

Havana, September 8, 2004

Critical Conditions persist with political prisoner, Dr. Oscar Elias Biscet.

I have not committed any indiscipline. I have only requested safety for me due to the difficulties within the prison. For that, no prisoner should be sanctioned, but if the authorities have allowed it by superior orders of the nation, I will comply with dignity to this unfair punishment. My spirit and my conscience are well.

-Dr. Biscet, Cell Block # 5 Prison Km 8, Pinar del Rio.

We received this note from my husband in jail August 26th when we went to find out how he was doing. In the 17 months he has been in prison since the trial summary of April 2003, he has lived more than 8 months in a cell block as punishment in subhuman conditions, and has been isolated from seeing his family. He is not allowed any visitors, telephone calls, food, or literature and his correspondence is censored. He is sleeping in a cement wall and is only given a mat at 10pm. The cell is completely deprived of sunlight, and all of his belongings have been taken away. From February 2003 and 7, September 2004, he has only been permitted 4 family visits, 3 deliveries of food, and not even one telephone call. During the 5 months that he co-existed with extremely dangerous prisoners, he felt harassed and pressured to comply with a discipline incongruous with his character and his principles, for these reasons, he refuses to co-exist.

Dr. Oscar Elias Biscet is the President of the Lawton Foundation of Human Rights. His only crime has been to honor the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, oppose the death sentence, and to have asked to live in democracy in his own country. Dr. Biscet also lost his profession as a medical doctor and was 3 years in jail in a prison of maximum security about 768km from his residency in the province of Holguin. He was liberated in November of 2002 and arrested again, December 6th of the same year.

My husband is a man that preaches and practices no violence and loves justice. The treatment he has been receiving in prison goes against his health, his dignity and his physical integrity. He suffers from Hypertension and grade III Hereditary Hypercholesterolemia, which presents serious dental problems, and severe digestive disorders. We know that the Cuban government preaches contrary to the public opinion. We know that Cuba has signed international agreements that prohibit these types of punishments, and we also know that this is a travesty against human rights. This is why we request the international solidarity of pro human rights groups, democratic governments and of all people who love justice to intercede before the Cuban government to demand the human treatment of my husband while he is in prison.

Truly yours,

Lie; Elsa Morejon Hernandez, esposa del prisionero Dr. Oscar Elias Biscet telf. 537 991774