



PRESS RELEASE

**CAJAMARCA COURT OF JUSTICE CONFIRMS THAT YANACOCHA DOES NOT PREVENT
FREE TRANSIT OF THE CHAUPE FAMILY**

The Superior Court of Cajamarca also unanimously ratified that there are no ancient roads in the area and that Yanacocha security checkpoints do not interfere with the free circulation of the family.

A few months ago, the Chaupe family, sponsored by the NGO Grufides, filed a *habeas corpus* complaint whereby it alleged that it was locked in, that all access to the house they currently occupy had been restricted and that there were even ancient roads obstructed by Yanacocha. The Criminal Court of Celendín dismissed this complaint in due course; Grufides appealed, and the Court of Appeals of the Superior Court of Cajamarca ratified the inadmissibility of the complaint.

In this new ruling, the Superior Court of Cajamarca has concluded that there is no violation whatsoever of the freedom of transit or of any other constitutional right related to the family, on the following grounds:

- It has been proved that the Chaupe family is not "locked in" by the fence of Yanacocha's alpaca project which benefits more than 120 rural families. Grufides had repeatedly reported a so-called Chaupe family lock-in, alleging that our alpaca project's fence prevented their free circulation. The Cajamarca court has ratified that these allegations are false.
- It has been proved that there are no, and there have never been, any ancient roads as Grufides and the Chaupe family have repeatedly intended everyone to believe. Yanacocha had already clarified this issue on various occasions, and now it has been ratified by the Court of Cajamarca.
- It has been proved that the checkpoints located in Santa Rosa and Agua Blanca, implemented by Yanacocha to provide security to its property and personnel, do not interfere with the free circulation of the villagers or of the Chaupe family in the land they currently occupy. Yanacocha had already made it clear several times that these checkpoints are located in its property, on roads built by the company itself, and they do not interfere with the transit of the population. This has also been ratified by the justice of Cajamarca.

The Chaupe family has filed a constitutional remedy and Yanacocha will be always ready to address, with transparency and arguments, any demand which, as in this case, goes against the truth and seeks to create a conflict which we hope to overcome with dialogue.

Cajamarca, July 11, 2016
Communications Office