

Ethiopian Civil Society Support Group in London, Ontario, Canada
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António Guterres

United Nations Secretary General

Stephane Dujarric; Spokesman for Secretary General: dujarric@un.org

405 East 42nd Street, New York, NY, 10017, USA

09 December 2019

RE: LOOMING GENOCIDE IN ETHIOPIA – OPEN LETTER

Dear Mr. Guterres,

As you know, the mission of the office of the United Nation High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is to work for the protection of all human right for all the people; to help empower people to realize their right; and to assist those responsibilities for upholding such right in ensuring that they are implemented.

In carrying out its mission, OHCHR has included the following two important and undertakings among its pledges to:

- Give priority to addressing the most pressing human rights violations, both acute and chronic, particularly those that put life in imminent peril; and
- Focus attention on those who are at risk and vulnerable on multiple fronts.

25 year ago, the UN and the rest of the world silently watched the genocide of 800,000 Rwandans (UN Outreach Programme on Rwanda 2014). Your colleague, the then UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, will be primarily remembered and shall appear in the history books besides the two defining genocidal crimes, the Rwandan and Srebrenica massacre of his era regardless of his Nobel Prize for peace.

Today, in Ethiopia, discriminatory practices by ethnocentric group against individuals and groups of people belonging to different ethnicities and religion have become the norm. Worse, the federal and regional governments have failed to address to these challenges.

The hate and ethnocentric propaganda are manly carried out by Jawar Mohammed, who is an American Citizen living in Minnesota, and his mouthpiece organisation the Oromo Media Network (OMN).

Today we, the ***Ethiopian Civic Society Support Group*** in London Ontario Canada, are writing to you to prevent yet another genocide in Ethiopia. The looming genocide in Ethiopia is currently cultivated and nurtured by this jihadist and terrorist Jawar Mohammed who is living in the most democratic and freedom loving country USA, together with his hate propaganda machine the OMN.

We hope that, the **United Nations will not remain silent now!** We hope **Mr. Guterres will not remain silent today!!** HISTORY MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO REPEAT ITSELF.

Sincerely,

Ethiopian Civic Society Support Group in London Ontario Canada

Ethiopian Civil Society Support Group in London, Ontario, Canada

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Your Excellency, let us remind you what has taken place in the past;

It is may be recalled that an independent investigation delegated to study the Rwandan genocide in 1999 found that the UN had failed Rwanda in 1994. After the outcome of this investigations, the then UN Secretary General Kofi Annan has said:

“All of us must bitterly regret that we did not do more to prevent it...On behalf of the United Nations, I acknowledge this failure and express my deep remorse.”

And five years later, in a speech marking the 10th anniversary of the genocide, Annan said:

“The international community is guilty of sins of omission. I myself, as head of the UN’s peacekeeping department at the time, pressed dozens of countries for troops. I believed at that time that I was doing my best,” he said. “But I realized after the genocide that there was more that I could and should have done to sound the alarm and rally support. This painful memory, along with that of Bosnia and Herzegovina, has influenced much of my thinking, and many of my actions, as secretary-general.”

Responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity:

In response to the Rwandan and Serbian massacres, the World Summit involving 191 member states was held to show their responsibility and commitment to protect their population from the advent of genocide.

In paragraphs 138 through 140 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document (A/RES/60/1), Heads of State and Government affirmed their responsibility to protect their own populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and accepted a collective responsibility to encourage and help each other uphold this commitment. They also declared their preparedness to take timely and decisive action, in accordance with the United Nations Charter and in cooperation with relevant regional organizations, when national authorities manifestly fail to protect their populations.

138. Each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. This responsibility entails the prevention of such crimes, including their incitement, through appropriate and necessary means. We accept that responsibility and will act in accordance with it. The international community should, as appropriate, encourage and help States to exercise this responsibility and support the United Nations in establishing an early warning capability.

140. We fully support the mission of the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide

Today, Mr. Adama Dieng is leading the above responsibilities to protect people from ethnic cleansing as the UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide. Sir, we urge you to call the attention of Mr. Dieng into this matter.

As you may know, Ethiopia is a multiethnic country with over 110 million people (belonging to more than 80 ethnic groups and speaking many languages). The country is witnessing unprecedented internal displacements and ethnic conflicts. More than 2 million people have

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been displaced since 2018. According to published reports, Ethiopia has witnessed the highest number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) than any other country in 2018. Yet, its citizens are not protected from being torched, maimed and beheaded according to paragraphs 138, 139 and 140 declaration.

Dear Mr. Guterres, let us examine the sequence of Genocide;

The Rwandan genocide had been in the planning for many years and was mostly carried out by two extremist Hutu militia groups, the “Interahamwe” and the “Impuzamugambi” against Tutsi and some moderate Hutus (Human Rights Watch 1993, 1994).

The looming Ethiopian genocide follows the same and similar patterns. It is led by Jawar Mohammed and was in the planning for many years. Like the Interahamwe group in Rwanda, the group known as the “Queerroo” is organized and indoctrinated to carry out such atrocities and massacre.

We would like to emphasize to you, Sir, that the “Queerroo” that we are describing are not the same to those Queerroo’s that made a peaceful struggle to overthrow the previous TPLF led government. The group that we are referring as the “Queerroo” within this letter are the youth who have been brainwashed and indoctrinated by Jawar Mohammed and the media network (OMN) with ethnocentric, jihadist and extremist views.

Your excellency,

The vital proofs for this heinous crime are there to see. We urge you not to ignore the current ethnic cleansing, ransacking and torching of innocent citizens that is taking place in Ethiopia, simply on the basis of one’s ethnic origin and religion. Genocide is starting to take place in Ethiopia, and it must be averted and stopped. Young and old men were killed, maimed and torched. A pregnant woman was slit open and killed in front of her young children. A woman’s breast was cut. Christian pastors were beheaded. What is next!!

The UN and the rest of the world can’t wait until the lives of millions of people are lost. It will be too late by then. It must be halted now. The UN and the world must not repeat the Rwandan and Bosnian massacres.

The “Queerroo”, like their counterpart the Hutu “Interahamwe” gangs are searching their victims from their own homes and murder them with axes, machete and sticks. These innocent people are massacred just because they belong to another ethnic group. Video messages are distributed over the social media showing how the Queerroo enters into the victim’s homes and chase them out from their own houses and neighborhood. While such lawlessness and hate propaganda is spreading, the local and federal authorities are not doing their job. It looks like the hate group lead by Jawar Mohammed has the upper hand. Just like in Rwanda, senior government officials from the top are supporting his hate group.

Your Excellency, here are some of the recent facts revealing the beginning of genocide in Ethiopia:

Jawar Mohammed’s Order to the Queerroo Militia: - Late at night, on 22 October 2019, Jawar Mohammed used his Facebook page and *maliciously* reported to his social media followers that

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the police had attempted to force his security detail to vacate the grounds of his home in Addis Ababa. He alleged that the police mobilized a mob against him intimating that they had done so at the behest of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed.

His message was received by the “Queerroo”. Soon, thousands of them were mobilized across the country. Hundreds marched immediately towards Jawar’s residence armed with sticks, machetes’ and knives.

Jawar was simply reacting to the speech given by the Prime Minister in Parliament in which he had accused "media owners who don't have Ethiopian passports" of "playing it both ways," a thinly-veiled reference to Jawar, adding that "if this is going to undermine the peace and existence of Ethiopia... we will take measures.

Without any provocation and within hours of Jawar’s call, the Queerroo responded by massacring 86 innocent citizens. They were accusing the Amhara’s as “Neftegna” meaning invaders who came and took their land. It may be remembered that the “Interahamwe” in Rwanda has also branded the Tutsi’s with similar names.

The Gedeos Massacre and Displacement: - The worst ethnic massacre took place in the south, where an estimated 800,000 mostly ethnic Gedeos were forced to flee their ancestral land from West Guji in Oromia. They were robbed, lynched, raped and beheaded by organized ethnic cleansers who are indoctrinated by ethno centrist activists who have citizenships in Western Countries.

This episode of the Gedeos constitute a higher number of displacement of people, in the world, in over a shorter period of time. Even during at the height of Myanmar’s Rohingya crisis in 2017, this amount of people were not displaced. This is again the result of hate and Jihadist propaganda waged by Jawar Mohammed’s Oromo Media Network and executed by his militia the Queerroo.

The Burayu Massacre (14-16 September 2018): - The Burayu massacre was a series of ethnically targeted mass killings, lootings, and arson. It was a programmed massacre of people based on ethnic identity that was carried out in the vicinity Addis Ababa (Seat of The African Union), in the town of Burayu between 14-16 September 2018. The victims were mainly members of ethnic minority groups from southwestern Ethiopia, chiefly the Dorze, but also Gamos, Wolayitas, Gurages, and Siltes.

Since the regional police were infiltrated by Jihadist and ethno centrist Jawar Mohammed and his Queerroo militia, they were largely unresponsive to the events as they unfolded. The police simply responded by saying "they were not able to stop the massacre due to the topography of the region where the attack took place". According to witnesses, it was alleged that the local police had joined the mob in attacking local businesses. In a matter of hours 23 people were killed, more than 500 have been injured and over 15,000 were displaced.

Dear Mr. Guterres,

The above are very few examples of what the Ethiopian people are going through today. We have witnessed the killings, torching, beheading of innocent citizens in Ethiopia due to ethnicity. Now Let us highlight to you the “Early Warnings” of genocide in Ethiopia.

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The “Akazu”, a secret group of Hutu Power advocates organized around the President’s wife, was planning the extermination of the Tutsi of Rwanda to resolve once and for all, in their own way, the ethnic problem....”

In Ethiopia, foreign and home grown hardline ethnocentric and jihadists are highly organized. This include high government official of the Oromia State who have been planning together with these activists to exterminate innocent people based on their ethnic origin and religion.

Since 1992, Hutu Power death squads were operating under the leadership of Colonel Théoneste Bagasora, who later coordinated the genocide.

*Since the appointment of Dr. Abiy Ahmed as the Prime Minister (2018), Jawar’s Queerloo death squads in Harar, Western and Central Oromia are creating havocs by massacring and displacing other ethnic groups **that are not Oromo’s and Muslims**. They are led by Jihadist and terrorist Jawar Mohammed and his sympathizers within the Oromo Democratic Party (ODP) and Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) respectively. While he is spreading his hate propaganda like Dr. Leon Mugesera of Rwanda (1992), the government is pampering him with financial help and well armed bodyguards.*

On November 22, 1992 Léon Mugesera in his famous speech, he said the Tutsis “belong in Ethiopia and we are going to find them a shortcut to get them there by throwing them into the Nyabarongo River [a source of the Nile.]”

*A well known sympathiser of Jawar Mohammed and a ethnocentric himself, Bekele Gerba the Deputy Chairman of Oromo Federalist Congress (OFC) has asked the Oromo people, on a national television, not to marry other ethnic groups and to stop communicating with other ethnic groups unless it is **only** in their own language. A group of the Oromo traditional leaders called “**Aba Gedda**”, have publicly asked for the Oromo people to stop trading goods, properties and not to carry any other transactions from any other ethnic groups. **There are several social media clips that shows similar hate, jihadist and fear-mongering messages by Jawar Mohammed.** All of the above messages are to evict all other ethnic groups, by violent means, from their homes and land that was inhabited for hundreds of years.*

Four human rights groups led by Human Rights Watch (March 1993) and the International Federation of Human Rights issued a report on mass killings in Rwanda. Let us not be “Bystanders to Genocide” ...

Since the beginning of this year, many human right activists (Example: Prof. Achamyeleh Debela, Journalist & Activist Eskinder Nega; Dr. Mehari Fisseha, etc.) have been engaged in highlighting the looming genocide in Ethiopia instigated by Jawar Mohammed and his mouthpiece OMN. In the last couple of years, due to ethnic origin and religion, more people have been displaced in Ethiopia than any other country in the world.

In April 1993, the U.N. Special Reporter on Summary, Arbitrary, and Extrajudicial Executions, René Dégni-Ségui (1997), conducted a mission to Rwanda and reported to the U.N. Human Rights Commission in August 1993 that the trial massacres of Tutsis, already begun by then, constituted genocide under the Genocide Convention.

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Dear Secretary General,

Dr. Gregory H. Stanton (2002), in his writings entitled “Could the Rwandan Genocide have been prevented?” has defined ten Stages of Genocide. Here are some of the clear and visible stages of genocide that have already taken place in Ethiopia for triggering mass massacre.

Classification: At this stage, social groups are classified into “us versus them.” Traditional Rwandan society was already classified into three groups, Tutsi, Hutu, and Twa. A Tutsi royal clan, the Ganwa, ruled the country.

The Ethiopian Ethic Federalism classify social groups based on ethnicity and language as Oromo, Amhara, Hadya, etc. This has created a classification “us versus them”.

Symbolization: At this stage, the classifications are symbolized. Groups are given names and other symbols (yellow stars, for example) and are required to wear them either by cultural tradition or laws. The identity cards included each individual’s group identity, Tutsi, Hutu, or Twa. They thus reified group identity for each person and made changes from one group to another much more difficult. “Someday they will be used for genocide,”

In Ethiopia, people carry ID cards that bear their ethnic identity. Citizens are labeled as “Neftegna” which means colonizer, “mete” which means newcomer, “Temkhetegna” which means arrogant, all these classifications target the Amhara who are living in Oromia and Somali regions.

Dehumanization: This stage is where the death spiral of genocide begins. The victim group is dehumanized. It is called the names of animals or likened to a disease: vermin or rats, cancer or plague, or in Rwanda, “inyenzi” – cockroaches.

Currently, in Ethiopia, classifications such as neftegna, mete and temkhetegna are used to classify and dehumanize the Amhara. The Amhara are classified as invaders and foreigners similar to the classification of the Tutsi of Rwanda by the Interahamwe. The reason this stage is necessary, is that it gives ideological justification to the genocides who claim they are purifying the society.

Organization: All genocides are organized. At this stage, hate groups are organized, militias are trained and armed, and the armed forces are purged of members of the intended victim group as well as officers and others who might oppose genocide. Propaganda institutions, such as the hate newspapers and radio station, are also strengthened and funded.

In Ethiopia, supporters of the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) and Jawar Mohammed’s Queerroo are organized on the basis of ethnic identity and indoctrination. They follow orders on the basis of “my tribe right or wrong”. Satellite Television Network and social media such as the Oromo Media Network and Face Book are used to agitate hate propaganda. The hate group are secretly trained by the local government, similar to the Interahamwe’s training by the Rwandan Army. They are equipped, funded and strengthened by Jawar Mohammed’s Arab supporters from the Gulf States.

Polarization: Moderates are targeted and assassinated. Hate propaganda emphasizes the “us versus them” nature of the situation. “If you are not with us, you are against us.” There is no middle ground. Moderates who attempt to negotiate peace are denounced as traitors. Kangura

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and RTLMC called anyone who opposed Hutu Power an "accomplice" of the Tutsis and a secret ally of the R.P.F.

In the region of Ethiopia, particularly in Oromia and Somali, where Jihadist Jawar Mohammed is operating polarization is based on ethnicity and religion. Muslim and Oromo supporters of Jawar Mohammed have burned several churches, beheaded many Christians, burned and displaced people on the basis of "us versus them". Moderate activist/Journalist like Eskinder Nega are targeted and harassed daily, simply because he is highlighting the looming danger of genocide in Ethiopia. The group led by Jawar Mohammed and OLF believe it is Oromo's turn to rule Ethiopia. So, they claim everything belongs to them including political power, anyone opposing this is the enemy. "us" versus "them".

Preparation: During the preparation stage, plans are made for the genocide. Death lists are compiled. Trial massacres are conducted, both as training for the genocidists, and to test whether there will be any response, such as arrests, international denunciations, or sanctions. If the murderers get away with their crimes, if there is impunity, it is a green light to finish the genocide.

In Ethiopia, the houses of different ethnic groups are marked by the Queerroo for ransacking, torching and exterminations in Harar, Dire Dawa, Burayu, Lega Teffo and other areas. The Queerroo militia is closing highways at will, sometimes together with the local police. Hate propaganda are transmitted on social and local network without impunity. Hate videos, in the form of songs are produced and openly distributed. So far, there is no response from the government. These are all signs of preparation for carrying genocide.

As Stanton (1998) explained, leaders often claim, "If we don't kill them, they will kill us." Prevention of preparation may include prosecution of incitement and conspiracy to commit genocide, both crimes under Article III of the Genocide Convention.

Article III: The following acts shall be punishable:

(a) Genocide; (b) Conspiracy to commit genocide; (c) Direct and public incitement to commit genocide; (d) Attempt to commit genocide; (e) Complicity in genocide.

Your Excellency,

The final stages of genocide, as explained by Dr. Stanton (2002) are "Extermination" and "Denial". The killing which may legally be defined as genocide begins and the perpetrators deny that they have committed the crime.

Today, on the 1st day of December 2019, we members of the Ethio-Civic Organization from London Ontario Canada, believe that **the trial massacre** of the Ethiopian people, more especially the "Amhara's living in the Oromia and Somali regions", the Gedeos living in Guji and the Wolita people living in Burayu has already taken place.

Let us not forget Sir! how the Interahamwe's were armed Similar to the Queerroo in Ethiopia that is led by the Jihadist Jawar Mohammed and his Arab supporters. His Oromia Media Network is financed by the Gulf states to weaken the central government and establish an Islamic state. Most of the finances obtained from the Gulf states is distributed to the Queerroo in the form of

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mobile phones for following the hate propaganda of Jawar through OMN and for the purchasing of arms.

Jawar's intention is clear. As he puts it clearly in a number of occasions, his primary goal is to create an Islamic Oromia under Sharia Law.

This terrorist and Jihadist individual has said previously "We have two governments in Ethiopia: Abiy's government and Queerloo government". Since Queerloo is led by him, he is claiming as one of the two leaders of Ethiopia.

Many Oromos and Muslim Ethiopians felt betrayed by Jawar. He literally high jacked and manipulated the aspiration of Ethiopians for justice and equality to his narrow ethnic religious agenda.

he has been stoking inter-ethnic tensions and mob violence. He has been advocating ethnic cleansing and instigating violence particularly against the "Amhara".

Jawar Mohammed is currently an American citizen. He is a US based hate preacher advocating ethnic cleansing and violence. He has called violence against Christians, civilian business owners, and minority ethnic groups living in Oromo and Somali regions. While he is living in luxury and freedom in the best multi-cultural country of USA, he is mongering hate, religious war and ethnic violence and preparing a fertile ground for genocide.

Jawar Mohammed and his Queerloo militia must be stopped. The United Nations and the world "Must not Look the Other Way".

Stop Jihadist and Terrorist Jawar Mohammed and ban his mouthpiece hate propaganda machine, the Oromia Media Network!!

As per the 2005 UN mandate, Prevent and Protect the Ethiopian People against the looming Genocide.

May God Protect Ethiopia and its Law-Abiding People!!

Ethiopian Civil Society Support Group in London, Ontario Canada

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