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HYPOCRISY AND INJUSTICE CONTINUE

There is a news report that the heads of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, the Catholic and Evangelical churches and the Ethiopian Moslems Council have together met with former regime's top officials who are convicted prisoners in Kaliti. The officials are accused and convicted of crimes against the people including the anti-EPRP Red Terror which killed more than 250,000 people.

The reports indicate that the convicts may soon be released with the precondition that the people "pardon them". Bizarre as this may seem (demanding pardon from the victims to override a conviction), the possibility of a pardon for these criminals contrasts with the total silence on the whereabouts of dozens of EPRP leaders and veteran members who have been disappeared since 1991. Tsegaye Gebre Medhin (aka Debteraw), Yishak Debre Tsion, Setotaw Hassan, Belete Amha, Teklai Gebre Sellasie, Hagos Berhe, Desalegn Amsalu, Ms Aberash Berta, Lemma Haile, Tesfaye kebede, Azanaw Demile, Abebe Ainekulu, Berhanu Ijigu, Wondu Sorak Desta, Eyob Tekabe, Demissie Tesfaye, Mot Baynor and others are to be mentioned. Their whereabouts is unknown; some speculate they have been killed while the regime refuses to cast light on their fate. It is surprising that no outcry has been heard concerning their disappearance neither from the above mentioned religious leaders nor from international human rights organizations.

The release of confirmed mass murderers and the continuing suffering of those who fought against the totalitarian regime that launched the Red Terror exposes the hypocrisy and injustice that prevail under the Meles Zenawi regime.

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