

PREFACE

This is the hardest story I ever told. I have been doing research at Bellavista for over a decade. I feel that this story needs to be told by those who suffered in this awful event, but because of barriers, that is not possible. I write this book with the utmost respect for the lives, stories and memories of those who allowed me to compose this account of the massacre of Bellavista-Bojayá. On May 2, 2017, fifteen years after this heinous crime, the Bellavista community held a commemoration. Hence, this book pays tribute to those who lost their lives on the morning of May 2, of 2002 and honors the journey of the survivors.

My writing carries out the wishes of the communities' victims of deracination. My reflections would have not been possible if I had not taken dangerous trips to the regions assaulted by violence. Furthermore, I am committed to telling their stories as they wanted them delivered to the world. My commitment will end only when their anguish ends.

Cali, Colombia

Aurora Vergara-Figueroa

Afrodescendant Resistance to Deracination in Colombia

Massacre at Bellavista-Bojayá-Chocó

Vergara-Figueroa, A.

2018, XXXII, 123 p. 5 illus., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-59760-7