



## International Migrant Day pays homage to the lives, rights and contributions of migrants to societies everywhere.

This year we find ourselves in a migration crisis of proportions never known before. Western imperialism has caused an economic and social condition destroying our land and waters with a system built on the blood and exploitation of people, animals and our planets resources. It's been 500 years of that, while white men drew straight lines on a paper and called them borders. We live in the map of their world where they established their dystopia.

*whom we ask you to remember today  
we are no longer among the living.*

*we left our families to search for a better life, a better pay a way to send our kids to school.  
we fled from our homes, when the bombs started to fall, away from the gunshots around the corner.  
we perished when we moved, got caught at the borders, drowned in the sea, suffocated in containers.  
we perished in the prisons they put us when we didn't have the right papers or explanation,  
where we took our own lives awaiting deportation, living in limbo on and off the streets  
or out of loneliness and isolation that comes with life in a society that does not welcome us  
walk with us to grieve, to mourn those we've lost to these brutal policies  
Walk with us to stay awhile with the pain and the suffering, heavy to carry in body and mind,  
so we may heal, spark hope and resist together.*

*let us not close our eyes for the crimes inflicted on innocents,  
but pay our respects so we will not forget.  
We remain here and more of us will come*