



DEC. 10--WORLD HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

(SOCEPP)

The observance of the World Human Rights Day every year on December serves the bitter purpose of recalling that Ethiopia's human rights has worsened. The same is true this year.

Thousands have been imprisoned in 2013, many beaten, tortured routinely, thrown into labor camps like the Zwai. Dozens have died of torture and hundreds are languishing in underground and secret prison holes all over the country, Addis Abeba included. Journalists have been sentenced to long prison terms on the all sweeping so called Anti-Terror Law that is being used to stifle and punish dissent. Under the cover of fighting insurgencies massacres have been perpetrated on innocent civilians. Ethnic cleansing of the Amhara people has been intensified, many more thousands of peasants have been forcefully removed from their land sold cheaply by the government to Chinese, Indian and Arab agro industrial firms. The many disappeared remain the same state. The right to food, the right of children, the right to life, the right of women and minorities-all trampled upon.

The repressive regime is arrogantly pursuing in its gross violation of rights because it enjoys full support from its donor western countries. There is no serious pressure on it to stop the violations. Human trafficking hoes on unchecked and the sale of modern slaves has not abated. The recent sad events in Saudi Arabia has shown how much this regime exposes Ethiopians to humiliation and suffering. Child prostitution is in existence with both male and female preteen and teens exposed to predators.

SOCEPP has no choice but to continue to struggle expose and struggle against the violations of rights in Ethiopia.

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