

Ertereya Kunama Kodada Kotada



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Eritrean Kunama Relief Association

الجمعية الخيرية لأبناء الكناما الارترية

Ref.No. _____
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Date:- _____

ERITREAN KUNAMA RELIEF ASSOCIATION (EKRA)

Eritrean Kunama Relief Association (EKRA) was established by the end of 1998 by Kunama individuals as a civic society. This is a relief association and since its establishment, it has set its goals and objectives, elected its leaders and is working with impressive effort all over the world.

One of its greatest accomplishments is that, when the Kunama left Eritrea in a large mass and came to Ethiopia after the border war, has assisted the people with the range of its capacity. For instance, when a need of water containers, plastic sheets and food was demanded, it has contacted different governmental and non-governmental organizations and has distributed on fairly bases. Besides, it advocated on behalf of the people for aid all over the world and achieved its goal.

REFORMATION OF EKRA

Though EKRA was established in 1998 and is going forward with its objectives, due to some technical set backs, it was unable to accomplish its goals effectively. To consolidate and erect its pillars, therefore, it has lured additional volunteered Kunama who are devoted to the relief of their people and was rejuvenated in November 2006 with new and vibrant program.

THE NAME, THE LOGO AND ITS MEANING.

THE NAME:-

The name of the association is “Eritrean Kunama relief Association” (EKRA)

THE LOGO OF THE ASSOCIATION:-

The logo of the association is a standing Kunama woman shouldering traditional water containers surrounded by green leaves of a local bush called Akalma.

THE MEANING OF THE LOGO:-

1. The woman is meant to show that Kunama is a matrilineal society. . 2. The woman carrying containers is the sign of unity as well as burden.
3. The carriage is meant to show that Kunama is under oppression.
4. The traditional containers are meant to show the unique culture of the Kunama.
5. The burden the woman holds in general shows the endurance of Kunama to any kind of hardship and suppression

The reasons the green leaves are chosen for the logo are:-

1. The bush is well known and that grows in Kunama land,
2. It is also edible.

THE OBJECTIVES OF EKRA

1. To strive for the well being of Eritrean Kunama whether in Eritrea or Diaspora,
2. To advocate on behalf of the Kunama who face any kind of problem encountered,
3. To strive for the rehabilitation of lives of any Kunama who fled Eritrea,
4. To disclose the discrimination and the evil treatment of the government of Eritrea against Kunama all over the world peacefully,
5. To collaborate with other Eritrean civic societies and strive for the realization of future peaceful and democratic Eritrea,
6. To strive to foster the Kunama language and culture by any means found at hand, and
7. To back up the needy Eritrean Kunama students with the essential materials while schooling.

EKRA's WORK PLAN

The plan of action of this civic organization is parted in to two; Long and Short Term Work Plans.

The Long Term Work Plan aims at achieving the objectives in a long run, and the Short Term Work Plan, which aims at solving immediate problems.

On the base of the work plan mentioned above, the detailed activities will be as follows:

1. It collaborates with concerned bodies in Shimelba and works to solve, health, educational and other social problems of the refugees,
2. It supports elderly people, disabled and needy people materially and morally,
3. It supports the newly coming Kunama refugees to re-establish their lives,
4. It works to disclose the evil treatment of the Eritrean government against Kunama to the whole world.
5. It collaborates with other civic societies,
6. It strives for the development of Kunama language and culture,
7. It collaborates with other humanitarian organizations and opens chances of vocational trainings to the Kunama

THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF EKRA

Since its establishment, EKRA has accomplished the following goals.

1. It has introduced itself to the Administration of Refugees and Returnees Affair (ARRA) and has assured fully recognition, appreciation and heartfelt support,
2. It also introduces itself to camp community leaders and block leaders who also have appreciated and encouraged to proceed forward,
3. It introduced itself to the camp community as a whole.
4. On educational side,
 - 4.1. It organized a training of three days to all Kunama teachers to introduce them with the new Latin curriculum,
 - 4.2. To enhance good educational achievements of the Kunama students ranging from grade one up to tenth, it has organized

- and awarded prizes for the outstanding Kunama students, devoted teachers and the community leaders on 28-07-2007.
- 4.3. Has reminded parents and block leaders to follow up with the education of the Kunama students,
 5. it has crafted its own seal, and it has exposed the evil treatment of the PFDJ regime against Kunama all over the world,
 - 5.1. Has dispatched the names of the Kunama individuals who have been killed, imprisoned, and disappeared for years by the PFDJ regime from 2001-2006 on the cyber world,
 - 5.2. Has devoted all of its time and capacity to disclose all the evil and atrocities of the PFDJ regime.

THE MEMBERSHIP CRITERION

For a person to be a member of EKRA, he/she must fulfill the following criterion.

1. He/she must accept the objectives of EKRA,
2. He/she must be volunteer and must be devoted to carry out the tasks given by the civic organization,
3. He/she should have a good reputation,
 - 3.1. He/she must be willing to strive for the promotion of Kunama culture and language,
 - 3.2. He/she must be willing to give priority to the problems of the society,
 - 3.3. He/she must be willing to abide by the rules of EKRA (executive) board members,
4. He/she must be willing raise funds on behalf of EKRA monthly or occasionally,
5. He/she must be willing to strive for avoiding any kind of discrimination within Kunama under any pretext or ground,
6. He/she must be Eritrean Kunama. However,
 - 6.1. Any person who is not Kunama, but still willing to assist or accept the objectives and rules of EKRA can be a member.

Closing

EKRA will continue to strive for the well being of Kunama with all its capacity and to the utmost stage will safeguard the rights of the Kunama. And by this occasion it would like to remind that anybody

who has the willing to contribute materially, morally or to be a member of EKRA is most highly welcomed.