

Ayotzinapa's "historical truth" is a "cheap novel"; we always said

July 3, 2020



The recent arrest, release and recapture of José Ángel Casarrubias Salgado, the 'Mochomo,' generate emotions, but also suspicions among the parents of the 43 normalistas. One of them, Antonio Tizapa, warns: they always demanded that Tomás Zerón de Lucio, former director of the Criminal Investigation Agency, be investigated.

Text and photos: Heriberto Paredes

New York.- Antonio Tizapa is just over 50 years old, and for several years has been living in Brooklyn, one of the boroughs of New York City with the largest presence of Latin American communities. "Many of us are not here for pleasure, we are economically displaced and I have always said so," he says. He is the father of Jorge Antonio Tizapa Legideño, one of the 43 students from the Ayotzinapa Rural Normal School who were disappeared on September 26, 2014 in Iguala, Guerrero.

Tizapa is a runner, and over the years he has organized several races and participated in many others in various cities in the United States. Through athletics he has taken the struggle to find the students to many corners, he has become a good-hearted runner, as he defines himself.



What do you think of the arrest of José Angel Casarrubias, the ‘Mochomo’ and the arrest of apprehension against Thomas Zerón?

With regard to the arrest of this figure, this is a network of criminals that we had no knowledge of at the beginning of all this. I hope it’s not a smokescreen like past governments have done.

Pending questions

The arrest of this criminal leader, occurs shortly after the attack on Omar García Harfuch, who also had to do with the Ayotzinapa case. Why did it happen, that with the attack of Omar they quickly got the cameras, and in our case not? What happened to the recordings of the cameras that recorded what happened to our children?

Hopefully a lot of information is provided and we can know the whereabouts of our children. From the beginning, I have demanded the arrest of Tomás Zerón de Lucio, Jesús Murillo Karam and Enrique Peña Nieto, among many others.

**The damage is done:
everyone still believes the FGR version**

Even that day of “historical truth,” when Murillo Karam went to give the information about our children, a few hours earlier he was with the mothers and fathers of Ayotzinapa, in Chilpancingo, in the hangar of Chilpancingo, and supposedly

this gentleman was going to say absolutely nothing about the investigation. When we realized what he said, it was such pain, to this day, thanks to the mass media that reach the last corners of the Mexican people, even here, such as Univision, Galavisión and Tele Mundo, I have met people who maintain that image and those words that these officials expressed.

The arrest of these people, I repeat, let's hope it actually yields results. Here, from the beginning, when I was asked about Zerón and Murillo Karam, I always told them it was a lie about the "historical truth." The first thing they must do is arrest Zerón and Murillo Karam, of course, also Enrique Peña Nieto, and that's where the others come, both material and intellectual authors, members of the municipal police, and the military, who are the ones at the forefront. With those three we're going to start from top to bottom to tell us where our kids really are. They know.

Do you believe that the current Mexican government, with all the social, political and economic pressure it has, has the possibility, the capacities and the will to really investigate thoroughly?

There is capacity, I believe there is, but a very important thing is the facts. You have the will, you must execute the action, you must execute that will, because if there is a will and there is no way to execute it, it simply remains. The important thing is the facts.

Let us hope that the current government acts as it should and adheres to the laws. I really believe that this is how we will know the true whereabouts of our children. I have said it with Peña Nieto, how is it possible that he found 'Chapo Guzmán' in three months and by then our children were just over 1 year. It is not possible that he did not find 43 students. Peña Nieto said he had the technology to find people underground, "we are looking for our children alive, not dead," I told him.

With that technology we can place people in a two by three. We are in the 21st century, where right now they are listening to what we are saying and they know where we are going, they know what we are saying, they know how to reach us, that's how easy it is with this technology.

Everything that has happened in 69 months is difficult. With the new government, when Mr. Obrador came to New York, it was an unexpected meeting between him and me. First I told him who I was, and that is where I came from "I was asking about Enrique Peña Nieto and the military' and not him, but the demand has always been the investigation of all those responsible. I have always told Obrador to say it, even with the consul, and all this has been drawing international pressure.

When López Obrador came they wanted to approach me. I'm not with that, so they can take a picture and say, Ayotzinapa's father who's in New York is with Obrador. A lot of people following him attacked me in the networks. But I didn't want to go down that path because what interests me is my son and Obrador is the president, he must enforce the laws, so let's hope there's no Peña Nieto agreement with Obrador not to be arrested.

Now that the arrest warrant was finally issued for Tomás Zerón, it is clear to me that they would have to be in jail from the day that Murillo Karam stood there and gave his version, but I would like him to tell us, for you, if we had to describe their crimes, how would you describe the crimes that these senior officials committed?

The simple fact of doing everything they did, of giving that cheap novel on an international level. First, whose idea was it to do that “historical truth”? We know that Mexico is number one in producing novels. They wanted to do something with our children and with their families, they know where we are from, where we come from, that we are very humble people. So they said, ‘We are going to invent this and with that we take off that pressure and everything dies there,’ but no.

Peña Nieto offered money that no dad and no mom accepted in exchange for silence, in exchange for a son. That’s not going to happen. I say it because I’ve lived it, with people I’ve sometimes met, ‘You’re the dad of one of the guys who was killed in...’ ‘No, you’re misinformed.’ From there a crime is being committed, simply because they have invented the “historical truth,” they should be in jail.

I’m sure there must be more crimes, as politicians, as officials. They’re like that. What happened with Atenco and Peña Nieto, and yet they made him president.

They should be arrested and say where our children are, because they know. They didn’t participate materially, but they’re hiding what really happened.

The sport: An ally in the search for the 43

Don Antonio, you have turned sports into one of your fighting trenches, to publicize what happened in Ayotzinapa. How has this running process been carrying the flag of all the families of the 43 students?

That day [September 26, 2014] at around 10 in the morning my daughter sent me a message saying that there were problems in Ayotzinapa. ‘It usually happens,’ I said. Sometimes at the beginning of the school year the police repression usually happens, but I never imagined this. We did not know where that repression had been. The next day we realized that it was in Iguala and that this happened to them.

It’s been really hard, you practically don’t know what to do. I walked for like 3 days with a temperature thinking what to do. Then, already farther away, everything was very difficult. When they saw the last bus arrive and see moms and



dads, waiting for their son to get off that bus. You as a father, you as a mother, you see that your son does not come down, you get a very great helplessness, a very great courage, and alone here in New York, in this great city without being able to do anything. What are you doing, you're leaving, you're not leaving? Your mind is chaos and what I was doing was communicating, after work, communicating, and then I was going to run to the park.

The trees have been witnesses, there in Prospect Park. The park embraced me. Then I printed a white t-shirt with yellow letters, to wear Ayotzinapa and 43, and my colleagues knew nothing, from there they said to me why don't we make a club. It had already been a month, two months had passed; I didn't want to do it because we thought they were coming back soon. I know Iguala, more or less. Maybe the boys went to the hill, they are looking for a town, they come to that town, and that was the idea we had, in two weeks we may already have them here. But we have not known more and I found myself needing to make this silent protest with my legs and my heart.

I had a lot of sports shirts, I printed them for colleagues from Puebla and the State of Mexico, I was giving them away and giving them away, then we wanted something more of ours. I chose the green shirt, I gave it a great meaning: it is green because it is a lot of hope, the flag and the turtle of Ayotzinapa, then there are three things, that's why the great meaning of the color green.

This is how this revolution of conscienceness began, without using weapons, more with the legs and with the heart. The people around me who embrace the moms and dads are very supportive people. We have organized two official races of ours and participated in several marathons, it is something that has taken us to another level, to be seen in more than 25 countries, to see the reality of what is happening in Mexico.

We not only speak for our children, we also speak for the different injustices that we have in our country. We are the only club that does these things, the teammates are very happy. We are not amateur runners, I think we are good-hearted runners and we do more than professional runners.