



EthioLion



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June 6, 2012

The Right Honorable Stephen Harper
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington St.
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

On March 5, 2012 and May 15, 2012 we wrote to you about the heinous crime of **ethnic cleansing** in Ethiopia being perpetrated by Prime Minister Melese Zenawi of Ethiopia and his collaborating officials. In those two letters we beseeched your government's intervention and the cessation of this **crime against humanity** for which Canada has international, moral and diplomatic responsibility. We are not aware of any action your government has taken so far. And yet the crime is being perpetrated unabated. The fact that this heinous crime is still being carried out without any restraint seems to suggest that the world community, including our own country Canada, wants to see the Rwanda tragedy repeat itself. We still urge your government to take an appropriate action to stop this tragedy.

We now understand that the official who is collaborating with Mr. Zenawi and implementing the heinous crime is scheduled to arrive in Canada on June 10, 2012 as a visiting guest of the University of Saskatchewan. This official is Mr. Shiferaw Shigute - President of the Southern People's Kilil where Gura Ferda district is situated and from where the 78,000 Ethiopian citizens and peasant farmers are forcibly being evacuated. The order, the copy of which is available for evidence, to vacate their homes and property and leave the district in 30 days is signed and issued by this official. He has also said, on record, that these 78,000 Ethiopian citizens do not belong in **his Kilil**.

We strongly believe that a person who has been committing genocide (ethnic cleansing of a mass scale) should not be given the privilege of being a guest of a democratic country such as Canada. We now request that the government of Canada withdraw the privilege of granting a visitor's visa to this criminal. It would be a shame for Canada to do so and an abdication of its international obligations as member of the United Nations.

We take this stand for the following reasons:

- 1) Canada was a member of the Commission that drafted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and which was adopted on December 10, 1948. We would like to quote one paragraph of the Preamble:

"Whereas Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in co-operation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms."

Ethiopia Will Prevail!

Mr. Zenawi and Mr. Shigute are violators of every article of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of which Ethiopia is a signatory. We would like to cite, as example, the following Articles:

Article 2 Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Article 3 Everyone one has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

Article 5 No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 13 Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state.

Article 17 Everyone has the right to own property and shall not be arbitrarily deprived thereof.

- 2) Canada is one of the members of the UN General Assembly that adopted in 1948 the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the crime of Genocide (crime against humanity). Article 2 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court defines genocide as:

“any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such (a) Killing members of the group; (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;....”

Mr. Zenawi and Mr. Shigute targeted 78,000 Amharas or Amharic speaking citizens to forcibly remove them from their homes, farms, plantations and business which they have built and developed for decades on the ground that they belong only to the so-called Amhara Kilil. Thus engaging in ethnic cleansing and violation of the Articles cited above.

Long live Canada.

Respectfully yours

Bishu Mamo
President

CC. The Honorable John Baird, Minister of Foreign Affairs
The Honorable Mr. Thomas Mulcair, leader of the Opposition Party
The Honorable Mr. Bob Rae, leader of the Liberal Party of Canada
R. Peter MacKinnon, President of the University of Saskatchewan