



## የኢትዮጵያዊ-ካናዳዊያን ኅብረተሰብ ማህበር በኤድመንተን Ethiopian-Canadian Community Association in Edmonton

12 November 2013

His Excellency Osamah Al Sanosi Ahmad  
Ambassador of Saudi Arabia  
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Edmonton, Alberta  
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www.ethio-edmonton.org

Services offered at the  
Association

- New Comers Service
- Employment Service
- Social & Family  
Counseling
- Youth Development &  
Integration
- Immigration and  
Citizenship Assistance
- Relief and Mutual  
Assistance
- Power of Attorney  
for Ethiopia (Amharic)
- Financial literacy
- Seniors socialization

Your Excellency,

The Ethiopian-Canadian Community Association in Edmonton (ECCAE) is a long-established organization that serves thousands of Canadians of Ethiopian origin in Edmonton. Given the strong bond between our community members and our birth country, Ethiopia, our Association concerns itself with significant events and issues that impact Ethiopians wherever they may be.

It is with deep dismay and concern that we are following the brutal treatment of Ethiopian immigrants in the hands of the Saudi Arabian police, army and members of the Saudi public. Video footages now available on the internet and eye-witness reports confirm that more than half a dozen have been killed in the recent crackdown, hundreds have sustained injuries of varying degrees, and hundreds are still missing. Disturbing reports also implicate the Saudi security forces and members of the Saudi public to raping Ethiopian women.

Those who have been rounded are kept in deplorable sanitary conditions, without adequate food and drink or critically needed medical attention. At least one Ethiopian woman has experienced miscarriage while in custody.

These actions are a blatant violation of the human rights of Ethiopian immigrants in Saudi Arabia and contradict several international conventions on human rights and the treatment of migrant workers and their families.

The Saudi government claims that it is carrying out the crackdown to expel illegal immigrants. However, the actions have indiscriminately targeted all Ethiopian living and working in Saudi Arabia regardless of their immigration status. Furthermore, the barbaric acts of the police, the army, and members of the public are inexcusable under any circumstance. Concerns are being expressed that this level of brutality betrays a clear racial undertone.

We are, therefore, requesting your government's urgent attention to this matter including bringing to justice the perpetrators of the killings and inhuman treatment of Ethiopian immigrants in Saudi Arabia.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tezeta Firew Azmatch  
President, ECCAE



ማህበራችን የሥልጣን የሥልጣን ሥልጣን አመለካከትን አያስተናግድም። ለሁሉም የኢትዮጵያዊያን እና የካናዳዊያን ዜጎች በማህበራዊ ንጋዥና የሚያጋጥሟቸውን ንግር ለማቆም ይረዳል። ብቻ ለሥልጣን ይቆያል። አንድምንም ይሰጥናል። The ECCAE is non-political, non-religious and non-ethnic association. It helps to maintain Ethiopian culture and unity and also it helps Edmontonians of Ethiopian descent and new comers in their integration to Canadian Society.

Appendix:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k0OfnrvCXZ0>

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahWRxoFaWBs&oref=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DahWRxoFaWBs&has\\_verified=1](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahWRxoFaWBs&oref=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DahWRxoFaWBs&has_verified=1)

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/saudi-police-clash-with-foreign-workers-20131104197145869.html>

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/11/ethiopian-migrant-killed-saudi-crackdown-2013116182628828345.html>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-24888304>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-11-12/ethiopia-urges-probe-after-3-die-in-saudi-labor-crackdown.html>

[http://www.france24.com/en/20131112-three-ethiopians-immigrants-killed-saudi-arabia?ns\\_campaign=editorial&ns\\_source=RSS\\_public&ns\\_mchannel=RSS&ns\\_fee=0&ns\\_linkname=20131112\\_three\\_ethiopians\\_immigrants\\_killed\\_saudi\\_arabia](http://www.france24.com/en/20131112-three-ethiopians-immigrants-killed-saudi-arabia?ns_campaign=editorial&ns_source=RSS_public&ns_mchannel=RSS&ns_fee=0&ns_linkname=20131112_three_ethiopians_immigrants_killed_saudi_arabia)

<http://www.ethiomeia.com/13report/5212.html>

[http://www.ethiomeia.com/13report/smne\\_111213.pdf](http://www.ethiomeia.com/13report/smne_111213.pdf)

CC To:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Ministry of Justice Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Ministry of Information Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Saudi Embassy in Addis Ababa

Saudi Embassy in London, United Kingdom

Saudi Embassy in Washington, D.C.

Saudi Arabia Cultural Bureau

Canada International Council

U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights

UNHCR

Human Rights Watch

Amnesty International,

ICRC International Red Cross

IOM

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