

Incomprehensible Barbarism: - Meles's Regime is Committing Inexcusable and Inescapable Crime while the world is Silent

Press Release,
November 4, 2005

Sidama National Liberation Organisation (SNLO)

Meles's regime is committing an act of genocide on Ethiopian nations and nationalities since the 1st of November 2005 in addition to other brutalities his regime committed against civilians since his regime took over power in the mid 1991. Peoples of Ethiopia are suffering rampant human rights violations of all kinds and natural problems that are not addressed by his regime. The people's are victimised by ecologically caused problems, and, above all deep rooted poverty caused by Meles' deliberate underdevelopment policies geared towards his ambition of clinging on power to benefit his ethnic minority at the expense of all other Ethiopians. Ironically, Meles is causing such untold havoc to the citizens while his dictatorial regime is enjoying good relationship with the powerful western nations that neither exerted their pressure nor officially condemned such barbarism.

Indiscriminate killings of hundreds and arresting many thousands for expressing their opposition to the wrong doing of the government doesn't treat the underlying cause of Ethiopian ongoing politico-economic problems although it does help to temporarily silence internal peaceful resistance movements. This can only exacerbates the situation and sow irreconcilable hatred while the socio-economic and political conditions in the country continue to deteriorate year after year. While leaders of blessed nations' work hard to get their people out of lingering poverty; Ethiopian dictator remained working hard to suppress such ideas and peaceful movements. Apart from his pretence to be a democratic leader to the west donors, his regime didn't show any sign of respect for basic right of its citizens for the past 14 years. Neither did it bring any meaningful development in a decade and a half.

Tens of millions are dying from easily preventable diseases each year; many millions are starving without a single meal a day; many millions are suffering with HIV/AIDS (making the country the 1st in the world with many HIV/AIDS orphans). His cruel regime does this while the donated money goes toward his military to re-ignite meaningless and unnecessary war with Eritrean sovereign nation disregarding Alger's agreements. Genuine development thinkers and most peoples of principle are made to flee the country or obliged to make their conscious subservient to his dictatorial rule, and thus can't stand for the rights of their citizens. In general, peoples of Ethiopia under this regime are treated in two categories of citizenship (first and second class citizens) in a manner that sows irreconcilable hatred between various nations and nationalities. Under this ideology, many regions such as Sidama are deliberately made to move back ward than forward. Sidama nation's regional quest for which they have sacrificed their over 30.000 lives during the previous regime and precious 69 lives in May 24, 2002's Awassa massacre by the current is an example of such brutal subjugation of the rights of the people's.

Meanwhile, the May 15, 2005 discontented and disputed election result and its concomitant killings of innocent demonstrators by Meles's security forces in June was the continuation of such barbarism. Such peaceful and armless civilians who were expressing their protest against the election's result in a constitutionally accepted manner were responded with live ammunition. And, such indiscriminate killing by the security forces is rampantly continuing. As we are witnessing, there is no official condemnation of such barbarism from all world. The lives of nations and nationalities of Ethiopia lay at the hands of barbaric and merciless killers who shot dead 6 years old boy yesterday and a the wife of the opposition leader while she was following her arrested husband in front of her door. Death toll continued to grow from hour to our. It is estimated to be many hundreds until this statement is brought to the public domain. The capital looks like ghost town and feels death; and smells dead bodies of innocents and armoured vehicles of dictator's security forces roaming around the city without any hindrance.

Therefore, we in 'Sidama National Liberation Organisation' have got duty and moral obligation to bring such inhuman and barbaric acts towards peoples, to the lights of international community. And, we further struggle to fasten the down-fall of Meles's deceitful dictatorial Ethiopian regime in collaboration with like minded liberation organisations and states that respect democracy and human rights: We in, SNLO, therefore

1. Emphatically condemn the ongoing killings of peaceful and armless civilian demonstrators in Addis Ababa since the 1st of November 2005; and call for international community and powerful nations to act on time before many additional civilians lose the precious lives.
2. Call on American and British government and EU member countries to officially condemn such barbaric acts of Meles's regime.
3. Are utterly saddened to learn that the presence of Ethiopian dictator in Tony Blair's 'Commission for Africa'. Therefore, we emphatically condemn his being a part of such Commission that stands for the very essence of humanity and urge British Prime Minister to sack Mr Zenawi who terrorises his citizens without any precondition.
4. Call on international and regional human rights organisations; and Make Poverty History campaign groups to stand with Ethiopians in Diaspora and condemn such inhuman acts of Meles's regime.
5. Urge Meles's regime to release Oppositions party members and many other citizens including independent journalists without any pre-condition and stop killing.
6. Call on entire the Ethiopian nations and nationalities to stand shoulder to shoulder in this historical juncture and continue peaceful resistance until the regime leaves the office.
7. We call on all Ethiopian opposition organisations and liberation fronts in Diaspora to come together to exert consorted effort to throw this dictatorial regime from power; by doing so to establish genuine democratic foundations that stand for the very essence of humanity.

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