



The Institute for Horn of Africa Studies and Affairs (IHASA)

Institute for Horn of Africa Studies and Affairs (IHASA) is pleased to announce its annual conference addressing the crucial international crisis facing the Horn of Africa region, particularly in the Somali Region (The Ogaden). The theme of this year, “Looking Back and Looking Forward: The Somali Region (The Ogaden) in the 21st Century,” will be co-hosted in collaboration with the Human Rights Center at the University of Minnesota on the weekend of June 18th to June 20th.

The Ogaden Region has been torn apart by the ongoing conflict which resulted in hundreds of innocent lives lost and significant human rights abuses. The purpose of this conference is to connect the local Diaspora community with prominent leaders, organizations, government representatives, academics and scholars to address the current political, social, and economic issues in the Ogaden as well as future prospects for peace.

There will be many of Horn of Africa’s prominent scholars present at the conference, including Dr. Bereket Hebte Selassie of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Edmond Keller of the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), Dr. Ted Vestal from Oklahoma University, Mr. Faisal Roble, independent scholar, Dr. Asfaw Beyene from San Diego State University, Dr. Samantha Hurst from the University of California at San Diego (UCSD) and Dr. Ali Khalif Galaydh, former Prime Minister of Somalia’s Transitional Federal Government as well as many other scholars from various universities. In addition to these leading scholars, knowledgeable representatives from influential human rights and peace-building organizations such as Human Rights Watch, Alliance for Peace-building, and Genocide Watch will present their research. These scholars and representative of Non-governmental Organizations will provide a framework to assess both the conflict itself and conflict resolutions in the context of the National Regional State (the Ogaden) and the broader social change taking place in Ethiopia.

We hope that this conference will create a platform to exchange ideas, and generate discussion, as well as raise the awareness about the injustices endured by the people in the Somali Region.

IHASA is a national nonprofit organization whose mission is to document, research, analyze, publish and disseminate information on the political and socio-economic justice issues affecting the people in the Horn of Africa and Diaspora community. IHASA strongly believes that the people of the Horn of Africa, given the opportunities necessary, are productive and the region is very dynamic and resourceful. Through conferences such as this, IHASA supports policies and actions that contribute to the advancement of good governance and the elimination of conflicts in the Horn of Africa.

Contact: www.ihasa.org info@ihasa.org