

ETHIOPIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

No Human Rights = No Democracy

Special Report No. 90

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The human rights situation in Ethiopia has been going from bad to worse since the May 2005 General Election. The June 8th crackdown against peaceful protestors has claimed dozens of lives, including those who were not involved in the protest, and led to mass arrest of thousands of innocent people from Addis Ababa alone. This repressive measure by the government has only exacerbated the political tension in the country.

The roundtable talks between the opposition and the ruling party, which was mediated by the diplomatic community in Addis Ababa, were discontinued without any result. The call of the Coalition for Unity and Democracy (CUD) for peaceful protest through the hooting of car horns and stay-aways was denounced as unlawful by the government, which regarded such protest as tantamount to an insurrection to overthrow the constitutional order. And the closure of peaceful avenues for expressing political dissent has precipitated the explosion of pent up frustration, with the confrontation between stone throwing youths and well armed security forces easily degenerating into an unprecedented street violence on November 1st and 2nd particularly in Addis Ababa. The security forces indiscriminately fired live ammunition at unarmed civilians to stop the protest. The outcome has been yet more loss of lives and unnecessary destruction of both private and public property. On November 15, 2005, the Federal Police Commissioner reported to Parliament that 35 civilians and seven policemen had lost their lives in and outside Addis Ababa, 156 civilians and 338 policemen had been injured, over 153 vehicles, most of them public buses, had been damaged, and private property burned down during the protest. So far most of the leaders of the CUDP whom the Prime Minister has accused of committing treason, have been put behind bars, awaiting prosecution. Following the wave of mass arrest of people in Addis Ababa, the police reported that it had released over 8,000 people who it said had no link with the street protest, but it has not disclosed how many were arrested and how many are still languishing in official and unofficial prisons as well as military camps. Nor is the true scale of the loss of lives and the destruction of property known since the crack down has also shut down most of the independent presses and thrown into jail several journalists and publishers.

Despite the enormous challenges encountered, the Ethiopian Human Rights Council (EHRCO) has been investigating the human rights violations that have occurred on 1st November 2005 and on subsequent days. It is still in the process of investigating several reports of human rights violations which it has continued to receive from victims, families of victims, witnesses and other sources. The following report is hence based only on a fraction of the violations that have been reported to EHRCO.

1. Extra-Judicial Killings

Article 14 of the Ethiopian Constitution provides that *“Every person has the inviolable and inalienable right to life, the security of person and liberty.”* Article 15 also provides that *“Every person has the right to life. No person may be deprived of his life except as a punishment for a serious criminal offence determined by law.”* Article 13 (2) provides that *“The fundamental rights and freedoms specified in this Chapter shall be interpreted in a manner conforming to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenants on Human Rights and international instruments adopted by Ethiopia.”*

According to Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), *“Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.”* Article 6 of the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICPR) provides that *“Every human being has the inherent right to life. This right shall be protected by law. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life.”*

However, in violation of the provisions of the Constitution and the international human rights instruments, government security forces have caused the loss of lives by firing live ammunition at unarmed civilians, several of whom were not even at the scene of the protest.

Table1. Persons Reported Killed

No	Name	Age	Sex	Date of Killing	Place	Particulars
1.	Mubarek Mebratu	-	M	01/11/05	A.A	
2.	MetEEK Zeleke	24	M	>>	>>	7 th grade student
3.	Kibret Edelu	45	>>	>>	>>	-
4.	Mekoya Mebratu	-	>>	>>	>>	-
5.	Alemayehu Zewde	25	>>	2/11/05	>>	-
6.	Fekadu Amele Delgae	32	>>	>>	>>	-
7.	Mesaye Adiss	30	>>	>>	>>	-
8.	Beailu Tesfay	22	>>	>>	>>	Student
9.	Siraj Nure	18	>>	>>	>>	“
10.	Abebech Bekele	57	F	>>	>>	-
11.	Etenesh Yimam	52	F	>>	>>	Shot dead near her home when she protested at arrest of her husband, a CUDP member
12.	Giksa Tolla Setegne	18	>>	>>	>>	6 th grade student
13.	Kebneshe Melke	50	F	>>	>>	A mother of 5 children
14.	Abyaneh Sissay	-	M	>>	>>	-
15.	Tsegahun W/Michal	-	>>	3/11/05	>>	College student
16.	Yassin Nuredin	10	>>	>>	>>	Shot dead near his home while playing football
17.	Kebede Bedada	20	M	9/11/05	>>	College student
18.	Tadele Shere	28	>>	17/11/05	>>	Daily laborer
19.	Jaqema Bedane	20	>>	9/11/05	Ambo	Student
20.	Hassen Dulla	70	M	3/11/05	Arba Minch	Hussen's father
21.	Hussen Hassen	30	>>	>>	>>	Hassen's son
22.	Elfness Tekele	35	F	>>	>>	-
23.	Belaye Dejene	15	M	>>	>>	-
24.	Teshome Addis	71	>>	4/11/05	Bahir Dar	-
25.	Bademaw Mogese	20	>>	>>	>>	-
26.	Dessalgne Kende	20	>>	>>	>>	-
27.	Yesuf Mohammed	20	>>	>>	>>	-
28.	Mulu Muche	-	F	>>	>>	-
29.	Zemedhun Agedw	18	M	>>	>>	Student
30.	Tewodros Zewde	17	>>	7/11/05	Nekemt	-
31.	Sintayehu Estifanos	14	>>	2/11/05	Addis Ababa	Student
32.	Tewodros Kebede	25	>>	2/11/05	Addis Ababa	Student
33.	Ambaw Legesse	60	>>	3/11/05	Kaliti	Labourer
34.	Zelalem Ketsela	31	>>	2/11/05	Addis Ababa	-

2. Injuries from Gun Shots and Beatings

Article 16 of the Ethiopian Constitution provides that “Every one has the right to protection against bodily harm.” Article 18 (1) of the same Constitution provides that “Everyone has the right to protection against cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.”

Article 5 of the UDHR provides that ‘No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.’ Article 7 of the ICPR provides that “No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment...” Unfortunately, these provisions have once again been grossly violated by the police forces who have caused serious injuries by indiscriminately firing at and beating civilians, regardless of whether they had committed any offence.

Table 2. Persons Reported Beaten or Wounded

<i>No</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Date beaten/ Wounded</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Particulars</i>
1.	Jemal Hailu	-	M	1/11/05	A.A	Bullet wounded on his right shoulder & treated in hospital
2.	Hadra Muktar	-	F	>>	>>	Mouth injured & treated in hospital
3.	Denknesh Benti	18	>>	>>	>>	Wounded on her left chest, treated in hospital
4.	Romadan Kedir	-	M	>>	>>	Wounded by bullet
5.	Muluken Degaga	19	>>	>>	>>	Head injured from beating & treated in hospital
6.	Hunegnaw Teferi	25	>>	>>	>>	Right hand injured from beating & treated in hospital
7.	Feleke Takson	-	>>	>>	>>	Head injury from beating, treated in hospital
8.	Kinfemichael Kiros	27	>>	>>	>>	Shot on his left chest, treated in hospital
9.	Anwar Feleke	20	>>	>>	>>	Bullet wound on his left leg, treated in hospital
10.	Ayele Bekele	-	>>	>>	>>	Bullet wound on his throat & unable to speak, treated in hospital.
11.	Anteneh Enyew	20	>>	>>	>>	Shot on the back & treated in hospital
12.	Yehune Zeseke	32	>>	>>	>>	Wounded with bullet and treated in hospital
13.	Zelege W/Michael	27	>>	>>	>>	Right hand injured from beating, treated in hospital.
14.	Getachew Zeberga	22	>>	>>	>>	Shot on the back, treated in hospital
15.	Mitiku Abshera	27	>>	>>	>>	Wounded with bullet on his testicles
16.	Abrham Lema	27	M	>>	>>	Wounded on his left shoulder, treated in hospital
17.	Semen Admassu	28	>>	>>	>>	Wounded on his left hand and back, treated in hospital
18.	Worku Fekadu	25	>>	>>	>>	Wounded on his left leg, treated in hospital
19.	Girma Ayidagne	20	>>	>>	>>	AAU student
20.	Habtamu Bekele	15	>>	>>	A.A	>>
21.	W/ro Genet Mussa	-	F	>>	>>	Daily laborer
22.	Brehanu Megersa	19	>>	2/11/05	Ambo	Student
23.	Wakema Chelhisa	17	>>	10/11/05	>>	Student
24.	Tamerat Manaye	-	M	4/11/05	Gonder	-
25.	Fentaw Takele	-	>>	>>	>>	Barber
26.	Alemayehu Worku	-	>>	>>	>>	Student
27.	Engda Kebede	15	>>	3/11/05	Arba Minch	Wounded on his right hand
28.	Getnet Geja	18	>>	>>	>>	Wounded on his chest
29.	Mekonnen Gancho	18	>>	>>	>>	Wounded on his right leg
30.	Zelalem Zewde	18	>>	>>	>>	Wounded on his right leg
31.	Mathews Dufte	32	>>	>>	>>	Wounded on his left hand
32.	Mesaye Yonnas	18	>>	>>	>>	Wounded on his right hand
33.	Tariku Fanta	18	>>	>>	>>	Wounded on his left hand
34.	Asnakche Tadesse	35	F	>>	>>	Wounded on her right shoulder
35.	Mulatwa Befekadu	30	>>	>>	>>	Wounded on her right hand
36.	Tesfahun Mazengia	18	M	4/11/05	Gonder	Wounded on his face

37.	Eshetu Nega	19	>>	>>	>>	--
38.	Berekt G/Eyesus	21	>>	>>	>>	Wounded on his chest
39.	Assefa Abebe	23	>>	>>	>>	Wounded on his head
40.	Negusse Beza	22	>>	>>	>>	Wounded on his head
41.	Mastawal Tilahun	18	>>	>>	>>	-
42.	Berhanu Goshu	-	>>	4/11/05	Bahir Dar	-
43.	Tigist Ayele	-	F	>>	>>	-
44.	Adane Kasse	-	M	>>	>>	-
45.	Getaneh Limenh Balew	28	>>	23/11/05	A.A	CUD member, injury to head from beating
46.	Kasahun Fantahun Temere	29	>>	>>	>>	Elected CUD member, injury to head from beating
47.	Ashenafi Amat	-	>>	4/11/05	Bahir Dar	-
48.	KebreMedhin Zegeye	-	>>	>>	>>	-
49.	Genet Zewde	-	F	-	>>	-
50.	Ashenafi Mengiste	-	M	2/11/05	A.A	Shot on the knee while trying to collect the body of Abayneh Sissay
51.	Eyob Kidane	-	>>	>>	>>	9 th grade student, leg injury from gun shot
52.	Gobena Tadesse	-	>>	>>	>>	Driver's assistant, wounded on his hand
53.	Deribachew Lakew	-	>>	-	Nekemt	Beaten severely and hospitalised in Nekemte
54.	Efrem Negash	-	>>	-	>>	small finger broken; hospitalised in Nekemte
55.	Bekele Ayele	-	>>	-	>>	Injury from beating
56.	Mohamed Adem	-	>>	-	>>	>>
57.	Samueel Elias	-	>>	-	>>	>>
58.	Efrem Solomon	-	>>	-	>>	>>
59.	Mulugeta Aklilu	-	>>	-	>>	>>
60.	Bizensh Abate	-	>>	-	>>	>>
61.	Habtamu Basazinew	-	>>	-	>>	Serious foot injury
62.	Ato Hussein Saied	-	>>	3/11/05	Dessie	In a comma from severe beating

3. Arbitrary Arrest and Detention

Sub-Article 17 (2) of the Ethiopian Constitution provides that “No person may be subject to arbitrary arrest, and no person may be detained without a charge or conviction against him.” The Constitution prohibits any deprivation of liberty except as per the procedures and grounds established by law (Art. 17). Sub-Article 19 (1) of the Constitution provides that “Persons arrested have the right to be informed promptly in a language they understand, of the reasons for their arrest and of any charge against them.” Also, Sub-Article 19(3) provides that “Persons arrested have the right to be brought before a court within 48 hours of their arrest...” Sub-Articles 21 (2) of the Constitution states: “All persons shall have the opportunity to communicate with, and to be visited by their spouses or partners, close relatives, friends, religious councillors, medical doctors and their legal counsel.”

Contrary to these provisions, the police have detained thousands of citizens and later released them saying that they had committed no offence. A number of detainees held in places such as Dedesa Valley have appeared on Ethiopian television and said that they had been arrested without being involved in the protest. Many others are still held in detention in undisclosed locations without being charged. Reports received by EHRCO indicate that many detainees have been held in Bir Shelleko valley. The military camps used as detention centers are inaccessible to families that wish to visit their loved ones. Furthermore, not many families know where their loved ones are detained. There have also been cases of family members being illegally detained in lieu of other wanted members of their family. This is in clear violation of the fundamental rights of these citizens who are being held against their will as if they were hostages.

Table 5. Persons Reported Detained

No.	Name of victim	Age	Sex	Date of arrest	Place	Particulars
1.	Eng. Hailu Shawel	-	M	1/11/05	A.A	CUD Chairperson
2.	Miss Birtukan Midekssa	-	F	>>	>>	First D/Chairperson
3.	Muluneh Eyoel	-	M	>>	>>	CUD Secretary General
4.	Dr. Yakob H/Mariam	-	>>	>>	>>	CUD Executive Committee Member
5.	Eng. Gizachew Sheferaw	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
6.	Dr. Befekadu Degfe	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
7.	Dr. Berhanu Nega	-	>>	>>	>>	CUD's Mayor Elect for Addis Ababa
8.	Prof. Mesfin W/Mariam	-	>>	>>	>>	CUD Council Member
9.	Dr. Hailu Araya	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
10.	Debebe Eshetu	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
11.	Gebre Tsadik H/Mariam	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
12.	Col. Tamiru Gulilat	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
13.	Bedru Adem	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
14.	Maj. Getachew Mengiste	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
15.	Aschalew Ketema	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
16.	Kassahun Kebede	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
17.	Habtamu G/Hiwot	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
18.	Biruk Kebede		>>	-	>>	>>
19.	Anteneh Mulugeta	-	>>	-	>>	>>
20.	Tamirat Tarekegne	-	>>	-	>>	CUD member
21.	Seleshi Andarge	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
22.	Abebe Tilahun	-	>>	-	>>	>>
23.	Asrat Tasse	-	>>	-	>>	>>
24.	Assefa Habtewolde	-	>>	-	>>	>>
25.	Salawleh Kebede Nega	37	>>	2/11/05	>>	>>
26.	Negist G/Hiwot	-	>>	-	>>	Former member of executive committee of EHRCO
27.	Dawit Kebede		>>	>>	>>	Journalist
28.	Feleke Tebebu	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
29.	Eskinder Nega		>>	26/11/05	>>	Journalist/Newspaper publisher
30.	Sisay Agena		>>	>>	>>	>>
31.	Serkalem Fassil		F			>>
32.	Dawit Fassil		M	>>	>>	Journalist
33.	Zekarias Tesfaye		>>	9/11/05	>>	>>
34.	Dereje Habtewold		>>	>>	>>	>>
35.	Fasil Yenealem		>>	>>	>>	>>
36.	Nardos Meaza		F	>>	>>	>>
37.	Danel Bekele	-	>>	27/11/05	>>	Action Aid Officer
38.	Bisrat Hamelmal	-	>>	>>	A.A	Lawyer, now released
39.	Wondwosen Tsegaslassie	-	>>	-	>>	-
40.	Yilkal Abayneh	-	>>	-	>>	-
41.	Mulunesh Negash	-	F	-	>>	-
42.	Mulunesh Abebaw	-	>>	-	>>	-

43.	Bekele Girma	-	M	-	>>	-
44.	Messele Tsegaye	-	>>	-	>>	-
45.	Nardos Meaza	-	>>	-	>>	-
46.	Biruk Kebede	-	>>	-	>>	-
47.	Dr. Tadewos Bogale	-	>>	-	>>	-
48.	Andualem Ayele	-	>>	-	>>	-
49.	Lilina Gugssa	-	F	-	>>	Secretary
50.	Mamushet Amare	-	M	-	>>	-
51.	Zerihun Asrat	-	>>	-	>>	-
52.	Seleshi Tenna	-	>>	-	>>	-
53.	Ayalew Mamo	-	>>	-	>>	Driver
54.	Elizabeth Tafesse	-	>>	3/11/05	>>	-
55.	Fekadu Taye	-	>>	4/11/05	>>	Teacher
56.	Yared Demisse	-	>>	3/11/05	>>	-
57.	Fassil Tilahun	-	>>	4/11/05	>>	Mason
58.	Samuel Belaye	-	>>	4/11/05	>>	Student
59.	Tadele Girma	-	>>	3/11/05	>>	Pensioner
60.	Mulugeta Negash	23	>>	2/11/05	>>	Car tire repairer
61.	Ebrahim Jebele	27	>>	>>	>>	Peasant
62.	Dawit Adane	16	>>	2/11/05	>>	-
63.	Biruk Adane	20	>>	>>	>>	-
64.	Temesgene Adisu Birhanu	16	>>	2/11/05	>>	9 th grade student
65.	Sinkineh Toni	16	>>	3/11/05	>>	Student
66.	Befekadu Ayalew	16	>>	4/11/05	>>	-
67.	Adane Tesema	20	>>	1/11/05	>>	-
68.	Tilahun Ayele	26	>>	3/11/05	>>	Priest
69.	Tilahun Abrham	27	>>	>>	>>	-
70.	Daiel Abrham	23	>>	>>	>>	-
71.	Fekadu Girma	-	>>	5/11/05	>>	-
72.	Lt Kebede Abebe	-	>>	4/11/05	>>	-
73.	Daniel Legese	26	>>	3/11/05	>>	-
74.	Wondwesen Gulelat	22	>>	>>	>>	-
75.	Bhilu Asrat	19	>>	>>	>>	Daily labourer
76.	Shewangizaw Girum	27	>>	>>	>>	College Student
77.	Mulu Alem Abayineh	21	>>	2/11/05	>>	-
78.	Binyam Yosef	19	M	3/11/05	A.A	-
79.	Eyalu Girma	17	>>	>>	>>	-
80.	Daniel Gezahegne	17	>>	>>	>>	-
81.	Wondimu Ashenafi	19	>>	>>	>>	-
82.	Henok Zlealem	18	>>	3/11/05	>>	-
83.	Ashenafi Kibru	25	>>	2/11/05	>>	Taxi Driver
84.	Melaku Assefa	18	>>	3/11/05	>>	9 th grade student
85.	Shimelese Assefa	19	>>	>>	>>	-
86.	Endale Koche	9	>>	6/11/05	>>	Student
87.	Belaye Mulat	19	>>	5/11/05	>>	-
88.	Tewedros Melise	28	>>	2/11/05	>>	Taxi driver
89.	Mulat Yihdego	24	>>	>>	>>	-
90.	Mikiyas Dilioni Regata	25	>>	>>	>>	-
91.	Tamrat Gebre	19	>>	>>	>>	Daily labourer
92.	Ashenafi Yohaness	28	>>	3/11/05	>>	-
93.	Markos Yohaness	19	>>	>>	>>	-
94.	Mulutsehai Gebeyehu	-	F	8/11/05	>>	-
95.	Gedefew Molla	17	M	7/11/05	>>	-
96.	Yidnekachew Admassu	-	>>	3/11/05	>>	-
97.	Alemayehu Mesele	-	>>	9/11/05	>>	-
98.	Baishaw Maru	38	>>	3/11/05	>>	Mentally ill

99.	Amaniyas Mesfin	20	>>	2/11/05	>>	9 th grade student
100.	Habtamu Melese Gebru	32	>>	3/11/05	>>	Guard, now released
101.	Legese Huluka Megerssa	35	>>	6/11/05	>>	Gardner, now released
102.	Sisaye Kassa	27	>>	4/11/05	>>	Daily labourer
103.	Abdi Hassen Abat	25	>>	2/11/05	>>	Merchant
104.	Endris Gashaw	20	>>	3/11/05	>>	Student
105.	Eniye Mamo Tesfaye	35	F	2/11/05	>>	Housewife
106.	Semir Mhammed	-	M	>>	>>	Student
107.	Degaga Cherko Wota	40	>>	4/11/05	>>	Technician
108.	Alemayehu Kifle Markos	50	>>	3/11/05	>>	Merchant
109.	Tigist Tayu	30	F	5/11/05	>>	Housewife
110.	Yohanes Hailu	30	M	3/11/05	>>	Technician
111.	Getachew Mogese	30	>>	>>	>>	-
112.	Mokonon Kebede	65	>>	>>	>>	-
113.	Wodafrash Mesele	42	>>	>>	>>	-
114.	Wegene Teshome	24	>>	4/11/05	>>	Merchant
115.	Fikire Mriam Wagaw	41	>>	>>	>>	Priest
116.	Zergaw Seleshi	71	>>	3/11/05	>>	Road transport employee
117.	Telaye Tessema	45	>>	>>	>>	Merchant
118.	Mikiyas Adugna	65	>>	7/11/05	>>	Soldier
119.	Wubeshet Menebre	20	>>	>>	>>	Merchant
120.	Sergent Tesfaye Ambaw	30	>>	7/11/05	>>	Pension
121.	Mamush Haile	24	>>	2/11/05	>>	Taxi Driver
122.	Tenaw Zeleke G/Mariam	27	>>	>>	>>	-
123.	Zelalem W/Senbet	17	>>	>>	>>	-
124.	Yonas Haile	18	>>	>>	>>	Student
125.	Solomon W/Eyesus Garcha	24	>>	>>	>>	Taxi Driver
126.	Aregeta Girma Tadesse	24	>>	>>	>>	>>
127.	Brehanu Serak	24	>>	>>	>>	>>
128.	Gezmu Serat	20	>>	>>	>>	Car cleaner
129.	Arega Kibret Benega	20	>>	>>	>>	-
130.	Teklu Wolde	24	>>	>>	>>	-
131.	Brehanu G/krstos Dimdago	24	>>	>>	>>	-
132.	Tutu G/Michael Kote	18	>>	>>	>>	-
133.	Solomon W/Senbet Kote	22	>>	>>	>>	-
134.	Kebede Tirshy G/Mariam	20	>>	>>	>>	-
135.	Gudu Mitiku W/Hana	18	>>	>>	>>	-
136.	Corporal Tesfaye Sisaye	60	M	6/11/05	Assela	-
137.	Sharew Mesele	68	>>	3/11/05	>>	CUD member
138.	Taye Getachew	-	>>	>>	Arisi Zone Gedeb Assasa	-
139.	Eshete Melese	-	>>	2/11/05	>>	-
	Admassu Alene	-	>>	>>	>>	-
140.	Alene Assefa	-	>>	>>	>>	-
141.	Aschalew Regasa	-	>>	>>	>>	-
142.	Tayu Mengesha	-	>>	3/11/05	>>	-
143.	Abebe Lemecha	-	>>	>>	>>	-
144.	Yohanes Mamo	-	>>	>>	Dessie	-
145.	Alene Lisanework	-	>>	>>	>>	-
146.	Wondifraw Mengesha	-	>>	>>	>>	-
147.	Masresha Abebe	-	>>	3/11/05	>>	-
148.	Tewodros Abe	-	>>	>>	>>	-
149.	Samuel Safi	-	>>	>>	>>	-
150.	Zeru Asefa	-	>>	>>	>>	-

151.	Teacher Bezu	-	>>	>>	>>	-
152.	Abdul Kadir Mohammed	-	>>	>>	>>	-
153.	Hakim Feseha	-	>>	>>	>>	-
154.	Endris Seid	-	>>	>>	>>	-
155.	Awal Seid	-	>>	>>	>>	-
156.	Zeru Yehalaeshet	-	>>	>>	>>	-
157.	Hailu Abegaz	-	>>	>>	>>	-
158.	Solomon Asrat	-	M	3/11/05	>>	-
159.	Fantaw Hassen	-	>>	>>	>>	-
160.	Abebe Jenchu	-	>>	>>	>>	-
161.	Biniam Adane	-	>>	>>	>>	-
162.	Seife Degu	-	>>	>>	>>	-
163.	Wole Ahmed	-	>>	>>	>>	-
164.	Zewedu Kebede	-	>>	>>	>>	-
165.	Mohamed Mersha	-	>>	>>	Kombolcha	-
166.	Basha Alamerew	-	>>	>>	>>	-
167.	Esmael Kebede	-	>>	>>	>>	-
168.	Habtam Hailu	-	F	2/11/05	A.A	-
169.	Workineh Tilahun	-	M	5/11/05	Huruta Wereda	-
170.	Solomon Teshome	-	>>	>>	>>	CUD Coordinator
171.	Yonas Getachew	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
172.	Asfaw Endazene	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
173.	Abishu Mekbib	-	>>	6/11/05	>>	-
174.	Demelashe Getachew	-	>>	>>	>>	-
175.	Etenesh Astateke	38	F	11/11/05	A.A	-
176.	Wagaye Kunta	-	M	2/11/05	Arba Minch	>>
177.	Adiu Asre	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
178.	Matewos Memere	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
179.	Mengistu Borna	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
180.	Otole Wacho	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
181.	Mikyas Otoko	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
182.	Mendo Mekete	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
183.	Ganchere Degu	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
184.	Gizachew Bogate	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
185.	Agire Tadesse	-	>>	>>	>>	CUD member
186.	Buzena Butulla	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
187.	Alemayehu Abeto	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
188.	Debebe Abeto	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
189.	Tilahun Takele	-	>>	>>	>>	-
190.	Tadele Teshome	-	>>	>>	>>	-
191.	Samuel Demisse	-	>>	>>	>>	-
192.	Tesfaye Bezabeh	-	>>	2/11/05	>>	Released on 7 th Nov.
193.	Efrem Markos	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
194.	Gezahegne Gellela	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
195.	Ayallew Awessa	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
196.	Tamrat Abe be	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
197.	Habtamu Aklilu	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
198.	Mulugeta Wondu	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
199.	Getahun Tefera	-	>>	7/11/05	>>	Teacher
200.	Tadesse Melaku	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
201.	Wondwossen Getache	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
202.	Tamene Ashenafi	-	>>	2/11/05		Released on 7 th Nov.
203.	Netsanet Demesse	-	>>	8/11/05	A.A	SOJE Executive Director

204.	Efrem Abera	28	>>	19/11/05	>>	-
205.	Zena Abebe	-	>>	1/10/05- 29/10/05	Dire Dawa	-
206.	Sisay Getaneh	62	>>	5/11/05	A.A	-
207.	Menbere Cherinet	30	F	21/11/05	>>	-
208.	Habtamu Ayele	28	M	2/11/05	>>	-
209.	Biruk Haile Selassie	-	M	3/11/05	A.A	-
210.	Solomon Fantahun	-	>>	4/11/05	>>	-
211.	Kedir Areb	-	>>	>>	>>	-
212.	Zelalem Direse	-	>>	3/11/05	>>	-
213.	Eletworke Zewdu Lema	-	F	2/11/05	>>	-
214.	Mami Degefu	-	>>	>>	>>	-
215.	Tadesse Begashaw	-	M	5/11/05	>>	-
216.	Ashenafi Asnake	-	>>	7/11/05	>>	-
217.	Zenash Mulatu	-	F	1/11/05	>>	-
218.	Abdulsemed Ferja	-	M	1/11/05	>>	-
219.	Mekuanent Wogderesegne	-	>>	2/11/05	>>	-
220.	Tsegaye Tadesse	-	M	1/11/05	>>	-
221.	Fekre Gola Tadesse	-	>>	2/11/05	>>	-
222.	Setegne Negusse	-	>>	4/11/05	>>	-
223.	Brehan Hailu	-	F	2/11/05	>>	-
224.	Benyam Fekadu Urgatu	-	>>	2/11/05	>>	Student
225.	Fassil Fekadu	-	>>	9/11/05	>>	-
226.	Tesfaye Gemeda	-	>>	15/11/05	>>	-
227.	Yonas Tekeste	-	>>	4/11/05	Gondar	-
228.	Moges Zewale	-	>>	6/11/05	>>	Teacher
229.	Yehalashet Molla	-	>>	3/11/05	Dessie	“
230.	Tilahun Shiferaw	-	>>	4/11/05	>>	-
231.	Adamu Alebachew	-	>>	7/11/05	Gonder	-
232.	Solomon Alebachew	-	>>	>>	>>	-
233.	Yehayis Kesela	-	>>	2/11/05	Enarj- enawga	Teacher
234.	Yekekal Getenet	-	>>	>>	>>	-
235.	Ashagre Tamre	-	>>	>>	>>	-
236.	Belaye Abate	-	>>	7/11/05	>>	-
237.	Aychllum Bitew	-	>>	>>	>>	-
238.	Zellalm Getnent	-	>>	11/11/05	>>	-

239.	Ashagre Chege	-	>>	>>	Gonder	-
240.	Getachew Teshaye	-	>>	10/11/05	Debre Markos	-
241.	Haile Demsse	-	>>	>>	>>	-
242.	Teshaye Sewasew	-	>>	>>	>>	-
243.	Mengestu ---	-	>>	>>	>>	-
244.	Mulugeta Assefa	-	>>	9/11/05	>>	-
245.	Gezachew Ayele	-	>>	>>	>>	-
246.	Getaw Tebeje	-	>>	>>	>>	-
247.	Tefera Asemere	-	>>	>>	>>	-
248.	Aschallw Regassa	-	>>	2/11/05	Assela	-
249.	Girma Auerga	-	>>	10/11/05	>>	-
250.	Wogayehu Negusse	-	>>	6/11/05	>>	-
251.	Dergea Negusse	-	>>	>>	>>	-
252.	Tesfaye Engeda	-	>>	>>	>>	-
253.	Tadesse Beramo	-	>>	7/11/05	Awassa	-
254.	Feseha Zewdau	-	>>	11/11/05	Yergacheffa	Teacher
255.	Zekyos Ashibo	-	M	4/11/05	Awassa	-
256.	Berhanu Tamir	-	>>	>>	>>	-
257.	Mamo W/Sembet	-	>>	>>	>>	-
258.	GebtoTucho	-	>>	>>	>>	-
259.	Meweled Bedru	-	>>	>>	>>	-
260.	Dawit Dalecha	-	>>	>>	>>	-
261.	Tefera Bassa	-	>>	>>	>>	-
262.	Muluken Tesfaye	-	>>	>>	>>	-
263.	Abdi Hassen Abati	-	>>	2/11/05	A.A	-
264.	Berhanu W/Mariam	-	>>	>>	>>	-
265.	Tegebew Kumi	-	>>	9/11/05	D/Markose	-
266.	Demise Zegeye	-	>>	>>	>>	-
267.	Andarge Andualem	-	>>	>>	>>	-
268.	Aytegeb Gela	-	>>	>>	>>	-
269.	Yelekal Bitew	-	>>	14/11/05	Bahr Dar	Teacher
270.	Abay Gebeyaw	-	>>	7/11/05	Bahr Dar University	Student
271.	Abebe Gemma	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
272.	Antyegne Bezunh	-	>>	06/11/05	Bahr Dar	-
273.	Kese Beyadge Muche	-	>>	>>	>>	-

274.	Atanaw Abaynaah	-	>>	>>	>>	-
275.	Derebew Fante	-	>>	>>	>>	-
276.	Asseres Alem	-	>>	14/11/05	>>	Teacher
277.	Alemu Tessfay	-	>>	06/11/05	>>	Student
278.	Merkuz Salellew	-	>>	>>	Gondar	-
279.	Shumet Admase	-	>>	04/11/05	>>	-
280.	Meressa Berhane	-	>>	13/11/05	Bahr Dar	Teacher
281.	Abraham Meket	-	>>	14/11/05	>>	>>
282.	Corp. Dagne Beyen	-	>>	13/11/05	Merawi	-
283.	Asemamaw Assere	-	>>	>>	>>	Teacher
284.	Damte Hailu	-	>>	>>	Bahr Dar	-
285.	Akele Ejigu	-	>>	>>	>>	-
286.	Ketemaw Sentayhu	-	>>	14/11/05	>>	Teacher
287.	Sharew Mesle	-	>>	6/11/05	Assela	-
288.	Getachew Mogese	-	>>	31/10/05	>>	-
289.	Mekonnen Kebede	-	>>	3/11/05	>>	-
290.	Wendafrashe Mesle	-	>>	>>	>>	-
291.	Wegene Teshomme	-	>>	4/11/05	>>	-
292.	Merigeta Fekrmariam Wagaw	-	>>	>>	>>	-
293.	Zergaw Seleshe	-	>>	3/11/05	>>	-
294.	Tellaye Tessema	-	>>	>>	>>	-
295.	Meikeyas Adugna	-	>>	7/11/05	Assela	-
296.	Webeshet Member	-	>>	3/11/05	>>	-
297.	Tesfaye Ambaw	-	>>	>>	>>	-
298.	Corp. Tesfaye Sisaye	-	M	3/11/05	Gedeb Assasa	-
299.	Taye Getachew	-	>>	>>	>>	-
300.	Esitu Meles	-	>>	>>	>>	-
301.	Admasu Alene	-	>>	2/11/05	>>	-
302.	Alene Assefaw	-	>>	>>	>>	-
303.	Abebe Lemecha	-	>>	>>	>>	-

4. Disappearances

Many families have reported to EHRCO that they do not know the whereabouts of their loved . The law requires the police to inform families of detained persons the whereabouts of the people in their custody. This has not been fully observed.

Table 4. Forced Disappearances Reported

No	Name	Age	Sex	Date of disappearance	Place	Particular
1.	Mulalem Abayneh	21	Male	2/11/05	A.A	-
2.	Assayehegne Ketema	22	>>	>>	>>	-
3.	Sissaye Ayana	-	>>	3/11/05	>>	-
4.	Hailu Tefera	26	>>	>>	>>	-
5.	Nebiu Assefa	28	>>	>>	>>	-
6.	Asmare Alemu	-	>>	2/11/05	Gonder	-
7.	Yifetah Bahiru	-	M	4/11/05	>>	Student
8.	Nega Lemessa	-	>>	>>	>>	-
9.	Aragaw Dele	-	>>	>>	>>	-
10.	Abebe Setaregavchew	-	>>	5/11/05	>>	-
11.	Tadesse Alene	-	>>	>>	>>	-
12.	Melaku Tefefe	-	>>	>>	>>	-
13.	Abebe H/Eyesus	-	>>	>>	>>	-
14.	Temesgen Tebebu	-	>>	>>	>>	-
15.	Worku Shebieshi	-	>>	>>	>>	-
16.	Worku Desta	-	>>	>>	>>	-
17.	Adnew Fenta	-	>>	>>	>>	-
18.	Meaza Sewnehon	-	F	>>	>>	-
19.	Tigabu Habte	-	M	>>	>>	Teacher
20.	Abrham Aychew	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
21.	Dejene Asfaw	-	>>	7/11/05	>>	>>
22.	Tesgaye Ayele	-	>>	>>	>>	-
23.	Kasahuna Gelagle	-	>>	>>	>>	-
24.	Getachew Mekuriaw	-	>>	>>	>>	-
25.	L/t Dessie Yisake	-	>>	8/11/05	>>	-
26.	Tewodros Surafil	-	>>	11/11/05	>>	Student
27.	Mohammed Yilema	-	>>	12/11/05	>>	Teacher
28.	Melkamu Geremaew	-	>>	>>	>>	-

5. Persons detained before Nov. 01, 2005

No.	Name of victim	Age	Sex	Date of arrest	Place	Particulars
1	Zenba Gumera	-	>>	2/10/05	Arba Minch	-
2	Seyoum Mulat	-	>>	>>	>>	-
3	Kefeni Kasaye	-	>>	>>	>>	-
4	Alene Boredo	-	>>	>>	>>	-
5	Thommas Zenba	-	>>	>>	>>	-
6	Kedir Kenba	-	>>	>>	>>	-
7	Anberko Adecha	-	>>	>>	>>	-
8	Wono Woze	-	>>	>>	>>	-
9	Tade Geda	-	>>	>>	>>	-
10	Angena Anguta	-	>>	>>	>>	-
11	Tessema Tadesse	-	>>	>>	>>	-
12	Bobre Bota	-	>>	>>	>>	-
13	Wezante Gumira	-	F	>>	>>	-
14	Shiferaw Matesa	-	M	>>	>>	-
15	Abile Boka	-	>>	>>	>>	-
16	Selassi Bobele	-	>>	>>	>>	-
17	Kuno Bobele	-	>>	>>	>>	-

18	Amarche Torba	-	F	>>	>>	-
19	Kapital Worku	-	M	>>	>>	CUD member
20	Mulugeta Abebe	-	>>	>>	>>	“
21	Denke Meha	-	>>	>>	>>	“
22	Matiwos Ukache	-	>>	>>	>>	“
23	Sinzero Genemo	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
24	Zekarias Zeleke	-	>>	>>	>>	-
25	Shenbo Sheka	-	>>	>>	>>	>>
26	Shagre Shale	-	>>	3/10/05	Gamogofa Zone, Kanbo Wereda	-
27	Alemayhu Deme	-	>>	>>	>>	-
28	Mogesse Seme	-	>>	>>	>>	-
29	Mena Fenno	-	>>	>>	>>	-
30	Degana Degaga	-	>>	>>	>>	-
31	Feze Fenho	-	>>	>>	>>	-
32	Tsarfa Tsegaye	-	>>	>>	>>	-
33	Tagenta Iikola	-	>>	>>	>>	-
34	Tschayite Tsara	-	>>	>>	>>	-
35	Endale Bezabeh	-	>>	>>	>>	-
36	Bekele Cheleto	-	>>	>>	>>	-
37	Koso Chuche	-	>>	>>	>>	-
38	Busseno Buile	-	>>	>>	>>	-
39	Karde Kebede	-	>>	>>	>>	-
40	Tessema Guletsh	-	>>	>>	>>	-
41	Meshesha Metta	-	>>	>>	>>	-
42	Enta Torche	-	M	23/09/05	Gamo Gofa Zone, Kanbo Wereda	-
43	Adiss Geremew	-	>>	>>	>>	-
44	Tsegaye Tarekegne	-	>>	>>	Gondar	-
45	Melaku Terefe	-	>>	>>	>>	-
46	Tadesse Tsetargew	-	>>	>>	>>	-
47	Getachew Gebru	-	>>	>>	>>	-
48	Haileyesus Tarekegne	-	>>	>>	>>	-
49	Dereje Tesegaye	-	>>	>>	>>	-
50	Masresha Abebe	-	>>	>>	>>	-
51	Abush Getnet	-	>>	>>	>>	-
52	Tazebachew Moges	-	>>	>>	>>	-
53	Wondwesen Aychu	-	>>	>>	>>	-
54	Gebre Senedeke	-	>>	>>	>>	-

6. Other Violations

- 6.1. *Illegal search and seizure*: In contravention of Article 26 of the Ethiopian Constitution, the homes of members of opposition political parties were searched, their party offices broken into and property and documents taken by the security forces.
- 6.2 *Clamp down on the independent press*: Sub-Article 29 (3) of the Constitution provides that “*Freedom of the press and other mass media and freedom of artistic creativity is guaranteed. Freedom of the press shall specifically include the following elements: a) Prohibition of any form of censorship. b) Access to information of public interest.*” Sub-Article 29 (4) further states: “*In the interest of the free flow of information, ideas and opinions which are essential to the functioning of a democratic order, the press shall, as an institution, enjoy legal protection to ensure its operational independence and its capacity to entertain diverse opinion.*” Contrary to these provisions, however, several publishers of private newspapers and journalists have been arrested and denied bail rights as they are going to face treason charges. Their offices have been broken into and their computers and documents taken by the police. A number of other private newspapers are unable to publish their papers because of the newly imposed indirect censorship and the threat of prosecution against printers. As a result of these anti-constitutional actions, most private papers have been out of circulation since the beginning of November.
- 6.3 *Persecution of human rights defenders*: Article 1 of the Declaration on the Rights and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms provides that ‘*Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to promote and to strive for the protection and realisation of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the national and international level.*’ Article 2(1) also provides that ‘*Each state has a prime responsibility and duty to protect, promote and implement all human rights and fundamental freedoms, inter alia, by adopting such steps as may be necessary to create all conditions necessary in the social, economic, political and other fields, as well as the legal guarantees required to ensure that all persons under its jurisdiction, individually and in association with others, are able to enjoy all those rights and freedoms in practice.*’ Also Article 12(2) provides that ‘*The State shall take all necessary measures to ensure the protection by the competent authorities of everyone, individually and in association with others, against violence, threats, retaliation, de facto or de jure adverse discrimination, pressure or any other arbitrary action as consequence of his or her legitimate exercise of the rights referred to in the present Declaration.*’

The government’s repressive actions since the May 2005 General Election, in contravention to the above articles, has not spared even human rights defenders who had no involvement in the street protests. Following the June 8th protest in Addis Ababa, three staff members of EHRCO from the head office and three others from the Dessie Branch were illegally arrested and detained for several days. Although they were eventually released, including the three who were held in Zway prison, they were unable to freely carry out their human rights activities. Following the protests on November 1st & 2nd, Yared Haile Mariam and Cherinet Tadesse were put on the list of those accused of treason and wanted by the government. Not only this, the family home of a third employee of EHRCO, Wondimagegne Gashu, has been under continued surveillance of plainclothes security men, although he is not on the list of wanted people. His mother has been taken and interrogated by the police. EHRCO sees no reason why Yared Haile Mariam and Cherinet Tadesse were put on the wanted list, nor why the police are pursuing Wondimagegne Gashu. In fact, Yared Haile Mariam was not even in the country at the time of the November protest, for he was attending a human rights defenders conference in Entebbe starting from October 30, 2005.

EHRCO is also very concerned about the arrest and detention of its other members. Mr. Tesfaye Bekele, a teacher by profession and Chairperson of the members committee of Dessie Branch, was detained on 25th October and released on bail on the 28th. Mr. Seifu Degu, a teacher by profession and D/Chair of the Dessie Branch Committee, Mr. Bezu Mekonen and Mr. Chanie Reta, both EHRCO members and teachers by profession, were detained on November 4, 2005. Mr. Bezu and Mr. Chanie gave themselves up because their wives were earlier taken into custody in their place by the Zone police. They are reported to be detained some 40 km north of Dessie, where their family could not visit them.

Mrs. Elfinesh Demissie, member of EHRCO’s Executive Committee and a teacher by profession, is the latest victim of the political persecution by agents of the government. She was made to pay fines from her salary for not coming to school during the week of protest, although the schools were closed and transport interrupted during this period. Furthermore, she has been threatened in writing with a “final action” to be taken against her by higher authorities. The nature of this action has not been specified.

The arbitrary killings, mass arrests, and political persecutions following the May General Election are serious impediments to the democratization process in Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Human Rights Council deplors all forms of violence and urges

all concerned to desist from any action that causes loss of life, bodily injury and destruction of property. EHRCO believes that violence will not serve the cause of peace and political stability in the country. The Ethiopian government's repeated attempt to stifle the expression of dissenting views, and its tendency of resorting to brute force to crush its opponents in the name of upholding the constitution, will only breed widespread resentment and lead to a dangerous civil strife. No country can build democracy on the graves of human rights, rule of law and due process. Nor can the constitution be upheld through unconstitutional means.

Therefore, EHRCO calls upon the Ethiopian Government:

- To stop the violation of the provisions of the Ethiopian constitution and the international human rights instruments it has ratified, and to put an end to the continued violation of human rights in the country;
- To release all political prisoners, including civil society leaders, human rights defenders, newspaper publishers, journalists and other citizens who have been detained unlawfully;
- To disclose to family members and/or close relatives the whereabouts of those detained in undisclosed locations as well as allow detainees access to medical treatment, legal counsel and visits by family members;
- To respect freedom of press and allow the independent press to operate according to the law;
- To ensure the impartiality and independence of the investigation into the human rights violations in June and November 2005, and to bring those responsible for human rights crimes to justice;
- To provide medical support to the victims of the November violence and compensation for those who have lost their lives or sustained serious injury as a result of police action;
- To create a favourable political atmosphere and condition for dialogue, reconciliation, and social harmony; to this effect, it should put an end to the hate propaganda on the official media, and stop the harassment and persecution of human rights defenders, journalists, opposition party members as well as supporters.

EHRCO calls upon the International Community, human rights organizations, peace activists, and development partners to press the Ethiopian government to fulfill the above conditions to ensure sustainable peace and democracy in Ethiopia. EHRCO urges all those who stand for human rights, democracy and peace to write to the following government officials requesting for the implementation of the above without further delay:

H.E. President Girma W/Giorgis
P.O.Box 1031, Fax: (251) 011 155 20 20, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

H.E. Prime Minister Meles Zenawi
P.O.Box 1031, Fax: (251) 011 155 20 20, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

H.E Ato Assefa Kesito, Minister of Justice of FDRE
P.O.Box 1370, Fax: (251) 011 152 08 74, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Minister of Justice

H.E Commissioner Workneh Gebeyehu, Federal Police Commissioner
P.O.Box 199, Fax: (251-1) 534253, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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