

Why Talk Of Boycott When It Comes to the Interest of Amaras?

Mekonnen Kassa

It is no secret that a high level delegation from Amara Kilil administration office has started touring in the United States. The main mission of the delegates is to discuss the prevailing economic, social and political condition in the Amara Kilil in particular and in Ethiopia in general.

I personally want to welcome the Amara Kilil government officials and like to recognize the fruitful effort of the Ethiopian government for paying long overdue attention to this issue. It is to be remembered that government officials from Oromia, Somalia, Tigray administrations have recently held similar meetings all over the United States.

For far too long, the vociferous opposition has enjoyed a monopoly of informing and misinforming the Amara Diaspora. Ethiopians in America, and most notably Amaras, have been consumers of the unscrupulous and hateful propaganda spewed by the chauvinist opposition in the United States.

It is about time Amaras get a chance to learn about what is happening in Ethiopia from “the horse’s mouth”, so to speak. We reserve the right and deserve the opportunity to ask any question, without reservation, to these government officials, as long as we conduct ourselves in a professional, dignified, and respectful manner.

Now, what I cannot understand is that, the opposition kept quiet while other nationalities had their chances. Why are some trying to deny us, Amaras, the chance to learn about what is taking place at our hometowns? Why are they working to deny us the chance to ask government officials to find long term solutions to the political, economic, and Kilil districting problems in Amara Kilil including in Gondar?

The opposition, out here in the hinterland, epitomizes hypocrisy to a never seen before level. They talk of the Ethiopian government restricting the free flow of information. They complain the government blocks their websites and their bloggings. And they convicted the government guilty of charges of being undemocratic in nature.

Be that as it may, but why does the opposition not practice what it preaches? Unless they are engaged in childish game of tit-for-tat or they have a desire to continue unfettered monopoly on informing Ethiopians, why not let Amaras hear the story from the government side? Why not trust in the intelligence of Ethiopians to consume information from all available sources and make their own judgment? Is that too much to ask?