



ANUAK JUSTICE COUNCIL
Justice, Peace and Freedom

Coming soon: Betrayal of Democracy: Ethiopia, a riveting and revealing documentary film depicting the deepening crisis of democracy in Ethiopia under the current EPRDF government of Prime Minister Meles Zenawi. A must-see film for all concerned about the alarming state of affairs in this strategic country in the Horn of Africa.

Betrayal of Democracy: Ethiopia

Ethiopia—a strategic partner to the US in the War on Terror or a terroristic regime?

This is only the beginning question asked in the soon to be released documentary, **“Betrayal of Democracy: Ethiopia”**.

This film gives a shocking insider’s view of politics in a Third World country where a system of tyranny, corruption and oppression is being held in place by a complex assortment of players, ranging from Ethiopians themselves to those in the international community, all who influence the internal affairs of the second most populous country in Africa, not always with the best interests of the Ethiopian people in mind.

Yet, the final question—who is responsible for change—is not so simple, even though it is the most important question. The answer may surprise the viewer, but first one must know the real story.

In an atmosphere where information is tightly controlled, now you can discover what is actually going on behind the scenes as the people of Ethiopia speak out from the dark places of oppression, bringing the lens of truth to the public about the rampant human rights abuses that go on in the secret places of this regime while captivating the world with an illusion of democracy.

When the current Ethiopian Prime Minister, Meles Zenawi, led the rebel movement that overthrew the communist government of Mengistu in 1991, the Ethiopian people rejoiced, thinking that the same winds of change that brought down the Berlin Wall might reach all the way to Ethiopia. As a country ravaged by famine, disease, corruption and oppression, Meles Zenawi immediately became a popular leader as he promised the people freedom, democracy, the rule-of-law and prosperity. But, after sixteen years, democracy remains only an illusive dream of the Ethiopian people. What went wrong?

You will learn from eyewitnesses about a government planned and executed massacre of its own citizens, the Anuak of Gambella, a region in southwestern Ethiopia.

You will hear the interviews of Ethiopian intellectuals and political leaders from different ethnic backgrounds as they explain what is happening in their country.

You will see actual footage of Ethiopians being shot by government troops under this regime as they are peacefully protesting the stolen national election of 2005.

You will hear Ana Gomes, the Chief Election Observer from the European Parliament, denounce the election as not meeting international standards. You will see the elected Opposition leaders as they are jailed on false charges.

You will see a betrayal of democracy and a betrayal of the Ethiopian people.

This film is a “must-see” for those concerned with the future of Ethiopia. As Third World politics become increasingly intertwined with the political interests of others in the global community, one wonders—what can be done?

In **Betrayal of Democracy: Ethiopia**, while not absolving outsiders of accountability for enabling this tyrannical regime, neither does it settle for Ethiopians who give away their own futures through passivity, disunity or doing nothing while waiting for the US or others to do the hard work of democracy building.

Betrayal of Democracy: Ethiopia points to a shared responsibility of all the players—from Ethiopians at home or in the Diaspora, to those in the international community—calling all to stand up for the God-given principles of freedom and justice, not only for ourselves, but for others suffering at the hands of tyrants.

As Ethiopians seek true democracy, one will be inspired to examine one’s own responsibility in making this world a better place—about adding one’s own voice to the quiet ones coming from the dark and desperate places of our world.

Betrayal of Democracy: Ethiopia was produced by the Division of Media and Technology of the University of Saskatchewan, Canada, for the Anuak Justice Council. The Executive Producer of the project, Obang Metho, is an Anuak from Ethiopia and serves as the Director of International Advocacy for the Anuak Justice Council. For more information, please see the website at: www.anuakjustice.org.

If you would like **Betrayal of Democracy: Ethiopia** to be shown in your area, arrangements can be made by contacting the Anuak Justice Council by Phone: (306) 933-4346 or E-mail: advocacy@anuakjustice.org.