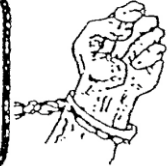




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN  
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



December 17, 2013

## SHAME ON YOU ISRAEL!

Right after the tragedy that befell Ethiopians in Saudi Arabia (150,000 deported, some killed, many tortured and all humiliated), it is now the turn of Israel to deport back hundreds of Ethiopians. The man considered a traitor and a criminal by many people in Ethiopia, that is to say Hilawe Yosef now purged and dumped in Israel to serve as ambassador, has, as expected, bent backwards, to assure all that the deportees will be given some money, free air ticket and medical service. He expects us to applaud the government of Israel.

The reality is evidently the contrary. Israel teats all asylum seekers as infiltrators and has thrown them into camps that leave much to be desired. 52% of Israelis consider African refugees are like cancer (much as the Nazis said of Jews during the Second World War). Refugees have been spat upon, beaten, subjected to crazed racism and more in Israel which has refused to consider asylum seekers as anybody but dangerous 'infiltrators'. Hundreds of Ethiopian, South Sudanese and Eritrean refugees, who have dared to face possible death in the Sinai) in the hands of human traffickers and organ harvesters), have been jailed and are now facing deportation by an Israel that has refused to recognize their asylum rights. Actually, the racism in Israel has reached new levels even as concerns its own black skinned recognized citizens like the Bette Israelis (Ethiopian Jews). As in the past, officials of Israel have refused to accept blood donated by Bette Israelis saying it is stained and impure. One official blatantly said the Ethiopians can give blood but they must know it will never be used while another proclaimed that the blood of Ethiopian Jews is of a "special type" and not acceptable. And thus a Bette Israel female Knesset member has had her blood rejected.

Israel deserves condemnation for its treatment of refugees, for its overtly racist attitude towards black African and its refusal to recognize asylum rights. Shame indeed!

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