



***CELEBRATING OROMO
HEROISM AND
COMMEMORATING
THE OROMO MARYTRS'
DAY***



INTRODUCTION

1. Heroism and celebration of patriots by every nation
2. Oromo heroism in creating national independence and sovereignty – past and present
3. Reasons for celebrating Oromo heroism and the Oromo martyrs' day
4. Our heroes and heroines – past and present



OROMO HEROISM - 1

1. Oromo heroism under the *gadaa* system
2. All males between the ages of 16 and 32 had responsibility for protecting the security of Biyya Oromoo (Oromo country)
3. Senior leaders and experts trained young men in the importance of leadership, organization, military, and warfare



OROMO HEROISM - 2

4. Young men were also trained in oratory to praise patriots and ridicule traitors – example, *geereersa*
5. Young men received on job training by taking part in war campaigns and hunting large animals; learned the practical skills of warfare, military organization, and fighting
6. These patriots established Oromia until the balance of power changed



THE ATTACK ON OROMO HEROISM

1. The alliance of Ethiopian colonialism and European imperialism
2. After fighting almost for three decades, the Oromo were defeated by these combined forces
3. Then they started to psychologically humiliate our people
4. They buried Oromo heroism and started to use our young people as their “firewood” – example, OPDO



THE REBIRTH OF OROMO HEROISM -1

1. The introduction of inferiority complex because of systematic attack and lack of Oromo historical knowledge
2. People who do not know their history and culture are dead, and they become raw materials for others; such people do not fight for their individual and national rights
3. Politically, historically, and culturally conscious Oromos recreated Oromo heroism



THE REBIRTH OF OROMO HEROISM

- 2

1. In the 1960s and 1970s such conscious Oromos created independent organizations and wrote the Oromo history in their blood
2. These martyrs invited us to join the struggle, and we honor them and we are proud of their bravery
3. Heroism in the context of the Oromo struggle



OROMO HEROES AND HEROINES

1. Conscious brave Oromos have sacrificed their precious lives for the liberation of their people and sovereignty of Oromia
2. They have ensured the survival of Oromo people-hood, culture, history, language, and country
3. They connected us to the global community
4. The OLF and OLA are still engaging in bravery and paying ultimate sacrifices
5. What are our roles? Do we contribute our fare shares? Or are we lost in trivial activities of the modern capitalist world system?



REASONS FOR CELEBRATING THE OROMO MARTRYS' DAY - 1

1. To remember our heroes and heroines who have restored our manhood and womanhood
2. To understand the connection between martyrdom, bravery and *Oromummaa*
3. To realize that freedom and liberation require ultimate sacrifices in lives; our patriots have been our models
4. To remind ourselves that we have historical and national obligations to intensify the Oromo national struggle by whatever we can



REASONS FOR CELEBRATING THE OROMO MARTYRS' DAY - 2

5. To remember that members of the OLA and other nationalists are still paying ultimate sacrifice in Oromia for our liberation and sovereignty
6. To renew our commitment not to forget our heroes and heroines by being in foreign lands and not to be manipulated by lies and propagandas of our enemies



CONCLUSION

1. AGITATING, EDUCATING, ORGANIZING, AND MOBILIZING OUR PEOPLE FOR LIBERATION REQUIRE COURAGE, DETERMINATION, HARD WORK, BRAVERY AND SACRIFICE
2. WE SHOULD BUILD OUR MOVEMENT ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR FALLEN PATRIOTS

