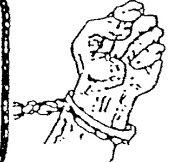




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SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FOR ETHIOPIAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS (SOCEPP)



February 26/2012

RELEASE THE TEACHERS DETAINED IN DABAT

Ethiopian teachers hard hit by the galloping inflation have been trying to legally claim their rights and voice their protests and dozens have been arrested mainly in Dabat (Gondar region) and other towns all over Ethiopia. SOCEPP calls for their immediate release and the respect of the rights of teachers and all Ethiopians.

More than 40% inflation, unbearable high cost of living, sky rocketing house rent prices have made the lives of hundreds of thousands of teachers worse than unbearable. The Meles regime gives 300 Birr house rent subsidy to teachers while allocating more than 1700 Birr to its officers. Apparently, the teachers have found conditions to be deplorable and have tried to voice protests and consequently have been subjected to repression. The regime's trumpeted declaration that it has given wage increase to teachers has proved to be a propaganda sham and nothing else. Increasing dissatisfaction is leading teachers and other to protest despite the arrests and repression. The imprisonment of the teachers in Dabat and other towns will not halt the protests and SOCEPP strongly calls for the immediate release of all the imprisoned teachers.

It is to be noted that more than 35,000 political prisoners languish in the concentration camps, underground and secret prisons of the Meles regime while hundreds have been disappeared since 1991.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE
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