

19 March 2019

Press Release

Re: Free Colonel Gammachuu Ayyaanaa



On January 17, 2019 Colonel Gammachuu Ayyaanaa and his friend Mr. Fakada were arrested in similar fashion, and they are still held in the EPRDF detention centre with more than 10,000 innocents. His crime is to be a determined revolutionary Oromo nationalist. After two months confinement, Gammachuu is scheduled to appear in a court for a hearing at **Arada First instant Court, Finfinne, on March 25, 2019 (Megabit 16, 2011).**

Advocacy for Oromia, a non-profit advocacy organisation working to ensure that the Oromo people's rights and wishes are respected, is highly concerned at the intimidation, the violence and the wave of arrests that have taken place during the week end in Oromia.

Background

Gammachuu is an Oromo hero who joined OLF in 2006. He was a military leader with a rank of a colonel when Abiy was not. He was a respected team leader when Lamma was not. He could have enjoyed what Abiy and Lamma are enjoying today. He could have lived a luxury life; the likes of his ranks are now living. However, Gammachuu refused to embezzle public resources. He resisted killing the sons and daughters Oromo who have committed no crimes. He refused to be a blood sucker. He left the opportunity, the rank and the organization that would have given him the avenues to do so. He gave up the fruits of his labor for the Oromo cause. He ditched the OPDO and joined the OLF. He stood with the Oromo people.

Following the call from the Ethiopian government to work with all opposition parties and the agreement between the OLF and by OPDO/EPRDF-led Ethiopian government to peacefully work together, Gammachuu returned home with the OLF leadership on Sept 15, 2018.

Call of Action

Show your SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT for him in every way you can: going to the court house, changing your social media profile, and campaigning for justice. If you are in Oromia, show up at the course house. Be peaceful. Have his picture. Demand his release. If you are elsewhere, use your social media platforms and demand that justice be done.

Advocacy for Oromia further requests the government to unconditional release and ensure that his case proceed in a manner consistent with Ethiopia's obligations under international law, internationally recognized standards of due process, fair trial, and free expression; and to ensure their well-being while in custody, including access to legal counsel and family.

Advocacy for Oromia

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