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## **2 people killed and several others injured during a peaceful demonstration in Port-au-Prince**

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**Port-au-Prince, March 24, 2005 (AHP)**- 2 people were killed and several others injured this Thursday during a peaceful demonstration organized by Lavalas activists at Cité Soleil to denounce their bad living conditions and demand the return to constitutional order which was broken, they said, with President Aristide's forced departure on February 29, 2004.

Several thousands of people were gathered for the demonstration which was almost over when armed men opened fire on the demonstrators who were going back home at the time. Spokesperson of the Bel-air activists, Samba Boukman, accused agents of the National Police and supporters of the former opposition to Aristide, including the man named Labanyè, of committing those murders.

According to Sanba Boukman, the police who was with an ambulance took away several bodies and arrested many people.

It is completely intolerable that the police and armed civilians commit such crimes in impunity under the eyes of the international community and human rights organizations », he declared, adding that since the PNH took its new orientation on February 29, 2004, it doesn't inspire trust at all anymore.

Several other activists declared that these new violent events against Fanmi lavalas activists are aiming to discourage them to take the streets of the capital in overwhelming majority on the occasion of the 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the constitution.

"We are more determined than ever to die to give our children a country where peace and justice reign", many of them declared, adding that constitutional order must be re-established in Haiti no matter what.

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### **The COPAH denounces the situation of injustice and violence that reigns in Haiti and calls Haitians to work to establish a fair and just society**

**Port-au-Prince, March 24 2005 (AHP)**- The Conference of Haitian Reverends (COPAH) invited Haitians Thursday to unity, love, solidarity and reconciliation on the occasion of Easter.

In a message to the population, of which a copy was sent to AHP, the COPAH recalled the meaning of this celebration which symbolizes love, sharing, peace, forgiveness, humility and sacrifice.

Recalling the great sacrifice Jesus-Christ did on the cross for humanity, the Conference of Haitian Reverends invited the Haitian people to take advantage of this Easter time to learn to love each other, to help each other, to forgive each other and to reconcile in order to finally live in peace.

"We must learn to show solidarity for the most underprivileged and to work for the establishment of a fair and just society », the COPAH exhorted while it declared that it has enough of this situation of injustice and impunity that currently reigns in Haiti.

The moral forces of the country resigned, there is no governing, the international community is playing cat and mouse while many citizens are dying of hunger and have no access to health care. Everywhere in the country, we count corpses, there is violence despite the presence of the UN forces, the COPAH declared.

The Conference of Haitian Reverends calls all those who are victims of persecution, repression or who are illegally rotting in prison to summon up their courage and strength since, the time of deliverance is near, it said.