

# **Sidama:-Once again Under Various Forms of Pressures; Peaceful Resistance Continues Unabated.**

**Our Reporter from Awassa, March 7, 2006**

## **Sidama Nation Online**

### **1. Seven Strong Sidama men are personally targeted by the PDO's**

Meles's regime representatives, Sidama PDO's are working day and night to stifle fiercely continuing Sidama quest for regional autonomy. Hundreds are made targets of continued harassment, intimidation and openly insulted by the regional authorities such as Shiferaw Shuguxe (major role player to intimidate Sidamas), and Zone police Commander, Galalcha Janje who was one of former SLM's body guards and tortured hundreds of Sidamas in Somalia by the order of 'Woldeamanuel Dubale Hankerso', in 1980s; for their part in anti-Meles's anti-Sidama agendas. These men and others their colleagues such as Adane Dingama, (Sidama Zone President), Balguada, (deputy president), and Tufaa Hoyicha (who was former Sidama Zone president who fought for the rights of Sidama people; at the moment running anti-Sidama agendas) and other conspirators are making the lives of innocent and genuine Sidamas utterly intolerable.

In recent weeks, they targeted seven fiercely out-spoken Sidamas who are named and shamed for their genuine resistance against EPRDF's anti-Sidama agendas and told them to remain silent. However, those Sidamas who are targeted have emphatically condemned the strategy of intimidation designed to kill for once and for all Sidamas regional quest; knowing the hidden agendas of PDO's who are serving the evil desire of Meles Zenawi disregarding 5million Sidama's quest. Nevertheless, the targets re-affirmed to continue their peaceful and non-violent resistance until Sidama is allowed to decide on its issues despite relentless burden imposed on them by the pro-Meles Zenawi PDO's.

These seven people have been criminalised allegedly conspiring against the governments agendas. However, entire Sidama people are telling the PDO's that if they dare to arrest its children and try to continue killings as they did three years ago; the retaliation will be costly to all sides, in particular for mindless PDO's who runs the agendas of the enemy disregarding their peoples'. Such an unpleasant agony of the Sidama people and human rights violations continues with its ugly faces.

### **2. Meles Zenawi allocated additional 1-million ETB for Sidama PDO's to run anti-Sidama agendas**

At present time, for Meles Zenawi the issue of Sidamas' quest for regional autonomy is grave concern in addition to the clock-round anti-tyranny moments flared-up all over the country. He lost entire support in the capital and so did in Oromia, Amhara, Ogaden and other regions of the country including his own region, Tigray. Thus, he knows that if he looses the issues of regional quest to Sidama; that tantamount loosing entire southern Ethiopia administration. That is why he begged Sidama elders to reverse the issues of

regional quest until he finishes his 4 years term promising them to respond when he finishes; on 14<sup>th</sup> of February's meeting held in Awassa.

Actually, he received utter condemnation from the Sidama elders for his hypocrisy and double standards against the very constitution he has been dictating for the past 14 years telling nations and nationalities of Ethiopia that they can decide on their issues to the extent of cessation. He tried all means that proved deadly in the past 14 years including ordering the massacre of armless and peaceful civilians including Sidama demonstrators who were claiming these very rights on May 24, 2002. To reverse Sidamas quest for regional autonomy, at the moment, he is exploring all possible avenues and investing scarce resources for this heinous acts by feeding Sidama PDO hyenas those who neither have morality nor principle. To make the matter worse, the so called dilapidated SLM leader, 'Woldeamanuel Dubale Hankerso' who was preaching Sidama people for the past three decades, telling them that he has been struggling for the rights of the Sidama people is said to have been playing a key role with other PDO's on behalf of Meles's regime to reverse Sidamas regional quest.

Meanwhile, it's has been leant that Sidama PDO's have used entire 1million ETB that has been allocated to run Meles's anti-Sidama agendas, that was authorised by Shiferaw Shuguxe (regional deputy President ) and Melese Marimo, who has been appointed an ambassador at the expense of Sidamas blood who is at the moment pursuing his ambassadorial duties in South Africa. Melese Marimo ordered the strategy of arrestment and left for SA about two weeks ago. To assure the continuation of their anti-Sidama agendas, Meles Zenawi ordered additional 1million ETB and given the authorising power to Shiferaw Shuguxe who is key player in intimidating and suppressing Sidama people.

### **3. Urgent Meeting to be held in Awassa by Tomorrow, 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2006**

Today, our source disclosed that PDO's have called for urgent meeting of Sidama intellectuals, influential and out-spoken Sidama people including seven persons who have been targeted; to intimidate them telling that they will be arrested if they continue opposing government's agendas on Sidama issues. However, the same source added saying that 'it will be good opportunity for all concerned to tell the traitors publicly that they are useless morons who will be judged by the people sooner or latter when the right times comes despite intimidation and strategic suppression.

Additionally, in the past two-three weeks alone, PDO's have gathered 150 representatives from each Sidamas' 10 districts to lecture them to reverse the issues of regional quest. Sadly, those representatives were who have unanimously decided on behalf of the Sidama people for regional autonomy on May 13-14, 2005 Sidama's annual conference. The PDO's poured thousands of ETB under the pretext of 'per-diem' to brain wash the participants although this proved failure.

On the other hand, they gathered Sidama teachers for the same intimidation three weeks ago although this again has been counter-productive. Almost entire Sidama teachers have unanimously agreed not to surrender their liberty under whatever the problem. However,

the PDO's have given all teachers to fill in membership forms when the teachers left the meeting. No one returned the form to date according to this source.

Meanwhile, Sidama intellectuals and University students from the capital to the district levels have signed petition that goes to all international organisations residing in the country, and to Meles Zenawi against an undemocratic suppression of the Sidama people by his regime. Such heroic determination of the Sidama intellectuals and students made PDO's nervous and didn't know what to do and how to deal. All previous systems of intimidation and suppression have failed terribly. Tomorrow, the PDO's are expected to raise this issue on the Sidama intellectuals meetings called by them.

#### **4. Sidama PDO's to go to all Sidama districts to continue their Intimidation**

The source from Awassa disclosed that some of the Sidama PDO's are going after two days (March 9 and 10, 2006), to entire Sidama districts to continue their strategic intimidation and deception under the pretext of development. Under this pretence, Meles's cadres are expected to preach Sidama people telling them that they will receive rewarding development packages if they abandon their quest for regional autonomy. According to our source from Aleta Wondo district, many thousands have been given a lot amount of money to whistle-blow about the packages involved if Sidama abandons their quest for regional autonomy. Nevertheless, the PDO's knew that they will not receive a happy well-come from strategically marginalised wider Sidama society despite their deceptive approach to reverse the issues of regional autonomy and plight of the Sidamas.

#### **5. Plots of Lands distributed for EPRDF/TPLF supporters in Awassa; Woldeamanuel is said to have been main Usher.**

Our source from Awassa explained how deceptive action is taking place in Awassa as a result of strategy designed by PDO's to collect more support to pursue their anti-Sidama agendas. Sidama people are being deceived by their own land on their land; and some of the Sidamas are obliged to support TPLF's anti-Sidama acts by sharing plots of lands in Awassa as a gesture by TPLF's officials to promote anti-Sidama agendas. According to this source, more than 3000 people have been selected for their loyalty to the rulers and agreed to sign petition against Sidama's quest for regional autonomy before they receive plots of lands and the second plots for sale to use it for the cost of construction.

Meanwhile, Woldeamanuel Dubale Hankerso is said to have been one of the people who recruit the candidates for this heinous acts against the Sidamas. And he is making a business out of this and selling many plots of lands while he is processing the agendas of the ruling class. It's unclear whether this man is in position to mess up the issues of the Sidama people leaving the UK where he sought refuge and granted leave to remain for his fear of persecution. He is actually a British unless he left the citizenship. Contrarily, he is at the moment serving the very tyrant regime from which he feared persecution. Under international law, he will be liable to stand accountable for causing havoc to the helpless and voiceless Sidama people going back from where he sought protection and shares all benefits from the UK government and tax payers.

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