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Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party (EPRP)

ኖርዌይ ክፍል

Norway Section

Norge avd.

Memories of a Generation

The Story of Ali Saeed and Other Ethiopian Political Victims

The award-winning documentary film with the above title is coming to Oslo, and will be shown on the 29th of August this year. The film is an excellent basis and point of departure for discussion and public debate about the ongoing struggle for democracy and people's rule in Ethiopia. Everyone who is concerned with conflict/peace, democracy/development, and justice/human rights (research/practice) will certainly find this film to be fruitful viewing because of its theme and content.

There are regular reports from the Norwegian media of a steadily increasing number of refugees and asylum seekers from different parts of the world coming to Norway. A recent headline in a Norwegian newspaper stated that "Police fear flood of asylum seekers this summer". Thousands of people have been displaced by political conflicts/wars and natural disasters. Norway is known for granting asylum to those who have a well-founded fear of persecution on the basis of race, creed, nationality, political conviction or membership of a particular group of people. Most asylum seekers come from countries like Afghanistan, Somalia, Iraq, Eritrea and Ethiopia as a result of war, violence, persecution, etc.

Ethiopian refugees have sought refuge outside the country since the end of the 70's when the military regime of Dictator Mengistu Hailemariam ruled the country with brutal and undemocratic methods until it was overthrown in 1991, when Meles Zenawi's guerrilla movement took political power by force of arms with the intention of establishing an ethnicity-based government in the country. Since TPLF's undemocratic seizure of power, the stream of refugees has increased manifold because of political assassination, violence and torture.

Amnesty International reports that there are around 40-50000 political prisoners in the country. In this connection, after many years of work a documentary film has seen the light of day. This documentary film "Memories of a Generation: The Story of Ali Saeed and Other Ethiopian Political Victims", directed by Aaron Floresco, won two awards at the Films for Peace Festival in Media, Italy, the award for best feature film awarded by the student jury, and the award for best feature film awarded by the main jury. The film depicts the younger generation's struggle for democracy, freedom and justice in the late 70's under Ethiopia's military dictatorship. It depicts one of the darkest chapters in the country's modern political history. Thousands of Ethiopian young people forfeited their lives in the struggle for democracy and people's rule when those in power declared "Red Terror" against the people.

EPRP cordially invites you to a viewing of this film.

Date: 29.08.2009

Time: 14:00-15:30

Place: Ebbells gate 1, Oslo

With our best wishes and in the hope that you will be able to attend,
EPRP Norway Section