



## **Urgent Appeal to Address Human Rights Violations in Ethiopia.**

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December 01, 2023

His Excellency  
Mr. John James  
Chairman of Foreign Affairs Subcommittee of Africa  
1319 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman,

We write to draw your attention to the alarming human rights violations and atrocities occurring in Ethiopia, with a specific focus on the targeted persecution of the Amhara ethnic group.

As one of the founding members of the United Nations and the African Union, Ethiopia has a storied history of defending freedom and fostering international cooperation. Unfortunately, recent events necessitate immediate attention and decisive action from global leaders and institutions.

Over the past five decades, Ethiopia has grappled with diverse challenges, including a 17-year rule by military Marxist Derg leadership, 27 years of EPDRF/TPLF Ethnic policy, and more recently, the ascent of Abiy Ahmed, whose administration has exacerbated the continuation of the predecessor EPRDF/TPLF divisive ethnic policies, resulting in conflicts and violence against the Amhara ethnic people.

Since assuming office in 2018, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, initially seen as a beacon of positive change and a proponent of dismantling ethnic federalism, has regrettably steered the nation towards further discord. His leadership has manifested in a series of atrocities, including the denial of essential resources, attacks on civilians, destruction of Orthodox churches, and blatant human rights violations against the Amhara ethnic group.

The gravity of the situation now mirrors historical tragedies, resembling the Rwandan genocide. The international community, inclusive of influential leaders such as yourself, must urgently address these egregious atrocities and human rights violations.



We implore you to consider the following action plan:

**Immediate Intervention:** Use your influence to stop drone strikes and the killing of the Amhara people, advocate for an immediate cease-fire in the Amhara region and the withdrawal of Federal military forces from the Amhara region, prevent the destruction of Muslims worship mosques, the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido churches, and bring an end to the devastation of farms, field harvests, and livestock.

**Accountability To Upholding of Human Rights:** Support the fight to end impunity, hold those responsible accountable for the crimes against humanity, and help prevent these crimes from happening again.

**Support Initiatives to End Ethnic Federalism:** Support initiatives for removing divisive ethnic federalism policies that is exacerbating the current crisis.

The global landscape is currently marked by several wars, tragically resulting in the indiscriminate loss of innocent lives. One particularly distinct and alarming situation is the conflict in Ethiopia, instigated by the government led by Abiy Ahmed, and the horrific crime compared to other global regions. The apparent lack of assertive action by multilateral institutions and investigative reporting from mainstream media has emboldened targeted atrocities unfolding against the Amhara people by drone airstrikes.

The deliberate destruction of residential homes, schools, hospitals, factories, farmlands, and public infrastructure, particularly through ethnic cleansing, has continued due to the international institutions' inactions to stop the horrific crimes on the global stage. Furthermore, the astonishing lack of substantial coverage by reputable global media outlets regarding these heinous acts against innocent Amhara civilians is a matter of profound shame on the worldwide stage.

The intentional devastation of residential homes, schools, hospitals, factories, farmlands, and public infrastructure, especially ethnic cleansing, persists due to the inaction of international institutions in halting these appalling crimes on the global stage. Furthermore, the astonishing lack of substantial coverage by reputable global media outlets regarding these heinous acts against innocent Amhara civilians is a matter of profound shame.

The international community should maintain its focus, demanding accountability and justice without being swayed by global events. Swift action on this issue is imperative, as failure to act may result in severe consequences for the people of Ethiopia.

Your voice and influence can play a crucial role in bringing about positive change and the opportunity to be positively remembered by taking assertive measures to prevent ongoing human suffering, thus contributing to a brighter future for Ethiopians. We are confident that you will use your influence to bring about a positive impact and contribute to the restoration of peace and justice in Ethiopia.



Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter, and we look forward to hearing about the effective actions taken to prevent ongoing human suffering.

Sincerely,

Concerned Ethiopians

**cc:**

Members of the House Representatives on Foreign Affairs Sub Committee of Africa:

Ms. Sara Jacobs

Mr. Chris Smith

Ms. Young Kim

Mr. Jim Baird

Mr. Thomas Kean Jr.

Mr. Cory Mills

Mrs. Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick

Mr. Colin Allred

Mr. Jonathan Jackson