

TO: Human Rights High Commissioner  
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FROM: Clement Payne Movement, Barbados  
(Robert 'Bobby' Clarke, General Secretary)

Human Rights have been defined by the Western world as the right of people to vote and speak openly. But even that definition did not apply to Europe until years after they enslaved the African Continent and by extension, the African descendant in the diaspora.

It wasn't until 1964 that the so-call great United States of America gave the right to black people to vote as shown in the Civil Rights Act after they assassinated Martin Luther King Jr.

The Western concept of Human Rights never took into consideration the rights of indigenous people nor the slaves.

In 1959, the heroic efforts of the Cuban people under the leadership of Com. Fidel Castro, Che Guevera, Juan Almeida and Raoul Castro brought about a significant change and meaning of the words 'Human Rights'. Although the Cuban Electoral System is fundamentally different from the European and North American system, it embodies the real concept of a People's Democracy. The people, from the smallest area in the community to the National Government vote upon the principles that they believe in.

These principles embodied a fundamental change in Cuba. Gambling, prostitution and racism were removed from the system and the concept of real equality and human rights were introduced. These human rights include complete Free Education, not only to Cuban Citizens but for poor students from all over the World. The Isle of Pines became the Isle of Youth and the beginning of the great Cuban experiment on Internationalism. For the first time, the poor, unwanted throughout the World were given a chance to exercise their ability to learn. That is a fundamental human right which Cuba has embodied.

In Cuban, Health Care does not depend upon your financial position. It is a human right, not to only for the Cuban people but for all peoples of the World who seek assistance in Cuba for their health problems. Cuba gives this assistance freely and openly.

Human Rights demands that all your people must be housed.

Cuba, from its initial success in 1959, have done more than any other country in the world to ensure housing for its people. Where people, through the market economy have lost their housing in North America and in Europe, the Cuban Government continues to ensure that that human

right to housing continues.

Cuba's respect for its people and the people's respect for Cuba is shown in the low criminal rate. The murder rate in Cuba is negligible when compared with all the other countries in the World. This is because the concept of human rights in Cuba is to ensure the social cohesiveness of its people. Nowhere else in the World can you walk the streets of a Capital City throughout the night without fear. In Havana, you can.

Because of the Cuban experience, and in spite of the United States belligerence and terrorist attitude towards the Cuban Revolution and the Cuban People, we have seen elements of the Cuban Revolution being accepted by countries such as Venezuela, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay, Chile, Argentina, Nicaragua and others.

Cuba's position on the enhancement of the human spirit is shown by the use of their limited financial resources to help the Caribbean people suffering with serious eye defects. The Cubans ask for nothing in return. That is a real human right.

The caring of the Cuban system for the Cuban people cannot be better understood than their concept of disaster preparedness. They have put into place a complete system to ensure that whenever there is a possible disaster, especially hurricanes, all of the Cuban people come together to ensure the collective safety of their people. There can be no greater understanding of a human right than that.

Cuba can be seen as one of the few countries that does not allow corruption to influence its concept of man's humanity to man, in spite of the continued interference by the United States.

The attitude of the United States Government should no longer be allowed to stop Cuba's right to play an important part in the United Nation's General Assembly and Human Rights Commission.

The Clement Payne Movement of Barbados, not only support Cuba as a member of the Human Rights Commission, but demand that the history of Cuba on Human Rights be respected and that Cuba be admitted to the Human Rights Commission.