

INTERNATIONALE
CHRISTLICHE AKTION FÜR GLAUBENSFREIHEIT

CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY
INTERNATIONAL

Präsident:
Pfr. H. Stückelberger

ab 7.1.1982

Internationales Sekretariat:
Witikonerstrasse 56
CH-8032 Zürich
Tel. 01/55 66 46
Telex 59945 csi ch

Spenden:
Postcheckkonto 80-22429

**Christian Solidarity
International (CSI)**
Forchstr. 280, Postfach 52
CH-8029 Zürich
Tel. 01-55 66 46

Frau Kulani Gudina
Traunheimer Landstr. 202
D - 6000 Frankfurt 90
BRD

17. Dezember 1981

Sehr geehrte, liebe Frau Gudina,

Wir haben Ihr Interview mit einem Redaktor der "Menschenrechte" in der September/Oktobernummer 1981 gelesen und in der Folge Ihre Anschrift von der Hermannsburger Mission in Niedersachsen erhalten.
Erlauben Sie, dass wir uns Ihnen vorstellen.

Christian Solidarity International ist eine internationale, interkonfessionelle Organisation zur Unterstützung verfolgter Christen in Ost und West. Unter anderem verfolgen wir dieses Ziel durch die Veröffentlichung von Aufrufen. Als Beispiel legen wir einen Appell bei, den wir im September 1979 für Ihren Vater erlassen haben.

Könnten Sie uns Näheres über die Lage der Christen in Äthiopien berichten? Wir beabsichtigen, im Februar 1982 wieder einen Aufruf über Äthiopien an die Öffentlichkeit zu richten, in dem wir die Mekane Yesus Kirche ins Zentrum rücken möchten. Was können nach Ihrer Ansicht Christen in der freien Welt tun, um diese Kirche zu unterstützen?

Wären Sie unter Umständen bereit, hier in Zürich einen Vortrag über die Lage der Christen in Ihrer Heimat zu halten?

Wir würden uns über Information aus erster Hand sehr freuen und verbleiben in der Zwischenzeit mit freundlichen Grüßen

CHRISTIAN SOLIDARITY INTERNATIONAL

H.Taepfer
i.A. Helen Toepfer

Anlage

Rights & Justice

269A FINCHLEY ROAD, LONDON, NW3 6LU 01-431 2431

87 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AA

Tel: 01/380/0654

24th November, 1981

Kulani Gudina
Praunheimerlandstrasse 202
6000 Frankfurt 90
West German.

Dear Kulani,

I am writing to you formally to invite you to come to the U.K. for approximately 10 days in order to meet a number of people and organisations who are interested in having you talk to them. These include the British Council of Churches, who would like to meet you at 2.0 p.m. on 3rd December, the British Section of Amnesty, who have already been in touch with you and a number of other agencies.

Whilst you are here you will stay with Mohammed and we will be responsible for your maintenance and expenses.

We all look forward to seeing you. I am sure that your visit will have very useful result, especially as far as the various church organisations are concerned.

Yours sincerely,



Mary Dines

Kulani Gudina
Praunheimer Landstr. 202
6000 Frankfurt/Main 90
Federal Republic of Germany
Tel. (0611) 766880

Mary Dines
87 Gower Street
London W1E 6AA
England

6 November 1981

Dear Mary,

Thank you very much for your letter and please excuse me for delaying the reply.

Taye told me about your earlier message and that I was to speak on my parent's case in public which I avoid as much as possible. Your letter clarified this for me.

I will be glad to come to London. But I am very careful not to speak about my parents in public, since I ~~am~~ ~~tareye~~ that this might have undesirable consequences for them, especially for my mother with whom I have some contacts. I hope, you know the nature of the Ethiopian government and that you share my fears.

I understand you were misinformed about this possibility. I prefer to speak only to closed groups and institutions. If this is acceptable to you, I will be glad to come to London between 4th and 11th of December. I can not speak on public meetings and press conferences concerning the fate of my parents.

All your proposals would be all right for me and I will cooperate in all possible ways, except the point I have raised above. Therefore, if this is still alright let me know.

Again, I would like to thank you for the invitation. I look forward to both meeting you in person and hear from you.

Sincerely,

Kulani Gudina

would you please send me an invitation letter, so that I can get an
P.s. If ~~the~~ ~~misptati~~ ~~UK~~ is still standing with my amendments,

16, Hill Road,
Watlington,
Oxfordshire OX9 5AD
049 161 2542

26th May 1982

Dear Reverend Krauser,

I am very sorry not to have written to you before but I waited a very long time to hear from Geneva until, as nothing arrived, I finished the chapter on my existing notes. I should be most grateful if you would read it and change anything you believe should be changed. As you will appreciate, it is a difficult task to try and understand someone else's life, background and culture, so I hope you will forgive any mistakes and put me right where I have gone wrong.

As I cannot afford to make a number of copies, would it be possible to forward this chapter to Kulani, Lensa and Aster for their comments and changes. (If I can get another copy made, I shall of course send it directly to Kulani and would then ask her to let you know when she receives it) I should also be grateful if they could send me two photographs of their parents, for use in the book, which I shall return as soon as possible. I have already one picture of Gudina Tumsa but need at least two others, one of which I hope would include a picture of his wife.

I greatly appreciate your help in this matter. I became deeply involved in the story of Gudina Tumsa and Tsehai Tolessa and very much hope that the book can do something to help. It is a terrible tragedy that such things happen to such good people and I hope and pray that they have an early release.

My publishers require the finished manuscript by the end of June and I therefore look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Thank you again,

Yours sincerely,

Peter Luft

Rights & Justice

01/380/0654

87 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AA

Revd. Dr. John Bowes-Miles 22nd October, 1981

Kulan Gudina (KULAN GUDINA) was born in 1950 in Tigray, Ethiopia. He studied at the Praunheimer Landstr. 202 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. He now lives in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. He is a member of the People's Democratic Party of Ethiopia (P.D.P.). He is currently serving a prison sentence of 15 years for his political activities.

Dear Kulan,

It was good news to hear from Taher that you are willing to come here for a publicity tour.

We have discussed this with Amnesty International who are naturally most interested in your trip as both your parents are on their list of "Prisoners of Conscience".

You may know that the most important day in the year for Amnesty International is 10th December, which is both the day on which they publish their Annual Report and is also Human Rights Day internationally. We all felt, therefore, that if we could build your visit around that day, this would be the best time for you to come. There would be a Press Conference in the morning for AI during the course of which they would ask you to speak about your father in particular (as he is one of 16 people whose cases they are highlighting).

There is also an important meeting on "Disappearances" of the Parliamentary Group on Human Rights, which includes Members of both Houses of Parliament and all political parties, which will be held on 1st December. Again, your presence at this meeting would be extremely helpful.

I am not sure how long you can be away from Germany, so we have not fixed any details. We would like to propose, however, that you come on November 30th and stay here until 10th or 11th December, if that is convenient to you. If you can manage these dates we would suggest the following programme:

1st	Parliamentary Group on Human Rights
2nd - 9th	One or possibly two Regional meetings for Amnesty International
	Meeting at Africa Centre for Rights and Justice - Discussion with British Council of Churches
	Discussion with aid agencies
10th December	Amnesty International Press Conference

We would also like to arrange for you to be interviewed by the BBC (who have said they would like this) and representatives from the church press and perhaps one of the major Sunday newspapers, like the *Observer*.

Please let us know whether these proposals would be all right for you. You would of course stay with Mohammed and he or I would take you to the various places for meetings etc. Of course your expenses would be paid.

Taher has told me that you would generally like to speak on the general situation in Ethiopia - and especially the Oromo question - rather than specifically on your father's case. Of course, people will want to hear about him, but we, too, are anxious that the whole question of repression and human rights in Ethiopia is important. We would hope therefore that you could speak on that subject at the Africa Centre and



amnesty international

International Secretariat, 10 Southampton Street, London WC2E 7HF, England
Telephone: 01-836 7788 Telegrams: Amnesty London Telex: 28502



MH/gd

13 October 1981

Miss Kulani Gudina
Praunheimer Landstr. 202
6000 Frankfurt/Main 90
Federal Republic of Germany

Dear Kulani Gudina

I'm enclosing a copy of our Prisoner of Conscience Week publication, which features the case of your father's 'disappearance', in case you haven't received it from Amnesty workers in the Federal Republic of Germany. Your father will also be among the 'disappeared' to be featured in a special international campaign we are launching in December on the subject of 'Disappearances' internationally.

I expect you have again been in contact with the UN Working Group on Disappearances; although they have had no positive response from the Ethiopian authorities, I assure you they work as hard as they can on the cases they take up. It was a great advantage in your father's case that they received a submission from a relative (yourself) in addition to Amnesty International - which the Ethiopian government continually attacks with possibly the greatest hostility of any government in the world.

I am writing too to ask you whether you have decided to involve yourself - and your brothers and sisters - in any public campaigning on your father's and mother's behalf. Previously I think we were in agreement that this could have undesirable consequences for your parents, but I wonder what your view is now. I hesitated to approach you about this, until being informed - rightly or wrongly, I'm not sure - that you had already spoken in public in Germany about your father's 'disappearance', and that you might be visiting the United Kingdom shortly for the same purpose. I don't know under what auspices this might have been done, presumably via the Lutheran Church rather than Amnesty International. I have recently in fact been approached by two film-makers, whose films would be shown on television in Belgium and Norway respectively, asking for contact to any relative of any of the 'disappeared' in Ethiopia who would be willing to speak on film. If you wish to be associated with this, or with any public campaigning, either by Amnesty International or the churches, I'd be glad to know.

Our last information about your mother, Tsehai Tolessa, was that she had been moved to the Menelik Palace. Is this correct? I spoke recently with a lady from the Methodist Church here who had spoken to an Ethiopian priest (not EEMYC, but some church with Swedish contacts) who visited a prisoner

Amnesty International is a worldwide human rights movement which works impartially for the release of prisoners of conscience: men and women detained anywhere for their beliefs, colour, ethnic origin, sex, religion or language, provided they have neither used nor advocated violence. Amnesty International opposes torture and the death penalty in all cases without reservation and advocates fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners. Amnesty International is independent of all governments, political factions, ideologies, economic interests and religious creeds. It is financed by its membership and by subscriptions from all parts of the world. Amnesty International has consultative status with the United Nations (ECOSOC), UNESCO and the Council of Europe. It has cooperative relations with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States.

Miss Kulani Gudina

- 2 -

13 October 1981

in the cell next to your mother and saw your mother. I couldn't find out any more details, nor even the name of the prison, but your mother was said to be all right and possibly receiving visits or food. We have no new information about your father. Confidentially, the Ethiopian representative informed the UN Commission on Human Rights in April 1981 that your father had been reported as having been taken away by the OLF, and being in OLF-held territory, which is not credible at all.

I have not heard of any of the 1980 Oromo political detainees being among the prisoners released in the amnesty last month. Do you have any further information about this? I am very sorry the amnesty did not include your mother - let us still keep on hoping.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely



Martin Hill
Eastern Africa Researcher

Enc.

7-10-81

Dear Kervsh bunder, now ase, I am
very well still, I thanks for your
remember me for my life. Sometimes
I hear ~~I don't~~ some of the news, But still
I am here even this letter writing for
you, my intiment friend Z. m. e. Doy
it is away I must write you letter.
How is your family ~~and~~ ^{now} you. I don't
want writing such things. Because
~~I~~ ~~so~~ when you receives

This my first letter if you want
to write me C/o Tidohun Haile
P. O. Box 4646 direct of longer
my message - By this address
Before the end of October, 1981. I need
some amount of money before
I made and mobet C/o
Tidohun Haile P.O. Box 4646
next time I will write more
yours.

TSehi Tolossa

Oslo 27th August 1981.

Miss Kulani Gudina,
Praunheimer Landstrasse 202
D-6000 Frankfurt/M 90.

Dear Kulani Gudina,
Your address has kindly been given me by Dr. Gunnar Hasselblatt,
and I am happy to be able to get into contact with you . I
even hope that you can give me some help.

The Norwegian Missionary Society is to publish a book on
African church leaders, and I have the honour to be asked to
write about Qes Gudina Tumsa. I loved him and count myself
a friend and co-worker of his. Therefore I am happy to be en-
trusted with the task to write about him.

Although I new Qes Gudina quite well through many years, I am
sorry I did not gather more exact datas about him. Can you help
me? - When was he born (in 1929?)? What are the names and the
work of his parents? What about the conditions of his Child-
hood ? Some features would be fine, - even also from his mature
life.Important facts about his education and important jobs,
family and family life would be of great interest. A daughter's
(your) appreciation of her father would be most welcome.

You may have many facts to add, and they will all be of great
help.

We still hope that Qes Gudina is alive , and we shall be very
careful in our writing so that we don't hurt his case, but we
want to honour him. If you can give me some information, I
shall remember to handle them most carefully, and -if you so
wish- don't mention you as my source. What is your opinion on
this ?

I like to add that you all, and especially your mother, are on
our prayer list every morning. You shall continue to be there.

I hope I shall have the pleasure to hear from you. If you
prefer to write in German or Amharic, I am able to read both.

Yours sincerely,
Magnar Magerøy
Magnar Magerøy
Kirkeveien 108 A, Oslo 3

Evangelical Church
in Berlin-Brandenburg (Berlin West)
West Germany



Berliner Missionswerk · Handjerystraße 19 · 1000 Berlin 41

Kulani Gudina
UNION OF OROMO STUDENTS
IN EUROPE
GERMAN BRANCH
Praunheimer Landstraße 202
6000 F R A N K F U R T / M 90
E I L B R I E
=====

BERLINER
MISSIONSWERK
DIVISION FOR WORLD MISSION

Referat/Dept.: ETHIOPIA
Telefon: (030) 85 1021
cable: Weltmission Berlin

05-5-1981
Dr. Has/Su

Dear Kulani!

Martin Hill from ai London has sent these letters to me and asks me to inform you that you should write immediately to Geneva to the WORKING GROUP ON.... You should send the form date 12th of May 1981 "Report on the enforced or..." . If you do this immediately this could have a great impact! Don't mention in this form ai or Berliner Missionswerk, it should be your personal appeal and request! But again I say, if you do it immediately the effect could be very big!

It would be helpful if you send a copy to

Martin Hill ,Eastern Africa Researcher
amnesty international
10 Southampton Street
LONDON WC2E 7HF / ENGLAND

I will try to talk to you on the telephone to clarify if something is not clear to you!

Best greetings!

Yours sincerely

Dr. Gunnar Hasseblatt

Encl.: copy of ai-letter dated 23-4-81
formula "Report of the enforced..."
UN "Note on the submission..."

Bankverbindungen: Hypo-Bank (BLZ 10120760) 2600154624, Berliner Bank AG (BLZ 10020000) 0424125800. Postscheck: Berlin West (BLZ 10010010) 406250-108

Johannes Hasselhorn
Oberlandeskirchenrat

Wherabout

3000 HANNOVER r. d. 4.5.81
Ev.-luth. Landeskirchenamt
Rote Reihe 6
Tel. (0511) 1941 326

privat: Osterfeldweg 278
3002 Wedemark - I (Brelingen)
Tel. 05130/42 50

Fräulein
Kulani Gudina
Praunheimer Landstr. 202
6000 Frankfurt/Main 90

Liebe Kulani,

für Deinen freundlichen Ostergruß herzlichen Dank. Wir waren vor Ostern in Süddeutschland zur Konfirmation und werden jetzt am kommenden Sonntag zur Taufe des zweiten Kindes bei Dorothee in Stuttgart sein. Mutter geht es gesundheitlich nicht sehr gut, und ich weiß noch gar nicht, wie sie die Fahrt nach Stuttgart überstehen soll.

Die Nachricht von Deiner Mutter hatten wir schon erfahren und sind von ganzem Herzen dankbar. Das Schicksal Deines Vaters und Deiner Mutter begleitet mich Tag um Tag und auch Euch haben wir nicht vergessen. Wir würden uns aber freuen, Euch je und dann einmal zu sehen. Du weißt von Herrn Krause, was wir alles unternommen haben, um das Schicksal Deines Vaters aufzuklären, aber es scheint uns nichts zu gelingen und auch die Mekane Yesus Kirche kommt an keine entsprechenden Informationen heran. Das ist schon bedrückend für uns, wieviel mehr muß es für Dich sein. Umso mehr würden wir es begrüßen, wieder einmal mit Euch zusammen zu sein und nach Eurem Ergehen zu fragen. Herzlichen Dank für Deine Nachricht, daß Du mit Klausuren beschäftigt bist. Markus fängt jetzt auch mit seinem Staatsexamen an in Psychologie. Fritz sitzt im Staatsexamen mit Mathematik und Geschichte. Im Augenblick versuche ich, für Markus eine Stelle in Äthiopien zu bekommen, wo er für zwei Jahre bei der Kindernothilfe und deren Einrichtungen arbeiten soll. Er möchte gern dort hingehen. Wie Du weißt, war Dietrich im letzten Sommer 8 Wochen in Äthiopien, um die theologische Ausbildung dort zu studieren. Er wird Ende Juli dieses Jahres zunächst nach

Nairobi gehen zum Studium der theologischen Ausbildung dort und anschließend für ein Studienjahr nach Botswana. Sein Herz brennt für Afrika. Joost hat im Mai seine mündliche Abiturprüfung und muß dann zunächst zur Bundeswehr, so daß Anne-Monika uns noch verbleibt. Du bist für sie immer noch die große Schwester und wirst es auch wohl bleiben. Manchmal denke ich, daß Du ihr doch Eindrücke vermittelt hast, die langsam keimen werden und ihr später von Bedeutung sein werden. Dafür möchte ich Dir noch einmal ganz herzlichen Dank sagen und Dich bitten, die große Schwester unserer Anne-Monika auch zu bleiben.

Mit herzlichen Grüßen und den besten Wünschen
von uns allen -

Dane Häßelkörner

Kulani Gudina

Praunheimerland strasse 202
D-6000 Frankfurt a.m., 90

Herrn

Prof.D.E. Lohse

Landesbischof

Chairman of the E.K.D.

Haarstrasse 6

D-3000 Hanover

April 12
March 6, 1981

Dear Father Bishop Lohse,

It is now over two years since we arrived here in Germany seeking refugee from the rigorous situation in the Empire state of Ethiopia.

Our father, Rev. Gudina Tumsa was unlawfully taken away on 28th July 1979 by special secret force of the military regime, while driving to his home after a church service which he himself conducted. He was kidnapped on a special order from the chairman of the Revolution in Ethiopia, Mengistu Haile Mariam and his advisers. Since then nobody knows his whereabouts.

In February 1980, our mother Tsehai Tolessa, was also arrested by the same force and was kept in that famous cell of the 3rd Police station of Addis-Abeba for nearly one year. She is now moved to the central prison where other hundreds and thousands are kept without any trial.

During these years we waited for the churches, the christian communities and the world public to take up some means to approach the Ethiopian Military government demanding the information on whereabouts of our father and for the release of our mother. In particular we were expecting from the World Federation and the United Evangelical Churches of Germany direct help. We experienced during the last years a wide excercise of restrain towards the situation of our parents.

On another and similar development in South Korea we observed very clearly how christians and you yourself have appealed to the Government of South Korea for the life and the release of Mr.Kim Dae Jung. In the case of our parents and many other similar cases in Ethiopia very little is done. Can you and the christians in this country appeal for the life of our parents to the Ethiopian Government?

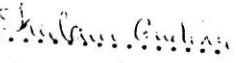
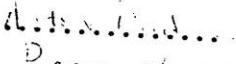
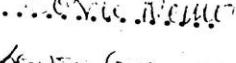
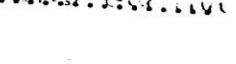
We are at any time ready to express our concern personally wherever this may be necessary. We appeal to you and your church and to the churches of the World to do something towards the grave situation of our family particularly of our parents in Ethiopia. We have the wishes to hear from you or even to meet you at any time possible very soon.

Taking this opportunity, we would like to thank all Christians who remeberd us through their prayers, and we thank also those friends who accepted us in their families and enabled us to continue our education.

We thank you and the others in your church who intend to do anything
for the life of our parents.

With best regards

The Children of Pastor Gudina Tumsa

1. Kulani Gudina 
2. Aster Gudina 
3. Boru Namo Gudina 
4. Lenssa Gudina 

UNITED NATIONS office at Geneva
DIVISION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
WORKING GROUP ON Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

Palais des Nations
Geneva 1211
SWITZERLAND

Dear Sir,

Please allow me to submit a report on
the Involuntary disappearance of my father - REV. Gudina
Tumba.

Reverend Gudina Tumba, 52 years old, General
Secretary of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church at 19th
McKane Yesus ~~was~~ was kidnapped on July 28, 1979
by unidentified gunmen. He ~~was~~ and his wife
were driving home after a church service, which
he himself conducted. He was forced by the four
gunmen to get out of his car, which my mother
was driving ~~out~~ into the car, which was waiting
for him. The car into which my father was put
drove away, and the one in which my mother sat
was driven by one of the gunmen. My mother
was dropped on the outskirts of Addis Ababa and
was told not to mention to anybody about him.
The car of my parents was found outside a
police station in Addis Ababa. Either the police
or the Security Office told my mother that
they know nothing about it.

~~My mother~~ is since ~~28~~ February 2 1980 is my mother in prison in Addis Ababa.

My father, Rev. Tumba, has been detained twice before he was kidnapped. The first time in October 1978 at 17⁰⁰ hrs and ~~on~~ June 1979. He had never been charged.

For the safety of
~~in~~ Because ~~Because~~ my mother Mrs. Tschay
Tolosa, who is in Prison, it is hard for me to provide further information, but I have filled the form attached to this letter.

Thanking you for giving me this opportunity,
may I please request you to remember many thousands of my people who are ~~are~~ toiling in Prisons, or Ethiopia and human right violations in Ethiopia?

Thank you
Finally, I thank you a lot and will be at your disposal any time.

Yours sincerely,

Kulanji Gedion

GUDIMA TUMSA and his wife TSEHAI TOLESSA (Ethiopia) (continued)

Recommended action

Please send carefully worded letters to the address given below, requesting the release of Tsehai Tolessa, clarification of the whereabouts of Gudina Tumsa and assurances of his physical safety if he is being detained. In your letters you should express your concern that a number of long-term political detainees "disappeared" around the same time as Gudina Tumsa. You should respectfully urge the Ethiopian authorities to provide a full account of the facts of these "disappearances" and state publicly what happened to the "disappeared" - whether they are alive in detention and, if so, where they are being held; or, if they are dead, what steps the government has taken to investigate the circumstances of their deaths.

Address:

Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam
Head of the Provisional Military Government of
Socialist Ethiopia
Provisional Military Administrative Council
PO Box 5707
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia

* No Date &
Author

DISAPPEARANCES

Just one case history from Amnesty International that demonstrates the disturbing situation that exists in many countries today. This is one story from thousands, where an innocent person has been held without trial — and almost certainly tortured — it makes fascinating, frightening reading . . .



(NON FICTION)
compulsive
reading



Kulam Gudra
Praunheimer Hofstr. 202
6000 Frankfurt/M. 90
~~Germany~~ W. Germany.

WORKING S

Martin Hill

Eastern Africa Researcher
10 Southampton Street
London WC2E 7HE
ENGLAND

Dear Mr. ~~Hill~~ Hill,
I received a copy of your letter and a form for reporting
the disappearance of my father in human rights
and appreciate the concern you have showed
on the case of my father.

After receiving the forms, I immediately filled them
and mailed them with a ^{Picture of my father} photograph and an accompanying letter.
Here, with this letter I send you a copy of the materials
I sent to Geneva.

If I will cooperate if there are additional steps
to be taken, I will on the case of my parents and
other persons in Ethiopia, suffering of Human Right
Violations, I am willing to cooperate with you.

With friendly greetings

Kulam Gudra