




# Political Prisoners, Prisoners of Conscience and Other Forcibly Disappeared Citizens in Eritrea

August 2020

Revised



Eritrea's Disappeared

A photograph of a dark, arched tunnel made of brick or stone. The tunnel recedes into the distance, where a small, bright, arched opening at the far end serves as a focal point, suggesting light and an exit. The walls of the tunnel are textured with the pattern of the bricks or stones.

Remembering is  
an act of defiance





## Disappearances in 1991



**Mohammed Maranet** —  
Teacher, judge. Abducted by  
the Isaias regime on  
**17/07/1991** and still  
missing

**THE FIRST ERITREAN  
PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE  
AFTER INDEPENDENCE**

Disappeared  
in 1991

On 17 July 1991, barely seven weeks after liberation day, state security arrested Mohammed Maranet and took him to an undisclosed location, not to be heard from again. Thus began the plight of one family in Keren for which the dark side of our post-Independence reality unfolded much sooner than for many of us. Nearly 30 years on, his children, now grown up men and women, and their bereaved mother, are still waiting for answers.

Mohammed Maranet, born on the banks of Anseba river in a village north of Keren, was a teacher at Keren Ma' had, the Islamic school attached to the main mosque, from 1970 to 1985. Thereafter, and up to the day of his disappearance, he served as a judge (qadi) in Keren, Ghindae and Agordat.

Maranet was not new to incarceration. In 1969, in his final year as a student, he was arrested at the main bus station in Keren, moments after receiving a letter from the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) secretly delivered to him. He was subsequently sentenced to 1 year in prison which he spent at 'Karsheli' in Asmara.

Following his release, he continued his ELF work in the town and soon after became a key organizer of ELF's underground activities in Keren. He was once again arrested in December 1973 together with scores of other members of ELF's clandestine cells in the city (mostly Keren Secondary School students). The arrested received varying prison sentences, the harshest of which was reserved for Maranet, who was sentenced to 5 years in prison with hard labor. He was set free when the EPLF<sup>1</sup> entered Keren in July 1977, after serving three and a half years of his prison term.

Mohammed Maranet is one of thousands of Eritreans languishing in the dictator's jails without any charges being brought against them. Their families do not know their whereabouts or whether they are alive.

<sup>1</sup> The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) led the Eritrean independence struggle to victory in 1991. It has since been transformed to the PFDJ, the regime currently ruling Eritrea, although many of its leading members are either in prison or exile.



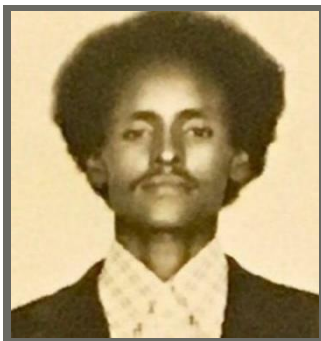
**Bitweded Abraha** — A veteran of Eritrea's independence struggle, and army general. Jailed in **Nov 1991**. Briefly released and re-arrested in 1997. Still behind bars.

**"We ought to fear the law, not individual human beings!"**

The word 'historic' gets thrown around quite regularly. A speech that long-time political prisoner Gen. Bitweded Abraha gave during his brief release from prison in 1997, however, truly merits the distinction. In a lucid language, he exposed his tyrannical and corrupt jailers. Yet, he showed magnanimity and wisdom, calling for a conciliatory, forward looking approach. Most importantly, he urged Eritreans to confront the leadership's lawlessness and to stand up for the rule of law.

He told his audience: "I'm only one individual. There are thousands of prisoners in this country. Eritreans should raise their voices and ask for these citizens to be released or brought before a court of law." In one particularly powerful segment of his speech he articulated the qualities of true leadership — one that values listening and consensus building; that strives to make more friends (and win over adversaries); one which is prepared to admit mistakes and to apologize (unlike those who are in the habit of admonishing and looking down on the people, repeating the mantra: "we brought you independence and you should listen to us"); one that provides political space for true competition, listens to people's grievances and works to address them. Not long after that speech, Bitweded was sent back to the dungeons.

Disappeared  
in 1991



**Ahmed Adam Mohammed** — A community leader among the Hado in Dankalia. Born in 1945 in Buuya, Dankalia (now Northern Red Sea region). Arrested in February 1990 by the EPLF (which later became the Eritrean government) along with scores of others, among them: Ali Mirah Saleh and Ibrahim Ismail Biya. To this date, his whereabouts are unknown. Mr. Ahmed is one of more than 200 people from Dankalia who have been imprisoned or made to disappear by the Eritrean regime of Isaias Afwerki.

Others known to have disappeared in 1991:

| Name                        | Place of arrest / abduction |                                     |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Musa Ibrahim Mahmoud     | Akele Guzai                 | Former ELF village committee member |
| 2. Osman Gebir Adam Sheikh  | Hrkok, Barka                | Former ELF village committee member |
| 3. Adem Issa Hummed AbDahba | Barka                       |                                     |



## Disappearances in 1992



1. Ali Hasan Ezuz
2. Ibrahim Bakheet Malik Maibetot
3. Abdurrahman Ali Amharai
4. AbdulAleem M Ali Zer'om
5. Ibrahim Jimi'e Hamid
6. Moh Hamid Osman
7. Moh Tahir Hamid Ukud
8. Abubakr Moh Nour Jemi'e

All teachers at Islamic schools (Ma'had) in Keren. Arrested on **14-4-1992**.

Whereabouts unknown to this date. (Part of a larger campaign of arrests that included many more)

Disappeared  
in 1992



**Woldemariam Bahlibi** — kidnapped by the Eritrean regime from Kassala, Sudan, on **22 April 1992**, together with his colleague Teklebrhan Gebretsadick (Wedi Bashai). Both were Executive Committee members of the Eritrean Liberation Front, ELF-RC, an opposition group calling for democratic change in Eritrea

Disappeared  
in 1992



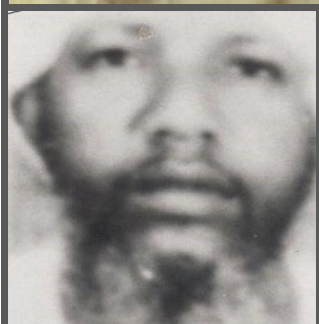
**Teklebrhan Gebretsadick** (Wedi Bashai) — kidnapped by the Eritrean regime from Kassala, Sudan, on **22 April 1992**, together with his colleague Woldemariam Bahlibi. Both were Executive Committee members of the Eritrean Liberation Front, ELF-RC, an opposition group calling for democratic change in Eritrea.

Disappeared  
in 1992



**Mohammed Ali Hasan.** Teacher. Abducted by security agents of the Eritrean regime on **14-4-1992** in Keren. Still unaccounted for.

Disappeared  
in 1992



**Mohammed Nour Abdu** — Teacher at Islamic school, Keren. Arrested in **April 1992**. Never been charged or brought before a court of law. His whereabouts unknown

Disappeared  
in 1992



**Mohammed-Ibrahim Osman Shedeli** — Imam of masjid in Mansoura, Barka region. Abducted in **1992** from his home in Mansoura. Not heard from since. At the time of his arrest, he was an elderly man in his 70s.

Disappeared  
in 1992



**Gebreleul Andetsion** — Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) fighter and medic (hakim). Fell captive to the EPLF (now the ruling party in Eritrea) when the latter attacked ELF units in **August 1989**. He was held prisoner until Eritrea's Independence in **1991** and briefly released to house arrest. He was soon re-arrested and never heard from since.

Gebreleul is described by fellow ELF veterans as highly intelligent and a caring medic who was loved by all.

Others who are known to have disappeared in 1992 and 1993 include:

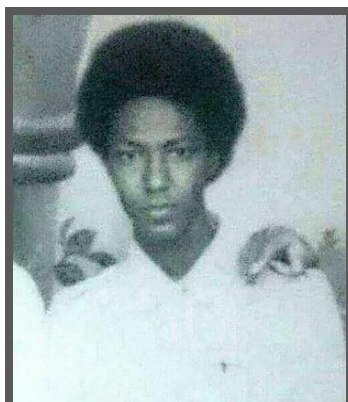
| Name                           | Place of arrest / abduction | Year |  |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|--|
| 1. Idris Abdalla Nashe         | Gullouj, Gash               | 1992 |  |
| 2. Ibrahim Osman Faraj Hemeddo | -                           | 1992 |  |
| 3. Ibrahim Haj Idris Ahmed     | Kassala, Sudan              | 1992 |  |





| Name                           | Place of arrest / abduction | Year |  |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|--|
| 1. Yasin Mahmoud Fkak Briedaai | Asmara Airport              | 1993 |  |
| 2. Osman Daid                  | Keren                       | 1993 |  |
| 3. Mohammed-Adam Hamid Kadmaai | Habero, Anseba              | 1993 |  |
| 4. Mohammed Jabir Omer         | Gullouj, Gash               | 1993 |  |
| 5. Idris Mohammed Abdulgadir   | Biltoubyay, Barka           | 1993 |  |
| 6. Hummed Adem AbuFatma        | Haikota, Gash-Barka         | 1993 |  |
| 7. Abubakr Ali-Bakhit Sidi     | Ad Fagih, Gash-Barka        | 1993 |  |
| 8. Hamid Mohammed Idris Areeb  | Ad Fagih, Gash-Barka        | 1993 |  |
| 9. Mohammed Ibrahim Abdalla    | Mansoura, Barka             | 1993 |  |
| 10. Ibrahim Ejeilaai           | Agordat                     | 1993 |  |
| 11. Adem Saleh Shinboub        | Duluk                       | 1993 |  |

## Disappearances in 1994



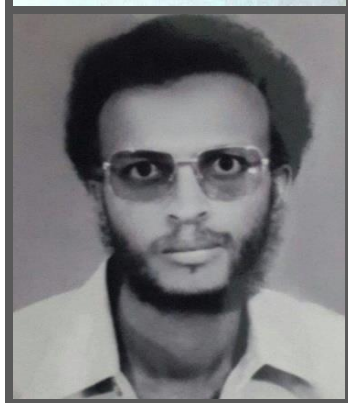
**Idris Saeed Berih** — Abducted by the Eritrean authorities on **24**

**December 1994**. He was snatched from his three little kids and his wife who was pregnant with their fourth child. To this day, his family does not know his whereabouts or, indeed, whether he is still alive. Idris was born in

Disappeared  
in 1994

Halhal and had been a mathematics and English teacher for many years at Al Diyaa Islamic Institute (ma'had) in Keren. At the time of his arrest, he was the director of that

institute.

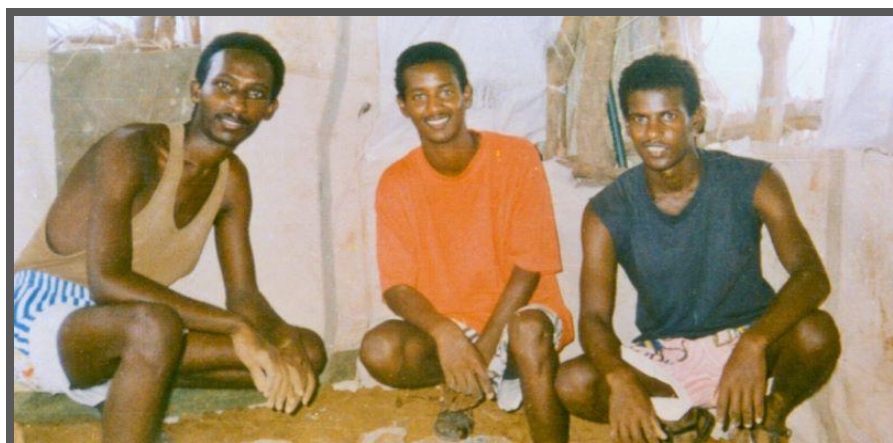


**Abdul'aziz Osman Neberai** — Abdulaziz was the only son of Mr. Osman Neberai, a well-known community leader and sheikh in Keren, who had stayed with the family in Eritrea. His brothers had either died in the struggle for Eritrea's independence or have been living in exile. Hence, he took over

Disappeared  
in 1994

his father's role, and was supporting his family by running a small shop. He was also a father of six children. Arrested by the Eritrean regime's secret police in **December 1994**

in Keren. Not heard from since.



**Paulos Eyassu, Isaac Mogos, and Negede Teklemariam** (left to right) were 18 and 21 years old when they were arrested on **September 17, 1994**, after refusing to partake in military service, part of their pacifist beliefs as Jehovah's Witnesses.

Disappeared  
in 1994

According to the Jehovah's Witnesses' Office of Public Information, there are currently 52 Jehovah's Witnesses being held without trial in Eritrea. They were incarcerated at various points from 1994 to 2017.

| NAME                      | AGE | GENDER | LOCATION         | TERM; RELEASE                    | REASON                  |
|---------------------------|-----|--------|------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Eyasu, Paulos             | 47  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 1994-09-17 <sup>+</sup> | Conscientious objection |
| Mogos, Isaac              | 44  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 1994-09-17 <sup>+</sup> | Conscientious objection |
| Teklemariam, Negede       | 45  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 1994-09-17 <sup>+</sup> | Conscientious objection |
| Abraha, Aron              | 45  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2001-05-09 <sup>+</sup> | Conscientious objection |
| Fessehaye, Mussie         | 47  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2003-04-06 <sup>+</sup> | Conscientious objection |
| Tsegazeab, Ambakom        | 43  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2004-03-06 <sup>+</sup> | Conscientious objection |
| Fissehaye, Bemnet         | 48  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2005-02-09 <sup>+</sup> | Conscientious objection |
| Ghebru, Henok             | 35  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2005-01-24 <sup>+</sup> | Conscientious objection |
| Kiros, Werede             | 63  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2005-05-04 <sup>+</sup> | Religious activity      |
| Yonas, Yonatan            | 34  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2005-11-12 <sup>+</sup> | Religious activity      |
| Fissehaye, Kibreab        | 41  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2005-12-27 <sup>+</sup> | Conscientious objection |
| Okba-gabr, Bereket Abraha | 53  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2006-01-01 <sup>+</sup> | Conscientious objection |
| Fessehaye, Yosief         | 30  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2006/10 <sup>+</sup>    | Conscientious objection |
| Gebremeskel, Mogos        | 71  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2008-07-03 <sup>+</sup> | Unknown                 |
| Abraha, Bereket           | 70  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2008-07-08 <sup>+</sup> | Unknown                 |
| Ashgedom, Ermias          | 28  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2008-07-11 <sup>+</sup> | Unknown                 |
| Tesfamariam, Tareke       | 67  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2008-08-04 <sup>+</sup> | Unknown                 |
| Habtezion, Tewoldemedhin  | 60  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2008-08-09 <sup>+</sup> | Unknown                 |
| Beyene, Teferi            | 76  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2008-09-23 <sup>+</sup> | Unknown                 |
| Beyene, Abraha            | 66  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2008-10-23 <sup>+</sup> | Unknown                 |
| Leghesse, Tsehay          | 78  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2008-12-23 <sup>+</sup> | Unknown                 |
| Tesfazghi, Tsegezeab      | 71  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2008-12-23 <sup>+</sup> | Unknown                 |
| Tecle, Yoab               | 66  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2009-04-23 <sup>+</sup> | Unknown                 |
| Tsegezab, Yoel            | 43  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2008-08-26 <sup>+</sup> | Conscientious objection |
| Ghirmay, Samuel           | 36  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2009-03 <sup>+</sup>    | Conscientious objection |
| Gebrechiwot, Tcklu        | 43  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2009-06-28 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Afeworki, Isaias          | 33  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2009-06-28 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Milen, Isaac              | 30  | Female | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2009-06-28 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Seid, Faiza               | 33  | Female | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2009-06-28 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Gebremichael, Tesfazion   | 75  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2011-07-20 <sup>+</sup> | Unknown                 |
| Woldemichael, Hagos       | 65  | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2012-04-21 <sup>+</sup> | Preaching at a funeral  |





|                          |    |        |                  |                                  |                         |
|--------------------------|----|--------|------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Ghebremariam, Araia      | 63 | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2012-04-21 <sup>+</sup> | Preaching at a funeral  |
| Berhe, Tsegabirhan       | 55 | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2012-04-21 <sup>+</sup> | Preaching at a funeral  |
| Meharizghi, Daniel       | 41 | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2012-04-21 <sup>+</sup> | Preaching at a funeral  |
| Tesfamariam, Yosief      | 54 | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2012-05 <sup>+</sup>    | Conscientious objection |
| Berhane, Ghebru          | 68 | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2014-04-14 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Gebrehiwet, Tekle        | 62 | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2014-04-14 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Tesfagabir, Thomas       | 36 | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2014-04-27 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Estifanos, Mardocai      | 24 | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2014-04-27 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Tewolde, Mehari          | 36 | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2014-04-27 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Gashazghi, Michael       | 26 | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2014-04-27 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Hidru, Liya              | 46 | Female | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2014-04-27 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Shiwaseged, Wintana      | 29 | Female | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2014-04-27 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Taddesse, Mikaal         | 27 | Female | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2014-04-27 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Weldai, Emnet            | 39 | Female | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2014-04-27 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Birhane, Senait          | 29 | Female | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2014-04-27 <sup>+</sup> | Religious meeting       |
| Habteyesus, Bereket      | 26 | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2014-05-26 <sup>+</sup> | Conscientious objection |
| Meraf Seyum, Habtemariam | 56 | Female | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2015-10-25 <sup>+</sup> | Religious activity      |
| Dawit, Samuol            | 28 | Female | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2016-04-09 <sup>+</sup> | Conscientious objection |
| Dawit, Hadas             | 39 | Female | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2017-03-30 <sup>+</sup> | Unknown                 |
| Asgedom, Yonathan        | 26 | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2017-09-21 <sup>+</sup> | Religious activity      |
| Teka, Daniel             | 20 | Male   | Mai Serwa Prison | Arrested 2017-09-21 <sup>+</sup> | Religious activity      |

## They died in prison or after their release

Kahsai Mekonnen, who was arrested in October 2008 when he was 76 years old, was released from the Meitir Camp a year later because of serious health problems. He died in 2013 as a result of the conditions he endured while imprisoned at such an advanced age. Because of the treatment they received while in custody, two other Witnesses—Tsehay Tesfamariam and Goitom Gebrekristos—also died, on November 30, 2016, and December 29, 2014, respectively, shortly after their release from the Meitir Camp.

### Habtemichael Tesfamariam

died at age 76 in the Mai Serwa Prison on January 3, 2018.



### Habtemichael Mekonen

died at age 77 in the Mai Serwa Prison on March 6, 2018.



### Yohannes Haile

died at age 68 in the Meitir Camp on August 16, 2012.



### Misghina Gebretinsae

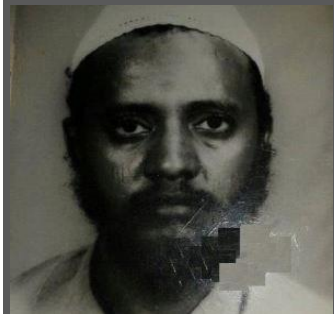
died at age 62 in the Meitir Camp in July 2011.



**Mohammed Adem Dawoud** (nickname: Mohammed Bani) —

Disappeared in  
1994

Former freedom fighter in the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF). He later lived in exile in Sudan, Germany, and Saudi Arabia. After Eritrea's Independence, he returned to his country, settling in his hometown of Sen'afe. In **1994**, he was taken away from his home by security personnel. To this day, his whereabouts are unknown



**Mohammed Tahir Mender** — Teacher. Arrested in Keren on **24 December 1994**. Not heard from since.

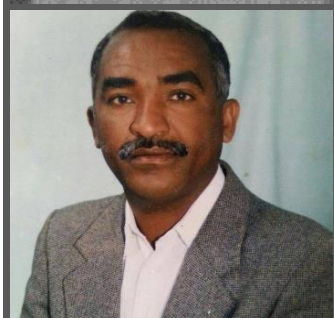
Disappeared in  
1994



**Mohammed Tahir Idris** — Teacher at Amal School in Asmara and

Disappeared in  
1994

subsequently at the Teachers Training Institute (TTI). Abducted in **1994** by state security agents while walking to his workplace at the TTI. At the time of his arrest, he was a father of two little children. He has never been charged or brought before a court of law. His whereabouts unknown to this day.



**Ali Mohammed Musa** (Ali-Karrar). Born 1956. — Aid worker. A lawyer by training, Ali was abducted on **5 December 1994** by government security from his home in Mai Chihot neighborhood in Asmara. Never heard from since.

Disappeared in  
1994



**Hasan Ali-Nor Drar** — Assitant to the Mufti of Eritrea. Former teacher. Arrested on **5 December 1994** by the secret police. Whereabouts unknown to this day.

Disappeared in  
1994



Some of the Muslim imams and teachers, and family members, arrested on **24-12-1994** in Keren. Whereabouts still unknown

1. Mohammed Hasabennebi
2. Mahmoud AliNor Ameer
3. Yaseen Ahmed Zaid
4. Yaseem Hamid Nafie
5. Idris Mohammed Saeed
6. Mohammed Osman Saleh
7. Mohammed Nour Greinat
8. Hasan Abdulrahman Daar
9. Yaseen Umado
10. Ibrahim Hamid Ukud
11. Abdalla Daar
12. Osman Ali Jaamie
13. Ahmed Mesmer Ibrahim

Others incarcerated in the same period (all in the city of Keren):

|                               |                                  |                             |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 14. Adam Ibrahim Jemie        | 24. Moh. Osman Jmie Himbirra     | 34. Abdulwahab Ibrahim Jmie |
| 15. Mahmoud Ali Jemie         | 25. Hasan Saleh Abdalla          | 35. Ramadan Raki            |
| 16. Suleiman Mohammed Idris   | 26. Mohammed Osman Adam Ali      | 36. Idris Moudooy           |
| 17. Mohammed Idris M. Saeed   | 27. Mohammed Idris Saeed Ali-Nor | 37. Nawed Mohammed Nawed    |
| 18. Jmie Ibrahim Ali (Dinai)  | 28. Mohammed Adam Sheikhaddin    | 38. Abbe Aafa Mohammed      |
| 19. Issa Aafa                 | 29. Jabir Hamid Ekud             | 39. Osman M. Ali Adem Gedem |
| 20. Faraj Abubakr Haj Amharai | 30. Idris Arei Saeed             | 40. Hamid Aafa              |
| 21. Jmie Ibrahim Ali Dinai    | 31. Hazot Hamid Ekud             |                             |
| 22. Ahmed Mohammed Ibrahim    | 32. Idris Siedaai                |                             |
| 23. Tahir Mahmoud H. Mender   | 33. Nafie Musa Nafie             |                             |

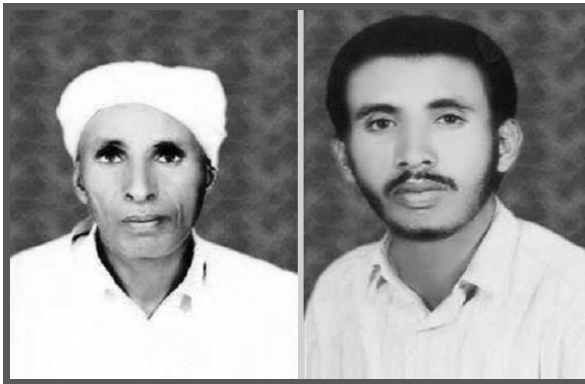
More detainees in 1994

| Name                          | Place of arrest / abduction | Year |  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|--|
| 1. Shareef Adem Shareef       | Sawa                        | 1994 |  |
| 2. Annour (last name unknown) | Agordat bus station         | 1994 |  |





|                                 |             |             |  |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| 3. Haj AlHabeeb M. Osman Yousif | Agordat     | 1994        | Businessman and member of Awqaf committee<br>Teacher |
| 4. Alamin Haj Annour            | Agordat     | 1994        |  |
| 5. Ibrahim Nasheh Hailenkiel    | Asmara      | 1994        |  |
| 6. Abubakr Idris Hummed Habo    | Haikota     | 1994        |  |
| 7. Ahmed Yakoub Hummed          | Agordat     | Oct 1994    |  |
| 8. Idris Faraj Sieed            | Keren       | 1994        | Trader   |
| 9. Idris Saleh Idris Eila       | Barka Laal  | 1994        |  |
| 10. Idris Saleh Mohmmmed Mantai | Barka Laal  | 25 Oct 1994 |  |
| 11. Idris Mohammed Bakheet      | Keren       | 25 Oct 1994 |  |
| 12. Adem Mohammed Ali Kmeil     | Fanko, Gash | 1994        |  |
| 13. Ismail Mohammed Idris Osman | Asmara      | 1 July 1994 |  |
| 14. Bakheet Adam Mahmoud        | Shegolgol   | 1994        |  |



**Adam Ali-Nor Sfaf** and his son **Jamal Adam** — Missing since **December 24, 1994**. Abducted from their home in Gnda'e (Ghinda) by the Eritrean regime's secret police

Disappeared in  
1994



**Mohammed Omer Hummed Salman** — Teacher. Arrested on **December 24, 1994** from his home in Keren. His family has never been able to ascertain his place of incarceration or status.

Disappeared in  
1994



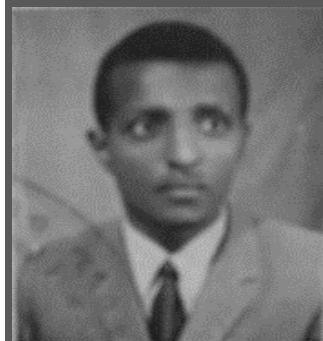
**Mohammed Hamid Dweida** — A teacher by profession, Mohammed was elected chairman of Senhit Province assembly (Senhit is now part of the Anseba Region). He was arrested in Keren on **24 December 1994**. Not heard from since. Mohammed was known for his problem-solving skills and for his advocacy on behalf of his community both during Ethiopian rule and after Independence.

Disappeared  
in 1994



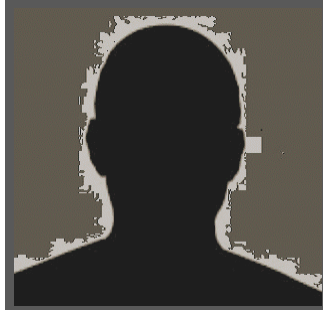
**Mohammed Nur Abrar** — Born in 1965. Abducted from the street by the security of the Eritrean regime on **5 December 1994** (at 4:30 p.m. while on his way to his shop in Asmara). He was forced by several plainclothes men into a vehicle and whisked off to an unknown destination. At the time of his arrest, his wife was pregnant with his first child. To date, his whereabouts are unknown.

Disappeared  
in 1994



**Abdulrahim Abdulqadir Saeed** — Born in 1943. Teacher. Abducted in Asmara by security agents of the Eritrean regime on **5 December 1994**. Whereabouts unknown.

Disappeared  
in 1994



**Mohammed Saeed Abdalla** — Businessman, shop owner. Mohammed Saeed owned a busy grocery shop (Sahel Grocery) on Nakfa Avenue in Asmara, just behind the Cathedral. He was well liked in the community and described as charitable by those who knew him. Abducted in Asmara by security agents of the Eritrean regime on **5 December 1994**. Whereabouts unknown.

Disappeared  
in 1994



Others who were taken by regime security on **5 December 1994**, in Asmara, include:

|                                |                              |                                 |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Mohammed Hagos Ibrahim      | 7. Nasser Abdalla            | 13. Abdulrazzaq Moh. Hagos      |
| 2. Moh. Seid Ibrahim Abdurahim | 8. Abdu Idris Ali            | 14. Ali Ibrahim Idrisai         |
| 3. Saeed Abdulqadir            | 9. Ahmaddin Omer             | 15. Mustafa Abdulhadi (Nieshte) |
| 4. Hasan Mohammed Shoum        | 10. Abubakr Mohammed Idris   | 16. Fouad Mohammed Omer         |
| 5. Jamal Mohammed Nour         | 11. Abdulrahim Mohammed Daif | 17. Abubakr Mohammed Nour       |
| 6. Salahaddin Omer Abdulqadir  | 12. Mohammed Yaseen          |                                 |



**Mohammed Adam Mjawraai** — Arrested in **1994** in his village Dagasi in the Gash area of western Eritrea, never to be seen again.

Disappeared  
in 1994



**Hasan Abdurrahman Daar** — Student. Arrested on **25 December 1994** in Keren. Never been charged or brought before a court of law. His whereabouts unknown

Disappeared  
in 1994



**Abdalla Abdurrahman Daar** — Teacher. Born in 1965. (Brother of Hasan Abdurrahman, above). Arrested on **25 December 1994** in Keren. Never been charged or brought before a court of law. His whereabouts unknown

Disappeared  
in 1994





**Abdulwahab Ibrahim Jmie** — Student. Missing since **1994**.

Abducted in Keren by the security forces of the Eritrean regime. His father – Ibrahim Jmie Hamid (profiled above) - was earlier abducted in April 1992. His whereabouts and condition are unknown.

Disappeared  
in 1994



**Idris Seied Arey** — Idris Seied Arey. Kidnapped in Keren in **1994**. Never been charged. Whereabouts and status unknown.

Disappeared  
in 1994



**Idris Saeed Mohammed** — Teacher at Al Diyaa school in Keren.

Arrested on **24 December 1994** in Keren. Never been charged or brought before a court of law. His whereabouts are unknown.

Disappeared  
in 1994



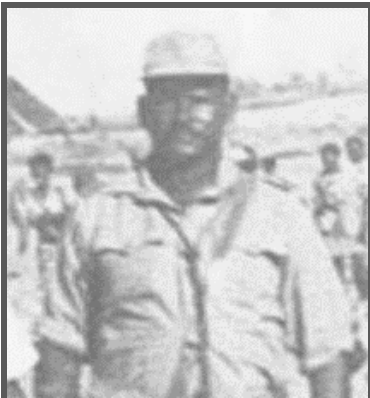
**Grmai Gebrehawarya** — Teacher. Kidnapped in **1994** from his home in the Mercato neighborhood in Asmara and forced into an unmarked vehicle. His children, whom he was raising as a single father after their mother's death, were left without parents. His whereabouts are unknown to this day.

Disappeared  
in 1994



## Disappearances in 1995

Among those who disappeared in 1995 were scores of civil servants the majority of whom were posted in Barka province (now part of Gash-Barka). They were rounded up by the Eritrean government's security. They were mostly former members of Eritrean organizations (various ELF & PLF factions) who had returned to Eritrea following Independence and had been serving in the Eritrean public sector. In addition, many other citizens, including small merchants and farmers, were also rounded up. They have not been heard from since.



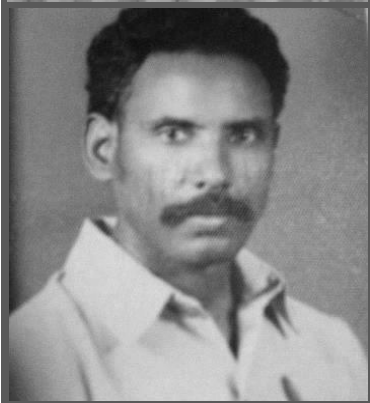
**Mahmoud Dinai** — An elder veteran of Eritrea's struggle for Independence (among the pioneers who joined the struggle in the early 1960s). At the time of his arrest on **December 9, 1995**, he was chairman of the provincial council of Barka Province (now part of Gash-Barka Region). If still alive, he would be close to 90 years old.

Disappeared  
in 1995



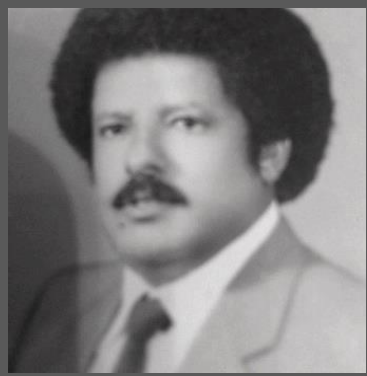
**Mohammed Osman Dayer** — Veteran of Eritrea's struggle for Independence. Arrested on **25 May 1995** in Asmara. At the time of his arrest, he was in his late 50s. As of to date, his whereabouts are unknown.

Disappeared  
in 1995



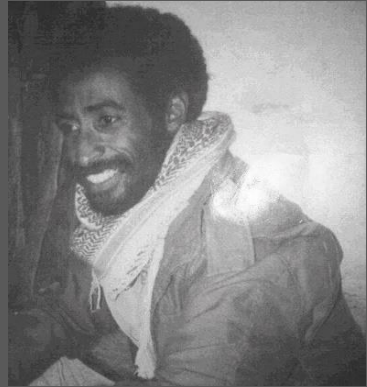
**Ibrahim Mohammed Ibrahim** — Judge in the regional court of Barka Province (now part of Gash-Barka Region). Former Judge at the High Court in Asmara. Arrested in Agordat in **September 1995**, together with his colleague Mohammed Saleh Mahmoud. Whereabouts unknown.

Disappeared  
in 1995



**Mohammed-Saleh Mahmoud** — Judge in the regional court of Barka Province (now part of Gash-Barka Region). Former leadership member of the PLF-Revolutionary Committee. Arrested in Agordat in **September 1995**, together with his colleague Ibrahim Mohammed Ibrahim. Whereabouts unknown.

Disappeared  
in 1995



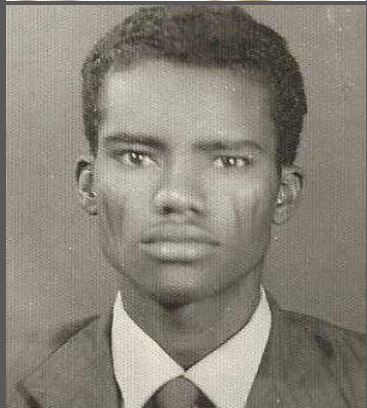
**Saleh Arey** — Former administrator of Mansura district and Tekreret district, both in Barka. Arrested on **18 Sept 1995** in Keren. Never been charged or brought before a court of law. To this day, his family has never been able to visit him or know his whereabouts.

Disappeared  
in 1995



**Saleh Mohammed Idris (Abu Ajaj)** — Veteran of Eritrea's struggle for Independence (among the pioneers who joined the struggle in the early years). Arrested in Agordat on **October 10, 1995**. At the time of arrest, he was in his early 60s. To this day, his family has never been able to visit him or know his whereabouts. If still alive, he would be close to 90 years old.

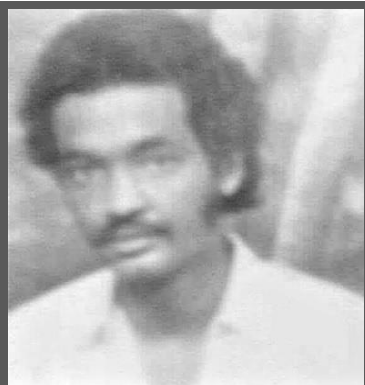
Disappeared  
in 1995



**Mahmoud Khalid** — Agordat town administrator. Arrested by security agents of the Eritrean regime in **September 1995**. Never been charged or brought before a court of law. His family has never been able to visit him or know his whereabouts.

Disappeared  
in 1995





**Alamin Hamid Karrar** — Arrested on **10-10-1995** in Agordat.

Never brought to a court of justice and never heard from since.

Alamin graduated from an agricultural college in Libya. He returned to

Disappeared  
in 1995

Eritrea after Independence and was working in the Ministry of Agriculture's rural extension division, focusing on farmers' and horticultural producers' cooperatives around Agordat and other parts of Gash and Barka.



**Saleh Osman Ali** (Rashid) — Born in Ad Ibrhim, Barka. As a child, he survived the infamous 1967 massacre in Ad Ibrhim, perpetrated by the

Disappeared  
in 1995

Ethiopian army, after which he fled to Sudan with his family. In the 1970s, he joined the Eritrean struggle for Independence and received military officers training in

Iraq. He was Injured more than once in battle (was left with a partial disability in his right arm and shoulder). After independence, he worked as an instructor in the Eritrean military's training academies. In **1995** he was arrested from his workplace in Agordat. Never heard from since.



**Idris Dinai** — Missing since 1995. Before Eritrea's Independence, Idris Dinai was a leadership member of the General Union of Eritrean Students.

Disappeared  
in 1995

He graduated from the Faculty of Arts, Baghdad University. At the time of his arrest in **September 1995**, he was serving as administrator of Fanko sub-region in

Gash Barka. To date, his whereabouts, and of those who were arrested with him, are not known.



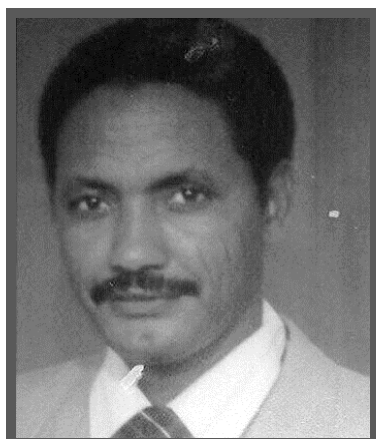
**Mohammed Kheir Musa** — Arrested on **October 10, 1995** in

Keren, where he served as the head of the provincial Labour Office. At the

Disappeared  
in 1995

time of arrest, he was in his 50s. Whereabouts unknown, to date.

Mohammed Kheir also spent time in prison in Adi Khuala during Haile Selassie's rule in the 1960s – 70s.



**Abdalla Ibrahim Adra** — Abdalla was a former fighter with the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF), and former leadership member of *Sagem* (ELF-Central Leadership). When Sagem was united with the EPLF in 1987, he was elected to the Central Committee of EPLF, alongside other Sagem leaders, namely: Ibrahim Totil, Zemehret Yohannes and Dr. Gergis. After Independence, he served first in the city administration of Massawa and later as Tekreret sub-region administrator in Gash-Barka. Arrested at his home in Agordat in September 1995. He has not been heard from since. He has one daughter who was only a few months old when he was arrested.

**Disappeared  
in 1995**

### **Ismail Idris Karkas**

Veteran of Eritrea's struggle for independence. Former administrator of Fanko district (sub-zone) in Gash-Barka. Arrested in Agordat in **November 1995**. Whereabouts unknown.

### **Mohammed Ali Ibrahim**

Veteran of Eritrea's struggle for independence. Arrested in Agordat on **October 10, 1995**. His family has not been able to visit him or know his whereabouts.

### **Ibrahim Egamme** Shop owner

Abducted in **October 1995** from his shop in Agordat.

### **Suleiman Zakariya**

Veteran of Eritrea's struggle for independence. Arrested in Agordat on **October 16, 1995**. He was in his sixties. His family has not been able to visit him or know his whereabouts.

### **Idris Shiya** Shop owner and farmer

Abducted in **October 1995** from his shop in Agordat.

| Name                           | Place of arrest / abduction | Year |        |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|--------|
| 1. Afa Saleeb                  | Agordat                     | 1995 | Trader |
| 2. Ibrahim Saleh Hasan         | Agordat                     | 1995 |        |
| 3. Saleh Ali Eiman             | Agordat                     | 1995 |        |
| 4. Haj Ali Seidaai             | Agordat                     | 1995 |        |
| 4. Qateen Humed Darie          | Balqai, Barka               | 1995 |        |
| 5. Mohammed Tahir Mreigaay     | Agordat                     | 1995 |        |
| 6. Kheir Hamid Saeed           | Agordat                     | 1995 |        |
| 7. Sheikh Mohammed Hamid Saeed | Agordat                     | 1995 |        |
| 8. Maatoug Mohammed Ali        | Agordat                     | 1995 |        |



| Name   | Place of arrest/abduction | Year      |                  |
|--|---------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| 1. Mohammed Yahia Osman  | Asous, Semhar (NRS)       | 1995      | Muazzin*         |
| 2. Mohammed Saleh Hamid Musa                                     | Aderde, Barka             | 1995      | Teacher          |
| 3. Moh. Ibrahim M. Osman M. Ukud                                 | Mansoura, Barka           | 1995      | Trader           |
| 4. Omer Ibrahim Jahraay  | Habero, Anseba            | 1995      | -                |
| 5. Ibrahim Adem Agbalaay   | Agordat                   | 1995      | Trader           |
| 6. Alhusein Osman Alhasan  | Sawa, Barka               | 1995      | (From Bltoubyay, |
| 7. Ibrahim Mahmoud Ali Nafie                                     | Metkel Abiet              | 1995      | Barka)           |
| 8. Abubakr Idris Mohammed Uqbu                                   | Gafate                    | 1995      |                  |
| 9. Idris Adem Ibrahim Ali  | Meriet                    | 1995      |                  |
| 10. Idris Mohammed Abdalla Shagi                                 | Awgaro                    | 1995      |                  |
| 11. Adam Saleh Goulai  | Ad Ibrhim                 | 1995      |                  |
| 12. Adam Abdalla Radob   | Gash Laalai               | 14-9-1995 |                  |
| 13. Adam Ali Abdalla Musa  | Gonye, Gash               | 22-3-1995 |                  |
| 14. Ibrahim Idris Mohammed Ali                                   | Angasha                   | 1995      |                  |
| 15. Ibrahim Idris Engerne  | Agordat                   | 1995      |                  |
| 16. Ibrahim haj Idris  | Guli' e                   | 1995      |                  |
| 17. Ibrahim M. Ali Osman Mantai                                  | Metkel Abiet              | 1995      | Farmer           |
| * A person who performs the call-to-prayer (azaan) at the mosque |                           |           |                  |





## Disappearances in **1996, 1997, 1999**



**Abdu Sayed Ismail** — Teacher at Gindae Islamic school (Ma'had). Arrested in **1996** in Gindae. Never charged or brought before a court of law. Whereabouts unknown.

Disappeared  
in 1996



**Musa Ibrahim Farajalla** — Teacher at Ginda'e Islamic school (Ma'ahad). Disappeared in **1996**.

Disappeared  
in 1996



**Saeed Mohammed idris Badaar** — Imam of a masjid in Gindae. Arrested on **12 July 1996** in Gindae

Disappeared  
in 1996



**Chyrum Saleh Seid** — Farmer in Metkel Abiet, Semhar (Northern Red Sea). Former civilian functionary (Jamaheer / Kifli hizbi) of the EPLF during the struggle for Eritrea's independence. Community leader after Independence. Imam and Quranic teacher. Arrested in **June 1996** from his family home in Metkel Abiet and was taken to an undisclosed destination.

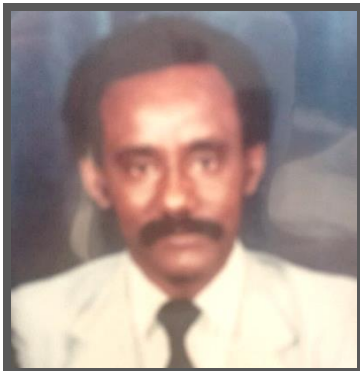
Disappeared  
in 1996



### More arrests in 1996

| Name                            | Place of arrest / abduction | Year       |                  |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|------------------|
| 1. Yousif Abubakr Fora *        | Senafe                      | 24-12-1996 |                  |
| 2. Abdalla Ali Nasser           | Adi Keyih                   | 24-12-1996 |                  |
| 3. Ibrahim Omer Ahmeddin        | Adi Keyih                   | 24-12-1996 |                  |
| 4. yasin Husein                 | Adi Keyih                   | 24-12-1996 |                  |
| 5. Omer Ahmed                   | Adi keyih                   | 24-12-1996 |                  |
| 6. Ahmed Lamba                  | Adi Keyih                   | 24-12-1996 |                  |
| 7. Saleh Omer Keilai            | Mansoura                    | 1996       | From Hrkok       |
| 8. Mohammed Ali Mohammed Musa   | Ad Koukouy, Barka           | 1996       | Community leader |
| 9. Asennai Mohammed Ali Negede  | Digsi, Barka                | 1996       |                  |
| 10. Mohammed Ali Haj Hamid      | Mansoura                    | 1996       | Mosque committee |
| 11. Ali Mohammed Bakri          | Afabet                      | 1996       |                  |
| 12. Abdalla Almadaï             |                             | 1996       |                  |
| 13. Mohammed Aamer Haj Osman    | Gindae                      | 1996       |                  |
| 14. Saleh Mahmoud Shidy Dingor  | Gindae                      | 1996       |                  |
| 15. Mohammed Saeed Moh. Nour    |                             | 1996       |                  |
| 16. Osman Ibrahim               | Gindae                      | 1996       | Teacher and imam |
| 17. Haj Mohammed-Ali Hummed     | Fanko, Gash                 | 1996       |                  |
| 18. Idris Moh. Ali Ahmed Dareer | Fanko. Gash                 | 1996       |                  |
| 19. Adam Ali Abubakr            | Gafate. Gash                | 1996       |                  |
| 20. Ismail Hummed Taher         | Gash                        | 1996       |                  |
| 21. Ismail Sheik Haj Bakeet     | Sawa area                   | 1996       |                  |
| 22. Teetai Abubakr Ibrahim      | Hmbol                       | 1996       |                  |
| 23. Ibrahim Eskol               | Gafate / Shangit            | 1996       |                  |

\* His wife, Fatima Mohammed, was shot and killed when she tried to prevent his arrest



**Ghebrebrhan Zerie** — In the 1990s, he was chairman of the Eritrean opposition organization, the Democratic Movement for the Liberation of Eritrea (DMLE). He was kidnapped in **February 1997** by security squads of the regime in Eritrea. He has not been heard from since.

Disappeared  
in 1997



**Mohammed AlHasan Ibrahim** — Secretary of the Mufti of Eritrea. Arrested in Asmara in **1997**. A year later, his brother Mahmoud Hasan, who worked at the town administration of Hagat, was also arrested.

Disappeared  
in 1997



**Jabir Husein Omer** — Businessman. Arrested on **27 September 1997** in Keren. Whereabouts unknown.

Disappeared  
in 1997

More arrests and disappearances in 1997

| Name                             | Place of arrest / abduction | Year        |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. Idris Osman Mahmoud           | Engerne, Barka              | Aug 1997    |                 |
| 2. Ismail Mohammed Osman         | Hashishai                   | 1997        |                 |
| 3. Ayoub Adam Idris              | Hashishai                   | 1997        |                 |
| 4. AlHusein Ali Husein           | Gafate, Gash                | 1997        |                 |
| 5. Ibrahim Hamid Ali             | Saba'                       | 1997        |                 |
| 6. Ibrahim Mohammed Omer Moh.    | Agordat                     | Dec 1997    |                 |
| 7. Abubakr Manfa' ot             | Hagat (Hagaz)               | 28 Sep 1997 |                 |
| 8. Ahmed Faraj Hamid             | Birkit                      | 1997        |                 |
| 9. Idris Adam Bleinai            | Gullouj, Gash               | Oct 1997    |                 |
| 10. Idris Adam Chiewai           | Hmbol, Barka                | May 1997    |                 |
| 11. Moh. Hamid Idris Hamid Habib | Habero                      | 1997        |                 |
| 12. Mahmoud Idris Barkai         | Anseba, Anseba              | 1997        | Farmer          |
| 13. Taha Ali Adam                | Ad Fagih, Sawa              | 1997        |                 |
| 14. Abdalla Mohammed Nour Addala | Hashishai                   | 1997        | From Shalab     |
| 15. Mahmoud Dini                 | Keren                       | 1997        | Trader          |
| 16. Abdulqadir Khalifa Yahya     | Eila Ber' ed                | 1997        | Quranic teacher |





|                                  |                |      |                   |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------|-------------------|
| 17. Mohammed Nour Ali Bakheet    | Keren          | 1997 | Farmer            |
| 18. Moh. Osman Abdulrahman Idris | Anseba, Anseba | 1997 | Fmr. EPLF fighter |
| 19. Yasin Moh. Osman Gebrketos   | Anseba, Anseba | 1997 | Farmer            |
| 20. Mohammed Ahmed Osman Saleh   | Mansoura       | 1997 | From Hrkok, Barka |

#### Disappearances in 1998, 1999 and 2000

| Name                              | Place of arrest / abduction | Year       |                  |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|------------------|
| 1. Abdalla Saleh Mohammed Ahmed   | Mansoura, Barka             | 1998       | Teacher          |
| 2. Mohammed Yibay Moh. Ali Nor    | Afabet                      | 1998       | Community leader |
| 3. Shikker Kantebai Mohammed Nor  | Afabet                      | 1998       | Community leader |
| 4. Saleh Adem Kheir Dgeis         | Mansoura, Barka             | 1998       | School committee |
| 5. Osman Nadifai Gargar           | Mansoura, Barka             | 1998       | Teacher          |
| 6. Saad Ibrahim Ismail            | Halhal, Anseba              | 1998       |                  |
| 7. Abdalla Mohammed Nour          | Sabar, Anseba               | 1998       |                  |
| 8. Ibrahim Ali Osman Ahmed        | Tessenei                    | 1998       |                  |
| 9. Idris Hamid Hajjaj             | -                           | May 1998   |                  |
| 10. Idris Hasan Abdalla           | Agordat                     | Feb 1998   |                  |
| 11. Idris Ali Mohammed Habo       | Fgret                       | Aug 1998   |                  |
| 12. Adam Yakoub Adam M. Omer      | Yakarei'                    | Feb 1998   |                  |
| 13. Ismail Abdalla Idris Moh. Ali | Hmbol                       | Feb 1998   |                  |
| 14. Annour Alhasan Mohammed Nour  | Hashankit, Barka            | 7 May 1998 |                  |
| 15. Adam Moh. Osman Dawoud        | Gonye, Gash                 | 4 Jan 1999 |                  |
| 16. Nasser Ona Rebdiya            | Tabaldia, Gash              | 2000       | Bus owner        |



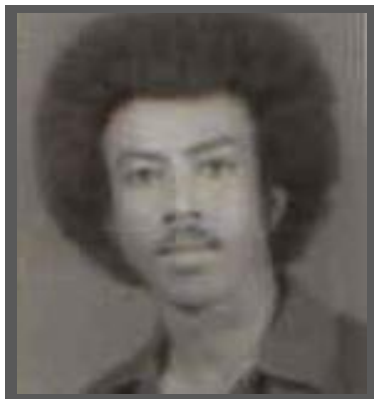
### **Ahaw Ali Halo** —

former prisoner of the Isaias regime and former chairman of the regional assembly of Southern Red Sea Region.

**Detained from  
1999 to 2012**

- Born in 1965 in Afambo, Dankalia (Southern Red sea), Eritrea
- In 1994 he Graduated in political science from Damascus University and soon returned to Eritrea. (While in Syria, he was member of the ELF-affiliated Eritrean Union of Students)
- In 1997 he was elected to the regional assembly of Southern Red Sea and became its chairman
- On **17 May 1999**, he was arrested in his office in Assab and taken to Tahadiso detention center south west of the city
- Interrogated and tortured for 71 days at Tahadiso where he lost consciousness twice
- After 71 days at Tahadiso he was flown to Asmara in a state of severe physical impairment and was taken to a prison known as the 6th Station (which served as a branch of Wenjel Mrmera/ Karcheli prison)
- He was subsequently moved to Karcheli and again to Sembel prison
- He was released from prison on 5 February 2012
- Soon he escaped from Eritrea and joined the Eritrean resistance as a member of the Red Sea Afar Democratic Organization
- In retaliation, the regime arrested his father, Ali Halo, a community

leader in Dankalia (and chairman of the 'people's committee' in Dankalia that supported the independence struggle, 1976-1980) and subjected him to torture. The father, Ali Halo, died on 15 May 2013 a few months after his release from prison. Ahaw himself died 3 years later on 20 May 2016.



**Ali Yousuf Mohammed** — Member of the Eritrean National Assembly, representing Southern Red Sea (Dankalia). Arrested in **1999**. He has not been charged or brought before a court of law. Whereabouts unknown.



**Ali Issa** — Deputy mayor of Assab. Arrested in **1999**. He has not been charged or brought before a court of law. Whereabouts unknown.

These three (Mr. Ahaw, Mr. Ali Yousuf and Mr. Ali Issa) were among the prominent members and leaders of the Afar community in Eritrea who were made to disappear in 1999. Their arrest was part of a larger sweep that resulted in the detention of scores of citizens from the region.

## Disappearances in **2000, 2001, 2002**



**1. Yaseen Idris Abdulqadir**  
**2. Tahir Idris Abdulqadir**

These two brothers were taken away by the Eritrean security authorities in **December 2000** and **March 2001**, respectively. Continued efforts by their mother to find out their whereabouts have been unsuccessful. She was turned away and warned with severe consequences if she continued to ask about them.

Yasin, who was 23 at the time, was arrested on 28 December 2000 in his dormitory room at the University of Asmara premises as he prepared for his final exams as a third-year student in the history department. A few weeks later, on 12 March 2001, his brother, Tahir, 21, who was in the national service and visiting his family during the Eid, was taken away from his family's home in Keren.



**Haj Mohammed Ali** (born 1946) — Former nurse; former employee of the Ministry of Interior. At the time of his arrest in the year 2000, he was engaged in private business as a shop owner in his small town of Gullouj, Gash-Barka Region. His whereabouts unknown.

Disappeared  
in 2000





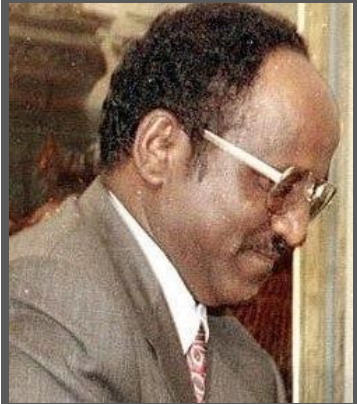
## The 2001 Reform Movement

In 2001, a movement emerged from within the higher ranks of the PFDJ, the party ruling Eritrea. Leaders of the movement, which included government ministers and other senior officials, called for a transition to constitutional rule. Eritrea's strong man, Isaias Afwerki, however responded by conducting a brutal crackdown in September 2001. All prominent members of the movement who were inside the country and scores of others were arrested and put in secret detention.



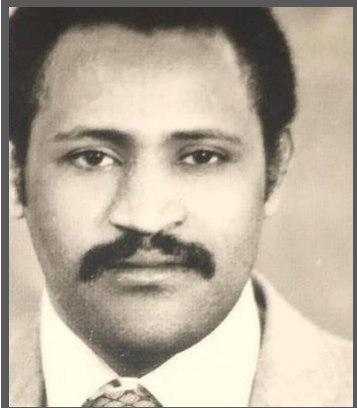
**Beraki Gebreselasie** — Former minister of Education; former minister of Information. One of the signatories of the 2001 'open letter' to the president (the G-15), calling for reform and transition to democratic rule in Eritrea. Arrested on **18 September 2001**. Never charged or brought before a court of law.

Disappeared  
in 2001



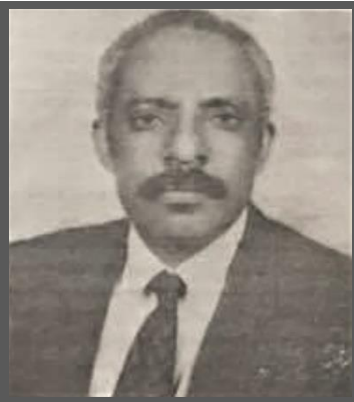
**Mahmoud Ahmed (Sherifo)** — Mahmoud Ahmed (Sherifo). EPLF leadership member. Former minister of Foreign Affairs, former minister of Local Government. A prominent member of the G-15 reform movement and an outspoken critic of the one-party, one-man rule of Isaias Afwerki. Arrested on **18 September 2001** and kept incommunicado. Never charged or brought before a court of law. Reportedly died in prison in June 2003.

Disappeared  
in 2001



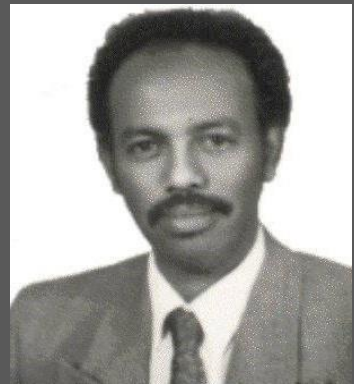
**Haile Woldetensa'e (Drru'e)** — EPLF leadership member. Former minister of Foreign Affairs, former minister of Trade and Industry; former minister of Finance. A prominent member of the G-15 reform movement and an outspoken critic of the one-party, one-man rule of Isaias Afwerki. Arrested on **18 September 2001** and kept incommunicado in detention. Never charged or brought before a court of law. Reportedly died in prison in February 2018.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Ogbe Abraha** — Former leadership member of the EPLF, later the governing party, and army general; former Minister of Trade and Industry; former Minister of labour and Human Welfare. A prominent member of the G-15 reform movement and a critic of the authoritarian rule of Isaias Afwerki. Arrested on **18 September 2001**. and kept incommunicado in detention. Never charged or brought before a court of law. Reportedly died in prison in October 2002.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Petros Solomon** — EPLF leadership member. Former minister of Defense; former minister of Foreign Affairs; former minister of Fisheries. A prominent member of the G-15 reform movement and a critic of the authoritarian rule of Isaias Afwerki. One of the signatories of the 2001 'open letter' to the president, calling for reform and transition to a constitutional rule in Eritrea. Arrested on 18 September 2001. Never charged or brought before a court of law.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Saleh Kekia** — former Minister of Transport and Communications and former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. Prior to that, he was head of the Office of the President. One of the signatories of the 2001 'letter to the president' (the G-15), calling for reform and transition to democratic rule in Eritrea. Arrested on **18 September 2001**. Never charged or brought before a court of law. Reportedly died in prison in June 2003.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Germano Nati** — EPLF leadership member. Former Administrator of Gash province (now part of Gash-Barka). One of the signatories of the 2001 'letter to the president' (the G-15), calling for reform and transition to democratic rule in Eritrea. Arrested on **18 September 2001**. Never charged or brought before a court of law. Reportedly died in prison in January 2009.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Aster Fessehazion** (born 1951) — One of the signatories of the 2001 open letter to the president (the G-15), calling for reform and transition to democratic rule in Eritrea. Arrested on **18 September 2001**. Never charged or brought before a court of law. Reportedly died in Eila Ero secret prison in June 2003.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Hamid Hmid** — Former director at the Eritrean Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Former ambassador. One of the signatories of the 2001 'open letter' to the president (the G-15), calling for reform and transition to democratic rule in Eritrea. Arrested on **18 September 2001**. Never charged or brought before a court of law. Reportedly died in Eila Ero secret prison in September 2003.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Brhane Gebregziabher** — A veteran of the Eritrean independence struggle. Post-independence, he served as the Eritrean Army Major-General and head of the National Reserve Force. He was arrested on **18 September 2001** for signing an 'open letter' from prominent Eritrean politicians, known as the G-15, within the ruling party - to President Isaias Afwerki, demanding government reforms. Never charged or brought before a court of law.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Estifanos Seyoum** — A veteran of Eritrea's struggle for independence with the EPLF. Br. General after Independence. Member of the G-15 reform movement. Arrested on **18 September 2001**. Never charged or brought before a court of law.

Disappeared  
in 2001





**Idris Ab'are** – A severely disabled veteran of Eritrea's struggle for independence. Director General for Labour at the Ministry of Labour & Social Welfare. A writer who authored two books and wrote for Eritrea al Hadeetha. Member of the reform movement of 2001. Arrested in **September 2001**. Never charged or brought before a court of law. His condition or whereabouts unknown.

Disappeared  
in 2001



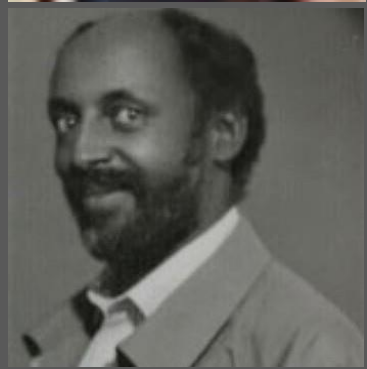
**Kiros Tesfamichael** (Awer) — Director general in the Ministry of Tourism and former director in the Ministry of Education. Arrested in **October 2001** and kept incommunicado, without any due process of law. Reportedly died in Eila Ero secret prison in September 2011.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Tesfai Gebreab** (Gomera) — Unit Head, Min of Foreign Affairs. Also held senior positions at the Immigration department and the Ministry of Labor and Human Welfare. Arrested in **October 2001**. Reportedly died in Eila Ero secret prison in November 2010.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Alazar Mesfin** — Former administrator of the city of Keren. Father of three. Holds a master's degree from Syracuse University in the US. Arrested in **September 2001**. Reportedly died in Eila Ero secret prison in September 2011.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Miriam Hagos** — Director of the Eritrean Cinema Board. Former director of EPLF's film department. Arrested in **October 2001** during a government crackdown that saw the G-15 leaders, their sympathizers and journalists arrested, and all privately-owned newspapers closed. Reportedly being held in the secret prison of Eila Ero.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Tesfaldet Seyoum** — Veteran of the EPLF. Senior army officer, and brother of G-15 member Estifanos Seyoum. Arrested in **September 2001** during a government crackdown that saw the G-15 leaders, their

Disappeared  
in 2001

sympathizers and journalists arrested, and all privately-owned newspapers closed. Reportedly died in Eila Ero secret prison in December 2008.



**Siraj Ibrahim M. Khier** — A veteran of the struggle for Eritrea's independence with the EPLF (medical services). Official of the Eritrean embassy in Saudi Arabia. Former head of Haz-Haz maternity clinic in

Disappeared  
in 2001

Asmara. Father of three. He was arrested in **early 2002** in the wake of the crackdown on reformers and journalists, after being recalled from his post in Saudi Arabia. Reportedly died in September 2011 in the secret prison of Eila Ero.

Others who were reported to be held in the infamous Eila Ero secret prison are:

#### **Kidane (Wedi Keshi)**

EPLF veteran and driver for minister of Fisheries Petros Solomon. Reportedly died in October 2009 in the secret prison of Eila Ero.

#### **Mehari Yakob**

EPLF veteran and driver for former minister of Transport and Communications Saleh Kekia. Reportedly died in 2008 in the secret prison of Eila Ero.

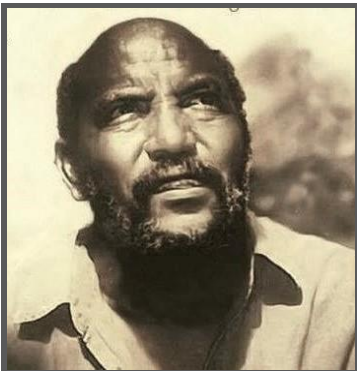
#### **Tesfagergish**

Administrator of Tsorona sub-zone in the South Region. Veteran of the EPLF. Reportedly died on 16 March 2004 in the secret prison of Eila Ero.



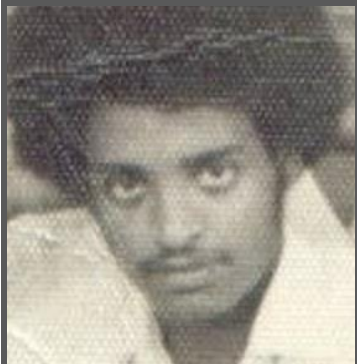
## Journalists and Writers

In the days following the arrest of the G-15 reformers on 18 September 2001, the Eritrean regime closed all privately-owned newspapers and arrested at least 10 journalists. More journalists were arrested in the weeks that followed. To this day, the whereabouts and fates of these journalists remain unknown, although some have reportedly died in prison.



**Seyoum Tsehaye** (born 1952) — Veteran photographer and photojournalist. He played a major role in documenting Eritrea's struggle for independence, particularly in the 1980s. Former head of national television and national radio. Arrested in **September 2001**, at which time he was a freelance photojournalist and writer who mainly wrote for the independent paper Setit.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Yousif Mohammed Ali** — Editor-in-Chief, Tsigenai. Arrested in **September 2001**. Yousif was one of the first reporters to bring the 2001 reform movement to the attention of the public through the interview his paper conducted with Mahmoud Sherifo, one of the movement's leaders. Reportedly died in Eila Ero secret prison in June 2003.

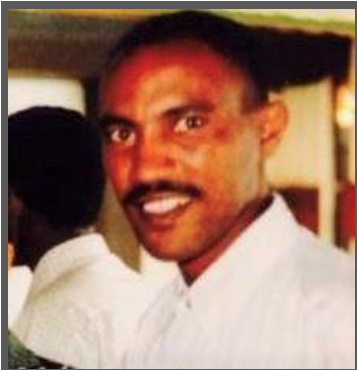
Disappeared  
in 2001



**Fessehaye Yohannes (Joshua)** (Born 1956) — Journalist, poet, and playwright who also wrote for children. Co-founder of Setit newspaper. Arrested in **September 2001**. Reportedly died in Eila Ero secret prison in October 2002.

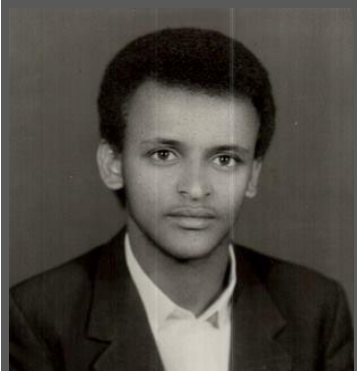
Disappeared  
in 2001





**Amanuel Asrat** — Journalist, poet, and songwriter. Chief editor of Zemen [Time] newspaper. Arrested in **September 2001**.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Seid Abdulkadir** — Journalist, chief editor, Admas independent newspaper. Arrested on **September 23, 2001**. Reportedly died in Eila Ero secret prison in March 2005.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Dawit Isaak** (born 1968) — Journalist. Owner and co-founder of Setit independent newspaper. Arrested in **September 2001**.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Matewos Habteab** — Editor-in-chief, Meqaleh [Echo] independent newspaper. Arrested in **September 2001**. Reportedly died in Eila Ero secret prison in 2005.

Disappeared  
in 2001



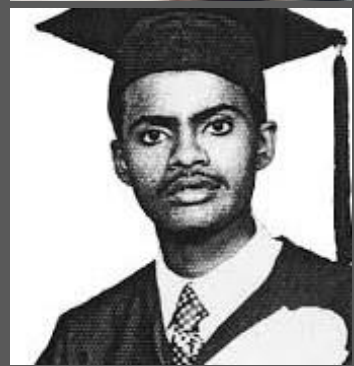
**Medhanie Haile** (born 1969) — Journalist. Deputy editor, *Keste Debera* [Rainbow] independent newspaper. Medhanie Haile was also a lawyer who worked for the Eritrean Ministry of Justice. Arrested in **September 2001**. Reportedly died in Eila Ero secret prison in February 2006.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Saleh Idris Sa'ad** (Jazairy) — Journalist at Eritrea al Hadeetha. Arrested in **2002** by security agents of the Eritrean government. He has never been charged or otherwise brought before a court of law. Whereabouts unknown.

Disappeared  
in 2002



**Dawit Habtemichael** — Journalist. Deputy editor-in-chief and co-founder of Meqalih [Echo] newspaper. Dawit also worked as a physics teacher in Asmara. Arrested on **21 September 2001**. Reportedly died in Eila Ero secret prison in the second half of 2010, following the deterioration of his physical and mental health.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Jmie Kmeil** — Journalist and veteran of the EPLF. He worked in the EPLF's Department of Information and Guidance, and later, following Independence, in the Ministry of Information. He was a reporter at the Arabic newspaper Eritrea al-Hadeetha, and later became its sports editor. Arrested on **November 24, 2005**, in Asmara. A report in 2016 claimed he was one of four prisoners who were executed extrajudicially on the night of 22-23 August 2007 by the Eritrean government's security.



**Temesgen Gebereyesus** — Journalist at Keste Debena [Rainbow] private;y-owned newspaper, and actor. Arrested in **2001**. He is being held incommunicado by the Eritrean authorities. At various points, he was reportedly held in Eila Ero death camp and another secret prison in the Dahlak Islands. The status of his health and current whereabouts are unknown.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Gebrehiwot Keleta** — Reporter at the independent Tigrinya-language paper Tsigenai. He was a veteran of Eritrea's struggle for independence who worked as information officer with the ELF. Gebrehiwot was arrested in **June 2000** in Asmara. Condition and whereabouts unknown. (He had previously been abducted by the EPLF from Sudan in 1991 and secretly detained in Eritrea without trial for eight years.)

Disappeared  
in 2000



**Hamid Mohammed Saeed** (Hamid CNN) — News and sports editor at the Arabic-language service of the Eritrean state TV (Eri-TV). Arrested in **May 2002**. Condition and whereabouts unknown.

Disappeared  
in 2002



**Sahle Tsegaze'ab** (Wedi Itaay) — veteran of the Eritrean struggle for Independence, civil servant, and writer. Arrested in **October 2001** and has not been heard from since. In 2001, Sahle wrote a series of articles, published in Keste Debena, Zemen and Haddas Ertra, mainly in defence of the rule of law and criticizing the illegal practices of some of the institutions of the state. At the time of his arrest, he was working as head of civilian affairs in the office of the Attorney General in Asmara.

Disappeared  
in 2001



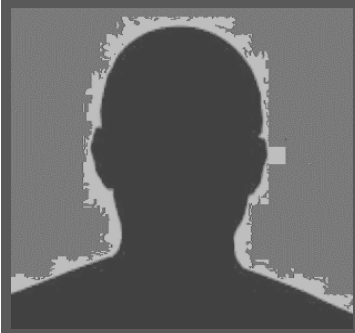
**Feron Woldu** — A veteran of the Eritrean struggle for Independence with the EPLF. Director at the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Holds a Master's degree in education. Arrested in **2001**. The status of his health and current whereabouts are unknown.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Ali Al'amin** — Eritrean employees of the US embassy in Asmara. Detained by the Eritrean regime on **October 12, 2001**. Not heard from since. Ali has never been charged with any crime or, otherwise, brought before a court of law. He is believed to be held in the secret detention complex of Eila Ero.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Kiflom Gebremichael** — Eritrean employees of the US embassy in Asmara. Detained by the Eritrean regime on **October 12, 2001**. Not heard from since. Kiflom has never been charged with any crime or, otherwise, brought before a court of law. He is believed to be held in the secret detention complex of Eila Ero.

Disappeared  
in 2001



**Abdu Ahmed Younis** — Incarcerated from **2001 to 2005**. Again for 3 months in **2010**. And finally from **2012 to 2017**. Mr. Younis died in December 2017 shortly after being released from prison.

Mr. Younis was among a group of elderly citizens who made an attempt to mediate between the country's ruler, Isaias Afwerki, and senior government officials (known as the G-15) who in 2001 called on Afwerki to institute a process of swift transition to constitutional rule in Eritrea. The mediation group also included: **Sunabara Mahmoud Damana** and

**Hasan Kekia**. Following the September 2018 government crackdown that saw the G-15 leaders, their sympathizers and journalists arrested, and all privately-owned newspapers closed, the regime jailed the





elderly mediators, who subsequently spent several years in detention. That was the story of Mr., Younis' first spell in prison (2001 – 2005). His last (2012 – 2017) was in connection to his son Ali Abdu' s defection from the regime. Ali Abdu was the information minister until his defection in 2012. As a result, the regime detained Mr. Younis, as well as the former minister' s 15-year old daughter, **Ciham** (see profile below), and brother **Hassen**.



**Mohammed Hussein Al'Amoudi** — Born in 1955 in Ali Gdir in western Eritrea. After living in exile in Saudi Arabia, Sudan and the United States, he returned to Eritrea in 2001 where he decided to invest his life savings and a loan from a relative. As required by the authorities, he deposited the entire investment money (285,000 US dollars) in the bank. Mohammed was in the process of preparing his investment plans when, on the night of **25 September 2001** (one week after the government crackdown on G-15 reformers and the journalists), he was arrested by state security agents. They took him to the infamous Wenjel Mrmera

prison in Asmara. He was told he was wanted for questioning and would return to his home the next day; but once put behind bars, Mohammed did not hear from his jailers for six months. The interrogation six months later took only 30 minutes and did not even mention the reason for his arrest. The next encounter with the interrogators was another 12-and-a-half years later. YES, 12 1/2 YEARS without being told why he was in prison. Meanwhile, Mohammed counted the years along with hundreds of other detainees in that notorious prison.

When they summoned him the last time in 2014, Mohammed had lost his eyesight (in 2011) together with any hope of ever being released. The interrogators asked him (for the first time) if he knew 'his crime'. When he replied that he didn't, he was reminded of comments he had made that night just before his arrest (a conversation with friends at the 'American Bar' in Asmara in which he said he didn't understand why the G-15 were arrested given their contributions to the struggle for independence ..). ... Now he was going to be released, he was told, but with the following conditions: (1) ask for forgiveness in writing, (2) never talk about his incarceration, (3) never ask about any money, (4) never leave Asmara without permission from his security contact person.

Yet, more heartbreak was awaiting Mohammed. At the time of his release, he learned that the year before (on 3 October 2013) his entire family (wife, two sons and a daughter) drowned while crossing the Mediterranean in search of refuge in Europe. So, here was Mohammed left without his family, without his eyesight and without his life savings, on top of losing 13 years of his life in the dungeons of the Eritrean regime.



**Haile Gebrekristos** (born in the 1940s) — Haile is a teacher by profession. He was abducted by the regime of Isaias Afwerki in **October 2002**. The authorities gave no reason for his incarceration. An elderly man in his 70s by now, his health status and whereabouts are unknown. Those who know him point that he always stood for the truth. In his youth, he was imprisoned by the government of Haile Selassie for his involvement in Eritrean nationalist politics at the Teachers Training Institute in Asmara.

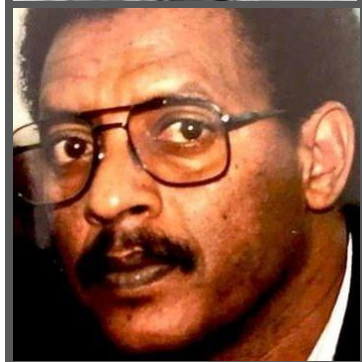
## Disappearances in **2003 - 2009**



**Senait Debesai** — EPLF veteran and a popular artist. She has been in detention since **15 March 2003**. She has been held incommunicado, deprived of all family contact and visitation. She has never been charged or brought before a court of law.



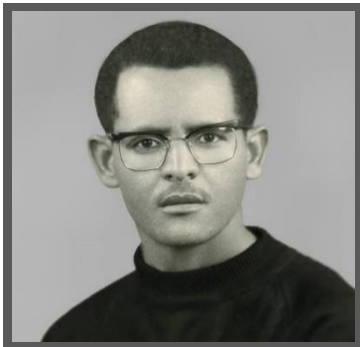
**Ermias Debesai** — A veteran of the Eritrean struggle for independence. Former ambassador of Eritrea to China. He has been in incommunicado detention since **November 2003**, without access to any due process of the law.



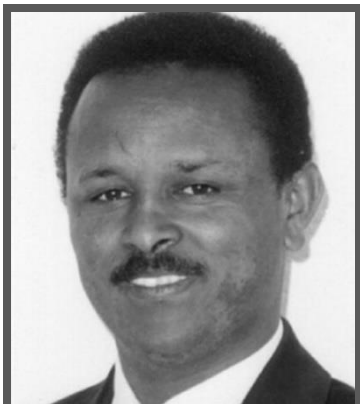
**Habtezion Hadgu** — Brigadier General Habtezion Hadgu is a veteran of the Eritrean struggle for independence. He was the first commander of independent Eritrea's Air Force. He has been incarcerated and kept incommunicado since **2003**. Brig. General Habtezion had disagreements with Eritrea's ruler Isaias Afwerki concerning how the air force was managed and why air force staff such as Dejen Andehishel had been unlawfully imprisoned.



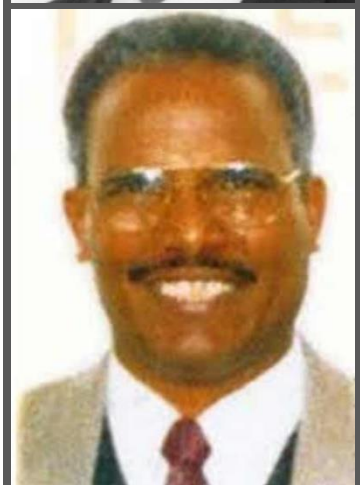
**Aster Yohannes** — EPLF veteran and wife of Petros Solomon, one of the leaders of the G-15 reform movement. Arrested at Asmara International Airport on **11 December 2003**, upon arriving from the United States where she had been pursuing higher education. She had returned to Eritrea with a newly issued Eritrean passport, to be with her four children aged between 6 and 13 at the time of her arrest. She has never been charged with any crime.



**Hadgu Abraha** (picture when younger) — Arrested by the Eritrean regime in **2003** and never heard from since.



**Haile Nayzgi** — At the time of his imprisonment on **23 May 2004**, Reverend Haile Nayzgi was serving as the chairman of the board of the Full-Gospel Church of Eritrea, the largest Pentecostal church denomination in the nation. Previously, he was a senior accountant with World Vision in Eritrea. Reverend Haile Nayzgi, who is married with two children, was one of the key organizers of the church's activities in Eritrea. Since his arrest, he has been moved to various locations, including Karsheli prison in Asmara, but the actual charges against him have not been released.



**Dr Kiflu Gebremeskel** — Dr. Kiflu was the pastor of South-West Full Gospel Church in Asmara until his imprisonment on **May 23rd, 2004**. Previously, he was dean of science and lecturer of mathematics at Asmara University. He has a Ph.D. in mathematics from the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. Dr Kiflu was also the chairman of the Eritrean Evangelical alliance, a union of all the churches belonging to the Baptist, Mennonite, Presbyterian, Pentecostal and other Charismatic churches. He wrote some of the first and widely used discipleship materials in Tigrinya. He is married with four children. His wife and children have not been allowed to visit him.



**Meron Gebreselasie** — Eritrean pastor and anesthetist Meron Gebreselasie was arrested on **3 June 2004** and has remained in prison ever since. He was a leader in a banned church network. Meron (also known as Million) was pastor of Massawa Rhema Evangelical Church and worked as an anesthetist at Massawa Hospital.



**Fitsum Gebrenegus** — Rev Dr Fitsum Gebrenegus is an Eritrean Orthodox priest and psychiatrist who was arrested in **November 2004** because of his involvement in the Medhane Alem Bible study group. He has remained in prison, incommunicado, ever since. Until his arrest, he was the most senior doctor at St Mary Psychiatric Hospital in Asmara. Dr Gebrenegus is a widower with one child. Dr Gebrenegus' wife and father both died while he was in prison and he was not allowed to attend their funerals.

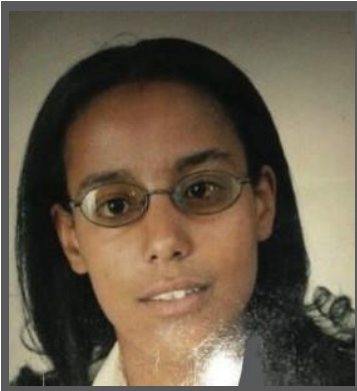


**Tekleab Mengisteab** — Rev Dr Tekleab, a highly respected physician and an Eritrean Orthodox priest, was a leader of the Medhane Alem Church. He was arrested in **November 2004** alongside his colleagues at Mekane Hiwot Medhanie Alem church, Ghebremedhin Ghebregiorgis and Dr. Fitsumberhan Gebrenegus. He is insulin dependent and has been reported to be in poor health. He is married with four children.



**Rev Gebremedhin Gebregiorgis** — Rev Gebremedhin is an Eritrean Orthodox priest and expert theologian who was arrested in **November 2004** because of his involvement in the Medhane Alem Bible study group. He has remained in prison, incommunicado, ever since. Rev Gebremedhin trained in the theological school of Egypt. He served as head of the Sunday Schools department in the Eritrean Orthodox Patriarchate, and for the two years before his detention he headed a nationally-acclaimed program working with HIV patients and an award-winning educational campaign for the prevention of AIDS in Eritrea.





**Twen Theodros** (36) — Twen holds a diploma in Drafting Engineering from Asmara Technical School. She was arrested in **January 2005** at an underground church prayer meeting and put in prison in Mai Serwa. She has never been charged, tried or had access to a lawyer. Twen has endured terrible beatings and torture at the hands of prison guards.

**2006** — Twen was joined in Mai Serwa by a large group of Christians arrested at a wedding in Asmara. Twen and the women from this group who refused to sign papers stating they would no longer engage in

Christian activities were sent to one of Eritrea's harshest prisons, Wi' a, on the Red Sea coast.

**2009** — The government closed Wi' a prison after a meningitis outbreak caused the death of approximately fifty Christian prisoners. Hundreds of other prisoners had died as a result of extreme heat and appalling sanitary conditions. Surviving prisoners, including Twen and her group, were sent to Me' etr prison in the remote northwest.

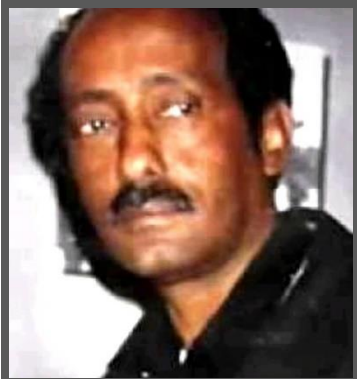
**August 2017** — Twen and the other women in her group were moved to Mai Serwa prison camp, near Asmara.



**Mohammed-Idris Omar Musallam** — Arrested on **3 January 2005** in Keren. His whereabouts unknown. Mohammed-Idris was a farmer who owned a small orchard near Keren. Also, following the vacuum created by the mass arrest of Muslim teachers in the 1990s, he was teaching in one of the city's Islamic schools.



**Kidane Woldu** — Pastor Kidane Weldou was imprisoned on **March 18th, 2005**. He was the senior pastor of the Asmara Full-Gospel Church at the time of his imprisonment. His wife and children have been unable to visit him in prison, and his exact whereabouts remain unknown. Formerly, he was a high school teacher of biology after he secured a B. Sc. from Asmara University.



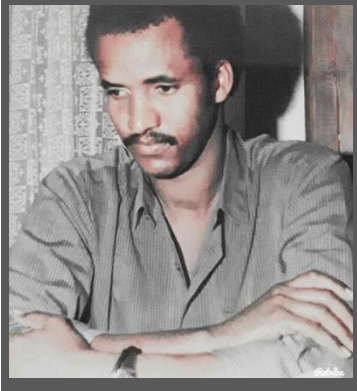
**Idris Mohammed Ali** — A veteran of Eritrea's independence struggle and a renowned musician. Arrested on **24/11/2005** in Asmara along with scores of other citizens. Never been charged or brought before a court of law. Whereabouts unknown. However, a report in 2016 claimed he was one of four prisoners who were executed extrajudicially on the night of 22-23 August 2007 by the Eritrean government's security. According to the report, each was shot killed, and the four were buried together in one pit.



**Mohammed-Jimie Arei** — A forensic expert who worked at the Police headquarters in Asmara. He had studied law at Khartoum University and received forensic training in the Netherlands. Abducted by the Eritrean regime's security on **25 November 2005** in Asmara. His arrest was part of a larger campaign that week in which at least 20 people were targeted, including the musician Idris Mohammed Ali, journalist Jimie Kmeil and others.



**Taha Mohammed Nour** (born 1934) — A veteran of the Eritrean struggle for independence. He was one of the founders of the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) in 1960 and foreign relations head of the Popular Liberation Front (PLF) in the 1970s. He served as member, and secretary, of the Eritrean Referendum Commission in 1992-1993. At the time of his arrest in Asmara, he run a private business that included a language school. Arrested in **December 2005**. Died in prison in February 2008.



**Rubat AlHasan** — Businessman and sports/youth activist. Arrested on **24/11/2005** in Keren along with scores of other citizens arrested that day, including the musician Idris Mohammed-Ali. Rubat was a well-known citizen of Keren who was active in the city's civic life. He was co-founder and chairman of Ansaba Football Club. Never been brought before a court of law. Whereabouts unknown. However, a report in 2016 claimed that he died in prison in the period June-July 2007 as due to torture and untreated ailments (namely, kidney failure).



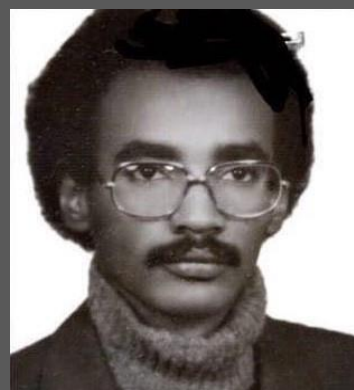
**Ahmed Mohammed Musa Gumo'** — A captain of the Eritrean Defense Force's Commando brigade. Arrested in **December 2005**.

Whereabouts unknown. However, a report in 2016 claimed he was one of four prisoners who were executed extrajudicially on the night of 22-23 August 2007 by the Eritrean government's security. According to the report, each was shot and killed, and the four were buried together in one pit.



**Adem Shelshel** — An employee of the Eritrean Ministry of Information who worked as cameraman. Previously he worked as a police officer.

Arrested in **November 2005** in Asmara. Whereabouts unknown. However, a report in 2016 claimed he was one of four prisoners who were executed extrajudicially on the night of 22-23 August 2007 by the Eritrean government's security. According to the report, each was shot and killed, and the four were buried together in one pit.



**Mohammed Abdulhaleem** — Businessman, former journalist at Eritrea Al Hadeetha ارتريا الحديثة, and poet. Arrested on **27 November 2005**, in Barentu. Never been charged or brought before a court of law. His place of incarceration, health status, or, otherwise, his whereabouts unknown to this day.



**Jeilani Al'amin** — An officer of the Asmara Traffic Police (formerly with the Immigration office). He was arrested in **November 2005**, together with scores of other citizens including the well-known musician Idris Mohammed-Ali. According to a report in 2016, he died in his prison cell in the period June-July 2007, as a result of torture and lack of medical attention, and was secretly buried in the vicinity of Deki Nazo, between Asmara and Dekemhare.



**Hasan Abubakr (Farini)** — Hotel manager in Barentu and musician. Arrested in **December 2005** (the same day as his friend singer Idris Mohammed-Ali and scores of others). Released after spending 6 years in prison, but in poor health and mute (unable to speak). Died 2 months after his release, on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012, in Barentu.



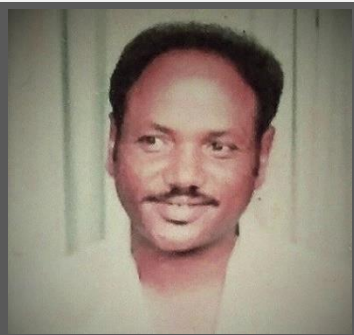
**Mohammed Musa Raka** — Former employee of the Ministry of Information. Arrested in **December 2005**. Not heard from since.

**Omer Kekia**

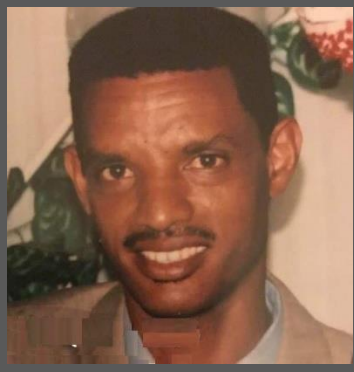
Veteran of the EPLF. Also was a member of the ELF. Since Eritrea's Independence, he worked in the Ministry of Education (MoE). At the time of his arrest in **November 2005** in Keren, he was serving as a MoE supervision officer.

**Salah Greinet**

Ticket officer in the Eritrean Airlines head office in Asmara. National service corps. Served in the Assab front between 1997 and 2003. Arrested in **November 2005** in Asmara.

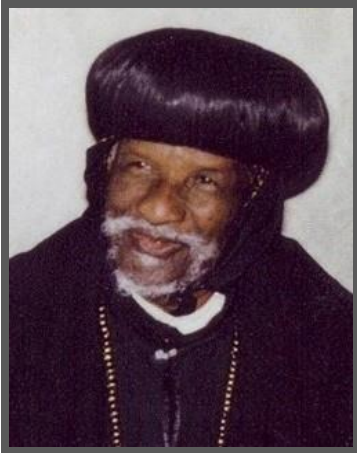


**Mohammed-Nour Ahmed Nour Ali** — Born in 1957 in Qrora, Eritrea. Joined the PLF (precursor of the EPLF) in 1973. As an artillery technician, he served in the fighting units of the EPLF until Eritrea's Independence. Father of three children. Arrested by the Eritrean security in **September 2005**. Never charged or brought before a court of law. Whereabouts unknown.



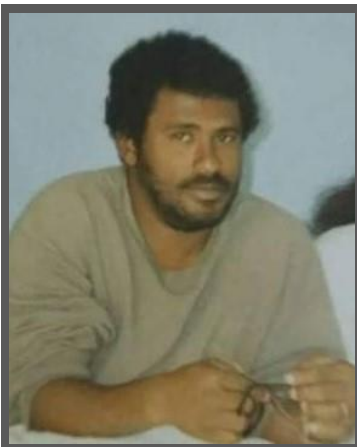
**Yosief Berhane** — He has been languishing in the prisons of the regime of Isaias Afwerki since **2005**. Berhane, who was a freedom fighter for Eritrea's independence, was arrested a few months after his wedding. No charges have been brought against him. His sister Ghenet Berhane says: To this day, we do not know why our brother Yosief was imprisoned, where he is being held or whether he alive or not.





**Abune Antonios** (born 1929) — Abune Antonios is the legitimate Patriarch of the Eritrean Orthodox Church in Eritrea. He was ordained as the third Patriarch of the Eritrean Orthodox Tewahedo Church in 2004. In **2006**, he was deposed by the government and placed under house arrest after he protested the Eritrean Department of Religious Affairs' interference in his church's affairs. He had resisted government requests that he excommunicate 3,000 members and protested the arrest of priests. Since his arrest, the patriarch has been either kept in isolation, detained in undisclosed location, or put under house arrest. The nonagenarian

Patriarch experiences a severe form of diabetes and is repeatedly denied medical care by officials. Patriarch Abune Antonios has no formal charges registered against him. Per latest reports on his status, the Patriarch remains in isolation and his family is not permitted to visit him.



**Idris Mohammed Ali (Guroon)** —English language teacher, Keren Secondary School. Member of the Eritrean 'National Assembly' and of Anseba Regional Assembly. Arrested in **2002/2003** and released after 6 months. Arrested for the second time in **2006** and has never been heard from since. He has never been charged or brought before a court of law. As teacher, Idris was loved and well respected by his students and colleagues. As a representative, he was known for his outspokenness and courage in advocating for the rights of his constituency to access their local resources, such as land, and public services.



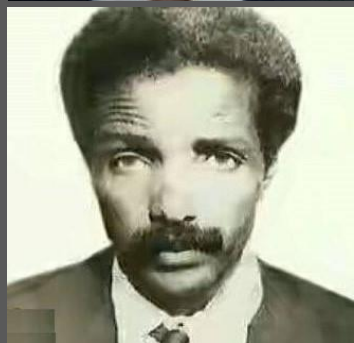
**Abdulrahman Abdalla Yacoub** — Resident of Barentu. National Service veteran (1996-97). Later he was serving in Division 16 (3rd Brigade) of the Eritrean Defense Forces, based in Mendefera. Sometime in **mid-2006**, his unit went to the Gash area to help with harvesting. and on the way back to Mendefera Abdulrahman took a few days off to visit his family in Barentu. One day he went to the local market and never came back. There is strong circumstantial evidence he was abducted by his military unit. His children have remained without a father since.



**Ahmed Sheikh Faras** — Businessman and community leader. Former sea captain of commercial vessels. Activist for Eritrea's independence since his youth. Former prisoner of Ethiopian governments. Arrested by the Eritrean regime in Massawa on **2 May 2007** (at the age of 80). Died in prison in 2010 aged of 83. His family remained unaware of his death until August 2014.



**Sheikh Hasan Ibrahim Salem** — the former head of the Department of the Muslim Endowments (Awqaf) in Massawa, and later for the entire Semhar province (now part of Northern Red Sea). Arrested in **2007**. He died — while incarcerated — on September 24, 2014, at Sembel hospital, Asmara, where he was brought from detention.



**Osman Sartak** — Born in Sheitel, Barka La'al. Veteran of Eritrean struggle for independence with the ELF. Arrested in **2007** in Agordat and incarcerated at the notorious Aderser prison. Released after 9 months in which he was subjected to torture. Re-arrested one month later in Germaika in western Eritrea. He has never been brought before a court of law. To date his whereabouts are unknown.



**Mussie Ezaz** — Youth leader at Kale Hiwot (Word of Life) Church in Asmara. Detained since January 2008 without any recourse to legal process. Mussie was first detained in **September 2007** at his home in Asmara and taken to a small remote prison, from which he escaped. Re-arrested in January 2008. Believed to be held in the maximum-security Wenjel Mrmera prison in Asmara.



**Abdulaziz Mohammed-Ali Zerom** — Director of Ansaba Islamic Institute in Keren. Arrested in **2009**. He has not been charged or brought before a court of law. His elder brother, Abdulalim, forcibly disappeared in 1992. His whereabouts are unknown.



## Disappearances in 2011 - 2018



**Mussie Eyob** — Arrested in **November 2011** after being deported from Saudi Arabia. Reported to be held in the harsh and remote secret prison of Me' ter in Northeast Eritrea.



**Mohammed Ali Ibrahim** — A veteran of Eritrea's struggle for independence with ELF. EPDP leadership member of the Eritrean People's Democratic party, an exile-based opposition organization. He was abducted by the PFDJ regime in Eritrea on **14 February 2012** from Kassala, Sudan. There is no information on his status and whereabouts since his abduction.



**Ciham Ali Ahmed** — Ciham was arrested by the Eritrean security forces in **December 2012** while trying to leave the country. She was 15 years old at the time. To this day, it not known where she is or what has happened to her. She has never been charged or convicted of any crime. Ciham is the daughter of the former minister of information who abandoned the government of Isaias Afwerki in 2012 and is now living in exile.



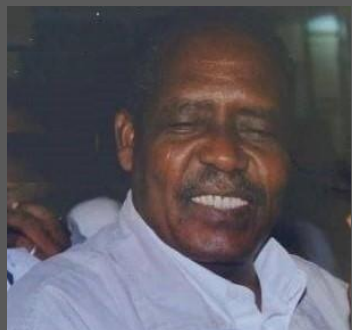
**Abdalla Jaber** — Head of Organizational Affairs, PFDJ (the ruling party in Eritrea). Previously, he served as administrator (governor) in two provinces. He was arrested in **January 2013** following the failed attempt (known as Forto 2013) to force Eritrean dictator Isaias to cede power and institute a process of transition to democratic rule. To date, his whereabouts are unknown.



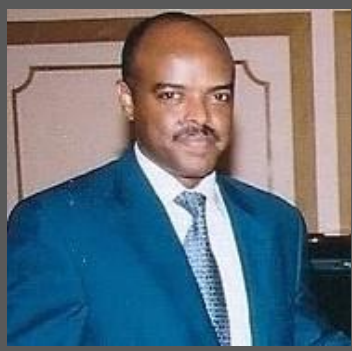
**Mustafa Nurhussein** — Governor of Southern Region; former governor of Gash-Barka Region. Arrested in **January 2013** following the failed attempt (known as Forto 2013) to force Eritrean dictator Isaias to cede power and institute a process of transition to democratic rule.



**Ahmed Haj Ali** — Minister of Energy and Mines; former Minister of Tourism; former Minister of Fisheries; and former Ambassador of Eritrea to the United Nations. Arrested in **January 2013** following the Forto uprising which sought to force Eritrean dictator Isaias to cede power and institute a process of transition to democratic rule. His whereabouts are unknown.



**Ibrahim Toteel** — Former governor of Northern Red Sea region; former ELF leadership member. Arrested in **January 2013**, following the aborted Forto uprising in Asmara, the demands of which included constitutional rule and the release of political prisoners. Mr. Toteel had left the government and was living as a private citizen for the last 10 years before his arrest.



**Mohammed Osman Idris Jmie** — A veteran of the Eritrean struggle for independence with the EPLF. After Eritrea's independence, he served as a provincial administration officer (including as secretary of the Sahel provincial people's assembly), and later as diplomat. He was arrested in **January 2013** in the wake of the failed attempt (known as Forto 2013) to force Eritrean dictator Isaias to cede power and institute a process of transition to democratic rule. To date, his whereabouts are unknown.





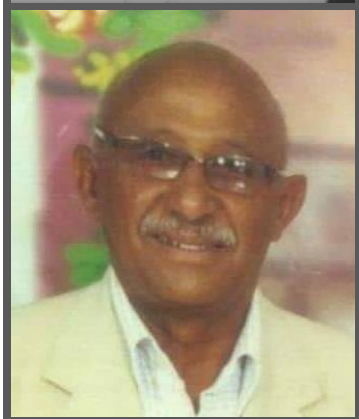
**Mohammed-Nour Ali Osman** — Colonel

Mohammed-Nour Ali Osman was the police commissioner for the Southern Region in Eritrea. He was arrested in **January 2013** in Mendefera, in the wake of the failed attempt (known as Forto 2013) to force Eritrean dictator Isaias to cede power and institute a process of transition to democratic rule.

In early 2020 news emerged that his son **Ali Mohammed-Nour** had been arrested in Asmara. There is no information as to where he was taken. Ali is a graduate of the Teachers Training Institute (College of Education), a husband, and a father of one.



**Haji Musa Mohammed-Nour** — At least 90 years-old. Arrested in Asmara on **20 October 2017** by the Isaias regime, along with scores of other citizens. Died in prison on March 1, 2018. Hajji Musa was a respected elder in the community and the president of the board of Al Diyaa Islamic School in Asmara. He is also the brother of the late Taha Mohammed Nour, one of the founders of the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) in 1962, who died in the regime's prison in 2008. The arrests of Hajji Musa and the other citizens were related to their objection to the Eritrean government's decision to confiscate Al Diyaa school. Al Diyaa, which is a community school, has been in operation for over five decades.



**Ibrahim Younis** — Ibrahim Younis died on January 30, 2019, in one of the Eritrean dictator's prisons in Asmara. He was detained in **October 2017** alongside the late Haji Musa Mohammednur and other members of the board of Al Diyaa School in Asmara.

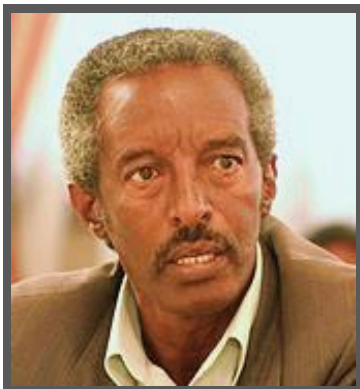
The arrests in October 2017 were related to the objection of the board and the community to the Eritrean government's decision to confiscate Al Diyaa school. Al Diyaa, which is a community school, has been in operation for over five decades. Hajji Musa died similarly in detention in March 2018.



**Mohammed Ali Omaro** — Eritrea's Ambassador to Nigeria. Former ambassador to Sudan. A veteran of Eritrea's struggle for independence and a co-founder of the EPLF, now PFDJ, Eritrea's ruling party. Omaro was arrested on **April 29, 2014** in Asmara. He was taken from the street by plainclothes members of the Eritrean security. At the time of arrest, he was an elderly man in his seventies. His whereabouts are still unknown.



**Abdu Heji** — Eritrea's Ambassador to Pakistan. A veteran of EPLF department of information during the struggle for independence. Former director of the government-run TV. Arrested in **January 2017**.



**Brhane Abrehe** — Former Minister of Finance and former director of department of Macro Policy and International Cooperation. He was arrested on **17 September 2018** in Asmara and has been kept incommunicado since. Weeks before his arrest, he published a book critical of Eritrean ruler Isaias Afwerki. He had also broadcast via social media a message in which he called on Mr. Afwerki to convene urgently the National Assembly [parliament] and for the latter to initiate an immediate process of political transition to an elected democratic system. Mr. Abrehe has never been

charged with any crime.

Background: Mr. Abrehe had been sidelined by Afwerki and effectively fired as finance minister several years before his final public fallout, even though no official announcement has ever been made to that effect, as is the norm in the secretive regime of Eritrea. He had for some time been at odds with Afwerki over key aspects of economic policy and broader governance issues. For example, he had made it clear he could not be held accountable for policies for which he had increasingly been only nominally in charge. Particularly at issue was revenues from the new gold operations and other mining activities, as well as a range of public enterprises, which are controlled, not by the Ministry of Finance, but the economic affairs office of the ruling PFDJ party, and hence, not subject to regular government oversight.



Information for this dossier was provided by the families, friends and colleagues of the detainees. It is based on initial data that is available on 'Eritrea's Disappeared' Facebook page, with additions and updates. Credit also goes to:

Soira Human Rights Center

Human Rights Concern - Eritrea (HRCE)

14 April - Eritrean Prisoners' Day Campaign

Amnesty International

PEN Eritrea

Awate . com

JW . org

Release Eritrea

Farajat . com

Radio Saeyob

Adoulis . com

Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ)

Ehrea . org

Sactism Facebook page