

Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Chairperson, African Union, Addis Abeba, ETHIOPIA . @africa-Union.org

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Madam Chairperson,

Recently, you, along with some East African leaders attended the anniversary celebration of an ethnic Tigrean organization as if this was an ETHIOPIAN national celebration. While the political leaders can have their own political reasons for ingratiing themselves with the ruling Tigrean front, the chairperson of the African Union had no reason to be part of this day's celebration by a particular front that many Ethiopians oppose. This was not Ethiopia's national day, was not either an Ethiopian celebration day (for example Adwa victory, Yekatit 12). It was an anniversary celebration of a single front in a specific region by a specific ethnic group. Madam Chairperson, your presence in Addis Abeba and your office surely have given you an insight into the reality of Ethiopia as opposed to the smothering propaganda of democracy and economic development. Not being naive, we also know the limitations of the AU itself much like that of its predecessor, OAU. Yet, as a representative of the AU and its member states it was not your place to be present at the event in Tigrai. Would you be present at an Ethiopian rally called by opposition parties? Hence, our protest letter.

Respectfully,

**EPRP** 

**Leadership Committee** 

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