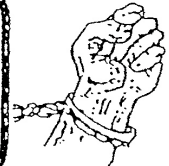




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



DECEMBER 1---WORLD AIDS DAY

December 1 is World Aids Day and as we observe this day it becomes necessary for us to highlight that, in Ethiopia, the health service has broken down and more and more people are afflicted by the aid virus in the country.

The effort to combat AIDS has been sabotaged by the Meles regime that had placed the wife of Meles, the Queen of corruption Azeb Mesfin/Gola, as the head of all the anti AIDS agencies and bodies. Funds donated and collected have mostly gone to the bank accounts of Azeb and Meles and also the so called Pope/Abune of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. AIDS has spread in Ethiopia, especially in the uninformed rural areas. The existing political regime spawns corruption and prostitution, even child prostitution. The entire blighted situation militates in favor of the spread of AIDS. It is imperative for the world to see the grave reality that the regime is trying to cover up with bright statistics. In actual fact, the rotting system is fertile ground for the spread of AIDS. The official statistics of AIDS victims in Ethiopia is false and downplayed. A conservative estimate forewords the figure of 5 million AIDS victims and the number continuing to go up in the absence of awareness and effective prevention measures.

SOCEPP has continued to propagate detailed messages on the dangers of AIDS and has called on the people to be aware of the deadly virus. At the same time, SOCEPP continues to vigorously condemn the Meles Zenawi regime for the break up of the health system and the exposure of the people to AIDS and other calamities while help gathered in the name of an anti AIDS campaign has been swindled by top government officials including the very wife of Meles Zenawi.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE
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