

It Is Official, Diaspora: CUDP Is Broken Beyond Repair!

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Most of us have consistently disputed the notion that the Coalition for Unity and Democracy (CUD) party was a real political party with real constituents that reside in Ethiopia. We openly argued that the CUD party was an ungodly alliance that does not have genuine political program; that the party was a house of cards; that the party was comprised of opportunistic individuals with creepy political agenda; that the party was hastily assembled in the U.S. and shipped to Ethiopia to serve Hailu Shawel and co.; and that the defective party ought to be recalled before it caused serious damage to the fabric of our society.

A few in the Diaspora failed to heed our warnings, and now—after the fact—they seem to have awakened from their deep hibernation to a grim reality in which no amount of lies can do the trick anymore. Even the die hard supporters of *Kinijit* such as the solo member of the so-called Anuak Justice Council, Mr. Obang Metho, and the lie master, Mr. Fekade Shewakena are finally admitting the discord within the *Kinijit* leadership circle is life-threatening. Although I agree with the *Shewakens* that *Kinijit* is in deep crisis, I doubt that *Kinijit* has had a life of its own in the first place. Engineered by Mr. Hailu Shawel, *Kinijit* has been made to breath through the nostrils of *Almariam*, and a few other crooks in the D.C. area. The party has been in a vegetative stage since its inception. It is time to pull the party away from the artificial ventilators and feeding tubes and call for its burial ceremony sooner than later.

To be honest, I take no comfort with the current squabbles between Mr. Hailu Shawel and Mr. Berhanu Nega. I wish these two individuals and others in the high echelon of the *Kinijit* were wise enough to learn one or two democratic lessons from the West where they claim to have lived for many years. A mature and responsible opposition party is of paramount importance to a country's political, economical, and social progress. Simply put, a sensible opposition is a mirror to any incumbent government in which it sees its day to day activities—good and bad.

Conversely, a political party consisting of short-sighted individuals is a predicament to any real progress, and, unfortunately, what we have in Ethiopia is just that. To *Kinijit*, being in the opposition is equated to dismissing any and all deeds of the government in power regardless of their merit to the public; the idea “one-fits-all” (one culture, one language) is a sacred belief that should not be tampered with; and no one other than the CUD party is endowed with leadership skills to head Ethiopia. This is sickness in its purest form, and it is a reality, especially in the Diaspora *Kinijit* supporters.

Even though most of us are not surprised by the current crisis of the CUD party, some in the Diaspora are. We say, welcome to the club. We saw this was coming but were not sure when. Now, it is here in our yards. Truth be told, CUDP is broken beyond repair. This situation is captured well in an Amharic saying, “Berile Keneka Aihonim Eka.” Any attempt in repairing it would be a fool's endeavor.