



የኢትዮጵያ የፖለቲካ እስረኞች እንደነት ኮሚቴ (ኢፖአኦ)  
SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN  
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



JUNE 14/2007

MOCKERY OF JUSTICE: THE CASE OF SEYE ABRAHA EL AL

Seye Abrha, a former minister of defence and a long time colleague of the Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, has been languishing in prison for the last six years along with his brother Assefa and some other relatives. The court case has been deliberately dragging on and now the case is set for "final" decision (June 22 for Siye and June 27 for Assefa and others).

Siye Abrha, much like former prime Minister Tamrat Layne, is a victim of a political vendetta. Accused of corruption and other such unsubstantiated charges, he was thrown into prison because of his political differences and conflicts with Prime Minister Meles Zenawi. His incarceration and the vendetta on his family members are all results of a political motivation on the part of Meles Zenawi. That the case has dragged on for six years with no clear and real evidence ever being presented is ample proof of the violation of due process as regards Seye and his relatives. The courts controlled by the ruling front, EPRDF, are doing the biddings of Meles Zenawi whose enmity towards Seye has not been a secret.

The real issue now is not whether Seye and his relatives are guilty of corruption. This charge is invalidated by the six years long illegal incarceration and mistreatment of the defendants and as such they should all be released without any delay or procrastination. SOCEPP has declared in the past that Seye Abrha is one of those TPLF leaders who should account for the disappearance of Tsegaye Gebre Medhin (Debteraw), Yishak, Sitotaw, Teklai, Amha and many other political prisoners. However, Seye's imprisonment and denial of due process is illegal and SOCEPP cannot but call for the respect of the rights of Seye and his family and their immediate release. The same call goes out for Tamrat Layne who is also a political victim of the present prime minister.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE  
SOCEPP, POSTFACH 51213, BERLIN 13372, GERMANY  
E MAIL: SOCEPP @AOL.COM  
WEB SITE: WWW.SOCEPP.DE