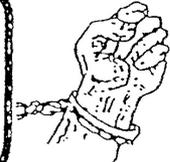




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



January 3/2013

REGIME IN ETHIOPIA INTENSIFIES REPRESSION
AGAINST MUSLIM CITIZENS

The repressive regime in Addis Abeba has not only condemned as guilty Muslim Ethiopians who had peacefully protested for their rights but is now asserting that it has captured some eight Al Qaida "terrorists" trained by the Somali Al Shabab and infiltrated from Kenya and Somalia with arms and explosives for sabotage in Ethiopia. Up to now no one has been told on the identity of these so-called infiltrators or subversives.

It is clear that the regime in Ethiopia is trying to cripple the peaceful protest of Ethiopian Muslims for their rights. This is a protest that has now peacefully gone on for more than eight months and is opposed to the regime's gross and illegal interferences in the religious affairs of the Ethiopian Muslims. The regime has rounded up dozens of protesters and many are now condemned on dubious charges and awaiting long prison sentences. In this line, the regime has been trying to connect the peaceful protesters to alleged terrorists and the alleged capture of such elements is expected to buttress the regime's allegation to discredit the popular and spreading struggle of Ethiopian Muslims for their legitimate rights.

SOCEPP not only condemns the brutal repression against our Muslim citizens but also rejects the convenient report of the capture of so-called foreign Al Qaeda alleged terrorists as it is a ploy by the regime to justify its local repression. SOCEPP calls on Muslim citizens to continue and intensify their legitimate struggle for their inalienable rights. It also calls for the immediate release of the arrested and jailed and for the release of all political prisoners.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE
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