Limako Arantzazu Euzko Etxea – Lima Basque Center

2020 Aberri Eguna Manifesto

This Sunday, April 12th, we Basques commemorate the Day of the Homeland, *Aberri Eguna*. Just like on every Easter Sunday since 1932, all of us who believe that "Euzkadi is the Homeland of the Basques" have a date to show and renew our commitment.

We commemorate the moment when Sabino Arana understood that the only way the Basque People were going to be able to survive was by having a nation that stood on equal footing with all other nations. In 1882, he started down a path that would soon lead him to define the idea of Euzkadi as a republic, a confederation, in which Basque territories were united as brothers, free and equal.

Because in 1882, he, as a Biscayne, thought that this Basque territory should be free of the yoke that Spain had imposed on it after the Carlist Wars. He didn't take long in understanding that this idea of Freedom had to extend to all Basque territories, both those which had been subjected to the French Republic as well as those subjected to the Kingdom of Spain. They laid down a path to Freedom which would lead them to constitute that Confederation, Euzkadi, which would unite all the Basques while respecting their individual histories and traditions.

He was 17 at the time. From that moment, when he understood that a Basque must not be either French or Spanish, until his death, only 16 years passed. In that short length of time, he carried out a prodigious amount of work, awakening the Homeland and setting in motion a national liberation movement which saved our Homeland from the fate of being diluted into History, as has happened to so many nations that have been swept away by the victors. He prevented that defeat.

This is a complicated year due to the health crisis caused by the epidemic. We Basques all over the world will not be able to join up to celebrate the day when we recommit ourselves to the Cause of the Basque People. It's not going to be an easy Aberri Eguna. That's why, on this occasion, we need to fill our windows, balconies, social media, and hearts with Ikurriñas, the ensign of our Nation.

Euzkadi needs us. She needs our commitment every day, but on this Day of the Homeland, she needs us even more. She needs us to light our streets and our social media with our national colors: red, white, and green.

Gora Euzkadi Azkatuta

And our wish for all: **Health and a Basque Republic!**

"Because they were, we are; because we are, they shall be"

The chain shall not be broken!

"We Basques must, in our adoptive homelands, be, among all, the best citizens"

"The Basque Centers around the world are the representation of our Country"

José Antonio de Aguirre. Lehendakari

Limako Arantzazu Euzko Etxea • Limako Arantzazuko Andre Mariaren Ermandadea •

ABERRI EGUNA 2020

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ZAITU

#Geurealkurriña

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