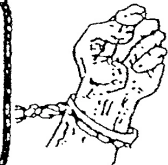




የኢትዮጵያ የፖለቲካ እስረኞች አንድነት ኮሚቴ (ኢፖአኤኮ)
SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



September 17/2009

EGYPT: STOP BRUTAL KILLING OF ASYLUM SEEKERS

Egyptian border police have once more shot and killed an Ethiopian refugee trying to cross into Israel. In the past years, these same police have killed dozens of Ethiopians, Eritreans, Sudanese and Somalis in the same way.

Israel, which has hundreds of refugees in its jails, has joined the fray by deporting back to Egypt asylum seekers who are in turn mistreated and deported back to their countries by Egypt. Egyptian officials have this week defended their brutal actions by inferring "national security", "curfew" and other such flimsy excuses. How can unarmed asylum seekers pose a grave and serious threat to armed border guards? Evidently, the Egyptian authorities have tried to allege that refugees have fired at their border guards. If at all such an incident has ever happened it is surely to be a fire fight between smugglers and the border police and not between defenceless refugees and the Egyptian police. Thus, it is clear that the Egyptian police are taking a condemnable brutal action against asylum seekers and must stop this. It should be said once again that the action is motivated by Egypt's official racism and bad policies towards asylum seekers coming from the Horn especially.

SOCEPP demands that Egypt stops the mistreatment and brutal killings of asylum seekers and calls on international human rights organizations and the UNHCR to raise their voices against this continuing inhuman action. Israel must also halt the deportations and release the hundreds if not thousands of asylum seekers it has imprisoned.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE
SOCEPP, POSTFACH 51213, BERLIN 13372, GERMANY
SOCEPP, 30 RIGA COVE, WINNIPEG, MB R2P 2Z7, CANADA
E MAIL: SOCEPP @AOL.COM
WEB SITE: WWW.SOCEPP.DE