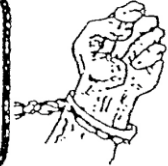




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



August 9, 2013

DENOUNCE THE VIOLENT REPRESSION AGAINST MUSLIM ETHIOPIANS

The violent repression against Muslim Ethiopians has been ratcheted up by the regime in Addis Abeba. Peaceful Muslim protesters were gunned down in the South with more than 25 killed, hundreds wounded and more than 1200 others arrested. Today's Eid celebration again saw many hundreds of Muslims in Addis Abeba being beaten and jailed by the regime's notorious Federal Police.

Ethiopian Muslims have been peacefully protesting for more than a year now against the regime's blatant interference in their religious affairs, its detention of hundreds including some 28 leaders who are accused of "terrorism" under a convenient anti-terror law that has served the regime to repress all dissent from all quarters. It must be noted too that torture is routine in the jails and prisons in Ethiopia. Dozens of demonstrators have been brutally beaten and tortured and in the recent killing even a baby was fatally shot. Propaganda wise the campaign to present the Muslims' peaceful protest as extremist and even as one linked to Al Qaeda has been going on in earnest. For long allies of the regime have also ignored the mass protest and refrained from reporting on it or on the rights violation by the regime.

SOCEPP strongly condemns the repressive regime and its violations of the rights of Ethiopian Muslims. Murdering, beating, torturing and jailing peaceful protesters is a crime that should be condemned by the world at large and SOCEPP calls for such a condemnation. It is only proper for SOCEPP to call on all Ethiopians to join their Muslim compatriots to struggle for the respect of human rights in Ethiopia.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE
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