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PRESS RELEASE

“Ethiopia at a cross road again”

Introduction: -

Ethiopia is one of the oldest civilizations in the world, and is quoted in many literatures and ancient scriptures. A country mentioned in the Bible next to Israel, a kingdom who welcomed the first group of followers of the Prophet Mohamed when they were persecuted because of their religion, and so many more.

It is the only country in Africa who has never been colonized, one of the first founders of the African union and the UN.

Ethiopia is the oldest and longest American ally in Africa, and with a very good track record of political and social alliance and a rich history of working together.

Current political situation: -

The country has been ruled by TPLF (ethnic political group from minority Tigrayan people) for the last 27 years. This is the same TPLF, then and now labeled Terrorist group even by the American standards when they were guerrilla fighters. They ruled the country by divide and ruled policy for many years, mainly with their political Manifesto, which declared the Amhara people as the eternal enemy of the Tigrayan people. They later turned this Manifesto into the Ethiopian constitution. Through the years they committed unbearable atrocities on the ethnic Amhara people.

The TPLF government was rooted out by a civil disobedience mainly from the Amhara Fano and Oromo youth. Then comes the group of now prime Minister Dr. Abiy Ahmed on the premise of reviving and revitalization of Ethiopian unity and Ethiopianism. He got so popular that the transition was miraculous. However, he was muddled by his own party ODP (Oromo democratic party) where individuals with a hidden OLF (Oromo Liberation front) agenda for cessation and independent Oromia.

To fulfill their mission, they worked in tandem with the TPLF to purge the ethnic Amhara from what is known as the Oromia and Benishangul Gumuz regions. Through this act, they killed an unthinkable number of Amharas in brutality and displaced millions in what is called ethnic cleansing. There are still individuals in power who aspire for Oromia at the cost of a disintegrated Ethiopia. For instance, the current Oromia regional government president Shimelis Abdissa, in a leaked recording was caught saying the only purpose they conceived and formed (Prosperity Party (PP) of Dr. Abiy Ahmed) was to make sure they forged their way to Oromo superiority in governance and language, not for the sake of anyone else.

While this and so many was unfolding in the country, Dr. Abiy's government peaceful negotiation with TPLF failed, and TPLF attacked the Ethiopian Army in an unprecedented and unexpected action. This was done with the hope of bringing the war into the heart of Amhara region to then push inward to take control of the Menelik Palace (to overthrow Dr. Abiy Ahmed). However, the war turned the other way and TPLF was quashed in a few days battle.

It is undeniably true that civilians in the Tigray region are suffering from the war and atrocities and possibly they may be prone to famine and starvation in the near future. However, the solution is not reviving TPLF for the next round of revenge and mass murder on Amharas. The solution is to work with and convince Dr. Abiy's administration to forge reconciliation between the Amhara and the Tigrayan people, and forge a way forward to stabilize the Tigrayan region and bring lasting peace and development to the regions and to the country at large.

To this end, we ask and encourage the President Biden's Administration of the following:

1. The Amhara forces are not in any part of Tigray region. They are stationed in the Welkait zone of the former Gondar Kiflehager of Amhara land. TPLF calls Welqait Tegede as West Tigray after the TPLF annexed the land by force when they won the war against the then communist government of Mengistu Hailemariam.

Asking the Amhara forces to get out of Welqait Tegede means inviting more massacres and genocides like the one we witnessed in a place called Mikadra where more than a 1000 people were brutally murdered by the TPLF youth wing called Samrit overnight.

2. The Amhara forces are not perpetrators of the war. TPLF is!!!

In fact, if it was not for the Amhara forces swift and brave action, Ethiopia as we know it would have just been history. The TPLF army caught the Ethiopian army in surprise and killed so many and took over 60% of their forces, arms, and logistics - but the Amhara forces came to the rescue and the tide of the war changed for good.

3. Ethiopia is an old ally of America. We urge you not to cause this well-built friendship to be lost in fabricated propaganda. For better or worse, working with the Dr. Abiy administration to forge an all-inclusive government should be the priority for the USA and allies. The humanitarian assistance will be much easier working with the Abiy administration and the Amhara regional state with the Tigray region transitional government than imposing sanctions and sending Ethiopia in an uncharted territory of poverty and possible disintegration.
4. When the elephants fight, the grass under them are the most damaged. Thus, we ask you to not let other international powers come into competition with America in that region and cause irreversible damage to the region, the country, and to the people.
5. There are thousands (if not millions) of Ethiopian Americans who can serve the USA government in an effort to reach out to Ethiopia for humanitarian assistance. Please use this human power to efficiently address the crisis.
6. A stable East Africa is very important to forward American interests and goals. A stable East Africa in particular and all Africa in general cannot be envisioned without stable Ethiopia. In the same manner, a stable Ethiopia is unthinkable without proper place and contribution of the Amhara people and the Amhara regional forces. It is, therefore, crucially important to understand Amhara and its historical and political position in the country. Alienating the Amhara people will only add benzene on the already boiling political situation. We, therefore, ask you to do proper investigation to learn about the nature and status of the Amhara people.

God bless Ethiopia!

Amhara Heritage Society of Minnesota (AHSM)