



*Our philosophy is simple. To stabilise Horn of Africa start
peace in Oromia*

Oromia Support Group in Australia Inc. - P.O. Box 978 Noble Park, 3174, Vic - E-mail: osg.australia@gmail.com
Registration: A0041955G. ABN: 95 941 300 944 -

Open Letter to Mr. Kevin Rudd

Date: 24th, Jan. 2011

The Honorable Mr. Kevin Rudd
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia

Oromia Support Group in Australia Inc. (OSGA) would like to express its gratitude to you for visiting the Horn of Africa, our home land Oromia, to participate in African Union meetings.

When we first heard we were astounded by the news as we had not expected you to land in a country, Ethiopia, where gross human rights violations are occurring. However, let the Oromo land welcome you with pleasure and we use this opportunity to brief you about the Oromo peoples' current life situation under Meles Zenawi's regime. We apologize for welcoming you at the same time as informing you of our people's sorrow and crying message.

The capital city you are travelling to Finfinne or called 'Addis Ababa' is the central part of Oromia, where today hundreds of thousands of Oromos are suffering in various prisons. The beautiful city you are going to visit is equivalent to hell for thousands of innocent Oromos. Thousands of Oromos have been kidnapped from their homes; fathers and mothers are imprisoned leaving their children behind without any protection, support or supervision. Others are taken out of their homes and their whereabouts remain unknown to their families and friends. Thousands of Oromos are experiencing torture and trauma in jail, only because they request justice, respect of human rights and a fair go on their land.

We do not have enough words to express our thanks to Australia which was generous and merciful enough to save us from such human made disaster. However, the majority of our people in Oromia and the Horn of Africa are still experiencing horrible life situations as a result of the current government's systematic and very sophisticated human rights violations.

We know that the welcoming protocol by the Ethiopian government may not allow you to visit prisons that are home for hundreds of thousands of innocent Oromos including mothers, young and old. Also we understand that it may not be part of your schedule to visit prisons. However, when you enter and land in Oromia please remember that thousands of Oromos, including kids who could shape the future of the citizens are suffering in dark places in Ethiopia's prisons and crying to be safe.

We thankfully appreciate you considering this letter in the name of more than 40 million Oromos in Oromia and thousands settled in Australia.

Marama Qufi

Oromia Support Group in Australia (OSGA)

For more information: - [OSG Press Release No. 46 – PART ONE](#)
- [OSG Press Release No. 46 – PART TWO](#)