



## **AMERICA/HONDURAS - Cardinal Rodríguez Maradiaga denounces: the country experiences great moral crisis**

San Pedro Sula (Agenzia Fides) - The wave of violence that has steeped the country with blood has been severely condemned by Cardinal Oscar Andres Rodriguez Maradiaga, Archbishop of Tegucigalpa, who stressed: "The crisis is big, and not simply economic, but moral. When we lose respect for life, when for any reason, other peoples lives are taken away, then we are acting in the wrong. "The Cardinal said that the commandment of God's law" Thou shalt not kill " seems to have been completely forgotten in the country, to the point that young people are joining the new groups of assassins.

"Many times governments forget the fundamental principle of Christianity, which is the common good, according to which you cannot think only of individual good, but that of the entire community. When the authorities are elected to govern a country, they should make big efforts to be of service to everyone", added the Cardinal.

With regard to the national crisis of public education, Cardinal Rodriguez Maradiaga underlined that until we reach the root of the problem, education will continue to be poor. "It is not just a question of salaries, but it is a problem of changing mentality", he said. "It is right that a teacher is well paid, and this you can understand, but at the same time teachers must be responsible and not let children and young people remain uneducated".

The Cardinal made these statements at a conference held during the charity dinner at the foundation " Hogar nourishes" in San Pedro Sula (about 180 km from Tegucigalpa), on 8 September. This foundation works in a special way with children from Honduras who suffer from malnutrition. The other person who was invited to the conference on the same evening, was the President of Panama, Ricardo Martinelli. "I would feel happier if after tonight, 'Hogar nourishes ' was able to take care of more children because children's future depends on good nutrition", concluded the Cardinal. The foundation is organized to care of 100 children a day, but right now there are only 30 due to lack of resources. (CE) (Agenzia Fides 12/09/2011)