

ABERRI EGUNA 2007



UDALBILTZA[®]
EUSKAL HERRIKO UDAL ETA HAUTETSIEEN BILTZARRA

WITH TENACITY, EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

In favour of national construction among all of us, based on peace, respect and free adherence.

The Aberri Eguna, an event held on Easter Sunday, first took place 75 years ago in Bilbao. This is what the chronicles on the eve of that day had to say:

“Fires will be lit on the mountain tops around Bilbao, new fires, beautiful fires of resurrection. This will be the day of the rebirth, but also that on which are consciences are regenerated.”

Before long the chance would come to show the renewed image of the Homeland, as the dreams, freedom and clamour of the Basque nation would soon be destroyed by General Franco’s military uprising.

Within a short time, we were forced to endure the terrible event that made Gernika world famous, right here in this area of Gernikaldea. On 26th April 1937, Hitler’s Luftwaffe, with Franco’s consent, razed the city to the ground, in so doing carrying out the first bombing in history against civilians and converting Gernika into a symbol of peace through Pablo Picasso’s masterpiece, put on display at the Universal Expo in Paris that same year.

Since then, the path has been laden with highs and lows - the war, the dictatorship, the lack of peace, but also tradition, work towards national construction and the sonorous clamour of a people.

The Aberri Eguna is the day of the Basque nation, a day for meeting, a day of merriment, a day to renew our commitments.

Today, here in Forua, the members of UDALBILTZA[®], as municipally-elected councillors of all the Basque lands, wish to renew our commitment to our Homeland on this, the 70th anniversary of the Gernika bombing:

1. By making national construction and the fact of our being Basque into the central theme of our daily life.

2. By working towards our sovereignty, towards the right to decide our present and our future in peace and freedom.

3. By basing peaceful coexistence on mutual respect. By accepting the diversity of our society and considering our plurality as a value that enriches us.

4. By having the chance within this context to take part on both an individual and a group basis in our own national project from the standpoint of free adherence.

With determination, everything is possible. There is no obstacle that cannot be overcome. We must construct our nation. We must construct peace. We need to construct a form of coexistence based on mutual respect and free adherence. We must help to create a new rebirth.

On the eve of the 207 Aberri Eguna, this is our commitment and that of UDALBILTZA®, as the Assembly of Municipally-elected Councillors of Euskal Herria, with these desires and objectives.

GORA EUSKADI ASKATUTA!

Forua, 7th April 2007