

# A SYMPOSIUM HELD IN SEATTLE

## Former Officials Gave Testimonies Discussed Ethiopia's Boundary Lines crises

By Zewge Fanta

Dictator Meles Zenawi has clear intention to dismantle Ethiopia while he has the power to do so. His divide-and-rule policies, his oppression and deliberate neglect and deprivation of Ethiopians of their economic and political rights and opportunities have brought the people into impassable crises. The Ethiopians have reached the zenith and their existence and continuity as people of a nation is challenged.

In unhistorical conduct, Meles has given away Ethiopian territorial lands to neighboring country and he has audaciously told the Ethiopian people that he done so. Ethiopians have learned that Meles has a foreign army enter deep into Ethiopian territories and forcefully occupy the lands by forcefully deriving the villagers and farm communities out of their birth places. Many have been killed and others who resisted have been taken away from their homes and detained by Sudanese forces.

To avert catastrophic development, Ethiopians everywhere are organizing themselves to stand in defense of their mother land and the people of border towns and farm communities now in disarray.



The Ethiopians in Seattle led by the coalition of Kinijit and Hibret political support groups and other civic organizations had organized a symposium to discuss the crises and understand the situation facing the Ethiopian people. Two distinguished scholars and former authorities were invited to educate and inform us about the uninhibited action Meles selling Ethiopian territorial lands to Sudan.

His Excellency Ato Taye Retta, a high official in the Ethiopian Mapping and Surveying Department of the Ministry of Land Reform and Administration, and His Excellency Ato Shiferaw Enqubahri, the former governor of Begemdir and Simen province were the guest speakers. The two distinguished guests shared their rich experiences and knowledge about the long history of Ethiopia's territorial lands and the great men and women that administered the lands in every province along the border lines.

Ethiopians who attended have gained important historic lessons and important points and learned about the current border crises and the consequences. This information give the Ethiopians the power and arm us with essential knowledge to undo or stop Meles from dismantling Ethiopia. It is our sincere hope that many Ethiopians will have the opportunity to listen to these rare scholars and learn about their country and the current crises in detail.