

Call for justice in murder of Salvadoran poet Roque Dalton

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Roque Dalton made his mark on the literary scene of Latin America for his poetry and political commitment

San Salvador, May 12 (RHC)-- The demand for justice for poet Roque Dalton continues today in El Salvador, where his heirs are confident that the constitutional court will order the reopening of their investigation into his death.

The writer and journalist Juan José Dalton, son of the renowned poet, explained to Prensa Latina news agency that the Constitutional Chamber evaluates an amparo accepted in 2018, to delve into the crime and judge those responsible.

"To be a truly democratic country, El Salvador has to bring to justice this and other cases of crimes against humanity still unpunished," said Roque Dalton son, on the 46th anniversary of his father's murder.

The author of classics such as 'The Forbidden Stories of Tom Thumb' died on May 10, 1975 at the hands of his comrades of the People's Revolutionary Army, due to ideological discrepancies and alleged accusations of espionage.

Considered the most universal of Salvadorans, along with Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero, Roque Dalton made his mark in the literary sphere of Ibero-America for his poetry, his political commitment and his personality.

However, his body was never delivered to his relatives, and to this day it is still unknown where he was buried, although it is speculated that he lies in El Playón, a valley of dry lava, the result of the last eruption of the San Salvador Volcano.

The Human Rights Ombudsman's Office (PDDH) also requested the Salvadoran State to attend to the case, which is classified as a "war crime and crime against humanity," and therefore does not prescribe.

The PDDH asked the Attorney General's Office to "resume and promote" the investigation "in an exhaustive and conclusive manner" to clarify the crime, punish those responsible and make reparations to the poet's family.

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