

The Seattle meeting in brief

Luckily I swung by Seattle yesterday, It was a coincidence for me being there for personal business while the chairman of CUD was conducting a meeting in the same city. I was happy to see Chairman Hailu Shawel reassuring his audience with full confidence. The meeting took more than three hours so I will write not all but a few points of my observation of the meeting. The meeting was called for 2:00 PM, around 3:00 PM the meeting hall was full and few people were standing leaning to the surrounding wall. When the panelists came it was stand ovation applause for a longer time. After the initial introduction of the panelists by the Seattle chapter legal Kinijit support committee chairwoman, the first speaker Weizero Nigist G/hiwot took the podium and explained in length about the necessity of more women participating in the struggle she also mentioned past history of Ethiopian women from Queen Taitu to Tewabech who were the most fierce protectors of the country side by side with Ethiopian men. Without the participation of women nothing could be accomplished she added. This reminds me of the Late James Brown's song it goes like this "This is a man's world but it would be nothing without a woman or a girl" I say bravo Weizero Nigist, keep it up. Next the warrior Bedru Adem was telling it like it is. I appreciate the way Bedru Adam handles the crisis and his determination to push forward the struggle regardless of the detractors and traitors within the party. On top of all things, one thing worth mentioning that hits the cord was when he pointed to his colleagues sitting in the panel to his left chairman Hailu to his right Weizero Nigist, he said we are Ethiopians pointing to the chairman "Oromo & Amara", pointing to himself "Oromo" and pointing to Weizero Nigist "Amara" concluded by saying there is no democracy than this we all of us together are called Ethiopians wishing good things for Ethiopia. There was a very loud applause he continued about why he joined to strengthen CUD and get his own strength from CUD because as an individual parliamentarian for many years, he couldn't accomplished anything. Then the chairman himself took the podium and talked about the sad state of the Ethiopian economy, the farmers exodus to cities like Addis Ababa and the few riches created by the current rulers to the expense of the Ethiopian Public. He advised the audience when they visit Ethiopia to see the glaring problem of the people, the families who are on the streets instead of the buildings. The student who only have to eat once a day, "how can you produce an educated citizen without first feeding the brain to grow?" he asked. Then came the question and answer session where the first person to jump for the microphone was an individual from the detractors group sent to whatever. His question was "how come you claim to free us while you are not free yourselves" and mentions something about the Drdolittle's group suspension by the chairman. Well chairman Hailu gave him all; he mentioned he has responsibility to the party because the party is owned by the people of Ethiopia not by individuals like Drdolittle and his groupies. He said individuals have the right to do whatever they want and can go which ever way they want but they have no right to go outside of the party's law without consequences he added. Then Mr. Bedru continued explaining and mentioning paragraphs of CUD bylaws telling the audience the chairman's authority to suspend any wrong doer who intends to hurt the party. Bedru added this is not a family squabble, if one go out of the party rule then it has to be judged using the party rule. After more

question and answers the meeting was concluded by a few items auctioned to support CUD, one item a gold necklace sold for over a thousand dollar.

By the way, while the meeting was in progress we were disrupted by pal talk connection to Ethiopia, two of the CUD executive committee members Ato Abayneh Berhanu and another member were on the phone. First they congratulated the audience for standing up to the challenge and reported what they are doing. Ato Abayneh mentioned about 30 -40 elected officials are out to the field in different Woredas organizing and the result is to his satisfaction. The other member was contacted while he was in southern Ethiopia doing the same field work like his mates. My take is it was very exciting to hear their positive attitude.

Then I left went to where I stayed, I opened my laptop to write something and on my way visited a few websites. To my surprise here was the EMF owner Dawit Kebede like a rabid dog put together about the Seattle meeting. I think he wrote it even before the meeting was started. What a liar he is I am sorry for his followers. I never saw a low life like this. I don't want to repeat his lies but he mentioned things that didn't happen, he said Hailu Shawel surprised the audience with such and such things? I am the audience; Chairman Hailu only talks about the economy not even close to what the rabid dog Dawit mentioned. I tell you he needs a rabies shot, he really need it.

Note: the name Drdolittle is mine which I awarded to Birhanu Nega a few months ago

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Gasha Kelemu

gashakelemu@yahoo.com