

**Shame on You!! The leaderships of the so called “secular forces”- EPDF (Sagem) and ESNF  
(Dihnet)**

Am boiled, irritated but in vain when the conspirators’ statements of both organizations heard and read. *“Am writing from an unusual place, Tessenei, the hinter land of our Kunama leader-Badumme Kasu. Today, Tessenei (Sanay, as the original inhabitants Kunama used to call) is not the home of the indigenous Kunama. As usually, they are pushed off to the out skirts with out compensation. I am veteran fighter of ELF/sagem but “retired.” My experiences of Bahti Meskerem’s anniversary vary from place and time. I experienced the forceful expulsion of urbanized Kunama of Barentu town for the burial ceremony of Hamid idris Awate. Till today, I never had encountered a jubilat Bahti Meskerem for the Kunama because the dramas, poems and messages on this event, always, hurts and creates an awkward situation for Kunama in Eritrea.*

*My experience of 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary celebration was rather ugly and specifically painful for those living and remnants of Takalamba villages. A school boy from the Nara nationality was made to read a poen in Arabic that glorifies of Hamed idris Awate’s “courageous” and “herioic” deeds at a Kunama village called Takalamba. The residents of this village were pillaged, looted and killed. To day apart from those exiled, a very few remnants are in Sumbare village, confined in a small pocket surrounded by Tigre speaking Eritreans. The moment they heard the poem, the eyes of over all Kunama is changed in to pepper. You can read a stress on their face and fatigue on their muscles as they used the utmost labor or sweat to distance them selves from that scene as soon as possible. It was bad and felt bad as to where I belong.” (It’s a testimony of an eye witness from inside Eritrea and translated to English from)*

Behold Eritreans! This is a personal account of a Kunama from in side Eritrea and written in Kunama language. Many an unnecessary expressions are omitted to avoid un necessary perceptions. By the way, every Eritrean should know that, whenever a new Septemper 1, approaches, you can read a bad temper, stress and discomfort on the face of every Kunama. Let me give you simple examples; at the Akaki national conference of 2010, the kunama representatives were with their tears when see the picture of Awate. Were up set as they see the work shop made in his name and called the leadership of DMLEK and expressed their resentments, call it first? At the Hawassa conference, when brother Mohammed Saleh-the representative and member of ELF, read the poem that praised Awate, the entire 19 Kunama representatives were in tears and swore to leave the hall. But the leadership has eased. In other words, September1 is becoming a challenge for the DMLEK to convince its members and the entire Kunama. To day, the entire Kunama, regardless of their political inclination and belief, rallied around their organizational statement of DMLEK and ironically the hatred on Awate has sealed off their internal grievance and secondary conflicts which is a blurred reality for dihnet and sagem’s leadership. As they heard the contents of both organizations statements, they prefer to remain on their stand, be proud Kunama and face any eventualities than to hear the name of Hamed Idris hereafter.

While facts look as such, the two member organizations EDA,( EPDF and ESNF) to test their loyalty to Tadamun and to express their insatiable greed of worshipping their boss,t the Tadamun, want to twist the wrist of DMLEK and Kunama for an apology. On top, derailed from the main stem issue, ignored the pain of our Kunama at any anniversary or conference venues of September, want to force us to

apologize and adorn their “hero.” As they have their hero, the Democratic Movement for the Liberation of Eritrean Kunama-DMLEK has its own symbolic flag but never pressed to member organizations to recognize or accept. Then, why should DMLEK, its members and Kunama be forced to worship the symbol they feel bad and painful? Why should DMLEK, Its members and Kunama be forced to take an appointment and permission to express their resentment and explain their pain? If they are not willing to share our pains, they should even not contemplate to forbid us to express our pains and pleasures. Who gave them the mandate and right to scale our pains? Who is the Thermo meter for the Kunama pain? I say shame on them!! We all know the conspirator theory of these two organizations: Expel all the national, ethnic and secular forces from all Eritrean coalitions and forums and be the sole alternatives for the Tadamun forces and to remain life long leading organizations, being first, and propelling and promoting minorities to a better positions and ruling behind the curtain is the second, they used to marketing them selves as sole power brokers and contenders at the mercy of the Islamic organizations. The leadership of DMLEK, friendly ethnic organizations and secular forces are totally against the so called Sagem-Dihnet satanic axis. The two organizations are hell bents to feel, sense and scale the pain of the Kunama. While the reality seems as said, their theory of isolation looks exactly to that of PFDJ. DMLEK, as a democrat organization, never intends to impose its priorities on others and expects a reciprocal approach from. If ready to compromise and want to put the regime’s departure a prior, then, come to the terms DMLEK has stipulated to their God Father, Saleh Gadi, and if not leave DMLEK, other ethnic, democratic and secular forces alone. We can be on our selves with or with out all the anti unity, anti change, obsolete and depreciated leaderships of the two organizations and their likes.

Sittal Meram