

Said Ahmed Negash Support Group in Toronto

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Press Release on the current situation of Tigray



In the Name of Allāh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

We, Said Ahmed Negash Support Group in Toronto, Canada, are saddened and angered by the unjust war on Tigray and the tragic targeted destruction of the Al Nejashi Mosque and Churches in the region. We are outraged to hear hundreds of civilians were killed trying to protect places of worship from the looting of historical artifacts.

We are deeply disturbed by some Ethiopian-Muslim organizations weaponizing this humanitarian crisis as a platform to raise the Axum mosque issue at this time when Tegarū, irrespective of religion or belief, are dying for no reason except their ethnicity. To divert attention away from the current genocidal actions by Abiy's Government is shameful. True followers of Islam, who believe in justice and protection of the oppressed, would not mention such a divisive issue at this time when people are being exterminated. Those who use this atrocity as a platform to raise the issue cannot be called anything less than a Hypocrite.

As Tegarū Muslims, we feel abandoned by the Ethiopian-Muslim leadership who are silent during this genocide. We are now on day 74 of the War on Tigray. There is a critical shortage of food, water, medicine, fuel and cash for the entire region. Currently, 2.3 Million people need urgent humanitarian assistance, 50% of which are children.

We should all be outraged by the atrocities happening on the honored land of the First Hijra instead of being complicit. Tigray holds a special place in the history of Islam since 613 AD when the companions and relatives of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) were granted refuge and protection by King Nejashi in order to freely practice Islam without persecution. King Al Nejashi

was a noble man renowned for justice in the land where human rights were cherished. People of Tigray deserve better.

Given the vacuum of leadership, we are urging the Ethiopian-Muslim community to unequivocally condemn the Abiy government for the multiple crimes against humanity amounting to international war crimes.

We, the members of Said Ahmed Negash Support Group, are calling for:

- An immediate end to the war on Tigray and an immediate withdrawal of foreign forces;
- Unfettered access to humanitarian agencies to provide the much-needed aid and support;
- A UN mandated team to assess the damages of historical places of worship and publicly report the findings;
- A UN mandated investigation of the war crimes that have been committed against Tigray and its people, including the Mai Kadra massacre;
- Unrestricted access to members of the independent media (both domestic and international);

May Allah (SWT) protect us all from the evil work of these preparators and their supporters.

Said Ahmed Negash Support Group in Toronto, Canada