

## **PARTIAL LIST OF OROMOS KILLED UNDER THE OUTBRUST OF EPRDF GOVERNMENT INSTIGATED ETHNIC CONFLICT**

The TPLF regime's track record of the past 22 years of rule is full of intrigues that instigated bloody conflicts among nation and nationalities in Ethiopia . As a result of TPLF's machinations Oromo and Sidama, Oromo and Somali, Oromo and Gedao, Anywak and Nuer, Oromo and Amhara, Oromo and Oromo, Oromo and Gumuz and several other people have clashed. As a result thousands of innocent lives were lost, tens of thousands of people were displaced and their houses and properties were destroyed.

The most causes of the conflicts were inequitable distributions of economic and political power or the demand for access to political and economic benefits. Furthermore, almost all of the major conflicts were not based on ethnic antagonisms. Yet, they were labelled as 'inter-ethnic conflicts' simply due to the fact that they bear the names of the participant ethnic groups. Above all, the conflicts are the results of government induced divide and rule policy.

Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), which Ethiopia has endorsed, provides "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person." Article 6(1) and 9(1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), to which Ethiopia is a party, recognize these basic rights, and stipulate in its Article 2(1) (2) that states parties have an obligation to respect and protect these rights in their respective territories. Moreover, Article 14 of the Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) provides, "Every person has the inviolable and inalienable right to life, the security of person and liberty."

However, these fundamental human rights are being violated due to this government instigated ethnic clashes that resulted serious human rights violations and damages caused to public and private property.

OLF Information and Research Unit has outlined below some of the conflicts that have caused of life and property mainly targeted on oromo people are:-

### **1. The Oromo and Gumuz Conflict**

The Oromo and Gumuz peoples have lived together as good neighbors for centuries. They are culturally intermingled and share valuable social, political and economic set-ups. But ever since it came to power, the TPLF/EPRDF regime has applied the outdated 'divide and rule' policy to

weaken peoples' struggles for freedom and justice by sowing seeds of disharmony among friendly neighboring peoples.

### **I) March 4, 2013**

At least 20 people died this weekend in an outburst of violent ethnic clashes on the border of the Benishangul region and the region of Wallagaa, Oromia, in West of Ethiopia: armed militia of the Gumuz ethnic group have been attacking and killing unarmed Oromo civilians. Although the Ethiopian government has deployed its police forces, they remain witness to the raging killings, instead of stopping the killers.

The ongoing armed attacks started last Monday night in the Manasibu district, according to different independent sources in the field. Conflicts have been reported in Odaa, Daleti, Fadun Fardosi, Gunfi, and Badessa, forcing thousands of Oromo families to flee their homes.

### **II) September 2011**

September 22, 23 and 24 2011 heavily armed Gumuz milsha openend gunfire on oromos living Eebantuu Ganda Lalisaa Dhangaggoo, Ona Mootii, Qilxuu Sanyii, Axabballaa, Yuubdoo fi Bakka Qonnaa Balaccu jedhamutti lolli kun Guyyaa sadiif meeshaa hammayyaa fi humna hidhannoo guutuu hidhateen Mootummaan wayyaanee qindeessee ummata Oromoo irratti Gosa Gumuz meeshaa hanga funyaaniitti hidhachiisee, Oromota meeshaa maleeyyii Qotee bulaa, maanguddoo fi Ijoollee irratti bobaasee qee jireenya isaanii keessaatti ficisiise.

#### **A. killed,**

1. Mr Maatabuu Xiixaa with family member of 15
2. Mr. Nigaatuu Dabbis with family member of 14.
3. Mr. Abdannaa Darajjee with family member of 07
4. Mr. Fiqaaduu Hundumaa with family member of 06
5. Mr. Tafarii Adimaasuu with family member of 05
6. Mr. Dassaalee Ittafaa with family member of 04
7. Mr Magarsaa Guddaataa studnt 12

#### **B. Wounded**

1. Mr. Gabbisaa Kasasaa
2. Mr. Asaffaa Gabbisaa
3. Mr. Abbabaa Malataa
4. Mr. Abdiisaa Abbabaa
5. Mr. Fiqiruu Dhaabaa
6. Mr Yaaragaal.

Almost about 1,500-2,000 peoples were displaced.

### **III) May 2008**

The outburst of ethnic violence claimed the lives of more than 400 Oromo people. The Gumuz militia attack on the unarmed civilian Oromos caused the death of hundreds and many more injuries and displacement of

hundreds to people, and destruction of houses and properties. Hundreds of Oromos were subjected to horrific and barbaric killings. The militia is said to be so heavily armed that the local police themselves had to flee along with the civilians. The relevant government body and armed forces were bystanders watching the massacre of the unarmed and defenseless Oromos.

The conflict occurred starting on May 17, 2008 in the Anger locality in a place called Haro Wata (Arotegna), Amestegna, Sementegna, Zetenegna and Aseregna villages in Sasiga wereda, East Wollega zone of the Oromia regional state between members of the Oromo and Gumuz ethnic groups. Survivors of the conflict told EHRCO that more than hundred people were brutally killed and injured and thousands were displaced from their homes. Local transportation services were disrupted for security reasons by the time this report was being compiled. As a result, EHRCO investigators could not get access to all the areas affected by the conflict. The information in the following tables were documented based on interviews conducted with local authorities, survivors of the conflict who are receiving medical treatment in Nekemt Hospital and persons who fled their homes and sought refuge in Nekemt and neighboring towns.

**1. Details of persons killed during clashes in the Anger Arotegna, amestegna and Sementegna villages**

No.	Name	Age	Details
1	Tesfaye Kenea	45	Killed with a gunshot
2	Wagari Deti	30	" "
3	Jida Dengea	-	" "
4	Bole Waqtole	45	Stabbed to death
5	Fikafdu Olkeba	-	Killed with a gunshot
6	Lemma Oli	60	" "
7	Selbana Geleta	60	" "
8	Kebede Solbana	-	Killed with a gunshot (son of Selbana, No. 7 above)
9	Zelalem Saketa	-	Killed with a gunshot
10	Olane Ejeta	-	" "
11	Feyissa Wodajo	70	" "
12	Kedir Yayu	-	" "
13	Terefe Negari	70	" "
14	Baby Abdi Mesfin	11	" "
15	Temesgen Olfada	47	" "
16	Kebede Duferra	-	" "
17	Tesfu Awido	-	" "
18	Tadele Geleta	38	" "
19	Dengele Tula	-	" "
20	Girma Kinate	-	" "
21	Ebisa Kinate	-	" " (Brother of Girma, No. 20 above)
22	Birhanu Darghe	40	Killed with gunshots along with six of his family

23	Tadesse Dirbessa	-	Killed with a gunshot
24	Kumera Duressa	-	" "
25	Darghe Shiferaw	55	" "
26	Fikadu Selbana	35	" "
27	Samuel Temesgen	20	Killed with a gunshot (son of Temesgen, No. 15 above)
28	Fello Bulti	-	Killed with a gunshot
29	Fekadu Ateyana	-	Shot dead, and his body burnt in his house
30	Efa Asefa	17	Killed with a gunshot
31	Abush Seboka	-	" "
32	Amsalu Gebeyehu	-	" "
33	Tesfaye Asres	60	" "
34	Sintayehu Mitiku	20	" "
35	W/ro Bedri Jamal	35	" "
36	Asmere Chikul	50	" "
37	Eskebo Gameda	-	" "
38	Selomon Wana	-	" "
39	Hailu Metaferia	67	" "
40	Tadesse Dirbessa	60	" "
41	Tsega Tura	70	Stabbed to death
42	Bulcha Daba	50	Killed with a gunshot
43	Erena Jisha	80	" "
44	Kebede Geleta	-	Shot dead by a bullet (a brother of Ato Selbana, No. 7 above)
45	Priest Menberu Getinet	-	Killed and his boy was mutilated (A resident in 'Kenaf', he was a priest in 'Medhanialew' Church)
46	Getahun Wolde	40	A resident at Bello, killed with a gunshot

**2. Residents of the Anger Arategna, Amestegna and Sementegna villages who are receiving medical treatment in Nekemt Hospital after sustaining bodily injuries during the clashes**

No.	Name	Age	Details
1	Dereje Fekadu	32	Wounded by a bullet on his left hand
2	Adem Mohammod	35	Stabbed with a spear on his left ankle
3	Lemma Molla	-	Shot by a bullet on his chest
4	Melaku Birra	-	Wounded by a bullet
5	Adamu Amene	45	Shot by a bullet on his back
6	Samuel Tessisa	52	Wounded by a bullet on his right hand
7	MitiKu Adaho	-	Wounded by a bullet
8	W/ro Workinesh Fikadu	19	Wounded by a bullet on her thigh
9	Tolina Abdissa	35	Shot by bullets on his chest and back
10	Debela Oumeta	17	Wounded by a bullet on his abdomen
11	Getachew Birhanu	-	Wounded by a bullet on his right hand
12	Abdissa Mekonnen	50	Wounded by a bullet on his left hand
13	Maregu Oulfina	-	Wounded by a bullet



A pile of corpse after horrific killings

## **2. The Oromo and Ethnic Somali Conflict**

### **I) June 2000**

At least 70 Oromos were killed in Eastern Oromia during the armed conflict that ensued between Oromos and Issa Somalis, according to a press release issued on June 30, 2000 by the National Council of the Oromo Liberation Front. Eyewitnesses contacted by say thousands of Oromos around Meiso, Asabot, Dema and Diddimtu are fleeing the area and the situation is very tense. The OLF communiqué accuses the TPLF government of instigating the violent conflict and taking side by arming the Issas and supplying them with ammunition while at the same time disarming the Oromo victims.

### **II) September 1994**

The cry of the Dollo Manna Oromos (BALE) 17 indigenous Oromo villages, which were originally assigned to region 4 have been reassigned to the Ogaden Somali region (Region 5) by the EPRDF and the Ethiopian Somali Democratic League(ESDL) without regard to the opinions and indigenous rights of the Oromo living there. The following information is a rough translation of the appeal these Oromos made to the government. The Oromos indicated that areas of Madda Walaabuu, the cradle of the Oromo land, the dire Sheik Hussein area; and the Sof Omar area were put under the Somali regional administration, thus violating the charter-based rights

of the Oromo people. And they further indicated that the intention behind this annexation is to create conflict and to destroy the historical right of the Oromo to this land, to its rich culture and to the vast human and natural resources on this land. Backed by the EPRDF army, the ESDL opened offices and hoisted the ESDL flag and began to harass the Oromo in the Bale region in relation to their economic, social, and political rights. The ESDL continued preaching its divisive policies by saying that the Somali Gree or Beed clan, the somali Baha (east) clan, the Somali Dhiha (west) clan, and the Somali Aabboo clan belong in specific places on this land. These sentiments are intended to eradicate Oromo identity, culture and history so as to help the EPRDF to deny the Oromo self-determination in their own geographical localities. The EPRDF army and its security forces headed by their commander Wadu Gay have also stood by the ESDL to annex the above mentioned areas, as well as the Rayitu, Dawee and Girira areas into the ESDL region, by using force of arms. That has let a lot of Oromo blood and caused illegal detention, killings and unabated harassment. The Oromo people's appeal indicates that the application that was sent to the OPDO did not produce any result. So the Oromo people said that these violations of Oromo rights and looting of property were ordered from above. It remains the responsibility of the Council of Representatives to resolve this conflict within the shortest possible time. Whatever the consequences are the follow, due to the reluctance of the Council to resolve this conflict, the loss of lives and destruction of property will be the historical responsibility of the Council itself, not just that of the ESDL and the National Defence Force. These Oromo people said that the people of their area have been shocked by the actions of the EPRDF army in the presence of the free court and the police. The signature of several representatives of the Oromo people conclude the appeal, Copies were directed to the Council of Ministers, the Council of Representatives, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Amnesty International in London.

### **3) The Boranaa and Konso Conflict**

#### **1) March 2008**

Following is a record of human rights violations caused as a result of the clashes that occurred between members of the Borena Oromo and Konso ethnic groups in Teltelle wereda of the Oromia region and between members of the Oromo and Gumuz ethnic groups in the areas bordering the Oromia and Benishangul Gumuz regions.

There have been clashes between members of the Konso and Borena ethnic groups living in Teltelle town and neighboring kebeles in Yabelo zone of the Oromia region since 2005 over claims to grazing and farmlands. The

clashes have claimed the lives of many people and caused huge damages to property.

Since 2007, the conflict between members of the two ethnic groups has aggravated since the Borena Oromos have begun to persistently demand that members of the Konso ethnic group leave the contested areas alleging them of taking over their legitimate plots of grazing lands. As the cause of the conflict has not been addressed adequately, the clashes escalated and turned into deadly confrontations. The conflict that occurred between members of the two ethnic groups starting from March 21,2008 caused loss of lives and damage to property. Following is the details (EHRCO 31 reg report)

### Persons killed in the Conflict

No	Name	Age	Details
1	Bulalo Onjo orano	35	A kebele militiaman living in <i>Chebi</i> KFA, killed with a gunshot
2	Abebe Mango	25	" "
3	Wariyo Wato	28	A farmer in <i>Dera</i> KFA, shot dead by a bullet
4	Gelebo Dingi	55	A resident in <i>Teltelle</i> town, metal worker, killed with a gunshot while he was on duty
5	Baby Guyo Godana	14	A resident in <i>Teltele</i> town, shot dead by a bullet along with his custodian (No.4 above).
6	Oldisha Oncho	35	A farmer in <i>Chebi</i> KFA, killed with a gunshot
7	Mamusha Mango	25	A student in <i>Chebi</i> KFA, killed with a gunshot
8	Beriso Wita	46	A farmer in <i>Konso/Jarso</i> KFA shot dead by a bullet on May 3, 2008.
9	Kachulu Gilano	40	" "
10	Tango Sanga	34	A farmer in <i>Konso/Jarso</i> KFA, shot dead by a bullet on May 1, 2008
11	Bekalu Balawa	30	A farmer in <i>Teltelle</i> woreda, killed with a gunshot on May 4, 2008
12	Gulte Tonga (F)	50	A farmer in <i>Teltelle</i> woreda, killed with a gunshot
13	Kayula Tonga	50	" "
14	Beyine Balawa	20	" "

15	Kassahun Kurfo	55	"	"
16	Ayana Roba (F)	23	"	"
17	Lemita Gameda	45	"	"
18	Kacha Kermana (F)	27	"	"
19	Soyata Lemita	40	"	"
20	Berissa Diassa	50	"	"
21	Gelbo Awaro	55	"	"
22	Nigussie Workineh	35	"	"
23	Demisse Tadesse	30	"	"
24	Gudisha Bersha	75	"	"
25	Shire Haile	70	"	"
26	Ferede Gameda	48	"	"
27	Guyu Tunga	75	"	"
28	Guyaa Jebena	75	"	"
29	Yala Jarso (F)	65	"	"
30	Shako Toma (F)	63	"	"
31	Kuprda Kutiya	55	"	"
32	Kureda Haleke	55	"	"
33	Shako Sile	32	A pregnant woman in Teltelle woreda, killed with a gunshot	
34	Kasech Gameda	10	A child living in Teltelle woreda, shot dead by a bullet	
35	Abebech Gameda	8	"	"
36	Gehano Gameda	6	"	"
37	Guyao Katale	30	A farmer in Teltelle woreda, killed with a gunshot	
38	Taygena Orano (F)	56	"	"
39	Shako Lemiti (F)	65	"	"
40	Guracha Gerbena	-	"	"
41	Gelgelo Lemiti	-	"	"
42	Atawbete Gegelo (F)	-	"	"
43	Melse Merkina	45	"	"
44	Gobena Keria	-		
45	Wario Sherifa Roba	28	A resident in Dera KFA, killed with a gunshot	
46	Sokata Roba		A resident in Teltelle woreda, shot dead by a bullet	

**Table 6 Persons injured in the conflict**

No.	Name	Sex	Age	Details
1	Lemeta Kortale	M	-	A resident in Teltelle town, wounded by a bullet
2	Deko Soka	F	-	" "
3	Bimo Abaisa	F	-	" "
4	Belete Workineh	M	50	A resident in Teltelle woreda, wounded by bullets on his legs
5	Shila Kebeta Damete	M	30	A resident in Dera KFA, wounded by a bullet on his left leg

6	Senbeto Bersha	M	45	A resident in Konso/Jarso KFA, wounded by a bullet
7	Sagoya Merisa	M	30	A resident in Konso/Jarso KFA , wounded by a bullet
8	Hailu Gobeya	M	45	" "

- **Persons displaced in the conflict**

As a result of the clashes, a huge number of people have been displaced from their homes in *Teltelle* town and its environs in Oromia regional state and fled to the neighboring towns of South region. EHRCO was able to see that about 1735 displaced people were temporarily sheltered in different KFA premises in Konso special woreda, SNNPR. 370 of the displaced were children under the age of five.

The following is a list of individuals who were working in various government offices in Yabelo and Teltelle towns. They fled their homes with their families and took refuge in Konso special woreda by the time this report was being compiled.

**Table 7 Persons displaced**

No.	Name	Occupation
1	Berile Beyene	Employee at the Yabelo zone council
2	Matema Mango	Teacher
3	Guyo Haleke	Teacher
4	Boru Boba	Teacher
5	Bulja	Nurse
6	Guyo Arba	Teacher
7	Mamo Firinjo	Development worker
8	Kuse Oufra	Teacher
9	Gutema Dulla	Teacher
10	Odiya Matama	An employee of women's affairs bureau
11	Zinare Shifte	An employee of information bureau
12	Gadi Huka	Guard
13	Gebino Duba	Chebi KFA secretary
14	Tesfaye Giroye	Teacher

## 1. Human rights violations caused as a result of clashes between members of Konso and Borena Oromo ethnic groups

There have been clashes between members of the Konso and Borena ethnic groups living in Teltelle town and neighboring kebeles in Yabelo zone of the Oromia region since 2005 over claims to grazing and farmlands. The clashes have claimed the lives of many people and caused huge damages to property.

Since 2007, the conflict between members of the two ethnic groups has aggravated since the Borena Oromos have begun to persistently demand that members of the Konso ethnic group leave the contested areas alleging them of taking over their legitimate plots of grazing lands. As the cause of the conflict has not been addressed adequately, the clashes escalated and turned into deadly confrontations. The conflict that occurred between members of the two ethnic groups starting from March 21, 2008 caused loss of lives and damage to property. Following is the details

**Table 5 Persons killed in the conflict**

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32	Kureda Haleke	55	"	"
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40	Guracha Gerbena	-	"	"
41	Gelgelo Lemiti	-	"	"
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8	Hailu Gobeya	M	45	" "

- **Persons displaced in the conflict**

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**Table 7 Persons displaced**

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1	Berile Beyene	Employee at the Yabelo zone council
2	Matema Mango	Teacher
3	Guyo Haleke	Teacher
4	Boru Boba	Teacher
5	Bulja	Nurse
6	Guyo Arba	Teacher
7	Mamo Firinjo	Development worker
8	Kuse Oufra	Teacher
9	Gutema Dulla	Teacher
10	Odiya Matama	An employee of women's affairs bureau
11	Zinare Shifte	An employee of information bureau
12	Gadi Huka	Guard
13	Gebino Duba	Chebi KFA secretary
14	Tesfaye Giroye	Teacher

- **Students who quit school due to the conflict**

Many students have left school as a result of the conflict. EHRCO learnt that the following are among the students who quit school because they fled their homes and took refuge in Konso special wereda with their families.

## 4. Gujii and Burjii

The Guji and Burji ethnic groups, which share common borders with the Oromia Regional State and SNNPRS, have long lived in harmony and peaceful co-existence. However, since recently, as their quest for land claim has not been resolved, they have often come into conflicts resulting in severe human and property damages.

The human casualties and property damages incurred during conflicts between the two ethnic groups in Haro Bule locality, Galaba Kebele, Arero woreda, Borena zone of the Oromia regional state, on February 27, 2007, from 2:00 p.m. till 5:00 p.m. Owing to the aforementioned inter-ethnic conflict, the following people have been killed.

No	Name	Age	Occupation
1.	Gobena Anole	30	pastorialist
2	Duba Godana Nenko	25	pastorialist

### B. Gunshot Wounds

Individuals whose name listed below have sustained heavy and light injuries due to the conflict:

1. Gararo Bati Feche
2. Gayo Bati Feche
3. Sora Doda
4. Jarso Gefersa
5. Dulo Warito
6. Gelgelo Gudana
7. Konchera Huka
8. Wariyu Kontobo

## 5. Ethic conflict sparked in Sokoru Woreda, Jimma Zone, Oromia region

Article 39(1)(2) of the FRDRE Constitution stipulates that Every Nation, Nationality and People in Ethiopia has the right to self-determination, and to develop and promote its own culture, language, among others. Accordingly, Yem nationals who reside in Sokuru town and neighboring Kebeles in its environs, Jimma Zone of the Oromia regional state, have requested to be

administered by the Yem special woreda of the South Nation, Nationalities, and People's Regional State (SNNPRS) as of 1993.

In reply to the request, a study committee drawn from the Oromia Regional State and SNNPRS had been organized, and based to the findings of the committee a referendum was held on November 27, 2007 in which the majority voted in favor of administration of the woreda under SNNPRS. However, the result of the referendum has not yet been implemented. Because of this, ethnic conflicts have often flared up, resulting in deaths, human casualties, property damages and security problems.

On November 3, 2006, at 6:00 p.m., over 100 armed security forces entered the Yem nationals Sokoru woreda, Kebele 01 administration, and detained the people they found, and said, "You will fall under our administration as of today." When families of the detainees who heard the news, brought dinner for them at 9:00 a.m., there were prevented by the armed men. This time, conflict broke out between the residing Yem nationals and the armed members of Oromo nationals. The clash raged through the night causing physical injuries and property damages. The conflict has subsided and was brought under control the next day, as members of the Federal police and army reached the area.

EHRCO has investigated and verified the following human casualties and property damages.

#### A. Killing

Mr. Zinabu Abafogi Aba Wari: He was a resident of Wengesho kebele, on November 4, 2006, he was shot to death by a bullet fired by unidentified armed man.

#### B. Gunshot wounds

1. Tesfaye Shege: He is a resident in Sokoru Woreda, Kebele 01. He is a guard. He was wounded by a bullet on the leg.

2. Ageritu Wondimu: She is the Sokoru Woreda, Kebele 01 resident, and is a preparatory student at a secondary school. She suffered bullet wound on the leg, and is now under medical care at the Woliso Hospital.

3. Alemnesh Belaineh: She is the Sokoru Woreda, Kebele 01 resident. She was wounded by a bullet on the leg, and received medications at the Woliso Hospital.

4. Asnakech Weranko: She is a resident in Sokoru woreda, Kebele 01. She was wounded by a bullet and received medical care at the Woliso Hospital

## 6. Gujii-Sidama Conflict

It is to be recalled that although members of the Guji ethnic group living in Wendogenet Woreda, Sidama Zone of the SNNPR petitioned regional authorities since 1993 and subsequently the House of Federation to be granted a self-administration status, their request has not been adequately addressed. As a result, an ethnic conflict had flared up between members of the Guji and Sidama ethnic groups on 16 May 2007. In connection with this, 82 individuals belonging to the Guji ethnic group were arrested without a court warrant and were subsequently released. The following human rights violations occurred during the conflict on May 16, 2007.

### Killings

The following individuals belonging to the Guji ethnic group were shot dead during the conflict.

1. Neko Nenko: 36
2. Markos Katiso: 40
3. Tsefaye Mengistu: 22
4. Mitiku Lemma: 34