IN DEFENCE OF WATER AND LIFE

THAT'S GREAT!

NO TO WATER PRIVATISATION

PHWOAAR SHE'S NICE MATE

NOT THE GIRL? I WAS LOOKING AT THE MARCH!

WHAT? THOSE PEOPLE ARE ANNOYING

NO TO WATER PRIVATISATION

NO THEY'RE NOT! IT'S PART OF A MOVEMENT. ACROSS PERU IN PIURA, HUANCAYO AND CHIMBOTE, PEOPLE ARE FIGHTING FOR THEIR RIGHT TO WATER.

NO TO WATER PRIVATISATION

HEY FRIEND, THE 22ND MARCH IS WORLD WATER DAY RIGHT?

YES IT IS!
IN HUANCAYO THEY FORMED A POPULAR MOVEMENT INVOLVING MARKET WORKERS, VILLAGERS, LOCAL RESIDENTS, WATER COMPANY WORKERS, WOMEN'S GROUPS, TRADE UNIONS, NGOS, COUNCILLORS AND LOCAL MAYORS...

THIS WAS BECAUSE THE MAYOR HANDED OVER THE WATER COMPANY TO A PRIVATE BUSINESS UNDER AN 'OPERATIONAL' CONTRACT, THE SAME AS HAPPENED IN TUMBES. THIS WAS AFTER THEY PAID FOR HIM TO GO ON AN ALL EXPENSES PAID TRIP TO ARGENTINA...

THE LAST STRAW WAS THAT NOT ONLY DID HE HAND OVER THE COMPANY, BUT THE MAYOR ALSO GAVE THE PRIVATE FIRM A $20 MILLION LOAN TO 'MODERNISE' THE COMPANY.

YOU SEE WE GAVE THEM EVERYTHING, JUST LIKE THEY DID IN TUMBES.

DO THEY ALWAYS GRAB EVERYTHING THEY CAN GET?
YES SO IT SEEMS MY FRIEND. THEY WILL ALWAYS PROFIT IF WE CONTINUE TO ALLOW IT!

LOOK AT THE MAYORS IN TUMBES AND ZORRITOS, THEY SAY THEY ARE SORRY AND ARE BEGGING FORGIVENESS FROM THEIR VILLAGES... BUT THE TARIFFS HAVE INCREASED AND THE SERVICE HAS NOT IMPROVED!

NOW THE ELECTIONS ARE COMING THEY WANT TO FIX THINGS.

HEY FRIEND, IN PIURA THEY WANTED TO PRIVATISE...

THEY'RE SUCH SCOUNDRELS!

BUT IN PIURA THEY DID NOT ALLOW THE COMPANY IN. THE CITIZENS, VILLAGERS, WORKERS, SOCIAL MOVEMENTS, CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, AND PROFESSIONALS, ALL CAME TOGETHER AND DEFENDED THEIR RIGHT WATER...

WE WANT AN EFFICIENT PUBLIC COMPANY, INVOLVING THE CITIZENS!

NO TO WATER PRIVATISATION IN PIURA
There we mobilised. We rejected the claims of the mayors, the promises of investment, and the handing over of our water company to private businesses.

In Chimbote, the people and the workers even have an agreement with the mayors, to resist privatisation.

Don’t privatise SEDA Plc in Chimbote

The same in Chiclayo, La Libertad, Ayacucho, Nazca and other places in the country.

Water is our right.

No to privatisation.

Yes to modernisation.

No to water privatisation.

FENTAP.
But why are they interested in selling our water?

Well, it is International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank policies that force our countries to give up their natural resources.

Listen, why do we have to sell our water. It is essential for life, and is our resource?

It's crazy!

I know. We can live without light, electricity and other things, but not water...

For that reason when you speak of wars this century, it will not be for oil but for water.

Imagine if we sell our water company and they end up exporting our water abroad.

Water..
In Cochabamba, Bolivia, the people mobilised against water privatisation. It was stopped, but there were deaths.

But in Buenos Aires they gave the water contract to the US firm, Enron, and the French firm, Suez.

The same has happened in other cities.

But, the services don’t improve and the tariffs go up.

In Bolivia, the government was forced to listen to the people and terminate the contract...

In Argentina the private firm abandoned the company after creating chaos...

The worst thing is, private companies are now seeking compensation for the money they say they have lost...
BUT NOW IN BUENOS AIRES WORKERS AND CITIZENS CONTROL THE WATER FIRM.

WHEN WILL THE WATER FLOW MATE?

SOON!

OH, IF THEY HAD SIGNED WITH A US COMPANY WE WOULD HAVE BEEN SCREWED!

WHY?

BECAUSE TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS (TNCs) PROTECT INVESTMENTS OF THEIR COMPANIES, AND LOOK TO GET OUR NATURAL RESOURCES AT THE SAME TIME.

WHEN THEY SIGN, THEY FREEDOM FOR THEIR COMPANIES TO TAKE ACTION.

THESE COMPANIES ARE NOT SUBJECT TO OUR COURTS BUT THEIR OWN LAWS. COMPANIES HAVE ESCAPED PENALTIES AT THE EXPENSE OF THE BOLIVIAN AND ARGENTINIAN PEOPLE.

BUT ARE THERE ALTERNATIVES TO PRIVATISATION?

BUT OF COURSE!
Governors, workers and citizens in Lambayeque operate under a public model, and Huancayo is in the process of developing one...

Where the management of the company is in the hands of specialists and experts...

With the help of workers, governors and local people...

This will be possible if we demand a referendum to decide the fate of our own businesses, just like what happened in Uruguay...

For this we have to unite together for water and for life.

No corporations
No to water privatization
Water is a human right

Fentap

Fentap is a Peruvian trade union www.fentap.org.pe