

The Conspirators Will never hinder our Liberation Struggle and can not deter Sidama's Aspiration for Self-determination and De-Colonization!!

Press Release by

Sidama National Liberation Organisation (SNLO)

September 11, 2009

The Colonisers, the Victims and the Global Powers

Since the Sidama nation has lost its sovereignty to the Abyssinian King Minelik's invading army in 1891, the nation has remained under successive Abyssinian barbaric colonial rule. Nothing has changed ever since they occupied Sidamaland except the tactics of expropriating the resources and depersonalisation of the the population in a manner liberated human conscious cannot comprehend.

Since the conquest, the Sidama nation endured and is enduring incomprehensible human tragedy including utter socio-cultural subjugation, slavery, economic and political marginalization which reduced the population into a second class citizens.

The Sidama people remain continually neglected, exploited, oppressed, tortured dehumanized and depersonalized and further obliged to view their ways of life and culture as backward and uncivilised. While the resources of their land are enriching the occupiers, legitimate owners of these resources languish under absolute poverty. They are being targeted and ill-treated by the occupying forces and their political cadres-for their opinions, ethnic backgrounds, beliefs and ways of life.

Ironically, such tragedy and human misery unfolds in front of the global community; in particular in front of the powerful nations politicians that preach democracy, justice, human rights, freedom of expressions, dignity, respect for God-given rights, anti-torture and anti-slavery rhetoric. In practice, the said powerful Western nations sponsor (with rewarding aid packages and give the said regimes weapons to kill and torture their helpless and powerless subjects) a continual sufferings of the Sidama nation under TPLF Abyssinian regime.

However, we strongly believe that their conspiracy with the brutal Abyssinian successive regimes that terrorize its citizens is not being shared by the wider population of Western countries ; as doing so contradicts with their deep-rooted values on human dignity and basic principles of democratic rights of individuals as well as various ethnic groups.

The Sidama Resistance Struggle

Ever since the Sidama nation lost its sovereignty to the Abyssinian colonisers, the nation's gallant leaders waged various forms of formal and informal resistance movement against the colonisers. Numerous Sidama heroes have sacrificed their precious lives for the principles of liberty, self determination and human dignity and have shaken the foundations of the colonisers. However, the Sidama heroes couldn't

decolonize the Sidamaland simply because of the superiority of the colonisers' modern weaponry that was given to them by their European counter parts.

Nevertheless, the sons and the daughters of Sidama nation are struggling to this date, defying such unjust collaboration with the west, and the brutal systems imposed on them by the Abyssinian colonisers.

However, it is important to emphasise that the Sidama struggle has been hijacked on various occasions by few egocentric Sidama individuals who pretend to be standing for the plights of the people without principle- only to satisfy their personal gain under the pretext of the Sidama liberation.

Sidama people with Principle and Pariahs in Resistance Movements

One of the mostly cherished values of the Sidama nation is its traditional ways of egalitarian and democratic governance system such as Luwa. However, these systems have been replaced by egocentrism, corruption, utter brutality, lie and falsehood that has been transported from the north to our land by the Abyssinian colonisers since the conquest. The morale code of the Sidama nation is based on halaale (Truth or true ways of life) which gives them guidance on how one should behave and live a just, dignified, egalitarian life that is out of self-delusion and deception. In traditional Sidama- there doesn't exist accumulation of wealth at expense of others and there are no bad attitudes, behaviours, actions and dreams that contradict these highly cherished values.

Although these are guiding principles for the wider Sidama society, there are few who collaborate with the colonisers to increase the sufferings of their downtrodden brothers and sisters for self gain.

Many Sidamas who recall the gallant actions of the Sidama liberation heroes such as Takilu Yota, Roda Uttala, Fiisa Fichcho and Yetera Boole all of whom have been brutally assassinated by the successive Abyssinian regimes, also remember with deep regret the damage the actions of the late leader of the Sidama Liberation Movement did to the Sidama struggle when he rejoined the EPRDF regime shortly before he passed away in 2007.

Two weeks ago, the chairman of the Sidama Liberation Front, an organization that broke away from the Sidama Liberation Movement in 1999 surrendered to the Ethiopian government. However, this will not deter the gallant Sidama people from their age old struggle for freedom, democracy and self determination. The struggle will continue with more vigor and determination under the leadership of the the Sidama National Liberation Organisation (SNLO). See the SNLO Press Releases for details regarding the surrender of the SLF chairperson.

Victory for the Sidama Nation! We shall win and see our nation free of Century old barbaric colonialism!!

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