

ADDA BILISUMMAA OROMOO

OROMO LIBERATION FRONT



جبهة تحرير اورومو

Gaafa: 02-02 - 2012 _____ تاريخ
Date: _____

Lakk.: 001/stm-abo/2012 _____ رقم
No.: _____

OLF Statement on a Bogus Press Release in the Name of OLF

“A naked butterfly dresses a stone” runs an Oromo proverb. We read with amusement a ‘press release’ from Minnesota USA by a group that claims to be OLF claiming to have reviewed the program of the organization and defining a new vision for Ethiopia. An outlaw splinter group from the OLF cannot undertake a venture that in itself is unconstitutional in the organization.

The group that calls itself OLF and issued a ‘press release’ on Jan. 1, 2012 to the effect of amending the organization’s program is a minority splinter group that has no legal or moral basis to claim the name OLF as we have stated on our previous statement. According to the organization’s constitution and any organizational norm it is the decision of the majority that has to finally prevail. This negligible minority group negate this norm and the organizational constitution to which they were a party and try to usurp the name OLF itself.

While they themselves are illegally using this name they made further unconstitutional decision by amending the Program of the organisation. Amending the Program, the Constitution and election of members of the National Council is an exclusive prerogative of the National Congress which meets periodically, not the National Council as they wrongly state.

More than that, the right to self-determination up to and including independence is the right of any nation enshrined in the UN charter that no entity can negate or abridge other than the concerned people themselves who can decide through free universal suffrage. Anything short of acceptance of this right will only prolong the agony of the peoples in Ethiopia who have been victims of the conflict between those who want to perpetuate the conquest under the phoney unity and those who want to reverse the conquest.

Finally it goes without saying that neither unity nor independence can be imposed by force or by deception if what we need is peace, freedom and democracy, which are prerequisite for development and prosperity. We have to believe in, trust and accept the free will of the people as the final verdict on this issue.

The OLF hereby states that the group that issued this press release is an outlaw and the press release is null and void which does not represent the OLF, OLF members and the Oromo People at large who are in bitter struggle for more than three decades against the Ethiopian State for their rights to self-determination to be respected.

Victory to the Oromo People!

**Oromo Liberation Front
January 2, 2012**