

# **A Protest Letter Against the Forced Repatriation of Eritrean Asylum Seekers by Egyptian Government From Egypt in the Month Where the World Refugee Day is Celebrated Across the Globe**

Thursday, June 26, 2008

His Excellency Muhammad Hosni Mubarak  
President of the Arab Republic of Egypt  
Abedine Palace  
Cairo, Egypt  
Via fax: +20 22 390 1998

Dear President Hosni Mubarak:

As concerned citizens of Eritrea in Diaspora, we are really disappointed to learn as of June 20th, World Refugee Day, your government has forcibly returned more than 800 Eritrean asylum seekers back to Eritrea where they will face harsh reprisals, such as torture, indefinite detention and even deaths in detention. Furthermore, we are alarmed to hear preparations have been made to deport additional 900 Eritrean asylum seekers without access to human rights organizations such as the United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).

Your Excellency:

Are not your government aware about the well-known appeal to all countries by UNHCR, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and other International Organizations to refrain from forcibly deporting of Eritrean asylum seekers to Eritrea where they would be at risk of detention, torture and other serious human rights abuses?

Your Excellency

These Eritrean asylum seekers your government is forcibly repatriating without any legal process are people who have been denied to exercise their freedoms and civil liberties by the rogue regime of Mr. Isaias Afewerki, in Eritrea. For years, they have been living in slavery camps, in the pretext of National Service and National Development Campaign "Warsay-Yikaalo" on a life of unnecessary hard slave labor, breaking and carrying rocks several times their weight or working on the dictatorial regime's nationalized plantation under harsh conditions until they managed to escape from these slavery camps left Eritrea. Therefore, it is with this in mind that we find your inhumane action towards the Eritrean asylum seekers in Egypt absolutely outrageous, and demand your government immediately to send an investigation committee to Eritrea to find out what has happened to those more than 800 Eritrean asylum seekers whom your government has forcibly returned to Eritrea otherwise we will hold you equally responsible as the rogue regime of Mr. Isaias Afewerki.

Your Excellency

Last but not least, we are respectfully calling on your government to stop all forcible returns of Eritrean asylum seekers to Eritrea and give unlimited and immediate access to UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Egypt to assess their asylum claims. As you are

aware, the Government of Arab Republic of Egypt is obligated to respect the rights of refugees and asylum seekers under the 1951 Convention relating to the status of refugees and the UN Convention against torture.

Sincerely yours

Administrators and members of  
"Eritrean Room For Strong And United Opposition" in Paltalk

Copy to:

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2. Spokeswoman Michele Montas,  
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3. Eritrean cyber communities and Internet websites