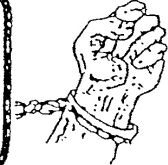




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



MAY 6/2011

VIOLATION OF THE RIGHT TO PROPERTY AND DECENT SHELTER

Universal human rights declarations affirm the right of property and of families to have decent shelter or home. In Ethiopia, hundreds of thousands of people do not have decent shelter at all.

To compound matters, the repressive regime of Meles Zenawi has launched the brutal action of bulldozing no less than 5000 homes in the city of Makalle (Tigrai). 15, 000 people have been left without shelter. Two kinder gardens and a church are amongst those to be bulldozed. The homes were built by the people .most of who forcefully deported from Eritrea when it declared its independence from Ethiopia. The homes, situated in western Makalle (Mai Anbessa and Gefih Gereb districts) were not built in violation of any ordnance or law while the mansions of the ruling elite in Northern Makalle are built in an area reserved for trees an in violation of the laws. Evidently, the latter are not bulldozed or touched.

More than 15,000 people brutally removed from their homes, no compensation, and no shelter given. It is, once more, a clear violation of the rights of the people. Ominously, this brutal demolition and denial of decent shelter to the people is expected to continue in other Ethiopian towns.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE
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