



**Afar Regional State
Samara**

Press Communiqué

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**Condemning the Brutal Attack on ENDF and
Supporting Law Enforcement Operation!**

The AFAR UGUUGUMO has been waging an armed struggle **for 41 years from 1978 to 2019, against** the Tigray Peoples Liberation Front (TPLF), which imposed Tigray ethnic hegemonic rule on the Afar People to gain control over their land when the TPLF Junta was fighting against the Derg regime in our locality. So, TPLF was only 3 years old UGUUGUMO fought the TPLF **for 41 years**; namely until we signed the Peace Agreement with the Prime Minister Dr. Abiy Ahmed's government in Asmara on 14 March 2019. In 1991, the TPLF (EPRDF) became the ruling party in Ethiopia, while the Afar UGUUGUMO continued its armed struggle against Tigray ethnic hegemonic rule in order to maintain and ensure the unity of the Afar People and allow them to freely determine their political status and pursue their own form of economic, cultural, and social development.

Under the TPLF's rule, the Afar people have been denied the right to self-determination - a binding principle in both international law and Ethiopian Constitution, which refers to peoples' right to freely determine their political status, and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development. The Afar People have been the victims of political and economic marginalisation, unlawful judicial killings, arbitrary imprisonment and gross human rights abuses at the hands of TPLF. In 2014, the **TPLF regime committed crimes of ethnic and cultural genocide against Afar People by forming illegal Kebeles (administrative units) to Somali-Issa tribe in the Afar Region** to bring about the physical and cultural destruction of Afar People and to instigate the endless ethnic conflict between the Afar and the Somali regions to maintain its divide and rule policy.

All information disseminated and broadcast by the Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation (EBC) and other social networks regarding Afar UGUUGUMO's connection to the TPLF are absolutely baseless and unfounded allegations. Such fabricated false information have been disseminated to damage the good reputation of the Afar UGUUGUMO and to confuse people. They must be stopped. **The Afar UGUUGUMO doesn't have any connection to the TPLF at all.**

Regarding the current situation in the country, the Afar UGUUGUMO Party provides unquestionable and unwavering support to the ongoing Law Enforcement Operation declared on the TPLF Junta by reformist Dr. Abiy Ahmed to maintain or restore public security, law and order in the country. The Law Enforcement Operation declared on the TPLF by the Government is lawful and it is constitutionally governed by domestic law and the acts of the House of Federation and Parliament to maintain the rule of law. The Afar UGUUGUMO Party **condemns without reservation and in the strongest possible terms possible the indiscriminate killing of ENDF, brutal slaughter of the Ethiopian peoples and barbaric crimes committed by TPLF against peoples of Ethiopia.** The Afar UGUUGUMO Party encourages the Government of Ethiopia to ensure that the leadership of the TPLF and their affiliated individuals in the Afar region responsible for extrajudicial executions, barbaric killings, corruptions, and gross violations of human rights are brought to justice.

E. C. of the Afar UGUUGUMO

