

## Ijaarsa Dubartoota Oromo Addunyaa L.S.P. 34144

## International Oromo Women's Organization P.O. Box 34144 Washington, DC 20043-4144

2<sup>nd</sup> Letter

April 7, 2010

Hillary Rodham Clinton Secretary of State U.S. Department of State 2201 C Street NW Washington, DC 20520

Dear Hillary:

I am writing this 2<sup>nd</sup> letter on behalf of International Oromo Women's Organization (IOWO), a Non-Profit Organization, established to promote gender equality and be the voice for the voiceless Oromo women in East Africa, mainly in Ethiopia.

The Oromo are the largest ethnic group in Ethiopia, which constitute 40% of the population, out of which 50% are women.

Our first letter was written in June 2009, requesting your interference to release innocent Oromo mothers from Ethiopian prison.

But now we kindly request your urgent interference **to save their lives**. The brutal Ethiopian government with its discriminatory policies to the Oromo people sentenced terrible capital punishment, injustice and hostile decisions to the following Oromos on March 31, 2010.

- 1. Mr. Mesfin Abebe Abdissa, Death penalty
- 2. Mr. Tasfahuun Chamada Gurmessa, Life Imprisonment Sentence
- 3. Mrs. Aberash Yadata (**mother of four children**), 12 Year Imprisonment (without parole)
- 4. Mrs. Lelisee Wadajo (mother of three kids), 10 Year Imprisonment (without parole)

- 5. Kol. Olaanii Jabeesa, 12 Year Imprisonment (without parole)
- 6. Mr. Roba Degefa, 10 Year Imprisonment (without parole)
- 7. Mr. Dejene Dhaba, 12 Year Imprisonment (without parole)
- 8. Mr. Bekele Negeri, 12 Year Imprisonment (without parole)
- 9. Mr. Bayisa Hussen, 10 Year Imprisonment (without parole)
- 10. Mr. Hailu Delessa, 10 Year Imprisonment (without parole)
- 11. Mr. Dejene Boranaa, 12 Year Imprisonment (without parole)
- 12. Mr. Bekele Jiraata, 12 Year Imprisonment (without parole)
- 13. Mr. Kebede Borana, 12 Year Imprisonment (without parole)
- 14. Mr. Isheetu Kitil, 12 Year Imprisonment (without parole)
- 15. Mr. Wabee Hajii, 12 Year Imprisonment (without parole)

Currently the Ethiopian government is engaged in eliminating the Oromo leadership and involved in killing, imprisoning and hunting down successful Oromo business men and women, community leaders and elites.

The above charges against them are good examples of such actions, which are purely fabricated and politically and racially motivated.

In our first letter we expressed our deep concern of our people, specially the problem of mothers and girls in Ethiopia under the current government and how it impacts on the growth of children, (including evidences). And we strongly believe that as a mother and also considering your dedication to the advancement of women's right, you can interfere and save their lives. (For your easy reference, we attached our first letter herewith).

We as Oromo Women, kindly appeal to your honorable office to put pressure on the Ethiopian government to respect human rights and release Oromo prisoners.

Sincerely,

Dinknesh Deressa Kitila Board Director, International Oromo Women's Organization.

## Cc.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Palais des Nations CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

Human Rights Watch 1630 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 500 Washington, DC 20009 USA

Unrepresented Nation and People Organization UNPO Secretariat P.O. Box 85878 2508CN The Hague The Netherlands

Amnesty International 5 Penn Plaza-14<sup>th</sup> Floor New York NY 10001 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA