

Profile of the minister Patrus Ananias

The minister of Social Development and Fight against Hunger, Patrus Ananias, started his political career as town councillor of *Belo Horizonte* (State of *Minas Gerais*) between 1989 and 1992. Member of the Worker's Party (PT) since its foundation, he has participated in the democratic and social movements of the 70's. In 1993, Patrus was elected mayor of *Belo Horizonte*, where he implemented the participative budget, ensuring the complete transparency of public accounts. In 1996, he left the city government holding a popular approval rating of 85 percent. In the same year, his management received an United Nations Organization's award, and became a public management pattern. In the last elections, he was the most voted federal deputy of *Minas Gerais'* history, with more than 520 thousand votes.

Born in *Bocaiúva, Minas Gerais*, Patrus Ananias is 52 years old, is married and has 2 children. In his entire political trajectory, the minister dedicated his time to improve social projects and to fighting hunger and malnutrition actions. The initiative of adopting a food security municipal policy in the capital of *Minas Gerais* was realized through important actions as "people's canteens" and programs like *Safra* (Crop – direct purchase) and *Direto da Roça* (creation of markets and distribution networks for local produce), which reduced the action of rural produce illegal traders and speculators.

He has participated in the Government Program Planning Committee, of the president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, as rapporteur of social policies' proposals, and besides,

Patrus had an outstanding action as Investigating Committee's rapporteur of the Chamber of Deputies, created for investigating the federal deputy Pinheiro Landim, accused of breaching the parliamentary proceedings (decorum) rules, for having supposed involvement with the narcotraffic. In March 25, 2003, the report worked out by Patrus has been approved by all the Investigating Committee's members, and has made possible the opening of the deputy Landim's impeachment judicial process, who resigned to the post after the report's publication.

Bachelor in Sciences of Law since 1972, Patrus is specialist in legislative power, has a Master's Degree in procedure law, is taking a Doctor's Degree in Philosophy, Technology and Society from the *Complutense* University of Madrid. He is public functionary (based on open examinations), with leave of absence, of the *Minas Gerais* State Legislative Assembly, and member of *Minas Gerais* State Academy of Letters. He has been lawyer for metallurgist's labor law and trade unions, journalists, teachers, broadcasters, engineers and social assistants, besides being advisor of community associations, networks of social organizations linked to the catholic church, and social movements.