

ETHIOPIAN OFFICIALS ARE GUMBLING WITH AMHARA LIVES THEY EXECUTED

When is human life becomes respected by Ethiopian officials of the regime that continues to mess up the country since it came to power in 1991? A few days ago 9 – 14 innocent Amharas of western Gondar were killed in cold blood by the Ethiopian army. This horrific killing spread a shock wave to all Amhara people domestically and abroad. Just a few month back the same Amharas rejoiced the selection of Dr. Colonel Abiy Ahmed as prime minister by the regime's ruling coalition known as the Ethiopian Peoples Revolutionary Democratic front despite its hatred towards one group of the people of the country with Amhara background and origin. When the prime minister began to carry out some superficial reforms, he openly said, " I want to bring Ethiopia into real democracy. I want the Ethiopia no one will be killed on the street by the security forces for exercising their rights. . . " Well, for the Amhara people his promises simply became wishful thinking when three days ago his military gunned down Amharas who tried to exercise their rights in the west Gondar town of Genda Wouha.

Two top military officials of the regime pointed their fingers at the Amhara youth as the guilty party and said, " . . .the soldiers acted in self defense. . . " the army deputy chief and leader of the so called 'command post' General Berhanu Jula lied to reporters " . . . his soldiers did not kill any one but defended their lives when they were shot at. Even two of them are wounded. . . " A spokesman of the Ministry of Defense Major General Muhamed Tesema on his part told the government run Amhara TV " . . . the soldiers were ordered to protect a convoy of public property when they encountered civilians who demanded to search the content transported by the convoy. Because of that the convoy was stranded for two days. The incident took place on the third day when the soldiers were forced to defend themselves. . . " Neither of the officials showed remorse about the loss of Amhara lives, instead they criminalized the Amhara as the responsible party to the situation.

In real terms, the military was not escorting a convoy of public property. It was providing a safe conduct to a private Sur Construction Company machinery. This company was and is being suspected by the Amhara community of illegal arms trafficking in the Gondar area to destabilize peace and stability of the zone. This particular company which is favored by the federal government agency of

road construction is believed to close ties with the powerful Tigray Peoples Liberation Front that directly ruled Ethiopia for 27 years and still plays a very key role in the Federal Government. The point is which one comes first to the Ethiopian Army, protection of citizens lives or a private property ? Or, according to Major General Muhamed, since Sur construction company is close to the TPLF it must be protected at all cost from being suspected by citizens. Therefore, the military is entitled to kill Amharas to defend the interest of a private company based on its political ties. Why did he lie that his army were protecting ' የሕዝብ ንብረት' or ' public property ' Does it make sense what the two Generals told the press to cover the fallacies of their regime that looks nice on TV and that looks ugly by the violent and irresponsible measures it takes against the Amhara people?

(To day a massive demonstration against the army killings of Amhara civilians took place in the historic city of Gondar demanding a prompt investigation of the issue and bringing the culprit soldiers to face trial. . . similar demonstrations took place in Bahirdar and Genda Wouha two days ago.)

Abinet Hunegnaw!