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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN  
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



November 5/2011

## **ABERA YEMANE AB RELEASED**

After 18 years of illegal imprisonment Abera Yemane-ab has been released yesterday in Addis Abeba. Abera went to Addis Abeba on December 16/1993 for a Peace and reconciliation Conference and was arrested from the airport and kept in detention until yesterday. Abera's released was order by a court in Addis Ababa but the regime of Meles Zenawi refused to let him go.

Abera Yemane Ab led a delegation of the opposition COEDF that went to Addis Ababa to take part in an authorized and internationally backed Peace and Reconciliation Conference. All members of COEDF were taken from the airport in Addis Abeba airport and jailed in Kerchiele prison. While the others got released within a two months period (and got expelled from the country) Abera was jailed for 12 years before being brought before a State controlled court of law. He was then condemned for ten years and released, and then rearrested a few weeks later and railroaded and condemned for a 25 years imprisonment term. Amnesty International surprisingly refused to consider him a political prisoner and ignored his plight just because the ruling regime accused him of political crimes during the past regime. Abera was a long time refugee in the United States and his arrest and condemnation was politically motivated.

SOCEPP welcomes the release of Abera Yemane Ab and demands the release of all political prisoners in Ethiopia.

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INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE  
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