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Leaked document unveils T-TPLF's disregard for AU

BY ABDUREZAK MOHAMMED

ADDIS ABABA – A recently leaked document of the Terrorist TPLF has shown the group's disrespect towards the African Union (AU) and Africans capability of dealing with own problems.

The T-TPLF stated in the document as it does not accept the AU-led peace process and it only relays on the use of force.

Commenting on the issue, Bahir Dar University Political Science and International Relations Asst. Prof. Yayew Genet told *The Ethiopian Herald* that since the beginning, the T-TPLF has been encouraging the interference of some foreign forces rather than African institutions to deal with African issues.

He added that the meddling of foreign forces cannot solve a single problem to the country as well as to the continent.

During the armed struggle against the Derg regime, the T-TPLF had been working with the enemies of the country by compromising the national interests of Ethiopia, and also



the group is still looking for support from these foreign forces, the academician further noted.

According to Yayew, the group does not believe in the principle of "African solutions to African problems". It supports the opinions of some academicians who believe "Africa has contributed nothing to the world civilization". As a result, the group needs

the intervention of foreign forces to resolve problems.

If T-TPLF cares about the people of Tigray, it should accept the peace alternative and get into the negotiation proposed to be held under the auspices of the AU, Yayew also insisted.

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Ababa Tamene

Manufacturability Day promotes domestic production

BY BILAL DERSO

ADDIS ABABA- The Ministry of Industry has announced that the celebration of Manufacturability Day will raise public awareness and promote the growth of

See Manufacturability... page 3

Diaspora urges U.S. gov't to condemn TPLF's renewed attack

• Requests to pressures TPLF to lay down arms, resort to AU-led peace talks

BY STAFF REPORTER

ADDIS ABABA- The American Ethiopian Community delivered a letter to the U.S. government urging the latter to denounce the third round of attack the Terrorist TPLF waged against Ethiopia.

Members of the Ethiopian diaspora and friends of Ethiopia rallied in Washington DC yesterday in front of U.S. State Department building.

In the letter obtained by *The Ethiopian Herald*, the Community has asked the State Department to support for the African Union peace process; condemn the TPLF and call on them to lay down its arms and withdraw from Amhara as well as to support calls for international human rights organisations



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to investigate the T-TPLF's use of child soldiers.

The community further urged the U.S. government to provide support to the

democratically elected government of Ethiopia in its fight against terrorist and extremist groups, such as TPLF,

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Peace Minister, Binalf Andualem

Int'l community support to Ethiopia fosters peace

BY ABDUREZAK MOHAMMED

ADDIS ABABA –Having considered Ethiopia's stability as the bedrock for the peace of the Horn of Africa, the international community's constructive support to the

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Transforming agriculture a long way venture

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A sunny season-a time for jubilation is called for

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Terrorist TPLF's treasonous alliance with Shene, Al-Shabaab

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News

Ambassadors laud gov't steps to resolve conflict peacefully

ADDIS ABABA /ENA/- The Ethiopian government has taken positive steps to resolve the armed conflict in the northern part of the country, Russian and South Korean ambassadors to Ethiopia said.

Despite the government's strong commitment to resolving the issue peacefully, it is now abundantly clear that the TPLF has once again shown its true color by refusing to accept the peace gesture and starting a third round of war.

Russian Ambassador Evgeny Terekhin noted that the Government of Ethiopia has made tireless efforts to settle the issue peacefully.

"We remember all the numerous steps undertaken by the Ethiopian government and Dr. Abiy. Those include release of prisoners, establishment of humanitarian truce, unfettered access of humanitarian aid to the northern regions of the country. We really hope that the other side will finally accept all these good gestures in a proper way, not by beating the drums



Kang Seokhee

of war but by singing songs of peace and love," Ambassador Terekhin said.

He added that Russia has expressed on many occasions its position that the Ethiopian situation is internal affair.

"It (the problem) should be solved by Ethiopians themselves; and may be with the help of friendly Africans in accordance



Evgeny Terekhin

with the principle 'African solutions to African problems.' We are objecting that it is unnecessary to interfere in the Ethiopian internal affairs."

South Korean Ambassador to Ethiopia, Kang Seokhee said on his part that the Government of Ethiopia has made positive approaches to resolve the issue and ensure

sustainable peace in the country.

"I think the Ethiopian government made positive approach. I heard that the government announced the initiative to resolve the issue through dialogue with the other party. With this new initiative, I hope Ethiopia will find a solution and recover peace as soon as possible. With peace in Ethiopia, I think Korea can work together more easily with the country. We have many projects to work together. So, peace is the most important one to move forward."

Out of its firm stand and commitment to resolve the issue peacefully, the Government of Ethiopia has established a peace committee and declared its readiness to talk peace at anytime, anywhere and without any precondition.

However, the terrorist TPLF clique has again exposed its warmongering nature by re-launching attacks on the nation.

Gov't showcases firm commitment towards peace: Independent Journalist

BY BETELHEM BEDLU

ADDIS ABABA- The government of Ethiopia has exerted its utmost effort towards engaging in peace talks. It has tried all the possible approach to end the current situation peacefully, so said an international journalist.

In his interview with local media, the Scoop co-founder Alastair Thompson stressed that the government have done its level best to solve the issue peacefully and bring about sustainable peace in the country.

He added that besides showing its full commitment, the government has also worked along with the international community towards achieving the peaceful approach.

Terrorist TPLF reignited the war despite the effort that has been made by the African Union to end the conflict. Its overall activity signifies that it has no intention of coming to the negotiation table, as to him.

Moreover, though various negotiators have gone back and forth to persuade the group to come to negotiation table, it has only been putting preconditions and took months without a step forward, he stated.

The Journalist further expressed his concern that the international peace negotiators did not take the matter seriously referring that they were



taking photos with the leaders.

Prior to the eruption of recent war, the government has undertaken unilateral ceasefire twice to allow unfettered humanitarian access to the State, he recalled.

Similarly, he stressed that the permanent peace committee that is led by the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister is a simple example that demonstrates government's firm stance towards coming to the negotiating table.

Nonetheless, the group declined peace call and it repeatedly invaded Amhara and Afar states and defeated. He emphasized that the group has killed innocent civilian in all of the areas it invaded.

College working on becoming excellence center in health research

BY MESERET BEHAILU

HARAR- Haramaya University College of Health Science said it has carried out consolidated activities to become a center of excellence in health treatment studies and to conduct problem solving research that would have paramount importance in public health.

College's Chief Clinical Director Abdi Amin (MD) told the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA) that the institution has been offering 20 up to 30 types of treatments by specialties and subspecialties. A lot of people who come from Harar town, neighboring states, and the East Africa region have been benefiting from the college's service.

Most of the patients are coming from the East Hararghe and West Hararghe zones of the Oromia State, Somalia State, Dire Dawa City, as well as the neighboring Somaliland and Djibouti to obtain referral medical care. The college has also been providing treatment for 20 million up to 30 million people in all branches annually.

As to the director, over the 3,000 specialists and subspecialists of staff of the college, some of them are providing treatments in Jigjiga, Haromia, Garamulta and Jegol hospitals and share communities' burden. Though the college has 25- year existence, it has been carrying out remarkable outcomes since its inception. "That is why it is one of the research and investigation institutes among four classic universities across the country.

Particularly, the college has offered free charge treatment for 2,000,000 citizens or



Abdi Amin (MD)

more than 350 livelihoods, which are listed under poverty line so far.

Abdi further highlighted that out of 3,000 staff that the college has, 80 of them are specialists in surgery, internist (Internal disease), orthopedic, psychiatry, oncologist, pediatric head surgery, emergency, peto-materna (obstetrician (OB), and the likes. Besides, the college has been educating master's degree in treatment's specialist and PhD in health fields. Apart from this, the college has planned to create a world class University institute of Health Science by 2045.

The staff members have been involved in knowledge transforming, sharing experiences, using technology with Tanzania, Kenya, UK, and the U.S. so as to facilitate the well health service in the community. With a view to discharging social responsibility, the Haramaya clinical staffs have provided treatment for the injured soldiers during the northern conflict triggered by the terrorist TPLF clique, he remarked.

News



Experts stresses exploiting untapped bamboo potentials

BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA – International Bamboo and Rattan Organizations (INBAR) announced that Ethiopia needs to fully exploit the untapped bamboo resources which will have significant impact in changing livelihoods of society and benefiting the country.

Presenting bamboo sector development in Ethiopia INBAR Focal Person Ethiopian Forestry Development (EFD) Teshome Tamirat (PhD) said that Ethiopia is leading country in both bamboo resource base and industrial development having 60 percent of bamboo resources in Africa.

Hosting a total bamboo growing area of 1.47 million hectares of land the sector has been generating over 56 million ETB of country's GDP, he indicated.

He stated that there are two indigenous bamboo species namely lowland and highland bamboo which is concentrated in different areas of the country. An estimated 750,000 people directly depend on bamboo based economic activities.

Bamboo sustainable development is now mainstreamed in the green legacy initiative with good political will and the bamboo certification need to be scale up on both plantation and natural forest with chain of custody.

The loan mechanism should be strengthen for promotion of small, medium and large scale industries and coordination among key stake holders like bank and other financial institutions through establishing bamboo investment platform. EFD is managing bamboo resources recognizing as an important forest asset in revised forest proclamation and established information hub for investors and bamboo is main plant in green legacy initiative in the country, he said.

EFD Senior Researcher Agena Anjulo (PhD) said that even though Ethiopia has huge bamboo potential with diverse species, exploiting the sectors

potential is still at infant stage. "As a country we do have conducive climate conditions suitable for the production of bamboo and adding value to locally produced product is crucial," he said.

The country has large proportion of bamboo resources both in forests and farmlands but not suitably managed and underutilized. Ethiopia has accorded a high priority to bamboo sector which has been targeted as a strategic resource for livelihood development and environmental management.

The existing bamboo producers are predominantly traditional in nature, catering to rural and traditional market segments. Several MSEs are successfully operating in Ethiopia, producing modern bamboo furniture and bamboo basketry mainly in urban centers. Besides, a few bamboo industries producing industrial products, such as bamboo parquet flooring, bamboo stick-based products, and bamboo energy are functional. Overall bamboo value chains are largely informal in nature, dominated by low cost, quality incentive, and unstructured market mechanisms.

EFD Senior Researcher of Bamboo Management Yigardu Mulatu (PhD) for her part said that compering to the bamboo potential we have as a country the sector is not yet untapped. Ethiopia is importing wood products costing millions of dollars which may be simply substituted by local products.

Market studies and property test reports of indigenous bamboo indicate that a huge domestic market import substitution for timber substitute, energy, pulp and paper, furniture, and lifestyle exists in addition to the export market.

Bamboo resource is found in a scattered manner and needs to organize and consolidate it so as to easily benefit and achieve the desired output from the resource. Accordingly establishing cluster based bamboo production is crucial and deep research is needed so as to exploit the resource potential of the country in general, she opined.

Int'l community...

Ethiopian government would ensure lasting stability in the country, according to the Peace Minister.

Speaking to *The Ethiopian Herald*, Peace Minister Binalf Andualem noted the international community should regard the government's commitment to the peaceful resolution of a dispute with the Terrorist TPLF. Equating the federal government and the terrorist group and holding them equally accountable is unacceptable and global powers should force the radical faction to roundtable discussion.

"If the international community wants a lasting solution to the problem, it should identify and denounce the instigator of the conflict and exert pressure on it to desist from further belligerence. Also, if some global powers pressure the T-TPLF to accept the peace alternatives offered by the government and refrain their support, the group could come into peace talks."

The minister further highlighted that some

interest groups has taken wrong direction and unjustifiably denouncing the government, which has been ensuring the safety of the people and republishing the threat posed on the country's existence. "Ethiopia's peace can be ensured when the mastermind of the conflict is denounced and pressured to get into a negotiation table."

"The Ethiopian National Defense Force (ENDF) is still on the defensive, and the government has repeatedly expressed readiness to sit for peace talks without any preconditions," he said, adding that if the international community helps the Ethiopian government's efforts, lasting peace would be achieved.

The approaches of some foreign forces regarding the current situation of Ethiopia undermines the latter's contribution to the stability of the Horn of Africa region. In addition to maintaining its peace and stability for the past many years, Ethiopia has also a long-standing history of participating in the world's peace-keeping missions, Binalf emphasized.

Manufacturability Day promotes...

domestic production creating a society that is proud of and uses local products.

Industry Minister Public Relations and Communication Executive Ababa Tamene told the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA) that marking the day will help the society to pay more attention to local products thereby boosting the capacity of domestic producers.

In the 2014 Ethiopian fiscal year, the ministry has carried out many activities to increase production and productivity, said Ababa, adding the awareness created by the "Ethiopia Produces" movement was particularly instrumental to increase public awareness. The movement started by solving the bottlenecks of the manufacturing industry and creating favorable conditions for the sustainable development and competitiveness of the sector.

Ababa further highlighted that increasing the export income of the manufacturing industry, substituting imported products, expanding the manufacturing industry and revising the industrial policy are some of the main activities that have been carried out. "Encouraging results have been recorded in this arena."

The executive pointed out that more than 255,000 jobs have been created in

the manufacturing sector in the 2014 fiscal year and over 500 million USD was obtained in the reported period. Also, it was possible to save two billion USD by substituting imports by local products.

Manufacturability Day, organized by six ministries including the Ministry of Industry, was marked yesterday. As the ministries announced in a statement regarding the celebration; various programs have taken place to highlight the activities and future plans to increase domestic production and productivity.

It has been announced that the panel discussion which will be held at the Millennium Hall on coming Thursday, where the senior leaders of the ministries are present and the actors of the sector and invited guests will participate, is one of the expected events of the day. In the panel discussion, the major activities carried out by the ministries in the Ethiopian 2014 fiscal year and their preparations for 2015 will be explored.

It is stated that the schedule was prepared by the Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Urban and Infrastructure, Ministry of Irrigation and Lowland Areas, Ministry of Transport and Logistics and Ministry of Agriculture.

Diaspora urges U.S. ...

Shene, Al Shabab and others for the unity and sovereignty for the country as well as for peace and stability of the region.

The Ethiopian Government has demonstrated its commitment to peace through the release of T-TPLF prisoners, initiating a humanitarian ceasefire and wholeheartedly supporting African Union peace talks, it says, adding that the government has worked constructively with the United States and the wider International Community to try and secure a lasting peace.

It further adds that in contrast the T-TPLF insurgency used the truce to undertake a programme of forced mass conscription including the recruitment of more child soldiers.

The community has brought to attention the fact that the group looted in August 12 fuel tankers from a World Food

Programme warehouse and invaded towns in Amhara, ending the 5-month ceasefire.

To date, the U.S. Government has avoided pressuring the terrorist group to end their violence. That is despite many atrocities being committed by their forces. "We believe that is now an unsustainable position, and the time has come for the U.S. to challenge the T-TPLF."

The Ethiopian Government is, within international law, responsible for defending the sovereign integrity of the country and to protect its citizens, the community said.

However, another prolonged conflict is in nobody's interests and Ethiopians at home and abroad want the war to end so people can start to rebuild their lives and communities, it adds.

Leaked document...

"The solutions proposed by some foreign forces did not bring lasting solutions to the problems in African countries." Mentioning Rwanda as example, the scholar stated that the resolution presented by the West could not solve the problem in the country. However, he added, it is the Africans who have been able to come up with solutions for themselves. And also, a relative improvement to the problem in Somalia has also been achieved due to the

implementation of the African solutions.

"The interest groups do not want African institutions to be strengthened. We should have confidence in these institutions," Yayew further indicated.

The group stated that it will not accept the proposed peace alternative presented by the AU saying the AU's role does not meet its needs. "Only through the use of force we can achieve our [destructive] goals," says.

Opinion

Painting the ocean green, forest blue: paradox of mouth pieces

BY LAKACHEW ATINAFU

As one thinks in tranquility and inner composure, politicians promise the moon to come to subjects and pretend guardian angels of subjects considered as savages to escape from guilty conscience.

Rationalizations, attribution, displacement, projection, reaction formation are some of natural self defense mechanisms among human beings from psychological perspective.

Nonetheless, some gangs of brutal and assembles of arrogant jeopardize the values of humanity and deaf of peace talks. To say a spade a spade, there is no metaphor the cruelty that TPLF committed and the paradox that it tried to reason out.

The distractive element not only fights with the Amhara but also with nature as it manages war upon its brother during the season of harvest tillage.

The faction that stationed in the northern most point of Ethiopia continued to bewilder the globe taking advantage of digital journalism and meditated media.

Ever since the law enforcement operation that has been started on the preceding years, the Ethiopian government has put emphasis to resolve disputes in accordance with procedural law and gave varieties of opportunities for TPLF with mere consideration of avoiding possible disasters.

For instance, assuming power with popular support some four years before, the administration of Abiy Ahmed has been made smart move and addressed age long queries of the public with the spirit of forgiveness pursuant to truth and reconciliation.

However, the reaction from the other side seemed to have been characterized by ignorance and arrogance which finally manifested itself to the extent to yearn to perceive the last breath of the country which was built by blood and iron and symbol for African independence.

And so the ball rolls, the federal government has sent arbitrators drawn from religious leaders, elders, women and public figures to reach long lasting solution the country has faced due to denigration and pseudo narratives.

Yet, it was in vain to reach agreement with the TPLF element either because of the fact that they are stubborn or they only need Ethiopia for their greedy interest even they need coalition for political legitimacy to steer the politics as they have been well experienced in exploiting Ethiopia under the guise of EPRDF.

Ethiopia is striving to meet its development goal and determines to accomplish mega projects like GERD and secure its interest on the horn of geo-politics and on the overall international diplomatic sphere.

Solomon Gezahegn, former legal advisor for the international Red Cross society, who has also rich experience in dissemination

of humanitarian law, served the country in federal and regional prosecution as well as lecturer in higher institution.

He also lectures and provides training for the armed, police force and various governmental institutions stayed moments with The Ethiopian Herald.

Upon the moment, Solomon said that the TPLF's conscription of children in armed conflict is Crystal clear that it is violation of international convention and protocols.

According to the legal expert, such a group is frequently observed to violate international conventions and protocols involving under age in battle which is leveled as war crime.

Kebede Desisa, State Minister of Government Communication Services said the reason why the terrorist TPLF started a war was not to win but to hide from the people of Tigray realizing that the people will destroy it.

The State Minister further said in a statement given to the media regarding current issues; the terrorist TPLF started the third round of war, not with the intention of winning, but because it realized that the people of Tigray would destroy them, so they thought to hide in the war and take the confusion as an opportunity.

Even when the terrorist group waged formidable attacks upon the diverse nations of Ethiopia while it was in throne in my name, it was not able to win because winning is a common agenda of existence.

He said that the assembly of devil cabinet rejected the peace option that the government had proposed to solve the problem through dialogue rather than war.

The State Minister said that the government has not yet taken any offensive action other than repelling the terrorist group's official invasion. Still, the international community has to put pressure on the group to return to peace.

Chernat Hordofa, a law teacher and lawyer, said that the terrorist TPLF is committing a war crime by recruiting children for war in violation of international regulations.

The lawyer told the Ethiopian Press Agency that as other international provisions including the 1949 Geneva Convention, recruiting children for military service is considered a war crime.

However, the terrorist TPLF is considered to have committed a war crime because it is killing children in war in violation of these international provisions.

It is known that the involvement of children in war is a problem in the world and the 1949 Geneva Convention Article 50 states that it is forbidden to recruit children for military service.

Following this, in the two protocols of the agreement issued in 1977, it was stipulated that it is a crime to recruit children under the age of 15 for military service or to use them in conflict.

In addition, he said that the 1989 Children's Convention, the 1998 International Court of Justice and other international laws, including the African Charter, stipulate that recruiting children for military service is a war crime.

Recalling that the act was done in many countries including Yemen, Uganda, Congo, Colombia; he said that the Security Council of the United Nations has given several recommendations because it is concerned about the issue.

The expert said that the terrorist group TPLF is violating these international provisions by involving children in war, so it will be considered a war crime that Ethiopia can prosecute the members of the TPLF group for war crimes which had been declared earlier as terrorist by the House of People's Representatives.

The miscalculation and vengeance politics went on as TPLF is still pregnant with a fetus to destroy its part the Amhara. Hence, it has launched a war for the third time to fulfill the lunatic wishes of choking the neck of its historical enemies, said National Movement of Amhara (NAMA) Public Relations Officer, Tahir Mohammed.

He also stated that this is the time when everyone should fulfill their responsibility, not leaving the responsibility of maintaining the unity and peace to the government alone.

As Tahir told the Ethiopian Press Agency, the terrorist group of the TPLF which was ousted from power in the people's struggle, has shown in practice that it did not know that peace was an option by refusing to accept calls for peace.

Therefore, the terrorist group's conflict is not only a matter of fighting with the government, but of jeopardizing the existence of Ethiopia. Tahir said that the distance the government has gone to pursue peace is commendable.

He emphasized that the responsibility of stopping the TPLF belongs to all citizens and not only the government. Tahir added that the government should first fulfill its responsibility to protect the peace and security of the people.

According to him, the demands and grievances of the TPLF force, which does not know how to use the option of peace, are not only with the government, but also with destroying the country and endangering the existence of Ethiopia. Tahir pointed out that the TPLF's obsession with not wanting peace in the midst of the severe chaos and economic pressure that our country has put it in its current state. After the terrorist group's destruction, the government has expressed its desire for peace under many pressures, but the group continues to refuse taking their white masters as a shield and vow not to refrain from stubbornity.

The United Nations is known to have violated its own laws by directly negotiating with the leadership of the terrorist TPLF behind Ethiopia's back.

The Secretary General of the organization,

Antonio Guterres, announced last week that he had a discussion with Debretsion G/ Michael, who is the chairman of the terrorist group, TPLF.

The information of the secretary general's conversation with the leader of the terrorist organization is known. That's from a leaked email the organization's spokesman, Stephanie Dujarric, wrote to UN Affairs reporters.

Following the Secretary General's action, many are raising the issue and saying it is inappropriate. TPLF is still registered in the Global Terrorism Database; it has been stated that the secretary general did this while being the organization is known for its terroristic activities that violate the provisions of the United Nations.

Tekeze Politics, the embryo to abort Ethiopianism resurrected while the other polarity on delivery to give birth new Ethiopia living aside the age long denigration aiming to build permanent enmity among the instance of fraternity in the continent and the planet of earth.

Terrorist TPLF started the third round of war because it realized that the people of Tigray would destroy it for not only fulfilling the people's interest but also for using its children as cannon fodder.

According to a British Freelance Writer and charity worker, this latest offensive was launched on 24 August, violating the humanitarian truce agreed with the Ethiopian government, and shattering the temporary peace.

A Government statement relayed that, "Ignoring all of the peace alternatives presented by the government, the terrorist group, TPLF.... continued its recent provocations and launched an attack.

The TPLF used the months of peace, not to enter unto constructive dialogue with the government, to address the needs of people in Tigray impacted by the war and beg for forgiveness, but to actively re-arm and rebuild its forces.

The barbaric group now pretends to be brothers of Amhara and preaching fraternity on one hand to secure time for additional devastation having forgotten it had said there is auditing of vengeance with the Amhara.

A recent leaked statement from the rebel group reaffirmed that how they are lunatics and they are in engagement to off task the Amhara farmers from the agriculture practices.

The statement envisages the devastation of agriculture practice that the Abiy's administration achieved amid all odds is set to be started in the Amhara State; however the word uttered out by the mouthpiece is paradoxical.

Editor's Note: The views entertained in this article do not necessarily reflect the stance of The Ethiopian Herald

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Editorial

TPLF's disrespect to AU's role is inadmissible!

Despite the federal government's effort to close the chapter of war once and for all and to achieve sustainable peace, security and stability across the country through holding peace talks with the TPLF faction, the rebel group has unfortunately chosen war to sacrifice its young people.

The Terrorist TPLF, instead of respecting the African Union led peace talks to resolve differences peacefully and create peace in Tigray State, has pursued military operation and launched a series of attack, mobilizing children as human shields on the frontlines.

Essentially, the recent leaked document of the criminal tugs has exposed TPLF leadership's hidden agenda and clearly portrayed the level of its crookedness.

While the government is striving to the best of its abilities to make the peace talks a success to end up the conflict and let the people, especially the people of Tigray, breathe a sigh of relief, and the peace process is moving on the right direction, the rebel group has shown its bravado by choosing war over peace. Underestimating the peace option extended by the government, it has provoked a war for the third round.

As the terrorist group stated in this leaked document, the proposed peace option would not enable it to realize its ill intents. Therefore, joining hands with all anti-Ethiopia forces - both internal and external entities- and taking offensive actions in all possible ways is taken as an imperative strategy.

To this effect, ranging from building internal capacity and strengthening its defense forces to spreading toxic prejudice between and among the diverse peoples of Ethiopia, and false claims in the international arena to discredit government's peace efforts and provoking military attacks in various areas of the country have become priorities of the TPLF.

Surprisingly, as if innocent Tigrean children are destined to be used as a cannon fodder for those self-serving TPLF leaders, and as if the act is normal, the document stated the wide-ranging media campaign made in

the past few months targeting to hoodwink the community in general and young people in particular to let them join TPLF insurgents.

The commitment of the Ethiopia's Government for unilateral declaration of a humanitarian ceasefire, ensuring humanitarian access to the affected populations, the national dialogue and reconciliation process and the establishment of negotiating team among others have been the activities that yield tangible outcomes and received recognition and appreciation despite TPLF's constant refusal to recognize the necessity of peace.

Unfortunately, the warmonger TPLF group that has no interest to hold peace talks and resolve differences around the table from the beginning has launched fresh aggression against neighboring areas of Amhara and Afar states. In doing so, the group has drained the chance for peace.

Developing a prejudice to the people of Africa and underrating the peace efforts of their only continental bloc, the African Union, it is attempting to disrupt the peace chance and switch off the light that has been shown at the end of the tunnel. Here, dishonoring the role of AU, the TPLF has demonstrated its inherent wicked feature.

It essential to remember the praiseworthy role the AU has played to initiate peace process; as a result AU's effort, the Tigray people had been enjoying access to humanitarian aids for months and there were encouraging results for the intended peace talks.

It seems that the saying "Older men declare war; but it is the youth that must fight and die" has been proven in TPLF's evil movie. TPLF by involving children on the battlefields as human wave tactics is gambling on the lives of innocent Tigreans to extend its existence.

In short, the people of Tigray should prioritize peace and say "No more war" to TPLF's leadership; they ought to urge the group to respect the AU's praiseworthy role in ending the conflict and establish lasting peace.

Opinion

Improved service delivery system for enhanced production and productivity

BY SOLOMON DIBABA

At his pint in time when all Ethiopian here and in the diaspora are preparing to celebrate the Ethiopian New Year which is at the corner, it would be incumbent upon everyone to renew our commitments to improved service delivery to promote production and productivity in all spheres of the socio-economic development sector in the country.

Here, it is important to understand the complementarity between service delivery and enhanced productivity. Efficient, timely and quality service deliver is a major prerequisite for promoting production and productivity in terms of quality and quantity.

The major elements of quality service delivery involves putting in place the necessary logistics and planning that is geared towards improving productivity by economizing resources, time and appropriate use of manpower. This has greater implication both for the service and manufacturing industries in Ethiopia.

Although a number of attempts have been made by the civil service sector to improve service delivery at least in the public institutions and enterprises, there is indeed more to be desired in this sector. Any level of service delivery in Ethiopia or elsewhere requires sufficient knowledge, skill and discipline that is needed to discharge ant level of service which is in most cases time bound.

Setting standards for social service delivery is very important for any kind of service that could include among other things, transport, health delivery systems, communication, IT services, entertainment industry and a host of other industries. On the other hand it is equally important to synchronize delivery of services to enhance

productivity in all spheres of social services.

In the promotion of quality service delivery, giving due attention to the human factor is of critical importance. This implies putting in place a viable human resource management and accessories required for efficient service delivery.

On the other hand, productivity is a cross cutting process that is mainstreamed inn all the sectors of the national economy and not necessarily confined to manufacturing industries and the agricultural in which productivity can be measured in both quantitative and qualitative dimensions. For instance quality service delivery in the education sector can be measured by the quality of the level of inputs and the quantitative and qualitative results attained.

In addition, the quality of service delivery in the health sector is decisively detrimental for those engaged in manufacturing industries in making sure that ill health should not impair their continuous productivity. This would mean that quality health delivery system has a greater bearing on the quality and efficiency in productivity.

In Ethiopia, a number of attempts have been made to integrate the service delivery system with improved productivity in in a given period of time. Although greater improvements has so far been registered inn service sectors like aviation transport, there are areas that still require major overhauling. For instance the tourist industry and hotel development have not been developed to the desired level. Of course there are other overarching challenges in establishing the necessary link between the various sub-sectors in the service industry and other sectors of the economy.

Improved service delivery and promotion of

productivity certainly require establishing viable operational relations between the sectors. For example, improved paved road, railway transport service can positively affect or even hinder the promotion of foreign trade and delivery of the necessary raw materials for the manufacturing industries across the country.

The same situation prevails in the service delivery systems between agricultural sector and quality productivity of agricultural goods and creation of a fast and efficient logistics system. This link would help to enhance export and import delivery and other economic activities needed to promote economic development.

It is also important to consider the role of ethical standards in service delivery to the public. The public needs efficient and quality service not only to carry out their daily duties but also to save time for yet other activities to which they need to attend. Respect for clients, patience and enduring short lived challenges is very important.

At this point in time when nepotism and parochialism as well as ethnocentric mindset is rampant in the country, efficient service delivery and the resultant increment in production and productivity could be a challenge. Lack of discipline, using public business time for other purposes, corruption, inefficiency and unwarranted absence from work could certainly affect viable service delivery and could also retard production and productivity.

Among other things, the implementation of the Ten Years Perspective Plan of the country is based on quality service delivery and up scaled productivity in all the sectors of the national economy.

Moreover placing the necessary monitoring and evaluation system across all the economic sectors

and effective utilization of IT services in service delivery and production systems is of crucial importance to ensure the effective implementation of the Plan.

The overall attempts by those who wish to destabilize the country and terrorist TPLF induced war is affecting not only the scope of service delivery across the country but is also affecting production and productivity. For instance thousands of health service centers, infrastructures, banks and local administration buildings destroyed by terrorist TPLF has affected both service delivery and productivity by forcing the federal and regional government to focus on rehabilitation programs which could take sometimes.

The absence of a sustained peace in many parts of the country brought by the barbaric actions of the terrorist force has set a major challenge to the national economy but even then, reports coming out of government sources show a predicted 6% economic growth in the country.

Everyone is not expected to go and fight in the battle front but necessary focus should be given to the promotion of quality service delivery system along with increased production and productivity in all sectors of the economy.

As the Ethiopian New Year sets in as noted above, all citizens should be ready to discharge their responsibilities in all the areas in which they are engaged. The New Year would hopefully be a year of quality service delivery and increased production and productivity.

Editor's Note: The views entertained in this article do not necessarily reflect the stance of The Ethiopian Herald

Business & Economy

Transforming agriculture a long way venture

BY ABEBE WOLDEGIORGIS

In Ethiopia, agriculture was practiced since time immemorial in which food plants and animals had been domesticated earlier than other countries in the world. Agricultural tools also had been fabricated locally by blacksmiths.

According to historical records, since ancient times the land holding system was feudal and tenants had been exploited heavily by landlords and almost two thirds of the products were given to the landlords. In addition to this, when the harvesting time ended, farmers had been forced to provide coerced labor to the landlord's personal home. The productive forces development was hampered by production as the result the sector remained stagnant for centuries.

Since the beginning of the modern era in the earlier time of the 20th century, governments tried their level best to modernize agriculture but the sector is still subsistence and rainfed and yet it is the mainstay of the nation's economy.

Dr. Demis Chanallew is an agricultural economist and a private researcher. In his recently published paper, he explained that efforts had begun to improve the Ethiopian agriculture during the Emperor Menelik. In his reign, the emperor introduced modern housing construction and irrigation farms; to satisfy household fuel demand, the emperor imported eucalyptus trees from abroad, constructed railway transport and established the Ministry of Agriculture. It is believed that such efforts paved paths for obtaining new agricultural techniques and tools from abroad.

Later on, Emperor Hailesillaasie-I who continued ruling till 1974, exerted his energy to realize the preceding king dream.

However, both kings due to lack of sufficient structure and human resource had faced various challenges which hampered their efforts. The establishment of agricultural colleges and secondary schools with the support of the USAID could somehow help to undo the problems.

In the later decades, agricultural projects implemented with the support of international non-governmental organizations allowed the sector to step forward.

Among the projects implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Comprehensive Agricultural Package and Extension Program Implementation Department can be mentioned in this regard.

According to Demis, the project financed by the USAID and studied by Stanford Research Institute which comprised 7 main programs was implemented from 1967 to 1969.

Nevertheless, the land tenure system prevailed then created havoc on the program

Currently the government dedicates its time, finance and technology for enhancing agricultural production particularly in some selected areas through irrigation

not to be properly implemented and the outbreak of the 1974 revolution after a few years made the effort to remain in vain.

The Dergue regime which replaced the feudal regime made the nation indulge in political instability. The radical change which abolished the feudal landholding system was unique in Africa but did not free farmers from tenure insecurity. Because the socialist oriented ideology pursued by the Dergue gave monopoly ownership of land to the government. The era was characterized by prevalence of chronic famine, poverty and political uproar.

The downfall of the regime brought

EPRDF to ascend to power. According to the agricultural researcher Desalegn Rahmato, the new regime preached to farmers that it assumed power for the sake of the wellbeing of farmers and prioritized rural development. Few years later after its power assumption, it announced that it pursued an Agricultural Development Led Industrialization program.

In addition, it announced its tentative agricultural programs known as Sustainable Development Plan and Poverty Reduction which were implemented from 2001 to 2005 and from 2006 to 2010 phase by phase.

The first Growth and Transformation plan (GTP I) from 2011 to 2015 and the second one from 2016 to 2020 are part of the above-mentioned development plan.

After the announcement of the GTP program the government established the Agricultural Transformation Agency in 2011.

Based on the evaluation after the introduction of the first GTP, it was understood that rapid, broad based and inclusive economic growth was registered which enabled the reduction of the poverty level in 2014 from 38.7 to 23.4 in 2015. The GDP also grew by 10.1%. It was also learned that the contribution of agriculture to the GTP also reduced to 39%.

Within the sector, the contribution of the crop sub sector was 27.4 and that of the livestock sub sector was 7.9 % and the rest was covered by the fishery sub sector.

According to the government evaluation, the reduction of the contribution of the agriculture sector to the GDP indicated that there was economic transition from agriculture to that of industry and service sectors. Nevertheless, some argued that even based on the multidimensional poverty reduction parameter, a significant number of the population were trapped in chronic poverty.

As to Demis, despite the government claiming that structural change was witnessed, agriculture is characterized by obsolete farming methods, rain fade which is common in various parts of the country. In the rural part of the country people are still barred from getting sufficient government services such as road transportation. Almost 90% of the rural population still utilizes biomass for household fuel purposes which in turn poses the clearance of vegetation cover and land degradation.

Therefore, it is fair to say that the outcome of the growth did not show the government ambition to achieve structural change manifested by transition from agricultural led economy to industry led economy.

Moreover, both the manufacturing and service sectors did not reach the level replacing agriculture meaningfully.

Through the implementation of the GTP,

even though some progress was achieved, almost 1/4th of citizens were not raised from poverty. The number of unemployed in the rural part of the country has increased. At the end of both GTPs, the agricultural sector remained in utilizing obsolete farming tools and the utilization of modern inputs was insignificant.

Therefore, one can boldly say that the program did not achieve structural change.

The EPRDF regime in the last two decades tried its level best to implement various development programs by targeting poverty alleviation in the rural part of the country and achieved some progress particularly in crop productivity. Though some recessions were witnessed, the agriculture sub sector could achieve 4.1 % but due to the occurrence of extreme weather conditions frequently sustaining the growth faced challenges.

Currently the government dedicates its time, finance and technology for enhancing agricultural production particularly in some selected areas through irrigation.

The winter season irrigation system for enhancing wheat production could be a typical example in this regard. Wheat production has brought tremendous results which can provide raw material for food industries such as biscuits, macaroni, and pasta and bread bakeries. It also advances the nation's ambition to be food self-sufficient and moreover, it can serve as an import substitute. As to Demis, it is understood that Ethiopia till now spends significant amounts of hard currency for the importation of wheat and if it is substituted by local products, the money which is allocated for importation can be allocated for other development endeavors.

Currently the dry season irrigation wheat farm is practiced both in the low and highland parts of the country. Afar and Somali regions located in the arid zones of the north and eastern part of the country have vast areas of suitable land which can be used for wheat cultivation. The regions have sufficient amounts of river water used for irrigation farm and they are performing well and according reports the two regions could supply more than two million quit of wheat product to the market. Part of the Southern Nation and Nationalities region also agricultural land is located in the low land parts and the cultivation of wheat through irrigation is undergoing and expected to supply its products to the market. The Oromia and Amhara regions also have plenty of land which is cultivated by wheat farms both in the dry and wet seasons and played a pivotal role in meeting the wheat demand in the market.

Therefore, if the ongoing wheat irrigation farm is scale-upped and practiced by other crops, food self-sufficiency can be realized in the near future. The chance to transform the economy from agriculture to industrial one can be possible.

Art & Culture



A sunny season-a time for jubilation is called for

BY ALEM HAILU G/KRISTOS

A transition from a bleak to a bright season, specially heralding a new year like that of ours, warrants an overwhelming sense of optimism.

When a New Year draws nigh, our desire to reshape own fate embarking on a new chapter begins to put down roots in our heart. We want to turn our life around in an all-rounded way thoroughly assessing our past for mending wrong turns or making up for skill gaps in one hand and catapulting to much-sought-for achievements or materializing long-cherished dreams on the other hand. We want to have our hands on the wheel of the New Year.

Many decide to bury the hatchets in favor of peace. People wish one another a blissful and productive year. They beseech the almighty to not forsake them in their endeavor for a rosy future. Those who are stuck in beating the drum of war in outmoded fashion must do introspection to mend their disposition divorced from positive thinking.

Let us see this feeling of optimism via the lens of Salomeja Neris's poem Spring Toast explicated by the author of this piece.

/Spring toast/

Toasting the sun,

See spring twirl

Flower-cups in the air

If I could wipe from your brow,

World,

The furrows of care!

Happiness is said to be the best cosmetic. In this very musical lyric portraying a great economy of words, readers' attention is drawn to a moment of felicitation the transition from autumn to spring warrants. The former is a public symbol of sadness while the latter happiness. When assailed by anxieties, routine responsibilities of discharging respective duties and also leading a prosaic life, burrows and furrows find their way into the faces of people. Just like the rings on an axe shortened long tree tell on the age of a tree, the burrows and furrows people develop on their faces lay bare the hardships they weathered as well as their aging and drawing closer to their destruction. This notwithstanding, people easily put behind their back the dissatisfaction they harbor when celebrations are called for. They bubble up with satisfactions that defy description. The ensuing of a new season atones for their troubled spirit.

In the poem above, in an indirect way, the persona, via word pictures, conveys the aforementioned underlying thought. The persona shows even nature portrays a reciprocal positive response to the most welcomed season. Personifying the world and spring as well as creating a brilliant metaphor between a flower and a cup the persona proclaims an occasion for felicitation is due. Here it suffices to see /Toasting the sun, See spring twirl flower cups in the air./ The identification of such a wonderful analogy, between the objects compared, by itself shows how much imagination the poem has demanded to emerge so superb. This picturesque similarity renders the poem savory and vivid.

Personifying the world lending it the power of feeling like harboring resentment and the tragedy of developing furrows on its brow and burrows on its facial elements, the persona imparts on readers the message that the inanimate world like the animate one senses the moment for felicitation resulting from the change of a disagreeable season by the agreeable one. Observe also spring serves us a cultural symbol of jubilation in the seasonal life cycle. The organ like effect the rhyming of air and care creates also pleases the experienced ear. Though almost all the images on the first stanza, show felicitation is called for the words, toasting, twirl, flower cups are relatively strong.

The thematic tension in this poem is spring, as a balm, in one hand and the travails nature has in store on the other hand. The contrasting imageries and word images furrows and care on one scale and the toasting of the sun, flower cups and spring on the other scale also create tension in imageries. The two tensions in unison buttress the unifying theme, spring is a balm for a worn out soul. Though this poetic gem is straightforward, its aesthetic quality and terseness as well as suitability for studying by heart makes it unsurpassed. See the word images of sadness have permeated the second stanza wipe, brow, furrows and care. The synchronistic effect of the poetic devices the poet utilized accentuates the underlying theme that the moment is a time for jubilation and toasting for all humans and nature alike.

May Almighty bless the new Ethiopian year/2015/ with peace and bliss!

Bouncing Back

BY ALEM HAILU G/KRISTOS

Bouncing back
From cold shoulders

And many a rejection,

Resilient, I throw

My full weight

To get

What me await

In the storeroom

Of fate!

Abidance

BY SENAIT G/HIWOT

What causes
pain gives you
strength

What causes pity

defines happiness

In life's rocky road

You are bound to face

all

You can't see light

without darkness

You can't know life's

deep secrets

Without one or two

scars

So you must have

resilience

To go on in abidance

And live your life in

balance.

Global Affairs

Terrorist TPLF's treasonous alliance with Shene, Al-Shabaab

BY YOHANES JEMANEH

They say birds of a feather flock together. And governments across the world cooperate on peace and security and other issues with due respect of their sovereign interests. The same is true for global anti-peace elements.

Terrorist groups do cooperate with each other to make instability happen on the spot they wish to target.

It goes without saying that the terrorist TPLF clique has been making alliances with local and foreign anti-peace elements like Shene and Al-Shabaab in order to destabilize the country.

For quite a while, the criminal organization has been forming an alliance with internal and external adversaries to carry out its evil acts and dismantle the country. The recent leaked document prepared by the terrorist TPLF clique is incontrovertible evidence of the group's treacherous alliance to destroy the Ethiopian state.

The leaked document of the terror enterprise has laid bare the group's and its cronies' destructive "path and strategy" in their doomed alliance to destroy the proposed peace talks.

The document entitled 'A path and strategy towards the concluding chapter [of war]' exposed the criminal organization's plan to boost ties with the terrorist groups.

TPLF's leaked document indicated that the group has a plan to widen its cooperation with Al-Shabaab and Shene in order to weaken the federal government and prompt anarchism.

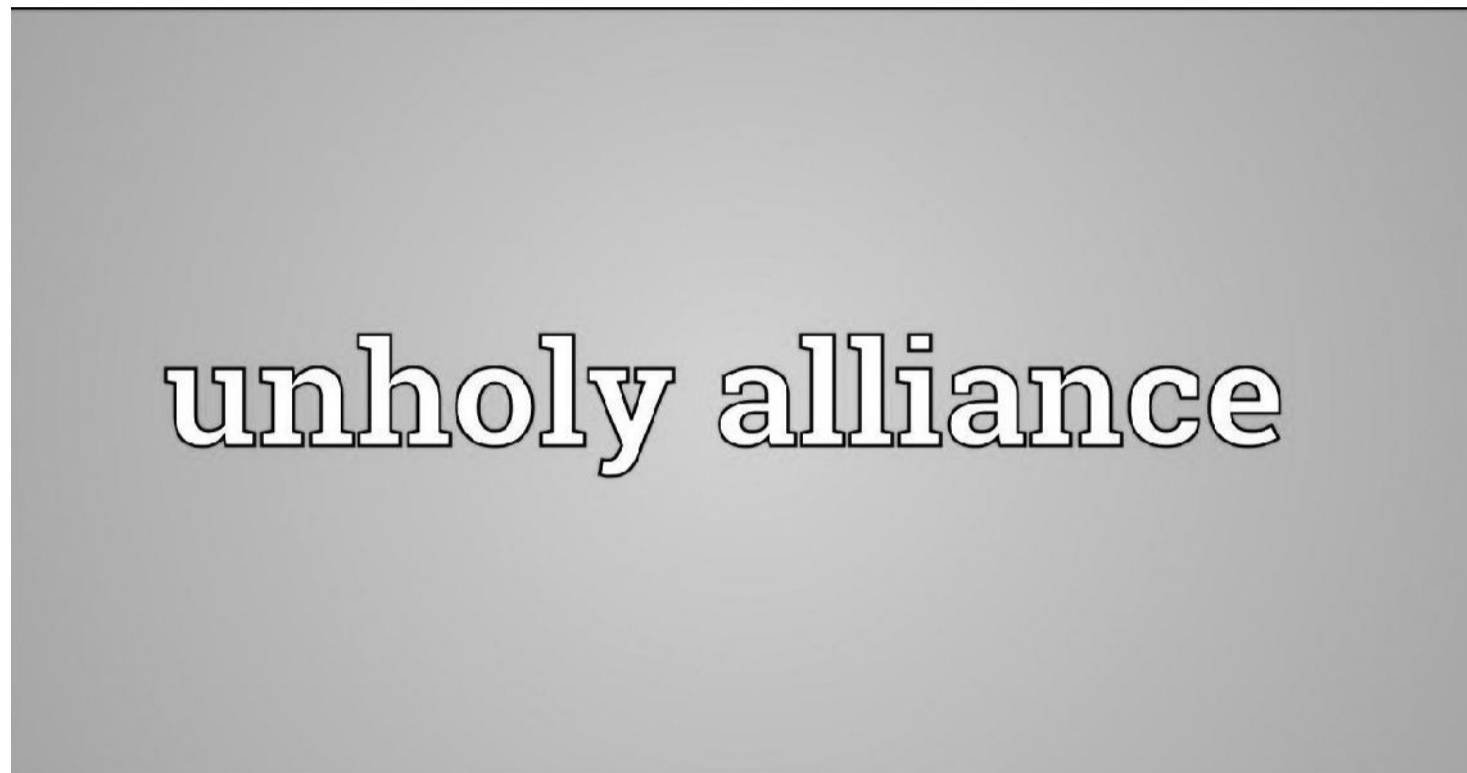
The document explains the terrorist group's plan to sow discord among the Ethiopian people and demoralize the Afar and Amhara communities picturing Tigray as a rosy state while the reverse is true in the region.

The document also reveals TPLF's strategy to work with local and international terrorist groups through instigating violence. It states that the group would use insurgents and sleeper cells to wreak havoc and get the upper hand in the battle.

Working with paid activists and stooges to carry out a misinformation campaign, destabilizing the Ethiopian state and weakening the economy, and aggravating public grievances are other goals that the terrorist group charted to accomplish in cooperation with Shene and Al-Shabaab, the document indicated.

The recent attacks made by Al-Shabaab in Ethiopia are a clear indication of terrorist TPLF's desire of controlling the central power by using any means necessary. For Professor Deresse Getachew, a Sociology Associate at New York, Iona College, TPLF cooperates with anyone to destabilize the country.

As TPLF has been allying with different forces, it is now associating with the Al-



Shabaab to destabilize the nation and weaken the central government, Deresse recently told local media. He believed that TPLF wishes to weaken and replace the federal government by working together with terrorist Shene group on one side and Al-Shabaab on the other.

Buying Deresse's concept, Writer and Journalist Abebe Gelaw forwards that all the entities that are trying to create chaos in the country are particularly trying to disband the central government.

"As we know, some countries are Ethiopia's historical enemies and are still behind the major negative happenings that have been occurring in Ethiopia. And the terrorist Shene and TPLF groups are closely working to realize their major objective," Abebe said.

TPLF could ally with any entity being it local or international so long as it takes to its destination and gain its political desire. That is why it is still provoking another war refuting the peace initiative proposed by the federal government, he added.

One embarrassing truth in this process is that some western governments are supporting TPLF as a puppet government in Ethiopia. Though they are putting undue pressure on Ethiopia to restore the previous system of administration being practiced by the criminal clique though the current administration is not willing to accept that, Abebe noted.

On the flip side, TPLF, Al-Shabaab and Shene are working these days hand in hand to destabilize Ethiopia as well as the region. These three entities have now forged a seemingly temporary tactical alliance against a common adversary, the federal government of Ethiopia. The pre-established bilateral alliance between Shene and Al-Shabaab has now expanded into a trilateral alliance, with Shene brokering between TPLF and Al-Shabaab.

For these groups, the federal government,

as well as a strong central government in Ethiopia, is an undesirable outcome. To this end, their collective aim is to synergistically work to undermine the national cohesion and territorial integrity of the Ethiopian state.

An article published in Horn Review indicated that there is a clear and mutual interest between TPLF and Al-Shabaab, particularly in experience sharing. Al-Shabaab had an interest to gain insurgency experience from TPLF. Conversely, TPLF sought knowledge in launching terrorist attacks and other insurgency tactics from Al-Shabaab.

Shene has played a paramount role in middling and brokering the two groups. Having fled the central government and retreated to Tigray, TPLF operatives in Sudan initiated contact with Abdullahi Nadir in early October 2020 in Sudan, soon after the group was pushed deeper into central Tigray.

Nadir was a close associate and aide of the former notorious Al-Shabaab Amir Ahmed Godene. Abdulahi Nadir later facilitated a meeting between TPLF's operatives and Al-Shabaab members who were in South Sudan under a business pretext.

Nadir also managed to contact mid-level Al-Shabaab operatives in Kenya to convene a meeting on how to defeat a common enemy. In early August 2021, a meeting commenced in Nairobi (East Leigh area) between three TPLF operatives as well as Al-Shabaab mid-level leaders, namely Shiekh Abdi salam Kabaja'el15 and Salad Dere16, the article claimed.

Both parties have agreed to collaborate on technical matters such as sharing guerilla skills, weapons, and facilitation of one another's operation rather than establishing a strategic partnership. Since the two parties adhere to diverging ideological backing. After the Nairobi meeting, consecutive contacts were made between the two

sides in Puntland where TPLF elements proposed to provide 15 mortar weapons to target Ethiopian Units of AMISOM troops stationed around Hudur, Baidoa, and Qansahdere areas of South West State. Intelligence sources proved that Al-Shabaab has used those 60 mm and 82 mm mortar shells on ENDF units in Somalia.

Despite the unholy marriage and the ill-will cooperation between TPLF and Al-Shabaab, Ethiopia has managed the recent insurgency through Somali region and captured 105 Kalashnikovs, 13 Bren, RPGs, and other heavy weapons have been seized from Al-Shabaab terrorists in Ethio-Somalia border.

As to the information obtained from Government Communication Service (GCS) indicated that about 45 Al-Shabaab members were also arrested lately.

GCS Minister Legese Tulu (Ph.D) stated that the Ethiopian army along with regional forces has made a speedy response and inflicted significant harm on terrorist factions that have been largely operating in Oromia and Somali states.

"While thousands of Shene members have been made out of combat, several of its camps have been destroyed so far, the military operation will be reinforced until lasting peace is guaranteed," the minister said. Legese stressed the military operation has been carried out to neutralize terrorist groups and ensure the safety of the people. These groups must choose the peaceful or the military means to become the government other than confusing the people.

Therefore, the government has to undertake its constitutional responsibility of ensuring law and order and protecting the safety and security of its citizens. To this end, it needs to annihilate the Al-Shabaab and punish TPLF and Shene to refrain from their destructive behavior and action. The government needs also to keep open for peaceful means to the conflicts and to ensure stability.

Law & Politics

Leaked document: A smoking gun of terrorist TPLF's grudge, hatred against Amhara, Afar states

BY ADDISALEM MULAT

In apparent move to whitewash the wide spectrum of atrocities perpetrated in Amhara and Afar states, the terrorist TPLF group that has been working at all hours of the day and night emerged in the present circumstances with new tactics aimed at sowing discord and division among people of the two states and weakening the Ethiopian state.

It is generally acknowledged that discarding from memory the broad range of summary killings, gang rape, ransacking, and other criminal deeds committed in Amhara and Afar states, the criminal syndicates in the prevailing circumstances have set in motion bringing new yet deceitful tactic in to play.

It should not be forgotten that the criminal enterprise has committed horrifying mayhems against noncombatants in Amhara and Afar states by playing part in summary killings, gang rape, ransacking, and other actions against the law. In actual fact, in the aftermath of the atrocious delinquencies of the group, civilians in the northern part of the country have ended up battling life challenges that turned the lives of thousands into chaos.

It should be remembered that the bandit groups had slaughtered many innocent civilians in addition to burying them in the length and breadth of the northern part of the country which ended up making many children turn into orphans at the earliest possible moment while others lost their wage-earners.

In the same manner, from the obliteration of schools, hospitals, and other social infrastructure to perpetrating appalling delinquencies against the people of Afar and Amhara, the organized crime groups have gotten off the ground by launching new offensives and turned the lives of noncombatants into turmoil.

Following the evil deeds of the group, people in the two states have been grappling with a lack of food security and suffering from emotional and psychological traumas that cannot be failed to recall in the shortest possible time.

It is important to remember that the criminal enterprise was working morning, noon, and night with a focus on sowing hatred and discord between the various Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples of Ethiopia along ethnic and religious lines and other nefarious deeds aimed at breaking the strong bond of the people, destabilizing Ethiopia and pursuing its hidden objectives.

In a similar vein, within the bounds of knocking off the balance of Ethiopia, the criminal organization has been in many circumstances wobbling the Amhara and Afar states working in close collaboration with the so-called rights groups, stooges, low-rated international media outlets, and other internal and external actors housing themselves at home and abroad.

As part of putting an end to everything that belongs to the people of Amhara and Afar, the organized crime groups have continued working around the clock with a focus on



Mai Kadra Massacre

causing instability, running amok, and casting a damper on the positive moves unfolding left, right and center of the northern part of the country. In the aftermath of the group's evil deeds, innocent noncombatants in Amhara and Afar states have been coming across a crisis in food supply and battling against its adverse effects.

As the two states have been a scene of multiple wars with quite a lot of actors playing a part, the number of displaced people in Amhara and Afar states has been doubling the stakes. The group in the present climate has been escalating hostility among people and obstructing the prospect of peace more than ever before.

As things stand at present in defiance of the unwavering stance of the incumbent, the crime networks have put in motion invading the Afar and Amhara states and brought about human and material damage in the shortest possible time. It is appropriate to recall the horrific assaults perpetrated in Amhara and Afar states by the criminal organization have turned the lives of millions into chaos.

Failing to reciprocate many a time and oft the peace talks proposed by the federal government to end hostilities, the criminal enterprise has embarked on launching fresh attacks in Amhara and Afar states. Notwithstanding the fact that the federal government has been pulling out all the stops to get to the bottom of the problem in an atmosphere of calm, the desired goal has not been achieved yet as a consequence of the nefarious deeds of the group that strongly feels devoid of war like a fish out of water and a chicken with its head cut off.

Failing to learn from its past blunders, the group according to the current conditions has been playing a part in ransacking, slaughtering, gang rape, and other illegitimate acts in the northern part of the country. In this day and age, the group has been perplexing the wider international community and the people of the two states as if it has no enemies between the people of Amhara and Afar.

A leaked document of the terror enterprise, T-TPLF, has once again laid bare the group's and its cronies' destructive "path and

strategy" in their doomed alliance to destroy the proposed peace talks.

The document that the terror enterprise prepared under a crafty title: 'A path and strategy towards the concluding chapter [of war]' inflated the terrorist's camp while spitting a venomous prejudice towards the diverse peoples of Ethiopia.

According to the leaked document, TPLF labels the Amhara people as the number one enemy of the people of Tigray. And, the terrorist clique plans to plant discord and divide the peoples' unity through propaganda and misinformation campaign and take advantage of the opportunity created by the war.

As to the document, if this situation had come about in other states of the country, it would have conceived a favorable environment for their struggle. However, as the situation has almost taken place in the Amhara state and the whole scenario was created based on prejudice against the people of Tigray, we by any means whatsoever cannot have friendship with the group.

The leaked document also states that in addition to this, a force that enters the Amhara region under the veil of refugees should be at the ready and discharge their duties and responsibilities with great care. Other than that they should be brought closer to Addis Ababa making the most of transport services in the best possible way,

Similarly, the outlawed group is trying to weaken the morale of the Afar communities and expressed its grudge against the community for standing up for the cause of the Ethiopian people.

"On the other hand, the Afar government controlling access to aid in the areas has been creating unnecessary conflicts on a regular basis, preventing lasting peace in the border areas and putting people living in the area in danger," the leaked document added.

In sharp contradiction to TPLF's deceitful strategy, the disgruntled group's fresh attack is killing dozens of children and elders. The killing squad is directly targeting civilians and civilian infrastructure in Tigray- neighboring

regional states.

According to the Ministry of Defense, the T-TPLF has used heavy artillery to attack the civilian population in regional border areas of the Amhara and Afar states and children and elders who have no clue about the conflict have been killed by the criminal faction. "The attack against civilians is an extension of the group's heinous crimes to terrorize the people."

Last week, Afar and Amhara regional states announced that the T-TPLF has been warning and re-launching attacks against civilian communities and a significant number of civilians have been killed and hospitalized by the attack while thousands are being displaced from their homes.

In a written article posted on Counterpunch, a British writer and charity worker, Graham Peebles has also described the latest attack of the T-TPLF as violation of humanitarian truce initiated by the Ethiopian government which shatters the temporary peace. "The TPLF used the months of peace, not to enter into constructive dialogue with the government, to address the needs of the Tigray people impacted by the war and beg for forgiveness, but to actively re-arm and rebuild its forces," he elaborated.

The attacks re-launched by the terrorist TPLF, pushing against peace calls, have further continued to intensify, said the Government Communication Service (GCS).

In its recent statement, GCS indicated that innocent civilians are being killed; many are being displaced and property is being destroyed. As it can be seen now, the duty of halting the terrorist group from its destructive activities has fallen on the government and people of Ethiopia.

"This is so, because the terrorist group must be prevented from disturbing our peace and destroying our country; the government has a responsibility to ensure that humanitarian assistance is directed to the true intended beneficiaries of the Tigray State and hence a conducive environment needs to be created to halt the diversion of assistance to combatants as is being done by T-TPLF, and the terrorist group is punishing the people of Tigray through starvation by repeatedly launching attacks during the farming season and the Government has a responsibility to overturn this," the statement said.

In the situation where all the efforts made by the government for a peaceful alternative have been shunned, statements being made by various entities equalizing the Government with a belligerent clique in "both sides rhetoric are not acceptable as they deviate from the reality, the Government underscored.

"Therefore, the posture of Ethiopian National Defense Forces (ENDF) remains one of defending the various attacks which have been launched from all directions, together with our people."

Planet Earth

Center's technology smart housing in mitigating climate change

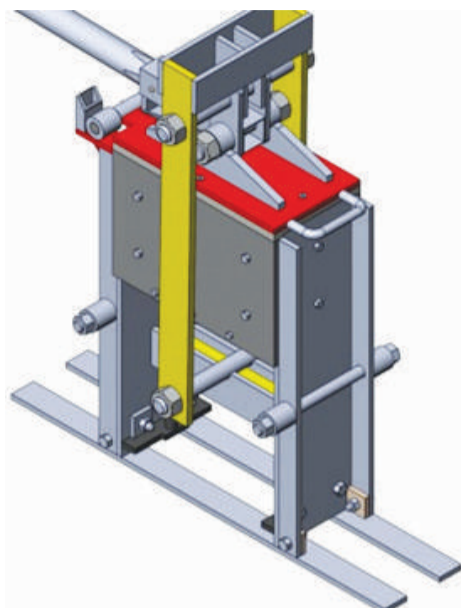
BY EPHREM ANDARGACHEW

Housing is undisputedly a core basic need for people living in rural areas where the majority of them are economically underdeveloped. Forests and forest products are their first priority whenever they construct houses for various purposes. Most policymakers, by emphasizing urban development and planning initiatives, neglect the demand for housing by rural populations.

Currently, taking the demand for rural houses and the need for environment-friendly technologies into account, higher education and research institutions are providing ecologically effective technologies to the communities.

According to the Manufacturing Technology and Engineering Industry Research and Development Center, rural communities have the resources which are needed for housing construction. Hence, research and technology institutes must carry out problem-solving studies to fulfill the demand of rural communities.

Accordingly, the center creates modern interlocking block/brick manufacturing technology which is important to build low-cost houses. The technology is environment-friendly and labor-intensive. It is used around Jimma where clay-content soil is found which is important to provide sustainable



technological alternatives to improve rural housing in Ethiopia.

Haramaya University Institute of Technology has also completed the design work of a modern bricks production machine in collaboration with the Oromia state and put it into operation. The Institute Managing Director Engineer Hamiza Ahmednur told *The Ethiopian Herald* that the University has been discharging its responsibility by providing modern, integrated, and community-based technologies.

Currently, the institute creates modern and environment-friendly brick production machines which contribute to rural house

construction. An integrated approach to designing and building healthy, comfortable, cost-effective, and houses is significant to mitigating climate change. Because of reducing waste and emissions, using eco-friendly building materials, and improving indoor environmental quality more efficiently than conventional designs.

Hence, the brick manufacturing technology has been completed and the communities, surrounding the university, could use it to solve their brick problems. Indeed, the modern bricks production machine enables the university not only to fulfill its social responsibility to the local community but also helps small and medium-sized industries to produce and market the technology, he explained.

Ecological-friendly modern technologies ensure sustainable development that alleviates the negative effect of climate change. It also provides affordable houses to the local communities. Most countries including local governments, via their higher institutions, are taking action to incorporate green building techniques into their planning and policy framework as a base for resource efficiency, a green economy, and sustainable housing development programs.

The technology is significant not only for building a low-cost, affordable, resilient, and eco-friendly house but also for utilizing locally available stabilized earthen

construction materials. He also recalled that clay content soil can be found in many areas of Ethiopia. Since the trial work of the technology is completed, it is possible to use the technology not only in the East and West Hararge Zone but in all areas where clay soil content is located, he explained.

This modern brick production technology, along with ensuring mitigating climate change, will create job opportunities for many citizens since it is manual, easy to use, and does not consume electricity. If the machine is imported, it will cost up to 200,000 birr, but a locally created machine can cost around 20,000 birr. It can also replace imported brick machines and could be easily accessed by the communities. It is also a modern technology that is time-saving, pollution-free, easily transported by donkey or cart, and does not require complicated knowledge.

According to the International Fund for Agricultural Development, over 3 billion people live in the rural areas of developing countries. Most of them earn less than two USD per day and depend on agriculture for their livelihoods. They live in remote, marginal areas such as mountains, dry lands, and deserts with poor quality resources, limited communication, transportation networks, and weak institutions. Therefore, the involvement of higher institutions in the rural house construction process would help mitigate climate change initiatives.



Published Weekly in Collaboration with Haramaya University

HU publishes unique textbook: Plant Disease Epidemiology and Management

BY DIRRIBA TESHOME

As it can be directly read from the preface of the book: the challenges of population growth, climate change and ecosystem change, and sustainable food security need effective plant disease management and minimum yield losses. Knowledge and understanding of how plant diseases develop in population of plants over time and across space are essential to analyses and compare epidemics, assess impacts, predict the rate of disease increase or progress, spread and risk of disease outbreak, develop risk prediction model(s) and, develop and evaluate disease management strategies and specific technologies

Professor Chemedha Fininsa, author of the book and the former President of Haramaya University (HU) told *The Ethiopian Herald* that it emanated from his teaching and researching experiences. "It is written with the purpose to prepare a comprehensive, updated and applied Plant Disease Epidemiology and Management. To meet the purpose, epidemiology and disease management are treated together as disease management is based on the principles of the science of epidemiology."

The theoretical frameworks, and practical and applications (what, why, when and how) under



Prof. Chemedha Fininsa

each topic are emphasized and examples are used from environments of both tropical and temperate crop production systems.

The book addresses society's concern about food security and environment problems related to plant disease management. "The book specifically emphasizes the applications of epidemiological knowledge and ecological principles in plant disease management. It indicates why, what, when and how new technologies such as biotechnology, information technology, and nanotechnology could be applied to better manage plant diseases and reduce their effect on crop yield quantity and quality."

The likely impact of climate change on plant diseases and management, strategies how to mitigate and adapt the effects and develop resilient crop production systems are discussed. "It stresses an increased understanding of the science of

epidemiology, thereby promoting crop diversity, and applications of novel technologies to better and sustainably manage plant diseases," he identified.

It is a comprehensive applied text on all and updated aspects of plant disease epidemiology and management that can serve university students in plant pathology and related fields like integrated disease management as valuable textbook on the subjects. And researchers or scientists can use as reference for working knowledge of plant disease epidemiology and management.

"I strongly believe that it is valuable resource for crop protectionists serving in agriculture bureaus at different levels for conducting pathogen and disease monitoring and surveys. Plus, yield loss assessment, developing disease forecasting models, evaluating disease management technologies, and offering trainings for agricultural extension or advisory experts. Subject matter specialists like Agronomists, Plant Breeders, Horticulturalists, Entomologists, Agricultural Economists, Agricultural Extensionists, and Environmentalists can be critically benefited from using the book as a reference," he identified to whom it is important.

These all are detailed under the eleven chapters of the book; besides, each is divided into sections and subsections as deemed necessary beginning with introduction and ending with concluding summery

and selected references for further reading. The overall contents cover the science of plant disease epidemiology, epidemic factors and how to monitor them, temporal and spatial analysis of epidemics, methods in plant disease epidemiology and disease survey, yield loss assessment and analysis, disease predicting, epidemiological and ecological basis of disease management.

It also incorporates disease management technologies including host resistance, varietal and species diversity, biological control, chemical control, integrated disease management, biotechnology, information technology, nanotechnology, and plant diseases epidemiology and management in a changing climate.

Finally, he thanked his colleagues who have given him useful comments and suggestions on the manuscript, for critically reviewing, for assistance on figures, for formatting and designing it besides Haramaya University for granting him sabbatical leave and publishing the book. "I am also indebted to Tesfaye Mengiste and the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at Purdue University, and Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board and the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the USA Department of State for hosting and providing facilities, and for granting research scholar fellowship to develop the book respectively," Prof. Chemedha concluded.