



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OLLAA CONDEMNS THE ABDUCTION of U.S. CITIZEN MISHA CHIRI and DEMANDS HIS IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*By
Oromo Legacy Leadership and Advocacy Association*

Falls Church, Virginia — The Oromo Legacy Leadership and Advocacy Association is concerned about the well-being and location of Misha Chiri, a U.S. citizen, who has been unlawfully detained for approximately 70 days. On August 28th, 2020, the Oromo Legacy Leadership and Advocacy Association released a press release in support of the senators Tina Smith and Amy Klobuchar on a public statement calling for the release of Misha Chiri along with Jawar Mohammed. However, the family of Misha Chiri has learned this morning that Mr. Chiri has been released on bail, but immediately rearrested and abducted by the Oromia Regional Police upon his release. Misha Chiri's location is currently unknown.

OLLAA calls upon the U.S. government and international community to immediately demand the Ethiopian government to verify the location and well-being of Mr. Misha Chiri. Misha Chiri and many Oromo prisoners have been unlawfully detained in unofficial, improvised, and undeclared facilities that are infested with COVID-19.

Several human rights organizations, including Amnesty International¹ and Human Rights Watch, have released gravely concerning reports about the human rights violations in Ethiopia. A report released by the Oromia Support Group² also provides detailed information about the arbitrary arrests, imprisonment, and ongoing killing of Oromos. According to these reports, most prisoners have not been brought to court, and their whereabouts are unknown. OLLAA condemns and calls for an immediate end to these severe human rights violations.

Misha Chiri is an active member of the Minnesota Oromo community. His abduction has the potential to undermine safety, peace, and stability in Ethiopia. OLLAA calls upon the Ethiopian government to immediately provide information about the location of Mr. Misha Chiri to both his family and the public.

OLLAA is an umbrella organization that represents dozens of Oromo communities around the world.

¹<http://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/AFR2523582020ENGLISH.PDF>

²https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Zx2GpEc9BUq9L7t-djBRVhttpsVR-Ly-9YMEE/view?fbclid=IwAR2iTro-qxXs13fO8Xxq0sP5f0LKo2m9CbS5McC5KQ_ZYLS9ne-LI3Wlukl

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