

## END THE ETHNIC VIOLENCE IN TIGRAY, ETHIOPIA



Since November 4th 2020, thousands of innocent men, women and children have been raped, killed and starved by their own federal government in the Tigray region of Northern Ethiopia based solely on their ethnicity and the crisis is growing worse by the day. We must act to prevent further atrocities.

### Background

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed assumed office in 2018 under a coalition agreement between four regional political parties that included the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF). Ethiopia had long suffered from both internal ethnic rivalries and a 20-year conflict with neighboring Eritrea. Ahmed came to power under the promise of ending these various conflicts, and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2019 for "making peace" with Eritrea.

Sadly, instead of using peace with Eritrea as a springboard to resolve Ethiopia's internal ethnic divisions, Ahmed used calm on Ethiopia's Northern border as cover to systematically oust TPLF supporters from government positions, ultimately commencing a military offensive against the TPLF in the Tigray region. In the process, Ethiopian forces have turned their fire on ethnic Tigrayan civilians, blocking food and medicine from reaching the affected population, and blacking out power and communications in the region.

On June 28th, 2021, Ethiopia placed the entire region of Tigray and its 7.5+ million residents under a **siege**. No food has been able to get in, telecommunications has been completely turned off, Banking has become non-existent. The Ethiopian government is effectively holding one of its minority ethnicities hostage.

### The Current Man Made Catastrophe

The conflict in Tigray has now become a full-blown genocide:

- More than **150,000** civilians have been Killed.

- **80%** of Hospitals and Clinics looted and destroyed.
- **75%** of Schools and Universities looted and destroyed.
- More than **62,500** civilians in external refugee camps.
- More than **5.2 million** people (over **2 million** children) without food in a region of 7 million people. People have already died from starvation.
- More than **2.5 million** internally displaced civilians.
- **1.4 million** children under the age of 5 and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) need preventative intervention.
- **10** percent of the required humanitarian cargo, **2.2** percent of the necessary operational cash, and **28** percent of fuel has been able to reach Tigray since **12 July**
- **Non-governmental food partners have run out of stocks for common food baskets within Tigray, while no humanitarian food supplies entered the region since 20 August.**



- Thousands of women and children have been raped, with wide spread allegations of human trafficking spreading throughout the region. Rape is being used by the Ethiopian government as a weapon of war.

## Action Needed

More must be done to prevent further atrocities. The greatest need for the people of Tigray is access to food and water. Although some humanitarian corridors have started opening, food aid is being looted, diverted and destroyed.

*"The humanitarian situation in the Tigray region is worsening dramatically due to the limited quantity and depletion of humanitarian supplies, operational fuel, and cash. While humanitarian access is now viable and secure in 75 percent of Tigray, delivery of humanitarian assistance is extremely constrained. The only access route to the region is via Afar (Semera-Abala corridor), which has not been accessible since 22 August due to bureaucratic and logistical impediments. " -- UNOCHA September 2nd, 2021*

- The United States should apply existing sanctions authority against Ahmed's government under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act until aid is allowed to Tigray.
- Now that congress has passed Res.97 they should **label these on going atrocities a genocide.**
- Now that multiple countries, including the USA, have called for a ceasefire it is time for the United States to take action and put an end to the human rights violations being committed against Tigray's civilians.

We also call on the US to actively support an inclusive, intra-Ethiopian dialogue on democratic reforms, elections, ethnic violence, and accountability for serious human rights abuses.

We now need the international community to act on their concerns and make an impactful effort in stopping the Tigray Genocide.

How **YOU** can help:

Please help us spread the word! Stand with us against these atrocities with your voice; tweeting, posting, emailing/phoning your local legislators, and constantly talking about what is happening in Tigray. More action items can be found here:

<https://tigrayactioncommittee.com/take-action-now>

Use the following hashtags: #Tigraygenocide #CallItAGenocide #Tigraycantwait #KeepItOn

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