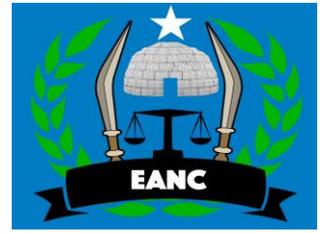




ERITREAN AFAR NATIONAL CONGRESS ERITRIYAH QAFARIH AGATHI KOBOXU

المؤتمر الوطني لعفر ارتريا

*Restoring the Self Determination of the Eritrean Afar Nation
Eretriyah Qafar Isim Isih Madqittaamih Cakki Daabisenno*



PRESS RELEASE | PROTESTING THE MURDER OF UNARMED AFAR CIVILIANS BY UAE

Where: UAE Embassy, 125 Boteler Street, Ottawa, Canada **When:** Monday, Aug 27 @ 10AM-12:30

Background:

In 2015, the Eritrean government granted coastal land to United Arab Emirates (UAE) for a military base to use in the war against Yemen. These lands are the traditional territory of the Afar, an indigenous people, who have used them for thousands of years.

Since taking over of Afar territories UAE attack helicopters repeatedly shoot and kill Afar civilians carrying on their traditional fishing in their traditional homeland along the southern Red Sea coast of Eritrea.

- In October 2016 UAE fired on an Afar fishing boat, killing 5 Afar fishermen and wounding others;
- In May 2017, a UAE helicopter attacked an Afar fishing boat inside Afar territory of Eddi, killing one person instantly and injuring nine others;
- In December 2017, UAE attacked an Afar fishing boat with three passengers; the boat has been missing since this event;
- On August 18, 2018, UAE attacked an Afar fishing boat, gravely wounding the boat's captain.

The Eritrean government has been condemned by United Nations agencies for persecuting the Afar so severely as to commit to crimes against humanity. United Nations agencies documented Eritrea's crimes against humanity every year since 2013, describing in vivid detail Eritrea's systematic murders, rapes, tortures, land expropriations and communal displacement.

UAE has now joined in these crimes by occupying lands that have been the subject of ethnic cleansing, and furthering the displacement of Afar people by murder and atrocities. The crimes committed by UAE and Eritrea are crimes against innocent non-combatant civilians. United Nations agencies have stigmatized these actions as crimes against humanity. They must stop.

Eritrean Afar National Congress (EANC) calls on all civilized people of the world to stand up for justice and stand up for humanity. We ask you to join hands with Afar in solidarity to denounce UAE's and Eritrea's criminal conduct!

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Eritrean Afar National Congress (EANC) is an exiled Afar political organization dedicated to self-determination and self-rule of Eritrean Afar people in their coastal homeland of Dankalia, Eritrea, where the indigenous Afar are subjected to marginalization, persecution and ethnic cleansing at the hands of the current Eritrean government. EANC is the voice of the Eritrean Afar people. EANC draws its mandate from the political and traditional Afar leaders, the leadership of Afar women and youth groups, the Eritrean Afar Diaspora and Eritrean-Afar refugees.