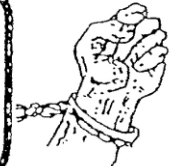




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



March 26, 2012

**DENOUNCE THE REPRESSION AGAINST PRIESTS OF THE HISTORIC
WALDIBA MONASTERY**

Reports reaching SOCEPP reveal that armed police of the Meles regime have infested the historic Waldiba monastery and are engaged in a hut to hut search operation, violating sacred quarters and manhandling the priests and monks. A monk who gave an interview to the Voice of America Amharic service is being sought by the police. It is to be noted, as exposed in a previous SOCEPP communiqué, that the regime has handed over the historic land and forest of the monastery to Chinese and Indian land grabbers. The regime's onslaught against religious denominations is intensifying. The burning of the centuries old forests of monasteries like Ziquala and Asebot is not accidental. The Meles regime is now engaged in a repressive hunt for activist teachers and the strike of teachers gains momentum. Waldiba and other monasteries are in grave danger and the repression unleashed against the priests does not augur well at all. SOCEPP calls on all Ethiopians in the Diaspora and on international human rights defenders to raise their voices against the repressive campaign launched by the Meles regime against Waldiba and other monasteries and against Ethiopian Moslems.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE
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