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Statement of CBCE on the occasion of peace agreement

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" (Philippians 4:8)

To all the Ethiopians and all the people of good will

CONGRATULATIONS!

We Ethiopians, including our friends all over the world who were waiting and longing for the peace negotiation that was taking place in South Africa where both sides came to an agreement. In the name of the Ethiopian Catholic Church and myself, I would like to express my joy and gratitude.

I would like to thank the people who have been working hard to make this happen and who contributed to its fulfillment. You, the faithful, congratulations to you, since you are able to see the fruits of your fasting and prayers.

As we learn from Our Lord Jesus and the Saints, His Holiness Pope Francis says "the seed of peace has to die first in order to grow and bear fruit. It cannot be gained by the philosophy of defeat. Peace does not recognize fighting as a solution. Instead, it is the spirit of humility and forgiveness."

We believe that the agreement made in South Africa wipes the tears of so many mothers, stops the misery of children, lays the foundation to stop killing among brothers and sisters. As a result of this, it leads our people towards unity and peace.

Therefore, I invite all religious leaders, elders of the community, Catholics and people of good will to be united to ensure the continuity of peace in the country. In addition to this, to return our displaced people back to their homes and help them to start again their lives. Be vigilant and courageous in your prayers.

May God bless our country, Ethiopia and its people!

for
 Cardinal Birhaneyesus

President of Catholic Bishops' Conference of Ethiopia
 November 3, 2022

