**Fitih le Ethiopia (Justice for Ethiopia) Task force**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Mengistu Hailamariam is going to be brought to justice**

After having committed a horrific and sustained genocide on the Ethiopian people and when the Ethiopian people rose in total revolt, he fled to Zimbabwe. Concrete steps have already been taken to bring this leader of the DERG, Mengistu Hailemariam to justice.

“Justice for Ethiopia Task Force” is a people's civic organization established recently in the United States of America. Its members are Ethiopians and friends of Ethiopia. Its main objective is to bring to justice this DERG criminal who used his power as the leader of the DERG for the loss of human life.

The vision of “Justice for Ethiopia Task Force” is the primacy of the Rule of Law; Democracy; respect for human rights; peace; unity and Ethiopianism. It is also to have a leadership which strives relentlessly for a sustained economic development which encompasses the entire nation; and to rid the Ethiopian people from the yoke of dictatorship. To bring to justice this criminal, Mengistu Hailemariam who has scuttled the democratic beginnings and to expose the myriad crimes he committed. It is a precautionary message for subsequent leaders of Ethiopia that they will also be brought to justice if they commit such crimes.

As is well known, during the 17 years of DERG rule and the 25 years and counting of Ethiopian People’s Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) rule, massive and incalculable number of Ethiopians have been massacred. It is a known fact that a vast majority of them were the youth and women. It is a well-known fact that 60 high ranking members of the Haile Selassie Government have been shot by the direct order and signature of Mengistu Haile Mariam, without the officials ever being charged of any wrong doing or being brought to justice.

The well-known and greatest atrocity committed by the DERG was the one called "Red Terror" during which reign of terror many Ethiopians perished. Many families are still suffering the consequences either from the loss of lives or the trauma perpetrated by the "Red Terror". It could be conclusively asserted that during the leadership of Mengistu Hailemariam, the Ethiopian people have suffered imprisonment, harassment, torture and numerous types of atrocities.
In addition to the aforementioned crimes of the DERG, the anti-democratic and extremely authoritarian rule of the DERG has destabilized the economy; disturbed the peace and security of the country and ushered the era of civil war. Because of this the opposition forces that sprung up in various parts of the country has led to sustained bloodshed resulting in the division of the country. The weakness and maladministration of the DERG led by Mengistu Haile Mariam was responsible for bringing the conflict with Somalia and the atrocities committed in Eritrea.

The dictatorship of Mengistu Haile Mariam, leader of the DERG, is primarily responsible for the crimes committed against Ethiopia and the Ethiopian people. It is our historic responsibility to bring him to justice. Instead of an apology for the crimes he committed, he is publicly publishing books and articles boasting of pseudo-bravery. This is a concrete reflection that he is devoid of any conscience or the ability to regret.

“Justice for Ethiopia Task Force” is determined to bring this criminal to justice with the help of Almighty God of Ethiopia. For this sacred commitment and endeavor we solemnly request the support and assistance of all Ethiopians and friends of Ethiopia who are acutely aware of this lack of justice.

The genocidal criminal Mengistu Haile Mariam will not escape justice

Long live Ethiopia.

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September 30, 2016