



EthioLion



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**Kinijit Ethiopian Cultural and Relief Organization in Toronto**

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Date: May 15, 2012

President Barack Obama  
President of the United States  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue,  
Washington, DC20500

Subject: **Ethnic Cleansing in Ethiopia**

Dear Mr. President:

By a letter dated March 5, 2012, (copy attached) we brought to your attention a looming human disaster of huge proportion emanating from the ethnic cleansing policy of Prime Minister Melese Zanawi of Ethiopia and pleaded for your government's immediate intervention. We would like to think that your government has taken an appropriate diplomatic action to forestall the disaster.

However, our fear has come to pass as thousands of peasant farmers and their families have been forcibly removed from their homes and properties and their whereabouts are not known. A few hundred women and children did manage to reach Addis and have reported the disaster that is taking place. These women and children were also forcibly removed from the makeshift shelter they were provided by AEUP in Addis and their whereabouts are not known. They are all presumed dead. The disaster is going on unabated and the world is watching passively.

We do believe that the world does not want to see another Rwanda as its inaction and indifference led to that terrible human tragedy. Our letter of March 5, 2012 was designed to sound the alarm and prompt your government to act quickly as there is collective responsibility on the world community to prevent genocide and human right violations.

Prime Minister Melese Zenawi has, through lies and deception in the last 20 years, succeeded in convincing the government of the United States and other Western democracies that he is building a democratic Ethiopia and a dynamic and growing economy. To help him achieve these noble objectives successive American Administrations and other Western democracies and the United Nations have poured billions of dollars as direct budgetary, democratic and development assistance. Despite what Prime Minister Melese tells the American administration, other Western governments and the United Nations, Ethiopia is a police state and the economy is in shambles.

**Ethiopia Will Prevail!**

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For instance staple food prices have increased by an average of 2000% since Mr. Melese assumed power and 12 million Ethiopians are dependent on foreign food aid every year. And yet Mr. Melese leases (gives away is a better term) Ethiopia's fertile farm lands to foreign commercial farmers to provide food security to their respective countries.

Initially Mr. Melese and his government denied that there was no forced evacuation of farmers from Gura Ferda Zone. But later on they admitted that the peasant farmers were evacuated for setting wooded areas on fire. Even if they did, which we know it is not true; banishment is not a commensurate punishment. That is a clumsy way of admitting the crime. The fact is that thousands of peasant farmers are being evacuated from their homes and farms and are denied their constitutional rights of movement and settlement within Ethiopia based on their language and ethnic background which is a clear case of **Ethnic Cleansing**.

We are aware that your administration has invited four African leaders to attend the G8 Summit which you are hosting at Camp David, Maryland May 18-19, 2012. One of the four African leaders invited is Prime Minister Melese Zenawi of Ethiopia as Chair of NEPAD.

This Summit will give you a unique opportunity to raise the issue and demand that the heinous crime stop immediately. Mr. President, we are demanding such an action from you on the ground that the United States and your administration have the moral, international, diplomatic and donor nation obligations to prevent genocide and crime against humanity.

God bless the United States of America

Sincerely,

Bishu Mamo

President

C.C. Madam Hillary Clinton

Secretary of State

The State department