

**Utterly FAILED:** Meles's Representatives couldn't achieve their mission of intimidating the Sidamas.

October 30, 2005; Our reporter From Awassa

As we made clear on various occasions about the Sidama people's regional quest for which they lost their precious lives two and a half years ago; and continued psycho-emotional and spiritual ordeal; Meles's regime is further harassing the Sidama people in a number of ways according to our reporter from Awassa. Since the last three weeks, Meles Zenawi sent his special agents from his federal office to silence Sidamas' regional quest. His well trained and purposely organised agents are trying to suppress Sidamas in entire districts under the pretext of assessing credibility of the claim.

According to the source, Meles's representatives travelled to all Sidama districts and treated the people arrogantly. They lectured telling them that; as long as the Sidamas are the ones to administer Awassa city (according to new plan), they don't need to claim regional autonomy. They however don't have plausible answer why they are trying to suppress the Sidamas quest for regional autonomy that has been given to other areas with far less populated nations than the Sidama.

Knowing this hidden face of the brutal killers those who are trying to be 'Wolves among the Sheep' the Sidama people emphatically condemned the mission of Meles's agents and made crystal clear that they rather prefer death than surrendering their liberty. This heroic and peaceful resistance utterly infuriated Meles and ordered his agents to re-think how to further pursue their intimidation to block Sidamas regional quest forever. To do this Meles ordered the Sidama people to undergo intense 'gimgema' (strategic political approach to silence and intimidate Sidama people) as urgently as possible, on which they are working hard.

The Sidama resistance was the same in entire districts. Even in places where Meles's loyalist PDO's such as (Shiferaw Shugute, regional deputy president) have sown a poison of 'Snake in the grass' style deceit pretending to be with Sidamas whereas they are conspiring against their need; arresting others who raise the issues of regional autonomy; the Sidamas stood on strong and the same stance that became headache to the Sidama PDO's as well as federal regime.

In another development, former Sidama zone president, ' Mr Geremew Garje' who has emphatically condemned anti-Sidamas regional quest government's movement is appointed a vice Minister at federal level to bribe his principle. This is believed to be Mr Zenawi's strategy to remove him from his crucial place where he can make significant impact on the issues of Sidamas regional quest. If they sack this man, they feared counterproductiveness it entails. Akie Hidana is said to have replaced Mr Garje.

Meanwhile, the federal row between opposition party and oppressive government is growing intensely. The situation remains fluid all over the country. Entire University students in Addis Ababa were told to return to their region and parents respectively, three weeks ago. This signifies according to the reporter that Meles's regime is under profound pressure. Nevertheless, the arrestment of opposition party's members all over the country remains rampant.

Sidama Nation Online, October 30, 2005