

PFDJ Thugs Continue Harassing And Rounding Up Civilians in Eritrea

Tuesday, 19 June 2007

KEREN: Travellers from Eritrea confirmed that on 28 May 2007, members of the PFDJ security apparatus disrupted this year's celebrations of St. Mary (Mariam Daarit) in Keren by launching a massive rounding up of civilians gathered for that occasion. Our sources reported that the rounding up was so violent with inhumane beatings and unparalleled intimidations that the population was left paralyzed. A few persons who gathered some courage to question the logic of this cruel action on the holy event of Mariam Daarit were harangued and intimidated to silence.

The same sources reported that the civilians rounded up and arrested at Mariam Daarit were taken to Wi'a, a concentration camp in a notoriously hot spot in Eritrea. No figures were given of the rounded up civilians from Keren.

Our sources inside Eritrea also confirmed the arrest by PFDJ security thugs inside Keren last 4 April 2007 of Dr. Abdalla Gimie, Hassan Yassin, Omar Abubaker, Ali Noor and Tekie Abraha. The arrested persons taken to unknown prisons and their families until now know nothing about their condition.

ASMARA: As of 14 June 2007, PFDJ security rounded up over 12,000 persons taken from their homes and workplaces. They were detained in Adi-Abeito, Embadero and some inside the old Prince Makonnen School in Asmara.

PFDJ RESETTLEMENT PROJECT: It was also learned that the dictatorial regime is launching a new rural resettlement project without the consent of concerned population groups and original residents of the affected villages. According to this new imposed PFDJ project, FANKO, ALEBU and ADEBARA have been pinpoints as the initial resettlement sites.

DID YOU KNOW WHY PATRIARCH ANTONIOS IS IN PRISON: Our sources affirm that His Holiness Patriarch Antonios of the Eritrean Orthodox Church was dethroned and finally taken to an unknown prison on 29 May 2007, because: 1. He demanded that the regime limit the period of national service, 2. Stood opposed to the PFDJ demand on Church students to be forced to serve in PFDJ projects, and 3. He demanded the released of all Eritreans political prisoners and prisoners of conscience.