

Since the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, many Cubans fought for a democratic society with liberal principles. Jose Marti was a Cuban poet, philosopher, essayist, journalist, professor and a Cuban National Hero. The concepts of freedom, liberty, and democracy are prominent themes in all of his works. Marti's ideology always was a major driving force in Cuban politics. He is regarded as Cuba's "martyr" and "patron saint."

The two Castro Brothers (Fidel and Raul), Che Guevarra, Ramiro Valdés (the "butcher" from Artemisa), the old communist party of Cuba PSP (Partido Socialista Popular) and many others, betrayed the 1959 Revolution. In 1961, Fidel Castro transformed the 1959 Revolution into a Socialist Tyranny, betraying his revolutionary friends and the Cuban people. Fidel Castro and his co-conspirators imposed ruthless persecution, censorship and abuse of power against all opposing voices. Firing squads assassinated many and over two million Cubans had to exile from the island.

Cuba's hospitals are in appalling conditions, running water and hygiene is missing in almost every clinic. The real numbers of COVID-19 infected patients in Cuba is unknown. Hemorrhagic Dengue Fever and Cholera outbreaks have also been reported on the island recently.

Traveling to Cuba **IS NOT SAFE**. We have cancelled our Cuba program. We will resume travel to Cuba once Democracy and safe sanitarian conditions have been restored on the island.

We support a free and Democratic Cuba and oppose firmly the 62-year old tyranny of the PCC (Communist Party of Cuba).