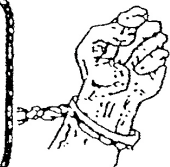




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



December 12/2009

DENOUNCE THE MURDER OF FOUR STUDENTS IN SHAKISO

Federal police and the Oromia Flying Squad have jointly attacked peaceful demonstrators in the southern town of Shakiso and killed four students who were protesting against the plunder of the country's gold by the regime and its Saudi born business partner Sheikh Mohamed Alamoudi. The incident happened on December 7 and the schools in the town remain closed while the protest is spreading to other learning institutions including those university of Addis Abeba.

This is not the first time the Meles regime has resorted to brutal and summary action to crush peaceful protest by students. Officially, peaceful demonstrations are illegal unless the authorities give the permit. In 2005 when people demonstrated in Addis Abeba opposing the rigging of the general elections more than 200 were shot death by the security forces and snipers placed on top of buildings. The shooting of four students in Shakiso is one more indication of the fact that the Meles regime is determined to violate the human rights of Ethiopians come what may and to do with the connivance of foreign circles that aid and abet it in all fields.

SOCEPP condemns the brutal killing of the Shakiso students and calls on all human rights organizations to denounce the human rights violations in Ethiopia by the Meles regime.

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