

Scores of Eritreans Sentenced to 20 Years in Prison

Department of Information and Culture
Eritrean People's Party
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A military court of the Eritrean ruling party of PFDJ sentenced scores of Eritreans to 20 years in prison after it accused them of attempting to overthrow the government of Isayas. The closed-door trial was held at the end of June 2009.

All the accused had spent many years in prison without charge before they were finally brought to the kangaroo court at the end of last month and sentenced to 20 years of imprisonment. Family members and human right advocates were also denied access to the specifics of the charges that the regime claimed that it was a plot to overthrow the government.

As it is always the case, the government convicted innocent citizens on a trumped up charges without any trial proceedings, as well as without providing them the right to defend themselves. These fabricated charges against innocent Eritrean citizens are nothing but aimed at suppressing the growing opposition against the repressive government of Isayas Afeworki.

The identities of most of those sentenced have not been known. But Eritrean People's Party source has identified six names:

1. Abdella Omer Jime
2. Omeredin
3. Mohmmud Mesmer
4. Wodi Nadir
5. Wodi Uruf
6. Staz Idris Kurun

After the sentencing, all were taken to Jufa prison facility. Jufa is one of the many prison facilities in the country located in the southern outskirts of Keren city.