

## **In memory of the murder of Ferhat Mayouf: Loud, angry and offensive against prisons!**

### **For freedom, for life!**

On the 23.07.20 Ferhat Mayouf was killed by Moabit prison guards. His cell was on fire. He screamed for help for several minutes. But the guards did not open the cell door. Ferhat was a Person of Color - born in Algeria. He died at 36 years old. The justice system claims it was a suicide, but we know it was a murder!

People of Color, migrants and Black people are racially harassed, oppressed, abused, tortured and murdered by the justice system and the State on a daily basis, at the hands of border policies, cops, or state institutions like jails. Ferhat Mayouf, too, was at the mercy of this violence. He was arrested on charges of theft on 29.06.20 in Neukölln. He was taken into custody because he did not have a German citizenship. After he was arrested, the cops brutally beat him to the point where his ribs ruptured.

Upon arriving in the Moabit prison on the 01.07.20, he immediately asked for medical aid. He showed the staff his wounds, and complained of pain from the cops' violence. He also asked for psychological help and stressed that he was not mentally well. Instead of driving him to a hospital to provide him with medical care, the jail decided to let Ferhat continue to be tortured under the racist violence of the State. He was put in solitary confinement where he was subject to torture methods--such as 24 hours continuous light exposure in the cell. He was beaten up by guards and then left alone with himself again.

"There was a day when Ferhat's character changed," say fellow inmates. "It was the day when the guards went into his cell and chopped him up."

But the "change of character" wasn't enough for the justice system. It was not enough to desecrate his body, to abuse him, to shatter his psyche. When Ferhat Mayouf's cell burned shortly after 11 p.m. on July 23, the guards "stood in front of the door chatting for several minutes". The guards chose to ignore the situation, as the prisoners shouted "Fire!" and "Help!" He, then, died of smoke intoxication.

If Ferhat Mayouf had been white and had German citizenship, he would not have been taken into police custody. He wouldn't have been beaten up by the cops. He wouldn't have been abused, tortured and murdered by the prison. His cell door would have been opened and he would have been freed from the flames. But Ferhat Mayouf was not white and did not have German citizenship. Under the State, unworthy life that can be destroyed. Or "must" be.

Murders like these are not isolated cases. They are the result of a racist State that displays its violence and authority on the streets, in the courts and in (deportation) jails. Therefore, racist police controls and arrests, detentions, deportations, abuses and murders are not a tragic phenomena that can be prevented by more humane policies or justice. The state construct has a fascist tradition, which not only carries the logic of domination within itself, but also constantly tries to enforce it with repressive means.

Repression is much greater than what activists experience, for example, at demonstrations. Repression is the permanent state violence that many people have to experience in everyday life. Dominant norms, which were never freely agreed upon with the dominant, are to be imposed. These norms are composed of capitalist, patriarchal and racist structures.

For this reason, (deportation) prisons are not filled with the upper class. They have been there since their existence to silence those who do not fit into or oppose the prevailing logic. Accordingly, they are a repressive means of the State to cement capitalism and white supremacy within society.

Through isolation and seclusion from the outside world, in addition to labor exploitation, people are being broken and made docile to authority. The exclusion from society is complete when prisoners are simply murdered.

This violence must not go unanswered. If they want to silence us, if they abuse, torture and murder, our response must be loud and angry! Therefore, on 23.07.21, on the anniversary of Ferhat's death, let us take to the streets together and commemorate Ferhat Mayouf by continuing to fight. Let us show with self-determined and offensive means what we think of their domination and their rules, from which only a few benefit!

We will first hold a commemorative rally at the Turmstraße subway station at 8 p.m., and then around 9 p.m. we will walk to the prison together, determined, angry and offensive. There we will be as loud as we can be to show solidarity with the prisoners and to take our anger to the streets. So bring objects with you that make a lot of noise and which, in the best case, the prisoners will also enjoy.

Prepare for the day. Be creative. Don't wait for others to express their anger, but go on the offense yourself and express resistant ideas. The prisoners are certainly also happy about preliminary actions.

For a society without prisons!

For an offensive response to their violence!

Until everyone is free!

Route: Kleiner Tiergarten on U-Bahnhof Turmstraße - Turmstraße - Lübeckstraße - Perleberger Straße - Birkenstraße - Rathenower Straße - Alt-Moabit - Alt-Moabit Höhe U-Bahnhof Turmstraße