

COMMEMORATING OROMO MARTYRS' DAY



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Introduction-1

- Why do we commemorate this national day?
- What is the importance of having heroines and heroes in Oromo society?
- What criteria distinguish Oromo individuals who have sacrificed their lives for their people and country?



Introduction-2

- Five major reasons for commemorating this national day
 - To remember those martyrs who have given their lives to restore Oromo culture, identity, and human dignity
 - To assess the connection between martyrdom, bravery, patriotism and Oromummaa
 - To recognize our historical obligations to continue the struggle
 - To appreciate that Oromo heroes and heroines are still killing and dying for liberation in Oromia
 - To recognize that Oromo liberation requires heavy sacrifices, and Oromo martyrs are our revolutionary models



Ultimate Sacrifices For Restoring Culture, Identity and Dignity

- Martyrs have paid in their precious lives to enable Oromos to restore their collective name and the name of their country and to retrieve Oromo culture, language, and history
- Martyrs have sacrificed themselves to restore Oromo bravery and patriotism by developing *Oromummaa* and by defying suffering and death
- *Oromummaa* is flowering by the blood and flesh of our martyrs



Courage, Death and

Oromummaa-1

- **Have provided leadership for liberation in all fronts – political, cultural and ideological**
- **Have served as embodiment of Oromo quest for survival**
- **Have been the shakers and movers of Oromo history**
- **Have frightened the enemy and made them sleepless**
- **Have exposed the criminality and the dirtiness of Oromo collaborators, such as OPDO**
- **Have liberated some Oromos from the camp of the traitors and mercenaries**



Courage, Death and *Oromummaa-2*

- **Have made us to realize the existence of three kinds of Oromos**
 - Those who have a moral and political courage and defy suffering and death to promote Oromo liberation
 - Those who sell their brothers, sisters, mothers and fathers for their belly and luxurious lifestyles
 - Those who are passive or ignorant and blinded by the ideologies of the enemy

What should be done?



Remembering Martyrs and Fulfilling Obligations

- **Following their footsteps today millions of Oromos are fulfilling their national obligations**
 - Transforming dehumanized Oromos
 - Battling collaborators
 - Giving hope to those who have lost hope
 - Mobilizing resources of all Oromos and supporting the OLA



Recognizing Contemporary Heroes and Heroines

- **Providing moral, political, ideological, and material support**
 - Making people aware of the power of the individual in bringing about liberation
 - Exposing mercenaries and defending the Oromo cause by any means necessary
 - Encouraging and recognizing contemporary heroines and heroes for their achievements



The Importance of Having Heroines and Heroes

- **Recognizing and celebrating achievements and excellence**
 - During the *gada* system, bravery, patriotism, cultural knowledge, expertise in leadership, organization and warfare were highly appreciated
 - Rejecting the leadership of collaborators who have rejected the principles of *gada*, *saffu*, and *social justice*
 - Promoting knowledge of liberation by challenging the knowledge of domination



Martyrdom, Revolutionary Models and Missions

- **Our martyrs have been philosophers, military leaders, lawyers, social scientists, cultural and religious experts, business people, students, farmers, teachers and doctors**
- **Studying, writing and learning from their worldviews and experiences**
- **Transformation of the leadership**
 - Cognitive liberation
 - Self-emancipation



Conclusion-1

- **Recognizing and implementing the missions of our heroes and heroines**
 - Sacrificing something for liberation, justice and democracy
 - Making alive the dreams of these heroines and heroes by action
 - Supporting the OLA
 - Educating, mobilizing and recruiting unconscious Oromos



Conclusion-2

- **Engaging in the production of new ideas, principles, knowledge, and policies**
- Expanding leadership capacity
 - Involving more Oromo intellectuals
 - Consolidating the diaspora support
 - Building political alliances
 - Developing pragmatic international policy

