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Families of 8 June 2005 Massacre:

Martyrs' Association

1. **Number of households**----- 29
2. **Family members**----- 142
3. **Average household size**----- 4.90

4. Age distribution

Age	Male	Female	Total	Percent
00 – 14	12	18	30	21.13
15 – 34	31	48	79	55.63
35 – 64	8	19	27	19.01
65 – 75+	4	2	6	4.23
TOTAL	55	87	142	100.00
%	38.73	61.27	100	

5. Educational Status

	Number	Per Cent
5.1 Illiterate -----	24	16.90
5.2 Nursery -----	3	2.11
5.3 Grade 1-8 -----	64	45.07
5.4 Grade 9-10 -----	34	23.94
5.5 Grade 11-12 -----	15	10.56
5.6 College -----	2	1.41
TOTAL	142	99.99¹

(Signature)

¹ Percentages do not add up because of rounding.

6. Employment Status

	Number	Per Cent
6.1 House wives -----	24	16.90
6.2 Teacher -----	1	0.70
6.3 Weaver -----	1	0.70
6.4 Trader -----	1	0.70
6.5 Carpenter -----	1	0.70
6.6 Painter -----	1	0.70
6.7 Laborer -----	1	0.70
6.8 Unemployed -----	43	30.28
6.9 Student -----	69	48.59
TOTAL -----	142	99.97

7. Head of Household

Sex	No.	%
Female	21	72.41
Male	8	27.59
Total	29	100.00

9. Bread Winner Killed

Description	No.	%
Wife/Mother	2	6.90
Father	5	17.24
Daughter	13	44.83
Son	6	20.69
Brother	3	10.34
TOTAL	29	100.00

On 8 June 2005 some 29 peaceful demonstrators were killed in cold blood by the armed forces for asking the government to respect their votes that were stolen during the national and regional elections of May the same year. They were exercising their rights to express their dissent at vote rigging by the government.



Their families have since become ardent supporters of AEUP, in spite of their misfortunes and other challenges that they are confronted with every day of their lives.

AEUP talked to the families and planned to organize them into service cooperatives so that they can engage in a business of their interest and capacity to live a sustainable decent life. Such was intended to establish a flour mill, an internet café or a traditional food processing business. However, having made a brief investigation of the possibility of acquiring land or renting government houses, it was decided that it is a daunting challenge that cannot be overcome. The reason: the families of the martyrs being staunch supporters of AEUP.

Open support for AEUP has a price tag of losing one's livelihood, indeed, as witnessed even this year during and following the 23 May 2010 elections throughout the country. A large number of our members and supporters have been harassed, intimidated, imprisoned, tortured while in prison or even killed, the late AEUP President, Professor Asrat Wodeyes, being one of the early victims who lost his life prematurely as a result of inadequate medical treatment while in prison.

Following the aftermath of the recent elections some of our members were killed while others lost their farm lands and jobs for being our members and candidates for the elections and for refusing to join EPRDF as its members.

Amarech Gelane, Southern Regional State, North Omo Zone, Dasenech Wereda, and a mother of six children and our candidate for the national parliament, was killed in her house in front of her two children, both of whom were also shot and wounded in cold blood by a militia six days after she complained about government rigging of the ballot on 23 May Elections. To date the children are in hospital,

Seffeenewu Alemneh, one of our candidates during the 23 May 2010 elections in Amhara Regional State, East Gojam Zone, Gonji Kollale Wereda was confiscated his land and has to run away for his life simply because he is our member and candidate.

Habtu Girmay, a teacher in Tigray Regional State, Raya Zone, Quorem Wereda at Quorem High School and also our candidate during the 23 May 2010 elections is expelled from his job for none other than being our member and candidate.

Because all households are from low income class, they do not have houses or places for operating the expected cooperative business. Consequently, they had to abandon to form a service cooperative as initially planned.

On the other hand, each family or household is interested to start a small business of his or her own under the meager roof they live in. Such may be operation of a kiosk or a tea room or some such businesses.



Even these small businesses require seed money, which the families are eager to obtain. This is, therefore, to appeal to the usual generosity of our supporters in the Diasporas for your contributions.

The value of your kindness is immense and invaluable.

- You will be lifting 29 households with 142 members out of abject poverty;
- You will be assisting women who make 62% of the members of the households of whom some 72.41% are household heads and 17% are housewives;
- You will be assisting some 69 students or 30 per cent of the members of the households, our future potential leaders, go to school or continue their education;
- You will be supporting another 43 persons or 30 percent of the members of the households who are unemployed to obtain sustainable livelihood;
- Even more importantly, the country as a whole is passing through hard times unknown before that these families of the martyrs are even more marginalized so that they deserve our generous concern;

One cannot have more satisfaction than helping a fellow human being, and in particular, a fellow compatriot whose loved-ones have sacrificed for us all, for our freedom, happiness and prosperity and are themselves a target of misguided policy of a dictatorship.

So please, help and help generously to eradicate poverty from among the families of our martyrs who died to give us liberty, happiness and the hope for prosperity. The families of martyrs are themselves sacrificing too for these same common cause.

Blessed are those who give!

Ethiopia shall prevail and strive to greatness through our unflinching struggle!

ALL ETHIOPIA UNITY PARTY

