



20<sup>th</sup> of December 2014

### **Oromia at Federation Square has continued to attracts huge crowd**

*Oromia @ Federation Square* is one of the biggest Oromo Community festivals held every year in Melbourne, Australia. Every year since 2008, members of the Oromo community and friends of the Oromo people across Australia have congregated on one summer day in December at Melbourne's Federation Square to celebrate and commemorate the beauty of the Oromo culture. This year's *Oromia @ Federation Square* will be held on Sunday, December 21, 2014.

Not surprisingly, the entire festival was a jam-packed affair. Without exception, Australian Oromo men and women both young and old banded together to showcase superb performances of dance, art, spoken word, traditional clothing and blessings that touched the anticipating hearts and festive souls of eager crowds. People from all walks of life were entrenched with Oromo tradition as Oromummaa spirit truly came alive.

Influential people in the community including Members of Parliament Mr. Adam Bandt- MP for Melbourne and Mr. Anthony Byrne, MP for Holt and Victorian Multicultural Commission Commissioner, Mr. Chin Tan, joined our festivities, commenting specifically on the vibrancy of the Oromo culture and the energy of the crowds.

Starting Sunday afternoon, people visiting or passing by the Federation Square in Melbourne feel as though they've landed in another country in a different continent – Oromia, in the Horn of Africa.

<b>Oromo and Oromia</b>	
-Over 40 plus million populations	-3rd largest single nation in Africa
-Origin of human race	-Single largest nation in East Africa
-Origin of Gadaa system	-Has been occupied by Ethiopia for over 130 years
-Birth place of coffee	-Unaccounted number of Oromo refugees lives in almost other countries of Africa.
-Home to world class athletes	-Struggling for Self Determination
-One nation with multi-faith society: Christianity, Islam and Waaqeffannaa	

Oromia at Federation Square has continued to attract huge crowd and this year is no exception.

Artifacts exhibition will be on display from 2:00pm and the cultural show will start at 3:00pm. For further information please call Mr. Aliye Geleto Anota on 0422602204 or Mr Yadata Saba on 412 795 909 or email [ocaustralia@gmail.com](mailto:ocaustralia@gmail.com).