

# **SOMALIA: Proxy War increasing the sufferings of the Civilians Whilst rampaging the Country**

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## **I. Meles's Pretext to remain on Power by the sufferings of Civilians**

**Having effectively** suppressed internally growing discontents and silencing any oppositional movements; Meles's regime is playing fatal game to satisfy its allies' geopolitical interest by the sufferings of helpless civilians and destruction of the sovereign country, under the pretext of '*War-On-Terrorism*'. Attempting to cover his democracy decorated ugliness by the war in Somalia and receiving 'a go-ahead' with rewarding military aid packages from the West powers, in particular from the U.S.A and Britain; contrarily to the values and ethos of both country peoples'; he is quenching his thirst for bloods of innocents in Somalia.

**The fact:-**Meles's regime internally continues to suppress, intimidate and kill any oppositional movement using his security forces, most of the times covertly some times overtly for both no one stands accountable. His regime arrests and keeps officially elected candidates in prison without independent judiciary system. More over, his regime deprives the rights of nations such *Sidama* (over 5million and 3<sup>rd</sup> populous nations in Ethiopian) to regional autonomy; contrary to the country's constitution that allows nations to the extent of self-determination.

**To divert the attention** of the powerful Western nations and humanitarian pressure groups that holds his regime accountable for relentless killings of civilians and suppressing democratic movements; his security forces are massacring civilians in Mogadishu as they used to do at home. Meles's security forces those who don't care for the people whom they meant to protect don't have any remorse towards Somali people. Meles's regimes as well as those who are sponsoring him to fight this war are not learning from mistakes in Iraqi and Afghanistan; that violence breeds further violence and reprisals.

**Masking his arrogance** in the shells of Western powers (US); Meles's regime is making the region very unsafe and Somalia sovereign country 'a destroyed nation'. While his army is meticulously executing the operations of destroying the country and killings innocent civilians in Somalia; it is also costing the country (Ethiopia) millions of dollars the money that is meant for development activities whilst Ethiopian poor are suffering an excruciating poverty without adequate health and education, social services

such as mother and children health, elderly and jobless that remain virtually destitute, inadequate infrastructures such roads, electric system, and so forth. Ethiopian peoples in this process have neither power to decide on their issues nor know their fates. To divert this all, he is messing in with Somalia issues.

## **II. Many thousands are being massacred indiscriminately by Ethiopian forces,**

**Meles's** 'ill-conceived' orders for killing of innocent and helpless civilians within the country or in Somalia will not be justified under any ways. However, that is the prevailing fact. The killings of unknown number of civilians and destruction of the country in the last five to six days were rampant. An eye witnesses from Mogadishu explained to this writer that, Ethiopian army supported by artillery, tank and heavy machinery are firing indiscriminately on various civilian villages and areas destroying residential buildings and fragile infrastructures.

Bodies are lying every where on the streets and hundreds buried in the destroyed buildings; while Ethiopian tanks and artillery are roaming on the streets of Mogadishu in the last five to six days. Relatives of those who lost their family are either dead, fled the city/country or scared to go outside to collect their beloved ones' bodies. Mogadishu smells death, dead bodies, ordeal and destruction where dictators rejoice by the sufferings of innocents.

No one exactly knows the extent and magnitude of human catastrophe apart from estimating from the relentless fighting between Ethiopian army and IUC that was ousted from the power by Ethiopian army in December 2006. In effect, the fear is growing for the spread of communicable diseases such as Cholera and other water born diseases in such very hot weather condition. It is very difficult to imagine for any humane how it feels to be in such situation. However, disregarding humanity and its values, Meles's regime is adding the sufferings of on already fragile nation whilst the West powers (politicians) are encouraging and supporting the destruction of the Somalia in attempt to put their puppet government like that of Meles's regime in Somalia; (see December 26, 2006 news about the probability of the fact happening now in Somalia on this web site). The situation in Somalia remains extremely fluid and most dangerous!

## **III. The Significance of the Invasion for the entire Region,**

**Since Ethiopia's invasion** of the country in December 2006, the exodus of Somali refuge continued relentlessly. In this process, some countries are helping Ethiopia in adding the ordeal of Somali people. For example, contrarily to the international convention to the protection of the people that flee war and war zones, Kenya blocked its borders during the first weeks of the invasion, under the same pretext mentioned above. However, at the moment that all pretext proved wrong as did during Iraqi invasion (under the pretext of Weapons of mass destruction); many thousands are in neighbouring Kenya and day to day Mogadishu is deserting; most with massacre of Ethiopian army.

**The other counter-productiveness** is that it fuels insurgency as did in Iraqi and Afghanistan unless peaceful alternatives are brought to table. Internationally mobilised ideological war is taking its shape in the horn while the invaders are thinking otherwise. Another is that the withdrawal of the Eritrea from IGAD, yesterday will prove that inter-governmental discontents in the region also will be the case. The issues of proxy war also will be a part and parcel of Somali invasion making such fragile region more volatile.

#### **IV. Recommendations,**

**Unless the West power** in particular the U.S.A, Britain and wider EU change their attitudes towards the region; and respect for basic rights and sovereignty of nations, the issues remain the same, if not worst. The need to seek peaceful and non-violent approach to any conflicts in the world brings about lasting solutions as it remains crucial for the stability of the region as well as the wider world. Aspiring an ideal world where conscious and human people take responsibility and hypocrisy doesn't reign, we can make difference to this planet. Otherwise, if powerful thinks that the power is the only solution, the discontents and struggle for basic rights shall continue unabated! Insecurity shall remain a part of our daily lives.

Therefore, it is a time to tell Ethiopia 'Enough is enough to get out of Somalia without any pre-condition!! And the west power, in particular the US and Britain need to get its hand out of the region by handing the responsibility to the AU and UN respectively.

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