

## **Referendum and the rule of law is the only way forward for Tigrayans!**

There are different paths to reach a place of choice. **ኢብድላኪ መጥላን ጣላንዬ ጥራይ ትሐርጭ ነጀው በልዩ**. We are now faced and fighting to ward off the Amhara domination by all means. We need to be absolutely sure we are able to dismantle this force so we live in peace with whatever resources we are able to harness.

Before this evil force is decimated for sure to think of all the options we may juggle with and settle for as good is optimistically naive.

Besides we all have different ways of arriving at the same point that Tigrayans need to live in peace and ultimately hoping to progress so as to overcome the challenges Tigrayans face.

It would be the people of Tigray who finally have to decide how they are led and governed. No one ought to speak on behalf of the people what is good for them. And I hope the people know what is good for them and even if they opted what some of us think is a mistaken path and they have chosen for themselves we have to accept and live with it.

There is nothing worse they have seen and experienced in the past than under the current usurper of state power and any move/decision they may make after this current state of affairs couldn't be any worse. If one hits the rock bottom, the worse that can happen that is he/she will stay at the bottom; no better no worse, as he/she couldn't go any deeper than the bottom. If anything if there is any move it is only upward.

I am not advocating no change, but God forbid if there is no change short of the Amhara brutality and suppression I would say so be it. I could live with it unhappy though I may be. The devil I know is a comfort than an alien Angel I know not.

But after we have dealt with the Amhara domination: either our way of life would remain the same or better. After we have dealt with the Amhara we hope things would change for the better.

Likewise, once we established with blood split and our bones smashed, as it is happening now, the Amharas couldn't be trusted to live with and any concept of federation or confederation circumventing the Amhara region with the rest 'Ethiopians' becomes impossible to contemplate. So why worry now what would happen in the future or worry someone, like in the past will drag us to accept this term of coexistence? No one would dare and no fools we will be to accept. But to bicker and drive a wedge, whilst the fighting is raging and not brought to a conclusion is not helpful, even for the path one thinks Tigray ought to choose?

If some may say; why don't we then declare independence now?

Declaration for the sake of declaration may not be an answer.

Declaration is not necessary and politically unwise given the complexity of politics. Just because you declared independence does not necessarily and sufficiently good enough to achieve it. The groundwork to achieve it must be precisely met.

Just because someone is more trusted than another person or group of persons does not also guarantee it will be achieved.

If mistrust is a core of our problem with some personalities, granted it is based on reality of the past, what guarantee is there the one who blazon 'independence' really means it once s/he is on the saddle?

The best option is to leave the decision to the people to map out and decide what they wish and wanted!

The only issue we need all to agree is that the people need to have full power and means to decide for themselves whatever they choose and decide.

The rest must only strive to convince the people whichever political thinking/path we wish them to embrace as their ultimate choice. If not we are striving to dictate. And anyone who dictate is a dictator like the one she/he opposes on a stage!

Besides, independence, let alone Declaration of Independence in the midst of thick war going on, couldn't be taken as a grantor for democratic establishment leading to progress; if that was the case, we would not have witnessed the absolute downfall to the abyss of a next door neighbour country called Eritrea led by an evil dictator whose breakfast, lunch and dinner plates are served with human blood, flesh and bones!