

REFUGEES IN LIBYA

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A COMPLAINT RAISED AGAINST THE AFRICAN UNION (AU) OVER THEIR PRETENCE ON THE CHAOS HAPPENING IN LIBYA FOR YEARS:

Dear: madam/sir.:

This letter is coming from group of **refugees** and **migrants** who are currently **stuck in Libya** and have been stuck here for years, enduring all sorts of violations, torture, extortion, forced conscription, arbitrary arrest and detention and unlawful killings. We are so moved and saddened to observe the **silence** of the African Union for the past 10 years over the **killings** and grave violations against **migrants and refugees living in the Libyan lands**.

We are the citizens of this continent and these soils that we travel through, we demand to travel to all African countries freely without obstructions. No African child should be called a migrant in the African Union and member states, we need peace, security, education and infrastructure. The African Union and member states have legal obligations to ensure that we meet these expectations . And not to risk our lives to venture Europe and other journeys en-routes where thousands of lives might perish. And the dreams die without seeing the light.

Amongst these people were children who had dreams to **become doctors , teachers, entrepreneurs, astronauts and pilots**. They had bigger dreams that were buried with them in the vast Sahara, and

those who sank deep into the depths of the Mediterranean sea under the watch of the African Union.

The African Union has achieved nothing yet since its formation in [Sirte](#), on the **9 September 1999**, but corruption and failing the dreams of African people by leaders and heads of the states. They have delivered nothing to the people whom they are supposed to serve in fairness.

The African Union and its member states have the power and resources to feed and educate its citizens, but all they long for is war against their own people, and corruption leading to their own self growth and the greediness of staying in power for decades.

The African Union has failed to acknowledge that the massive in-flow of migrants to Libya, then Europe, is arising because of their failures to address African problems. Youth had consequently lacked opportunities to explore and develop themselves, educate themselves and nourish themselves.

The [ECOWAS](#) has failed the West African states and the sub-sahara states at large under the presence of the African Union, forcing populations to flee to Europe en route where their lives are risked. where they are killed like flies and the perpetrators go free without being held accountable for those crimes that may amount to crimes against humanity. The African Union has also failed to combat [terrorism](#) of [Boko Haram](#) in the [west African states](#), forcing millions to flee their homes, states and countries to places where they are unable to feed themselves and educate their children.

The African Union has failed to address and bring an end to the war in the youngest Nation in the world, South Sudan. They and the [IGAD](#) have messed with the lives of million South Sudanese by holding nonsensical peace talks in Addis Ababa for years that yields no fruits, and does not match their needs on the ground and in reality, forcing millions to flee to all neighboring countries, and take down most perilous journeys to Europe.

The African Union has failed to bring peace to the people of Congo and Uganda, while the [Lord's Resistance army \(LRA\)](#) erupted, who later massacred millions across East and central Africa, in countries namely [Ugandan](#), [Congo](#), [South Sudan](#), [Central Africa Republic](#). Destroying resources worth billions of money, destroying the continent and its citizens.

The African Union has failed to address the [Tigrinya genocide in Ethiopia led by Ahmed Abiy](#). Millions have been forced to flee to the neighboring Sudan, where they embark on the journey full of uncertainties to Libya, in search of income and protection across Europe. But they end up in the hands of the Libyan authorities, militias and traffickers.

The African Union failed to react to the massacre which happened in [Sabratha 2017](#) , against African migrants in Libya. Thanks to the people of [Niger](#) who gave a space to host the victims and the later offer of [Rwanda](#).

They (AU) also failed to react to the [Tajoura airstrike that murdered hundreds](#) of refugees and migrants by the Russian drones on African soil. And they pretend that they don't know about the vast forced conscription that happened in Libya from the period of [2019-2021](#), of migrants intercepted at sea. They never asked where the thousands of migrants who disappeared from the Libyan official detentions.

Eventually, the brutal crackdowns on [Gargaresh](#), which was mainly inhabited by thousands of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, have not caught their attention. These people are humans, their lives matter, and the African Union is obliged to ensure that the Libya authorities do not harm any migrant or refugee in African soils.

We call upon the African Union and its member states to come to our aid, to call on the Libyan government to comply with international laws applicable in Africa and bring perpetrators to

justice. Including safe passage and [humanitarian evacuation flights out of Libya are in effect](#).

We call upon the African Union and member states to protect our fundamental rights, including the right to life, freedom of movement, and protection.

Once again we reiterate our calls for an [immediate evacuation](#) of refugees and migrants who are strongly affected by the latest development of [brutality in Tripoli](#) and across Libya at large. And those found guilty have to be brought to justice.

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