

# Reclaiming the Radical Militancy of Dr. Martin Luther King's Legacy

**We Demand Mumia Abu Jamal's Release from the United States' 400-yr Old Chains**

TODAY, the government of the United States, its corporate media and its liberal prison-war complex is pretending to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King. They peddle a sanitized façade of him, a Black Santa Claus who brought us "a dream" in his sack.

But we are here to honor the real Dr. King, the man who was despised in his time by the powerful, just as Mumia Abu Jamal and other revolutionaries are despised by today's power structure. Just like Mumia Abu Jamal, Dr. King was demonized, imprisoned, censored, and spied upon.

The real Dr. King was dangerous. He threatened capitalism, militarism and the entire racist structure underpinning U.S. economic and social order. For that, he was ultimately murdered, as were most Black revolutionaries of his time. But Mumia, born into the legacy of radical Black thought and Black liberation militancy, has survived multiple attempts on his life by the police and the power structure upholding it.

Mumia was falsely accused, framed and convicted for a crime he did not commit. The state has stolen over 37 years of his life, but he is not a broken man. Just like Dr. King's *Letter From a Birmingham Jail* echoes through time, Abu Jamal's *Prison Radio Commentaries* inspires us all to understand and commit to what Dr. King called the indivisibility of justice – that injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

We join together – millions of us around the world – in the fight for our brother Mumia Abu Jamal, the United States most high-profile political prisoner, because we will not sit back and allow an innocent man to remain



in the racist chains this country forged for him four centuries before he was even born.

The evidence of Mumia Abu Jamal's innocence has been overwhelming, as has been the evidence of corruption and coverups in his case – from the police all the way to the PA Supreme Court.

TODAY, we remind District Attorney Larry Krasner that the people of Philadelphia elected him precisely and only because he ran on the platform to end the industry of mass incarceration in our city, and

#### Brief summary of the case and evidence:

- On Dec. 9, 1981, Abu-Jamal was driving a taxi when he saw that police had stopped his brother. He got out of the car to make sure police were not violating his brother's civil rights. An altercation followed that left both Mumia and Police Officer Daniel Faulkner shot. Faulkner died and Abu Jamal was critically wounded.
- Eyewitnesses saw the shooter flee the scene who did not resemble Abu-Jamal. But when police arrived, they arrested Mumia Abu-Jamal.
- Ballistics reports prove that the gun found on Mumia Abu-Jamal, a .38 caliber weapon, was not the gun that killed Officer Faulkner. He was shot with a .44 caliber weapon.
- Remarkably, police did not even test Abu-Jamal's weapon to see whether or not it had been fired nor did they test his hands for gunpowder residue!
- Eyewitnesses who were not called to testify in 1982 have come forward to confess that they were coerced into testifying and confirmed that Abu Jamal was not the shooter. Eyewitness Veronica Jones says police threatened to jail her unless she lied for them. Other witnesses, who testified against Abu-Jamal in the original trial, have changed their stories, saying police threatened and intimidated them
- Judge Albert Sabo, who presided over Abu-Jamal's trial in 1982, was a member of the Fraternal Order of Police and was openly hostile to the defense. He prevented Abu-Jamal's court-appointed attorney from getting the money necessary to investigate and prepare a defense. A court staffer heard Sabo declare, "I'm gonna help them fry the n----r. Judge Sabo had sent more people to death row than any other judge in the entire country, most of them Black and Latino.
- The prosecution used what have since been ruled illegal means to keep Black people off the jury. Only two Black jurors served on this case, in a city that is 40 percent Black
- During sentencing, the prosecution condemned Abu-Jamal for having been a member of the Black Panther Party, which they falsely portrayed as a hate group

specifically to work to release the wrongfully convicted.

While there has always been ample evidence of Mumia's innocence, a recent court decision found that former Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Ronald Castille was biased in upholding the murder conviction against Abu-Jamal. Castille ran the D.A.'s office that first opposed Abu-Jamal's appeals and was also later the higher court judge who refused his appeal despite an outcry from the community to recuse himself due to conflict of interest.

Based on two years of hearings, Philadelphia Common Pleas Judge Leon Tucker has reinstated Mumia's right to appeal. The day after Tucker's Dec 27, 2018 ruling, DA Krasner revealed six hidden boxes of files marked with Abu-Jamal's name. This is the latest evidence of years of misconduct and cover-up. A just remedy would require dismissal of charges by the DA and Mumia's freedom.

We call on Krasner to ensure Mumia Abu Jamal's right to re-argue his appeals, because we are confident his conviction will be overturned.

Time is running out on Mumia Abu-Jamal, the United States most well-known political prisoners in the U.S. He is 65 years old, his health deliberately sabotaged by the prison system, delaying treatment for Hepatitis C, resulting in cirrhosis of the liver. We must all unite to ensure justice for our brother Mumia Abu Jamal. Just as we stood for and by the sides of other revolutionary political prisoners, from Nelson Mandela to Angela Davis, we will stand by Mumia Abu Jamal until he walks free.

Dr. King said "the arc of the universe is long, but it bends toward justice." But know this is not a passive phenomenon. We know the *only* reason it bends is because revolutionaries like Dr. King

and Abu Jamal and the movements that produced them take to the streets and do what Dr. King prescribed: "disrupt our cities...create a crisis that will force the nation to look at the situation, dramatize it...make it known that until our problem is solved, America may have many, many days, but they will be full of trouble."

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO

Please contact DA Krasner and tell him:

Do NOT appeal Judge Tucker's decision! Don't stand in the way of justice!

Email: [DA\\_Central@phila.gov](mailto:DA_Central@phila.gov); Phone: 215-686-8000; Tweet: [@philaDAO](https://twitter.com/philaDAO)

For more info: [Mobilization4Mumia.com](http://Mobilization4Mumia.com)