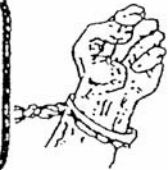




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



JANUARY 12/2008

RE THE DISAPPEARED: MORE ON THE DEPORTEES FROM THE SUDAN

A few months back Sudan deported elder refugee Atanaw Wassie and very many political exiles back to Ethiopia. They were disappeared by the regime immediately but SOCEPP has now received reliable reports that most of the deportees are in Kaliti prison, Addis Ababa, while the whereabouts of Atanaw Wassie, over 70 years old and ailing, is still unknown.

Calls by Socepp and other human rights bodies for information on the whereabouts of the deportees have been ignored, as usual, by the regime in Addis Ababa. The same policy has been seen vis a vis queries on the very many disappeared since 1991 when the present regime took power. Veteran refugee Atanaw Wassie needs medical attention which the regime does not give to political prisoners. The treatment of political prisoners under the regime leaves much to be desired as detention conditions are abysmal and horrible.

The Sudanese regime continues to threaten refugees as it seeks its own real political interest. It has close relations with the regime in Addis Ababa and thereby threatens the welfare of Ethiopian refugees and resorts also to illegal deportations. Atanaw Wassie and others are victims of this.

SOCEPP calls on the immediate release of Atanaw Wassie and all others deported from the Sudan

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