

El mozote



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

El Mozote El Mozote 1

El Mozote

The El Mozote Massacre occurred in the village of El Mozote, in Morazan unit, El Salvador, when Salvadoran defense force massacred no less than 1000 inhabitants in an anti-guerrilla operation. It is supposed to be the most horrible of such an act of violence in modern Latin American history. It all started on the afternoon of December 10, 1981. Groups of the Salvadorian armed forces Atlacatl Battalion reached at the distant village of El Mozote after a conflict with guerrillas in the surrounding area. It was the initial unit of its type in the Salvadoran military and was prepared by the US martial advisors. Its mission was Operacion Rescate or in other words Operation Rescue, was to abolish the revolutionary existence in a small district of northern Morazan, where the FMLN had a base camp and a training area. On the arrival of the armed forces, the soldiers not merely found the villagers but the campaigners who have constructed a refuge in the neighborhood area. The military forces asked the villagers about the guerrillas and told them to lock themselves in their houses¹.

In the next two days, soldiers separated men and women plus children as well. During the morning they grinded torture and finished the men in various locations. After killing the men, they took women and older girls in groups, raped them and then killed them from their machine guns. Girls of age 12 were also raped under the alleged reason of supporting the guerrillas. After killing the whole inhabitants, soldiers set up fire to the buildings. On December 13, they went to the village of Los Toriles, which is 2 km away from El Mozote. A lot of inhabitants managed to escape but the unfortunate were lined up and shot dead.

El Mozote 2

However, the same thing was repeated in La Joya canton on December 11, in the village of La Rancheria on December 12 and in the village of Jocote Amarillo plus Cerro Pando canton on December 13. The victims of El Mozote were left unburied².

The guerrilla's secret radio station started spreading news of a massacre of inhabitants in the region. On December 31, the FMLN subjected " a call to the International Red Cross, the OAS Human Rights Commission and the intercontinental journalists to validate the genocide of over 900 Salvadorans" within and in the surrounding region of El Mozote. A number of Salvadoran human rights groups criticized the massacre. The Salvadoran system firmly shorn of that a massacre had occurred. No legal inquiry was commenced and there was no utterance of any analysis by the authorities or the military³.

However, in the superseding years, the El Mozote tale was gradually buried. In 2007, t he OAS's Inter-American Commission on Human Rights unlocked the inquiry of the El Mozote massacre because of innovative proof originated by a team of Argentine forensic anthropologists in 2003. Current hard work by the lawyers in El Salvador to regenerate the case, which was abandoned in 2000, has constantly been unsuccessful⁴.

However, a book was written in the honor of the victims of El Mozote by the author Mark Danner namely " The Massacre at El Mozote and Beyond the Mountains: The Legacy of Duvalier." He is a regular donor to foremost magazines and is a regular guest on news examination for television series⁵.

El Mozote 3

Bibliography

<https://assignbuster.com/el-mozote/>

Mark Danner. The Truth of El Mozot. Retrieved on April 20, 2008 from <http://globetrotter.berkeley.edu/people/Danner/1993/truthelmoz01.html>

Institution of International Studies. (1999). Conversation with History.

Retrieved on April 20, 2008 from <http://globetrotter.berkeley.edu/people/Danner/danner-con1.00.html>

The University of Arizona. (2005). The El Mozote Massacre. Retrieved on April 20, 2008 from <http://www.uapress.arizona.edu/books/BID999.htm>

Joan Didion. (1994). Something Horrible in El Salvador. Retrieved on April 20, 2008 from http://www.nybooks.com/articles/article-previewarticle_id=2172