



Eritrean Civic Democratic Movement

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Open appeal letter

Revered members of Eritrean Defence Force and National Security

As you know, few irresponsible leaders in the government risked your lives and the future of our country through failed domestic and foreign policies ever since the establishment of our state after independence. The diplomatic incompetence and gross negligence of the Eritrean Government have been manifested in the mismanagement of the normalization of relations with the regional states on many occasions. The most recent peace agreement with Ethiopia has demonstrated this fact; an initiative that has been kept at a personal level with President Isaias and a few of his representatives instead of making it an institutional process with the approval and support of the Eritrean people.

Peace and stability are intrinsically linked, for this reason, Eritrean Civic Democratic Movement (ECDM) believes that all Eritrean people, together with members of the people`s army accepted the peace initiative with the following reservations:

- The legitimacy of peace can only be achieved if the Eritrean people actively participated in leading the process through their representatives. Thus, it should not be limited to a few unelected individuals to make far-reaching agreements on behalf of the entire Eritrean people in a total absence of transparency and accountability.
- Our close follow-up to numerous political statements by Ethiopian and Eritrean officials seems to indicate that the sovereignty of Eritrea is in a process to be systemically ceded to Ethiopia. This has triggered the negative experience of the abhorrent past of Eritreans with Ethiopia.

- Regional integration initiatives which aim to pursue peace, cooperation and security of our war-torn region and which will ultimately lead to playing a pivotal role globally is welcomed by Eritrean people but, observing Eritrean officials rushing towards state - to - state relations while the first phase of our nation-building process (i.e. transparent political, economic and legal institutions ..Etc.) Hasn` t started yet is considered as unwise and untimely.

Therefore, as a trusted people`s army, your people expect you to fulfil your national role in protecting them from injustice and to maintain the sovereignty of our nation effectively and responsibly within the frame of the rule of law. Saying so, Eritrean Civic Democratic Movement calls for your national pride and dignity to stand by the peaceful people`s movement for democratic change.

The Struggle Continues but, our Victory is certain.

Eritrean Civic Democratic Movement

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