

Open Question to Professor Mesfin Woldemariam.

Dear Professor Mesfin Woldemariam:

Many Ethiopians and I are happy to learn that you are back in Ethiopia after your long medical treatment overseas. As an active participant in Ethiopian politics you were on the headlines for the last four months, you have issued interviews to VOA, Dochevell Radio and other news outlets from your deathbed. As you work hard to exercise and realize your vision and direction of the new Kinijit and insulate the cause of its current problem, you have pointedly stated your preference and the cause of the turmoil inside Kingit in many of your appearances and interviews.

That said more Ethiopians came out confused and angry when you uttered and implied the problem within CUD was a power struggle between The CUD Chairman Eng.Hailu Shawel and Dr. Berhanu Nega, CUD Executive member. No sooner, you Professor Mesfin uttered those words of “power Struggle” the division, anger, frustration, confusion inside Ethiopia and in the Diaspora was immediate and the turmoil continuous unabated to date.

As one of the reigning heavyweight in Ethiopian political arena, we know the power of your punch. However, as we sit at the ringside, none of us can identify all the members in your corner. Who is your corner man? Your trainer? Your financial backers and sponsors? We have repeatedly witnessed your vicious one- two punch and some times your technical knockouts in the last three decades with amazing awe. It seems you are back for another round, are the Ethiopian people to take it again on the chin.

In addition, you are as always-busy scouting, recruiting and training some political lightweights who are willing to jump in to your game blindly. But know this: while some of your past fights have been technical knockouts, this fight is far from over, and the people are not down for the count. An enduring example of your involvement in Ethiopia's political crises is too numerous to list here. However, I will list a few here to get some straight but fair answer(s) to the many questions with respect as to why? How? Who? Where? In addition, by who question(s).

This may be hard to believe, but Prof. Mesfin and your groups, many times in the past and present have shown immaturity, political contempt, **by** maneuvering and gambling on Ethiopians repeatedly without remorse. The saga inside Kingit in Ethiopia and the Diaspora is fueled by Dr Berhanu Nega's calculated move to stay in North America. Dr Berhanu's foot soldiers are also busy disorganizing and fragmenting CUD with unlimited advice, resource and support given by you to facilitate the dirty work of the big brother.

The design to destroy CUD in North America is followed to the letter by Dr Berhanu's busy and relentless introduction and separation our community based on, gender, age, wealth, education, region, and ethnic politics 101. Dr Berhanu is also busy name calling Eng. Hailu Shawel and former CUD supporters in various cities for not knowing the ABC of democracy and election and flirting with Seye Abreham former TPLF member and murderer to form a new organization.

The struggle for freedom and democracy did not start on 2004 when Prof.Mesfin and Dr. Berhanu formed the Kestedamen party and the eventual transformation to CUD and the historical May 15, 2005 election. People in your organization, Dr.Berhanu and his followers want everybody to believe that the struggle for peace and Democracy started on September 14, 2005. Little do they know that the struggle against the TPLF regime started back in the early 1990'S, while most Kestedamena groups were multitasking and serving TPLF regime with loyalty. All those times Ethiopians were being thrown into dungeon prisons, Ethiopians were sweating and shedding their blood to liberate themselves and others.

Prof. Asrat, Ato Assefa Maru, Captain Mamo Wolde are among the thousands who spilled their blood for freedom and democracy. Dr Taye Woldesemiat, Ato Ali Endris, Ato Wendayehu and thousands have languished in TPLF prisons in the past, while Ato Abera Yemane Ab, Tsegaye Debeteraw and thousands more are still languishing in secret underground prisons all over the country is testimony for continuation of the struggle.

Ethiopians in Ethiopia and the Diaspora have been struggling and investing in one form or another to get rid of this malicious regime from day one. The historical May 2005 election and its shining success did not happen because few disgruntled TPLF supporters changed sides and their allegiance from serving their masters to join the freedom movement. What the success of May 15, 2005 proved to most of us who were there from the start and who will be there for the long haul is that resilience will pay.

Beyond any doubt, all that hard work and investment that went in the form of dedicated commitment, family sacrifices, imprisonment, torture, death for the past fifteen years paid as a pleasant dividend by the great turn out of May 15, 2005. That memorable day also affirmed the organizational skill, the wisdom, maturity and the political sophistication of Ethiopians for the entire world to see and learn.

There are all sorts reason to presume that, you, Professor Mesfin Woldemariam will do what you publicly declared will do and momentarily succeed as in the past with your new organization in what you called the resurrection of Kinijit. We are still waiting to **assess** the fallout from the formation of the new Kestedamena / Kinigit with a well-founded fear and lots of uncertainty to its motive, timeliness and justification.

Are you aware of the consequences of your actions in creating a new organization while the blood of innocent women, children and men of Kinijit supporters who died defending Democracy and their leadership still calls justice to be done? Your action is a mockery to the honor and sacrifice to those who spilled their blood, went to prison in thousands, the millions among the twenty six millions who went empty stomach on May 15, 2005 to exercise their democratic right to elect their leaders and their government. Their voice was a voice of freedom, democracy and justice for 80 million Ethiopians. That exercise was a clear message of their struggle against tyranny.

Definitely, Ethiopians will tell you in, no- uncertain terms, never again, not in our in our name. I strongly believe your action and that of the group of fifteen is a moral low blow; it shows an utter disregard for all Ethiopians and their struggle against tyranny. All Ethiopians and the loved ones of the martyrs will challenge your action and will continue their struggle for freedom and democracy by side stepping the group of fifteen and other sellouts.

Ato Temesgen Zewde and his colleagues who joined you and the “select fifteen” in forming your new organization are individuals who betrayed the people of Ethiopia who elected them to join the Zenawis Parliament. Ignoring the mandate and the trust bestowed on them by the people who elected them. Ato Temesgen Zewde and his entourage falsely testified against their own CUD colleagues and leaders in public when the government of TPLF accused the entire CUD leadership, its members, civic organization, journalist and others on genocide and trumped up charges.

It is a fact that leads me to worry and many others like me that you and your group of fifteen is committing a gross error of judgment to form an organization with out the knowledge, participation, involvement and approval of the General Assembly that is elected by millions of Ethiopians. I also fear, that the creation of a new organization by you, will be viewed as history repeating itself, as a sequel to Act II of the blood letting that followed when Mesion joined the Derg against EPRP and Patriotic Ethiopians. Now this time around it will lead to the same result by your new organization teaming up with weyane /TPLF against Patriotic Ethiopians, EPRP and Eng. Hailu Shawels Supporters etc.

Professor Mesfin Woldemariam, since you are an active and willing participant in Ethiopian political landscape for the last forty years or so I believe many others and I are entitled to ask and get some answers. I believe it is necessary and the right thing to do, to ask these and many other questions on how this think thank group in the past and present who always involves Professor Mesfin in their **mix** is organized, financed, advised and controlled. Getting answers to at least one or two of who, what, why questions will be of great service to this generation of Ethiopians and the future generation and the country.

These are my open questions and I trust you to do your best to answer them sooner than latter. Your candid and honest answers will help to save the lives of millions of Ethiopians. It will be a redemption and invaluable tool to warn and advice those who are targeted directly and indirectly from this tragic conspiracy and its ugly outcome.

You, Professor Mesfin have appeared numerous times in the Ethiopian political scene and have left your mark unmistakably. So far, many of us have miserably failed to clearly see your motives and intentions.

You have always cried for the hide of patriotic Ethiopians when you see hired agents and bandas have drawn the knife.

Attached Please find the Press Release of June 6, 1991 The Independent Committee for Peaceful Transition to Democracy in Ethiopia to which you were an enthusiastic participant to help you refresh your thought; and my follow up questions which will help me and others understand the politics and the chosen direction of your new organization and that of the selected leaders goals and vision for Ethiopia. I also ask you not to dismiss this question as a hostile question coming from disgruntled hard-core nationalist, hard liners, ex Derg, ex EPRP member, Hailu Shawel supporters, the children and grand children of the sixty plus officials of the Haileselesie government, feudal etc

- 1) What role did you play as an educator in the student movement of the Addis Abba University in late sixties and early seventies?
- 2) What was your relationship with the late Chancellor Joseph Murphy, a known CIA operator and TPLF/ EPLF lover who died in Addis Ababa Bishoftu road while advising and working with the think thank group.
- 3) Prof. Mesfin, you played a crucial role in the infamous commission of the Derg regime, which resulted in the mass murder of more than sixty officials of the late Emperor Haileselesie, by extension the king himself. Do you know most of these officials were patriots who fought the invading Italian fascist army and bandas in defense of their country?
- 4) What role did you and the Intrafrica Group played in mollifying and recruiting some mutant children of the murdered patriots to serve Weyane / TPLF regime.
- 5) What was the rational behind the proposal that you submitted to the Derg regime to governing Ethiopia in a rotation by major ethnic groups as if governance of a nation was a basketball game
- 6) Who selected your group, Prof .Andreas Eshete, and et al. to attend the June 1991 conference in London?
Did you and the select group have any remorse for taking part in the secessionist drama to disfranchise Ethiopia in the London Conference?
- 7) What were you and Prof. Andreas doing in late May 1991? We all know Professor Andreas was in New York City attending the Forum for the Horn of Africa and helping Union of Ethiopians for peace Democracy writing slogans to protest TPLF/ EPLF agenda for Ethiopia
- 8) What was your position on Professor Andreas Eshete's travel to Eritrea and his assessment of the humane treatment of the Ethiopian army personnel, their families and other civilians as orderly and caring at the hand of EPLF? (Prof. Andreas Eshete went to Eritrea in less than a week of your London meetings)
- 9) What were the motive and the purpose for you, Ato Melese Zenawi and prof. Andreas Eshete to appear on national television when TPLF and EPLF armies were busy massacring thousands of Ethiopians who were members of the national defense forces?
- 10) What role did you and The Inter Africa Group played in approaching/selecting: Prof. Tecola Hagos; Nebeyu Samuel, Dr. Berhanu Nega, Dr Mohammed Abdulsalam, Ato Aba Biya Aba Jober Dr.Taddesse Aregeghn et.al to attend and represent groups in the July 1991 Conference in Addis Ababa.
 - a) Dr Mohammed Abdulsalam, a Harari ethnic group was selected to represent the Afar and sit in one of the sits assigned to the pseudo Afar Liberation Front in the July Conference.

b) Ato Aba Biya Aba Jober, to lead OLF into Addis Ababa his role and his relationship with the Inter Africa group?

11) Who selected you to appear and give testimony on behalf of Ethiopians in a congressional hearing representing Ethiopia along with Colonel Goshu Wolde while their cadres were strongly presenting TPLF and EPLF position? In contrast to Colonel Goshu Wolde's frank and unwavering stand on the well-being of Ethiopia, you Prof. Mesfin presented the most convoluted, dishonest and tortured position on the nation state of Ethiopia. Your body language and discomfort was clear towards Colonel Goshu for fiercely and clearly presenting the grand TPLF/EPLF plan to destroy Ethiopia.

a) What part of the truth and defense presented by Dr. / Colonel Goshu Wolde made you cringe?

b) What was wrong to exposing TPLF/EPLF treacherous plan on that congressional floor?

12) Do you know why the State Department, Office of East Africa Affairs, and the Congressional Tax Force on Ethiopia were sending nasty letters to Colonel/Dr Goshu Wolde

13) What was your relationship with The Inter Africa Group then and now?

14) Do you believe the July 1991 meeting in Addis Ababa was a meeting to justify and elevate ethno-apartheid and ethnic separation in Ethiopia if so?

a) What was your position and that of the selected group on the meeting of The Counsel of Representative more fitting the Counsel of Bandas?

b) Why exclude the Amharas who constitute ¼ to 1/3 of the population from The July 1991 ethnic separation and eventual ethnic cleansing meeting.

16) Do you and the Inter Africa Group still believe the ethnic campaign against the Amharas must continue? Prof. Tecola Hagos and some of the July 1991 attendees still believe in its application and continuation in "targeted Amhara regions".

17) What was the reason to make the Amharas the biggest losers by ceding their land to Tigray region and now to the Sudan?

18) Is the recruiting of loyal servants from opposition camps to serve TPLF is carried by the Inter Africa Group, the Tycoon and You professor Mesfin?

19) Was it by design to piggyback Dr Berhanu Nega on Ethiopian political scene that he abandoned it by choice since 1991?

a) Was it a well thought planning to let innocent Ethiopians fend for the unfinished business of TPLF/EPLF by bringing in Dr. Berhanu Nega to manage the grand scheme.

b) Why did the forum for the Horn of Africa ceased to exist after May of 1991.

c) Who were the organizers of this forum and who selects the participants and the agenda?

d) Who financed the expenses etc...?

20) Why are pushing the most dubious, inexperienced ill informed Ms Bertukan Mekedisa in to Ethiopian politics.

When are you going to say the time has come and get out of the lives of Ethiopians in order of the rest of us to say good-bye?

June 6, 1991

PRESS RELEASE

STATEMENT BY THE INDEPENDENT COMMITTEE FOR A PEACEFUL TRANSITION
TO DEMOCRACY IN ETHIOPIA

I. We are a group of independent Ethiopians who came to London from Ethiopia, Africa, Europe, and the United States. The members of the Independent Committee are:

Mr. Abdul Mohammed (Kenya)
Dr. Andreas Eshete (Philadelphia, USA)
Dr. Henock Kifle (Geneva, Switzerland)
Dr. Hizkias Assefa (Kenya)
Mr. Isaac Kifle (Ethiopia)
Mr. Jalal Abdel-Latif (Los Angeles, USA)
Professor Mesfin Wolde Mariam (Ethiopia)

The Independent Committee came to London with two aims: first, to present our views on a peaceful transition to democracy to all parties and the public; second, to observe the talks in London. The Committee intends to pursue these aims throughout the transitional period.

The Committee has met in London with each of parties. We are grateful to all for affording us the opportunity to hold free and extensive exchanges.

II. Obscurity surrounds the proceedings in London and the fateful decisions that issued from them. This in turn has led to dissatisfaction among citizens in the country and in exile as well as among certain parties to the talks.

Reasons and their merits to one side, it is noteworthy that the negotiations between the Ethiopian government, EPRDF, OLF and EPLF announced by the US government never took place. There were no talks among the principal parties. Instead, there were US consultations, conducted separately, with representatives of the Ethiopian government, EPRDF, OLF and EPLF. In addition, US entered separate accords with EPLF and EPRDF.

Representatives of the Ethiopian government abandoned the talks at an early stage because they felt that the crucial decision to let EPRDF take military and political control in Addis Abeba had been decided unilaterally by the US without the consultation and consent of the Ethiopian government.

Ethiopia Will Prevail!

Subject: Peaceful Transition to Democracy in Ethiopia

We are a group of independent Ethiopians who have come to London from Ethiopia, Africa, Europe and the U.S. to present our views on a peaceful transition to democracy in Ethiopia. Attached please find our proposal for such a transition.

What lies behind our proposal is a conviction that only a transitional government which provides for broad participation and public accountability holds out any hope for the preservation of a modicum of central authority capable of preparing the ground for democratic governance.

If, on the other hand, the will of the victors prevails - an EPRDF-imposed transitional government and a unilateral declaration of independence by EPLF - it cannot yield democratic arrangements. If anything the result would be a regime with no greater claim to legitimacy than the regime that departed. Indeed a militarily imposed government would engender a new cycle of conflict and a deeper humanitarian crisis.

In the light of the US Government's commitment to the peace, freedom, and welfare of the Ethiopian people and the people of the Horn as a whole, we are confident that the U.S. Government could use its considerable influence to foster a peaceful transition to democracy in Ethiopia.

Ethiopia Will Prevail!