



May 7, 2014

CONDEMN THE BRUTAL MURDER OF PEACEFUL PROTESTERS

SOCEPP condemns in the strongest terms the brutal murders of peaceful protesters from Ambo to Gondar, to Haromaya (formerly Alemaya) by the Federal Police of the regime in Addis Abeba. Dozens have lost their lives. Many more have been wounded and hundreds have been rounded up and jailed with torture being routine.

The protest by students in Ambo, Bale and other places in the Oromia region involves their opposition to the so called Master Plan to expand the confines of Addis Abeba city. This would definitely involve the forced eviction of many from their houses. The sale of land in Addis Abeba has reached its limits and this so called expansion does not have the welfare of the concerned people in mind. The validity of the concerns and measures aside, peaceful protesters should not be subjected to police brutality and killings. In Gondar, Shehdi especially, the protest also involved land and eviction as the regime feverishly confiscates and sells the land of the people. Here too protesters were shot and killed. Gondar, being within the Amhara region, has already lost most of its territory to Tigray and the regime has also handed the fertile areas of Quara, etc. to the Sudan.

SOCEPP condemns the repressive regime in Addis Abeba that has relentlessly continued to resort to violence to stifle dissent and any and all acts of peaceful protest. SOCEPP also condemns those who are dangerously spreading and fanning hatred among the people to kindle ethnic conflict.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE
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