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Title: "Political Difficulties that Face the Organizations Representing Islamic Nationalists in Ethiopia" and "Brief Report on Current Events in Ethiopia"

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NB: The pages in the document are not in order. The document itself is translated poorly, and is incomplete.

Synopsis

The author describes the previous problems, the current challenges, and the future opportunities for Muslims and the organizations posed by the transitional government in Ethiopia.

Key Themes

The current regime in power in Ethiopia (Al Dargh) has some flexibility, and provides more political opportunities to Muslim nationalities in Ethiopia than previous regimes did. Unfortunately, Muslim nationalist organizations were often not in a position to take advantage of these opportunities. The population was in many cases stopped from economic production, and discriminated against for opportunities (which were given to non-Muslim organizations). In addition conflict was increased among different nationalities, journalists' opportunities were limited, and education and organizational opportunities were curtailed after the author's organization moved in.

With that said, opportunities for Muslim now exist.

1. Muslim nationalists were able to take control of their own areas.
2. Some Muslim nationalist organizations were able to return and contact their populations.
3. International Islamic organizations were allowed into Ethiopia.
4. Muslims are enthusiastic.
5. The youth of Ethiopia are eager to hear about Islam.

The author makes seven suggestions to improve the situation of Muslim organizations in Ethiopia:

1. Conducting a study of the reasons for the weakening of Muslim nationalists.
2. Having an urgent meeting among the region's group to resolve problems.
3. Taking advantage of the opportunities for political participation offered by the transitional government.
4. Providing the political and financial knowledge to take advantage of the opportunities, given a three month time limit.
5. Raising the leadership standards of the Islamic organizations.
6. Pressuring the president of the Islamic front to accept the opportunities.

Elsewhere, the author makes more detailed suggestions.

1. Conduct a conference to deal with the Islamic front's internal divisions.
2. Try to find unity among the various factions.
3. Try to coordinate among Somali and Oromi organizations to confront Islam's enemies.
4. Take advantage of current opportunities by acknowledging that the Christians of Ethiopia are merely a ship floating in a sea of the rising Muslim population, establishing political parties that represent all Muslims, and financially supporting media outlets to prepare Muslim psychologically.
5. Resolve problems with the transitional government to avoid war.

6. Raise the economic and educational level of local Muslims.

The author also provides a report on current events in Ethiopia. He expresses astonishment that the Ethiopian government was previously overthrown by such puny means. The new transitional government's extension of opportunities to Muslims, namely the right to rule themselves, participate in the government, and broadcast their own media, is welcome, but it is ultimately a deceptive plot.

The author describes Islamic nationalities in Ethiopia, including the Oromo (who have 3 Islamic organizations, and 2 non-Muslim ones), the Ofar, Somalis, the Bani Shangool, and the Adra.

Expected dangers involve a betrayal by non-Muslims, who could deprive Muslim organizations of their military and political gains following the elections if they choose military confrontation.