
ADDA BILISUMMAA OROMOO



OROMO LIBERATION FRONT

جبهة تحرير اورومو

Guyyaa (Date): Dec 11, 2008

Lakko. (No.): 1208/ABO/05

A call to strengthen the Oromo Struggle for Liberation To individuals and groups currently operating as the OLF

Ever since Oromiya was colonized, the Oromo people know not a single day without resistance. However, the struggle has not yet succeeded primarily due to lack of unity of purpose and coordination of activities among the various sectors of the people.

Almost forty years have passed since the formation of the OLF. In these short years it has been in existence, it has faced many challenges and opportunities. Up until 1991, it had succeeded in maintaining its good name and the unity of the vast majority of its members through a bitter struggle. It had also scored some respectable victories.

It is obvious that what transpired in 1991 [OLF's taking part in the Transitional Government of Ethiopia] has had both positive and negative outcomes. On the positive side, one can point to the opportunity the OLF got to be among its people, enjoy their support and widen its operations. Being overwhelmed by enemy machinations and our failure to undertake adequate analysis of our situation were two glaring negative aspects of that period. Our failure to do so, and to offer criticism where it was due, has exposed our unity to the lamentable situation that it is currently in. Today, this situation has worsened and widened. Unless we can quickly find a solution for it, it is threatening to destroy what we have built over the years and keep our nation under subjugation for many more years to come. We started out by declaring our objective as the liberation and independence of Oromiya. However, the manner in which some of us function and state our objective to friends and foes has caused us to doubt whether we are all working toward the same objective. The result has been division and conflict.

The recent split in the Asmara Group (Shanee) has resulted in a flood of pronouncements and interviews from both sides. Both sides have now started to speak strongly of the need for the liberation of the Oromo people. They both claim to have never deviated from the original objective of the OLF.

A Call to Unite

Our people's interests are above each and all of us. Our conflicts should not cause us to disregard these interests. Nothing is more important to us than unity of our organization and our

A call to strengthen the Oromo Struggle for Liberation

people. Our people are being exiled, imprisoned, killed and displaced under the pretext of supporting the OLF. Our brethren are made to suffer for supporting and standing with our organization. We, on the other hand, have failed to pay tribute in unison to these courageous and determined sons and daughters of Oromiya much less become their “spears and shields”. For this, history will never forgive us.

If all of the groups that are currently operating as the OLF uphold the objective for which the organization was formed – a liberated and independent Oromiya – and remember, and value, the sacrifices of our fallen comrades to achieve it, then there should be no reason for splits within our organization. If what we profess and what we practice reflect the objective we have agreed to achieve, then there would be no place for division among us; nor can any thing stop us from re-uniting and strengthening our organization. If all these groups are willing to rally around our people’s right to a liberated and independent Oromiya for the sake of unity and interests of our people, we believe we can struggle in unison to achieve them.

Let us come together and agree to work together to achieve a liberated and independent Oromiya. Let us also declare our objective, in no uncertain terms, to our people and to the world of friends and foes.

In recognition of this historical responsibility placed upon us, let us first unite and strengthen our organization – the OLF - and then work toward strengthening unity of Oromo liberation forces. We, on our part, pledge to do everything in our power for the achievement of the objective for which our organization was formed and whose continued validity and necessity is evidenced by the deplorable condition under which our people continue to suffer.

We call on all groups currently operating as the OLF and individuals who left the organization for various reasons to come together to deliberate on this matter and work together in pursuit of our people’s interest. Please respond to this call by January 20, 2009 at:

Tel: 202-521-5653

E-mail: waajjira@oromoliberationfront.info

Postal address: P.O.Box 21762 Washington, DC 20009

We also call on the Oromo people to help this call succeed by applying the necessary pressure on the concerned groups

Executive Committee
The Oromo Liberation Front (OLF)

Dec. 2008