



September 10/2011

### LET US HELP JOURNALIST ARAYA TESHAMARIAM

SOCEPP had in the past reported on the suffering of journalist Araya who had beaten and harassed not only in Ethiopia but also in India where he had sought asylum. Here below is the letter he has penned to all human rights organizations and to Ethiopian in the Diaspora. SOCEPP calls on all to raise their voices in support of Araya and his young daughter so that they can be resettled in a safer country.

“ For all those standing up firmly for human rights and freedom

First of all I would like to thank all of you who have been standing by me and my daughter, Eyerusalem, with your unlimited help and support, in one way or another, in all of those miserable days we have been through in the past three years of our stay in New Delhi, India. I would like to express my deepest gratitude again in the name of my daughter. Following is the burning issue.

As per the resettlement I got on April 2010, after I gave the interview in American embassy on November 1, 2010, we came to know, from their response on December 17, 2010, that our case is accepted. Besides, the legitimate letter I got from American government as well, via I.O.M, is in my hand. So, kindly, see this letter as I attached it along with this one.

Then we made the medical checkup on March 22, 2011. Right after that I made another medical checkup on April 15, 2011. I was told the complete medical report on June 21, 2011. This all delay is weird and pitiful, but the most pitiful of which is that the I.O.M officials, who oversee our case, are not able to keep their promise after having seen our terrible situation and made a written promise

on email that our journey would be facilitated in the earliest time possible. Here it is, our journey is delayed by four months without any tangible reason.

Here are the few urgent ones among our problems I mentioned repeatedly to the I.O.M office: security problems, especially the assault on April 16, 2010 by intelligence members of the Ethiopian government and continuous daily threat & warning to the extent of forcing me to hand over my email ID & password, the hunger that both me and my daughter endure, being unable to pay the rent for our flat; etc. At this point I would like to mention that both I.O.M and UNHCR have full information regarding the problems.

Our current situation is far beyond frightening. My daughter has a metal wire on her back tied with her spinal cord during medical operation, which had to be removed a year back. But this couldn't happen owing to lack of money. Because of this her two legs are virtually paralyzed, and she is not able to move her right hand as well as part of her body freely. It appears to be my young daughter's fate to end up in paralysis and go through darkness in her future life. Given my daughter's present situation and starvation in her early days, crying to each other happens to be our last resort after a complete desperation.

Please be here for us! For the sake of my sick daughter in scary situation, I am asking you to ask the I.O.M & UNHCR offices by writing supporting letters of our case.

Emails:I.O.M " [damakopeinfo@iom.int](mailto:damakopeinfo@iom.int) > ,

UNHCR"[indne@unhcr.org](mailto:indne@unhcr.org) "

I would like to thank you in advance for your kind support.

Araya Tesfamariam (journalist)

New Delhi. "

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