

# **ONE STEP FORWARD FOR UNITY AND EQUALITY AMONG ETHIOPIANS**

**By E. Mekonen**

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In the public meeting held in Oslo, Norway on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005 chaired by Ato Argawi, V. Chairman of UEDF. I observe a positive and considerable progress towards freedom, unity, and democracy among Ethiopians. All Ethiopians regardless of their origin attempts to think and participate in a very constructive and discipline manner on common problems of the country. It is really a step for ward to change the Diasporas politics in the outside world. This should be appreciated by every body and need to work together if we feel much about our people and country than our individual interest, either politically, socially, and/or economically.

To me this is what most people in Ethiopian demands. If we can't address this interest, we can't reach any where. If our interest is power, we may stay in power right after EPRDF or what's ever, but we couldn't cure the root causes of our disease. Only we are trying to medicate our disease with temporary treatment or solution. Gradually this in return may exacerbate our problem or make more worst than resolve our problem to see peace and development in the country.

So at present we actually need real politicians they understood well the country politics than individual or ethnic politics. The leaders should have a log term vision and perspective to see a united, free, democratic, strong, and economically developed Ethiopia.

Our people requested us to realize this, their interest, and the facts on the ground many times. But we can't open our mind and hear in finding a prominent solution. Rather we ignore and propose our own idea, principle, so on without considering the realities in Ethiopia. To be frank we educated and so called political party members/leaders are the major bottlenecks in our country politics. Not the people. Therefore to eradicate such misconception and lack of clear vision is prevalent if peace and development will certain in the near future.

However the meeting gave us a good lesson and experience for all of us and need to develop furthermore. Not as temporary but as a long lasting solution. I feel this lays a milestone if we have a consciousness to see back ourselves. To come up with concert solution should be our prior objective. Groundless claim among each other only wastes our time and facilitates our problem. During this the one who benefit is the one who want disintegrated and weak Ethiopia and enemies of Ethiopia and its people.

We hear recently what happens in Ethiopia. A tremendous proportion of the population was demonstrated in Addis. The people show us their willingness to fight peacefully for democratic. This is a positive achievement not by the good will of EPRDF as EPRDF declared many times. But it is part of the democratic process in the country. It is part of the struggle against tyranny for justices and democracy and anti-Ethiopian Meles. EPRDF is not a democratic government by its nature neither in the past nor in the future. It is completely a dictator and ready to take all necessary actions against our people to maintain its power even for one second. So the rally of EPRDF is selling Ethiopia and oppresses human rights of our people without alternative.

In relative to other nationalities, we know one of the main victims of EPRDF/TPLF dictatorial administration is Tigrians. We know the people born EPRDF/TPLF but they never struggle to bring a dictatorship, undemocratic and corrupted EPRDF/TPLF. They pay they pay their precious life for peace, democracy, and development. This is important for all of us. It may serve as good indicator to Ethiopian brothers to understand and show to what extent Meles and their groups are criminals, dictators, and clearly stand against their own people even. In the past together with other nationalities Tigrians have a lion share in the struggle to bring peace and democracy in Ethiopia. But the reward they received by EPRDF/TPLF is oppression, not to breath even a word against EPRDF/TPLF.

Dear readers when I say this I don't want to consider by any body as a selfish and biased towards one nationality and saying other nationalities are fine. I am proud Ethiopian. I have equal respect for all nationalities of Ethiopia.

However I am trying to show how Meles and its group are very dangerous even to the people they say we represent them. As some Ethiopian brothers think EPRDF/TPLF never benefit Tigrians. The reality is vise versa.

In accomplishing this mission EPRDF uses intensive security and military forces. They allocate huge amount of money to prolong their existence while millions are dieing due to lack of food, malnutrition, HIV/AIDS, etc. The victim's are only used as a tool to collect money like LIVE AID8. They are wise and intelligent on how to fetch money but not how to utilize it. This is because their prior objective is to stay in power by using all menses but not peace, democracy, and poverty alleviation.

Therefore this is the time we need to know one way or the other our struggle should not be in a way that attributes to Meles dictatorial leadership but to remove and eradicate EPRDF. Then to improve food security, reduce malnutrition, and or support HIV/AIDS victims. As I try to explain earlier, this is the most important issue our country demands now days. In my opinion, this is the main concern of every Ethiopian who loves their country and their people. Nothing Else!