Torture in the Sinai: Who is to be blame ?

By Gebre Fessehazion

Eritrea is the most peaceful country in Africa and one of the safest nations in the world. As a result of that, its nine ethnic people live in a perfect harmony. It is hard to find a crime or violence in Eritrea on a daily basis as it is very common event is in the rest of the continent. Eritrea, which is the newest nation of Africa, is engaged in a national development campaign to eradicate poverty once of all and to achieve also a major economic success. Eritrea is doing well in order to ensure a social justice of its people. But, despite the grim picture painted by the "media" and anti-Eritrea camps, Eritrea may not be on a giant economic stage, but rather heading towards stabilization and prosperity.

Nowadays, much has been said about human trafficking in the Sinai desert and unfortunately, much emphases were given only to Eritrean victims. Especially, Mirjam van Reisen professor of International Social Responsibility at Tilburg University (in the Netherlands) and also founder and director of Brussels-based Europe External Policy Advisors (EEPA) **with the collaboration of Meron Estifanos from Sweden** wrote a report about Human trafficking in the Sinai. In her report, she claims that Eritreans are escaping from the abuse of the Eritrean government. Everybody is aware about the horrors that refugees endure in the hands of traffickers in the Sinai Desert but to blame the Eritrean government rather than the Egyptian and Israeli governments is more or less something for hidden agenda.

Mirjam v. Reisen...

 " Somalian and Eritrean refugees running away from violence in their own countries end up captured in the Sinai. And if money runs out, torture follows." Stop this, says EEPA director and Chair of International Social Responsibility, Prof Mirjam van Reisen. (Dutch newspaper NRC Handelsblad )

The situation in Somalia is a public secret but to identify Eritrea with Somalia is just to ignore the intelligence of the international community.

The Sinai Desert is inside Israel. It is funny why can the most powerful country in the middle East unable to stop this Modern Day Slavery. I hope Prof. Mirjam van Reisen aware that for Israel, with the most sophisticated and highly trained military, would be easy to halt this mass murder that occurring on its soil. But it was premeditated and well **planned**for hidden agenda.

But the reactions that we are hearing from her now over rules most people's common sense, even that no longer of this time is. Mirjam van Reisen that says without batting an eye that *"the involvement of Eritrean authorities and military officials in the trafficking and their links with a criminal organization".* Which is much more far away from the reality.

For more than ten years now, The people of African in general and the people of Horn of Africa in particular has been the target of the Human trafficking networks. Therefore, it is preposterous to tell us the SINAI DESERT Scenario is new crime that is occurring at the moment.

Every year, thousands of Eritreans from all over the world travel to Eritrea to visit their homeland. As far as the official figures are concerned, annually more than 80 thousands Eritreans from Diaspora visit their motherland. No one dares to spend his vacation in a country which is a volatile and dangerous. But, unlike Mirjam Van Reisen claims, Eritrea is the best place to visit and safe haven for tourists.

I hope that Prof. Mirjam van Reisen (with the respect of her personal background) will do more research about Eritrea and know more about the true identity of the most promising country in Africa.

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Anyone who is interested to read her articles and respond her, please check here: http://www.eepa.be/wcm/dmdocuments/publications/report\_Human\_Trafficking\_in\_the\_Sinai\_20120927.pdf

or http://www.eepa.be/wcm/