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Bribed, biased media spewing fake news to resurrect T-TPLF

BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA - Some international media are echoing lies to save the Terrorist TPLF from demise and keeps misrepresentation of facts mainly to save the militants that have caused the deprivation of millions of citizens, a journalism expert said.

Accordingly, Dilla University Journalism and Communication Lecturer Alebel Guangul told the Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA) that some global media are compromising journalistic principles to hide the failures and crimes of the terrorist group in and off battlefronts.

The expert further noted that the corporate media are also intensifying the dissemination of false information when they understand the T-TPLF is being crushed in warfronts and accused the government for fake human right violation and other crimes. Indeed, the baseless information of those media aims to



maintain the interest of their financiers and to benefit the criminal faction.

Since the north Ethiopian conflict was triggered by the T-TPLF, some global news media are busy fabricating false propaganda to deceive the international community and present the radical element as the victim

party. The outlet also lied to the global audience that the outlawed faction encircled Addis Ababa and would jubilantly capture the metropolis.

“In covering the war, some international media have been reliant on anonymous

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EPA's 12th forum spotlights effective resource utilization

• *Abay Dam venue to Ethiopians utter one voice*

BY MENGESHA AMARE

ADDIS ABABA - Ethiopia is a country blessed with natural resources and it is crucial to effectively utilize the common resources with the manner of brotherhood and respect, participants of the Ethiopian Press Agency's (EPA) forum said.

The EPA organized the 12th edition of its 'About Ethiopia' panel discussion in Gilgel Beles town, Metekel Zone of the Benishangul- Gumuz State yesterday under the theme, “Development in action about Ethiopia.”

While presenting a study paper at the panel discussion, Addis Ababa University Political Science and International Relations Prof. Yacob Arsano stated many countries have made many efforts to destroy Ethiopia with troops, money and ideas, but some of them have been destroyed themselves.

“Ethiopia is an ancient country and a country with an ancient history of government. Regimes change, and will improve, therefore, by understanding this fact, it is necessary to transform the country



with lasting peace.”

Noting the unity of Ethiopia was not achieved just because it was desired by leaders, the scholar highlighted that it was achieved because at great cost. Peace is not only guaranteed by one side in one season, it is a value that is the concern of everyone and is being built in every age. “If we search

for peace and ruin unity, peace will not be guaranteed. If we are not able to establish good governance, lasting peace cannot come, so it is appropriate to work in this way.”

If the officials take this responsibility and the society supports it, it will be possible to

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Jurist Derege Demissie Graham Peebles

Some foreign forces behind T-TPLF's heinous acts

BY ABDUREZAK MOHAMMED

ADDIS ABABA – If some foreign forces had not supported and concealed its atrocities, the Terrorist TPLF group would not exist, so said a writer and charity worker.

Meanwhile, an international jurist stated that the terrorist group must be disarmed and not continue as a political organization in the country.

Speaking to local online media, the British writer and charity worker Graham Peebles noted that the T-TPLF has got enormous

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Addis vows to maintain support, care for elders

BY BETELHEM BEDLU

ADDIS ABABA - The issue of the elderly has been given attention by the Addis Ababa City Administration and it will strengthen the support and care that has been rendered to citizens who are indebted to Ethiopia, an official said.

The International Day for Older Persons was marked for the 31st time in Ethiopia yesterday under the theme “The Legacy of the Elderly's Patriotism for the Future Generation.”

Addressing the gathering, the Addis Ababa City Administration General Manager with the Rank of Deputy Mayor Tiratu Beyene noted that in its human-centered activities, the administration has given prime attention to address the elderly.

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Expansion of pastoralist areas' development decisive for Ethiopia's prosperity **Ethiopia: Peace is impossible while T-TPLF roams the land**

Climbing 777 stairs of the "smoky" Hambaricho Mountain

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News



Western media deliberately ignore Ethiopians' mass demonstrations: Hermela Aregawi

BY YESUF ENDRIS

ADDIS ABABA - The western media has continued deceiving the global community over the Northern Ethiopia conflict through denying the voice of Ethiopians, said Hermela Aregawi.

Talking to media, Journalist Hermela Aregawi said that the western media continues denying the recently grand demonstrations held throughout the country.

"The public has largely shown its interest and condemned the Terrorist TPLF and its loyalists. However, the western media are silent about all the demonstrations carried out in Ethiopia," she stated.

Talking about the massive protest against foreign aggressors took place in Addis Ababa, Hermela briefed that the recently held UN Security Council meeting concerning about Ethiopia was also unhelpful and organized in favor of anti-Ethiopians.

As to her, though they came out with no resolutions, the general consensus among many Ethiopians and Eritreans is that [Some world powers have been changed to unreliable].

"If there is one thing that Ethiopians and Eritreans have a consensus on is that the T-TPLF was empowered by foreigners between 1991 and 2018. T-TPLF can no longer come back into the political equation since they started the war in 2020," she remarked.

Ethiopians understand that they may have to pay a sacrifice for their sovereignty but they continue to speak up, push back, and let the foreigners be aware of that the T-TPLF cannot continue to ask for concessions from the Ethiopian government, she explained.

The African Union-led peace talk is a bottom line for T-TPLF as it has been looting and killing civilians.

Accordingly, the government, activists, and the public should continue to speak out about the reality until the partiality of international community comes to end.

Colorado congress candidates pledge nonintervention policy in Africa

BY ESSEYE MENGISTE

ADDIS ABABA - Colorado congress candidates have pledged to back nonintervention, no-sanctions policy for Africa.

"We can't fix our own country trying to fix something in Ethiopia or Eritrea as it is being irresponsible. When it comes to sanctions, I don't believe in penalizing partners," said Steven Monahan during election campaign for African community, Republican candidate for Congress (CD06).

"We need African community to tell us what's important? What's going on back home? We don't want to be sold something through the media through U.S. government. We already know especially the Biden Administration attempting to fix something in Ethiopia, Eritrea, reckless, what we need is some oversight. We need investigation by the people that represent African community. They need to go. We



Steven Monahan

need to know what's going on. We need to find out. We can bring things to light things, get fixed," Steven noted.

Erik Aadland, Candidate for Congress (R, Co-7) on his part said that African development is a great example of



Erik Aadland

Ethiopia. They are working hard to help TPLF regain power via regime change that is harming Ethiopians. What we need is sound leadership based on solid principles making the people of Ethiopia beneficiaries, not governments or special interest groups.

Addis embarks on tourism dev't

• *Unveils new motto*

BY MESERET BEHAILU

ADDIS ABABA - Addis Ababa City Culture, Arts and Tourism Bureau stated that concerted efforts need to make fundamental change on tourism industry to help the nation benefit much out of it.

Speaking at the event to kick off the 43rd World Tourism Day yesterday under the theme: "Rethinking Tourism," and to introduce new motto named "Addis Ababa—the vibrant hub of Africa", Bureau Head Hirut Kassaw (PhD) said that the tourism sector has been playing a decisive role in the social, economic and political developments over the years and a lot is being carried out to make Addis attractive capital and to ensure its being African tourism center using the motto drawn from "Ethiopia is the Land of Origin."

As to the Head, Ethiopia needs to rethink the new model to effectively use this smokeless industry. Though the country has huge tourism resources, it has not yet gained adequate benefit out of the sector for various reasons. Lack of marketing and promotion, infrastructure challenge, absence of skilled human power, and the like are the serious factors which potentially hinder the sufficient advantage from the tourism sector.

She further stated that expanding tourism destinations, promotion and marketing, improving service delivery, giving serious attention to peace and security, among others,



are the main focusing areas of the bureau in a bid to realize the city's plan to become African center of tourism in the near future.

City's Deputy Mayor, Jantrar Abay on his part said that the United Nation has been celebrating World Tourism Day every year using various mottoes based on the situations. "That is why this year's world tourism day celebrating under the slogan 'Rethinking Tourism' to mean that the sector requires new thinking and paradigm to realize holistic significances.

Jantrar further noted that the city is undergoing various reforms to use the huge tourism resources. For example, the

government of Ethiopia has allocated huge budget and human resource for establishing and expanding new tourism destinations like Unity, Friendship, Entoto parks, and Meskel Squire in the city.

He called up on stakeholders to attach serious attention to the tourism sector, which was exposed to critical damage due to COVID-19 pandemic and northern conflict. Besides, he stated that the city administration in collaboration with concerned bodies and concerned bodies will embark on promoting tourism development through structural activity via bridging the gap in terms of skilled human power, technology transformation.

News

Agency envisages penetration of digitized procurement

BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA - The commencement of Electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) will have a significant impact in providing efficient and effective services in the federal agencies, Public Procurement and Property Authority (FPPA) said, calling for its implementation.

Speaking at the launching ceremony, FPPA Director-General Haji Ibsa stated that the electronic-government procurement system will avoid the existing paper-based and manual procurement practices and ease service for private sectors. A number of countries across the world have been avoiding the age-old way of procurement system which has a negative impact on their economies.

Noting public procurement accounts for 70 percent of the annual federal budget and 14 percent of Ethiopia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Haji indicated the government had been assessing the feasibility of employing a digitalized procurement system over years. Currently, about 72 public institutions are implementing the system.

The system will have significant impact in averting corruption and physical contact, saving time and cost, as well as ensuring transparency and customer satisfaction whilst reducing the money that would be spent for printing paper, among other benefits. The

system is integrated with financial institutions and government offices including the Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Finance and National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) and it will have significant impact for the development of the country, Haji elaborated.

Electronic Procurement System Project Manager with FPPA Tadesse Kebede said that the system is crucial in increasing efficiency and ensuring good governance whilst it will enhance customer's satisfaction by availing seamless service.

Mentioning the e-GP system avails the opportunity to the private sector to get both national and international tender and register online without physical contact, Tadesse said lack of awareness is a main factor in the business community's slow registration in the system.

SAMCON Engineering General Samuel Sahlemariam told *The Ethiopian Herald* that the existing manual procurement system is quite exhausting and the implementation of e-GP will avoid problems related to corruption. By avoiding physical presence to apply for tender, it also creates an integrated and collaborative ecosystem involving public and private sectors in the procurement process.

It was also stated that the electronic procurement system helps reduce cost, time and avert corruption and facilitates transparency and ensures quality services especially in the tendering process.

Bribed, biased ...

'sources' and 'experts' and apart from remote reporting, they also sometimes invented stories. From a professional perspective, those reports were not properly attributed and are based on rumors heard from unidentified sources and on speculations."

As to him, those bribed and bribed media overlooked the T-TPLF belligerence and triggered the third round of war in invading the neighboring Amhara and Afar states and committing atrocious crimes. "They never produce any story while the rebellious group has caused immense damage and lootings on public and private property as well as critical infrastructure in the aforesaid states."

The mere interest of the corporate media is installing a puppet government in Ethiopia thereby putting a firm control in the strategic Horn of Africa and they have been conspiring

on the legitimate government under the guise of human rights.

Sharing the above rationale, social and political studies scholar Bisrat Lemessa (PhD) pointed out in his latest article that the media's likely intentional misrepresentation of the north Ethiopian conflict has played a role in encouraging the militants and prolonging civilian's suffering.

"What else could illustrate the numbing lack of principles in reporting on the conflict than the New York Times' re-victimizing Tigray's child soldiers as 'highly motivated young recruits'? What mocks humanity's moral fortitude more than the BBC publishing Alex de Waal's story that glorifies a T-TPLF general who forced children into his military swarming as 'one of the finest military strategists of his generation in Africa?'"

EPA's 12th forum...

reach the desired place. "If we seek peace, we must not forget to ensure the rule of law."

The people of Ethiopia must maintain a country where there is unlimited consumption of goods. Because Ethiopia is a country that has been able to be an example of freedom not only for its own, but also for the rest of the world, he added.

For Abay Dam Project Manager Kifle Horo (Eng.), the dam is a project where all Ethiopians have voiced one voice. Today is the right time for Ethiopia and Ethiopians to well exploit resources which have been left untapped so far as required like water sources.

The Abay basin solely accounts for 70 percent of the water wealth of the country, and almost all rivers of Ethiopia are suitable to generate hydroelectric power as they fall from highlands. "Ethiopia can generate 45,000MW only from water sources and 69 percent of

it is secured from the Abay basin. Hence, effectively utilizing this basin is a matter of life and death for us."

Apart from impeding Ethiopia from utilizing its share in the Nile Waters, several actors have been trying to meddle in the internal matters of the country. "The Abay Dam on which all Ethiopians have embarked is a model in the Horn of Africa and a spotlight leading African brothers and sisters to a bright future. The Dam is dramatically being constructed and reached 86.3 percent right this time."

If the government had not been committed well and confidently resisted all ups and downs, it would have been difficult to see the Dam reaching at this level amidst the well-organized conspiracy of several interest groups. "Indeed, the Abay Dam is not only being built in cement, but also the blood and flesh of all Ethiopians, the project manager stressed."

Addis vows to...

"While marking the the International Day for Older Persons, we not only extend our deepest gratitude for the wisdom, culture, unity and patriotism that senior citizens passed to the young generation, but, we are also being given the responsibility of maintaining these valuable assets."

As to him, taking the sacrifice and virtuous deeds that the elders had undertaken into account, the government, social institutions, individuals as well as concerned bodies should join force and exert utmost effort to provide the necessary support and care. Accordingly, the government has carried out various human-centered projects thereby improving the livelihoods of the elderly in various spheres, Tiratu added.

Ababa City Administration Woman, Children and Social Affairs Bureau Head Hana Yeshinigus (PhD) said for her part that the knowledge, skill, experience and firm societal values that the elderly pass to the new generation have an undeniable role for Ethiopia's betterment. "The positive impact of senior citizens would only be reliable when they are served with better care and a decent living standard."

Noting the bureau intends to guarantee the five known international agreements of social security services such as independence, participation, care, self-fulfillment and dignity for the elderly, Hana indicated inadequate and fair social security

support remains a pressing challenge.

"To overcome the challenge, it is crucial to engage the elders in income generating activities, providing a decent living environment and basic support as well as making free or less costly services and interest-based physical, moral and economical training."

For Getachew Kiflu, President of Addis Ababa Elders Association, utilizing the knowledge, skill and experience of senior citizens plays a significant role in poverty reduction and peace building activities.

By the same token, incorporating and engaging elders in various stems would help the nation to achieve better results and the government's involvement in availing the opportunity to senior citizens is critical. "The association has carried out various activities to ensure the rights and benefits of our members and improve their livelihoods through partnering with relevant stakeholders."

Currently, there are approximately 6.8 million elders in Ethiopia and 13,128 in Addis Ababa whilst 2,755 are beneficiaries of the city administration's special support. Also, over 30, 950 senior citizens are beneficiaries of the safety net program apart from those who are part of the summer volunteerism and feeding programs, it was learned.

Some foreign...

funds from some foreign forces and has used those funds to launch a military attack as it did in November 2020.

He said: "If there had no foreign forces' support, there would be no T-TPLF. And also, there was no T-TPLF, there would be no war, deaths, rapes, destructions, and national trauma."

According to him, it is clear if anyone looks not just at the last two years but the period the T-TPLF was in office for 27 years, it was brutal. The criminal group also carried out acts of state terrorism throughout the country and it was only allowed to stay in office with financial, military, and political support from the West.

Peebles further explained that the conflict has been initiated and maintained by the Terrorist TPLF group. Anybody can prove that [some special interest groups] are putting guns in the hands of the T-TPLF, but these groups have been putting sanctions on Ethiopia, giving out misinformation, disinformation, and false press briefings.

It is important to analyze how the special groups have responded to this crisis. Has it condemned T-TPLF atrocities? Has it supported the first democratically elected government in Ethiopia's history? Has it stood by them and supported them in a way that they would be expected to do? Was it neutral?

Meanwhile, an international jurist Dereje Demisse (Ph.D.) stated regarding the peace talks with the terrorist TPLF group that

during negotiation there should be offers from the negotiating parties.

He added that "When we talk about negotiation to settle a dispute, the first thing you do is look at what you have to offer. What is it that you have to offer? Why does it that you willing to give up? What is your bottom line and where do you start with the negotiation?"

"Maybe they [officials of the T-TPLF] would say we were disarmed completely; we will show you where all the stuff is; we will show you would ask our supporters and members to give up their arms completely and return complete amnesty for everyone and for ourselves." And these are things that they can offer and there is some value to that, according to the Jurist.

He added that if assuming Mekelle is not taken over by the Ethiopian army, they may offer to facilitate that process with the city can be within the federal government without any war. So that is still something they can do and that is meaningful to the government.

Participating constructively in the dialogue, disarming its soldiers, and giving up their arms are the biggest things that they can offer, he said adding, granting amnesty and revoking the T-TPLF as a terrorist organization, and others would also be the things that the government may offer.

He also opined that he does not think the T-TPLF going to be continued within Ethiopia as a party."

Opinion

Deliver us from the TPLF (D)evil!

BY ALMARIAM

PART TWO

The T-TPLF has used negotiations as a strategy to: divide and make a separate peace with Oromos, Amharas and other ethnic groups to keep itself in power; wage a war of attrition against their opposition; neutralize and delegitimize their opposition and publicly make them their lackeys; stall for time until they can cook up new tricks; hoodwink the donors and loaners because the word “negotiation” perks up their ears; blunt legislative efforts in the U.S. House and Senate aimed at sanctioning them; bring the international community and opinion to their side.

Clean up their international image and put on a kinder and gentler face and conceal their blood-soaked hands in a white glove. Remain in power for one more day, one more week; one more month, one more year.

And NOW, to weasel their way out of criminal prosecution for treason, crimes against humanity, war crimes and a host of other charges.

The T-TPLF does not believe in a non-zero-sum, win-win games in negotiations. They must win 100 percent of the time. They sneer at good faith bargaining, negotiation, compromise and conciliation.

Negotiation for the T-TPLF is about one-upmanship. It is about hoodwinking and crushing their adversaries. The real problem with the T-TPLF is that they negotiate with zero-think mindset.

They see anyone else winning in any matter small or big (political or economic) as a devastating loss to them. They have a mindset of losers with a deeply ingrained conviction in their collective psyche that political opponents committed to democratic principles are mortal enemies, not merely political competitors.

T-TPLF's 11 doctrines of negotiations

Negotiate without negotiating. For the T-TPLF, negotiations are essentially elaborate public relations games. That means window dressing negotiations and going through the motions of negotiations. The T-TPLF's cardinal negotiation tactic is: Negotiate without negotiating and bargain without bargaining. In other words, pretend to be negotiating and bargaining but in the end take everything and give nothing.

NEVER engage in real negotiations, only make-believe ones. For the T-TPLF, negotiation is a game of attrition and a process of wearing down the opponent and frustrating them to walk away. Then T-TPLF will blame the breakdown of negotiations on them.

Negotiations should be used to bait and trap. The T-TPLF's history of negotiations shows that it likes to use a prolonged process of enticing, delaying and stringing along the opposition until the moment the trap is sprung on them. The T-TPLF uses negotiations as one would bait a mouse with cheese into the trap. The T-TPLF will make all sorts of cheesy promises, commitments, assurances, etc., to attract the opposition to the “negotiating table” only to slam shut the trap on them in the end.

Throw crumbs at the opposition and watch them fight like dogs. In negotiations, the T-TPLF will use ethnic politics, sectarianism, regionalism, etc. to divide and conquer their opposition. The TPLF will throw crumbs to the various ethnic opposition leaders and watch

them fight and tear each other up. It is like the master throwing a bone to a bunch of hungry dogs.

Negotiations are weapons of mass public distraction and confusion. By talking “negotiations”, the T-TPLF hopes to create an atmosphere of hope and optimism of a negotiated settlement of disputes. They use negotiations to hoodwink the people into believing that this time it is for real and will make the hard choices and make things right. The people's hopes are always dashed.

Negotiations are for suckers (fools). The T-TPLF slicksters believe they can outsmart, outmaneuver, out-trick and out-finesse their opposition any day of the week. They believe they are invincible. They think of their opposition as a bunch of cowards, fools and idiots. Susan Rice captured the essential attitude of the T-TPLF leaders in her eulogy of Meles in 2012 when she said Meles “liked to call” his opposition “fools or idiots”. The T-TPLF guys believe that they are negotiating with fools and idiots when they sit down with the opposition.

Negotiation is a competitive blood sport. For the T-TPLF, that means take the easy way first to bring pressure on the opposition to negotiate a deal. If the “opposition” wants to play hardball, offer them rewards, money, jobs, business opportunities. If that does not work, threaten or slam them in jail for violating the “anti-terrorism law”. Alternatively, torture and kill them.

The purpose of negotiation is to cut down your opponent, not to cut a deal. That is the essence of the T-TPLF's zero-sum game. The late Zenawi once said of the opposition, “We will crush them with our full force; they will all vegetate like Birtukan (Midekssa) in jail forever.” The T-TPLF will crush anyone who is foolish enough to sit down and negotiate with them.

In negotiations, use them and lose them. The T-TPLF will use and lose their opposition as soon as they feel assured the opposition has served their purposes and their grip on power is not threatened.

Always, always negotiate from a position of strength and victory is assured. For the past 27 years, the T-TPLF has been able to do that because controlled and owned everything: the political process, the economy, the civil service and the military.

What is there for the Ethiopian government to negotiate with the T-TPLF now?

Knowing the history of TPLF “negotiations”, what is there for the Ethiopian Government to negotiate at the hour 11:59?

The T-TPLF now wants to negotiate *for one and only one purpose*: **Cut a deal that will absolve them of all the crimes against humanity and war crimes they have committed since they came to power in 1991.**

The T-TPLF is militarily defeated. They are losing battles on all fronts. Ethiopian Defense Forces are tracking and droning them.

T-TPLF's Special Forces and dragooned militia and child soldiers are fleeing the battle space. Their commanders are surrendering to ENDF by the hundreds.

In the early days of the law enforcement action against terrorist TPLF, PM Abiy Ahmed set *three preconditions for negotiations*:

1) Release all hostages including federal troops, abducted citizens and other illegally held prisoners.

2) Turn over all weapons and implements of war stolen from the Northern Command.

3) Turn over terrorist leadership on the “Most Wanted” list, and other high-level criminals are fugitives from justice.

Like Reda said, negotiation with the Ethiopian Government is a “sick joke.”

Only a Faustian bargain to be gained in a T-TPLF negotiation

My views on negotiations and bargaining with T-TPLF are well known. In my 2009 commentary, “Loan Sharking Ethiopia's Future!”, I warned, “Don't make a pact with the TPLF devil!” I expounded on that theme in my August 2016 commentary, “Ethiopia: Beyond the Politics of Hate”.

I cautioned, “It is unfair to condemn the ordinary people of Tigray for the sins and transgressions of the TPLF Devils.” The T-TPLF is willing, able and ready to make a Faustian deal with anyone, at any time and in any place!

Goethe's Dr. Faust made a pact with the Devil, exchanging his soul for wealth, success, worldly pleasures and power. The T-TPLF will also promise and deliver wealth, success, worldly pleasures and power to anyone, regardless of ethnicity, nationality, religion, etc., who is prepared to sell his soul.

Now, it is the T-TPLF is outta luck, ammunition, troops and options.

Now, the T-TPLF must face the music for its decades-old crime spree. I knew how it would all end for the TPLF; with prophetic precision.

In my **February 3, 2013** commentary, “They Shall Inherit the Wind”, I wrote:

Scripture teaches that “He that troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind: and the fool shall be servant to the wise of heart.” Meles and his worshippers have profoundly troubled the Ethiopian house and they shall inherit the wind! It is written, “The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein forever.”

In my **December 27, 2015**, commentary, “The ‘End of the Story’ for the T-TPLF in Ethiopia?”, I reflected on the final chapter to be written on the T-TPLF.

I was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi. “Remember that all through history, there have been tyrants and murderers, and for a time, they seem invincible. But in the end, they always fall, always.”

The T-TPLF tyrants and murderers have fallen. And they can't get up! I read T.S. Eliot's poem, “The Hollow Men”, as I thought about the end of the T-TPLF.

Eliot's poem is about the inhabitants of a desolate underworld populated by empty and defeated people facing horrors of war of their own making. Just like the TPLF.

Eliot said the world of “hollow men” and “stuffed men” ends “not with a bang but a whimper”. So it has for the terrorist TPLF bleating, “Negotiations, Ceasefire, Peace talks, please somebody, help!”

T-TPLF, I told you so. But you would not listen to me. TPLF, you troubled the Ethiopia House and now you shall inherit the wind. TPLF, you will never, never be in a position to trouble the Ethiopia House.

Sure, you can cut a deal with the Devil or shake the devil off!

My advice to anyone who is even thinking about negotiations: “*The devil is in the TPLF details...*”

As I argued in my 2009 commentary, for the TPLF, negotiation means playing a “zero-sum game”. They win all the time, everybody else loses every time. They have one and only one negotiating strategy. “*Might makes right. My way or the highway, jail or death!*”

The T-TPLF will negotiate in earnest only and only if they are guaranteed they will remain the only dominant political, economic and military force in Ethiopia. It is true one does not negotiate with the Devil. One conducts exorcism to get rid of the Devil.

I make one exception. One can still negotiate with the TPLF Dedebit Devils if they Disarm, Demobilize and Demilitarize! The alternative is an exorcism for DDDDDDevisl. Run, Devil, run. DDDDDDDDD But you can't hide!

I am reminded of a poignant remark by Teddy Roosevelt in a speech (a worthwhile read) he gave on Labor Day in 1903:

The death-knell of the republic had rung as soon as the active power became lodged in the hands of those who sought, not to do justice to all citizens, rich and poor alike, but to stand for one special class and for its interests as opposed to the interests of others.

The death-knell of the Democratic Party in Congress and the White House, which inflicted great injustice on Ethiopia by shamelessly siding with terrorist TPLF, **shall ring on November 8, 2022.**

November is to remember! On November 4, 2020, the terrorist TPLF attacked the Ethiopian Northern Command and unleashed unspeakable death and destruction. In the end, they failed.

November 8, 2022 is just over two weeks away. What will happen on November 8, 2022? I believe congressional democrATS will suffer defeat unprecedented in American history. At least, that is my fervent hope and desire.

So, Ethiopian American voters, “Remember, remember the 8th of November!” Drive democrATS and the democraTICK party outta Congress day.

In the lyrics of my doggerel song lyrics for the TPLF:

T-TPLF, the end is near
It is simple and clear
You have a choice to surrender
Or go six feet under!
En route to HELL.

Negotiate with the T-TPLF Devil? Hell, I'll be signing' and dancing' in the streets... “Shake the devil off!

Shake the Devil off Ethiopia! Shake, rattle and roll the TPLF devil off Ethiopia! Can I get a witness?

An excellent summary of my commentaries on T-TPLF negotiation strategies and tactics has been prepared by FetaDaily, forward clip to 7min. 56 seconds. I invite my readers to read the full commentaries here and here.

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

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The Ethiopian Herald

Editorial

Ethiopian gov't who ought to rescue Tigrayans from T-TPLF's bondage

Over the last two years, the T-TPLF faction which has engrossed itself with the notion of "let the world go to hell, but I should always have my tea," has immersed the people of Tigray in a number of hardships and incalculable sufferings.

This self-absorbed group that does not have any concern for the people of Tigray but thinks about its own convenience has jeopardized the lives of the people in Tigray and the neighboring areas. Innocent Tigrayans owing to the war instigated by the warmonger leaderships of the terrorist faction compelled to sacrifice their children at warfronts. And they have been deprived of basic services besides encountering a worse humanitarian catastrophe.

It is an open secret that the rebel group throughout its time- before it came to power, while it was and even after ousted three years ago- has been a malignant cancer to the people of Ethiopia, especially to the Tigrayans. All through its time, aside from attempting to instigate hostility among different ethnic groups, it has been conspiring to fulfill the wishes of Ethiopia's historic enemies and some West political powers so as to elongate its existence in power.

The renegade group has shown its enmity not only for the people of Tigray but also for all Ethiopians through inciting war against members of the National Defense Forces stationed in the Tigray region for over two and a half decades in service of safeguarding the people of Tigray.

Even after the conflict outbreak, the terrorist faction has demonstrated its meanness against the people. It has damaged mega infrastructures and basic service facilities including water, telecommunication lines and electrical substations as well as many other facilities that cost the country dearly with the target of isolating Tigrayans from the people of Ethiopia.

Awfully, by stealing and utilizing humanitarian assistances (food

and non-food items, medical supplies and over half a million liters of fuel which was intended to transport relief items to the people in the region), it has practically attested the extent of its carelessness and disrespect for the people whom it is saying "fighting for them."

Currently, while it is on the verge of its demise, the leaderships of the terrorist group have continued their evil acts refusing an olive branch offered by the Federal Government.

In truth, the Ethiopian government has always been endeavoring to press the leaderships of the T-TPLF section to come to peace talks, halt fighting, end the conflict and wind up the sufferings of the people.

As part of this effort, time and again, the Ethiopian government has plainly assured its commitment for the smooth flow of aid and the restoration of services, telecommunication, water, electricity and other in the region though the response from the other side was the reverse.

However, affiliates of T-TPLF and some western entities, undervaluing the efforts, still outcry under the disguise of humanitarian issues; aiming to achieve their hidden wishes at the expense of poor Tigrayans' sufferings.

Understandably, no matter what, the wolf cannot be a shepherd to a sheep unless it is to make it its prey. In similar way, none other than the warmonger T-TPLF faction can be an enemy of the people of Tigray; and unless it is cover up, no global body can be more concerned for the people of Tigray other than the people of Ethiopia. It is only Ethiopians who can genuinely understand and feel the pain those Tigrayans are going through.

Therefore, the government should continue exerting its energies to restore the peace and security of the people, reinstate basic services and make the people of Tigray breathe sigh of relief.

Opinion

Africa's Expectations from the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China

BY BALEW DEMISSIE

The 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) will be convened from 16 to 22 October in Beijing. More than 2,000 delegates from all walks of life attend the congress, representing more than 96 million CPC members, which is an excellent example of combining the need to follow the Party's leadership and the practice of democracy, illustrating how the Party gives full play to democracy within itself and follows the mass line.

The Congress will elect a new CPC Central Committee and a new CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection. It is also expected to amend the CPC Constitution. In terms of modernization, China is going its own way under the leadership of the CPC, which celebrated its centennial last year.

The CPC National Congress is the most important meeting in its five-year political cycle. It is the highest governing body of the Chinese Communist Party. The meeting has also had a significant impact on China, Africa, and the world. It assesses the party's progress, and the course of the coming cycle, and announces new promotions and key appointments, including the party General Secretary. As Xi Jinping noted in his speech, China has applied a new development philosophy characterized by innovative, coordinated, green, open,

and common development. The country's model inspires nations seeking to accelerate their development while preserving their independence. This article is about what Africa expects from this important meeting. I believe that Africa will expect five specific directions from the 20th CPC National Congress.

First, Africans hope that China will see high-level alternatives in its zero COVID-19 policy. Every African country respects the anti-pandemic policies of other countries. Africa also respects China's anti-pandemic policy. Africa now expects China to unswervingly pursue opening up to cover more areas with greater scope and depth. Africa appreciates China's commitment to its basic national policy of opening up to the outside world and is pursuing a mutually beneficial strategy of opening up. It is eager to create new opportunities for the world with its development and to play its part in building an open world economy that brings greater benefits to all people. Africans want to do more business with China. Africa's economy will grow as China opens up. China remains a stabilizer and driver of global economic growth. Under the influence of COVID-19 and the international environment, China's economy is facing greater downward pressure. However, with a series of strong and effective measures, the country has managed to stabilize the overall

economy and consolidate the stable and positive trend.

Second, China's stability in any form is important to Africans. The Congress is taking place at a time when the world is changing faster than it has in a century, and a new period of uncertainty and change is beginning. As an African observer, China rejects any form of unilateralism and the formation of blocs and exclusive groups that target specific countries. Amidst the headwinds, China remains an important anchor of stability and an engine of global economic growth. Thus, Africans hope that China will have positive relations with all countries in the world. China should also solve Taiwan's issues wisely. China's peace and stability guarantee Africa's stability.

Third, China's economic and foreign policies should be of particular interest to African observers, especially in the context of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the Global Development Initiative, and the Global Security Initiative. China has implemented a new development paradigm in which the domestic cycle plays the main role and the domestic and international cycles are mutually reinforcing. The promotion of the new development paradigm will give a sustainable impetus to the long-term development of China's economy and the steady recovery of the

world economy. Several African countries have spent enormous billions of dollars in the past two years to respond to COVID-19. So far, China has been instrumental in closing the debt gap. China should therefore focus more on helping African countries overcome COVID-19 pressures. Africans are aware that China is committed to a human community with a shared future and has always advocated its foreign policy goals of maintaining world peace and promoting common development. In his speech at the 20th National Congress, President Xi called on all countries to uphold the common values of humanity - peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy, and freedom - to promote mutual understanding and forge closer ties with other peoples.

Fourth, China should make Africans the main subject of multilateral reform analysis. The Organization of African Unity (OAU), established in 1963, has been replaced by the African Union (AU), which has celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2022. Therefore, China has rightly stated that in 2022 it will fully support the AU's bid to join the G-20 and work to increase Africa's representation in global decision-making. This is a noble

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

Business & Economy

Expansion of pastoralist areas' development decisive for Ethiopia's prosperity

BY BACHA ZEWDIE

Pastoral life style in Ethiopia has been practiced for long though not easy to anyone to mention the exact time of its beginning. People in such areas are characterized by earning mobile life along with their animals in search of grazing land and water. That is why they are previously known as Nomadic society.

According to the information gained from governmental institutions that are working in the field, in the current Ethiopia, there are 220 weredas identified as pastoralist and semi pastoralist in Afar, Somali, and Oromia regions and 173 weredas in South Western and South Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' regions as well as 47 weredas in Gambella and Benshangul Gumuz regions.

Located about 1500 meter below sea level, these areas are known for their dry and partially dry weather. The area coverage is believed to be 60% of the country's farm land.

As per the census conducted in 2008, the pastoralist population is estimated to be 12 – 14% of the total population of the country. And the majority of this population lives in Somali and Afar regions. Animals like cattle, camel, sheep and goats are basic economic resource of the community. Though in a traditional way, they also produce some kinds of crops such as corn, sorghum and fruits.

The area is endowed with tourist attractions like Erta Ale in Afar and reservoir of great amount of minerals, natural gas, petroleum, iron, potash and other precious minerals.

Even though blessed with all these resources, the pastoralist community is not benefited from the resources at the level it would have to. Comparing with the other parts of Ethiopia, the pastoralist and semi pastoralist area is relatively underdeveloped in economy and social aspects which undermines the beneficiary of the community. This drawback generates from inability to utilize the potential of the region. In order to ensure Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), development of this area is decisive.

To this end, formation of Ethiopian Pastoralist Development Forum is a key factor. Consequently, concerned governmental institutions such as Ministry of Agriculture, Ethiopian Cooperative Commission and Ministry of Irrigation and Lowlands along with other stakeholders have conducted a forum formation panel discussion on 14 October, 2022 in Addis Ababa.

The forum is aimed at enabling the pastoralist community contributes its utmost share to the nation's economic



and social development by uplifting livelihood of the society via carrying out various measures. These measures include coordinating potential of development stakeholders, enlarging market led production and productivity, expanding infrastructure, consolidating inclusive financial services and improving and designing new policies and legal frameworks.

A string committee that leads the forum will be formed at the national and regional levels. Technical committees are also formed in the areas of the pastoralist community. Besides, in coordination with regional technical committees, focal persons will be assigned to support performances at zonal and lower levels.

Giving great emphasis to the issue, concerned governmental and non governmental institutions from different offices attended the formation of the forum and conveyed messages. Researchers also presented their respective papers.

While presenting welcome speech, Firealem Shibabaw, Commissioner of Ethiopian Cooperative Commission, said that the forum going to be formed will carry multifaceted objectives of which benefiting the pastoralist community is the leading one. In order to benefit the target community thereby enabling them to contribute their share to the country's development, it is essential to replicate the success being registered in the crop production sector, especially in wheat production in pastoralist areas.

Practicability of this goal necessitates other related facilities like utilizing technology, providing health services, and controlling illegal trading among others, the commissioner said.

She further stated that increasing production and productivity is the major issue which directly related with provision of essential fodder for the animals. On top of controlling illegal market, arranging viable market need not be put aside. Engaging trained man power into the sector for better performance is not only good, but also decisive measure that should be carried

out sooner than later. Digging out the problems repeatedly happened in the sector should also be the focus area of the forum.

Doing so, increasing production and productivity of the animals and animals' results such as meat, milk and eggs will be attained. Efforts exerted to put these ideas on the ground will be none without the life blood of the business, finance. Thus, providing inclusive financial service is a matter of to be or not to be for the forum. To this end, financial institutions are ready to work collaboratively with the stakeholders.

According to the commissioner, for the pastoralists, it is essential to depart from traditional way of animals' breeding and transform to commercial one to be competent in the market and gradually to transform to agro processing sector. Increasing products in quantity and quality in a sustainable manner to attain the required benefit should be a must do action for the concerned bodies.

Firealem added that there is a plan to increase annual products of animals' results in the coming ten years. As per the plan, milk product will be projected from 3.7 to 10.7 billion liters; meat from 188,000 to 1.6 million tons; chicken beef from 71,000 to 137,000 and eggs from 1.8 to 3.8 million. Ministry of agriculture is mandated to move benevolent stakeholders to translate the plan into practice.

Minister of Irrigation and Lowlands, Aysha Mehammed on her part said that pastoralism is a viable economic lifestyle but could not be led in an integrated mechanism. The forum, thus, is expected to help circumvent the problems related to the sector and to gain better of it.

As to the Minister, the lifestyle needs recognition of the concerned bodies to transform the sector to developmental pastoralism. Efforts should be exerted to make the sector drought resilient that enables to utilize the largest amount of animals' asset.

Unlike negative attitudes towards pastoralism in previous times, the

sector is not a problem. Rather, it is economically beneficial not only to the community, but also at the national level. Thus, special attention should be given to the sector, the Minister underscored.

On his part, Oumer Husein, Minister of Agriculture said that world economy is distorted because of crisis prevailing on the globe. As a result, price hike of food items will sustain. Ethiopia, though equally vulnerable to the problem, is working to rescue its people exerting greater effort to food crop production. On the contrary, the animals' resource denied the focus given to the crop production which resulted in low annual consumption rate in animals' products per person.

The sector deserves special consideration. The forum puts foundation and paves way to improve the sector and upgrade benefits from it. To this end, animals' fodder should be improved; water supply is critical to withstand the drought. Though political commitment is decisive, it is not enough by itself. Thus, stretching fair market system and professional support that fits the sector are equally essential. Providing series of training should be a timely issue, the Minister underlined.

On the occasion, papers by different experts were presented. As per the papers, status of the livestock and marketing system should be improved because the sector contributes about 40 percent of the agriculture GDP and 20 percent of the national GDP of Ethiopia.

As indicated in the papers, animals' resource shows growth in amount but the basic issue is its benefits to the people and the country. In addition to low consumption rate locally less than one million animals slaughtered annually, meat export is below one percent. Therefore, it is targeted to improve such deficiencies in the coming ten years. Involvement of private sector in fodder production, genetic improvement and health services should be taken as a serious issue. Government will gradually get out of the sector and the private sector will be the main actor.

Art & Culture

Climbing 777 stairs of the “smoky” Hambaricho Mountain

BY KFLEYESUS ABEBE

One oral tradition recounts the word Kambaata translates to “this is the place” (where we live), which was given by the first inhabitants of Kambata. Indeed this is the place, a place of captivating landscape, humble people and delicious foods. Along the way from Addis Ababa, I have visited the beautiful Gedeo; remarkable culture, thick forests and such hospitable people. I thought this is the best of it. I won’t be surprised anymore but it was the opposite. The wonders of south Ethiopia persisted till my last visit.

When reaching Durame administrative center of the Kembata Tembaro Zone of the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region, the weather was a little chilly and it was evening so Durame was sleeping. But next morning, the sun rose and shined across the town. It was a beautiful town surrounded by mountains.

It was a winding and 8 kilometers long road from Durame to base of Hambaricho Mountain. Some of us were tired and the fact that we didn’t know what we would find up there was even to make us disgruntled. The air got thicker and chilly but the scene on the otherside became more interesting. We reached at the base now and looked up Hambaricho Mountain, an elevation of 3058 meters above sea level.

Hambaricho Mountain, as we are told by Zemedede Heramo who works in Kembata Tembaro Zone tourism department, is unique for its summit that is flat and even one can ride a bike. The summit used to be a place of ceremonies, festivals, and rituals. It was also an administrative seat for the kings of Kembata. And other times, the mountain was used by Kambata Dejazmach Bashah Aboye as fortress. Taking its historical significance into account, the zone built 777 stairs so that tourists reach the mountain tip. Zemedede says the numbers (digits) tell the history and culture of Kembata. “It consists three different things. One of the number seven represents first seven kinship groups of the Kembata who lived on Mount Hambaricho from ancient times. Kembatas still refer to these groups as “Hambaricho Lamala” (the seven kin-groups of Kembata) as the original/founding groups of the Kembata. The second, the mountain has other seven mountains. Lastly, the third seven refers to seven springs that originated from the mountain. There are also other historical, cultural and rituals mystery.

Looking up from the base, I thought I wouldn’t make it to the top. Hambaricho was glorious. It is standing tall seeming it is connected to the sky. Some of it was covered with fog. Fortunately, it has such encouraging force and I like challenging my limits. I kept climbing and climbing even



if I was panting. You feel an excitement maybe you have never felt or you have felt long before. Truly speaking, you feel you are a champion. There is a sense of achievement or an accomplishment you will feel up there. Hambaricho as for Kembata people it means where can you find the sun. Hambaricho gives a panoramic view to places around and at times you see the fogs covering around or swaying one to other direction.

It is easy to notice this place will draw sizeable tourists and change the status of the area. Taking this into account, the zone began performing different activities that could attract tourists thereby generate income and create jobs for youths who live around the site. One among the activities is building a staircase. Zemedede Heramo says the staircase is believed to be the first in Africa and the 7th in the world. It somehow has the ideas of Chinese Great wall. “As you know tourism is trending and used as a new way of generating income. So, seeing this large 18,000-hectare area of mountain with historical, cultural and aesthetic significance, we thought of developing and making it available to tourists. We made the staircases and tried to fulfill other necessary facilities to make the place a potential tourist destination.”

Culture and Tourism expert Getachew Gebretsadik adds, the place is rich with indigenous plants that can even treat

different diseases whose treatments aren’t discovered in modern medicine. There is also bamboo tree in the mountain and being protected. He says there is already tourist flow to Hambaricho Mountain and future developments will generate substantial income. “Local tourists are coming in droves and visiting the place. We are also receiving foreign tourists currently. Recently, tourists from South Sudan, South Africa and Europe have visited the place. They were happy about their stay and recommended more development to the area.”

Getachew stressed his office is painstakingly working to benefit locals by alluring more tourists. “We help residents to make things that are unique to this place and make it available to the market like enset flavored coffee. They are also making traditional huts, scarves and other products and selling tourists. We will groom tour guides and soon organize tour guide associations. The reforestation of the mountain will provide adequate water and improve the weather. Therefore, we hope locals benefit much by adding value to their assets.”

The zone, according to Getachew is fulfilling basic facilities such as roads, water and electricity. In terms of accommodation and other related services, the zone is organizing local business people and encouraging them to build standard hotels. There is also a standard hotel near the base of the mountain

currently.

In addition to this natural treasure, Kembata possesses distinguished cultural and historical artifacts and other intangible heritages. The most Kembata families live in traditional huts. These round dwellings are constructed straight on the ground with walls of timber covered with mud. There is an effort to make the traditional house building part of tourist attraction. The unique traditional dancing awaited us upon return from Hambaricho mountain. Dancing along with performers, we entered a room where delicious cultural cuisine was all set. The Kembata cultural foods like kocho, processed from enset, is their staples food. They also grow many kinds of tubers, spices, coffee, crops, and vegetables. These products in different forms were part of buffet.

Kembata’s are welcoming people to guests and an oral account and tradition puts Kembata a melting point of Ethiopian Society, various nations assimilated into one culture. Kembata New Year Mesela is another cultural heritage that would be a perfect time to promote the riches of Kembata. If you go to Mesela or get the chance to visit the South Ethiopia, Hambaricho Mountain must be on your travel bucket list because it is where you challenge yourself, take a clear air and feast your eyes on beautiful scenery and greenery.

Lover

BY SENAIT G/HIWOT

In the shadows of darkened nights
I see your image near the lights
The time we had was epic

Your image is what I think
We weren’t meant for each other
And yet we shined together
Your kindness was very rare

It makes you hard to forget
Your energy is like fine wine
It gets me happy and high
Now I can only let go of you

Seems to be hard but it’s the truth
So goodbye my secret lover
We just can’t be together.

Global Affairs

Ethiopia: Peace is impossible while T-TPLF roams the land

BY GRAHAM PEEBLES

As Ethiopians celebrated the New Year on 11 September, the T-TPLF (Tigray People's Liberation Front) issued a Stance on a Peaceful Resolution of the Current Conflict. Choking on hypocrisy it states that they were, are, will one day be, prepared to "participate in a robust peace process under the auspices of the African Union (AU)". And agree to "abide by an immediate and mutually agreed cessation of hostilities in order to create a conducive atmosphere." Utter lies; beyond the boundaries of such meaningless words T-TPLF violence continued unabated.

The AU organized peace talks (8/9 October) in South Africa; invitations were sent a hall booked, hotel rooms reserved and presumably dinner reservations made. But to the surprise of nobody, the T-TPLF refused to engage because of "logistical issues". As a result the fighting, killing, and destruction go on. Talks are now re-scheduled to take place in South Africa on 24 October.

The T-TPLF is in no position to set conditions for participation; they are a criminal organization, not a legitimate political group. They do not represent the people of Tigray, are despised throughout the country – including within Tigray; their army is in tatters, forced recruitment of children and other civilians is widespread. Far from making demands T-TPLF leaders should beg for forgiveness, before being hauled off to the International Criminal Court to stand trial for crimes committed during the last two years, as well as when they were in power.

Peace talks, anywhere, anytime?

In response to this latest T-TPLF initiated conflict, which started on 24 August, when they "broke the humanitarian truce declared by the Government in March 2022," the Ethiopian Government issued (17 October) a Statement Concerning Defensive Measures in Northern Ethiopia. It makes clear that this is the third time in two years that the T-TPLF have "dragged the country into conflict" – something routinely overlooked by Western nations and media outlets; unprovoked attacks launched despite the government repeatedly proposing unconditional peace talks, "anywhere, anytime". The official statement also relates that, astonishingly, "The TPLF announced to the group of special envoys and Addis Ababa based diplomats its intentions to launch an offensive."

Despite their complete lack of engagement in any reconciliation work, or adherence to government initiated ceasefires, the terrorist group claim (16 October) they "are ready to abide by an immediate cessation of hostilities [and], call on the international community to press the Ethiopian Government to come to the negotiating table." More duplicity – the Ethiopian Government has been patiently waiting for the T-TPLF at said table for 18 months.

Such misleading carefully formulated statements are part of the TPLF's Methodology of Deceit. Lies,

manipulation, perversions of the truth, all are gobbled up by media and regurgitated by some interest governments and institutions, including some within the United Nations (UN): The head of the World Health Organization (WHO), Dr. Tedros Adhanom specifically — a former T-TPLF minister (who should never have been appointed to the WHO job) he has shamelessly used his platform to spread false accusations against the Ethiopian government, and present the T-TPLF as victim.

The World Food Program (WFP) appears to have been compromised; hundreds of WFP trucks and thousands of liters of fuel, earmarked to distribute humanitarian aid into Tigray, were "stolen" by the T-TPLF, and aid sold to fund their terror campaign. The "disappearance" of the trucks, according to the UN, constitutes "the primary impediment" to the aid response. In an arrogant statement, the T-TPLF admits the theft of over 570,000 liters of fuel in August, bizarrely stating that, "It was collecting on a debt owed to them by the WFP."

War games not peace

Since they initiated the war in November 2020 the T-TPLF have done nothing to suggest they want to end the conflict, on the contrary. Their lack of participation in the AU convened negotiations (8/9 October) therefore, came as no surprise, because their actions make plain that it is not peace that they want, but power.

One of the T-TPLF's reasons, petty and churlish, for not attending, was that they were not consulted by the AU before invitations were sent. The terrorist's mouthpiece, Getachew Reda said, and in a text message no less; "You don't just expect people to show up on a certain date as if this was some kind of get-together." Why not? If a warring faction is serious about peace, surely they will do anything to bring it about. Something as trivial as not being included in organizing the guest list, would not deter them from participating, would it?

Another complaint, closely connected to the first one, was that it was unclear what role the "international community" would play. This is TPLF code for "where are our American supporters?" We, the TPLF – a bona fide terrorist organization that started the war when we attacked the Northern Command Base of the Ethiopian army, killing unsuspecting personnel and ransacking the site for weapons – we want "our" friends at the peace table in South Africa, our US minders and facilitators. Successive American administrations (plus the UK and EU), supported the T-TPLF throughout their brutal 27 year reign. And, since the conflict began in November 2020, the US and Co. have, to the astonishment of shocked Ethiopians and many naive observers — who, despite decades of evidence to the contrary, still believe America to be a force for good in the world — stood side by side with the terrorists.

T-TPLF and western collusion

In an attempt to discredit and isolate

For peace talks to be positive both parties must want the conflict to end. There is no doubt that the Ethiopian government is committed to peace, likewise it is plain that the TPLF is not; they cannot be trusted, not at all



Ethiopia, demonize the government and somehow create a confused space in which the T-TPLF could magically be reinstated in Addis Ababa, a false narrative around the war, the actions of federal forces, and the distribution of humanitarian aid by UN agencies, has been constructed and propagated. A western coalition, led by the US has been employed to throw a canopy of mis/disinformation over the conflict and the actions of the TPLF, who, far from being presented as the terrorist force they are, and always have been, are somehow elevated to a position equivalent to the democratically elected government of Ethiopia.

This orchestrated propaganda campaign has been funded by the T-TPLF using some of the huge sums stolen during their time in office. Ann Fitz-Gerald (Director of the Balsillie School of International Affairs) states in The Frontline Voices that, "What sets this insurgency movement apart from many others is the extraordinarily large budget that the TPLF amassed during its 27 years in power, and just prior to its departure...in 2018, which left the Government of Ethiopia's coffers empty." In addition to funding their armed wing and its "digital insurgency of unprecedented proportions...these funds also pay for Washington-based lobby groups and law firms that have issued threatening letters to individuals – and their employers – who dare depart from the TPLF narrative."

Given such widespread western collusion, it is plain why the T-TPLF want American voices at the table, and it is equally clear what role the "international community"

should have in any peace talks – none whatsoever. African countries have been exploited and manipulated by such nations (US, UK, EU nations) for generations; they cannot be trusted any more than the T-TPLF can, i.e., not at all. The AU and fellow Africans are very familiar with despots like the T-TPLF. They are more than capable of staging peace talks without interference or involvement from dried-up imperialist forces, which care not for the Ethiopian people, or indeed anyone in Sub-Saharan Africa, are driven solely by self-interest and are therefore corrupted totally.

Ethiopia under PM Abiy is seen as far too independent and democratic for American sensibilities. Subservient regimes (aka the TPLF) lording over fragmented fractious nations of mostly uneducated poor: This is the sour American Dream for so-called developing countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, not integrated societies cooperating with neighbors, building and strengthening relationships, as part of a Pan-African movement, diverse, independent but united. A movement that is gaining ground and all power to it.

Under the T-TPLF, division cruelty and animosity was the order of the day, inside Ethiopia and within the Horn region, and so (in line with US foreign policy) instability was maintained. It was the TPLF that initiated the war with Eritrea in 1998, and it was PM Abiy, together with President Isaias Afwerki of Eritrea, who ended the fighting – something it is hard to imagine being well received in Washington – and created peace. At the time of the accord, President Afwerki, pointedly referring to the TPLF, said, "Hate, discrimination and conspiracy are now over. Our focus from now on should be on developing and growing together... Now is the time to make up for the lost times."

The T-TPLF has constantly revealed that it knows only violence, suppression and lies. During their time in power acts of State Terrorism were commonplace, rape and sexual violence were employed (as they have been throughout this conflict) to induce fear and human rights were totally trampled on. All we might add with the support of the "international community"; that benign self-righteous force, complicit in so much suffering, that, whilst proclaiming freedom, justice and democracy, moves within the shadows sowing seeds of chaos, death and destruction, seemingly wherever it goes.

For peace talks to be positive both parties must want the conflict to end. There is no doubt that the Ethiopian government is committed to peace, likewise it is plain that the TPLF is not; they cannot be trusted, not at all. The TPLF is a deadly poison that has caused immeasurable suffering to the people of Ethiopia and the wider region for decades; in order for peace to gently settle and for social harmony to once again be established, the poison must be cut out completely. This requires the TPLF be disbanded, never again to cast their vile shadow upon the country.

Law & Politics

Disarming criminal TPLF: A path to lasting peace

BY ADDISALEM MULAT

Regardless of the fact that the Terrorist TPLF group has gone to the ends of the earth to move the country into another round of war and bloodshed, Ethiopians have continued to cut short the group's evil intention.

It is no secret that for the love of pursuing its objectives, the criminal enterprise at all hours of the day and night has been engaging in saber-rattling activities despite the incumbent's repeated call for peace. It should also be borne in mind that on the heels of the criminal deeds of the illegal enterprise the lives of innocent civilians in numerous occasions have been fouled up.

In a similar vein, in addition to perpetrating shocking crimes in the northern part of the country for the most part in Amhara and Afar states, the criminal association ended up reducing to nothing educational institutions, health centers, churches, mosques, and other social infrastructure.

Although a lot of efforts have been made in many instances by the government to bury the hatchet, the disgruntled group has sustained distancing itself from the peace talks under the veil of several fake reasons that do not reflect the existing conditions on the ground. As the desired goal of the rouge group is making an effort to cause more suffering and turmoil to noncombatants in the northern part of the country, it has been at various points in time partaking in saber-rattling activities and mystifying the global society.

Aside from conscripting children and using them as cannon fodder, the illegal enterprise has been leaving parents childless and putting their lives in danger. For the sake of truth, in the face of the hawkish acts of the terrorist group that cannot survive in the absence of conflict and war, the incumbent in some instances has been sparing no effort to beat swords into plowshares.

However, as nothing makes the group happier than downplaying the efforts of the government and mystifying the wider international community with fake news stories, it has been many a time and oft leaning over backward to throw a wet blanket over the peace talks. Though the incumbent voiced its firm stance and commitment to the peace talks by carrying out many productive activities, the criminal faction in several instances has failed to reciprocate the encouraging initiative.

It is a well-known fact that the ragtag group has perpetrated extrajudicial executions, mass sexual assault, plundering, and other criminal offenses against humanity. It as well has left no stone unturned to create turbulence, trigger humanitarian catastrophe and block humanitarian assistance in the northern part of the country.

As opposed to making a supreme effort to guarantee peace and tranquility and sit down at the negotiating table to make peace happen, the group has been



repeatedly bracing for another round of war and taking part in besmirching the positive images of the country. As a consequence of some foreign entities that work in close collaboration with the criminal organization, disgraced international media outlets, so-called rights groups, and other internal and external foes, the country has been facing unwarranted pressure from some nations in several situations.

Even though some foreign affiliates know the evil deeds of the group that has been working around the clock to back the country into chaos and increasing the suffering of noncombatants, they remained tightlipped and continued bewildering the international community. Other than that as Ethiopia's adversaries every so often take sides with the criminal gang, they have been perplexing the global community with cooked-up stories and echoing the interests of the group.

Albeit since the onset of the criminal gang-triggered war in the northern part of the country, Ethiopia has spared no effort to acquaint the wider international community with the reality on the ground, they kept on turning a blind eye. Gloomily, the crooked group that hates to death the encouraging gesture of the government to make peace happen has been doing everything possible to up the ante, raise the stakes, and tarnish the image of the country.

Although the terrible attacks carried out by the criminal enterprise in the northern part of the country turned the lives of quite a lot of civilians into horrifying chaos and left many to come to grips with several challenges, the wider international community has continued going hand in hand with the terrorist group and laying the blame at the federal government's door.

Gloomily, in the current circumstances failing to learn from its past blunders, the criminal faction has been working now and then with its stooges to dismantle the country.

By any means whatsoever unless the

criminal enterprise is disbanded, the suffering of people in the Tigray state will continue mounting on a regular basis. The only way out to achieve the desired goal at the earliest possible juncture is working in close collaboration with all peace loving people. In consideration of the foregoing, every Tom, Dick, and Harry should work around the clock to free the people of Tigray from the yoke and oppression of the terrorist group leaders once and for all.

To everyone's dismay, since its establishment, the bandit group that considers itself the savior of the people of Tigray has been turning their lives into pandemonium and upside down.

Aside from making use of food as a weapon of starvation, the illegal enterprise and its acquaintances have been playing a part in conscripting children and increasing the suffering of Tigray's mothers and fathers. In the present circumstances, as the people of Tigray know like the palm of their hand the continuous mischiefs of the group, they have been giving the cold shoulder to its bravado.

The Terrorist TPLF should be disarmed and departed from Ethiopia's politics for ensuring sustainable peace in the country and the Horn of Africa (HoA), according to a senior political analyst.

Speaking to *The Ethiopian Herald*, the political analyst Ephrem Madebo stated that the T-TPLF group is a Trojan horse of some foreign interest groups to weaken Ethiopia and a peace and security threat to the country and the entire HoA.

He added that the terrorist group does not have the habit and interest to resolve disagreements through peace talks. And, the group has used all peace alternatives offered by the government to rearm itself and launch other rounds of conflicts.

"So, the T-TPLF should be disarmed and dissolved before any peace talks. If the group is ready to get to the negotiation table, it must lay down its arms and stop belligerence. Unless it shows a willingness to do that, punitive measures have to be taken against the group," he

also said.

According to the analyst, since its foundation in the 1970s, the terrorist group has been trying to achieve its ill-advised interests by force and it has never had the desire and experience to participate in peace talks which it said it would not win 100%. The group is the worst-ever organization in the world by many measurements, he added.

Ephrem further explained that many interest groups want to drive Ethiopia in the direction they want. And, these forces use groups like T-TPLF in countries, especially third world countries, to take action against a given country that refused to implement their policies and to achieve their interests.

These forces have launched a large-scale campaign against Ethiopia in support of the T-TPLF, realizing that if the terrorist group returns to power they can achieve their goals, he also indicated.

The Terrorist TPLF had come to power with the support of these interest groups, he said adding, that when the terrorist group was in power for 27 years, it had been preserving the interests of these bodies. "The interest groups define things with the point of view of their interests."

In order to ensure lasting peace and stability in Ethiopia, the poisonous Terrorist TPLF must be cut out completely, a noted British writer said, calling for the total disband of the faction.

In his article published on Counter Punch, a British freelance writer and charity worker Graham Peebles stated the T-TPLF should be disbanded and never again to cast their vile shadow upon Ethiopia. The criminal group constantly revealed that it knows only violence, suppression and lies and it has done nothing to end the conflict in negotiation and in a peaceful manner.

T-TPLF is a criminal organization, not a legitimate political group and it does not represent the people of Tigray, and it despised throughout the country including Tigray. Forces of the rebellious faction are in tatters and forced recruitment of children and other civilians is widespread, the writer elaborated.

"The T-TPLF leaders should be hauled off to the International Criminal Court and stand trial for crimes they committed during the last two years, as well as when they were in power. As a result of the fighting that the outlawed group instigated, the killings of civilians and the destruction of properties went on."

"Noting the successful conduct of a peace talks requires the active participation of both warring factions, Peebles highlighted that the Ethiopian government's commitment for peace is unquestionable. Sadly, the T-TPLF is not a reliable partner and cannot be trusted, not at all. The radical element is a deadly poison that has caused immeasurable suffering to the people of Ethiopia and the wider region for decades."

Planet Earth

Off-grid energy to help Ethiopia expand energy to scattered villages

BY DARGIE KAHSAY

Ethiopia is striving to fulfill universal energy access to its people across the country with grid and off-grid connections. With this goal, the country is investing in energy production from diversified clean energy sources. Though the country's energy production is dominated by energy sources produced from hydro power, currently solar, wind and geothermal sources are also taking significant share in the sector.

As majority of the country's population is living in rural villages with scattered settlement, in addition to investing in huge mega projects to produce energy for grid connection, the country also invests in expanding off-grid energy sources. This helps the country to expand clean energy sources for the rural population mainly by expanding solar energy production for the scattered villages, which shows improvements and helps the rural population to get access to clean energy with manageable cost.

To expand the access to energy from the main grid connection, huge mega projects are under construction with the capacity of doubling the current production. In this regard, the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), Africa's largest dam, is on the way of completion which started its early production this year. The construction of this giant dam with nearly 6,000 MW production capacity has reached over 84 percent of the

construction and scheduled to be completed by 2025. In addition, other mega projects from hydro, wind and geothermal sources are under construction.

With its investments in clean energy production from renewable energy sources, not only for its consumption, but also it becomes a source of energy for neighboring countries. So far, Sudan and Djibouti are buying energy from Ethiopia while Kenya is waiting for the completion of a huge grid connection between the two countries.

In addition to the huge investments in mega power plants, Ethiopia also gives due focus to off-grid energy production to produce clean energy for the scattered rural settlements. Over 80 percent of the country's population lives in rural areas and these rural villages are scattered settlements, which make it tough and costly to provide energy access from the main grid. Considering this reality, Ethiopia expands its energy production sources by focusing on energy production from solar energy.

According to Ministry of Water and Energy, during the 2021/22 budget year over 1.3 million households' get energy access from solar system. Speaking to Ethiopian Press Agency, Minister of Water and Energy, Engineer Habtamu Itefa (PhD) said that during the past budget year was successful year in energy production, adding especially the year was productive year in energy

production from off-grid energy sources. He noted that during the budget year, around 1.3 million houses get energy from off-grid solar energy projects across the country. For him, the year was successful in developing energy production from off-grid sources that helps to expand access to energy for the rural population.

According to Engineer Habtamu, in addition to the off-grid joint projects, single-house purpose solar energy production is expanding which helps every household to produce energy from solar system for own purpose. He added that, efforts continued to develop this effort of energy production from the off-grid source so as to achieve the country's universal energy access.

"During the 2021/22 budget year, around 1.3 million houses get energy access from off-grid energy sources mainly from solar energy," Minister Habtamu stated adding "in addition to the off-grid projects installed to accommodate small villages, single house service solar energy is developing in the rural areas of the country." He added that these efforts would continue in this budget year so as to expand the energy access to the people.

Researches indicated that, Engineer Habtamu stated, hydro and solar takes the lion share of Ethiopia's energy potential. Hence, in addition to the huge investments to increase energy production from the

hydro power source, Ethiopia's effort to increase energy production from the solar source show significant progress and helps the country to provide energy access to the scattered villages of the rural population.

Engineer Habtamu praises the efforts of households that strived to produce energy from solar system for their own consumption using simple production materials. Understanding the peoples' efforts in producing solar energy and as the demand is increasing, government gives due focus in monitoring the importing materials so as to import standard and quality materials to produce solar energy.

Parallel to promoting and expanding energy production solar source, according to the Ministry, efforts are underway to produce energy to scattered villages from water source by designing small plants out of the grid connection. For Minister Habtamu, especially in Western and South Western part of the country, there are Rivers suitable to produce energy. Hence, he argued that it is important to invest in these rivers to produce energy for consumption to limited areas without connecting to the main grid.

Engineer Habtamu further reiterated that most river basins of Ethiopia are suitable for energy production. Even the small rivers are suitable to produce limited energy that can help to the local people without connecting from the grid source.



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HU determinations on electronics, computer technologies

BY EPHREM ANDARGACHEW

Haramaya University (HU) is working to make students comprehend and aware of modern and the latest electronics and computer technologies.

This ensures and equips students with the required skill, knowledge, and attitude when they join the industry after graduation.

HU School of Electrical and Computer Engineering Dean, Wehib Abubeker (Electrical Engineer) said that the university is given a mission to produce competent graduates in diverse fields of study through undertaking knowledge-generating, problem-solving, and cutting-edge research.

It also provides demand-driven and transformative community engagement that will contribute to local, national, regional, and global sustainable development.

Taking the mission into account, HU Institute of Technology School of Electrical and Computer Engineering has been working to make students competitive in engineering fields, especially Electrical Power Engineering, Electrical Electronics



Wehib Abubeker

Communication Engineering, Industrial Control Engineering, and Computer Engineering.

These fields of study would support students to identify the problems of each machine and know the raw materials and accessories required for each industry besides enabling them to identify the problems of the machines and repair them, he explained.

The university, for this purpose, is preparing a student lab at every level and is working to enable students to make their own inventions through project tasks. This makes students not being new to the industry when they join the industry after they graduate, he added.



Dr. Abdi Namera

Apart from teaching and learning activities, the university is also providing community services through the participation and technical assistance of senior staff from the University. Hence, the University is participating in soap production, repairing and modernizing bakery machines so that there are no maintenance problems in the surrounding area.

In addition, the University in collaboration with Technical, Vocational, and Training Institutions offers short-term and on-job training for cement factories, food complexes, and oil factories that makes them productive. Furthermore, the

university modified and produced a digital weight balance that works by electric and automatic street light control to save foreign currency by avoiding the import of technologies.

HU Institute of Technology Scientific Director Dr. Abdi Namera on his part noted that the Institute is taking the eastern part of the country as a center of the industry Zone, has carried out various activities.

Especially, in this fiscal year, by opening new programs, the University has planned to work on agricultural and water technologies, environmental protection, use and exploration of underground water, minerals, natural gas, fertilizers, glass production, and basic metals, he explained.

In order to achieve its goal, Haramaya University Institute of Technology has been working closely with the concerned Ministerial Offices and Authorities in coordination and cooperation. Besides, students do different types of problem-solving creative works that save time, money, and energy. Hence, the University will also continue working with the concerned bodies to make available these creative works for society, he concluded.