

# STOP THE KILLINGS!



Broad sectors are protesting the unending spate of killings in the Philippines that has escalated as result of the government's war against drugs Oplan Tokhang, counterinsurgency program Oplan Kapayapaan, Martial Law in Mindanao and all-out war in Marawi.

In the past weeks, the government of Rodrigo Roa Duterte and the Philippine National Police earned the public's ire and outrage over the successive killings of youth namely Kian delos Santos, 17; Carl Angelo Arnaiz, 19; Reynaldo dela Cruz, 14 who are suspected casualties of Oplan Tokhang and the death of Obillo Bay-ao, 19, a Lumad student who was shot by a member of the paramilitary Civilian Armed Force Geographical Unit.

As of September, almost 90 farmers and activists were killed by suspected military elements from the Armed Forces of the Philippines while tens of thousands 'drug

personalities' were reportedly killed by police and gun-for-hire.

Sectors including farmers have launched Black Friday Protest actions all over the country to reverberate the public's call for a stop to the daily killings. The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines has declared a 40-day national mourning for all the victims of Duterte's war against drugs.

The situation has gone worse and farmers see no let up with the crazed and deranged killings. The blood-thirsty killers protected by the government must be quelled. The lethal combination of PNP's Operation Double Barrel and AFP's Oplan Kapayapaan have killed thousands, reportedly reaching as high as 13,000 victims nationwide.

Justice remain elusive for victims of political killings. No perpetrator was arrested and punished for the vicious crimes. In the face of this continuing war against Filipinos launched no less by the Duterte government, farmers are determined to continue asserting for their democratic rights.

The current worsening economic and political situation and Duterte's repressive rule will push the peasant masses – farmers, indigenous peoples and millions of rural poor to the path of struggle. Close to half a million rural poor people were displaced by the government's all-out war and airstrikes. State-sponsored human rights abuses persist on a nationwide scale.

Farmers have bet our chance on the GRP-NDFP peace negotiations to address the roots of the systemic poverty, landlessness and end the decades of armed

### **VIOLATION OF CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS UNDER THE DUTERTE GOVERNMENT (as of August 2017)**

VIOLATIONS	No. of VICTIMS
Extrajudicial Killing	88
Frustrated Extrajudicial Killing	213
Torture	68
Enforced Disappearance	4
Illegal Arrest w/o Detention	891
Illegal Arrest and Detention	213
Forced Evacuation	420, 046
Threat/Harassment/Intimidation	48, 304
Indiscriminate Firing	357, 754
Use of Schools, Medical, Religious & Other Public Places for Military Purpose	32, 584

Source: KARAPATAN

conflict but Duterte eventually allowed the militarists in his government to reign. He authorized the likes of General Delfin Lorenzana, General Hermogenes Esperon and General Eduardo Ano to cause mass destruction of lives and livelihood through the imposition of Martial Law.

In the provinces, all-out war continues. Farmers and rural poor people who organize themselves to pursue genuine land reform are being threatened or killed. Activists are charged with trumped-up charges. Civilians communities bear the brunt of intense militarization carried out by the AFP. More than half a million people, mostly farmers and indigenous people were displaced by military operations in Marawi and across Mindanao.

In urban poor communities, ordinary Filipinos, mostly coming from poor sectors – unemployed, laborers, youth, students and even minors are being killed mercilessly in the war against drugs.

Whether politically-motivated or drug-related, the manner of how people are killed -- in broad daylight, at night, inside their homes and in front of their families, are cut from the same pattern of mercenary killings orchestrated and mastered by the AFP, PNP, paramilitary and gun-for-hire groups. It is enraging that Duterte condone these actions.

The intensifying war against the people launched by the government from all fronts will be confronted by the peoples' unity and growing struggle.

Farmers vow to persevere in the nationwide struggle for genuine land reform and national industrialization. Land occupation of haciendas and big landholdings and nationwide collective land cultivation campaigns will continue and Duterte's threat of nationwide Martial Law will only direct Filipinos to the path of struggle and resistance. ■

**81/88**

**VICTIMS OF  
POLITICAL KILLINGS  
UNDER THE DUTERTE  
REGIME ARE PEASANTS**  
(AS OF AUGUST 2017)  
Source: KARAPATAN



REGION	No. OF VICTIMS
CAGAYAN VALLEY	3
CENTRAL LUZON	7
SOUTHERN TAGALOG	2
BICOL	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>

REGION	No. OF VICTIMS
WESTERN VISAYAS	5
CENTRAL VISAYAS	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>

REGION	No. OF VICTIMS
NORTHERN MINDANAO	8
CARAGA	7
SOKSKSARGEN	5
SOUTHERN MINDANAO	27
ARMM	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57</b>



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