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"DILIGITE JUSTITIAM QUI JUDICATIS TERRAM." "Ye who judge the earth, give diligent love to justice"

The Fight of the Bullfight.

by Gerardo Reyes.

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According to the Royal Spanish Academy, the concept of "bullfight" is defined as *"the art of facing bulls"*[1] or *"a party that consists to confront a certain number of bulls inside a bullring"*[2]. The origin of bullfighting dates back to the seventh century B.C. After some adaptations, in the course of the first century B.C., bullfighting was disseminated along the region controlled by the Roman Empire[3].

As mentioned, the activity has been developing over the years and according to researcher Antonio Albardonedo Freire from Sevilla´s University *"The origin of the modern bullfighting "on foot" began as mockeries to the bulls made by the workers of the slaughter house of Seville. These exercises were part of their pastime and was an athletic discipline, practiced during the confinement of the cattle, and before their later sacrifice"*[4]. Because of the events practiced in the slaughterhouses in the sixteenth century A.C., the City of Sevilla decided to build the two first bullfighting arenas ever made.

Nowadays, some of the world's most iconic bullrings are in Spain such as "Plaza de Toros de la Real Maestranza de Caballería de Sevilla", "Plaza de Toros de Ronda" and "Plaza Monumental of Madrid" known as "Las Ventas". Nevertheless, due to to the Spanish Conquest in America, bullfighting gained prominence on this side of the Atlantic Ocean. For instance, in Mexico City, "La Monumental Plaza México" is the biggest bullfighting arena in the planet, this arena has the capacity to accommodate almost fifty thousand spectators[5]. Furthermore, under the Equator, there exists another representative bullring named "Plaza de Toros de Acho" which was built in Lima, Peru[6].

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Among other countries, the bullfighting discipline can be found in Spain, France, Portugal, Mexico, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, Canada, U.S.A., China and India, some of these countries have territorial restrictions while some others prohibit the death of the animal. However, the anti-bullfight movement has gained momentum and it's only aim is to entirely ban the activity. Nonetheless, the people associated with bull-fighting culture achieved a global economic impact of three thousand five hundred million of euros during 2015[7].

The dispute between the pro-bullfights and the anti-bullfights groups has taken place in several countries with different approaches. For example, according to a law issued in the last decade of the Twentieth Century, the Canary Islands, Spain banned bullfighting. It is important to remark that bullfights were not a regular activity inside the mentioned community. On the other hand, in 2011 the Former President of France Nicolás Sarkozy

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1.- https://dle.rae.es/tauromaquia Query: June 2022
2.- https://dle.rae.es/corrida#QmYKEA5 Query: June 2022
3.- https://www.cafyd.com/HistDeporte/htm/pdf/6-0.pdf Query: June 2022
4.- ALBARODNEDO FREIRE, Antonio "La Génesis de la Tauromaquia Moderna: la Presidencia de la Autoridad y la Construcción de Tribunas." En: Laboratorio de Arte. 2005. Núm. 18. Pag. 397-416
5.- https://www.monumentalmexico.com/historia.php Query: June 2022
6.- https://wikirioja.com/viajes/cuales-son-las-plazas-de-toros-mas-antiguas-del-mundo/ Query: June 2022
7.- https://www.expansion.com/directivos/2015/10/24/562b84dc268e3ed5358b462b.html Query: June 2022

named bullfighting as an intangible cultural property of the country. But, four years later, the next administration revoked bullfighting's special designation[8].

During the last couple of months Mexican Civil Organizations have been expressed against the "art of facing bulls", that's why today, the conflict related to the bullfighting has special relevance in Mexico City. Specifically, the greatest bullring may be banned because of an Amparo Indirecto[9] Claim submitted by a civil organization against the Mexican President and the Federal Congress regarding the enactment and creation of the law that regulates the celebration of public entertainments, and against the Mayor of Benito Juarez Municipality and the Head of Government of Mexico City relating to their faculties to regulate bullfighting in Mexico City.

"The dispute between the pro-bullfights and the anti-bullfights groups has taken place in several countries with different approaches."

The plaintiff argues the violation to articles one and four of the Mexican Constitution, article eleven of Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and article eleven of the Protocol of San Salvador that protect the right to a healthy environment. Nevertheless, the Federal Court should not take into consideration the Rio Declaration because the declarations are international instruments that do not have full force and effects according to international law. Also, the claim points out that animal mistreatment is a direct violation to a healthy environment because *"the animals are considered living beings capable to feel fear and pain."*

Furthermore, the First Federal Court of Mexico City grants the suspension requested by the plaintiff at the amparo proceeding (910/2022) which orders that during the amparo proceeding bullfights cannot take place at the "Monumental Plaza México". On the other hand, the bullring's the social media published a press release that demands their right to exercise the freedoms to which they are entitled[10].

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The evidence and arguments filed by all the parties at the Amparo Indirecto will be reviewed at one Constitutional Hearing and the Federal Judge will have to deliberate between the right to a healthy environment in opposition to the cultural rights, the right of expression and the right of self-determination of personality demanded by the bullfighting audience. Regarding this proceeding, it is possible that the greatest moments of the "Monumental Plaza Mexico" might come to an end along with the tradition and economy of thousands of families. Even so, the best answer to solve the described puzzled is in the hands of each reader.

8.- https://www.elmundo.es/elmundo/2011/05/03/toros/1304447436.html Query: June 2022
9.- An Amparo Claim is the constitutional proceeding that the particulars used to protect their fundamental rights against violations of the government.
10.-https://twitter.com/LaPlazaMexico/status/1535272267587850242?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1535272267587850242%7Ctwgr%5E%7Ctwcon%5Es1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fpolitica.expansion.mx%2Fcdmx%2F2022%2F06%2F10%2Fjuez-da-suspension-definitiva-y-frena-las-corridas-de-toros-en-la-plaza-mexico Query: June 2022

Mexico has not declared the end of the pandemic.

"The endemic state is not the end of the epidemic. There was great confusion (...) some articles and commentators said that by decree we had declared that the epidemic was over, we have never said that the epidemic is over", said Hugo López Gatell, Undersecretary of Health Promotion and Prevention in Mexico, during the morning press conference. Despite the progress in vaccination, which exceeds 80% in the adult population, it is expected that the pandemic "will remain forever" but under a state of less damage, although with greater transmissibility. The person in charge of the pandemic in Mexico, assured that what they have said, as well as what European nations and the World Health Organization (WHO) and several countries say, "is that the emerging situation of the epidemic is no longer emerging", he declared. *www.forbes.com.mx/mexico-no-ha-decretado-el-fin-de-la-pandemia-asegura-lopez-gatell/ 07/06/2022.*

Mexico is in the Top 10 countries with the most foreign direct investment.

For the second consecutive year, Mexico remained in tenth place among the 10 nations that attracted the most foreign direct investment (FDI), according to the World Investment 2022 report, published Thursday by the UN. Mexico received 32 billion dollars ($32 billion dollars) of foreign capital, four billion more than in 2021 ($28 billion dollars), which kept it among the 10 countries that received more foreign investment. New investments in industries such as the automotive, mining and extractive industries boosted the arrival of capital to Mexico. There was also an increase in Greenfield investment, an indicator of future investment plans, which grew 43% since 2020. *www.expansion.mx/economia/2022/06/09/inversion-extranjera-directa-mexico-top-10-paises 09/06/2022.*

Mexico commits with the U.S. to increase the Federal Electricity Commission's solar energy with the support of the private sector.

The government of Andrés Manuel López Obrador made a commitment at the multilateral forum of the Summit of the World's Major Economies to accelerate its transition to clean energy with a series of concrete measures. Among them, "to grow solar energy by the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE)" and "to work together with the private sector to that end". Joe Biden's Administration has repeatedly expressed its concern about Mexico's energy policy, mainly encouraged by an electricity reform that has been left in a dead end for the moment due to the lack of consensus, and seeks to bring positions closer on that front. López Obrador was very direct in stressing his energy commitments and has shown himself convinced that there will be no problems for private sector investments. *www.elpais.com/mexico/2022-06-14/mexico-se-compromete-con-ee-uu-a-aumentar-la-energia-solar-de-la-cfe-con-el-apoyo-del-sector-privado.html 14/06/2022.*

FGR and SRE agree to open investigation into death of migrants in Texas.

As announced by President Andrés Manuel López Obrador this morning, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs (SRE), Marcelo Ebrard, informed that the Attorney General's Office (FGR) will open an investigation into possible crimes committed in Mexico that led to the death of 50 migrants, including 22 Mexicans, who suffocated to death inside a trailer box in San Antonio, Texas. Previously, during his morning conference at the National Palace, AMLO also announced that the immigration issue will be one of the most important topics he will address on July 12 in a meeting he will hold with the U.S. President Joe Biden. *www.eleconomista.com.mx/politica/FGR-y-SRE-acuerdan-abrir-investigacion-por-muerte-de-migrantes-en-Texas----20220628-0047.html 28/06/2022.*

Mexico, the country with the highest number of journalists murdered in the world: UNESCO.

Frédéric Vacheron, UNESCO representative in Mexico, said that our country has the highest number of murdered journalists in the world and explained that the main issues that have generated violence have to do with corruption and impunity, which has had an impact on the work of the press, leading to censorship in areas where criminal groups operate. "Latin America is the region with the highest number of journalists murdered in the world and Mexico, unfortunately, has the highest number of journalists murdered in the world in the last 10 years, followed by Brazil, Guatemala, Colombia and Honduras," he said. A high level of impunity prevails in these crimes according to UNESCO reports, since 67 percent of the cases in the region remain unsolved. *www.eluniversal.com.mx/nacion/mexico-el-pais-con-mayor-numero-de-asesinatos-de-periodistas-en-el-mundo-unesco 30/06/2022.*

In this month extract was prepared by P. Arandia, R. Nerio, J. García, A. Pérez, P. Nava.

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