



Jawar Mohammed

FACT SHEET

BACKGROUND

- Jawar Mohammed is a high profile figure in Ethiopian politics. The extent of his influence can be gauged from his 1.7 Million followers on Facebook as well as over 130,000 followers on Twitter.
- Mr. Mohammed was considered a persona non grata under the previous administration of the Ethiopian Government for activities considered to be illegal.
- Since 2014, Mr. Mohammed has mobilized millions of young people using the OROMIA MEDIA NETWORK (OMN), a tax-exempt media organization he established in Minnesota.
- Mr. Mohammed has encouraged and funded for millions of youth to engage in confrontational tactics. He is responsible for organizing “rage weeks” in the past that have led to the destruction of properties and lives.
- Jawar Mohammed continues to promote activities which violate the minimum standards of acceptable conduct necessary for the preservation of an orderly society and contrary to the common good and the general welfare of Ethiopians.

WHY WE ARE PROTESTING

- Since October 23rd 2019, over 80 innocent civilians have been murdered in the Oromia region of Ethiopia,
- The killings shocked the nation as the barbarism of the incidents were unprecedented. Innocent civilians were beheaded, some lynched and some beaten to death.
- Christians and minorities were selectively targeted and killed. These deadly incidents were triggered by the Facebook post of Jawar Mohammed.
- Mr. Mohammed was never made accountable for instigating the demonstrations that led to the deaths and sufferings of many innocent civilians. The extent of the violence includes many churches being set on fire and clergymen/pastors killed.

CALL FOR ACTION



- On October 30th, a few days after the deadly days of massacre, Jawar Mohammed decided to take advantage of the political crisis to raise funds for his media organization OMN.
- A fundraiser was created on Facebook and within a few days it managed to raise over USD \$300,000.
- We strongly opposed this fundraiser as the funds being raised were intended to help broadcast more hate speech and instigation.
- We tried to stop the fundraiser by reporting it to Facebook and eventually the fundraiser was ended and removed from Facebook.
- Nevertheless, the raised amount hasn't been cancelled and is set to be disbursed to OMN in the coming weeks.
- The organization handling the disbursement is Facebook's Donation official partner, called *Network for Good*.
- We have made multiple attempts to get *Network for Good* to cancel the scheduled disbursement, but the organization has thus far refused to give us an official answer, other than deflecting and encouraging us to file complaints elsewhere.
- We are asking *Network for Good*, to respect its own Terms of conduct against hate speech and cancel the disbursement.