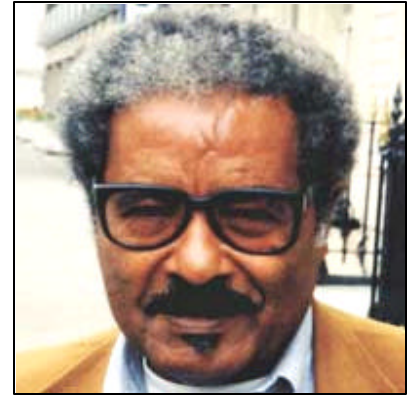




Free Prisoners of Conscience in Ethiopia!



Mesfin Woldemariam

To: Prime Minister Meles Zenawi
c/o Embassy of Ethiopia
3506 International Drive N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

Your Excellency:

We are very concerned that Professor **Mesfin Woldemariam** and others in Ethiopia were convicted in June 2007 on politically motivated charges. Arrested in connection with public protests over alleged fraud in Ethiopia’s May 2005 elections, Professor Mesfin and his co-defendants were charged with a range of offenses that included “outrage against the Constitution.” However, Amnesty International believes that Mesfin Woldemariam and many others are prisoners of conscience who have been convicted solely due to their peaceful exercise of the right to freedom of expression.

Mesfin Woldemariam, now age 77, collapsed in his prison cell in August 2006, requiring emergency medical treatment for pneumonia. Although his health remains very fragile, he was subsequently returned to Kaliti Prison, where cells are often overcrowded and conditions are poor. Professor Mesfin is founder and former chair of the Ethiopia n Human Rights Council. A retired geography professor, he has taught at Addis Ababa University and Harvard University and holds multiple degrees from Clark University in Massachusetts, USA.

We join with Amnesty International in calling on you to bring about the immediate and unconditional release of Mesfin Woldemariam and all prisoners of conscience in Ethiopia.

We thank you in advance for your attention to this very serious matter.

YOUR SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

CITY /STATE

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Send completed petition directly to the Ethiopian Embassy.