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**SUDAN REPRESSION AGAINST ETHIOPIAN REFUGEES INTENSIFIES**

The regime of Omar Beshir in the Sudan has intensified the repression against Ethiopian political refugees as it strives to placate the Meles regime and achieve its sectarian political gains. Sudanese police have raided houses and rounded up Ethiopians in Omdurman and many parts of Khartoum. A truck carrying Ethiopian refugees to be deported had an accident and 42 Ethiopians and two Sudanese police have been killed. The cry for the UNHCR has been without any response.

Given the tense and complicated political situation in the Sudan and Ethiopia, the machinations and deals have been intensified. Sudan continues to deport Ethiopian refugees in most cases following demands by the Meles regime. Very many Ethiopian refugees are presently in prison in many towns and cities of Sudan and are awaiting deportation. The violation by the Sudan of the rights of the refugees continues with gross impunity in the absence of any objection by the UNHCR or other human rights organizations. Experience has proved that those deported by the Sudan like Azanaw Demile have been disappeared by the mels regime with no protest whatsoever by the international community.

SOCEPP denounces the arrest and deportation of Ethiopian refugees and calls on international human rights organizations to raise their voices in the defense of Ethiopian refugees in the Sudan.

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS INJUSTICE EVERYWHERE  
SOCEPP, POSTFACH 51213, BERLIN 13372,GERMANY  
SOCEPP, 30 RIGA COVE, WINNIPEG,MB R2P 2Z7,CANADA  
E MAIL: SOCEPP @AOL.COM  
WEB SITE: WWW.SOCEPP.DE