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THE PRECARIOUS SITUATION OF ETHIOPIANS IN THE SUDAN

The close relations of the regime in Addis Abeba with the Omar Beshir led regime in Khartoum have almost always worked against the interest of Ethiopians in the Sudan. Many Ethiopians who were in danger of losing their lives have been deported from the Sudan to Ethiopia and many have died (Major Atanaw Wassie and others) or have been disappeared like Azanaw Demile and dozens of others. Refugees have been harassed, jailed and tortured in the Sudan to please the regime in Addis Abeba and even now Sudanese prisons hold very many Ethiopians on trumped up charges. The violation of the rights of Ethiopians in the Sudan knows no limits.

Recently, the Sudan has ordered all Ethiopian refugees to be finger printed (yet again) till April or face expulsion, a file and information that is to be passed to the regime in Addis Abeba for sure much to the detriment of the welfare of the refugees. Two weeks ago, the unexplained deaths of three Sudanese Masalites in an area situated outside of Basonda on the way to Metema led to the accusation that Ethiopians were involved in the killing and a revenge spree by the Masalites led to the death of seven innocent Ethiopian farm workers. (A report by one web site based in America that 70 Ethiopians were killed in Basonda is false). Countless Ethiopian young girls being trafficked through the Sudan have been raped and even murdered and as we recently reported an 18 years old pregnant Ethiopian girl raped by seven Sudanese is facing a death penalty on charges of indecency, adultery and prostitution while her rapists have been freed.

The Addis Abeba regime has ceded Ethiopia's fertile land on Gondar to the Sudan and as the Sudanese high level presence in the celebrations of the ruling Tigrean front showed the alliance and complicity is tight. Which means that Ethiopians in the Sudan face danger to their lives while they are not given adequate protection by the UNHCR or other international bodies. Let us raise our voices to defend Ethiopians in the Sudan.

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