



Ethiopian Political & Civic Organization Members Union
in Germany

December. 10, 2015

A letter to the German Government demanding adequate protection for Ethiopian Asylum seekers

Recently, the German Bundestag has enacted a new legislation regarding refugees and their status in Germany. Following the new law, the treatment against Ethiopian asylum seekers has been changed dramatically which seemingly deluded by the misconception that the Ethiopian case is more of economical status rather than political one. As a result of this Ethiopians are denied of access to education including language course and other related social benefits which is against the founding principle of non-discrimination and the right of public education as enshrined under Article 3 and 22 of the 1951 Convention on the status of refugee respectively. On the plus side, we are very much concerned that this misperception of the true nature of the Ethiopian Dictators would have clear implication on the Ethiopian asylum process. Accordingly, we vigorously demand the Germany government to change its attitude towards Ethiopian Asylum Seekers for the following reasons.

Not surprisingly that the Ethiopian Government conducts a sham and shame every five years merely to send signal for the international community that Ethiopia is on democratic track. Yet by any parameter, none of these elections meet the international standards starting from the process to the final outcome. Because of absence of wide political space, intimidation, prosecution, persecution and torture against members of opposition political parties, there has never been a plain level field in the Ethiopian Election ever since EPRDF took the power. As a result of this, the ruling regime won the 2010 and 2015 elections by wide margin-99.6% and 100% respectively. As multi-party system has remained in the Constitution, the country is ruled by single party –the ethnic-based Tigray people’s liberation Front for the last 24 years. The various reports from various institutions including the US state department’s annual report, Human rights watch, Amnesty international, Freedom House and others on 2005 elections have showed how the government deployed that the draconian methods to rob the election result and the aftermath death of 293 persons by the ruling regime. The ongoing crime against humanity and injustice which exhibited by hunting against the oppositions and independent journalists, just weeks before the May 2015 parliamentary elections which have had produced an election outcome that shamed the elected EPRDF/Wayne dictatorship regime.

This is somewhat flabbergasted by this blatant hypocrisy about the sudden shifting of the German foreign policy against that of the Ethiopian asylum seekers case and the implicit contempt for the Ethiopian People as well.

The current recurrent potential famine and starvation of over 15 million people-according to the UN report , in the country, is the significant evidence

that exposes how the regime falls with fabricated reports dominates the entire media and the country's real image muffled with that of the talking rapid economic growth of the country. This is nothing but the failed economic and political policy of the ruling regime for the last 24 years. People are dying because of this hunger and famine though the ruling regime tries to hide completely.

The Tigryans dominating single party has institutionalized oppression and corruption. Ethiopians are denied fundamental rights and basic freedoms under the dictatorial regime. Even at this moment, the dictator regime is murdering and torturing throughout Oromia region of Ethiopia against peaceful demonstrators of the students and innocent Ethiopians. The battle for freedom continues in the countrywide. There is also a heavy clash between the government forces and local people in west Gondar where mass killings are still going heavily under way.

<http://gadaa.com/oduu/30517/2015/12/02/video-shows-the-federal-police-attack-on-oromo-students-in-ethiopia/>

Oppression and corruption have been institutionalized by the EPRDF, a single party from one Ethnic group—a Tigrean Peoples Liberation Front dominating every institution in the country including the army, the security, telecom, the judiciary, the Parliament, the election board, the financial system, all aspects of government from the federal to the local levels. They also control the economy including natural resources and national assets. Most human rights crimes do not happen in a vacuum but can be closely associated with clamping down on dissent as the regime seizes the land, property, or lives of the people. The trade, industrial and service centre of the country is exclusively controlled by the political cadres and institutions of the regime.

The Dictatorial regime is also violating right to belief and freedom of Religion by interfering in to religious affairs the Orthodox Christianity and Muslim through its political cadres. Today, religious leaders from both Orthodox Christian and Muslim, who opposed this interference are imprisoned and exiled.

As of 2009 –with the enactment of Civil society proclamation, local and international civil societies are stifled. They are absolutely banned from human rights, advocacy and democratic activities.

Today, alas, there is no independent media and freedom of press and expression is in danger for a number of Journalists and bloggers are in jail and or in exile. Many independent newspapers are shut down by the order of the ruling party and their publishers and Journalists are behind bars. Admittedly, Ethiopian prisons and police stations are overcrowded with human rights activists; opposition political members and journalists. All television, internet and telecom are exclusively controlled by the regime. Moreover, international Medias and blogs are blocked in Ethiopia.

Given Germany's influential role as indispensable member of the European Union and as a country financially supporting the regime in Ethiopia, we

demand to expose this repressive regime that uses inflated figures and propaganda to present a different picture of Ethiopia that does not exist on the ground. More importantly, Germany could take a strategic role in supporting the creation of a viable alternative to this government. It may not be able to happen within Ethiopia, but a shadow government could be started that could be prepared to set the foundation for a new Ethiopia based on truth, justice, decency, equality and the respect for the human rights of its people.

These have been numerous reported by International Medias, which includes German, Human right groups such as Freedom House, Amnesty International, and Human Rights Watch, local political, civic, and religious organizations.

<http://www.oaklandinstitute.org/development-aid-ethiopia>

<http://www.oaklandinstitute.org/ignoring-abuse-ethiopia>

<http://www.oaklandinstitute.org/omo-local-tribes-under-threat>

<http://www.oaklandinstitute.org/video-lower-omo-local-tribes-under-threat>

<http://cironline.org/reports/ethiopia-battle-land-and-water>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nt22chvx_yQ&feature

Accordingly we vigorously demand the German Government and the international community to do something to stop the misery and suffering of the Ethiopian people. German government should stand bold and met its principles to denounce the Ethiopia dictator regime which is committing systematic and serious crimes including but not limited to crimes against humanity, torture and genocide. We demand to stop cooperating with blood sucker dictators in Ethiopia and stop spending tax payers money to consolidated dictators and human rights violations. Inside we demand the German government to put pressure on this regime for deep reforms. And such reforms also would probably mean the abrupt end of the ethnic regime and be accountable for their crime activities. The German government could help but first we need to bring you greater awareness as we stated in short over this letter.

Finally, we strongly demand the German Bundetag and the foreign ministry with that of higher commotion for refuge to reconsider its stand against the cases of Ethiopian refugee status, and conduct further research and examination on the current situation of Ethiopia and Ethiopians. Accordingly, we demand in certain terms that the Germany Government shall granted adequate protection for Ethiopian asylum seekers and refugees and thereby seriously re-consider the new legislation.

Ethiopian Refuge Community - in Germany