

Union of Tigreans in North America (UTNA)

ማእበር ተጋሩ ሰሜን አሜሪካ (ማተሰኣ)



Press Release

Contact: admin@utna.org

Phone: (202) 265-8702

U.T.N.A Denounces the Recent Inflammatory Comments Posted on EthiopianReview.com

Washington, D.C., August 13, 2008: The Union of Tigreans in North America (UTNA), a U.S. based civic organization, emphatically condemns the recent insidious remarks made by Mr. Elias Kifle regarding the proud and God-fearing Tigrean people. On August 11th, 2008, he posted an article entitled, "That Day! What will happen to Tigreans?" on www.ethiopianreview.com. Such statements have no place in today's Ethiopia where equality of nations and nationalities is unambiguously guaranteed by the constitution. Hence, Mr. Kifle's reckless attempt to sow hatred among the Ethiopian people is just wishful thinking. Regardless of what he thinks, U.T.N.A calls upon this individual to refrain from defaming the Tigrean people who, along their Ethiopian brothers and sisters, have been the vanguards of the sovereignty of Ethiopia for many centuries. This is undisputable truth--- written in black and white in the annals of struggle for freedom.

Mr. Kifle's latest unprovoked harangue on our people is not a mere aberration of events. Nor could it be considered as an honest slip of the tongue for he has been engaged in disseminating venomous propaganda among the nations and nationalities of Ethiopia via various public forums and his notorious web site for some time now. We had hoped that he would come to his senses and stop the outright madness once and for all. However, we have been proven wrong time and again for he continues to press on his destructive campaign against the Ethiopian people in general and the Tigrean people in particular, rather unabated. With all his shortcomings and deceitful acts, we have considered him as one of our own for too long when, in fact, he was entrusted to serve Ethiopia's sworn enemy, Isaias Afewerki, masquerading as Ethiopian.

Suffice it to say, any form of demagoguery targeting any ethnic group in Ethiopia is unacceptable by all right-minded Ethiopians, and we equally detest it in unequivocal terms. Therefore, we call upon all peace-loving Ethiopians to join us in this regard, because an attack on any ethnic group is tantamount to an act of disturbing the harmonious relationship among the many ethnic groups throughout our country that existed for years. We owe it to ourselves to protect our people from being object of ridicule by disingenuous individuals like Mr. Elias Kifle. To that end, UTNA affirms its commitment to do its share in exposing his evil deeds to the public, to the extent of exploring the option of trying him in the court of law for defamation.

UTNA is committed to enhancing peace, development and democracy in Ethiopia.
Unity is Strength!