# A PRISONER DIARY

## TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2005 C:\Users\filareti\Desktop\Lock-InLogo.jpg

All stories have beginning, my blog shall not be an exception. The beginning of this Blog is sorrow. Simple word, "***Sorrow***", yet the most painful feeling. Sorrow is sadness. Sorrow is when u r sad, alone & emptiness. The worse thing is, it is silent. U will suffer without anyone knowing. U suffer in this emotion prison alone. U will shout, no man will hear. U will speak, no man will understand. This is the sorrow I am toking abt.  
  
It had been days, weeks or months? I forgotten. Everyday in the prison seems the same. Same 4 walls wif all ur happy moment craved on it. Same bars tat have words of sad moment on it. It is dark and there is no different between day & night. I will lie on the hard cold bed, facing the walls. I will laugh when i saw tat happy times. I saw tat beautiful smile when he is playing wif his younger brother. I saw his back, full of confidence when he receive awards on stage. I heard the voice of a leader tat teaches and guides ppl. I saw the him happily deeply in love wif his lover. He enjoys every stages of his life. Since his birth he leads a life full of joy, pride, confidence, love. and I wispered softly ...***Matthias***.. It is me. I noe tat voice, tat face. It is me....  
  
I stood up. Walked right to the bars. thinking to break free yet I saw... my sad moment. Broken relationships. Shattered Family. Unforsee future. I am lost. Emptiness haunts me. Friends who had left me. My love tat had forsaken me. My family tat broke and shattered like glass. My future which is so dark and unknown. It is saddness, disappointment, emptiness & lost became a voice... tat echoed among the 4 walls. In my mind. I teared. Run back to my bed and hid my face. I shouted. I lunged out all my despair. Yet all tat is wif me is tears.  
  
I hid to one corner and turn my face away. But each day, I will still see the 4 walls and the cycle repeats itself... No one noes... No one hears the cry for my soul is imprisoned in the mind...  
  
*"This blog is written in the prison*

**Name:** Matthias

1 According to Mattias sorrow is the most painful feeling. Give his account of what sorrow is identified with.

2 What do the walls and what do the bars represent for him?

3 Matthias is trying to picture the life of a young boy in his mind ,in different stages of his life. Which boy is this and which stages of life is he captured in, in the prisoner’s imagination?

4 The bars somehow urge him to break free but also depict sad moments of his life. Which unpleasant, dramatic and painful experiences are mentioned here?

5 When in despair what is his sole company?

6 “No one hears the cry for my soul is imprisoned in the mind...”

This sentence can be interpreted in different ways due to a variation of syntax it contains. The word “for” can either be a preposition or a conjunction meaning *because .* Explain the double meaning this phrase conveys.

# Ex-Convicts: Life After Prison

When a person is convicted of committing a crime in the United States, depending on the crime's nature, he or she may serve prison time. Life during prison can be difficult, but for many inmates, life after prison is even more challenging.

## How Many People are Incarcerated at Any Given Time?

At any given time, there are approximately 2.3 million men and women incarcerated in the United States. Prison sentences for inmates range from a few days to multiple life sentences. Often, prisoners are not required to serve their entire sentence if they are able to accept a plea deal, win an appeals case, or be released early for good behavior.

## What Services Exist to Help Ex-Convicts Assimilate into Society After Prison?

There are a number of incentives for private businesses to hire ex-convicts after they are released. These incentives include government-funded training for those recently released from prison and tax breaks for the private companies that hire them. According to the Bureau of Justice, approximately half of all of those released who cannot find employment in the first month after will be rearrested. According to the same source, approximately 93 percent of all who are able to find employment within the first month of release are not rearrested and are able to successfully assimilate back into society.

## What is Project Hope?

Project Hope is a public organization that brings members of the community and ex-convicts together to talk about issues facing those recently released from prison and how the community can overcome them. The organization also works to break down the barrier of stereotypes that often exist between the general public and those who have been incarcerated. It is also the hope of the program that ex-convicts will be able to make connections with people who will help them find a job or put them in touch with someone who can. Project Hope aims to help those recently released from prison develop a solid and positive base of friends willing to help them through the difficult times ahead.

**The vocabulary items below have been taken from the above article. Use them to fill in the gaps of the sentences that follow.**

**Incarcerate - barrier - inmate - plea - incentive - assimilate - convict - range - fund - release**

1 We ………………… people because they post a danger to society.

2 I think our mobile phones are out of ………………….of the nearest radio tower..

3 In prison he organised the killing of another …………………….

4 Anthony can ……………….without discarding his heritage.

5 After adolescence many pupils lack ………………….. for an education that has no direct reference to a career.

6 People must try hard to overcome the …………………………that separate them from the real essence of life.

7 Two out of three re-offend within two years of …………………………

8 He resolutely denied her …………………. to have the picture removed

9 He has made money available to ……………….. community-building efforts, and his message to everyone is that these efforts are important.

10 The court then acquitted him on the grounds that a jury did not have substantial evidence to……………….him for the crime.

Most people are prisoners, thinking only about the future or living in the past. They are not in the present , and the present is where everything begins. (Carlos Santana)

