

NEWS : INTERNATIONAL



Ethiopia - 40.000 people jailed
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About 40.000 people have been jailed in Ethiopia since a crackdown effecting independent media, opposition politicians and civil and human rights activists began on Nov. 1 during clashes between demonstrators protesting disputed May parliamentary elections and the police. At least 46 people died in those clashes.

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Those still in prison include teenage boys, reports Britain's Telegraph which said Zenawi was handpicked by Prime Minister Tony Blair as a member of Britain's Commission for Africa.

The report said Zenawi has launched a systematic crackdown against every possible adversary, and his government has locked up the entire leadership of Ethiopia's main opposition party.

The government also has closed five newspapers and jailed their editors. Thirteen journalists have been detained since renewed anti-government protests in early November. They have been accused of treason, held without charge, and denied bail, according to a media watchdog.