

# YUYANAPAQ: To Remember

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Yale

## YUYANAPAQ : To Remember

Between 1980 and the year 2000, Peru underwent unprecedented political violence that involved a painful pattern of assassinations, kidnapping, forced disappearance, tortures, unfair detentions, serious crimes and violations of human rights. The Maoist group Shining Path declared war against the State, starting an onslaught of violence and human rights violations that affected hundreds of thousands of Peruvians. Almost 60,000 people were killed, and some 600,000 people were forced to abandon their homes, generating an internal displacement phenomenon that affected social networks at locations of origin as well as destination sites.

The Peruvian Truth and Reconciliation Commission was created in 2001 to analyze the political, social and cultural conditions and behaviors that contributed to the situation of violence, both by the State and by society; to contribute to the administration of justice; and to make proposals for moral and material redress of violations.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission felt that to get at the truth it was trying to unravel, it was important to complement its written report with visual documents. The Commission created an Image Bank that was open to the public and included nearly 1700 photographs. It also prepared the photo exhibit "Yuyanapaq: To Remember;" the selection of more than 200 photographs organized in 27 topical rooms told the story of the war to a wider national and international public. While the main exhibit took place in the capital, Lima, a smaller selection of pictures was taken to other cities in the country and abroad.

Thanks to men and women who, equipped with cameras, decided to record the diverse and complex reality of the *manchaytimpu*, or "time of fear," the images reconstruct the history of those violent years. Many of these images had been ignored or trivialized. The majority of the incidents and protagonists had gone unnoticed or had been forgotten. To recover them and bring them once again to our memory, or to register them for the first time, became part of the struggle for truth and reconciliation. This collection remains a visual legacy for Peruvian society as a whole, with an encouraging assurance: The images don't change, but the eyes that see them do.

(Excerpts taken and adapted from the Peruvian Truth and Reconciliation Commission website, <http://www.cverdad.org.pe/ingles/pagina01.php>.)

# 1

Several dead dogs were hung on light poles in downtown Lima (Tacna and Emancipation Avenues) by Shining Path. They had banners that read “Deng Xiaoping, son of a bitch.”

*Downtown Lima  
December 26, 1980  
Photo by: Carlos Bendezú*

*Source: Caretas*



# 2

An Ayacucho peasant accused of ties to members of the Shining Path fills out forms in a detention room.

*Ayacucho  
April 1982  
Photo by: Oswaldo Sánchez*

*Source: Caretas*





### 3

Shining Path suspects transferred from Ayacucho after the attack on the Huamanga jail in March 1982 are escorted to the reopened penal island of El Frontón off Lima's coast.

*Frontón Island, Callao-Lima  
May 1982*

*Photo by: Oscar Medrano*

*Source: Caretas*

### 4

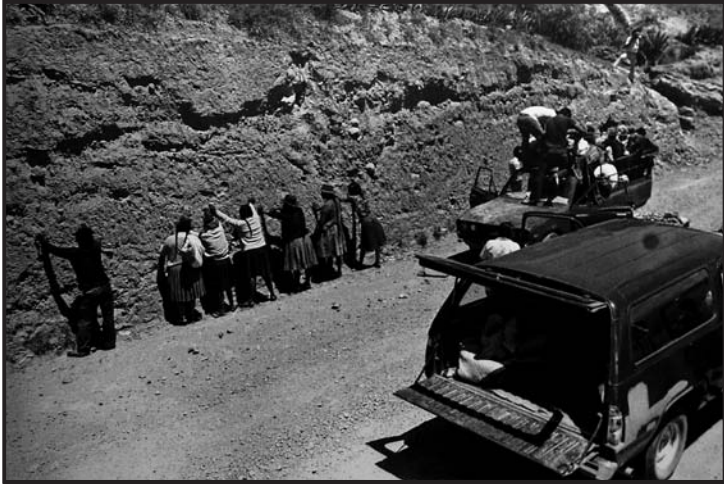
A portrait of President Fernando Belaúnde is recovered after a Shining Path attack on the Vilcashuamán Municipal Office.

*Vilcashuamán, Ayacucho  
August 1982*

*Photo by: Oscar Medrano*

*Source: Caretas*





## 5

In response to a series of dynamite attacks by the Shining Path in Ayacucho, the police combed the area (*batidas*), stopping and often apprehending men, women, and children.

*Ayacucho*  
*February 13, 1983*  
*Photo by: Jorge Ochoa*

*Source: La República*

## 6

A female peasant with the corpse of a relative, a victim of the armed conflict.

*Ayacucho*  
*February 13, 1983*  
*Photo by: Manuel Vilca*

*Source: La República*





## 7

In the Huamanga Hospital, Celestino Ccente, a peasant from Iquicha (Huanta), recovers from the wounds inflicted with a machete by members of the Shining Path.

*Huamanga, Ayacucho,  
1983*

*Photo by: Oscar Medrano*

*Source: Caretas*

## 8

The bereaved widow of the mayor of Cerro de Pasco, assassinated by members of the Shining Path on November 8, 1983. He was a member of the Acción Popular party.

*Cerro de Pasco  
November 11, 1983*

*Photo by: Gerardo Samanamud*

*Source: El Comercio*



# 9

The bodies of 29 men and women found in Pucayacu, next to the Mantaro River. According to witnesses, they had been tortured and executed by a group led by Lieutenant Commander Alvaro Artaz, the head of the Anti-Subversion Navy Base that operated in the Municipal Stadium in Huanta. He was nicknamed “Commander Truck.” Artaz appeared to have ordered that 50 prisoners be taken away from the base and executed just before an inspection by the Attorney General, Alvaro Rey de



Castro, who was investigating the disappearance of the journalist Jaime Ayala.

*Pucayacu, Huancavelica  
August 23, 1984*

*Source: Caretas*

# 10

Dionisio Morales, Simeón Aucatoma, and Mariano Ccasani, peasants sentenced for the murder of two peasants and eight journalists in the community of Uchuraccay (Huanta, Ayacucho). Violence and death continued in the following months in Uchuraccay: 135 peasants were killed as a consequence of Shining Path attacks, police and military repression, and peasant patrols. Soon after, Uchuraccay

became a ghost town as survivors fled.

*Ayacucho  
October 1984  
Photo by: Vera Lentz*





# 11

A woman shows the photo ID of a relative who disappeared in Ayacucho.

*Ayacucho  
1984*

*Photo by: Vera Lentz*

# 12

Relatives of the disappeared gather in the Municipal Council in Huamanga to testify before the European Commission on Human Rights, which had set up an office in order to gather allegations from the victims of the conflict.

*Ayacucho  
July 1985*

*Photo by: Ernesto Jiménez*







# 13

Clandestine press conference by the MRTA (Movimiento Revolucionario Tupac Amaru) for the national and international media. The rebels announced a ceasefire in their military efforts against the government of Alan García. Journalists were taken to the meeting blindfolded.

*Lima  
August 16, 1985*

*Source: La República*

# 14

The funeral of Vice-Admiral Gerónimo Cafferata, President of the Banco Industrial, killed by the Shining Path on October 14, 1986. This execution was apparently in retaliation for the repression overseen by the Navy of the uprising by members of

the Shining Path at the Frontón penal island.

*Lima  
October 1986  
Photo by: Alejandro Balaguer*





## 15

The wake for Luis Sulca Mendoza, a student of General Córdova High School in Vilcashuaman, Ayacucho. The Shining Path accused him of treason and assassinated him.

*Ayacucho*  
*October 26, 1986*  
*Photo by: Jorge Ochoa*

*Source: La República*



## 16

The assassination of Carlos Espejo Morales, industrial relations executive of Envases S.A. A Shining Path member threw an explosive at him as he got out of his car. When he tried to defend himself, a man and woman finished him off at close range.

*Lima*  
*March 17, 1987*

*Source: Caretas*

# 17

On June 18 and 19, 1987, the “Day of Heroism” is celebrated in the San Fernando Medical School (San Marcos University). Shining Path gave this title to commemorate the uprisings of the Lurigancho, El Frontón, and Santa Bárbara prisons, when an

indeterminate number of inmates were killed.

*Lima*

*June 1987*

*Photo by: Vera Lentz*



# 18

Surrounded by dynamite and cocaine, a senderista caught during the violent battle over Tocache, a district that the Shining Path had controlled.

*Tocache, San Martín*

*June 17, 1987*

*Photo by: Alejandro Balaguer*





## 19

A column of 70 MRTA guerrillas (Movimiento Revolucionario Tupac Amaru) takes the town of Juanjuí, in San Martín. During the assault, covered by the press and TV, the rebels drew on walls, sacked the police station, and arrested policemen. This

is when Víctor Polay Campos, “Comrade Rolando,” the head of the Northwest Column, came to the public eye.

*Juanjuí, San Martín  
November 6, 1987  
Photo by: Vera Lentz*

## 20

The Shining Path had a presence in public universities before the beginning of the armed conflict. In the mid-1980s the state began sending the police to intervene. In May 1991, the presence of the military in

universities was authorized. Military bases were set up in San Marcos, La Cantuta, la Universidad Nacional José Faustino Sánchez Carrión, la Agraria de la Selva de Huanuco, and la Universidad Nacional del Centro en Huancayo. The photo shows San Marcos students in a humanities classroom full of Shining Path graffiti.

*Lima  
February 1989  
Photo by: Jaime Rázuri*

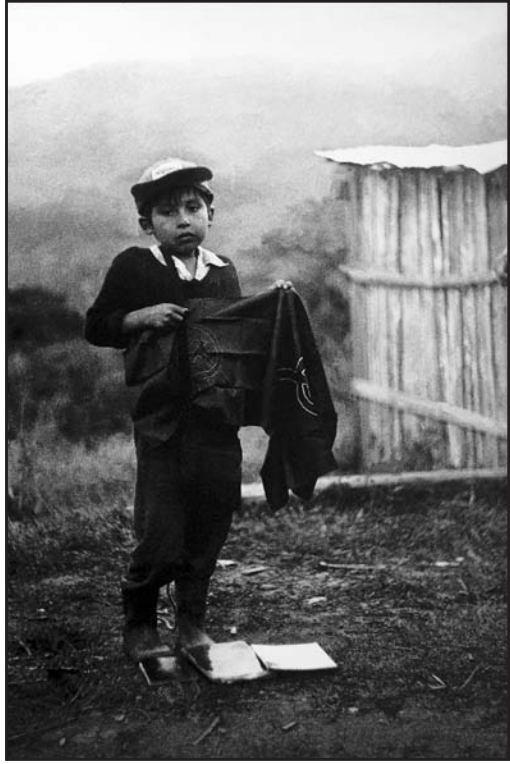


# 21

“Fausto,” an 8-year-old boy, captured by the “ronderos” or community patrols of Ccahuasana, in the Ayacucho jungle. When he was five years old, he was induced by the rebels to serve as a messenger for the Shining Path guerrillas.

*Ayacucho  
July 1989*

*Source: Caretas*



# 22

March for Peace defying an “armed strike” by the Shining Path.

*Lima  
November 3, 1989  
Photo by: Mónica Newton*





*Orurillo, Melgar, Puno  
December 1989  
Photo by Dámaso  
Quispe*

*Source: TAFOS Archive  
(Catholic University)*

## 23

Remains of the Quisuni Cooperative (Orurillo, Puno) after the fire set by members of Shining Path, on December 3rd, 1989. Moments before the incident, the Senderistas assassinated eight comuneros, among them the mayor of Izquierda Unida (United Left), Tomás Quispe Sayhua, as part of their strategy to eliminate all forms of authority and organization.

## 24

Signing the necessary documents to unearth the cadavers of the Orurillo, Puno massacre. On December 3rd, 1989 a group from Shining Path burst in to the community and assassinated its authorities, among them, Mayor Tomás Quispe Sayhua.



*Orurillo, Melgar, Puno  
December 1989*

*Source: Vicary of  
Solidarity, Ayaviri*



## 25

The Panamerican Highway heading north is blocked during an “armed strike” called by Shining Path.

*Lima*

*1990*

*Photo by: Walter Chiar*

*Source: TAFOS archive  
(Catholic University)*

## 26

After the Chuppac massacre by Shining Path guerrillas on April 8th, 1990, the community organizes itself into “rondas campesinas,” or civil defense patrols to guard themselves with the help of the Army.

*Chuppac, Vinchos, Ayacucho*

*April 12, 1990*

*Photo by: Jorge Torres*

*Source: Gente*





The house yielded pictures, leather briefcases, baskets, altar articles and other materials with phrases referring to Shining Path. This was the closest government forces had come to apprehending Abimael Guzmán.

## 27

On June 1st, 1990, as part of "Isa Operation," an elegant house in the suburb of Monterrico Norte where Abimael Guzmán, leader of the subversive movement the Shining Path, temporarily lived with other senderistas, was raided.

This event sealed the fate of the Shining Path leader who was captured later on September 12th, 1992.

*Monterrico, Lima  
June 1990  
Photo by: Vera Lentz*

## 28

Army troops patrol the settlement of Raucana, a shantytown founded by invading squatters on July 28th, 1990. Raucana became the seat of the first Committee for the Popular Struggle of Shining Path

in metropolitan Lima. The Army installed a military base that remained there for nine years and carried out "sweeps" and "civic actions" that consisted of

free medical and dental services, and free haircuts for the inhabitants.



*Raucana, Lima  
July 1990  
Photo by: Vera Lentz*



# 29

Asháninka women and children freed from a Senderista camp through the “Ene Operation” wait for food donated by the government.

*Cutivireni, Junín  
1991*

*Photo by: Alejandro Balaguer*



# 30

Young “rondero” (civil defense patroller) waves a Shining Path flag like a war trophy.

*Ayacucho  
1991*

*Photo by: Alejandro Balaguer*





## 31

Asháninka refuge in Cutivireni, attacked by Shining Path guerrillas in 1991. That year, the Peruvian Army established a military base and formed a Self Defense Committee.

*Cutivireni, Junín  
1991*

*Photo by: Vera Lentz*

## 32

“Civic action” of the Peruvian Army in Huaycán (Lima), a district perceived to be a “red zone.” Military intervention consisted of public assistance through food, water and medical support. The Army also instructed the children on national patriotic symbols to counter rebel ideology.

*Huaycán, Lima  
September 1991*

*Photo by: Onésimo Botón*

*Source: El Peruano*





## 33

Damage from the Senderista attack in the upscale neighborhood and commercial center of San Isidro. The rebels placed a bomb that did not result in victims but caused significant material damage.

*San Isidro, Lima  
1992*

*Photo by: Oscar Medrano*

*Source: Caretas*

## 34

A woman moves her belongings to a safe place after the Shining Path bomb attack in the calle Tarata, Miraflores, in the residential and commercial heart of Lima. Twenty five people died and several residential buildings were destroyed.

*Miraflores, Lima  
17 de Julio de 1992*

*Photo by: Carlos Domínguez*





## 35

A car bomb set by Shining Path near a National Police “Rapid Auxiliary Post” on Argentina Avenue. Most of the victims were bystanders.

*Lima*  
*September 9, 1992*  
*Photo by: Víctor Chacón Vargas*

*Source: Caretas*

## 36

Twelve days after his capture, Abimael Guzmán – the highest leader of Shining Path – makes a speech and sings the Communist International anthem at the headquarters of the National Anti-Terrorism Bureau (DINCOTE), before a large audience

of national and foreign journalists.

*Lima*  
*September 24, 1992*  
*Photo by: Ana Cecilia González-Vigil*





## 37

Wake for the victims of the massacre of the Valley of Tsiriari. In August 1993, Senderistas executed 65 people. Twenty-one of them were native Nomatsiguengas, and the others were settlers from surrounding areas.

*Tsiriari, Junín  
August 20, 1993  
Photo by: Oscar Medrano*

*Source: Caretas*

## 38

Before being presented to the media, five presumed rebels dressed in prison attire wait outside of a military base in Alto Huallaga.

*San Martín  
5 de Octubre de 1994  
Photo by: Mariana Bazo*





## 39

A group of women unjustly accused of terrorism, detained in the Chorrillos prison and subsequently released thanks to the work of the Ad-Hoc Commission, surround the former president of that working group, Belgian priest Hubert Lanssiers.

*Chorrillos, Lima  
October 1996  
Photo by: Gilmar Pérez*

*Source: Caretas*

## 40

Angelica Mendoza, also known as mother Angelica, appears next to other relatives of missing persons on the premises of the National Association of Kidnapped, Detained and Disappeared Relatives (ANFASEP). This association was founded

on September 2nd, 1983 by Angelica, after her son disappeared in Ayacucho.

*Huamanga, Ayacucho  
December 2000  
Photo by: Nancy Chapell*



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