and was injured in the attack, is now being held illegally in Honduras and there are international concerns that he is being framed for the attack. This urgent forum explores the issues of resource extraction and state violence and their impact on the future of indigenous and environmental rights activism in Honduras.

Participants include:

Olivia Cáceres (Lenca)
Activist and Daughter of Berta Cáceres

Rony Castillo (Garifuna)
PhD student UT Austin, Advisor on Education Issues OFRANEH, President of the Garifuna Education Council and Co-founder of the Garifuna Intercultural University

Suyapa Portillo
Pitzer College

Chris Loperena
University of San Francisco

Joseph Berra
UCLA Law School



UCLA Institute of American Cultures



Yuji Ichioka and Emma Gee
Endowment for Social Justice
and Immigration Studies



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