

Testimonies from Peru's Civil War

Recovery and Reconciliation in an Andean Village



Exhumation of mass grave, Putis, Ayacucho, 2008. Photo by Ash Kosiewicz

**Tuesday, October 20, 2009
5:30-7:30 p.m.**

**Johnson Center Library Instructional Room
George Mason University**

During the spring of 2008, the Peruvian Forensic Anthropology Team (EPAF) began unearthing the largest mass grave from Peru's 20-year internal armed conflict, which cost an estimated 70,000 lives. By the end of the summer, EPAF had recovered 92 human remains from the gravesite at Putis and discovered clear evidence of the role of the Peruvian Armed Forces in the massacre.

Gerardo Fernández Mendoza, an indigenous leader from the reconstituted village of Putis, will share his testimony as a survivor of the violence that devastated his community. José Pablo Baraybar, EPAF's Executive Director, will discuss the findings from the exhumation at Putis and elaborate on its potential to serve as a model for empowering the victims of mass violence in Peru.

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