



የኢትዮጵያ ሕዝባዊ አብታዊ ፓርቲ ወጣት ከንፍ ድርጅት (ኢ.ሕ.አ.ፓ ወከንድ)
Ethiopian Peoples Revolutionary Party Youth League (EPRP YL)

Fair trial for Ethiopian co pilot Hailemedhen Abera

Copilot Hailemedhen Abera has requested political asylum in Switzerland. The copilot's action represents the voices of the voiceless Ethiopians who have lived under tyranny for the last 23 years. The action taken by Hailemedhin was an absolute necessity as the world turns a blind eye to the plight of the Ethiopian people and gives full support to the repressive leaders of Ethiopia. Despite the egregious breach of human rights by the regime as exposed on different occasions by various Human Right organizations, the world major powers have continued supporting dictatorship, genocide, ethnic cleansing and land grabbing in Ethiopia.

The Chinese backed dictators have all the technology and the know-how to monopolize information and to restrict the basic rights of freedom of expression, association and assembly. The government has targeted journalists, opposition members and members of major ethnic communities like Amharas , Oromos etc. Currently there are more than 40,000 political prisoners in Ethiopia. The news of Journalists and opposition members being imprisoned in Ethiopia becomes like "the dog bit the man" kind of story, it is not really news to the world any more. The double standard by the developed world left the basic principles of democracy and justice in darkness.

The state owned Ethiopian airlines is highly affiliated with the ruling minority ethnic group TPLF. For the past 3 years, the CEO, Ato Tewolde Gebremariam, being a TPLF (Tigray People liberation front) member, has been firing employees for political and ethnic related reasons With the help of National intelligence and security-service (NISS) the airline has detained several political opponents in the organization. Some were forced to live in exile. The airline terminated employees at several levels of the airline such as senior vice president of Marketing Yeneneh Tekleyes, senior vice president of cabin crew, managers at different sections and more than 60 Amhara and Oromo commercial employees in 2012 alone. Hailemedhines action is a testimony of the gross human right violation in Ethiopia.

The copilot has no criminal record- what so ever; his intention was never to endanger the passengers on board. His intention was to be a voice for 91 million repressed Ethiopian people. Therefore we the Ethiopian people request;

- 1. A fair trial for Hailemedhin Abera since his choice of Switzerland is for the extraordinary justice system. Given that he has no criminal record and he had no intention of endangering passengers, we appeal to the justice system to give great weight to the gross human right violation in Ethiopia in considering Hailemedhin's request for asylum**
- 2 We strongly condemn the Ethiopian government request of his immediate extradition to Ethiopia .This request undermines political repression of the Ethiopian people in general and is a threat to the democratic values of Swiss in particular. Hailemedhen requested a political asylum and we the Ethiopian people ask the Swiss court to reject the extradition request and grant him asylum.

"Injustice anywhere is injustice everywhere."

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