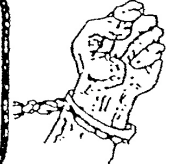




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



November 24/2011

PLIGHT OF ETHIOPIANS IN KYRGYZSTAN

Ethiopians who were sent for studies by the former regime to the Soviet Union are facing enormous difficulties without any possibility to resettle in another country. A case in point is the sad plight of Ethiopians in Kyrgyzstan who are stranded in the country since the 1980s.

Ethiopians in Kyrgyzstan face horrific racial abuse and brutal attacks. Nassir was stabbed many times while Habtamu was beaten to death and the police refused to touch his body and ordered Ethiopians to transport him to the morgue. Racism is rife and the few Ethiopians who stayed in this country are suffering racist attacks, intimidation and constant harassment. They want to leave but have found no one interested enough to help them. One refugee, Sisaye Wondimagegnehu, told a journalist "I want to leave but I have nowhere to go." The citizens spit at Africans and insult them as a matter of routine.

SOCEPP calls on human rights organizations and Diaspora Ethiopians to take up the case of Ethiopians stranded in the former Soviet Union and to find them safe resettlement countries.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE
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