

US / Canadian gold mining company Aura Minerals continues illegal destruction of 200-year-old Azacualpa Cemetery

<https://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/aura-minerals-continues-destruction-of-azacualpa-cemetery>

One day after the Court of Appeals in Santa Rosa de Copán re-affirmed (February 8, 2022) the illegality of any action by Aura Minerals and MINOSA (its Honduran subsidiary) to exhume, transfer and re-bury any remains from the 200-year-old Maya Chortí cemetery in Azacualpa (western Honduras), Aura Minerals/MINOSA continued with whole-scale destruction of the cemetery.



Azacualpa villager tries to stand in way of Aura Minerals/MINOSA heavy machinery further destroying their sacred burial ground, as mining company employees look on.

- Video clip from Hedme Castro (hedme.castro):
<https://www.facebook.com/100001279478489/videos/1014573639406576>

Aura Mineral's clandestine theft of corpses



This continuing destruction of the burial grounds of the Maya Chorti community of Azacualpa occurs days after Aura Minerals/MINOSA entered the cemetery at midnight, and exhumed an unknown quantity of bodies and transferred them in a night time convoy of trucks to a new cemetery where they were unceremoniously re-buried in unmarked graves.

- Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HekUNEn9AnU>

The next day, villagers found bones strewn on the grounds of the flattened burial ground.



It is impossible to over-state the illegality, corruption and greed characterizing Aura Minerals/MINOSA's open-pit, cyanide-leaching, gold mining operation in Honduras.

TESTIMONIO: Canadian Mining in the Aftermath of Genocides in Guatemala

Aura Minerals is acting with the same systemic corruption and illegality – and complicit support of the Honduran State (judicial and political actors, police and military) and US and Canadian political and legal systems – as set out in TESTIMONIO, addressing four courageous community defense struggles against the harms and violence, corruption and impunity of global mining companies (mainly Canadian, also American and Swiss) operating in Guatemala since 2004.

- To purchase books: <https://btlbooks.com/book/testimonio>
- For bulk purchases: karina@btlbooks.com
- <https://www.testimoniothebook.org/>
- <https://www.testimoniothebook.org/in-the-media>

Write to Aura Minerals

(sending copies to your politicians and media in US / Canada, and your own networks)

- info@auraminerals.com / www.auraminerals.com
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- Craigmuir Chambers, PO Box 71, VG1110, British Virgin Islands

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More information

Rights Action archives: <https://rightsaction.org/aura-minerals-archives>

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- Environmental Committee of Azacualpa,
<https://www.facebook.com/azacualparesiste/>
- ACI-Participa, <https://www.facebook.com/aci.participa/>, @aci.participa,
<https://aciparticipa.org/>
- Rights Action, info@rightsaction.org

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To support land and environmental defender groups and human rights and justice struggles in Honduras and Guatemala, and to provide emergency (COVID, hurricanes, political repression, etc.) relief funds, make check to "Rights Action" and mail to:

- U.S.: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091-0887
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