



PRESIDENT ISAIAS HOLDS TALKS WITH VARIOUS LEADERS IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

President Isaias Afwerki met yesterday in Ulsan, Republic of Korea, with Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank, to discuss the establishment of an effective mechanism for strengthening multi-sectoral cooperation, including water development, agriculture, and energy.

In the morning hours, President Isaias met in Seoul with Mr. Ahmed Attaf, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Algeria, focusing on strengthening bilateral ties.

During the meeting, President

Isaias emphasized that Eritrea and Algeria share similar experiences, values, and struggles for independence, highlighting the importance of establishing an effective mechanism for all-rounded cooperation between the two countries.

Minister Ahmed Attaf conveyed well wishes and good health from President Abdelmadjid Tebboune of Algeria to President Isaias and underscored the timely need for strengthening relations between Algeria and Eritrea.

The meeting was attended by

Mr. Osman Saleh, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Estifanos Afwerki, Eritrea's Ambassador to Japan.

In the evening hours yesterday, President Isaias also met and held talks in Seoul with President Julius Maada Bio of Sierra Leone.

At the meeting President Julius Maada Bio said that as the information he got from Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank, Eritrea is registering commendable progress in collecting water and in irrigation farming that goes with it and that his country has strong urge for gaining experience.

President Julius Maada Bio went on to say that the progress that Eritrea is registering in the sector could be a good example to Africa and expressed that his country wishes to have good relations and cooperation with Eritrea especially in the agricultural sector.

President Isaias on his part expressed Eritrea's readiness to share its modest experience with other African countries.

At President Yoon Suk Yeol's invitation, President Isaias Afwerki departed for Seoul on



MINISTER OSMAN SALEH DELIVERS SPEECH AT SOUTH KOREA-AFRICA SUMMIT



Foreign Minister Osman Saleh delivered a speech on 2 June at the preparatory meeting of Foreign Ministers, laying the groundwork for the upcoming 2024 South Korea-Africa Summit of leaders. His address focused on Eritrea's stance on various issues.

Minister Osman highlighted the historical relationship between Korea and Africa, dating back to the 1950s. Despite walking distinct paths for decades, both regions share a common pursuit of progress. He emphasized that the 2024 Korea-Africa Summit presents an opportunity to bridge the gap between the two continents.

Noting that Africa holds 60% of the world's natural resources and stands at a critical juncture, Minister Osman stressed the importance of fully utilizing this potential to ensure the prosperity and well-being of African peoples.

Recognizing global inequalities and challenges, Minister Osman underlined that Eritrea follows a development model aligned with its unique national values and requirements. Since achieving independence, Eritrea has actively

embraced a policy of self-reliance, focusing on mobilizing domestic resources and enhancing national capabilities. Education and human resources development are fundamental to this approach.

Minister Osman emphasized that despite ongoing threats and hostilities orchestrated by external forces seeking to assert their interests and control over nations, Eritrea persists in charting its own path based on the rule of law. Eritrea's strategic maritime trade location positions it as a gateway to vital trade routes connecting continents. The resilience of its people, coupled with its untapped business potential, makes it a beacon of opportunity.

Concluding his speech, Minister Osman expressed optimism that the summit will be a stepping stone towards mapping out engagement strategies. He highlighted the potential for harnessing the Republic of Korea's expertise in revitalizing infrastructure, transportation networks, construction, and engineering. The dynamic exchange of knowledge is expected to significantly boost the capabilities of Eritrea's workforce with the latest skills and techniques. *(Full content of the speech is on page 2)*

June 1 to participate in the 2024 South Korea-Africa Summit, which will be held from June 3 to 4.

The first South Korea-African Leaders Summit is taking place in Seoul under the theme "The Future We Make Together: Shared Growth, Sustainability,

and Solidarity." The summit aims to strengthen economic, political, and diplomatic relations and cooperation between the Republic of Korea and African countries.

Foreign Minister Osman Saleh also attended yesterday's Foreign Ministers' preparatory meeting, which laid the groundwork for the upcoming summit.

NICE: SHAREHOLDERS' ANNUAL MEETING



The National Insurance Corporation of Eritrea (NICE) conducted its 20th annual shareholders' meeting on 01 June at the Asmara Palace Hotel.

Mr. Paulos Tekleab, Acting Manager of the Corporation, delivered a keynote speech detailing the company's financial performance

in 2023. He reported that NICE generated total revenue of 271 million Nakfa and achieved a profit of 91.5 million Nakfa, distributing 86.4 million Nakfa in dividends to shareholders.

Furthermore, Mr. Paulos highlighted a significant 18% increase in group life insurance sales

compared to the previous year.

The meeting also included presentations on the reports from the board of directors and the financial and profit distribution statements.

Following these presentations, shareholders engaged in thorough discussions and endorsed several strategic recommendations.

Foreign Minister Osman Saleh's Speech at the 2024 South Korea-Africa Summit

H.E. Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Tae-yul

*Honorable Foreign Ministers,
Esteemed Dignitaries,
Good afternoon,*

At the outset, I would like to extend my utmost appreciation to the Government and people of the Republic of Korea for their warm welcome, hospitality and for hosting this important summit. As we gather for this crucial Foreign Minister's meeting ahead of the Korea-Africa summit, I would like to emphasize the significance of our discussions.

The relationship between Korea and Africa dates back to the 1950's. However, for decades, Korea and Africa have walked distinct paths, yet we share a common thread: the unwavering pursuit of progress. The 2024 Korea-Africa Summit presents an opportunity to bridge the gap between our continents.

It is evident that our continent—often referred to as the cradle of civilization—continues to grapple with political fragility, economic underdevelopment, and global marginalization. The enduring impact of colonialism and the oppressive global order that followed have exploited Africa's resources unabated, impeding the region's political and economic progress.

Africa, owning 60% of the world's natural resources, today, stands at a crucial juncture. It is imperative that we fully utilize this potential to ensure the prosperity and well-being of our people. The time has come for Africa to leverage its rich resources for the benefit of its people.

Excellencies,

Recognizing the existing global inequalities and challenges, Eritrea follows a development model that aligns with its unique national values and requirements. Since achieving independence, the country has actively embraced a self-reliance policy, focusing on mobilizing domestic resources and enhancing national capacities as the fundamental elements of its development approach fostered by Education and human resource development.

Even in the face of ongoing threats and hostilities orchestrated by external forces seeking to assert their interests and control over nations, Eritrea persists in charting its own path based on the rule of law.

Despite these external pressures, Eritrea's location offers unique opportunities. The country's important maritime trade location has the potential to serve as gateways to vital trade routes connecting continents and the resilience of our people, coupled with our untapped business potential, positions us as a beacon of opportunity. The country's position along the Red Sea is not merely geographical; it is strategic.

The development of the fisheries sector in Eritrea offers substantial potential to improve food security, diversify the national economy,



and alleviating poverty, especially in coastal communities. With the right investment in modern technology, and eco-friendly practices, Eritrea's fisheries could significantly contribute to the nation's development.

Given the opportunities that lie ahead, then, we believe this summit will be a stepping stone towards mapping out engagement strategies through harnessing the Republic of Korea's expertise in revitalizing our infrastructure, transportation networks, construction and engineering, together with a dynamic exchange of knowledge that will significantly boost the capabilities of our workforce with the latest skills and techniques.

Excellencies,

Amidst the rapidly shifting global economic landscape, Eritrea's abundant resources have never been more pertinent. Our mineral wealth, encompassing hydrocarbons, rare metals, and precious minerals, is teeming with untapped potential.

In addition, the pandemic has brought to the forefront the indispensable role of robust

healthcare systems. With an eye towards the future, we look forward to exploring joint ventures in medical research, and healthcare infrastructure.

Furthermore, this collaboration, extending into environmental initiatives like renewable energy and conservation, promises a future that is not only greener but also more sustainable.

In general, by leveraging Korea's technological expertise, we can augment our productivity, diversify our economy, and promote innovation to achieve long-term growth and development.

Excellencies,

While we deliberate on the significance of this summit and the potential beneficial impacts it could generate for both our regions and our people, it would be remiss of me if I don't seize this occasion to raise my voice in support of a fundamental right: the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

Today, we are witnessing the plight of the Palestinian people unfold in real time. The indiscriminate killings of women,

children, and innocent civilians in Palestine are a grave violation of human rights and international law. The loss of innocent lives is a tragedy that cannot be justified under any circumstances. The arbitrary attacks by Israel on Palestine are unequivocally unjust, inhumane, and must be condemned in the strongest possible terms. We cannot stand silent in the face of injustice!

The Palestinian people's aspiration for independence is a legitimate pursuit that aligns with the values of autonomy and freedom. Supporting Palestine's right to choose its path is not only an acknowledgment of these universal principles but also a step towards lasting peace and stability in the region.

Excellencies,

The ongoing war in Gaza serves as a stark reminder of the pressing need for peace and justice in our world. The world order we once knew – dominated by a single superpower – is undergoing a seismic shift. The shift towards multi-polarity represents a significant evolution in the global political landscape.

This change underscores the need for countries to collaborate and engage in constructive dialogue, while simultaneously respecting each other's territorial integrity, sovereignty, and domestic policies.

Excellencies,

At the end of the Korea-Africa summit, as we reflect on the fruitful discussions and outcomes, the importance of Follow-up Mechanisms, Mutual High-Level Visits, Bilateral Exchanges, promotion of Trade and Investment will be vital to ensure a successful and sustainable partnership between Korea and our region.

As we navigate this new era, allow me to once again say, let us remember the importance of cooperation, mutual respect, and shared prosperity. Let us embrace the diversity of our multipolar world and work together to create a more peaceful, just, and sustainable global order.

Finally, I extend my best wishes and may our deliberations during this Korea-Africa summit yield fruitful outcomes.

I, Thank, You.

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EMBASSY OF THE STATE OF ERITREA
BRUSSELS

Press Release

The EU: Unwarranted Acts of Defamation

The Embassy of the State of Eritrea to the EU and the Benelux countries is deeply disappointed, and expresses its profound dismay, at the EU's incessant and unwarranted acts of hostility against Eritrea.

Indeed, instead of reviewing in good-faith, and making amends to, the misguided sanctions that it had adopted against the country in March 2021-primarily to advance its perceived geopolitical objectives in the Horn in the midst of a raging conflict in northern Ethiopia-Brussels has the audacity to renew its adversarial stance invoking flawed legal tools and trumped-up charges.

The fact is the EU has no moral prerogative or high ground to lecture on human rights to Eritrea.

Eritrea is a nation born in the struggle for human rights. The full respect of human rights, in its broader sense - political, civic, social, economic and cultural - accordingly remains central and pivotal in its policy perspectives, aspirations and nation-building programmes and objectives. Thus, Eritrea's commitment to human rights in its holistic sense underpins Eritrea's policy of social justice.

The EU does not only gloss over Eritrea's successive report on UPR to the Commission of Human Rights Council in Geneva where the country has been commended by many member countries of the Council for the significant progress that it has made like all other member states; but it disingenuously conflates the biased and politically motivated diatribes of the Special Rapporteur as the considered and unanimous position of the UN system.

The message to Eritrea is, regrettably, that the EU remains still wedded to obstructive policies to derail Eritrea from its noble vision of nation-building and promotion of regional peace, stability, and mutual cooperation.

This is an attack, not so much on the government, but on a civilized people and society who cherish human values and dignity. The EU has indeed trespassed its limits - posturing, as it does, to micromanage a sovereign state's internal affairs.

In these circumstances, the Eritrean Embassy in Brussels vehemently rejects the unwarranted adversarial accusations of the EU.

*Eritrean Embassy
Brussels
3 June 2024*

NEWS



NATIONALS IN CANADA CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY ANNIVERSARY

Nationals residing in various cities across Canada have colorfully celebrated the 33rd Independence Day anniversary under the theme "Peace Anchored on Resilience."

The celebratory events in Regina, Toronto, Ottawa, Burlington, Calgary, Winnipeg, Montreal, Windsor, Edmonton, London, Halifax, Victoria, and British Columbia were attended by numerous nationals. The events

featured cultural, artistic, and sports programs.

At the celebratory event in Toronto, Ms. Amaresh Mebrahtu, head of the Mission in Canada, delivered a message commemorating Independence Day.

The participants expressed their readiness to strengthen organizational capacity and participation in national affairs.

Resilience and Struggle ...

Continued from page 5

Soviet advisors, and amid much fanfare, the Ethiopian army embarked on the offensive - its sixth at that point - with over 120,000 troops, massively outnumbering the Eritreans. Notwithstanding the great disparity in personnel, equipment, and external support, the campaign, the most massive by the Dergue, failed to drive the EPLF from Nakfa.

After withstanding Operation Red Star (along with several more major government offensives), the EPLF regrouped to seize the military initiative, register a number of significant advances, and dramatically shift the overall trajectory of war once more. The Ethiopian army, increasingly demoralized, was routed at the famous Battle of Afabet, then serving as an important regional headquarters of the Ethiopian army in Eritrea, in March 1988.

Described as the largest battle on the continent of Africa since El Alamein, in Egypt, during the Second World War, and often compared with the Vietnamese victory over the French at Dien Bien Phu, the victory at Afabet, located about 60 miles north of Asmara, would prove to be a decisive turning point in Eritrea's long battle for independence.

Subsequently, in early February 1990, the Ethiopian army was completely overrun in the key coastal city of Massawa. The EPLF's victory during the short but important battle effectively spelled the beginning of the end for the Dergue, and it powerfully signaled that Eritrea's independence - which had long been regarded and dismissed by many as unlikely or even impossible - was not only merely possible, but actually only a matter of time from becoming a reality.

In the year leading up to the daring land and sea operation, codenamed Operation Fenkil, the EPLF built up its naval capabilities and then secretly moved its powerful forces into the region, aiming to isolate Asmara from the sea. Beginning in the early hours of 8 February, the quick and decisive EPLF offensive, launched on three different fronts, would end by 10 February, when the Eritreans had secured the mainland. Days later, on 16 February, EPLF forces stormed the islands in a combined land and sea assault. Crucially, the EPLF's bold surprise attack totally cutoff the Ethiopian army's access to supplies provided by the USSR through Massawa.

Not only did the Eritrean forces employ tanks and various armaments and heavy artillery, captured from Ethiopian garrisons, they also relied upon a small fleet of gun boats to attack from the sea.

The battle took an enormous toll on the Ethiopian army, leaving it depleted

and greatly demoralized. In total, nearly 18,000 Ethiopian soldiers were killed, while many others were left wounded. In addition, thousands of Ethiopian troops, including high-ranking generals and commanders surrendered to the EPLF, with many other Ethiopian troops retreating to the town of Ghinda

In 1991, during the last major battles of the independence struggle, the Ethiopian army was swiftly defeated at Dekemhare, near Asmara, on 19 May. The EPLF then rapidly swept through neighboring villages and towns before liberating the capital on 24 May and seizing Assab, in the far south, the following day.

Mengistu had fled Addis Ababa to exile in Zimbabwe few weeks before this decisive battle, while thousands of demoralized Ethiopian soldiers, who had comprised what many had for decades believed to be the continent's best-trained and best-equipped fighting force, deserted ranks or surrendered. As they triumphantly entered the capital, Eritrean freedom fighters were received by a rapturous welcome and scenes of sheer jubilation. After one of the longest and loneliest national wars for liberation in modern African history and following tens of thousands of deaths, numerous more injuries, and much devastation and destruction, Eritrea had defeated Africa's largest, best-equipped army and finally won its freedom.

Shortly after the EPLF victoriously rolled into Asmara in 1991, preparations were begun to allow the Eritrean people to determine their political future through an internationally supervised referendum. Even though the final outcome of the referendum was hardly ever in doubt, the EPLF refrained from declaring outright independence upon its military victory because it had a deep desire to demonstrate the Eritrean people's strong preference for independence.

Two years later, in 1993, Eritrea was formally welcomed into the international community of nations as Africa's 52nd nation-state following an internationally monitored referendum in which more than one million Eritreans from inside the nation and across the world overwhelmingly voted in favor of independence. Monitored by the UN, the OAU, the Arab League, and representatives from over a dozen countries, the referendum saw a staggering 98.5 percent voter turnout, with 99.81 percent of voters opting for independence.

Eritrea's independence crystallized a collective, long-held dream, which much of the world had ignored, claimed was unattainable and impossible to achieve, or sought to extinguish, into reality. After decades of great struggle and tremendous sacrifice, the Eritrean people achieved their ultimate reward: freedom and independence.

Lighter Side

Pain in Silence!

The Two forms of Pain & the story of Job

Natnael Yebio W.

David Cronenberg's cinematic piece, "Crimes of the Future," ventures into the realm of a dystopian future. It explores a scenario where the human form is compelled to acclimate to an artificial milieu. Amidst this transformation, the human body experiences a phenomenon termed as the "Accelerated Evolution Syndrome," rendering pain obsolete. A character in the movie asserts, "Pain is a warning system," and expresses an apprehension that the absence of these alerts propels humanity into uncharted domains, a journey from which return may be impossible.

While the film, unsettling and not exactly a cup of tea for the lily-livered, nicked a solid 1 hour and 47 minutes from my leisurely Sunday afternoon, it did, however, inspire me to ponder upon the perception of pain through the lens of the doddering old-timers from the good old days.

When young, while engaged in a bit of rough and tumble, the lad adjacent to me was clonked on the head by a sizeable pebble. He didn't shed a tear initially, adhering to the unwritten code that boys don't cry. But then, he ran his hands through his locks and encountered something damp. Claret! That's when the waterworks started, accompanied by a right old caterwauling.

"Zip it, numbskull! Tears are not for boys!"

"Zip your own trap!" the lad retorted. "I'll weep till my tear ducts run dry!"

And he carried on with his waterworks until his mother showed up and gave him a good clout for blubbering. "If you pull a stunt like that again, you're no son of mine," she warned. "I'll spare you the wrath of your father this time, but repeat this performance, and you'll rue the day."

All the while, the poor lad's head was a canvas of crimson.

I recall a time when I visited a village with a relative who was fresh off the plane from England. Upon our arrival, we all settled down for a cup of tea. A lively octogenarian lady took on the role of barista. She decanted the piping hot brew into petite porcelain cups sans handles. When she passed the scalding cup to the guest, he found it too hot to handle, quite literally, and promptly dropped it.

'Iba!' the woman vociferously exclaimed. The term 'iba' in Tigrinya encapsulates a blend of ineptitude and frailty. The elderly woman held the belief that one's tribulations should be endured in solitude, hidden from the public eye. However, my companion held a contrasting viewpoint. Why should one endure unnecessary hardship?

This old mindset explains why our elders have never sought medical attention in the past compared to the present. They experience discomfort in their abdomen or liver, yet they perceive seeking medical assistance for thoracic or renal issues as akin to a child rushing to his mother to report a black eye or a fractured nose, as a result of a local skirmish. The guiding principle? Never capitulate to pain.

The visage of the man who entered the clinic, his hand grotesquely swollen, is etched in my memory from long ago. His eyes radiated a profound ignorance, and he moved with an unwarranted air of arrogance as he approached the health officer.

"What seems to be the issue with your hand?" queried the health officer, recently elevated from the rank of dresser.

"I was bitten by a snake," the man declared.

"When did this occur?" probed the health officer, seasoned by years of service among the rural populace.

"About a week ago," the peculiar man responded nonchalantly.

The following day, I visited the

clinic to inquire about the man's condition. The health officer informed me that he had referred the man to hospital. A gangrenous limb serves no purpose other than to be amputated and discarded.

"But why?" I questioned.

"That's how villagers are," he explained. "They view an urgent visit to a clinic as an act of cowardice and choose to endure their excruciating pain in silence."

I've witnessed individuals being transported to hospital on a traditional stretcher, having stubbornly delayed seeking medical attention.

There exist two forms of pain: mental and physical. A prevalent example of insufferable physical pain in this country is toothache. It reduces valiant men to tears and prompts recognized village champions to hasten to the nearest clinic for assistance. No one can withstand the agony of an infected tooth. Yet, society looks down upon any display of distress or complaint, viewing it as a sign of weakness.

'Edde' or 'Betki' (good for nothing) are terms used to brand the faint-hearted. A true man is expected to maintain a stoic countenance amidst pain and adversity.

"How did our ancestors extract a tooth from a patient prior to the establishment of modern dentistry?" I once asked my granddad.

"With the same rudimentary tools they employed to construct household furniture," he replied.

More often than not, the patient with the infected tooth was restrained by two or three robust men. The dentist-pretender would then bring out his tools and, after a considerable struggle, succeed in extracting the decayed tooth.

"Thank the heavens!" the patient would finally exhale, a sigh of relief escaping his lips. Could there be anything more dreadful than a toothache? The offending tooth had to be evicted, regardless of the cost.

Yet, throughout this ordeal, they exhibited no signs of surrender to the pain. They maintained an impassive facade.

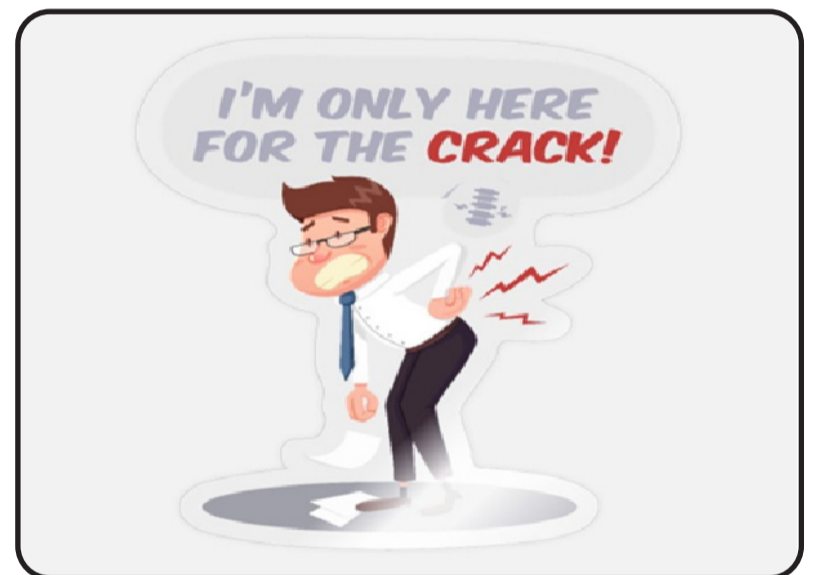
The other form of pain, mental anguish, is deemed more severe than a toothache, yet it is confronted with the same stoicism.

Job, from the Bible, serves as a paragon in our society in this regard. Once upon a time, Job,

basking in the warmth of the sun. As the primary provider for his family, his affliction ushered in, as our local adage goes, a chilling wind into their home.

I expressed my deepest condolences, stating that it seemed unjust for the Almighty to inflict such a calamity upon him.

"I have been blessed with 45 years of life and have had the joy of witnessing my daughter's



a man who revered God and eschewed evil, was met with the most unexpected of calamities. He lost not only all his children and possessions, but was also afflicted with a repugnant skin disease that repelled his friends. Rather than lamenting his fate, Job accepted his predicament with resignation and unwavering faith. Ultimately, he was rewarded with the return of all his children and property, a testament to his resilience and faith.

It appears that enduring pain in silence is a cultural characteristic of our society. Pose a question to an impoverished individual about the world's or God's injustice, and they will respond that they have no grievances. They believe that God has preordained their earthly existence and that, someday, somehow, whether in this life or the next, God will compensate them for past injustices.

One day, I took it upon myself to visit a relative in his forties, grappling with the harsh reality of bone cancer. He was perched at the entrance of his modest dwelling,

nuptials, and my sons have grown into adulthood," he responded. "There are far graver misfortunes that could befall one... I surrender everything to the will of God."

He passed away the subsequent year. Throughout his ordeal, he never exhibited any signs of sorrow or discomfort. He departed this world with the tranquility of a saint.

The same principle applies to relationships. A man with a shattered heart never weeps, never reveals that he has been vanquished by an unfeeling partner. If a man goes to his friends to whine about breaking up with his girlfriend, he is simply told to get over his feelings. Men prefer to escort their heartbroken comrades to a bar teeming with women to drown their sorrows, rather than endure a man's lament about his agonizing love tales.

Is it possible to control pain? Indeed. It can be managed through mental fortitude, by the so-called mind-over-matter technique, or through faith. The latter is the simplest, most significant, and enduring method.

SpotLight

Resilience and Struggle: The Long Road to Independence

Dr. Fikrejesus Amahazion

Located in the volatile Horn of Africa and possessing a long, pristine coastline on the Red Sea, Eritrea is a country with a rich, complex, and turbulent history. It won its independence from Ethiopia in 1991 after waging one of the longest, most destructive wars for liberation in modern African history. This series shines light on its decades-long struggle.

On 1 September 1961, Hamid Idris Awate, a daring soldier regarded as a renegade by the Italians, British, and Ethiopians, and a small band of fighters, armed with only a handful of old rifles, fired the first shots of the armed struggle in the Gash Barka region of Eritrea. From those first shots and subsequent hit-and-run skirmishes, Eritrea's independence struggle grew into a wide-scale war of liberation encompassing the entire population – much like a small spark that ignites a blazing wildfire engulfing everything before it.

Over the next three decades, Eritrea's independence fighters – receiving little external aid or support, and being largely ignored, if not opposed outright, by the international community – battled a series of Ethiopian regimes heavily backed by the Cold War superpowers, the United State of America; and in the latter years, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), as well as many other

countries, including, among others, Israel, East Germany, Cuba, Libya, and Yemen.

Initially, the US provided Haile Selassie's imperial regime with considerable economic, diplomatic, and military support. American support for Ethiopia, immense and unmatched in the continent, was augmented by considerable military and technical assistance from other countries, including Israel, which itself was also increasingly regarded as an important American ally.

Like the US, Israel completed a military pact with Ethiopia, established intelligence facilities in the country, and also dispatched a military contingent to serve in Ethiopia and Eritrea. It additionally provided Addis Ababa with high-level military advisers, arms, and spare parts, as well as training, including for Emperor Haile Selassie's Imperial Bodyguard and Ethiopia's patrol commandos, which represented an elite anti-guerrilla unit.

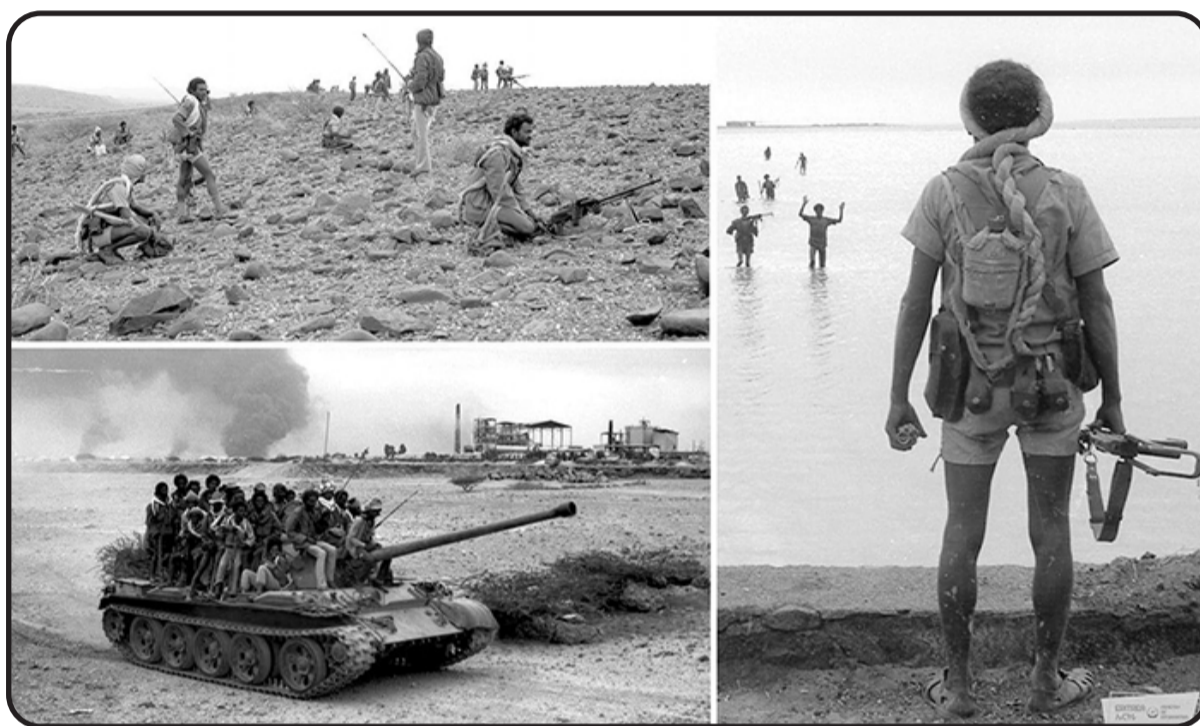
However, even as the massive amounts of American and Israeli support helped Ethiopia to establish a large, modern army, the imperial regime was completely unable to contain the Eritrean liberation movement, which had grown from a small group of so-called "bandits" into a disciplined, formidable, and highly effective military force. By 1973, the Ethiopian regime's failure to adequately respond to a devastating famine

(Part III)

in the north of the country, in combination with unrelenting and heavy pressure being exerted by Eritrean liberation forces, as well as a rebellion in the Ogaden

strangled in the basement of his palace in August 1975. Not long after the "creeping coup", the Dergue regime, led by Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, ousted the US from the country and realigned Ethiopia with the USSR. (It is noteworthy, however,

This not only helped Ethiopia to successfully counter and crush the Somali invasion, but it crucially also allowed it to shift its military attention and focus more directly on Eritrea, all the while continuing to receive multidimensional support and



region, bordering Somalia, led to a military revolt.

In September 1974, after months of popular agitation and growing dissatisfaction with the imperial regime, a committee comprised of military officers from the air force, navy, and infantry units, officially known as the Provisional Military Administrative Council, or the Dergue, overthrew the 82-year-old Emperor. They would then go on to execute dozens of officials of the ancient regime, while the Emperor would be

that American and Israeli support to Ethiopia continued even after the latter had aligned itself with the USSR.) For the Ethiopian government and military, the partnership with and intervention by the USSR would prove to be an indispensable lifeline.

By late 1977, Eritrean independence forces had liberated nearly the entire countryside, except for some major cities including Adi Keyih, Barentu, Assab, Asmara, and some parts of Massawa. At the same time, Ethiopia's military was being stretched thin by the outbreak of a second major war on another front; with Somalia in the Ogaden.

However, the USSR's huge intervention in 1977/78 on the behalf of the beleaguered Ethiopian army dramatically shifted the existing military balance of power in the Horn and completely reversed Eritrean (as well as Somali) progress. The USSR dispatched a large number of military and political advisors to Ethiopia, and also provided the military junta with billions of dollars in new military hardware. Just as importantly, Soviet advisers and Cuban frontline troops and technicians were also dispatched to the Ogaden to reinforce the Ethiopian forces.

reinforcements from its external backers.

From having appeared to be on the cusp of victory, the Eritrean liberation forces, led by the EPLF, were forced to withdraw and they made a "strategic retreat" to their base in Nakfa, the capital of the harsh, rugged, mountainous Sahel province. The war subsequently developed into a protracted stalemate, featuring a number of large battles and the Eritreans successfully repulsing a series of major Soviet-supported Ethiopian offensives.

Across the period, despite repeated attempts and continued extensive foreign support, the Ethiopian army was entirely unable to dislodge the Eritreans from Nakfa. Between 1978 and 1981, the Dergue unleashed five large-scale military campaigns against the EPLF, none of which resulted in success. Then, in January 1982, Mengistu announced Operation Red Star, which the Ethiopian regime hoped would finally destroy the so-called EPLF "bandits and mercenaries" once and for all. The following year, after extensive preparations, the close coordination and support of

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The state of Eritrea

Ministry of Agriculture

- The State of Eritrea, Ministry of Agriculture, and National Project Coordination Office (NPCO) has received financing from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) towards the cost of Integrated Agricultural Development Project (IADP) and intends to apply part of the financing for the purchase of these goods. The use of any IFAD financing shall be subject to IFAD's approval, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the financing agreement, as well as IFAD's rules, policies and procedures. IFAD and its officials, agents and employees shall be held harmless from and against all suits, proceedings, claims, demands, losses and liability of any kind or nature brought by any party in connection with Integrated Agricultural Development Project (IADP).
 - The Integrated Agricultural Development Project (IADP) includes three components and has six years' lifetime starting June 2022. The overall goal of the project is to contribute to poverty reduction and food and nutrition security of rural households. The project Development objective is to enhance small holder agricultural production and productivity in sustainable way and improves rural livelihoods.
 - This IFB follows the general procurement notice that appeared on the IFAD website on 31 January, 2024, the United Nations Development Business (UNDB) web site on 31 January, 2024 and a national newspaper Haddas Eritrea/ Eritrean profile on 2 March, 2024.
 - The purchaser now invites sealed bids from eligible entities ("bidders") for the provision of Procurement of High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) with Mass spectrophotometer. More details on these goods and related services are provided in the schedule of requirements in this bidding document.
 - This IFB is open to all eligible bidders who wish to respond. Subject to the restrictions noted in the bidding document, eligible entities may associate with other bidders to enhance their capacity to successfully deliver the goods and related services. Potential bidders should first request for a registration form using email address below. Upon filling the form, Potential bidders should be return through a reply email and set of the bidding document will be provide immediately thereafter at no charge.
 - Bidding will be conducted using the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) method, the evaluation procedure for which is described in this bidding document, in accordance with the IFAD procurement handbook, which is provided on the IFAD website www.ifad.org/project-procurement. The ICB process, as described, will include a review and verification of qualifications and past performance, including a reference check, prior to the contract award.
 - Please note that a pre-bid conference will not be held as described in the bid data sheet BDS, Section II of the bidding document.
 - Bids must be delivered to the address below and in the manner specified in the BDS ITB 25 no later than 9:30 am local Asmara, Eritrea's time, 25 June 2024.
- Ministry of Agriculture, Procurement and Supplies Management Division (PSMD)
- Lidia Russom (Procurement officer)
Sawa Street, Asmara, Eritrea
Lidyarusomlidu1221@gmail.com
Tel Number: 00291181076/00291189266
Fax Number: 1048
- Bidders should be aware that late bids will not be accepted under any circumstances and will be returned unopened to the bidder. All bids must be accompanied by a bid securing deceleration.
 - Please note that electronic bids shall not be accepted as defined in ITB BDS 25.

Yours sincerely,

Lidia Russom
IADP Project Procurement officer
Lidyarusomlidu1221@gmail.com
Asmara, Eritrea



Bisha Mining Share Company
P.O. Box 4276
Asmara
Eritrea

Tel: (+291) 1124941
Fax: (+291) 1124941
www.bishamining.com

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Bisha Mining Share Company is inviting interested applicants for the following position for Bisha site project.

Position: Printer Technician
Department: FITS
Section: IT
Number Required: One (01)

Primary Purpose

The printer technician is responsible for maintaining BMSC's printers and related systems and ensuring they are in an operational state. This includes managing all print consumables and spare parts. In addition the printer technician is responsible for supporting end user print related issues.

Task Description Expanded To Core Performance Areas:-

Printer Installations & Preventative Maintenance

- Work with systems and network teams to install and configure new printers.
- Perform routine cleaning and preventative repairs to printers as per manufacturer's specifications.
- Maintain accurate logs of work performed to assist in identifying problematic printers.

Printer Repairs

- Perform repairs to faulty printers and return to service in a timely fashion.
- Maintain accurate logs of faults and fixes.

Printer Asset & Stock Management

- Maintain accurate asset register of all printers.
- Maintain accurate inventory of all printer consumables.
- Maintain accurate inventory of all printers' spare parts.
- Manage purchasing process to ensure adequate stock levels of all consumables and spare parts.

End User Print Support

- Assist end users with print related issues.

Reporting

- Assist management to produce accurate reports on printer usage.

Unique Requirement

- Strong command of English language (writing/speaking)
- Ability to educate others on the operation of printers and printer related applications.
- Candidate must be Medically and Physical fit.

Qualifications:

- IT Certificate, Diploma or Computer Science Degree
- Electronics Certificate

Knowledge and Experience:

- Previous experience repairing and performing preventative maintenance to high volume business printers.
 - Experience performing repairs to electronic devices.
 - Demonstrable knowledge of printing standards.
- #### Technical Skills Behavioural Skills
- Microsoft Windows Operating System
 - Microsoft Office
 - Basic understanding of computer networks.
 - Ability to troubleshoot technical problems and find root cause of failures.

Ability to work independently.

- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines.
- Excellent customer service skills.
- Meeting deadlines / response time to queries

General Information and other requirements:

- Salary: As per Company salary scale.
- Type of Contract: Indefinite
- Place of work: Bisha

Additional requirements for Nationals:

- Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligation and provide evidence of release paper from the Ministry of Defense.
- Present clearance paper from current/last employer.
- Testimonial documents to be attached (CV, work experience credentials, a copy of your National Identity Card etc.).
- Only shortlisted applicants will be considered as potential candidates for an interview.
- Application documents will not be returned to sender.
- All applications should be sent through the post office.
- Deadline for application: 10 days from the day of publication in the Newspaper.

Address: Please mail your applications to.

Bisha Mining Share Company,
P. O. Box 4276
Asmara, Eritrea

Note to Eritrean applicants:

Please send a copy of your application to
1. Aliens Employment permits Affairs,
P. O. Box 7940
Asmara, Eritrea.

2. Mineral Resources Management
P. O. Box 272
Asmara, Eritrea



ASMARA MINING SHARE COMPANY
Abo Street, No. 178, House No. 16
Gejeret, P.O. Box 10688
Tel. ++291-1-153986
Asmara, Eritrea

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Asmara Mining Share Company is inviting applicants for the following position;

Port Equipment Maintenance Supervisor

Number required – (01)

Type of contract – Indefinite

Major Duties and responsibilities.

- Supervise the department, that maintain and repair AMSC equipment at the Port.
- Perform regular Safety inspections, plan work ahead of schedule and control budget.
- Identify and order relevant parts required for repairs via the store system.
- Write standard operating procedures as required for high risk work.
- Candidate must be physically medically fit
- Must be able to work outside exposed to Heat, wind and dusty environments
- Must be able to work at Heights.
- Must have Driver’s License Minimum Code 2.

TASK DESCRIPTION Expanded TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

Planning

- Responsible for forecasting and planning of maintenance and repairs of all allocated Equipment.
 - Makes use of “Planned Maintenance Schedule”. (Planned Task Document Observation).
 - Tracks the use of maintenance and repair parts and orders accordingly.
- ##### Implementation of the Plan
- Identify the highest priority for each week and focus on completing relevant tasks.
 - Ensures good housekeeping.
 - Ensures maintenance and repairs of Maintenance Equipment are carried out in an efficient and effective way in order to minimize downtime, possibly effecting production.
 - Performs regular inspections in order to detect potential problems before they cause breakdowns.
 - Controls downtime by ensuring the best techniques are being used to repair breakdowns.
 - Ensure safety requirements are fulfilled at the workplace, including leading Field Level Risk Assessment (FLRA) and proper use of the appropriate PPE. Report any safety issues/incidents.
 - Comply with AMSC’S cardinal rules and other Port safety, environmental or other rules and standards as directed. Identifies any hazards at the workplace.
 - Maintains equipment; parts and supply stocks by carrying out regular stock takes and ordering replacements as required.

Writing Reports & Data Control

- Compile daily; progress reports for the department. (Action Tracker)
- Supervise team
- Provide technical support/motivation for the team, by supervising various activities.
- Provide training for the team (especially safety standards and procedures); schedules technical training.
- Conducts daily “Tool Box” meetings with the team.
- Manages time and attendance.

Profile: Qualifications and Experience

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalents

- Grade 12 for locals (Technical School)
- Technical College Mechanical Diploma

Working Experience – Nature & Length

- 5+ years minimum relevant experience working with heavy duty Cranes, Kalmar Mobile Port Equipment and RAM Container offloading equipment.
- General Hydraulic knowledge and fault analysis.

Technical Skills

- Computer Literacy (MS Office – Intermediate,)
- Attention to detail
- Analytical skill
- Mechanical & Maintenance experience
- Problem solving skill
- Supervisory experience

Behavioral Skills

- Communication

- Interpersonal Relations
- Prioritizing skills & multi-skilling
- Ability to work towards strict deadlines
- High level of accuracy
- Self-motivation

General Information and other requirements:

- Place of Work:** Massawa
- Type of contract:** Indefinite Period
- Salary:** As per the Company salary scale

Additional requirements for Nationals:

- Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligation and provide evidence of release paper from the Ministry of Defense.
 - Present clearance paper from current/last employer.
 - Testimonial documents to be attached (CV, work experience credentials, a copy of your National Identity Card, etc.).
 - Only shortlisted applicants would be considered as potential candidates for an interview.
 - Application documents will not be returned to the sender.
 - All applications should be sent through the post office.
 - Deadline for application: 10 days from the day of publication in the Newspaper.
- Address: Please mail your applications to;**
Asmara Mining Share Company,
P. O. Box 10688 Asmara, Eritrea
 - Applicants shall be required to send a copy to:**
Mineral Resources Management
P.O. Box – 272
Asmara
 - Note to Eritrean applicants:**
Please send a copy of your application to
Aliens Employment Permit Affairs,
P. O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea

Vacancy Announcement

The embassy of Japan is inviting applicants for the following position:

Position	Clerk
Number Required	One
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor Degree or above • Fluent in English (speaking and writing) • Excellent Communication and interpersonal skill • Good at Microsoft office (Especially Word and Excel)
Duties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisting all embassy Diplomats • Other duties specifically instructed by Japanese Diplomats.

How to apply:

Strictly submit the following necessary documents copy through the P.O. Box before closing date.

- CV (self-photo, date of birth , gender , home address , phone number, email, academic background and work experiences)
- ID Copy
- National Service completion Document.
- Proof of No Crime Records
- Recommendation letter from the current or past employers.
- Academic graduation certificates, diploma, etc.
- Deadline for application: **15 days from the day publication in the newspaper.**
 - ❖ Only shortlisted candidate will be contacted after the screening process.
 - ❖ Address : Please mail your application to
 Embassy of Japan
 P.O.BOX – 1131
 Asmara, Eritrea

Book Review

Inauguration Speech for the Strangeness of Caring

Sona Berhane

Good afternoon everyone, and a special welcome to all of you who have come to celebrate the release of Dr. Selam Kidane Woldu's second book of poems, titled *The Strangeness of Caring* – and what a marvelous title it is! Many of us know Selam as a dedicated, compassionate doctor, and a dear friend, but tonight, we get to see another facet of her talent – her artistry with words.

For those who haven't had the pleasure of reading Selam's previous work, her poems offer a glimpse into the introspective observations of the multifaceted world that a person of her dual passions must inhabit. Underneath the white coat of the doctor lies a poet, one whose poems can be as delicate and precise as a scalpel, dissecting the complexities of existence, while also possessing the warmth and empathy of a caring physician.

I met Selam's first book, *Songs of Life*, before I met her. It was an interesting introduction. I've read the collection multiple times now, and it wasn't until my third reading that I noticed a curious pattern with the poems. The entire book had a palpable undercurrent that focused on the themes of loss, departure and death. I remember thinking, "This book is much darker than it seems on the surface."

Then, last year, I picked it up again. The doom and gloom I initially felt seemed less somber, and appeared more grounded in the realities of everyday life. Now, if you're like me and you find yourselves drawn to such meditations on life's impermanence, you'll be thrilled to know that Selam dedicates an entire section in her new book to the subject of death. Of course, Selam's poems explore so much more than that and come with a multitude of perspectives. However, there's no denying that, especially in this new volume, the shadow of death lingers over many of the poems – but in a strangely comforting way. You'll understand once you start to read the book.

But why contemplate death when you are surrounded by the vibrancy of life, you might ask? The answer lies in Selam's unique perspective as a doctor. Witnessing the full spectrum of life on a daily basis, she



understands the profound impact that death can have. Her poems aren't about dwelling in darkness; they're about acknowledging death's inevitability, and using this knowledge to illuminate the preciousness of every moment.

This somber side of living is rarely explored in our artistic landscape. Our films and songs, even our books shy away from delving into this important subject matter. And that's a loss because this sanitized version of reality, I think, takes away something profound from our understanding of ourselves and our place here.

In Selam's work, death, a topic that is all too often shrouded in uncomfortable silence, becomes a wellspring of fascination and contemplation. Through her words, she invites us to look at our own mortality, not with fear, but with a deeper appreciation for the fleeting moments we are allowed on this earth. These poems capture the fragility of existence, the bittersweet chaos of loss, and the enduring strength of the human spirit. There is grief, of course, and pain, but also acceptance, reflection, solace, and even a touch

of dark humor.

Weaving words with subtlety, Selam transforms death from a morbid subject into an interesting one. Her poems explore the phenomenon not as an ending, but as a facet of the human experiences. She encourages us to contemplate its universality, its mysteries, and perhaps even its beauty.

Alemseghed Tesfai had this to say about Selam's first book, "I suspect that the voice that whispers inside her will rise to a booming thunder." It is my opinion that this new book signifies a continuation of her gentle voice, a voice that confronts death head-on, not with trepidation but with curiosity, a voice that remains emotionally resonant while it ventures into new territories of expression.

Finally, I would like to bring your attention to a man by the name of Ghirmay Gebreleul – a painter, freedom fighter and martyr. Ghirmay, known by his nickname Hakli, was a versatile and prolific artist though we have only his paintings to speak for him, and that,

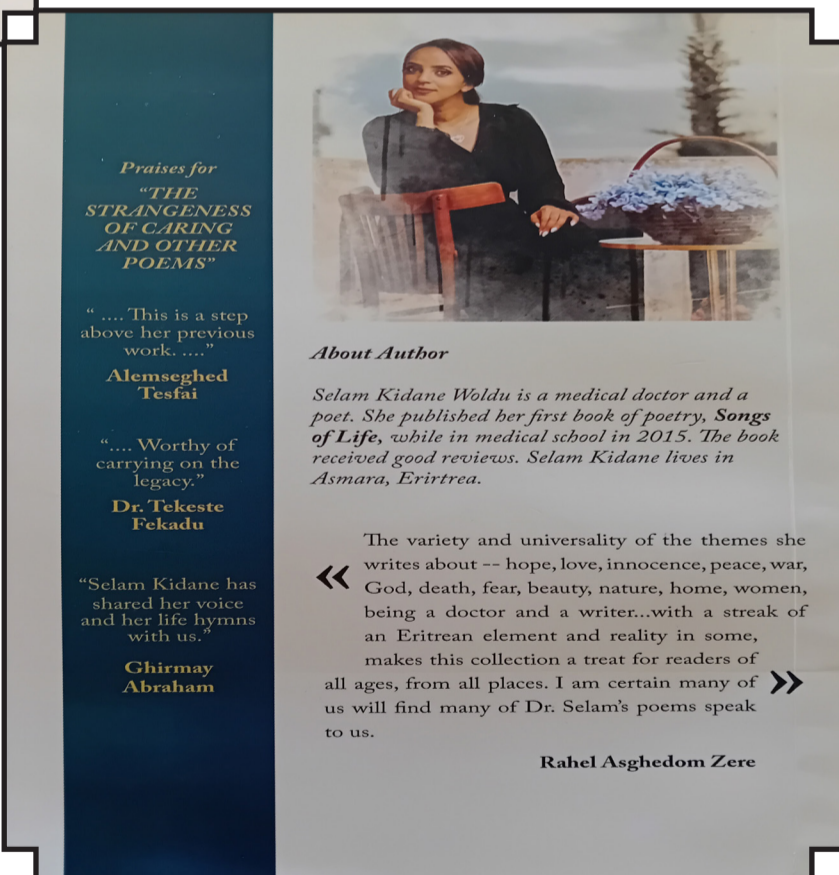
thanks to the National Museum that houses his work alongside the works of several martyred freedom fighters.

You'll notice that it is one of his paintings, an unfinished painting entitled *Hitsbo*, that graces the cover of this new volume. Selam took one look at this composition and the painting as much as the life of the artist resonated so deeply with her that she went to considerable length to bring this often overlooked and underappreciated aspect of the armed struggle to light. She describes the journey in detail in the book's introduction. This stayed on mind for a while afterwards, and the more I thought about it, the more I felt that this is one way we can embody this mysterious quality that is the strangeness of caring ... about important things, relevant things, about things bigger than ourselves, and about others, about strangers.

It's a refreshing trend, this intersectionality of the arts –

poem, the weight of one's name, the taste of avocado, the morning thoughts of a lion, the eternal chase of artist and muse, and most importantly, how to go on living. I have no doubt that this eloquent volume, slender though it may be, has something to offer every reader.

I would like to close by congratulating Selam on the launch of her second book. Her ability to tackle difficult topics with thoughtfulness and sensitivity is truly inspiring. You know, we don't have very many medical doctors here who can find the time in their highly demanding careers to express their thoughts and experiences through writing. That is why we are all very proud of our poet-doctor. May the publication of this new volume continue the legacy (very much in the traditions of William Carlos Williams, and William Stevens) of using language to heal, to explore, to communicate, to comfort, and to make us appreciate the magnificent, often heart-wrenching dance of life and



especially the sisterly domains of painting and poetry. It's something that should be cultivated and encouraged in young artists.

Well, I hope it's clear now that these collections of poems are a delightful repository of moments, insights, thoughts, musings, and influences. The pages, you'll find, hold unexpected lessons for the reader: the comforts of wearing your own skin, the life span of a

death, and everything in between. I urge you all to pick up a copy of *The Strangeness of Caring* and immerse yourselves in these pages.

Looking forward to reading many more of your poems, Selam. And on behalf of everyone here, I must ask that you not make us wait another nine years for the next book.

Thank you.