



AN IMPORTANT STAGE OF COMFORTING OUR PEOPLE FROM THEIR SUFFERINGS

This moment in history that we are going through is demanding for the Eritrean opposition forces to qualitatively and quantitatively transform and intensify their struggle for justice. It is a moment that we are witnessing the struggle of the Tigrayan people rising up from a biggest fall that they described as “reviving after licking dirt”, and marching towards victory that should make us all proud. It is also a moment that we are observing the noose in Abiye Ahmed’s neck tightening and the rope making process of the one for Isaias Afewerki’s neck approaching completion. While congratulating the Tigray people for their well-earned success, humbly we also wish to see the same for the Eritrean people’s struggle. With that goal in mind, as the Eritrean Revolution served as launching pad for the struggle of Tigray people, we hope to benefit from the Tigrayan experience and use this opportune moment to get rid of the enemy of our people as they did theirs.

In the past thirty years, the Eritrean people have experienced failures and breakdowns as never seen before. More than dirt, we have “licked rocks and mud”. This is admitted not only by the victims, but by the totalitarian regime in the country as well. It has been puzzling to many, in particular if one puts into consideration the fighting experience of the nation, to see the Eritrean people to go through all these abuses and humiliations without revolting against the system. There are so many answers given to this question. One that is expressed by many analysts is the absolute intolerance of the regime to any civic movement. Beyond that though, it looks, little by little, the Eritrean people seem to have gotten conditioned to the miserable life. If one gets used to misery, there will be moments that one may not realize the existence of a better alternative. Miserable life could be accepted as a norm and people could be manipulated for a while. In addition to that the opposition camp has been very relaxed in confronting the situation. The crafty PFDJ system also, up to now, did managed to confuse and stultify our citizens and stay in power for the past thirty years.

Are these ugly conditions to be allowed to endure unchecked? Are we going to tolerate the continuous deterioration of the economic, social, and cultural conditions of the country? Are we going to allow the dangerous slide towards social disintegration of our society? Are we going to permit the mounting risks to our national sovereignty and

territorial integrity to proceed unchecked? Are our children doomed to continue paying their lives in senseless wars? Are our sons and daughters to remain condemned to endless forced servitude? Are our youth going to keep on fleeing their county and perish in harsh deserts and angry oceans? How long could we allow our youngsters even after they reach a relatively secure refuge, to languish in psychological complications and post-traumatic injuries caused by their experiences during their escape from PFDJ regime? In order to give the right response to these appalling situations, the following initiatives are imperative:

- A regime that does not understand peaceful solution of conflicts, which does not open any space for the social forces to participating in their national affairs and always responds in oppressive and violent manner should be confronted accordingly. It is time for PFDJ to be administered with the medicine of its subscription.
- Limiting the mode of struggle to peaceful means veiled by insincere concerns for the lives of our citizens serves to the benefit of the oppressor. Our children are already dying in mass in senseless wars in foreign lands and waters where their remains cannot even be retrieved, and parents and relatives cannot even mourn them and have some closure.
- Although it is perfectly understood that members of the Eritrean army are potentially part of the Eritrean forces for change, let us not forget that as an institution the army is an instrument of oppression as is used by PFDJ regime. To transition from potential to active force of change, this army must abandon PFDJ and join the camp of justice. Consequently, our primary goal in dealing with the Eritrean army is not to enter into confrontation but rather to engage and convince its ranks to join the resistance and coordinate our work from within and without to deliver the nation from the barbaric grip of the unscrupulous regime.
- As we have repeatedly stated in our previous statements, the move towards the above stated initiatives shall be in coordination with all other political and civil entities with similar convictions.

To conclude, multiple political and civil entities that are determined to confront and to end the desperate situation in Eritrea (including some currently holding dialogue) to create a situation in which our future generations could enjoy a better one. The core issue in achieving this goal is by getting rid of the only and only arch enemy of the Eritrean people-PFDJ as the main cause of all of our appalling failures and breakdowns. PFDJ has caused death and incalculable suffering to thousands of our innocent citizens. PFDJ has pushed more than half of our population to abandon their

beloved country and live as refugee all over the world. Putting into perspective all these losses that the nation experienced, there is nothing we lose but everything to gain by getting rid of this barbaric regime. Of course, this sacred endeavor will demand sacrifices, but comparing with the losses in the last thirty years, what is demanded to unseat PFDJ will not be more than what we paid in one single year of the last thirty years. As Eritrean justice seekers, let's rise together to gain a better future of our own.

Victory to Eritrean Struggle for Justice!

Eternal Memory and Honor to our Martyrs!

Eritrean Unity for Democratic Change

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