You Can’t Have Democracy When You Put the Truth in Prison: The Fourteenth Newsletter (2019)

Dear Friends,

Greetings from the desk of the Tricontinental: Institute for Social Research.

You will open this newsletter just a few days before Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva will wake up in the federal prison headquarters in Curitiba. On 7 April, the one-year anniversary of his incarceration, you will go about your day, perhaps reading bits and pieces of this newsletter or saving it to read later.

Lula will likely eat what he ate on his first day in prison: bread and butter with his coffee. We will know that across the planet there will be demonstrations in his name. "Lula Livre" they will cry out. "You're not alone," they will say, "você não está sozinho." It will give him hope.
The death of Hani, a communist who worked closely with Mandela, is a reminder that the fight against apartheid is not over. Mandela and his colleagues fought to create a society where all people are equal, and they continue to do so today.

The struggle against racism and inequality is ongoing in Brazil and around the world. The fight against inequality is not just about economic justice, but also about social justice and political power. The struggle for democracy and freedom is a never-ending battle, and we must continue to fight against all forms of oppression and exploitation.

The memory of Hani and others who gave their lives for freedom is a source of inspiration and motivation for those who continue to fight against racism and inequality. The fight against injustice is not easy, but it is essential for the construction of a fair and just society.

In conclusion, the death of Hani is a reminder of the ongoing struggle against racism and inequality. The fight for democracy and freedom is a never-ending battle, and we must continue to fight against all forms of oppression and exploitation. The memory of Hani and others who gave their lives for freedom is a source of inspiration and motivation for those who continue to fight against racism and inequality.