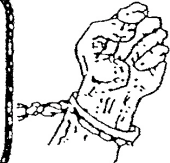




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



SEPTEMBER 8/2009

OPEN LETTER TO SEYE ABRHA AND OTHER FORMER

TPLF LEADERS

It's been now 18 years since EPRP activists including Tsegaye Gebre Medhin (aka Debteraw) and others were captured and disappeared by the TPLF regime. Despite repeated calls and public out cries, the EPRDF has refused to disclose their condition and take responsibility. On the other hand, we are yet obliged to face with another injustice made by individuals like you who consider themselves equally victims of the same regime. This is where the Ethiopia's political irony lies.

Tsegaye Debteraw and his friends were captured while all of you meaning Seye, Tewelde Welde Mariam, Alemseged Gebre Amlak and Gebru Asrat were politburo members or still in power. However, like the group in power you have also adamantly refused to be courageous and show a certain amount of sensitivity if not remorse towards the victims and their families. What is unpalatable and worse is the fact that you have still refused to come to your senses and break your TPLF omerta (code of silence) on the issue even after you are expelled from your party and government positions and after you have experienced, to an extent, the taste of tyranny. Your refusal to account for the disappeared and your claims that you knew not of their capture in the first place has made your claims of "dissidence" hollow to the core.

SOCEPP has raised its voice for the freedom of one of you (Seye) when he was jailed because we believe that injustice against one is injustice against all. Ethiopians from all walks of life, including those whom you have persecuted while in power, voiced concern on your behalf. We, in the SOCEPP believe that you owe your freedom partly to such Ethiopians. We therefore say that you are indebted and responsible both morally and legally to our people. SOCEPP thus, urges you to heed to the repeated call and account in the public what your former organization has done to the disappeared who are not only the EPRP leaders and veteran members but also many other patriotic Ethiopians.

We also once again call upon to all Ethiopians at home and abroad to pressurize and to reject the silence and avoidance of Seye and his friends in crime and expose the whereabouts of Tsegaye Debteraw and other EPRP members captured under their watch as well as other disappeared patriots. Send this open letter and similar email messages to Seye Abrha (seabrag@gmail.com) and also to his other friends in Addis Ababa.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE
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