



Eritrean Foundation for Social Justice & Development

المؤسسة الارتيرية للعدالة الاجتماعية والتنمية

EFSJD_Newsletter June 2011- issue1

CONTENTS

- ⇒ EFSJD
- ⇒ Declaration
- ⇒ Our Objectives
- ⇒ EFSJD focus
- ⇒ Eritrean Refugees
- ⇒ Recent Project
- ⇒ Activities
- ⇒ Jokes

Declaration of a new Eritrean Civil Society organization in America.

The people of Eritrea today are lacking basic human rights that most of the people in the planet are enjoying. Lack of freedom of speech, freedom of religion, free press, the ability of citizens to claim their own lands, and Equal citizenship for all is some examples. On the other hand, hundreds of thousands of Eritrean refugees in neighboring countries are suffering miserable life in their camps, while hundreds of thousands of Eritreans inside their own country are denied to get relief & development from the rest of the world due to government blockage to any external aid. In short, we are missing social justice & Development in Eritrea. Therefore, EFSJD was established by Eritrean Diaspora in North

America to voice their people concerns in the American Society at all levels; government, congress, media, public, and of course among Eritrean Americans..



Our Objectives

EFSJD is a nonprofit organization registered officially in the United States. The organization's objectives are:

- ◆ *To raise awareness & to work toward stopping all injustice policies, practices, and all types of human rights violations that are happening in Eritrea.*
 - ◆ *To present the correct Eritrean history & culture to the public as well as to research centers, and other governmental & NGOs entities.*
 - ◆ *To provide Relief & Development projects to help*
- Eritrean refugees in neighboring countries as well as in Eritrea (if it becomes possible);*
- ◆ *To collect, document, research, conduct Studies & workshops on issues related to Eritrea & Eritreans.*
 - ◆ *To organize & mobilize Eritreans in North America to participate in the efforts of bringing justice & development to Eritrea & Eritreans.*

Who are we?



Unfortunately, many of the Eritrean opposition organizations did not offer real efforts to the refugees' ongoing problem except urging the international community to help; something we read repeatedly after each meeting or conference of these organizations.

We are a group of regular Eritreans who live in the United States of America and represent the diverse Eritrean spectrum geographically, ethnically, & religiously. We believe that we have a moral obligation to help our people in Eritrea who became helpless & voiceless under the current regime.

What brought us together is the desire to do something toward what is happening to our brothers & sisters in Eri-

trea. We are not just an additional number in the Eritrean growing number of political & civil society organizations and we do not want to be such. We were established to fill a gap that we think has been missed or neglected. Political reform & Social justice in Eritrea will not come by merely establishing political organizations, debating ideas, issuing statements & spending a

lot of time in meetings & conferences, Rather it will come when we succeed to bring actions to our good ideas, and when we provide real solutions by educating Eritrean refugees building their capacities to enable them make the necessary change.

Appeal to Eritrean in Diaspora Yes we can !

We believe Eritrean can do more than empty calls. We can start with ourselves. Those of us who are in the US, Europe, & Gulf countries are capable to extend helping and to their brothers & sisters in the refugee camps. They can also draw the attention of international Relief organizations toward the humanitarian crisis of Eritrean refugees. This cannot be done

without organizing & mobilizing the efforts of Eritrean Diaspora & without activating the silent majority of Eritrean Diaspora who would like to do something for their people & their country, but do not know how. That is what EFSJD is planning to do.

[Appeal to Eritrean in Diaspora!](#)

We think of EFSJD as a vehicle that use Eritreans' ideas & ef-

forts to help bring real changes for the Eritrean people. Therefore, we call upon all Eritreans in Diaspora and America in particular to come forward and join with their skills and talents the ongoing efforts. If you think our objectives & goals are the same of what you hold, please contact us at:

support@eritreanfoundation.org

EFSJD Focus

There are two areas that we think are the weakest ring in the efforts of bringing justice & political reform to Eritrea:-**First:** Having strong voice in the US, Europe, and Australia on behalf of those who are the victims of the Eritrean regime's violation for human rights. A voice that raises the awareness in these countries at all levels; governments, civic societies, and publics while advocating for social justice & political reform in Eritrea. No doubt about the importance and the benefits of having strong advocates for our just cause in these countries that are capable in bringing changes & reform to the third world. We failed to make our voice heard by the international community. An indication of such failure was clear in the reasoning behind the recent Security Council resolution against Eritrea. The reasoning was limited to the regime's intervention in Somalia without mentioning anything about the suffrage of the Eritrean people under the same regime. **Second:** providing relief & development programs to the hundred of thousand of our people who had fled & still fleeing Eritrea.



Eritrean Refugees

In Sudan: More than ½ million Eritrean Refugees reside in Sudan, and they have been neglected for decades. Despite the “shoot to kill” order in place by the Eritrean government in the borders, every day an average of 100 refugees crossing the border to Sudan.

In Egypt: Egyptian security authorities are searching for hundreds of Eritrean refugees who the United Nations says are being held hostage by Bedouin smugglers in Sinai after the refugees failed to pay the

fees demanded by the smugglers to help them sneak into Israel. They are bound by chains around their ankles, have been deprived of adequate food, are given salty water to drink, and have been tortured using extreme methods, including electric shocks, to force friends and families abroad to make the payments.”

In Libya: Over 220 Eritreans forcibly deported to Eritrea in 2002 and were detained and tortured.

Deportees are believed to be

still detained incommunicado, without charge or trial, in various secret prisons in Dahlak island or the Eritrea mainland.

In Israel: Eritreans are the largest number of refugees in Israel. About 13,000. After a horrible journey to Israel. Interior minister wants to send them back to Eritrea.



Refugee Camps in Sudan

From over 23 refugee camps

- 1-Shegarab South
- 2-Shegerab North
- 3-Shegerab Middle
- 4-Wad Sharifay
- 5-Umgurgur
- 6-Kilo 26
- 7-Fateh Alrahman
- 8-Awad Assaid
- 9-Abu Rakham
- 10-Elmafaza
- 11-Elhawata
- 12-Kilo 7
- 13-Algirba
- 14-Sutarba
- 15-Al-Jaffa
- 16-karkora
- 17-Salmeen
- 18-Um Sagada
- 19-Um broosh
- 20-Waddal Helew
- 21-Al-Fao
- 22-Appoda



*On August 2004,
Refugees hijacked
airplane to stop their
forced deportation to
Eritrea*

[Why Eritrean have to
flee out of their country?](#)

According to **UNHCR**,
because of :

- ◆ Unlimited military service (up to 50 yrs)
- ◆ Religious persecution.
- ◆ Human rights violations

Believe it or NOT! <http://www.channel4.com/programmes/unreported-world/4od#3195925>

Where does it GO? <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BKwWdBS9FD0&NR=1>

Recent Project



Do you know that some Eritrean Refugees' students drop out of school because their families could not afford paying the fees of their kids exam sheets?

Many of the schools that serve Eritrean refugees do not afford to have a copy Machine to copy exams sheets and other necessary materials for students & teachers. Therefore, the schools charge students for the cost of copying their exams in the outside market.

LET US BUY A COPY MACHINE THAT SERVES 2 SCHOOLS AND SAVES THE FUTURE OF THOSE KIDS. IT WILL BENEFIT ABOUT 1000 STUDENTS & TEACHERS.

Activities

Human Rights & Humanitarian Condition Seminar; Several papers were presented by:

Mr. Mahmoud Aderob EFSJD chairman

Congressman Mr. Keith Allison (member of the human rights committee - US Congress)

Mr. James Dorothy chairman for the Human Rights Defenders

Mr. Mohamed Saleh Adam Director - ARAHA charity organization

Mr. Karar Heyabo Editor - Ansaba website.

[The seminar achieved its goal to shed light on the issue of human rights in Eritrea and the Eritrean refugees problem.](#)

You are invited

The Eritrean Foundation for Social Justice & Development is pleased to invite you to attend its

First annual Conference

In

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Human Rights & Humanitarian conditions in Eritrea

When: Saturday January 15, 2011

Time: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Where: Mounds View Community Center

5394 Edgerwood Drive
Mounds View, MN 55112

**** Free Parking is available ****

Eritrean Foundation for Social Justice & Development

Contact: (763) 228-8307 - (520) 891-4660
E-mail: Eritreanfoundation@gmail.com



Mr. Mahmoud Aderob Congressman Keith Allison Mr. James Dorothy

Eritrean Jokes

Red Ink

Two brothers, Joe, and Doe, who lived in America and were members of the PFDJ, decided to immigrate to Eritrea. Even though they didn't believe the American media's negative reports on the conditions in the Eritrea, they decided to exercise caution. First, only Joe would go to Eritrea to test the waters. If, contrary to the media reports, the living conditions would be found good, and the reports about persecutions by the PFDJ false, then Joe would write a letter to Doe, using **black ink**

If, though, the situation in Eritrea, happened to be bad, and Joe, would be afraid of writing the truth, he would use **red ink** to indicate that whatever he says in the letter must not be believed.

In three months Joe, sent his first report, it was in black ink and read, "Dear brother Doe! I'm so happy here! It's a beautiful country; I enjoy complete freedom, and high standard of living. All the American press wrote were lies. Everything is readily available! There is only one small thing of which there's shortage, namely **red ink**."



Asmara Kindergarten

Visiting PFDJ members from abroad were scheduled visit a kindergarten in Asmara. Before they visit, the kids were instructed to answer every question by the visitors with just one sentence, "In **ERITREA** everything is the best in the world."

The visitors came and asked their questions:

"Children, do you like your kindergarten?"

"In **ERITREA** everything is the best in the world!" the kids shouted.

"And what about the food you get?"

"In **ERITREA** everything is the best in the world!"

"Do you like your toys?"

"In **ERITREA** everything is the best in the world!"

At that, the smallest boy in the group started crying.

"Joe, why are you crying?"

"I want to go to **ERITREA!**"



School Survey

In a school, a survey was a conducted among the students. One of the questions was "Would you suggest a classification of Eritrean citizens in accordance with any standard you may choose?"

The student answered :- 'there are three categories of Eritrean people:-

- 1) Those who have already been to **prison**.
- 2) Those who are now in **prison**.
- 3) Those who will be in **prison** any time soon.





Together for brighter future



You can mail your check/Money order to:

Eritrean Foundation for Social Justice & Development

P.O Box 710024

Herndon, VA 20171

USA

Bank Account information:

Capital One Bank

Eritrean Foundation for Social Justice & Development
(EFSJD)

Account Number: 0474380611

Routing Number: 255071981

Membership & Skills Form

<https://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dEJlbfJ0YYVo5ZWx0cVZaRSlaOTc2Zmc6MA>

If you think our objectives & goals are the same of what you hold and have information want to share, please contact us at:

support@eritreanfoundation.org

Thank you

EFSJD