

SUPPORT YOUNG DEFENDERS IN MEXICO

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¡Muchas gracias por tu apoyo!

The Human Rights Center "Fray Francisco de Vitoria O.P.", A.C team appreciate the trust placed in our work as youth defenders throughout the first months of 2023 through our various actions of accompaniment, defense, research, education, promotion, litigation, communication, political advocacy, and public denunciation from a holistic perspective.



We would like to dedicate this edition to the memory of our dear chief and colleague Miguel Concha Malo, co-founder and president of the board of directors of the Human Rights Center "Fray Francisco de Vitoria, O.P." A.C., where for more than 30 years he was the chief of the organization.

He was born in the city of Querétaro, on August 8, 1945. He was a religious and a Dominican priest ordained by the VII Bishop of Cuernavaca: Sergio Méndez Arceo, on July 25, 1970. He studied Philosophy at the Center for Philosophical Studies of the Province of Santiago of the Order of Preachers in Mexico, in the City of León, Guanajuato, and Catholic Theology in the General Study of the Order of Preachers in the Caribbean (Puerto Rico), the Pontifical University of Santo Tomás de Aquino in Rome, and the Pontifical Faculties of Philosophy and Theology of the Dominican Province in France, where he obtained the PHD in Theology.



twice the National Prize for Journalism (2003 and 2006) from the Club of Journalists of Mexico, the National Prize for Journalism in Human Rights "José Pagés Llergo" (2008), the "Ponciano Arriaga Leija" from the Federal District Human Rights Commission (2011), the "Gilberto Rincón Gallardo" National Faces of Discrimination Award from the National Council to Prevent Discrimination, and a Medal and Honorable Mention from the National Human Rights Commission Human Rights, for their work in favor of the recognition and observance of human rights.

Don Miguel, as he used to be known by those who admired him for his work and simplicity, was always interested not only in the cause of human rights but also in the fight for the democratization of the country and for the dignity of those below. He stood out for his work as a journalist and defender in his career of more than 39 years in the defense and promotion of the human rights of the most vulnerable populations in Mexico.

Chief of the Center for Human Rights "Fray Francisco de Vitoria, O.P." A.C., was recognized through multiple national and foreign awards and distinctions for his tireless work as a defender and journalist, among which are the "Roque Dalton" Medal and Testimony, granted by the Council for Cooperation with Culture and Science of El Salvador, A.C., (2002),



He was characterized by constant simplicity and humility until the last moments of his life. His bet was the work from below, from the critical articulation for the transformation of structures that generate oppression and inequalities. His mystique is always nourished by walking with the most excluded and at the same time recognizing the strength that is born from them to fight where he always put his energy and heart.

Talking about Don Miguel is talking about a life determined in the search for justice, resistance, democracy, peace and social struggle. But it is also talking about friendship, complicity and joy, because beyond being a great defender of human rights and chief of the Vitoria Center, he was a friend, an accomplice, a teacher of the academy and of life with whom you could share your ideas, fears and joys. Collective struggle partner who sowed paths of dignified lives in the face of unfair systems.

The sower Don Miguel, planted and harvested milpa during his walk in human rights. In each planting that he stepped on along the way, he managed to rekindle the flame of social justice and hope. The departure of our esteemed sower invites us to continue his legacy on human rights in the search for justice and peace, always walking alongside the victims. It encourages us to continue building resistance by making milpa to achieve dignified living conditions and rebuild memory, truth and justice. It reminds us that without a voice, there is no freedom; without freedom, there is no justice; and without justice, there is no peace or social democracy.



From the team of The Human Rights Center “Fray Francisco de Vitoria O.P.”, A.C we thank our dear Don Miguel for the teachings, reflections and feelings shared with each person who crossed, shared and built a path during his existence. As your Defenders Youth Center, we will honor your struggles, trajectory, and ideals until your desire for a dignified life for all is achieved.



**In memory of Miguel Concha Malo.
Human rights defender,
journalist, teacher, mentor, friend.
Sower of hope and love,
a good man.**

