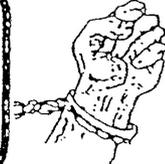




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



January 20/2012

CONDEMN THE MISTREATMENT OF ETHIOPIANS IN SAUDI ARABIA

SOCEPP HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM CONCERNED ETHIOPIANS IN SAUDI ARABIA:

“14/01/ 201”

Ethiopians in Diaspora

To Whom It May Concern;

We are concerned Ethiopians in Diaspora, who closely follow our detained 35 Ethiopians in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, who, while they were gathering in a home to celebrate Christmas in December 2011, which is allowed according to the law of the country, were subjected to mistreatment and imprisoned. From these innocent prisoners, 29 of them are women who some of them left their children in their home. Our Ethiopian brothers and sisters were beaten and suffocated in a tiny space (10mx5m) together with 400 other prisoners without enough food and medical attention. For this reason, many of them are sick and three people have already died. They are forced to stand or sleep on the top of other prisoners by taking turns. Above all, our sisters were humiliated and abused to the extent that they felt almost like being raped as a member of the religious police was allowed to put her hand in their private parts using a single glove on all of them. All their crime is just the fact they are Christians and were celebrating Christmas in their home without breaking the country's law.

To defy these types of cruel activities, we sincerely urge the international community to remind the government of Saudi Arabia of this crime and to call on it to respect international law, and to comply with its own national law. We urge all international humanitarian bodies to save our brothers and sisters by providing necessities and medical support.

To stand for humanity means to stand for ourselves!!”SOCEPP expresses its condemnation of the vile treatment meted out to Ethiopians in Saudi Arabia and calls on all international human rights organizations to do so likewise. SOCEPP demands the immediate release of all the detained.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE
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