



Worldwide Hararies

Press Release: Worldwide Harari Meeting

Meeting Date: 05/07/2020

Meeting Type: Live Cyber Meeting

Meeting Medium: HRM Discussion Forum

Meeting Agenda: Current Situation of Ethiopia and the Harari Predicament

Meeting Attendees: Religious Leaders, Organization Representatives, Afocha Leaders, Jamaa Leaders, Harari Activists, Intellectuals and Community Members

Meeting Resolutions:

- 1) We condemn in the strongest term possible the coldblooded murder of artist Hacaaluu Hundeessa and demand the government to bring the criminals to justice. We send our heartfelt condolences to Hacaaluu Hundeessa's family, fans, Oromo and Ethiopian people.
- 2) Indeed, Hacaaluu Hundeessa murderers created havoc as they intended. We request everyone to be calm, contribute toward peace and tranquility
- 3) We request immediate release of all political prisoners
- 4) We request everyone to respect freedom of expression and the right to support and/or criticize current and former rulers of the country. Actually most Ethiopians have no problem accepting their fellow Ethiopians right to support and/or criticize current and former rulers of the country except one specific right-wing neo-conservative extremist group who are pro Emperor Menilik II. This right-wing neo-conservative extremist of Menilik supporters threaten to exterminate anyone who dares to criticize their king. The entire inhabitants of this planet have no problem criticizing past and previous bad rulers such as Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini etc except these Menilik worshipers who think their king is infallible. This right-wing neo-conservative extremist has to respect the right of eighty one ethnic groups who believe Menilik committed genocide on them. This hypocritical right-wing neo-conservative extremist set double standard; it is okay for them to criticize, insult and defame rulers of other ethnic groups but threaten to decapitate and/or kill anyone who dares to utter one single word toward their beloved Menilik. We urge the federal and regional rulers to stop shielding this anti-unity group.
- 5) Recently, in United States of America, Black Lives Matter supporters and in some cases government officials have been removing confederate general's statues which are considered a symbol of oppression and repression. Similarly, in United Kingdom, Black Lives Matter

supporters and in some cases government officials have been removing colonial era general's statues which are considered symbol of slavery, oppression and repression. Ras Mekonin (war general of Menilik) committed heinous crimes against humanity, ethnic cleansing and genocide in Harar. Erecting the statue of Ras Mekonin by his son (Hilesilase) in the city of Harar is insult to the injury of Harari, Somali and Oromo residents of city of Harar. Ras Mekonin 's statue is a symbol of ethnic cleansing and genocide. Demolishing Ras Mekonin 's statue by gallant Qerroo is correct and justified action which should have been done long ago. We emphasize and strongly remind the federal and regional government to NOT attempt to re-erect this statue which is symbol of humiliation to Hararies, Oromo, and Somali residents of Harar city. Any attempt to rebuild this statue will come across strong resistance and we are ready to prevent this from happening by any means necessary. We are willing to pay the necessary price that may cost to prevent it.

- 6) Restoration of historical artifacts to their original status and returning them to their original place is one of the UN charters which Ethiopia is a signatory as well as beneficiary. As a result of this UN charter, Ethiopia got back the Aksum obelisk which was in Rome, Italy for more than five decades. According UNESCO, Harar is a world heritage and the only living museum of the world which was founded thousands of years ago and still habitable. Emirate of Harar was an independent country the melt its own coinage of silver and gold since 12th century. Emirate of Harar was an independent country ruled by 86 indigenous kings until it was invaded and annexed by Minilik of Abyssinia in January 6, 1887. Menilik and Hararies signed treaty after the invasion. The articles of treaty state that Menilik and his soldier's will not interfere in Hararies internal affairs such as administration, religion, culture and settlement. Unfortunately, Menilik's general Ras Mekonin broke the treaty and settled 350,000 immigrant families brought from Shewa which altered the demography of the city. He also took the role of de-facto-ruler. The worst is, he demolished three mosques and changed them to churches. He demolished Masjid Al-Kawser (Farazmegala Mosque) in an Islamic Eid (holiday) day called "Arafa" and converted the mosque to "Medhanialem Church". Ten thousand residents of Harar (children and elderly, male and female) were massacred for protesting the conversion of their mosque to a church. We demand the regional and federal rulers to reinstate our mosque back by invoking UN charter of restoration and reinstating historical artifacts and revered monument to their original state, which Ethiopia is not only signatory but also beneficiary of the charter as mentioned above.
- 7) Harar is the fourth holiest city of Islam in the world after Mecca, Media, and Jerusalem. Harar is called the Mecca of Africa and was the center of Islamic education and literature for the last fourteen hundred years. It is strictly forbidden (Haram) in Islam to sell, buy, drink and brew "Alcohol". To humiliate Islam, Harari's culture and their city; previous rulers of Ethiopia established beer brewing factory in Harar. They named the beer factory 'Harar beer'. They named two beer brands (Sofi beer and Hakim beer) after two revered Islamic scholars and religious figures of Harar (Aw Sofi and Awe Hakim) who lived 1000 years ago to tarnish their image, name and religious prestige. Therefore, we demand the federal and regional rulers to remove the beer factory from our city, Harar, and force the company to pay compensation for defaming our city and religious leaders.