



Statement from worldwide OLF members

24 August 2020

Whereas the Oromo entertained the present government as a transitional arrangement in which all interest groups will have equal opportunity to prepare for the next phase, after two years things did not turn out as promised. They accepted the so-called reformist EPRDF members to lead the transition for love of regional stability and peace, though it is known that it was the product of flawed election. This group under the leadership of Colonel Abiy Ahmed was tempted to permanently stay in power in cahoots with Nafxanyaa forces, oppressed peoples of the empire struggled against for over a hundred years.

Just like its predecessors it started to kill, torture and imprison Oromo that could provide leadership to the nation unprovoked. It subjected Oromiyaa to military rule and established several commands posted to augment that. Finally, an icon of the nation a gifted revolutionary singer Hacaaluu Hundeessaa was assassinated on June 29, 2020. When people expected a hero's funeral in Finfinnee the Capital city of Oromiyaa and Ethiopia and his family residence, the government forced his body taken to his birthplace to his parents despite people's demand. That as a pretext many prominent Oromo were herded to prison. That arose mass protest and hundreds were killed and thousands are imprisoned throughout Oromiyaa.

That has further plunged Oromiyaa and the Ethiopian empire as a whole into unrecoverable crisis. The regime is determined to suppress any demand for rights by nations and nationalities to satisfy its Nafxanyaa colonial system hopefuls. This week the army was ordered to invade Wala'ita causing damage to human life and property because they demanded autonomy to use their language and culture and become masters over their own resources. Whereas the world is dismantling statues of colonialists, Colonel Abiy is busy renovating statues of colonizers.

We believe it is only solidarity of the oppressed peoples, in particular unity and determination of the Oromo that would pull out the region from looming civil war if we are not already in its midst. Solidarity of all Oromo political forces is not showing when it is most needed like the present time, blinded by self-interests. Some are even seen collaborating with Prosperity Party and Nafxanyaa system hopefuls in its effort to subdue the Oromo and others.

- We concerned senior members of OLF condemn the killing of Hacaaluu Hundeessaa with strong terms and demand the true assassins to be brought to justice without delay.
- We demand the unconditional release of all political prisoners, Oromo leaders and nationalists incarcerated in connection with Hacaaluu's death.
- We demand that all federal forces are pulled out of Oromiyaa and all political prisoners imprisoned by them released immediately and those among them that killed unarmed people brought to justice the soonest.
- We condemn Oromo individuals and organizations in collusion with neo-Nafxanyaa lead by colonel Abiy that is waging continuous genocide or Oromo and other peoples. In particular we hold organization having OLF name collaborating of with that force as a traitor to Oromo freedom fighters and the nation.
- Let us express our deepest appreciation and our indebtedness to Oromo youth that had continued sacrificing to the father land. We shall ever remain proud of you Qeerroo and Qarree!

Finally, we call upon the Oromo nation to rise up in unison and struggle for their own survival and stand firm in solidarity with all other oppressed nations and nationalities in their quest for freedom.

Oromiyaa shall be free!

Oromo Liberation Front
