



Genocide & Denial by State Directive: Abiy Ahmed's Hate Speech in Parliament and the Continued Genocide against Amharas

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The Amhara Professionals Union (APU) holds Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali, Oromia Regional President Shimelis Abdisa, their party the Oromo Prosperity Party (OPP), the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA) and allied Oromo politicians, parties and influencers including the Oromo Federalist Congress (OFC) Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) and Ethiopian Citizens for Social Justice (Ethzema) responsible for the ongoing ethnic cleansing and genocide against Amhara people throughout Oromia, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz and other Regions of Ethiopia. We believe these entities push a regressive political ideology known as “Oromuma” which posits that virtually all of Ethiopia was part of a nation known as “Oromia” which must be reclaimed through forced homogenization through violent conquest, genocide, ethnic cleansing and forced assimilation of non-Oromo ethnic groups, primarily members of the Amhara ethnic group whom they regard as historic enemies. Using this guiding political philosophy, extremist Oromo politicians/activists have at the least promoted, incited and prolonged episodes of genocidal violence and ethnic cleansing against Amhara civilian populations as well as other non-Oromo groups. However, APU believes the level of involvement includes orchestrating, planning and ordering these genocidal massacres. The likes of Abiy Ahmed, Shimelis Abdisa, Merera Gudina, Jawar Mohammed, Bekele Gerba, Berhanu Nega, Ahmedin Jebel, and Kamil Shemsu are part and parcel of this dangerous ideology.

All the crimes committed were coordinated with the regime to inflict maximum human casualties. They are carried out with advanced weaponry, which are identical with government-issued military-grade weapons. The transportation they use such as military-issue vehicles, institutional vehicles, ambulances and other vehicles in addition to the logistical support is a clear indication that the ethnic cleansing is government-sponsored and led. This is also evidenced in the repeated destructions of towns in Amhara Region bordering the so-called Oromia Region such as the repeated attacks against Ataye and Shewa Robit throughout 2019-2022 [See comprehensive [2021 annual report](#) published by Amhara Association of America (AAA) and detailed [article](#) with analysis from Genocide Prevention in Ethiopia (GPE)].

There has been a series of hate-laden speeches including the most recent one in parliament on June 14th, 2022 (by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed), who is the primary inciter of the recent ethnic cleansing and genocide of Amharas in the Tole Kebele/precinct (Gimbi Woreda/district, West Wollega Zone, Oromia Region, Ethiopia). Reports confirm at least 1,500 Amhara civilians were killed with some estimates up to 3,000 [see reports from [AAA](#), [IOL News](#), [Lemkin Institute for Genocide Prevention](#) and [GPE](#)].



Background:

All of the extremist Oromo political figures and organizations listed above have made hateful remarks, disseminated hate speech and incited genocide in public venues. One example is provided below of leaked recordings of vile incitements of hatred by Shimelis Abdisa the current President of the Oromo Regional State and executive member of the OPP. The recording, released on August 8th, 2020, contains his voice from a secret closed-door meeting which was attended by prominent Oromo politicians, business people and activists. The full audio is available with English captions [here](#). The following phrases can be heard in the recording:

- *"... Let me tell you Amharas are dying we are killing them and will continue to die...this cannot leave this room"*
- *"...The Neftegnas [code word for Amharas] nation building failed 100 years ago... Now we are re-creating Ethiopia in the image of the Oromo. We are Oromizing Ethiopia in the way we want by cleansing the Neftegnas..."*
- *"..To ensure Oromos own Addis Abeba there are multiple solutions. One is to illegally change the demography of the city as we are currently doing. The other way is to make Addis Abeba an irrelevant city. We will destroy the economy of the city, We can also create 3 or 4 other federal cities and weaken the city..."*
- *"...Do you think we chose 5 languages to be the Federal languages because we give a damn about those other ethnic groups... We added those other languages to defeat and bring the downfall of the Amhara and Tigreans. We are doing it for Oromos."*
- *"Whether you believe it or not all the other regions except for Oromo region are declining, they are diminishing. Oromo region is growing more than you know."*
- *"...Whether you like it or not we [Oromo People's Democratic Organization (OPDO) now Oromo Prosperity Party] created Qerro and transformed them into a paramilitary group which we control now. You can call them Shene, OLA, OLF, Oromo special forces they are all the same. We direct them ...Now we order them to attack the Amharas so that we have plausible deniability"*

Another example is a speech made by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed at an official Oromia regional assembly in 2018. The goal of this speech was to provide direction to Oromo politicians and officials to remove and prevent other ethnic groups from living in the so-called Oromia Region. You can read the words and feel the primordial hatred and contempt he has towards non-Oromos. This is equivalent to the "cut down the trees" dog whistle message by Radio Télévision Libre des Mille Collines prior to the Rwanda genocide in 1993.

- *"..We Oromos cannot allow the lands of Oromia to be inhabited by other ethnic groups.. We have no one to blame but ourselves....we cannot allow this to happen"*
- *"..For Oromo his land means his identity... others cannot be allowed to own it.. you all must take the appropriate actions to prevent and reverse this..We have allowed them to come into our cities and this is unacceptable... "*



The above screenshots are captured from two instances of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali making hateful speeches at an official [Oromia regional assembly in 2018](#) (left) and in a recent [parliamentary meeting on June 14th, 2022](#) (right).

Current Crisis: Abiy Ahmed’s Hate Speech in Parliament

On June 14th 2022, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed falsely and without evidence claimed in parliament that there are people who hate Oromos, and that “...No one will be allowed to live in Ethiopia who holds these views..” (link [here](#)). This type of scapegoating and fascistic politics has no place in a country with 86 ethnic groups and is incredibly destructive. He further went on to accuse some unknown element or force(s) as well as threaten all other ethnic groups. This speech directly resulted in the further ethnic cleansing of Amhara farmers, men, women and children in the West Wollega Zone of the so-called Oromia Region on June 18th, 2022 as reported by [The Guardian](#) and [The New York Times](#).

The recent terror campaign of abductions and assassinations against Fano veterans and the Amhara people at large by the regime is part of a genocidal Oromo supremacist agenda. Reports indicate that over [12,000 Amharas are now abducted, detained, disappeared or assassinated](#). It is clear that there is a concerted effort by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, Oromia Regional President Shimelis Abdisa and their allies to target and force Amharas into submission. This has manifested itself over the last 4 years in the mass displacement and killings of countless Amharas. Based on a mountain of evidence, it is clear that the Oromo paramilitaries including the OLA and terror squads are coordinated and led by the regime and that the attacks are not mere coincidence.



Therefore, APU, calls for:

- **The resignation of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and Oromia Regional President Shimelis Abdisa and the formation of a transitional government.**
- **The International Community and Human Rights Organizations to condemn Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and call for immediate investigation into the genocide of Amharas across all regions of Ethiopia including in the so-called Oromia and Benishangul-Gumuz Regions.**
- **The fascist regime in Ethiopia led by the OPP and their allies the OFC and OLA be held responsible for these crimes including all party/organizational leaders and members.**
- **The resignation of leadership and members of the Amhara Prosperity Party (APP) who we hold equally responsible for the ongoing attacks against Amhara people. We believe the attacks against Amharas are left unmitigated partly because Amhara people do not have any political or legal representation either in or out of the so-called Amhara Region. Even in the Amhara Region the Amhara wing of the ruling prosperity party, APP, never brought these attacks through the formal channels including within the Prime Minister's council or through the legislative houses.**
- **The Amhara people to be included in any and all discussions or negotiations but do not recognize the Amhara Prosperity Party as a representative for the Amhara people. No peace can ever be achieved without the participation of the Amhara people. If this regime is not stopped the entire Horn of Africa region will be thrown into unending bloodshed and chaos.**
- **An end to the unwarranted smear campaign and targeting of Amhara Fano to stop. We believe in the universal right for Amhara people to defend themselves against the wonton killings and recognize Fano as one of the pillars in the defense of Amhara people. In addition, we stand in solidarity with the Amhara people and encourage and support all efforts to express their democratic rights including peaceful protests and mass civil disobedience.**

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