SOTHERN REGION: MINISTER HOLDS SEMINAR WITH COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES TARGETING REINFORCEMENT OF AGRICULTURE SECTOR AND FOOD SECURITY

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Arefaine Berhe, held seminar with community representatives from Mendefera, Adi-Quala, Debarwa, Mai-Mine and Emni-Haili sub-zones targeting reinforcement of Agriculture sector and food security. During the meeting held on 26th of June 2013 in Mendefera community representatives from Mendefera, Adi-Quala, Debarwa, Mai-Mine and Emni-Haili sub-zones targeting reinforcement of Agriculture sector and food security; Mr. Arefaine noted the vitality of integrated efforts in this regard, and pointed out that soil and water conservation is a priority in the process, thus giving rise to visible need for promoting popular undertakings in this connection. He further called on farmers to pay further attention to crop rotation and production of legumes as well as oil crops, in the venture of which the government is expected to launch intervention programs in the future.

Accordingly, the Ministry is working on priority basis as regards raising dairy, vegetable, fruits, poultry and agricultural production capacity, and further focus is necessary in expanding green feed production so as to register still visible need for promoting popular undertakings in this connection. He further called on farmers to pay further attention to crop rotation and production of legumes as well as oil crops, in the venture of which the government is expected to launch intervention programs in the future.

The regional Administrator of Anseba region, Mr. Gergis Girmai, said that research and organization constitute remarkable prerequisites for successful implementation of agricultural projects, thus giving rise to increased output. He made the remark during a tour he made in Habero and Hamelmalo sub-zones, including visit to various sites of irrigation farming potentials and others. The regional Administrator pointed out that agricultural projects implemented in the region have witnessed positive outcome thanks to the active participation of the inhabitants, and noted the need of adhering to effective harnessing of the available resource to this end.

Mr. Al-Amin Tahir, head of the Agriculture Ministry’s branch in the region, disclosed that stepped-up endeavors are being exerted towards ensuring widespread introduction of irrigation farming, and that mango and banana seedlings planted in Habero sub-zone have flourished well.

Mr. Gergis called for enhanced follow-up of pertinent bodies as regards projects in the course of implementation.

RESEARCH AND ORGANIZATION REMARKABLE PREREQUISITES FOR SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS, SAYS MR. GERGIS

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Respecting Children’s Right: Investing for Nation’s Well-Being

By: Ksete Gerberehiwet

“The very first ever convention to be signed by the independent Eritrea was the convention on the rights of the child in 1991. This is a testimony that Eritrea is honoring to the maximum possible the articles and obligation of the convention.” Said Dr. Hamid ElBashir, UNICEF representative in Eritrea. He made this remark in a workshop held last week at Abraha Bahta School for the Blind in Asmara. The reason why Eritrea signed the convention on the rights of children before anything else stems from its desire to see children of this country reach a higher realm of achievement if provided with any possible assistance and more importantly if and only if their rights are respected. During the launching of a report about the state of world Children (children with disabilities) 2013, which was held at Abraha Bahta School for the Blind, children with challenges made it clear that they are capable of doing what seems impossible. As regards the competence of children with challenges in different areas of studies and particularly in arts, Dr. Hamid said “I am not exaggerating, the very first time in my life to see a musical band of people with physical disability was back in 2002 in Sweden; and it is for the second time I am seeing it in Eritrea which I never thought is possible.” The performances of the children was quite impressive to which Dr. Hamid expresses admiration saying “I saw the deaf and blind, children with Down syndrome and autism playing wonderful role.”

No doubt, Eritrea gives utmost priority and works diligently to see the rights of all children are respected. What the country has done in educating children and children with disabilities in particular is very exemplary. Its commitment in respecting children’s right was evidenced from the due care that was extended towards children’s well-being in the liberated areas of pre-independence Eritrea. For children with difficulties are now provided with assistive technologies, they are using such tools effectively. According to Ms. Salma Hassen, Minister of Labor and Human Welfare, the participation of children with disabilities has grown in schools with the projects that have been carried out in the past few years which are directed at supporting children with disabilities residing in the rural and urban area of the country. Apart from the music performances and handcrafts exhibition, “I am blind but not my mind” was among the poems that were recited on the occasion. A drama which criticizes some rarely seen social barriers that relegate children with disabilities and which calls for the provision of equal opportunity at a community level was also staged. All the artistic shows performed by children with disabilities were indeed more than impressive and some of which were very touching. What has been invested towards providing proper ground for a better life to children with challenges was clearly seen from the shows that were staged. The output tells that there was a significant input towards changing the lives of children with challenges. That is why Dr. Hamid said “What we have seen this morning is not only touching our hearts but it also reflects the due attention, respect and care the government of Eritrea is giving to children with disabilities.”

There are three schools for children with disabilities at a national level two of which are in Asmara and the third one is in Keren, these are schools for the deaf, blind and autistic. The need for opening such like schools and expanding the provision of education opportunities to those in need is of course among necessity requisites so as to enable make major contributions at national, social and familial level. Enabling the children go to schools such as through providing them with bicycles and tricycles for those who can ride and assisting with other assistive materials for those who can’t ride is what is planned to be carried out in the near future with the cooperation of partners.

One could easily notice the respect and care the people and Government of Eritrea give towards people with disabilities by just observing people from all walks of life and particularly dignitaries and high ranking officials taking part in every occasion that addresses the challenges of people with disabilities. It is due to such moral and occupational obligation that national associations, ambassadors, religious leaders’, ministers, higher ranking PFDJ officials and parents of children with disabilities took part in the official launching of a report about the state of world Children 2013.

Communicating and the Art of . . .

Continued From Page5

fact that leads us to disagreements and grudge is because we feel that our goals should be avoiding disagreements. It is only by intelligently solving our disagreements that we can guarantee the path towards successful growth in our organization.

Thank you Samia, stated, Fithi. It is quite impressive and articulate. You made me feel as if I am in class room reminiscent of my scholastic years.

This is only the tip of the ice burg, responded Samia. She added we will need to meet frequently so that we can have an in-depth knowledge of communicating and the need of getting together.

Jemila was the next to speak. Samia it is quite eloquent. I have always admired you. I hope you will win an international award as a young and brilliant entrepreneur. Samia was rather bashful. She thanked both ladies for their compliments. Let us enjoy our pizza, Samia said, and go home before it is too late till we meet the next time.
Family as a Foundation for Responsible Citizen

Daniel Semere

Of all the traits of civilization, organization holds the most important place. Humans have been able to achieve so many things largely because of their ability to organize themselves in to different levels. We can talk about our organization as community, nation, or even as a global society. However, the most basic and essential form of organization is the family.

Family is a cradle of life, plays a crucial role in the life of every person and its ever importance emanates from this simple fact. Each person is born to a family and educated there and get ready to form his or her own family. Thus, it is responsible for shaping the kind of person every individual is and hence the family they will create on their own.

Raising children is not a process that can be taken lightly, for it’s a continuous building and development of a society. This is one of the most important missions of any given family. It involves the process of love and care and instilling cultural values and discipline. This is a task no other form of human organization can fill for or replace as the world of children revolves around their home. During their formative stage that children get their very first education from things they observe and hear. It is therefore here the seed is sown that determines what kind of people they will become. If this is so then what can be so important organization than the family? If this is so then it is here where emphasis should be made in any task of building a healthy citizen and so nation.

No matter what kind of culture we have this common factor makes a single family responsible for determining many families that will emanate from it. However, this responsibility of a family has shown a great change from time to time. Traditional family role which is characterized by its total involvement in the life of a child has been eroded with the current trend of family. As, with today’s development, our lives become elaborate, the concern and attention that family supposed to give to their children has considerably decreased. This is creating problem in the kind of citizens we are producing.

Eritrea family is known for its high cohesiveness and unity. It involves in every aspect of the children’s life that it is almost predictable what kind of a person one will become. It is also known for its strong discipline, and great values that made our people known for its nobility. All of our national values like hard work, perseverance, endurance, devotion and commitment are the result of this unrelenting traditional family function. The strong attachment to the family has made the task of creating a responsible youth possible. However, there has been a great challenge to this tradition posed by the era of globalization. Many families are failing victims of the current trend that family has been a little more than a place where children are simply born. It has become common to see parents who put their career before the well being of their children. And the basic responsibility of a family as a place where discipline and values are inculcated in the minds of the children are being replaced by kindergartens or day care centers. This is creating a distance between family members both in time and space. Families are therefore finding it very difficult to fulfill their traditional role of contact and follow-ups children badly need. To this is added the ever increasing problems among parents and the family like divorce and conflicts that all have negative contribution to the well being of children. The main victim of this is children who would lack the rights of being raised in a healthy environment. This results in a misguided youth who can potentially become liability to society than an asset. Some of these results are manifested in the current trends among some youth of excessive individualism, lack of discipline and losing the side of our values like hard work, respect for culture, endurance and others that are threatening to destroy our social fabrics.

A civilized people will inevitably be determined by the collective sum of healthy functional families. The unity and integrity of a family is indispensable requirement of any developmental plan. In the era of information where our youth are increasingly susceptible to alien influences, the challenge of maintaining our traditional Eritrean family has become even more difficult task. This has made the issue where every concerned body should actively and consciously work on with much vigor. Families should make sure their children are getting the amount of attention they require. The well being of children should also be their first and foremost task. They must educate their children properly along with a balanced lesson of their culture, history, values and discipline. The government and other concerned bodies should also involve in this task by promoting and helping families to achieve this goal. For in the end, it is only when there is a healthy family we can have a healthy citizen and hence a healthy nation.

“Life is but ups and downs” goes the reality of existence. You can’t expect to go through life without meeting problems, difficulties, perplexities, or frustrations. They are an inevitable part of human experience. Hence before anything and everything we should accept this idea of the inevitable. While accepting the inevitability of problems, but that does not mean that you are to be helpless in problems, but that does not mean that you have done this will keep you from useless regrets later when you can remind yourself that all possible courses were examined and you took what appeared to be the best at the moment. Having drawn up your list of possible solutions, weigh them without prejudice. Again bear in mind the claims and reactions of all concerned and avoid courses which are likely to stain your conscience. Act in accordance with the highest ideals. No step is a solution if later it is going to burden you with feelings of guilt or self reproach.

Next, eliminate all proposed solutions which are seen on further thought to be impracticable. You will now find that your list has been doomed to two or three possibilities. At this stage it is often a good plan to review the problems afresh. You will find it much less formidable. Friends often are a big help in such circumstances. If you have a friend you think is capable of giving sound advice, consult him or her. Do these before you decide. Talking things over with another is always a great help. It enables you to isolate the problem and to decide which the important factors are. Even though the friend may offer no advice, a sympathetic ear will help you. Further, as you describe to your friend you will see the courses open to you in a clear light; some will appear impossible even while you speak. Alternatively, one will appear most attractive. Now turn to the remaining solutions and decided which you are going to follow. As you go to sleep that night let your last thought be upon your decisions. If in the morning you feel it is the best one to take then go ahead. Another possible source of help may be gained from books. Experiences of humanity are a guarantee that whatever problem you may have it is not unprecedented and there are always guides that we can refer. And books are invariably rich with providing invaluable lesson. Such services are reliable and generally free or at nominal cost only.

Having decided on a course of action and carried it out, avoid useless regrets and hold on to the thought that you looked into the matter thoroughly and carried out what seemed at the time the best solution. In dealing with problems, remember the time factor. Some get more complicated the longer they are left hence we should get to grips with them immediately. Other problems are solved by themselves with time, and thus delaying tactics might be the best form of action. But whichever is the case reasonable foresight and imagination can prevent many problems ever arising. Tact, thoughtfulness and responsible conduct can also keep life largely problem-free.

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**Youth**

Eritrea Profile, Saturday 29th of June, 2013

**Understanding Problems**

*NUEYS page*
### General
- An attractive remuneration package commensurate with the role will be offered to the successful candidate.
- The company reserves the right not to make any appointments as a result of the selection process.
- Candidates should provide evidence of completion/exemption from National Service and applicants employed in Governmental agencies should provide official release from their office. Interested applicants should provide easily accessible telephone numbers for easy communication.

### Employing company
- **Company**: British American tobacco Eritrea Share Company

### To apply
- **Deadline**: July 15, 2013
- **Contact**: Eritrea (Tel: +291-1-125811/2)

### Response
- **Deadline**: July 15, 2013

### Equity Statement
- British American tobacco is an equal opportunity employer.

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### Job purpose and key deliverables
- To develop and co-ordinate structures and systems that facilitate the provision of timely and proactive financial evaluation, information and advice for use by BAT Eritrea and BAT East Africa Leadership teams to enable the development and execution of effective plans and taking informed decisions with regard to the business objectives.
- To help build strong financial and commercial awareness within the whole company and to ensure an effective internal control environment is in place.

The individual will:
- Co-ordinate and consolidate information from all business functions required for the preparation of the Company Plan to meet British American Tobacco – Eritrea and BAT East Africa objectives.
- Manage the preparation of accurate and timely financial and management accounts, highlighting variances to enable the management make decisions to improve operating performance.
- Secure and optimally utilize hard currency in order to ensure long term business sustainability.
- Ensure optimal management of the balance sheet in order to maximize cash flow within the business.
- Monitor and ensure reconciliation of all control accounts, timely follow up and feedback to user managers and recommend corrective measures to be taken to keep costs to the minimum.
- Evaluate stock holdings and determine valuations, which reflect current costs in order to avoid tying to much cash in idle stocks.
- Monitor Bank balances and cash requirements to ensure that they are timely and accurate and that no idle funds are held in current accounts.
- Ensure that all decisions and activities in the company are in line with legal provisions in the country and in conformity with the company policies. Consult as much and as widely as possible.

### Essential requirements
- Professional qualification (ACCA) and 3 years work experience in accounting OR
- Degree in Finance and Accounting with 5 years’ work experience in accounting

### Desirable requirements
- Achievement of financial targets and plans.
- Timely and accurate financial and management reports to the business.
- No fraud cases due to effective and deterrent control measures.
- Quality performance resulting from well trained, developed and motivated staff.
- Effective follow up of the system development and implementation.
- Effective and on time closure of the ledger as per the British American Tobacco prescribed calendar.
- Effective implementation and cascading of cost savings initiatives and capital effectiveness initiatives.
- Few or no critical outstanding issues on key control checklist (KCC)

### Skills and Experience:
- Good computer operating knowledge of excel and CS3 program.
- Clear understanding of accounting policies, procedures and reporting requirements.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Excellent knowledge of written and spoken English

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### PAINTINGS OF THE LATE BEYENE HAILE AT EXHIBITION HERE IN THE CAPITAL

The paintings of the late Beyene Haile during the period 1950 to 2010 were staged on the 29th of June 2013, for exhibition at the Art Gallery, Asmara, in connection with the commemoration of the first year anniversary of his death in the presence of government officials and invited guests.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Prof. Meaza Haile, Beyene’s sister, pointed out that the late Beyene engaged in painting since his early years of childhood, demonstrating a noticeable bent and passion towards the artistic field.

His wife, Ms. Fireweini Hailemariam, and his son, Isaias Beyene indicated that the exhibition was staged with a view to ensuring adequate exposure for Beyene’s artistic works. He was much introduced to the public as a writer rather than a painter, taking the first year of his death as an opportunity.

Berhane Adonai and Michael Kidane, painters, asserted that the artist demonstrated an all-round talent and excellence in various artistic domains, and expressed appreciation for his paintings.

Moreover, Michael Kidane presented a painting to the family of Mr. Beyene which depicts his lifetime contribution, and said that nationals should learn from him as regards leaving a lasting legacy to future generations through striving for cherished accomplishments.

The exhibition would remain open to the public until the 29th of this month.

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### ERIREAN COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN THE CITIES OF STOCKHOLM, DOHA, DENVER AND ROME . . .

Continued From Page 1

for the Eritrean community in the Italian city, said that the Day is an occasion during which nationals should reiterate readiness to honor the trust of fallen heroes.

Moreover, speaking at the meeting in Doha, the Eritrean Ambassador to Qatar, Mr. Ali Ibrahim, urged the nationals to step up their input in the nation-building process, and the community members pointed out that they would sustain their initiatives as regards patronizing families of martyrs.

Meanwhile, the ceremonies conducted in Austrian cities witnessed patriotic zeal, and the nationals asserted readiness to back up the national development drive.
Jemila and Fithi are not only work mates but they are also good friends. One Saturday afternoon they had to attend a work mate’s wedding ceremony. One of the many invited guests, Sama, arrived with her friend Fithi from far when she entered the wedding hall. Samia is a friend of Jemila. She greeted Jemila and asked whether she could join the table. Jemila welcomed her and introduced her to Fithi. “It is good to know people”, said Samia. You will like her added Jemila. Fithi is my intimate friend. She is a voracious reader. We enjoy exchanging views on many topics. Fithi was rather shy and humbly reciprocated the compliment. Fithi said to Samia. I would tell you frankly that it is Jemila who taught me the art of reading. Ever since, I can not let my hands away from holding and my eyes from scanning the pages of any good book that will come over my lap. By the way said, Jemila to Fithi, Samia runs her own business and she holds a post graduation Degree in Business Management. It is good to have her here as a friend and as an exemplary woman entrepreneur. There is a lot to learn from this brilliant young lady. Samia was taken by surprise and she immediately expressed her humility. I think it would be me who will learn from you two great readers. To be honest, it has been quite a while since I stopped reading books. Anyway how are you Jemila and how are your families and friends said Samia, attempting to change the tune of their discussions. “We are all fine”, said Jemila, “How about yours” she added. In short it is quite great responded Samia.

Meanwhile Filmon and Sami, two work mates of Jemila and Fithi were entering the hall keeping themselves some meters apart. Filthi caught a glimpse of them. She said, “I can not understand why these two people working in the same department have never been in good terms for many years. It is a mystery to see that they never are preoccupied with my business. I would, however, I have to admit that it is rather a lame excuse. I think I have to revitalize my addiction of reading books. Anyway how are you Jemila and how are your families and friends said Samia, attempting to change the tune of their discussions. “We are all fine”, said Jemila, “How about yours” she added. In short it is quite great responded Samia.

Mean while the bride and bride groom, invited by their best men and women, were ceremoniously entering the wedding hall. There was a warm applause and ululations coupled with the glorious traditional song. Sama, seeing the bride and the bride groom took their seats. The three young ladies Jemila, Fithi and Samia were already bored due to the seemingly endless stay waiting for the newly wed to arrive.

Fithi was interested in the story of the two young men Filmon and Sami not getting along. She thought they might have some personal issues to resolve out of the work place. Sometimes asked from both whether the two young men had some grudge because of their personal matters such as fighting for a girl friend? They both laughed. Fithi was the first to respond. She said that their only fight is at the work place. Rather being taken aback “Don’t you think this is absurd”, exclaimed, Samia. She further added, “You guys need training on communicating- getting together and building relationship”.

“Well” said Jemila. This is quite an interesting discussion. Let us slip out of this boring wedding hall and let us go somewhere else. We have already been seen by the host family and that is enough she added. Fithi seems to challenge her. Oh Jemila at least let the meal be served. What will people say? I think it is a good idea, said Samia. Let me invite you to some place where and let us have interesting evening over this important topic. “The majority wins” said Fithi while smiling; let us slip one by one. Finding them out of the wedding hall, Samia suggested that she will drive them to Asmara Palace and find a secluded place there. They all agreed.

We will have a nice pizza, if not a sumptuous repast, for the evening pronounced Samia. Thank you said Jemila. I would, however, enjoy your lecture on getting together more than the pizza. Sure that is what it interests me, responded Samia. At Asmara Palace they found a nice private place and made themselves comfortable.

Addressing to Samia “So let us hear what you will share us, young lady, said Jemila while smiling. I do not expect you need a power point or a projector she added simply to tease her. You are always outspoken and full of humor Jemila, responded Samia. Fithi joined the warm smile.

After a brief silence it was Samia who broke the ice. I would say, as many scholars seem to agree, that, she went on to say, it would rather be unthinkable for one to find one self keeping grudge with a work mate. People could, in many instances, have differences of opinion. This of course should not lead them to an endless hate scenario. Both will be losers and their organization is the one to suffer most. Getting along is applicable in any environment. In our discussions, however, we will concentrate in the work place. Samia emphasized that any activity could not be accomplished by one person. It is a collective input of the entire staff. Therefore irrespective of the differences of opinion it would be essential for all parties to solve their difference objectively and intelligently.

“People are not yielding to someone’s ideas if you simply come to an agreement” interrupted Fithi. Sure it might appear to some people, argued Samia, especially those who are stubborn. But it is not a question of yielding it is a matter of scientifically understanding the subject matter. People should work together, added Samia, irrespective of their differences of opinion. It would rather be contemptible to attempt some people shouting on others and thus quashing the organization’s performance. There are those who demonstrate their dominant manners. It would be difficult to work with such kind of people. However relentless training can shape such kind of people. Jemila and Fithi’s attentive listening motivated Samia to pour out what her brain has kept in reserve. Samia paused for a moment, Jemila got the opportunity to intervene. She asked. “How would it be possible to bring two people like Filmon and Sami into terms considering their bitter enmity”? What enmity are you talking about, Jemila retorted Samia. These people have simply created antagonism in their brain. Had they sit together and analyzed the core issue, I am sure they would have reproached themselves. Fithi was quick to interrupt. Are there some guidelines to shape this people into their former harmonious situation again? Sure there are was Samia’s quick response.

First and foremost one has to know the art of communication. We have to know that communication is a vast discipline of study. In order to succeed in it one has to recognize that the other party needs to be recognized and be treated equally. What it matters is that one has to show caring, respect and fairness. When necessary there should be time to allow the other person to respond some need to feel needed. According to researchers it is said that 75 percent of all interpersonal communication is conducted in the tolerance, avoidance, or revulsion mode of communicating. Review the communication style for acceptance and appreciation. Notice that we smile and our voice is warmer and softer. The words we use are nice; and our body language is more open. Our hands are out with our palms turned up. We touch the other person or are closer to him/her. We have eye-to-eye contact and demonstrate through verbal and nonverbal communication how much we accept and appreciate the individual.

Secondly separate the problem from the people. Pursue a“working” relationship.

In other words they have to concentrate on the problem rather than focusing on the person. This will avoid personalizing matters. It is commonly said “How dare he/she talks to me like that”. This will affect theadrenaline and blow out our emotions. As you know we are all prone to attacking the person instead of attacking the problem. In such situation things seems irreconcilable and it all goes in disarray. If the discussants concentrate on the problem, it is very likely that they will find common solution and learn from each other.

Thirdly we feel like winning a contest instead of solving the issue. Outside the discussion area one would tell his/her friends how one has dealt a blow over the other party and that he succeeded on how he/she has silenced him. Considering oneself as if one is in side the boxing ring negates the basic principles of communicating and getting together. Such attitude will simply will worsen the walking away of the other party.

Fourth we assume that there is no need to talk. It is common to hear I will never talk with her/him. This is because we intend to tell people what to do and deny them a two way communication. This is a one direction approach. It is essential that we have also to hear from them for all the profound analysis. In such situation communication is doomed to failure to the detriment of the group or organization.

Fithi. It will be to the mutual advantage if the messages that are sent out are clear and discernible. Sending mixes messages confuse matters and lead to breaking of relationships.

Sixth. One of the striking features in communication is to control one’s emotions. Developing an awareness of our and the other parties emotions will straighten matters for excellent discussions. One has to acknowledge one’s emotions and take charge of one behavior. In other words one has to get prepared for emotions before it escalate up to a commotion and the resultant disruption of the discussions. It will be essential to frankly talk about emotions.

Seventh. Gentle people accept responsibilities. One has to be accountable for one actions. This is to indicate that one has to be rational. If one is confronted with emotional reaction by the other party one has to balance emotions with reason.

Lastly but not the least is that one has to have the ability of understanding. Even if one would feel that one is not being understood try to understand the other party. It happens that if one is eager to talk but not listen it indicates that he want to coerce the other party to listen. Ultimately all expect good substantive outcomes and enjoy the inner peace at the end of the discussions. It needs communication skill to deal with differences. When one is reliable and attempts to persuade than apply any sort of coercion one will build confidence by the other party.

However there should not be confusion between good relations and approval. People miss-interpret good relations with approval. For example one secretary said that she has good relations with her boss because he grants her frequent salary increment. Good relations do not mean that any action by the other party has to be blindly approved. On occasions one should be reprimanded for actions that would not be acceptable. The
Most probably the first time to open my eyes could be the moment I was delivered from the womb of my mother. Irrespective of the level of perception acquired from my sense of sight, it is obvious that I have many new things for that new being, me, by that very occasion. I am calling this moment ‘The First Opening of My Eyes’, my eyes were made open to the world and its space, lands, air and waters and to the lights of the sun, the moon and the stars. The transformation was immeasurably huge, from the very narrow and confined, but complicated cave in the womb of my mother to the wider universe as a space. After all my eyes were open to see and perceive the whole range of transformation. The move in every second and in every minute starting from that very moment was to understand the diversity of the world and that of the universe as a whole. That was not my intention, but my supposition – I am supposed to understand the complexity of the universe as is every human being. Since then I have encountered a number of sensations – sense of sight, aural, kinesthesis, gustatory, and the sense of smell, even when the images have escaped forever and for always from my—could-be perception. If I were conscious of the fact that these sensations are the terminus for the level of perception and then the consciousness I could ever have, I would have tried my best to concur at least the majority of them. Alas many precious images escaped. The First Opening of My Eyes was the moment when I was brought to this world as a new being. By that very moment, nobody existed to understand the complexity of the universe as a whole. By opening my eyes, you let me see things are fine to the senses, they are fine at the level of sensation with the mindset if what has been perceived? Majorities of us live is life if one does not sense it to the full. The consciousness – it is the very primary foundation for a world-as-a-classroom and consciousness. But, few are dare enough to take this foundation to the next level that is consciousness. But, few are dare enough to take this foundation to the next level that is consciousness. It was the moment of my enlightenment to the hidden world. I am calling this moment ‘The Second Opening of My Eyes’, through this second opening I was able to see my inner space – that attributes meaning to life in beauty and in reality. Without knowing why, I have so many times said, ‘Life is Ever Rewarding’. But since that very moment I know why, I am sure his works has reopened many eyes in consciousness and will continue to open world long come and as far as the universe we live in exists. In my own words - he is a continuous conscious speaker (educator). He talks in his paintings, continues it in his books, did it in person in coffee shops – with the youth and kids, dramatized his phrases – changing stages, scenes, and forms, he continuously speaks – but of course his talk requires conscious ears and mindssetto comprehend its message woven in his words. In his diverse art works, he tells us life is beautiful – its pain and joy, its hell and heaven, its darkness and brightness, its chaos and harmony … because he attributes meaning to the images of his feelings and thoughts in life in his works, as he says it, ‘In my creative world, I have been able to live an exceptional life which would have been impossible in the real world. This in turn has given my life added meaning and still, that feeling gets stronger every day.’ In search of the ultimate truth in life as a thinker and creative writer and as an artist, ‘he desires to build bridges with letters, so people shall cross into other beings.’ He found happiness in the ART-LIFE dialogue, in the mind-matter connection he made. Opened many blind eyes and baptized them with his waters of consciousness. Not only he inspires through his writings, but also gives insights to the truths to be concurred, thoughts and feelings to be visualized; he corrects wrong perceptions, the wrong attitudes on organization and actions. In his last lecture, which I missed, he gave us, to the youth three advices: 1. Read, 2. Read, 3. Read. I have only recently understood what he meant it: is READING which enables us to sense the unreachable; otherwise we could end up unaware of what exists in this universe – both subjective and objective matters. And it is that sensation that leads to consciousness. ‘Dear Beyene Haile: With the limitation of my worldview and above all with the limitation of my words, I may have limited your beauty; still, I am glad to dedicate this piece for your memory in this day. We are proud to have such a universe, such a social and family members flowing like a river!”

The Second Opening Of My Eyes

Conscious Cloud Circle

Inspiration

Motivation

Innovation

Commitment

Virtuousness

Consciousness

Continuous Learning

to life – life is just fair, if not a curse. We try to acquire the fulfillment of our desire by trying to acclaim many objects as possible that objects whose role is to play at the sensation level, at the very terminal of life. If we do not attribute meaning to our sensations, feelings and emotions, definitely, life is in no way beautiful. Does this sense like the universe – both subjective and objective matters. And it is that sensation that leads to consciousness.

Debre Sina: Pilgrimage to One of the Oldest Eritrean Monasteries

Rachel Asgedom

The land of Eritrea is dotted with several and different historical and cultural monuments that stand witness to the historical wealth of the nation and its people. Every patch of land has a profound history to narrate and tell, every corner of the country embraces histories within its belly.

Eritrea’s population is diverse, reflecting many languages, cultures, religions yet living together with harmony under the umbrella of unity. This unity makes the people even stronger with each passing day. Eritreans are also known for their friendly and generous nature, not to mention their unique trait of hospitality, which has been a trademark characteristic for years.

Eritrea has also been endowed with natural and cultural heritages that are appealing and attractive to tourists. Beautiful landscapes in the highlands and lowlands, valleys, mountains, hills, and ridges are awe inspiring to anyone who happened to visit those places. The picturesque landscapes, which are seasonally blanketed by green carpets of grass, flowers and bushes, are indeed breathtaking to the viewers and a soothing sight to the sore eyes.

The cultural relics including remains of houses and household utensils to architectural ruins, tracing their times to ancient human civilizations are found in this very land, spreading in every corner of the country. There are different historical places: the Stiles of Metera and Qibaito; the monasteries of Debre Sina, Ham and Debre Bizen; Mariam Qohaito; the monasteries of Debre Sina; the Steles of Metera and Salome, first fled to Egypt and stayed at the monastery of Koskum for fear of being persecuted by King Herod of Judea. The story further tells that, after staying for a few days, they moved on southwards and arrived at the nearby caves of Debre Sennit (later called Debre Sina) in Eritrea and stayed for forty days. It is said that God blessed the area and put his holy hand on the big rock there to create a most sacred place - a cave hollowed out with two doors, one facing east and the other west.

Another story also goes telling that the pilgrimage centers on a church above the village where a vision of Mary was said to have been seen by shepherd girls beneath a large boulder. The church is built adjacent to and over the rock where the vision was seen.

Either way, the Debre Sina pilgrimage includes thousands of ordinary Eritrean believers camping for one night in the village of Debra Sina, singing, drumming, chanting and celebrating the Virgin Mary.

The journey from Elabered to Debre Sina is quite an arduous one. One has to climb to the monastery through a steep slope dry weather road; very challenging for buses to go through. It’s common to see cars breaking down along the way.

What is annoying is the fact that when one car breaks down, all the others following it have also to stop and find a way of passing along that narrow and zigzagging road. However, in most parts of the route, the road is so narrow that one car can hardly pass side by side, thus the only solution being to wait until the car was repaired. Well, you can guess how exhausting it can be to just wait and wait until the car or bus is fixed.

During the celebration this year, there were more than 300 buses and countless smaller cars making their way to the monastery. Many more pilgrims were also going on foot all the 18 kilometers, climbing the hill and carrying their food and drink. Even though the journey was exhausting, they managed to reach their destination safely. Many Eritreans also came from abroad just to celebrate the day.

Here, I witnessed the generosity of Eritreans. People, I think they were inhabitants of the area, were offering free water and food to those who were climbing on foot. They welcomed these complete strangers to their house for shelter. Some of the inhabitants were also offering Siwa (traditional drink) to anyone who passed by their doors.

When we reached the monastery, everybody was so relieved to reach at the top of the mountain. Finding a parking lot was another difficult mission. After getting off the buses and cars, everyone started packing and arranging their things, to then walk for about a kilometer to the church, call the time carrying our offerings free water and food to those who were climbing on foot. They welcomed these complete strangers to their house for shelter. Some of the inhabitants were also offering Siwa (traditional drink) to anyone who passed by their doors.

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Once again, I observed the kindness of the youth and children of that area. They asked you if you need any help and offer their hands to support you with your belongings. You feel so proud to be part of this harmonious and loving people.

When we reached to our final destination, we could see down to where the buses were parked. There you can’t help but notice how all those buses made out that almost triangular shape of Eritrea. Everybody was happy and cheered with amazement.

The pilgrims were singing a praising song all the way the 83 kilometer starting from Asmara. The themes of their songs were God blessing Eritrea, to have peace and love with one another, to return the children of Eritrea from the fortress safely to their respective homes and to have a good rainy season. What the mothers were asking to St. Marie through their songs all the way were really heart touching and astonishing. Both Muslims and Christians make the pilgrimage to Debre Sina. One can simply witness how this people need peace and love in this land.

The landscape inside the monastery is unbelievable. Every rock you saw seemed to be carved out by a great architect. The pilgrims were praying and praising Saint Mary way into the night and the next day. Despite the freezing night air, the pilgrims were kept praying and chanting praise hymns.

The older, inner part of the church (which unlike many monasteries in Eritrea is open to both men and women) is hewn from rock and, according to local tradition, is 2100 years old. The troglodyte dwellings of the 60 nuns and priests who live there can be visited.

One of the oldest religious sites in Africa, thought to date from the 6th Century AD, Debre Sina could play a great role in reviving the tourism industry in Eritrea. And for that to happen, we have to work hard towards developing the basic infrastructure and especially the road that leads to the monastery. The Ministry of Tourism has to work relentlessly to guarantee easier and more comfortable accessibility to the place, so as to make it a tourist-luring site.

Eritrea has the potential for tourism marketing, hence the Ministry of Tourism along with the Ministry of Information and concerned intuitions need to enhance their efforts in making the necessary promotions, introducing it to the world, which has yet to discover historical legacy.
Turkey Seeks To Tighten Control Over Twitter

Social media has been widely used as a source of information about protests

The Turkish government has asked Twitter to set up an office inside the country so company representatives can be reached more easily. Both Twitter and Facebook were used to spread information during recent anti-government protests. Several dozen tweeters were arrested following the protests, according to local media reports. Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan has previously described Twitter as a “scourge.” On Thursday, Transport and

Global Markets Fall In Wake Of Fed Announcement

Global markets have plunged following the announcement by the US Federal Reserve that it may begin to cut back on its stimulus of the US economy later this year. On Thursday, the markets across the globe faced steep losses a day after Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said that the “quantitative easing” program might be slowed down by the end of 2013, and completely stopped by the middle of 2014. On Wall Street, the Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 354 points and hit a low of 14,758, while The S&P 500 Index experienced one of its worst days sinking 2.5 percent to 1,588.19. In Europe, the STOXX 50 index sank 3.6 percent, Germany’s Dax lost 3.3 percent, the CAC 40 fell 3.7 percent and in London, the FTSE 100 index dropped 3.0 percent. The Asian markets were also hit by worries over China’s economic slowdown and the possible end to the US Federal Reserve’s stimulus. Shanghai’s market dropped 2.8 percent, Hong Kong fell 2.9 percent, and Tokyo’s Nikkei 225 index lost 1.7 percent. The “quantitative easing” program, initiated to inject more cash into the economy, lifted both the US economy and world financial markets by keeping interest rates at maximum 0.25 percent. The end of the program means employing the policy of interest rates as the Federal Reserve’s controlling tool for its monetary policy. A US trader checks a screen in a booth on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

Russian Meteor

The shock wave from an asteroid that burned up over Russia in February was so powerful that it traveled around the globe, scientists say. They used a system of sensors set up to detect evidence of nuclear tests and said it was the most powerful event ever recorded by the network. More than 1,000 people were injured when a 17m, 10,000-tonne space rock burned up above Chelyabinsk. The study appears in the journal Geophysical Research Letters. The researchers used data from the International Monitoring System (IMS) network operated by the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation (CTBTO). The detection stations look out for ultra-low frequency acoustic waves, known as infrasound, that could come from nuclear test explosions. But the system can also detect large blasts from other sources, such as the

U.S.-Mexico Border To Be Most Militarized Since Berlin Wall: US Senator

A US senator has boasted that a new American border security “surge” plan at its border with Mexico would turn the boundary line between the two neighbors into “the most militarized border since the fall of the Berlin Wall.”

The remarks were made this week by hawkish Republican Senator John McCain of Arizona in an effort to win support for a newly-approved package of an “immigration legislation” that would place additional federal patrols and hundreds of miles of new wall and fences along the US-Mexico border, prompting strong reaction among Mexicans.

Coming nearly two months after US President Barack Obama praised Mexico’s progress and its significance as a top trading partner, the Senate debate on the Thursday-approved bill and the military buildup proposed by the amendment “has reminded Mexicans that much of the United States views their country warily,” The Washington Post reports Friday.

Mexicans have reacted strongly to US proposals, with many regards to their joint border, heavily focusing on building new walls along the border rather than facilitating wider doors for legitimate trade and migration to get through.

This is while the government of Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto has largely kept quiet on the US debate, saying merely that his administration supports the reform effort.

However, the USD46 billion in additional security spending provided by the legislative amendment eventually prompted Mexican officials to break their silence this week, when Foreign Minister Jose Antonio Meade told reporters in Mexico City that “fences don’t unite.”

“Fences are not a solution to the migration phenomenon, and they are not congruent with a safe and modern border,” Meade said. “They don’t contribute to the development of a competitive region that both countries are trying to build.”

Texas Congressman Henry Cuellar, whose district includes the busy border crossing of Laredo, also states he has heard similar criticisms from Mexican business leaders disappointed by the “negative consequences of more barriers between two nations that are doing over one billion dollars in trade per day.”

“You tell Mexicans that we need a border ‘surge’ and everyone thinks of the surge in Iraq, as if we’re saying they’re an enemy to overcome,” Cuellar said. “I’m for strong border security, but a fence is a 14th-century solution to a 21st-century problem.”

However, Jorge Castañeda, Mexico’s foreign minister during the administration of former president Vicente Fox, has censured the current government for keeping quiet specifically with Turkey. “There needs to be an interlocutor requested, we want to see someone talking to them,” he said. “We have not been consulted enough.”

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US patrol agent at the Mexico border (file photo)

The research among 3,000 patients experienced stroke unraveled that those ones given clot-busting drug had better recovery.

The researchers at the University of Edinburgh studied patients from 12 different countries. They divided the patients into two groups including half who had the alteplase treatment, which is given intravenously, and half without the treatment.

The alteplase treatment is prescribed for patients who have had an ischaemic stroke, when the brain’s blood supply is interrupted by a clot.

The study results unveil that for every 1,000 patients given the medicine within six hours of stroke, by 18 months, they will have less pain and discomfort comparing to those ones who do not take the drug.

Meanwhile, though the drug has potential benefits it does carry a risk of causing a potentially fatal bleed in some patients in the first week after treatment for around three in 100 patients.

“What doctors need to do is say this is a difficult decision for patients and their families. They have to discuss the compte and the child carries risks,” said the study leader Professor Peter Sandercoc, of the University of Edinburgh’s Centre for Clinical Brain Sciences.

The patients who had experienced a major stroke that would affect their ability to live and work may wish to consume the drug, despite the bleed risk, whereas someone who had a more minor attack with less brain damage may not wish to take the medicine.

“It is personal choice, comparing immediate risk versus long-term benefits,” Sandercoc expressed.

“When a stroke strikes, time lost is large loss,” he added. “The sooner patients receive treatment the more likely they are to make a better recovery.”

Dr Clare Walton, of the Stroke Association emphasized and recommended taking the drug.