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OROMO LIBERATION FRONT

Remembering the fallen Qeerroo/Youth on Oromo Martyrs Day

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Every April 15, on Oromo Martyrs Day, the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) and the Oromo nation honour the bravery of those who sacrifice their lives in the line of duty, fighting for the freedom and liberation of Oromia.

The OLF would like to dedicate the 2018 Oromo Martyrs Day to the honour and memory of the heroic resilience and line of defence raised by the Oromo Qeerroo and Oromo mothers who put themselves as shields to protect their loved ones and sacrificed their lives during the Oromo uprising since 2014 that brought the Tigray People's Liberation Front/Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (TPLF/EPRDF) to its knees and are on the verge of changing the course of history.

The Oromo Qeerroo have lost thousands of souls but did not let the intruders pass unchallenged to reoccupy Oromia in all four corners of our country. The TPLF/EPRDF regime is forced to declare two rounds of State of Emergency. It hangs onto power through military command posts and has fully deployed the Agazi special force and other branches of its security forces across Oromia.

Notwithstanding this, the Oromo Qeerroo achieved glorious victories through peaceful resistance and exposed the brutality of the backward TPLF/TPLF regime. Having failed to defeat the Oromo Qeerroo militarily, the regime is engaged in yet another calculated deception and propagating false promises of "deep reform" and dreams to continue with the looting of Oromia.

The sinking TPLF/EPRDF regime will leave no stones unturned to stay in power. In its desperation, it has even appointed a prime minister from one of its entirely rejected surrogate organisations called Oromo People's Democratic Organisation (OPDO) as a diversionary tactic and temporary Oromo appeasement.

Even if one assumes that the newly appointed prime minister has a personal will to bring some reforms, he will not, as the reality on ground shows, have the authority to execute reforms. The driving force behind the system is still the TPLF whose lust for power and greed for material wealth are insatiable. Therefore, truth demands to break the system not repair it by replacing personalities at the head.

The Oromo popular peaceful resistance spearheaded by Qeerroo movement is not about who rules over the empire but a part and particle of the 150 years long struggle of the Oromo people to regain the sovereignty their nation enjoyed, for thousands of years, before its forceful colonization by Abyssinia, assisted by European superpowers of the day, during the scramble for Africa. Hence, the OLF cautions our people against relaxing the resistance by falling for the TPLF/EPRDF's deceptions.

The OLF would also like to pay its respect to the members of our Oromo Liberation Army (OLA) who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the battlefields struggling against the occupying enemy forces during the past years.

Finally, the OLF calls for renewing the pledge to preserve and enrich the struggle for liberation of Oromia from the jaws of the illegal forceful occupation, subjugation and colonization and decisively bring about the independence of Oromia.

Oromia shall be free!

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