Introduction-1

• Why do we commemorate this national day?
• What is the importance of having heroines and heroes in Oromo society?
• What criteria distinguish Oromo individuals who have sacrificed their lives for their people and country?
Introduction-2

• Five major reasons for commemorating this national day
  – To remember those martyrs who have given their lives to restore Oromo culture, identity, and human dignity
  – To assess the connection between martyrdom, bravery, patriotism and Oromummaa
  – To recognize our historical obligations to continue the struggle
  – To appreciate that Oromo heroes and heroines are still killing and dying for liberation in Oromia
  – To recognize that Oromo liberation requires heavy sacrifices, and Oromo martyrs are our revolutionary models
Ultimate Sacrifices For Restoring Culture, Identity and Dignity

• Martyrs have paid in their precious lives to enable Oromos to restore their collective name and the name of their country and to retrieve Oromo culture, language, and history

• Martyrs have sacrificed themselves to restore Oromo bravery and patriotism by developing *Oromummaa* and by defying suffering and death

• *Oromummaa* is flowering by the blood and flesh of our martyrs
Courage, Death and *Oromummaa-1*

- Have provided leadership for liberation in all fronts – political, cultural and ideological
- Have served as embodiment of Oromo quest for survival
- Have been the shakers and movers of Oromo history
- Have frightened the enemy and made them sleepless
- Have exposed the criminality and the dirtiness of Oromo collaborators, such as OPDO
- Have liberated some Oromos from the camp of the traitors and mercenaries
Courage, Death and Oromummaa-2

- Have made us to realize the existence of three kinds of Oromos
  - Those who have a moral and political courage and defy suffering and death to promote Oromo liberation
  - Those who sell their brothers, sisters, mothers and fathers for their belly and luxurious lifestyles
  - Those who are passive or ignorant and blinded by the ideologies of the enemy

What should be done?
Remembering Martyrs and Fulfilling Obligations

• Following their footsteps today millions of Oromos are fulfilling their national obligations
  – Transforming dehumanized Oromos
  – Battling collaborators
  – Giving hope to those who have lost hope
  – Mobilizing resources of all Oromos and supporting the OLA
Recognizing Contemporary Heroes and Heroines

• Providing moral, political, ideological, and material support
  – Making people aware of the power of the individual in bringing about liberation
  – Exposing mercenaries and defending the Oromo cause by any means necessary
  – Encouraging and recognizing contemporary heroines and heroes for their achievements
The Importance of Having Heroines and Heroes

• Recognizing and celebrating achievements and excellence
  – During the *gada* system, bravery, patriotism, cultural knowledge, expertise in leadership, organization and warfare were highly appreciated
  – Rejecting the leadership of collaborators who have rejected the principles of *gada, saffu, and social justice*
  – Promoting knowledge of liberation by challenging the knowledge of domination
Martyrdom, Revolutionary Models and Missions

- Our martyrs have been philosophers, military leaders, lawyers, social scientists, cultural and religious experts, business people, students, farmers, teachers and doctors.
- Studying, writing and learning from their worldviews and experiences.
- Transformation of the leadership:
  - Cognitive liberation
  - Self-emancipation
Conclusion-1

• Recognizing and implementing the missions of our heroes and heroines
  – Sacrificing something for liberation, justice and democracy
  – Making alive the dreams of these heroines and heroes by action
  – Supporting the OLA
  – Educating, mobilizing and recruiting unconscious Oromos
Conclusion-2

• Engaging in the production of new ideas, principles, knowledge, and policies

• Expanding leadership capacity
  – Involving more Oromo intellectuals
  – Consolidating the diaspora support
  – Building political alliances
  – Developing pragmatic international policy