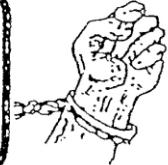




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



April 22/2013

DEPLORE SELECTIVE/PREJUDICED REPORTINGS

ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN ETHIOPIA

The latest report from the US State Department on the human rights situation in Ethiopia is one more example of selective and prejudiced reporting that ignores confirmed and grave human rights relations and tends to suggest, albeit hesitantly, that things are not as bad as they seem.

It did not start today. During the previous regime, that was pro Soviet and therefore hated by the West, human rights organizations practically ignored the grave suffering of the people (including the infamous Red Terror which was once in a while mentioned without naming the victim, the EPRP) and concentrated only on reporting what allegedly or really happened to ethnic and secessionist movements. As now, certain organizations were deemed Ethiopian and Amhara and their plight ignored. Even now the human rights organizations that raise a hue and cry on the "ethnic cleansing of the Rohingya in Burma, have little or nothing to say on the ethnic cleansing of Amharas by the Tigrean dominated regime in Ethiopia. Dozens of EPRP leaders and veteran members have been disappeared since 1991 without a pip from the human rights organizations that rush to claim a disappearance of any member of any ethnic organization whose location has not been found for a week or two. There are favorites in the picking also as ethnic minorities with "little or no importance or weight" but are nonetheless repressed (ref to various SOCEPP communiques) are totally ignored. The malaise affects at least one Ethiopian human rights body too.

SOCEPP is not that naïve not to know that quite a lot of human rights organizations have agendas and even those based in neighboring countries like Kenya report selectively and with their own political prejudices when it comes to the situation in Ethiopia, when it concerns the EPRP, when it concerns the Amharas as victims. This is really deplorable and must stop without any procrastination. SOCEPP has for years written to the concerned organizations informing them on disappearances, on cruel and inhumane measures against the people in general and the Amharas in particular. Very few of them have deemed it important to pen a reply as they consider some victims and organizations as “unfriendly” to put it mildly. Shame on the whole bunch.

SOCEPP calls on Ethiopians in the Diaspora to deplore this situation and to write protest letter to the State Department and the various human rights organizations based in Europe and North America.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE

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