



**ብሄራዊ ክልላዊ መንግስቲ ትግራይ**  
**The Government of Regional National State of Tigray**  
**ቢሮ ርክብ ህዝብን መንግስትን**  
**Public and Government Relations Bureau**

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**Press Release**

The journey to Ethiopian Renaissance has lost direction. The current leadership is leading the country into mayhem and destruction. The once tranquil country is in turmoil, its economy is in shambles, death, destruction and displacement have become daily occurrences. We are living at a time when our people are awaiting the next moment with fear and uncertainty.

The recent assassination of Artist and political activist, Hachalu Hundesa, is yet another episode in a series of tragic drama unfolding in the country in the last two years. Understandably, the death of this icon and voice of the downtrodden has triggered uncontrollable anger all over the country especially in Oromia and Addis Ababa.

The government has, unfortunately, been focused on exacerbating the already volatile situation and on scoring cheap political points out of this tragedy. It is not only engaged in widespread killing spree to stifle the widespread outburst of public anger and opposition, it has also arrested prominent political and civic leaders, closed internet connections thorough out the country and independent TV stations and continues to threaten to close regional media outlets. Such military rule style repressive measures will neither help any effort to apprehend the perpetrators of the crime nor create the necessary level of confidence and trust to address the underlying questions surrounding the tragedy.

The government is rather busy releasing an avalanche of statements with the sole purpose of diverting the attention of the public away from its egregious acts and in the process absolve itself from the crime. Its contradictory statements have created more questions than answers as to the role of the government in the whole saga. The rush of the Prime Minister and other senior officials to finger point at some corners and pass judgment before proper investigation is made is a source of serious concern about the agenda of the government. Such preemptive verdict has from the start compromised the reliability and objectivity of any government led investigation.

The Tigray National Regional State has been following the recent developments with great concern and keen interest. Immediately after the assassination of the Artist and political activist, it has appealed to the government to stop its campaign of violence against innocent people and investigate the crime by an independent body. The government has, however, turned a deaf ear to our appeal and has rather escalated its policy of repression and imprisonment and publicly declared that it will continue to pursue such a dictatorial route.

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"በተመሳሳዩ መንግስታዊ ስልጠና ላይ ተሳታፊነት ለማሳካት ለሚገባው ሰው ለሰው ግንኙነት ማረጋገጥ ማድረግ ላይ ማሳሰብ። ሰላምን ሰናይ ምምርን ዝንባላ፣ ምዕብልን ተዋዳሪዎችን ዝንባላ ማረጋገጥ ማድረግ።"

