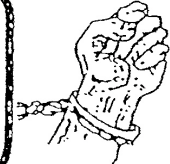




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



June 24/2010

PROTEST AGAINST THE DEATH SENTENCE

ON JEMUA RUPHAEL AMEN

Jemua Ruphael Amen has been sentenced to death by the State controlled court in Addis Abeba. Jenua was the former chief of the planning and economic bureau in Benishangul Gumuz's regional government and he has been accused of forming the Benishangul Gumuz Liberation Movement and of being trained militarily in Eritrea. The BGLM is accused of killing a number of people and soldiers in the Assossa region. Three other members of the Movement were sentenced to 10 years in prison.

The Meles regime had been deliberately pitting one ethnic group against another and has in the Beni Shangul region committed many injustices and criminal actions. The animosity fanned between Oromos and Beni Shanguls in Assossa is mainly its own doing and the fact that many from Beni Shangul were forced to flee and then again forced to defend their rights is no criminal act but a legitimate self defense action. It is still valid that brutal actions against innocent civilians are condemnable whoever the perpetrator is and whatever the justification that may be presented is. It is also a well known fact that the courts in Ethiopia are controlled by the ruling EPRDF front and that judges are mostly obedient to the diktat of the power holders. The rules of law and due process have been mocked at for years. Hence, the injustices committed against dissidents who have been brought before kangaroo courts and apparent trumped up charges with false witnesses and all.

SOCEPP protests against the death sentence passed on Jemua R.Amen and the railroading of the other prisoners.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE
SOCEPP, POSTFACH 51213, BERLIN 13372, GERMANY
SOCEPP, 30 RIGA COVE, WINNIPEG, MB R2P 2Z7, CANADA
E MAIL: SOCEPP @AOL.COM
WEB SITE: WWW.SOCEPP.DE