



Eritrean National Council for Democratic Change
Presidency of the Council

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE ERITREANS GATHERED TO OPPOSE THE BOLOGNA FESTIVAL

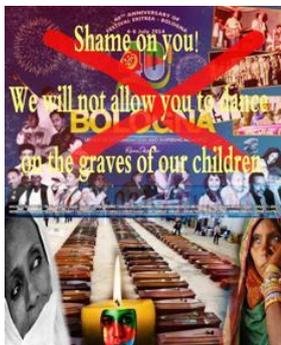
29.06.2014

As the leadership of the ENC4DC, we send our greetings and congratulations to the Eritrean opposition parties and civil society groups and individuals meeting in Bologna. 2014 is the 40th anniversary of the first Bologna festival, then transferred to Eritrea after independence. Now that Eritreans have been fleeing the country in their thousands, the Dictator, Isaias Aferwerki, has chosen to follow them to Bologna, in an effort to mobilise his supporters, to undermine the opposition and to raise money for his own fascist purposes.

This is a government that has ignored the suffering of its own citizens: those in detention camps in Israel, and making a desperate call for help by marching to the border; those held for ransom in Sinai, and drowning in the seas off Lampedusa. Eritreans at home and in the diaspora are increasingly turning against the dictatorship. The recent thirty-eight page pastoral letter by four Catholic bishops in Eritrea, *Where is your brother?* (Genesis 4:9) is a strong appeal to the Eritrean people and an indicator of this movement away from the PFDJ and towards democracy and freedom.

We urge all those who oppose the dictatorship to unite in bringing this situation to the world's attention. The ENC4DC is appealing to the UN, EU, the Pope and to the Italian government in particular, to align themselves with the Eritrean opposition, and to close all offices of the PFDJ. Hundreds of Eritrean asylum-seekers are sleeping on the streets of Rome, Milan and other Italian cities. Let us bring this scandal of forced migration and suffering to an early end.

Leadership of the Eritrean National Council for Democratic Change
Chairman, Tzeggai Yohannes Deres



Protest against the Eritrean Regimes festival in Bologna, 04-07.06.2014



Victims of Lampedusa 3.10.2013



African immigrants in Israel protest near Egypt border June 27, 2014 2:55 PM; Jerusalem (AFP) - Nearly 1,000 illegal African immigrants in Israel on Friday staged a march towards the southern border with Egypt to protest against living conditions in their internment camp, public radio reported. (...)



ERITREAN MHELELA ADETAT
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-PjsCkx6Gs>