

At least 5 people were killed Thursday afternoon in the district of Delmas 4 in Port-au-Prince. Witnesses reported that they were shot during an operation by police agents dressed in black.

Murder of peaceful demonstrators: the CARLI warns interim authorities that blind violence will not help them

Port-au-Prince, April 28, 2005 (AHP)-The Lawyers Committee for the Respect of Individual Freedoms (CARLI) declared Thursday that it condemned the brutal murder by the National Police, of Lavalas demonstrators who marched peacefully for their demands

CARLI leader Renan Hédouville declared that the repression in bloodshed of this march is a serious violation of the rights guaranteed by the Haitian constitution and the treaties ratified by Haiti. This exploding blind violence will lead nowhere and will not help interim authorities, the CARLI leader warned.

The leader of the human rights organizations also wondered how we can talk of democratic elections when we violate the population's most basic rights.

For his part, leader of the Alliance for the Liberty and Advancement of Haiti (ALLAH), Reynold Georges also condemned the national police's behaviour, as it ended a peaceful Lavalas activists march with much bloodshed once again. It is unacceptable that policemen start shooting on people with no arms.

Me Georges warned that there was no way the police's manoeuvres to try to make believe that there was a confrontation are going to be believed. He declared that he was aware that policemen had put a 45 gun next to a victim's body and then forced television teams to film it.

"Everyone knows that the police is responsible for what happened", the ALLAH leader declared, adding that what must be done now is for the general management of the institution to hand the guilty parties to justice.

For his part, leader of the Committee for the Defence of Haitians' Rights (CDPH), Ronald St-Jean, denounced the dispersal in bloodshed by the police of the peaceful march by Jean Bertrand Aristide's supporters who demanded his return.

Mr. St-Jean who gave his condolences to the victims' parents declared the government was responsible of this slaughter. He recalled that Lavalas activists had fulfilled their duty by notifying the police of the holding of this march.

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