

ADDA BILISUMMAA OROMOO

OROMO LIBERATION FRONT



جبهة تحرير اورومو

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Pitting People Against Each Other Cannot Reverse The Popular Uprising In Oromia

OLF Press Release

One of the major campaigns of the TPLF/EPRDF regime against the Oromo people is arming members of some nations and nationalities and initiate attack from all the directions. The TPLF deliberately arms and instigates attack by members of peoples and nationalities in and around Oromia on the Oromo people. Accordingly to date Somali (Issa), Afar, Gedeo, Sidama, Amhara, Burji, Gumuz, and the like peoples have been armed and pitted against each other as well as against the Oromo people resulting in the loss of thousands of lives and destruction of millions of dollars worth properties.

Especially recently they deliberately organized and armed elements of the Gumuz nationality and directed them to attack the Oromo people in eastern Wallaga, western Oromia. In this intermittent fighting that has been going on for the last two years hundreds of lives of the nationals and a large sum worth of property has been lost. It is also going on right now. The motive behind pitting these two peoples, who peacefully lived together in the Nile valley for a long time, against each other is clear. It is to create as many diversions as possible for the Oromo people's struggle for freedom which is an ever present threat to the regime.

That purpose is clear from the regime's choice of this time to instigate the attack anew on the Oromo people, when the popular resistance from all corners of Oromia is disparaging it. It is the time when Oromo youth from all the corners of Oromia have intensified their resistance that the regime resorted to this desperate act. As these Oromo youth movement became more threatening to the regime resorting to creating a nonexistent conflict between the Oromo people and their numerous neighbours, who never had any enmity, arming and mobilising them against the Oromo people has been taken as the way out. It is meant to divert the attention of the people from the struggle against the regime's misrule to the intra peoples' conflict.

The OLF has concise message for the neighbouring peoples, including the Gumuz, who have had exemplary relation with the Oromo people. Remember that this regime is not abusing the Oromo people alone but your peoples as well. If the regime pretends to back you against the Oromo people today there is no reason why it will not do the same against you tomorrow. We repeat calling upon you that whatever disagreement arises between you and the Oromo people resort to the time proven traditional conflict resolution that we commonly share and resolve it peacefully instead of involving our common tormentor.

There is no reason for any oppressed people neighbouring Oromo to side with the enemy that is bent on perpetuating repression on all our peoples through divide and rule, in suppressing the legitimate Oromo struggle. Pitting people against one another is clearly a means being used to dampen the intensifying popular uprising in Oromia and diverting the attention of Oromo nationalists. We want to assure everyone, however, that this desperate policy will never succeed.

Victory to the Oromo People!

Oromo Liberation Front

April 24, 2012