

LETTERS

SWAPAN DASGUPTA

Swapan Dasgupta has died in jail custody. He was publisher cum editor of a Bengali periodical. It was registered under the Government of India's Registration of Newspapers Act and was not proscribed. Yet on 6 October 2009 he was arrested under the UAPA. At the time of arrest he was suffering from asthma and other complicated diseases, which fact was not unknown to the administration. Did he get any immediate treatment in custody or was it neglect and lack of attention and care that eventually brought about his death? A thorough and trustworthy inquiry into that is necessary. The Supreme Court has given certain human rights to all prisoners : the undersigned also demand an impartial investigation of how much of those rights were made available to Swapan Dasgupta, or for that matter, are being made available to other prisoners under the same Act. This was not the first death in jail custody in this state, rather an addition to almost a series. The event once again reminds concerned citizens that under democracy's cover it is really in a police state that people are living.

**Asok Sen, Sankha Ghosh, Alokaranjan Dasgupta, Amiya Dev, Samar Bagchi,
Sourin Bhattacharya, Swapan Majumdar, Pranab Biswas, Rusati Sen, Aveek
Majumdar
Kolkata, 4 February, 2010**

MARTÍ

The image of Martí—the revolutionary who spoke of yesterday and today—is like one of those giant trees whose roots take hold and grow more and more as time goes by.

The revolutionary for all time Martí takes hold and grows unstoppably—not underneath, but over the earth—and will grow every year and everyday in the creative work of the Cuban people, the revolutionary efforts of his people.

People have seen him grow in the parades of schoolchildren whom he so loved; the recitals, songs and popular concerts; the solemn tributes at his monuments.

The connections are tangible between the ideas and actions of the man who fomented the war of '95 and the ideas and actions of the men and women who triggered the current revolutionary process. They are all the thesis and synthesis of the fact that when required by the situation, the people organize and create the revolutionary vanguard to carry out their historic tasks.

Martí's concept of the need for a party to organize and lead the revolutionary struggle serves as an inspiration for Cuban Party to lead the Revolution and the building of socialism in Cuba : the homeland of the man who thought and acted as a visionary, the man whose ideas fertilized those of the generations who followed, the man who was not a lone voice crying out in the wilderness, but the ideas and actions that encountered multitudes.

Martí's love for his country, his struggle for its freedom, his ideas and actions, and his infinite example are an enduring inspiration without any foreseeable end; he is and will be a revolutionary for all time.

Granma, Havana.

