



HARARI ALLIANCE FOR JUSTICE & EQUALITY (H.A.J.E)

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Freedom and Justice for ALLstill only a mirage for Ethiopia's Muslims Sad Commentary and Call to Action after Gondar & Debarq Massacre of Muslims

May 3rd, 2022.

For immediate release.

First, Harari Alliance for Justice & Equality (H.A.J.E) would like to express our deep sadness and extend our heartfelt condolences regarding the passing of over 40 Muslims murdered in cold blood at the hands of Amhara Fano extremists in Gondar City and Debarq in the Amhara regional state. We would like also to extend our heartfelt condolences to the greater Ethiopian Muslim Ummah - انا لله وانا اليه راجعون - "Indeed, we belong to Allah and to Him, we shall be our return".

Harari Alliance for Justice & Equality (H.A.J.E) unequivocally condemns the barbaric murderous act committed by Amhara Orthodox Christian Extremists on peaceful gathered Muslims while they were burying one of their respected Sheikhs during a funeral event.

H.A.J.E calls on regional and federal law enforcement and judicial institutions to vigorously investigate all aspects of this event and prosecute to the full extent of the law until justice is served on those found guilty. It is no longer acceptable for politicians, including the PM, to simply pay lip service to the glaring imbalance of justice concerning Ethiopia's Muslims. Further, we call on the representatives of the Ethiopian Muslim communities on national matters, the Ethiopian Majlis to have a spine and conduct the needful independent investigation of its own and challenge the Ethiopian justice system!!

It is a fact that Ethiopian Muslims have endured decades of marginalization within the Ethiopian legal and justice framework. The rights of Muslims have long been sidelined, minimized, and trampled upon since the times of the Imperial system. During this time, Muslims were portrayed as "others" and their numbers systematically undercounted, while the reality is that Muslims in Ethiopia have always represented more than half of the national population. Even recently, the widespread edict to try to prevent Muslims from praying on school grounds is a simple illustration of the constant and targeted pressure on Ethiopia's Muslims. It is high time that Ethiopian Muslims' rights and freedoms are enshrined in the constitution so they can freely manage their affairs, mosques, schools, and institutions, such as the Majlis, and do so independently and free from political interference.

We believe that the Gondar & Debarq incidents and other past incidents (Motta, even in Gondar previously, etc..) all have markings of close coordination and collaboration between local/regional governments and extremist agents/individuals. The memory of the victims in Gondar & Debarq will never fade away in our hearts. We pray for their families and commit ourselves to ensuring that their deaths will not have been in vain. Unless the Ethiopian justice system starts to work for ALL its citizens, Muslims, and Christians alike, such incidents, if left unaddressed will have massive consequences, and will only lead to further loss of trust in the regional and federal governments and could eventually lead to even more violence that could engulf the nation into chaos. The Ethiopian federal and regional governments now have a historical chance to address these glaring issues and save the future of this country by addressing the rights of Muslims and the issues of religious Inequality.

Harari Alliance for Justice & Equality - H.A.J.E condemns these barbaric acts, which are committed during the Holy Month of Ramadan, and advises all citizens of Ethiopia to be vigilant in protecting life, properties, and institutions and preventing such atrocities from happening again.

Harari Alliance for Justice & Equality – (H.A.J.E).



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