



Since 1995

Harari Sports and Cultural Federation

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## **The 17<sup>th</sup> HSCF festival celebration in North America (July 2012)**

The 17<sup>th</sup> July festival will be celebrated in North America and the host city will be announced very soon. **Harari Sport and Cultural Federation (HSCF)** would like kindly to inform everyone that HSCF is legally accountable and responsible for Hararis in North America and we answer only to our constituency as well as our communities and take full responsibilities in this matter.

The decision that was taken on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 meeting held by HSCF members to celebrate the July 2012 event in North America stands as is and will be realized. As a chairperson of the federation, I have a responsibility and obligation to officialize the **aftermath of the October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 meeting** to the diaspora community as follow:

### **HSCF and Harari National League (HNL) controversy**

There are no legal and contractual obligations between HSCF and HNL. Both are independent entities and located in different continents responsible for their own jurisdictions. They exist in unrelated constituency and relations between the two are always informal, which is based on individual and personal levels and never had been officially structural. HNL is part of a regional government within the Ethiopian Federal system and supervised by EPRDF. On the other hand, HSCF is nonpolitical and nonprofit organization responsible to hold the yearly sport and cultural events in North America since its inception in 1995. HSCF is trying its best and takes a responsibility to ensure the survival of Harari cultural heritage in North America and the Hararianization of the youth, the new generations born outside Harar.

HNL is divisive and a manipulative force and have no respect for HSCF organizational independence and survival. Today it is because of HNL that HSCF is going through enormous crises and problems.

Last week HNL supporters broke all HSCF rules and regulations and managed to overturn the leadership of HSCF and cancel the 17<sup>th</sup> Harari festival in North America without prior consultation of the Chairperson and other stakeholders. That conspiracy alone shows the total lack of respect for interests of Hararis in diaspora. People are free to decide what they want to do and where to go and what to see as they wish. Our concerns and mandates are only for the ones who would like to see and expect the annual July celebration in North America as a meeting place for families and friends. Coup d'états, deceptions, intrigues, insults, labels, and outright conspiracy against our communities are unacceptable.



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## **This Year's 17<sup>th</sup> Festival on July 2012**

The 17<sup>th</sup> July festival will never be canceled and will be celebrated as scheduled. Likewise, HNL can celebrate freely its festival in any place and at anytime and we wish them good luck. Our task and obligation is for North American younger generations and for our children and we see no conflict with any other groups, governments and countries.

Nevertheless, now there are growing interests and determinations to organize the festival here in North America from many people and cities and HSCF will do everything possible under its mandate to make the celebration to happen as well as to be successful.

Last but not least, I would like to thank everyone for your support and let us all work together to strengthen a seventeen-year old HSCF and its legacy and bring our children together in this annual festival to celebrate one of the best festivals here in North America. HSCF is the only diaspora organization that survived so far all odds the organization went through in past several years. Thus, please let us nourish, preserve and protect this federation together for the sake of our children; these children are our HOPES of the future!!

With Regards,

Abdulhafiz Yousuf,

Chairperson of the HSCF

17<sup>th</sup> of February 2012