Letter of Condolence from Ethiopians in Perth, Western Australia

We are short of words to express how deeply saddened by the untimely death of our beloved Prime Minister, Meles Zenawi. We join all Ethiopians and friends of Ethiopia in their mourning and express our heartfelt condolences to his family.

Our respected Prime Minister was a visionary and a great social engineer. He was our diplomat and our economist. He is a genius who generously dedicated his entire adult life fighting for his people and country against inequality, injustice and poverty.

We are grateful that he has changed Ethiopia's image in the world. Ethiopia is now known as a country of rapid economic growth and as guardian of peace and security in Africa.

Our Prime Minister was a powerful and well respected spokesman for African issues on the international scene such as the G8, G20, the World Economic Forum and on climate change issues.

We Ethiopians have lost our greatest leader. However, we take pride in that he has managed to elevate the nation of 80 million people into a regional economic and political power and in that he has left a better Ethiopia behind. He has empowered and inspired millions who, we have no doubt, will follow in his footsteps so that Ethiopia will continue to progress and prosper.

Our beloved Prime Minister, your struggle will continue to brighten our country Ethiopia forever!!!

You will be deeply missed in our hearts.

May your Soul rest in peace.

Ethiopians in Perth, Western Australia