

# [www.SaveRegina.org](http://www.SaveRegina.org)

## ● ACTION ALERT! ● ACTION ALERT! ● ACTION ALERT! ● ACTION ALERT! ●

May16, 2005

We need you to make your voice heard NOW through a deluge of letters and phone calls ASAP directed to three specific officials who have power over Regina's future, especially to Lori Scialabba, Chairperson of the Board of Immigration Appeals. (Letters and phone calls get more attention than e-mails.) Their contact information:

- Ms. Lori Scialabba, Chairperson / Board of Immigration Appeals / 5201 Leesburg Pike, Suite 1300 / Falls Church, VA 22041 / Phone: 703-605-1007
- The Honorable Alberto Gonzalez, Attorney General / U.S. Department of Justice / 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW / Washington, DC 20530-0001 / Phone: 202-353-1555
- Mr. Wesley Lee, Director / Office of Detention and Removal Operations / 801 I Street, NW, Suite 900 / Washington, DC 20536

Identify yourself, your city, your state. Important: At the top of all communication, put or say Regina's African name -- Andes Imua (AND-eez EEM-wah) also known as Regina Bakala, her alien registration number -- A74 673 959, and the place where she is being detained -- Kenosha County Detention Center, Wisconsin.

If you are a U.S. citizen, write and/or call today! Three sample letters are listed below. You can print, sign and send -- or cut-and-paste as you wish -- or use as a guide. Though they are basically the same, each is tailored to fit a different recipient.

Be creative! Use letterhead when you can. If you can speak officially in the name of a whole group, great! Enclose photos and news clippings. Phone and/or write several times. Let the Board of Appeals and the others know that this case is urgent and not to be ignored!

May God continue to bless all you do on behalf of this beautiful woman who was so severely tortured. We cannot tell you how much her husband David and all of us at "Save Regina" appreciate your immediate action!

### (SAMPLE LETTERS SHOWN BELOW)

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE:

VISIT; [www.SaveRegina.org](http://www.SaveRegina.org)

EMAIL US: [contactus@saveregina.org](mailto:contactus@saveregina.org)

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*"You Can Make A Difference..."*

May 16, 2005

Lori Scialabba, Chairperson  
Board of Immigration Appeals  
5201 Leesburg Pike, Suite 1300  
Falls Church, VA 22041

Re: Andes Imua a/k/a Regina Bakala, A 74 673 959  
Kenosha County Detention Center, Wisconsin

Dear Ms. Scialabba:

Andes Imua fled the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in July, 1995, after being brutally tortured for advocating democracy. "I prayed to know where to go. God said in my heart, 'America.' It's in the Bible, 'Wherever you put your leg shall be yours.' This is a beautiful country. Here there is freedom. All I want is to be a citizen of this beautiful country where God sent me."

We are deeply concerned that this good woman receives justice! A motion to reopen her asylum petition has just been filed in the light of new evidence:

- She did nothing wrong. Her case was badly mismanaged by previous lawyers.
- She had multiple problems with translators in preparing her case and at her hearing.
- Andes survived several rapes, but at the time of her hearing and appeal, little was known about the atrocities committed against women in Africa and rape was not fully recognized in International Law as a crime against humanity and an act of torture. Her last rape was documented by the Doctor who treated her in Congo, yet the Judge called her case frivolous. Neither he nor the Board seemed to understand how significant her situation was. Now we realize that her case is a human rights case under the Torture Convention.
- The judge concluded that gaps and discrepancies in her story indicated fabrication, but discrepancies in the testimony of a multiple-rape survivor are not unusual. The effects of such trauma include lost or confused memories and panic when in an unfamiliar situation.
- Andes and her husband have two American-born children, ages 4 and 5. Immigration law encourages keeping families in tact when possible. Because her husband, also tortured, received Withholding of Removal, she qualifies for the same on a derivative basis.
- Congo (DRC), still at war, is now on the verge of more bloodshed as people pressure the transitional government not to delay June elections. Fearing public unrest, government forces are again killing grassroots organizers from Andes' PALU Party. Andes is a well-known grassroots organizer. If she returns, her life will be in grave danger.

It is urgent that you stop her deportation now!

- By deporting her before giving her case a full review, America slams all doors to justice.
- Because her children are too young to be separated from their mother, deporting Andes will mean putting two vulnerable little American citizens directly in harm's way.
- Andes is not a flight risk. She is well-grounded in her church, workplace and community and has willingly cooperated with the system throughout these years.

You have the power to save Andes Imua or to compound the tragedy she and her family have already suffered. We expect that you will act with urgency to immediately stop her deportation while you grant her case a thorough and just review. Thank you!

Sincerely,

May 16, 2005

The Honorable Alberto Gonzales  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Re: Andes Imua a/k/a Regina Bakala  
A 74 673 959  
Kenosha County Detention Center, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Gonzales:

Andes Imua fled the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in July, 1995, after being brutally tortured for advocating democracy. "I prayed to know where to go. God said in my heart, 'America.' It's in the Bible, 'Wherever you put your leg shall be yours.' This is a beautiful country. Here there is freedom. All I want is to be a citizen of this beautiful country where God sent me."

Andes is now in jail awaiting deportation. We urgently need your help! A motion was just filed with the Board of Immigration Appeals to reopen her asylum case in the light of new evidence:

- She did nothing wrong. Her case was badly mismanaged by previous lawyers.
- She had multiple problems with translators in preparing her case and at her hearing.
- Andes survived several rapes, but at the time of her hearing and appeal, little was known about the atrocities committed against women in Africa and rape was not fully recognized in International Law as a crime against humanity and an act of torture. Her last rape was documented by the Doctor who treated her in Congo, yet the Judge called her case frivolous. Neither he nor the Board seemed to understand how significant her situation was. Now we realize that her case is a human rights case under the Torture Convention.
- The judge concluded that gaps and discrepancies in her story indicated fabrication, but discrepancies in the testimony of a multiple-rape survivor are not unusual. The effects of such trauma include lost or confused memories and panic when in an unfamiliar situation.
- Andes and her husband have two American-born children, ages 4 and 5. Immigration law encourages keeping families in tact when possible. Because her husband, also tortured, received Withholding of Removal, she qualifies for the same on a derivative basis.
- Congo (DRC), still at war, is now on the verge of more bloodshed as people pressure the transitional government not to delay June elections. Fearing public unrest, government forces are again killing grassroots organizers from Andes' PALU Party. Andes is a well-known grassroots organizer. If she returns, her life will be in grave danger.

Please help stop her deportation now! Release her to her family while the Board of Appeals gives her case a new hearing!

- By deporting her before giving her case a full review, America slams all doors to justice.
- Because her children are too young to be separated from their mother, deporting Andes will mean putting two vulnerable little American citizens directly in harm's way.
- Andes is not a flight risk. She is well-grounded in her church, workplace and community and has willingly cooperated with the system throughout these years.

You are our Attorney General invested with power to act in our name. We know you will do all you can to save this family from irreparable tragedy. Thank you for acting urgently!

Sincerely,

May 16, 2005

Wesley Lee, Director  
Office of Detention and Removal  
801 I Street, NW, Suite 900  
Washington, DC 20536

Re: Andes Imua a/k/a Regina Bakala  
A 74 673 959  
Kenosha County Detention Center, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Lee:

Andes Imua fled the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in July, 1995, after being brutally tortured for advocating democracy. "I prayed to know where to go. God said in my heart, 'America.' It's in the Bible, 'Wherever you put your leg shall be yours.' This is a beautiful country. Here there is freedom. All I want is to be a citizen of this beautiful country where God sent me."

**We need your help! Please stop Andes' deportation so that her case can be reviewed!**

The Board of Appeals just received a new motion to reopen her case in the light of new evidence:

- She did nothing wrong. Her case was badly mismanaged by previous lawyers.
- She had multiple problems with translators in preparing her case and at her hearing.
- Andes survived several rapes, but at the time of her hearing and appeal, little was known about the atrocities committed against women in Africa and rape was not fully recognized in International Law as a crime against humanity and an act of torture. Her last rape was documented by the Doctor who treated her in Congo, yet the Judge called her case frivolous. Neither he nor the Board seemed to understand how significant her situation was. Now we realize that her case is a human rights case under the Torture Convention.
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You have the power to save Andes Imua or to compound the tragedy she has already suffered!

**We need your immediate help to stop her deportation NOW!**

- By deporting her before giving her case a full review, America slams all doors to justice!
- Because her children are too young to be separated from their mother, deporting Andes will mean putting two vulnerable little American citizens directly in harm's way.
- Andes is not a flight risk. She is well-grounded in her church, workplace and community and has willingly cooperated with the system throughout these years.

We trust you will do your best to halt deportation so that Andes Imua can get justice. Thank you!

Sincerely,