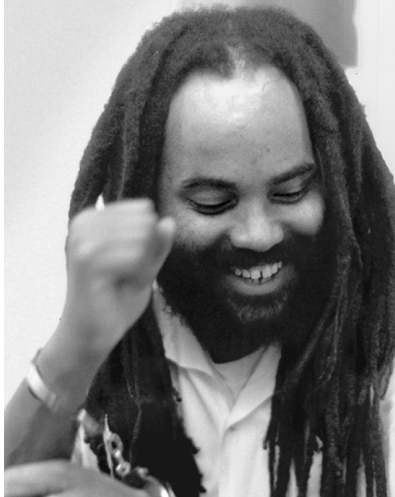


**RALLY**

# The “War on Terror” Targets Blacks, Immigrants, Labor and Leftists! Fight Government Repression!



Mumia Abu-Jamal



Lynne Stewart



Assata Shakur

## ***Free Mumia Abu-Jamal! Hands Off Lynne Stewart! Hands Off Assata Shakur!***

*Moderator:* **Valerie West**, Partisan Defense Committee

*Speakers include:* **Lydia Barashango**, sister of Mumia Abu-Jamal  
**Don Cane**, Labor Black League for Social Defense  
**Henry Walton**, Host, KPDK—Labor Review\*

**Saturday, October 8, 4:00 p.m.**

**Immanuel Presbyterian Church\*\***

**3300 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles**

(south-west corner of Wilshire Blvd. and Berendo St., two blocks west  
of the Vermont/Wilshire Red-line Station)

\*\* The views expressed by the participants are not necessarily those of the Immanuel Presbyterian Church.

**Sponsored by the Partisan Defense Committee**

For more information: (213) 380-8897

We want to make it very clear that speakers at the October 8 rally initiated by the Partisan Defense Committee do not necessarily agree in any particular with the statement on the back side of this flyer.

\* organization affiliation for identification purposes only

# Free Mumia! Hands Off Shakur! Hands Off Stewart!

Since the September 11 attacks, Bush and the Democrats have used the bodies of those killed in the criminal attack on the World Trade Center as a bloody shirt to launch the “war on terror,” as well as the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq. But ask any black or poor person in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast: Has the government protected them from catastrophe? Are working people any safer? New Orleans’ black and poor people were literally left to die as Hurricane Katrina pummeled the region.

The reality is, the “war on terror” is nothing but a pretext for a frontal assault on democratic rights by the bloodthirsty U.S. government. Basic rights, won through the hard-fought class struggles of the 1930s union organizing drives and the social struggles of the 1950s through the early 1970s—in the civil rights movement, the Vietnam War protests, for women’s and gay rights—are being run through the shredder by the Bush administration with the full agreement of the Democratic Party. Political opponents face being imprisoned with no right to an attorney or a trial. The government asserts the “right” to disappear and torture its opponents—to lock them up and throw away the key. From courageous anti-slavery fighter John Brown to communists during the McCarthy era, to the Black Panther Party and up to the present, the racist rulers of this country have branded fighters for the oppressed as “terrorist.”

To fight against this assault on our rights, the Partisan Defense Committee is calling a rally of solidarity for Mumia Abu-Jamal, Assata Shakur and Lynne Stewart. These cases must be rallying points for labor, blacks and defenders of civil liberties. Mumia Abu-Jamal, a death row political prisoner, and Assata Shakur, forced into exile in Cuba, are former members of the Black Panther Party. Lynne Stewart is a leftist attorney with a decades-long résumé of defending those targeted by this country’s racist rulers. We call on labor, blacks, students and defenders of civil liberties to join us in a united-front rally to demand: “Fight government repression! The ‘war on terror’ targets blacks, immigrants, labor and leftists! Free Mumia Abu-Jamal! Hands off Lynne Stewart! Hands off Assata Shakur!” Their fight is a fight for us all.

The real terrorists are the U.S. capitalist rulers. Today’s repressive laws are intended to terrorize anyone who would stand in the way of their relentless drive for profits and their bloody imperialist adventures, such as the murderous occupation of Iraq. While the initial victims of the post-September 11 reaction were immigrants from predominantly Muslim countries, these measures are also directed against leftists, antiwar protesters and those fighting against the racist oppression of black people that forms the bedrock of American capitalism. The “anti-terror” laws will be used to outlaw strikes and criminalize unions, as other laws were used in the early 1900s.

• America’s foremost class-war prisoner, **Mumia Abu-Jamal** is an innocent man. He was a Black Panther Party spokesman at the age of 15. Thirty-eight Panthers were killed by the FBI and local cops under the FBI’s deadly Counter-Intelligence Program (COINTELPRO) of surveillance, disruption, provocation and terror against leftists and black activists. Hundreds more were framed up to rot in prison hells. An award-winning journalist, Mumia became a supporter of the Philadelphia MOVE organization, which was subjected to over a decade of murderous state

terror. In a politically motivated and blatantly racist frame-up, Mumia was convicted on charges of killing Philadelphia Police Officer Daniel Faulkner on 9 December 1981 and sentenced to death explicitly for his past membership in the Panthers. Court after court has refused to even consider the confession of Arnold Beverly that he, not Mumia, shot and killed officer Faulkner. The frame-up of Mumia Abu-Jamal symbolizes what the barbaric death penalty, a legacy of chattel slavery, is all about. From the White House to the courthouse to the Wall Street boardrooms, the capitalist rulers want Mumia dead because they see in this man known as the “voice of the voiceless” a symbol of defiant opposition to their system of racist oppression. Free Mumia Now!

• **Assata Shakur** is a former Black Panther and member of the Black Liberation Army. On 2 May 1973, Shakur, Sundiata Acoli and Zayd Malik Shakur were ambushed by racist New Jersey state troopers. The troopers immediately opened fire, killing Zayd Shakur. One of the state’s hitmen was killed with a bullet from a police revolver. The two black militants who survived were convicted on charges of killing the cop and their own comrade! Sentenced to life, Assata escaped prison in 1979 and has been in Cuba since 1984. Acoli remains in prison hell over 30 years later. In her 1998 “Open Letter,” Shakur declared, “I am a 20th century escaped slave.” In May, the FBI added Shakur to its domestic terrorist list and increased the bounty on her head to \$1 million, a bounty reminiscent of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850. Hands Off Assata Shakur!

• On October 21 **Lynne Stewart**, her translator Mohamed Yousry and paralegal Ahmed Abdel Sattar will be sentenced on frame-up charges of conspiracy to provide material support to terrorism. They face decades behind bars. Stewart’s “crime”? Doing what lawyers are supposed to do, representing her client, in this case, Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman, imprisoned on charges of conspiracy to blow up NYC landmarks in the early 1990s. The government is taking deadly aim at the Sixth Amendment right to legal counsel. Taking away the right to a lawyer or trial ultimately means no rights to free speech and assembly—no rights at all. Hands Off Lynne Stewart!

This united-front rally brings together, in defense of Jamal, Shakur and Stewart, speakers and organizations across a spectrum of political beliefs raising their own views on these vital cases. Within that framework, we seek to win activists to the understanding that defense of these targets of capitalist state repression must be based on a class-struggle perspective—organizing independently of the racist capitalist state that has framed them up. These frame-ups illustrate that there is no justice in the capitalist courts. The PDC, a class-struggle legal and social defense organization associated with the Marxist Spartacist League, is fighting to mobilize the social power of the multiracial labor movement—those who create the wealth of this society and who can shut it down. It is the working people who have the class interest and social power to not only fight for Mumia’s freedom and in defense of Stewart and Shakur but to get rid of this barbaric and murderous capitalist system of hunger, imperialist war, poverty, racist cop terror and vicious attacks on workers, women, gays and immigrants.

Partisan Defense Committee  
10 September 2005