

Message on the 48th Anniversary of Launching of the Eritrean Armed Struggle

Joint Media Team
Eritrean Democratic Party/Eritrean People's Party
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The Eritrean Democratic Party and the Eritrean People's Party congratulate Eritrean people as they mark the 48th Anniversary of Launching of the Eritrean Armed Struggle. Eritreans celebrate September 1 (BaHti Meskerem) each year to mark the Armed Struggle they launched in 1961 against the Ethiopian colonial power.

Launched in September 1, 1961 under the leadership of our hero Martyr Hamid Idris Awate, the Eritrean struggle for Independence took three decades-long fight of continued endurance, perseverance, stoic, and heavy sacrifices of Eritrean people that in the end culminated in an independent and sovereign state of Eritrea in 1991.

The achievement of our independence ended the Ethiopian rule in 1991, but it did not fulfill the dreams and aspirations of Eritrean people. Yet our independence remains a cornerstone for our collective identity, existence, and inspiration to create a democratic state of Eritrea.

As we commemorate the 48th Anniversary of Launching our Armed Struggle, we must renew our unwavering resolute and commitments to remove the PFDJ rule, and deliver change and create a stable and a strong democratic government that respects peace, freedom, and justice in our country.

As a decisive factor, the success of the preceding objectives lie in primarily on the unity of Eritrean people, as well as on the opposition political forces that must forge a concerted action among themselves; this is indispensable strategy in the fight against the dictatorial regime. The root cause of the suffering, anguish, injustice, inequality, and the ever-deepening poverty of our people is the presence of the dictatorial regime of the PFDJ in our country. And the present spiraling situation in Eritrea is clear, beyond all doubt, that requires us to gather and concentrate our efforts more than ever before on removing the PFDJ regime.

On this 48th historic BaHti Meskerem Anniversary Day, the Eritrean Democratic Party and the Eritrean People's Party reaffirm and pledge themselves to carry the goals of September First (BaHti Meskerem) through and realize peace, justice, democracy, and prosperity in Eritrea. At the same time, EDP and EPP reaffirm once again their adherence to the commitment of merger and unity with organizations that share their vision. In the same measure, EDP and EPP are committed to strengthening the Eritrean Democratic Alliance and ultimately making it a credible umbrella organization that can promote the common purpose of all the various Eritrean opposition political forces.

We also call upon Eritrean people and international community to provide assistance and to stand up with forces that are engaged in the ongoing noble struggle to bring justice and democracy in Eritrea.