

Names remembered in sorrow and honor

2020

- [Pedro Arcangel Canelas](#), Honduras, owner of Radio Bambi, shot Dec. 20. The Inter American Press Association said Canelas was shot to death by a man on a motorcycle in the rural province of Olancho.
- [Félix Vásquez](#), Honduras, Dec. 26, a longtime environmental activist from the Lenca indigenous group, was shot by masked men in front of relatives in his home in Santiago de Puringla.
- [Jose Adán Medina](#) was found shot to death in a remote location in the community of El Volcan, also in western Honduras. Medina was a member of the Tolupan Indigenous group
- [Javier Francisco Parra Cubillos](#), Colombia, an official from regional environmental authority Cormacarena, shot in La Macarena, Dec. 3. According to the [Institute for Development and Peace](#), this was the 284th murder of social, labor and Indigenous leaders in Colombia this year.
- [Juana Perea Plata](#), eco-tourism resort owner and environmental advocate, killed on a beach in the northern coastal region of Chocó, Colombia October 29.
- [Arnold Joaquín Morazán Erazo](#) shot in his home in Tocoa, Honduras, one night in October 2020. So far, at least eight people who have opposed the mine have been killed, putting its owner, Inversiones Los Pinares, at the centre of a [deadly environmental conflict](#) in the mineral-rich Bajo Aguán region, according to
- [Luis Alonso Almendares](#), Honduras, independent journalist killed September 27.
- [Benoit Maria](#), Guatemalan director of Agronomes et Veterinaires Sans Frontieres, ambushed and killed in northeastern Guatemala Aug. 12.
- [Four Indigenous Garifuna men](#) — Alberth Sneider Centeno, Milton Joel Martínez Álvarez, Suami Aparicio Mejía García and Gerardo Misael Trochez Calix — disappear on this day in Triunfo de la Cruz, Honduras. As of this day a year later, in 2021, no one has seen the four again. It is presumed that they were assassinated by the Honduran military.
- [Germán Vallecillo Jr.](#), reporter with Canal 45, and cameraman Jorge Posas, Honduras, killed July 1.
- [Regan Russell](#), Canadian animal rights activist is run over and killed by a truck driver in a demonstration outside Sofina Foods in Burlington, Ontario, on June 16.
- [Jorge Enrique Oramas](#), murdered May 16 in Villacarmello, Columbia. This was the 100th activist murder in Columbia in 2020, according to the [Institute of Studies for Development and Peace](#) (Indepaz).
- [Twelve Congo conservation rangers](#) protecting critically endangered mountain gorillas were killed in an ambush April 24, apparently by Hutu rebel forces. The attacks bring the total ranger corps deaths around the Virunga gorilla and chimpanzee habitat to 176 since the year 2000.
- [Yehry Rivera](#), 45, a land activist and member of the Brörán tribal group in Costa Rica, was killed by a mob Feb. 24. The murder follows the near-death of Mainor Ortiz Delgado, 29, a leader of the Bribri indigenous people in neighboring Salitre.
- [Homero Gomez Gonzales](#), manager of El Rosario monarch butterfly reserve and advocate for preservation of nature in Mexico, went missing Jan. 20. [He was found dead](#), floating in a well, on Jan 29. A part time tour guide at the butterfly reserve, Raúl Hernández Romero, also went missing Jan. 27 [and was found dead in early February](#).