

## **The Abductees Cause is our Common Cause**

Dear Compatriots,

It is known to all of us that the Irob abductees' issue is still a thorn in the throat of our society. Not only that, given total disregard of the Ethiopian government and less attention it has been garnered from the Ethiopian community at large to this date, we in IRAA are afraid that our abductees are being left to their fate. The Irob Community in North America wrote several communiqués from early days and sent the Irob abductees case to all international human rights organizations and other world communities including the UN, African Union, European Union USA government etc. Irob Rights Advocacy Association (IRAA) also issued some statements and delivered appeals to concerned authorities. It is delightful to know that the Goron group decided to be part of the undertaking as well. IRAA encourages them to continue the fight and it assures that it will cooperate with them and, for that matter, with whoever struggles for the freedom of our compatriots.

IRAA has been trying the best it can to keep the cause of these abductees alive. The statements and press releases of IRAA as an association and individual IRAA members endeavor to bring up to the attention of the wider public is to be found in [www.irobmablo.org](http://www.irobmablo.org) and some other Ethiopian websites.

Albeit commendable efforts waged by the Irob groups, we could not yet attain the release of our abductees.

The reasons behind are the negligence of the Ethiopian government, insufficient cooperation of the other Ethiopians and lack of exerted united and coordinated action from Irob compatriot's worldwide.

These being some of the major obstacles hindering us from achieving positive results in our endeavor, with exerted united and coordinated action, we obviously can function better. Hence, our united action is pivotal and if there is the will from all sides, it is within our reach. It is we who can do it and it is only we who are to be blamed when we fail to achieve our unity for this common goal from which we all can profit as a community.

To stand in unison means to build a substantial pressure group which can attract world public and media attention. Besides, the way to communicate and our capacity of influencing the good offices of international organizations, Governments and Human rights organizations will be served better when we stand together as one. With united approach we also surely would be better positioned to influence the Ethiopian government to heed to our call and recognize the abduction of our citizens. Hence, we equally call upon all compatriots to come together to fight for the release of our citizens from the shackles of Shaebia.

IRAA, as stated in its program and its website, sincerely wants and intends to cooperate with all Irob groups working for the welfare of the Irob people. IRAA and Irobmablo.org are there to serve the purpose of the Irob people and it is at the disposal of every Irob coming forward with a

substantiated issue for the good of our people. Thus, regarding the Goron Admin's call, IRAA appreciates the undertaking and it is ready to cooperate.

IRAA

29 October 2011