Oromo Menschenrechts- und Hilfsorganisation (OMRHO e.V.)

Oromo Human Right and Relief Organisation Ijaarsa Mirga Namoomaa fi Gargaarsa Oromoo



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Urgent Action

In Ethiopia no week, even no day, passes away without human right violations. Futurity in this country is always tinged with fear and despair not with hope and optimism for a better life. This is even truer to the Oromos than to any other ethnic group except perhaps to the Somalis in Ogaden.

The TPLF/EPRDF regime started last week, Thursday and Friday (30-31 October), another wave of mass imprisonment of the Oromos. According to the information we received, the imprisonment is an all out government action in the entire Oromia region. But because of difficult accessibility of information in provinces, we have names of the imprisoned for the time being only from the capital city, Addis Ababa. The following are some of the imprisoned individuals among others whose names we didn't yet manage to get:

- 1. Mr. Bekele Jirata, a general secretary of Oromo Federalist Democratic Movement (OFDM), which is a legal opposition party with its own seat in the Parliament.
- 2. Mrs. Lelise Wedajo, a mother of 3 children and a wife of the former journalist of the Ethiopian Television Broadcast, Dhabssa Wakjira, who himself was extra judicially imprisoned for three years, 2004-2007, by the TPLF/EPRDF regime and now lives as a political refugee in foreign country.
- 3. Mr. Eshetu Kittel, an owner of the famous Hawi Hotel and a head of an extensive family.
- 4. Mr. Kebede Borena, a senior manager and second top person in the management of the International hotel Hilton.
- 5. Mr. Dereje Borena, a brother of Mr. Kebede Borena.
- 6. Mr. Assefa Teferea Dibaba, a University lecturer for the Oromo language.
- 7. Mr. Imiru Gurmessa

- 8. Mrs. Aberash Yadeta
- 9. Mr. Banti Bula
- 10.Mr. Kebebew Feyee
- 11.Mr. Chalsissa Abdissa
- 12.Diribsa Legesse

So far no official statement was given by the regime for the imprisonment. The imprisoned were rather holistically accused for their political view for which the government didn't want to trouble itself to produce evidence except allege to have read their minds.

The Oromo Human Right and Relief Organization (OMRHO e.V.,) appeals to all concerned human right organizations and governments to take urgent action in using all their powers to stop the Ethiopian regime from such gross human right violations and help the imprisoned individuals immediately released.