

ARDUF

Qafar Uguugumoh Demokrasiyyoh
Inkiinoh Fooqa (Uguugumo)



Afar Revolutionary Democratic
Unity Front (ARDUF)

Tuesday 6th March 2012
Qado-Qale (Ado-Ale)
Zone 4 Afar Regional State

Freedom, Justice, Democracy

MCC Ref: 005/2012

Press Release

The two Captured Germans are free but the Agony of the Afars Intensifies

In spite of all blockages and obstructions through which the Ethiopian Government's Federal and Regional officials nullified our earlier attempts to bring them to a safe place where their safety as well as the safety and security of our fighters accompanying them is assured. Yesterday, (Monday 5th March 2012) at last, we managed to hand them over to Afar elders sent by **the local Afar Leader Darassa Abdalla**, at 8:30pm-GMT (Ethiopian local time at 4:30pm, night time), in **Luucussi Neighbourhood (Area)** located in the District of Afxeera-zone 2 of the Afar Region. **Afar elders** sent by Leader Darassa Abdalla were **Mr. Ali Seeko, Mr. Omar Osban Qaasir-Moqo, Mr. Salih Osman Hodale, Mr. Habib Gaas, Mr. Hussein Dabule, Mr. Mussa Haydara, Mr. Darassa Osman Balatta, Mr. Hussein Ibrahim Garra, Mr. Abdo Hussein Weeqisa, Mr. Ali Mohammed Hamadu and as well as others.**

As we all remember those two German tourists are in our hospitality from 17 January 2012, when our patrolling unit clashed with the TPLF-led Ethiopian troops where 16 government soldiers were killed and two of our fighters were taken by the government in vicinity of Erta Ale volcano. It was in this cross fire between ARDUF forces and government troops that the 5 innocent European tourists were killed by the Ethiopian fire. It was from that day on that the two German tourists were in our hospitality. Since that date (17/01/2012) **they have been in Afar Region (KILLIL) with us by sharing our scanty livelihood.**

Today, they are handed them over to Afar elders sent by the local Afar Leader Darassa Abdalla Aliyyu in the presence of German Embassy representatives led by Mr. Michael Biontino, Deputy Ambassador in Ethiopia to send them back to Germany to meet with their loved ones again.

ARDUF have apologized to them and wishes the two German tourists lucky journey back home hoping for them they will find their loved ones in peace.

We can confirm that, for many times, we tried to set them free all those days but as we said in our earlier Press Statements the Ethiopian government who declared war on us not only made all movements impossible in area for the last one month but also brought our

attempts to naught. All those long the Ethiopian authorities not only to annihilate our resistance, but also who wanted to use the incident to incriminate the neighbouring Eritrean government in order to initiate another war on "terrorism and its supporters", as they claim. The Ethiopian Government presents the Afars whose land they are grapping and giving to away to Indian, Canadian and American Commercial Companies and Investors as terrorists to the outside world while they are settling Tigrigna speaking people from Tigray Region in their ancestral land.

ARDUF can confirm that UGUUGUMO was fighting TPLF long before they seized power in Addis from the day **they massacred hundreds of innocent Afar civilians in Barahle village in 1978 to impose their ethnic hegemony forcibly on us.** We will continue to resist and war between Woyanes and Uguugumo (ARDUF) will also continue as it has continued for the last 33 years as they not only covet our land but also consider us the tramp card in their sinister designs for the region as their ideologue **Sebhat Negga** once said that "If EPRDF's power is threatened then Ethiopia will disintegrate and **Tigray and Afar** will go their own way". (VOA interview on 9 June 2009, with Journalist Adessu Abebe). The issue of the Afars is more complicated than most of us think.

But, one thing is sure that the plight of the Afars will continue as long as TPLF-led government tries to grab Afar land and settle their people from Tigrai and the International Community cares only and only for the fate of their tourists who stepped in cross fire rather than for a people in the process of eradication, the Afars.

VICTORY FOR ARDUF/ UGUUGUMO

Information Desk

Afar Revolutionary Democratic Unity Front (ARDUF)

