

The Power Mafia and its Lackeys

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Germán Feliciano Larrea Mota Velasco, President of Grupo México, used to and continues to call the disastrous Javier Lozano Alarcón (Felipe Calderón's former Labour Minister) his 'lackey', and has consistently presumed that he can do whatever he wants with him. Lozano has always taken it upon himself to show that he is indeed under the power and control of the mafioso interests between master and servant. There must undoubtedly be strong financial links and particular ties that bind both individuals for them to be able to attack their enemies in such a heinous and unscrupulous fashion.

For at least 30 years the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (STPS by its initials in Spanish) has been somewhat indebted to the business sector, in return for the financial contributions and support made to their parties for political campaigns.

Over the years, they have set their sights on almost every single Mexican Labour Minister, certain deputy ministers and presidents of the Federal Conciliation and Arbitration Boards as a means of controlling workers and unions. They have also targeted the Attorney General's Office (PGR by its initials in Spanish), the Attorney General himself and his deputies, in order to criminalise social leaders, and also in some cases the Ministries of the Economy and the Treasury, as a way of easily getting their hands on mining concessions and other natural resources from the nation's subsoil, as well as significant tax deductions or unjustified rebates.

There is no other country in the world which provides the business class with these sorts of bonuses and gifts in such excessive proportions, without question, hence the huge fortunes that have been created in Mexico under every six year administration. According to Forbes magazine, there are currently more than 20 Mexican business owners among the planet's richest multimillionaires, Any threats to remove their investments or resources from the country if their demands are not met are just empty blackmail, as they can hardly take the earth or mountains with them, nor would they be granted such privileges by any other country in the world.

This is how the links between financial and political power become so tightly forged, and the dominance of the former over the latter becomes ever more patent. Furthermore, many members of the government and Congress are essentially on their payroll, put forward and protected by the same corporations and chambers of commerce who arrogantly see themselves as Mexico's owners.

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At the same time, we have a country where the majority of its population lives in poverty, blighted by enormous inequality, the lowest salaries on the market, one of the highest levels of corruption in the world and an unprecedented lack of security. Mexico is the country with the most dramatic contrasts in Latin America, and mean-spirited business owners and politicians have left the nation feeling frustrated, with a very low sense of self-worth and a disastrous international reputation.

All of this has grown out of major discrimination against the lower classes and sections of society, alongside an authoritarianism, high-handedness and repression of human rights unlike anything Mexicans have ever experienced before.

To those at the top, this has made them feel that they can control the nation's wealth and do as they please with it, via a network of law firms, police contacts, corruption, complicity with the media and journalists (although there are some honourable exceptions), as well as puppet trade unions and traitors who make a living from corruption and bribery. The rich have managed to control a government which is ever weaker and more submissive to their particular interests

A clear example is last week's announcement by this corporate mafia about the Miners Union supposedly being ordered to return or pay a fund of 54 million dollars to a small group of workers sponsored by the corporate groups Grupo México, Peñoles, Acerero del Norte and Villace ro. This fund belongs to the National Miners Union and not to the individual workers as they have been led to believe, thanks to manipulation of the Local Conciliation and Arbitration Board No. 10 under the previous and specific instruction of the current Labour Minister, Roberto Campa Cifrián.

Campa stated that he does not know Larrea personally, but did not shed any light on how well he serves his interests. He therefore acted illegally, misleading and deceiving small groups of the public, and he did it all with absolute and shameless ill intent. His real motive was to affirm the absolute control exercised by Larrea and certain other complicit business owners over government decisions through their latest lackeys, as they continue to pigeonhole them.

They're fooling nobody, not least the hundreds of thousands of workers and their families who have long realised the baseness, subjugation and paucity of the relationship between economic and political powers in Mexico.

Following the above example of what goes on in Mexico in terms of corruption, the miners will no longer allow themselves to be controlled or misled, for they have real intelligence and dignity and a human quality that is sincerely lacking in those who loot the country on a daily basis. Why do some of these lackeys take up office, if they aren't even capable or honest enough to govern with respect for the rule of law and Mexican people's human rights? Perhaps it's because they've heard whispers that Mexico is about to change and that PRI-party members are not going to be in power

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again for a very long time – maybe that explains why they are so morally and ethically bankrupt, desperately trying to protect themselves through their retirement funds, which they gained through swindling, cover ups, abusiveness and influence peddling?

In the case of the recent ruling by the Local Conciliation and Arbitration Board No. 10 against the National Miners Union, we are aware that they took the relevant file with them to Los Pinos with the aim of not accepting the miners' evidence, including a letter from Germán Feliciano Larrea written in August 1990 and addressed to a judge from Hermosillo, Sonora, acting with the power of attorney for Grupo México and for his father Jorge Larrea, in which he informs the judge for the avoidance of any doubt that the five per cent of resources do belong solely to the union and not the workers, and that furthermore, these funds come from the agreement acquired by the Larreas when they privatised the Mexicana de Cananea and the Mexicana de Cobre de Nacozari mines, under Carlos Salinas de Gortari's government.

Not even this prevented the new lackeys in government, Enrique Peña Nieto, Larrea, nor those who control the unmentionable top boss, from committing yet another act of abuse and arbitrary unlawfulness that sent a message to the electoral tribunal, in an attempt to influence their upcoming resolution on the candidacy of Napoleón Gómez Urrutia for the Senate of the Republic for the Morena party. This is the scale of the nervousness, fear and aggression of the enemies of the Mexican people.