

افغانستان آزاد – آزاد افغانستان

AA-AA

چو کشور نباشد تن من مباد
بدین بوم و بر زنده یک تن مباد
همه سر به سر تن به کشتن دهیم
از آن به که کشور به دشمن دهیم

www.afgazad.com

afgazad@gmail.com

European Languages

زبانهای اروپایی

By Maby Sosa
22.11.2022

Hebe, mother of all struggles



Sources: Argentine Weather

A profile of the career, conquests, fights and heroism of the president of the Association of Mothers of Plaza de Mayo. Hebe claimed that she was an ordinary mother, however, the disappearance of her children made her one of the most important mothers in history. "Having socialized motherhood gave us a very big possibility."

[Hebe de Bonafini](#) makes her way through a crowd of people who have been in the Recoleta neighborhood for several hours. He walks with the difficulty of age and carries in his hands a bouquet of flowers for Vice President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, who hours later would leave for the Senate to respond from her office to the accusations of prosecutor Luciani.

www.afgazad.com

afgazad@gmail.com

That gesture of Hebe, president of the Mothers of Plaza de Mayo Association, is one in thousands. Together with other women, she began her walk in April 1977 confronting the civic-military dictatorship. Fierce defender of democracy, firm convictions and an indomitable militancy that persisted until the last days of her life.

Hebe de Bonafini was born on December 4, 1928 in Ensenada. She was 14 years old when she married Humberto Alfredo Bonafini with whom she had three children: Jorge Omar, Raúl Alfredo and María Alejandra.

"I was a young mother, an ordinary mother, I always played a lot with my children," she said in an [interview with Rosario Lufrano](#) on Public TV for Mother's Day. "We were a close-knit family, my children were very different, all three. The biggest was more paternalistic, we called him *El Duque*, and Raúl was more of the bugs. And Alejandra studied everything, she knows everything about her."

It was the disappearance of her children that made her one of the most important leaders in the history of Argentina. His son Jorge Omar was the first to disappear. On February 8, 1977, he was taken from his home after being beaten in one of the many illegal operations of the dictatorship. On December 6 of that same year the same thing happened with Raúl Alfredo, in Berazategui. A year later, on May 25, 1978, Hebe's daughter-in-law, María Elena Bugnone Cepeda, Jorge's wife, disappeared.

"Desde los 15 años ellos hacían política. Yo estaba encantada de lo que hacían mis hijos, como yo casi no pude ir a la escuela, para mí todo era nuevo, me parecía fantástico", contaba Hebe. "Cuando se llevan a Jorge y Raúl tuvo que pasar a la clandestinidad, una ya está medio preparada o apertrechada. Yo le decía "Raúl, por qué no te vas" y nos veíamos muy poco. Después ya empezó a decirme que me iba a ver cada vez menos, pero quería ver a la nena. Alejandra con sus diez añitos veía a su hermano, pero nunca dijo dónde ni qué hablaban".

Dos años después de la desaparición de sus hijos, Hebe pasó a ser la presidenta de la Asociación Madres de Plaza de Mayo. "Transformamos el odio y la bronca en lucha. En una lucha concreta diaria, permanente, sin dejar nunca la Plaza", definía Hebe.

En los primeros años de la década del 80, ya durante el gobierno de Alfonsín, la dirigente intentó entrevistarse con el entonces presidente, quien nunca accedió a recibirla. Tiempo después se negó a darle la mano porque "con esa mano firmó la ley de Obediencia Debida y Punto Final, que permitió que los genocidas estén en la calle el tiempo que quieran", explicó.



Hebe de Bonafini marcha contra la Ley de Obediencia Debida del gobierno de Raúl Alfonsín (Télam)

Los gestos políticos de Hebe la diferenciaron de otras madres. En 1986, luego de profundos debates respecto a la Conadep y al desempeño del gobierno alfonsinista en relación con los derechos humanos, un grupo de integrantes se separó y fundó Madres de Plaza de Mayo – Línea fundadora, encabezadas por Nora Cortiñas y Tati Almeida.

Durante los 90 también se enfrentó al gobierno de Menem. “El día del indulto sentimos bronca, impotencia, odio. No puedo decir que no odio a aquel que hizo pedazos a más de 30 mil personas, que los violó y que robó a nuestros niños. Los odio desde lo más profundo de mi corazón. Por eso yo no voy a perdonar y no voy a olvidar”, dijo en una [entrevista en el programa *El Perro Verde*](#) que conducía el periodista español Jesús Quintero.

Allí dijo también que el entonces presidente Carlos Saúl Menem era una “basura”. Por esa expresión, el mandatario le interpuso una denuncia por desacato. Esa quizá fue uno de los tantos destratos judiciales que debió enfrentar Hebe a lo largo de su vida.

Durante el gobierno de Mauricio Macri la justicia, afín al oficialismo, se dedicó a perseguir a dirigentes sociales. En agosto de 2016, el juez Marcelo Martínez de Giorgi libró una orden de detención para Hebe y la declaró prófuga. Apenas se conoció la noticia, una multitud se instaló en la sede de la Asociación, frente a Plaza Congreso, para proteger a Hebe.

“Al señor juez de la Nación, Marcelo Martínez de Giorgi, me dirijo usted para manifestarle el motivo de respuesta a su citación. Desde el año 1977, desde el 8 de febrero de ese año vengo padeciendo las agresiones de la mal llamada justicia. En ese momento empezó mi calvario. Hice 168 presentaciones por mi hijo Jorge. Luego, en conjunto,

reclamé por mi hijo Raúl -que desapareció en diciembre del mismo año- en una constante peregrinación por los juzgados, siempre padeciendo la misma injusticia, las mismas agresiones. Las Madres siempre vamos a defender los valores de solidaridad social. Extender las manos a los vulnerados por sus sueños en este tiempo y por los que vendrán y vamos a luchar para que alguna vez nos enfrentemos con jueces probos que nos ayuden a sentir en nuestros cuerpos el valor de la justicia”, le respondió al juez en una carta que leyó en Plaza de Mayo.

El encuentro con el kirchnerismo

It was Cristina Kirchner's greeting that confirmed the death of Hebe de Bonafini. "God called you the day of National Sovereignty... it should not be a coincidence," the vice president said on Twitter.

Kirchnerism had in Hebe one of its great allies. "We didn't support the vote because we thought it was all the same shit," Hebe once said of Nestor Kirchner's candidacy. However, some time later, he asked for an audience with the president and had an affectionate reception and a meeting that lasted forever.

Last March, Bonafini received Cristina at the headquarters of the Mothers. "He was always with the same smile, the same hug," he said on that occasion.

It was in the early days of Kirchnerism when Hebe founded the program for housing construction, "Shared Dreams" that later ended with a court case due to the management of funds at the hands of Sergio Schoklender.

As a defender of Kirchnerism, Hebe also led support for the presidents of the region Hugo Chávez, Rafael Correa and Evo Morales.

The Church, a hostile place

Hebe knew how to be one of the great opponents of Jorge Bergoglio, who was in charge of the Archbishopric of Buenos Aires. Reconciliation came when the church official became Pope Francis.

In May of this year, the Pope received Hebe at the Vatican. It was a meeting that lasted almost three hours. Upon her return, Hebe said: "I had lost faith completely and when the relationship began it gave me back the faith so needed... Without faith you cannot live, and thanks to that faith I talk to my children every night."

She also said that she had been invited many times to the Vatican but she never accepted because of the successive fights they had.

The farewell

Hebe de Bonafini had already had some problems in October so she was hospitalized and under medical supervision. Last week he toured the Plaza de Mayo in his usual Thursday march with high school students who carried out school occupations, as part of a plan to fight for a series of slogans against the government of the City of Buenos Aires.

"We transform hatred and anger into struggle. In a concrete daily struggle, permanent without ever leaving the square. Thirteen and a half years we did not miss a single Thursday to the Plaza. We defended it and we continue to defend it because it is the bastion for our people. Thursday is the day that is claimed against injustice, that the men and women who are fired from their jobs, who are persecuted, who are evicted, go to the Plaza."

For her part, Alejandra, daughter of Hebe, wrote a statement on Sunday. "We greatly appreciate the demonstrations of love, accompaniment and concern that, in these days of hospitalization in the Italian Hospital of the city of La Plata, as in all her militant career, my mother has received. These are very difficult moments of deep sadness and we understand the love of the people for Hebe, but at this moment as a family we have the need to mourn the Mother of Plaza de Mayo, Hebe, in privacy," he added.

"From now on there are no words that really mean my deep gratitude to the medical health team that for so many years assisted and cared for her, as well as, as well as the medical team, nursing, auxiliaries and directors of the Italian Hospital of La Plata, who during the days of hospitalization were by my mother's side taking care of her with much love and respect. We will continue to find Hebe in the Plaza and in the village struggles!" concluded her daughter.

Mother of struggles



Hebe claimed that she was an ordinary mother, however, the disappearance of her children made her one of the most important mothers in history. "Having socialized motherhood gave us a very big possibility."

He said he missed his children but only in a few moments. "I got used to living without them but I got used to living with millions and I don't have time to miss them. When dates arrive that are in the almanac yes, the table is smaller. They are not. There it is strange but then not. Since we do not consider our children dead, every night there is a dialogue with them. I review what I do in the day almost with them. The first thing you forget about your children is your voice, I have to remember their voice, and that costs. That 'hello mom' you have to make an effort to hear it again. I intend for him to appear to me."

Revenge was never his banner. Yes, the justice that was denied him for years and that he could only obtain with the trials against humanity that began to be carried out at the impulse of human rights organizations and political decision of Kirchnerism.

Source:<https://www.tiempoar.com.ar/politica/quien-fue-hebe-de-bonafini-madre-de-luchas/>

Rebellion 21.11.2022