

#ToiChonCa

(1 Choose Fish)



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Fish Genocide?

Starting in early April of this year, tons and tons of dead fish started washing up along the shores of various provinces in Vietnam and since then it has only gotten worse. They've been found on farms and beaches and have appeared along the coastline of 4 central provinces.



Vietnam Vs. Formosa

It is believed that a Taiwanese steel and plastics company, Formosa, is responsible for this environmental hazard. Formosa released an official statement saying that they are sorry for the massive fish deaths but claim that it is not their fault.



Corruption From Within

Because the Vietnamese gov. Took so long to react to the situation there has been talk that they are covering up for the Taiwanese company. It is not anything new that the government is corrupted.



**SAY NO TO
CORRUPTION**

Vietnamese Citizens Fight Back!



Political rallies and protests are a rare sight in Vietnam. But with the realization that the country's government aren't going to do much about the mass fish deaths, the people of Vietnam have taken things into their own hands and are raising their voices. But some were arrested for speaking out.

Global Help

In efforts to investigate the cause of the mass fish deaths, the Vietnamese environment minister asked for help from German and Israeli scientists to identify what is in the water. These scientists specialize in oceanography, coastal geology, coastal engineering and sustainable environment.



Dangerous Toxins



Toxic chemicals found in the water sample tested on 24/4/2016 in Germany:

- Cyanide
- Lead
- Cadmium
- Mercury
- Arsenic
- Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)
- Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

Human Deaths

There has been recent deaths occurring that might be linked to the pollution. On Wednesday, April 27th, 8 divers came into the hospital demanding toxicology tests

- Rashes
- Extreme exhaustion

One 49 year old man died hours after work the Sunday prior. 2x the normal amount of copper was found in his screening.



Help From The White House

President Barack Obama is expected to visit Vietnam on May 23. There has been two viral petitions that have been around asking him to speak about the pollution in the Vietnam waters and to have the U.S do further investigation on it for credibility. There has been 100,000+ signatures on the petitions.



<https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/help-vietnamese-people-prevent-environmental-disaster-ha-tinh-province-central-vietnam>

<https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/investigation-request-massive-fish-kill-central-vietnam>

Economic Suicide

The Vietnamese people have a large dependency on the marine life. It is a huge portion to their exportations. Due to the recent pollutions, their numbers have gone down. Last year's exports brought in an estimate of \$6.7 billion. No one wants to buy any of the fish in fear of getting poisoning. This affects the country as a whole causing job losses and a decrease in income.



Back to Our Roots

There has been much support from those all around. The Vietnamese community in Garden Grove have been supporting Vietnam in the fight by rallying up in SoCal. Even half way across the world, they are still fighting for their home and going back to their roots.



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In efforts to raise global awareness about this environmental issue that is taking place in Vietnam, it has been posted everywhere on social media. This hashtag began to trend all over the internet to support the citizens of Vietnam, stating that that they “choose fish”.

So What? How Does This Affect Us?

Although this is half way around the world, you may think this doesn't affect us. This issue isn't even an environmental issue anymore, it's a human rights issue. Due to the carelessness of this company, people are unable to make a steady income and this is causing people to go into starvation.



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