

CONDOLENCE STATEMENT BY ADVOCACY FOR OROMIA (A4O)

(Melbourne, Australia – 8 September 2026) With heavy hearts, yet unwavering resolve, Advocacy for Oromia (A4O) extends our deepest condolences on the passing of our beloved artist, **Ilfinash Qannoo**. While we mourn her loss, we firmly assert that her departure must not be met with sorrow alone, but with profound celebration—honor, not grief, shall define her legacy.

We call upon all Oromos and friends of Oromia to celebrate Artist Ilfinash Qannoo for the following reasons:

1. **A lifelong advocate for Oromo liberation** – Throughout her entire life, she stood firmly in support of the Oromo struggle for freedom.
2. **A symbol of Oromo identity** – Her very being embodied the pride, culture, and spirit of the Oromo nation.
3. **Strengthened the Oromo struggle** – With heart and soul, she championed the cause of victory and resilience, tirelessly advocating for our collective triumph.
4. **A defender of Oromo justice** – Her voice was unwavering in the fight for Oromo rights and historical justice.
5. **A defender of human rights** – She stood for the fundamental rights of all peoples, with courage and conviction.
6. **A symbol of Oromo unity** – She reminded us that no matter the challenge, we must remain united and defend our rights together.
7. **Taught us to resist oppression** – She inspired Oromos to never submit to any form of subjugation, while also respecting the rights of other nations, setting a powerful example of principled struggle.
8. **Her legacy transcends her life** – Even her final resting place, in Ambo, is a historic site of the Oromo struggle, ensuring that her memory is eternally honored in our collective history.
9. **She remains a martyr of Oromia** – Not only in life, but also in death, she is remembered with dignity and honor as a true heroine of our people.
10. **She fought for gender equality** – She challenged gender-based discrimination and contributed immensely to the Oromo struggle, advancing the cause of equality at every opportunity.

Therefore, Advocacy for Oromia reiterates: While we grieve the physical loss of Artist Ilfinash Qannoo, we must celebrate her life, her work, her history, and her enduring symbol of resilience. She has left us a glorious legacy—not one of despair, but of inspiration.

Let us take strength from the legacy she and our forebears have bequeathed us. Let us press forward with renewed determination, advancing the struggle for Oromo liberation in her honor.

Advocacy for Oromia (A4O)
Melbourne, Australia
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