



ERITREAN COMMUNITY FESTIVAL IN RIYADH

The Eritrean Community Festival in Riyadh and its environs commenced on 9 November in the presence of a number nationals under the theme “Laying Pillars for Vibrant Development”.

PFDJ Secretary, Mr. Alamin Mohammed Seid and the Minister of Local Government, Mr. Woldemicael Abraha, opened the Festival that will be concluded today 11 November.

Mr. Mohammed-Omar Mahmud, Eritrea’s Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, said that this year’s

Festival is being conducted in a very special juncture where the people and Government of Eritrea have registered significant achievements in all sectors of development. The Ambassador also called on nationals to solidify their unity and reinforce contribution in national development drives.

Mr. Girmai Yemane, Chairman of the Holidays Coordinating Committee in Riyadh, also noted that the annual Festival attest to the strong unity of the Eritrean people and their attachment with their

homeland.

The Festival is featured the contribution of Eritrean nationals in the Diaspora in nation development programs as well as the resilience of the Eritrean people in foiling foreign conspiracies.

Different activities by the students of the International Eritrean Community School, YPFDJ, NUEW, and the pictorial exhibition, fashion show as well as artistic performance by the musical troupe from home featured in the festival.

CENTRAL REGION: WORKSHOP ON 2018 ACTION PLAN

The Health Ministry’s branch in the Central region organized a workshop in Serejeka, Berikh and Gala Nefhi sub-zones with a view to assessing activities of 2017 and draw up work plan for 2018.

Discussion was conducted on activity reports presented by the sub-zonal health institutions and was reported that lack of delivery service, remoteness of health centers, lack of ambulance, among others were some of the problems encountered.

The participants put forth proposals for 2018 action plan, including the expansion of the use of latrine, ensuring environmental sanitation, enhancing societal awareness on the causes of communicable and non-communicable diseases, as well as raising the awareness of pregnant women to frequent visit to health facilities.

Noting the significance of drawing up programs concerning the community for discussion on their viability, the director of the Health Ministry in the region, Dr. Tesfai Solomon, called for enhanced public contribution.

The Director General of Social Services in the Central region, Mr. Kaleab Tesfaslase, explained that action programs drawn up in collaboration with concerned bodies facilitate implementation.



PORTRAYING ERITREA’S CORRECT IMAGE

Eritrean nationals in Austria, the UK, Sweden, Denmark and Kuwait respectively have conducted public diplomacy activities with a view to portraying the nation’s true image and reinforcing organizational capacity.

Eritrea’s Permanent Mission to the UN office in Geneva organized a panel discussion on the theme, “Beyond Refugee Crisis and Human Trafficking, Youth Perspectives, in the Horn of Africa with special focus on Eritrea”. The panel discussion was attended by diplomats, investors and invited guests from a number of countries.

The First Secretary of the Eritrean Embassy in the UN Office in Geneva, Mr. Adem Osman, gave briefing on Eritrea’s experience over the past six years, the indifference of the

international community on the Eritrea-Ethiopia border issue and the illegal occupation of sovereign Eritrean territories, in addition to Eritrea’s policy as regards international cooperation and the endeavors being exerted by the people and Government of Eritrea in achieving sustainable economic development and safeguarding national sovereignty.

In another report, as part of the initiative that the Eritrean professionals in the UK are taking to strengthen participation in national development programs, a discussion forum was recently organized in London.

The objective of the forum was to identify the opportunities and challenges in national development endeavors, especially the education sector, and to map out links with institutions inside

the country.

Likewise, the YPFDJ branch in Sweden held Congress under the theme “Nurturing Conscious Youth”. The Congress was attended by youths from 18 cities in Sweden, members of the Eritrean Embassy and representatives of national associations.

Briefing was given at the conference regarding the task of nurturing conscious society with special emphasis on the youth and their role in national development programs, the significance of strengthening organizational capacity as well as other issues of interest to the youth.

The conference participants adopted resolutions and recommendations including that of augmenting their understanding on the objective situation in the homeland, enhancing opposition

to external hostilities besides enriching their understanding as regards their organization.

In a related report, Eritrean nationals in the Swedish cities of Skara, Lidköping, the Danish capital Copenhagen and Oslo, Norway, also conducted public diplomacy activities.

In the course of the events, briefings were given on the

integrated endeavors of the people and Government of Eritrean in foiling external conspiracies against the homeland and the significance of strengthening organizational capacity.

Meanwhile, the branch of the National Union of Eritrean Women in Kuwait also held a seminar on the objective situation at home and role of citizens in national development endeavors.



YPFDJ Sweden National Conference 2017

Development

Eritrea's Marine Resource: Worth Exploring, Worth Investing In

Part I

Semir Seid

Eritrea has a coastline of more than 1,350 km along the south-western coast of the Red Sea, rich in diverse marine resources and habitat. The territorial waters cover an area of about 55,000 km². The region and particularly the coastal line and the offshore islands embrace an average of 31°C while in the Danakil Depression (100 meters below sea level) the temperature is 38°-50°C. The harsh climate never prevents people from living in and gaining from the diverse resources the sea offers.

The Red Sea region is home to 360 islands, with Dahlak Kebir being the largest in geographic and economic terms. The sea and the long coastline demonstrate a great potential for the growth of the tourist industry. The coastline boasts some of the finest, longest and purest beaches in the world. The Buri Peninsula has rich history stretching back to pre-Christian times when Adulis was the main trading port in the region and it was the spot where British General Napier launched the 19th century expedition against Ethiopia's emperor Tewedros. The landscapes, birdlife and fauna such as gazelle, ostrich and the rare wild ass are the glamour of the region. The marine life in and around the islands in the Red Sea has prospered and flourished in the post war period with the efforts of the forestry and wild life conservation of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The two Eritrean ports, Massawa and Assab, are located strategically on the sea lane that connects

Europe with the Persian Gulf and the countries bordering the Indian and Pacific oceans. These ports provide essential pilotage, tugging, cargo handling and storage services. Maritime and clearing agencies are available at both ports. All of the sub regions in the Northern Red Sea region (NRSR) are connected to the sea except Nakfa, Ghindae and Adobha.

The Eritrean marine and coastal environment are characterized by an array of diversified ecosystems: coral reefs, mangroves, sea grass beds, sandy and muddy flats, all important for fisheries and tourism. The intertidal and near-shore zones support a diverse range of marine and terrestrial species and are key areas of ecological and economic importance.

A branch of the Ministry of Marine Resources (MMR) is located in the port city of Massawa to conduct marine related activities, encourage tourism and sustain marine biodiversity. The two main divisions of the branch of the ministry are the marine resource development and the research based regulatory services. Massawa salt works and the fishing port administration are also run by the branch.

Eritrean Red Sea is full of diverse resources which are rarely found in other seas. There are 1,250 species of fish and several types of flora and fauna. According to Eritrea Coastal, Marine and Island Biodiversity (ECMIB) project, the fish in the Red Sea are categorized under pelagic, demersal and aquarium fishes. Of these fishes 55% are small pelagic and 5-6% count for large pelagic such as lobsters, oysters, crabs and sharks. Further, 220 types of corals are found all over the coast. The head of the research unit in the branch of MMR, Mr. Tekle Mengistu, said that considering the diversity and



Mr. Tekle Megistu

quantity of fish in the sea, fishing should not be spontaneous. Fishing activities should be done sustainably so that fish markets are stabilized, he added. The current potential of fish in the Red Sea is well managed by the ministry. 17% endemic fishes are found only in the Eritrean Red Sea. Besides, the MMR is applying regulations on how to exploit the marine resource, allocate it to people efficiently and ensure its sustainability for the future. It works for the safety of the sea and the resources in it.

The ministry develops its manpower with a long and short term fishing courses. The training is conducted to meet highest quality and quantity of sea production as well as improve the welfare of the fishermen. Mr. Zeweldi Haile, head of the branch of Human Resource Development, said that the ministry's mandate is to transfer resources to generations, improve lifestyles of fishermen living in the coasts and islands. The Marine College in Massawa outsources instructors to train members of the ministry.

Eritrea has a variety of fish resources (a) Soft bottom demersal fish and shrimps such as lizard fishes threadfin breams and catfishes, (b) Hard bottom demersal & reef fishes (used for food and ornaments), snappers, emperors, grunts, job fishes, groupers, etc., (c) Small pelagic, such as Sardines and



Mr. Samson Zekarias

Anchovies that are targets for beach-seines and purse-seines, and (d) Large pelagic such as sharks which are hunted for their highly valuable fins rather than their flesh and specialized fisheries like cucumber, snail nail and Trochus.

According to the International Law of the Sea, Eritrea's territorial waters extend to 12 nautical miles (about 22 km) from the mean low water line of the coastline, mainland and the islands. The maximum extension of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) is 200 nautical miles but is reduced to the median line between two countries' territorial waters. The area of the EEZ (including the territorial waters) is estimated to be 120,000 km².

Despite Eritrea's extensive coastline share in the Red Sea, majority of the stakeholder institutions lack the adequate knowledge on the dynamics of the marine ecosystems and the appropriate conservation strategies. Nevertheless, efforts are being made to establish an integrated marine and coastal environment conservation system. The Eritrean coastal area is best known as a highly favorable ecosystem for the development of fisheries. Essential reef areas, extensive surface and numerous shelters of the Dahlak archipelago plateau and aggregates of islands contribute to the prospect of a prosperous fishery. Coral reefs formation along the islands' coastlines are in good condition whereas reefs along the mainland coastline are less developed mainly due to sedimentation from the river runoff.

The continental shelf (down to a depth of about 200m) extends from the coast to a maximum distance of 120 km east of Massawa, narrowing to about 20 km in the north and south of the country. It includes flat coralline islands such as Dahlak Kebir and Nora, some fewer islands of continental origin such as Hawakil



Mr. Zeweldi Haile

and Desse, and the volcanic island of Senaboor. The islands coastline reaches up to 1,950 km and has several biodiversity.

The 360 islands with their respective advantages are hubs for bird and sea turtle breeding. A research found that 181 islands are used by birds for breeding and more than 110 islands are places for sea turtle breeding. Other islands are named after the vegetation around them: sea grass islands, mangrove islands, coral islands, sea weed islands and many more which contribute immensely to the eco-tourism of the country. In islands such as Dese catering service is available for tourists.

Most of the Dahlak archipelago islands are results of quaternary sediments and, in particular, uplifts of fossil coral reef formations. However, Dissei Island near the Buri peninsula is an extension of the Precambrian basement of the mainland, mainly composed of granitoids. Towards south there also exist some islands which are of volcanic origin, in particular the islands around Assab.

The coastal areas are sparsely populated with approximately 5% of population, the majority residing in the two main coastal cities of Massawa and Assab. Five ethnic groups- Afar, Saho, Tigre, Rashaida, and Tigrigna dominate the rural population. Afar is the largest ethnic group on the coast, and they live mainly in places from Ghel'alo to Rahita and the Dahlak islands. The Saho are found predominantly in the south-east of the Northern Red Sea Region in villages such as Foro, Erafale and in the Debub Region. The Tigre are mainly concentrated in Zula, Afta Hirgigo and in the coastal area north of Massawa up to the border with Sudan. The Rashaida are highly mobile and are

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**ERITREA
PROFILE**

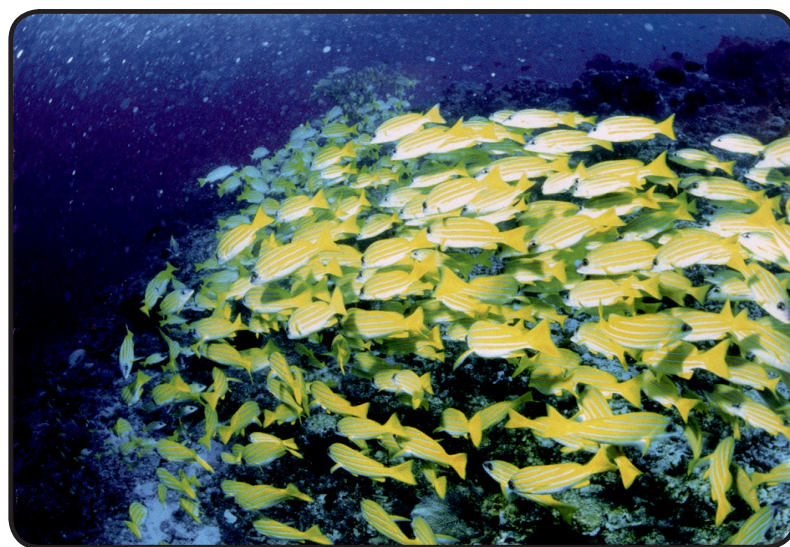
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SpotLight

SUKE Celebrating 40 Years of Friendship and Solidarity

Mela Ghebremedhin

Historical events are often created by the youth daring to strive for change and articulate new vision for the world through organized groups or movements. The Eritrean struggle for independence is an example. Youth in their twenties organized themselves into political movements with a singular vision of an independent Eritrea.

At global scale, many young people around the world joined movements against various oppressions such as the Apartheid regime in South Africa or the Vietnam War. The children of the 1960s guided those movements. Many of those young people of the 60s, actually, stood up for the Eritrean cause. One of them, Dr. Toni Locher, founder and president of the Swiss Support Committee for Eritrea (SUKE), was a revolutionary student whose heart was touched by the Eritrean cause more than forty years ago.

In the 1970s, after a visit to Addis Ababa, Dr. Toni came across Eritrean students and workers. "I remember a taxi driver from Eritrea who told me that he sent more than a third of his income to the front", said Dr. Toni. It was the first time that he met young people of his age who were determined to support the Eritrean liberation movement the best way they could. This determination to fight for their rights fascinated Dr. Toni, a young medical student. The young student, at that time, came from a modest family living in the mountainous village of Southern Switzerland where he cultivated a sense of compassion and willingness to help and be a voice of the oppressed.

During the armed struggle, the situation of Eritrea wasn't well known in the world even less

known to the Swiss. Nonetheless, youth movements who fought for social justice came across the armed struggle of Eritrea and soon, Dr. Toni and his colleagues decided to pay a visit to the liberated areas of Eritrea in July 1977.

It was an eye opener for these young Swiss people. Seeing the struggle, its strength and its well-organized movement for independence made it clear for Dr. Toni that the whole world was wrong to turn its back on Eritreans.

Quickly, upon return to Switzerland, Dr. Toni and his friends managed to finance a small column within a Swiss German newspaper to write and inform the general public on the Eritrean cause. In October of the same year, the Swiss Support Committee for Eritrea was formed at the capital city of Bern. The long journey of solidarity and friendship began officially. The little column in a journal grew and became a newsletter, which continues until this day to inform its more than 5100 regular donors and members.

Activities started swiftly. Diaspora-Eritreans and friends of Eritrea were working hand-in-hand in raising awareness of the public through demonstrations, writing leaflets, selling goods on the cold winter-streets of Zurich to raise funds and sending goods to the EPLF liberated areas. Assistance grew after the Ethiopian bombing of Eritrean villages by napalm. Nobody except SUKE raised voices about it in the Swiss media.

One of the major contributions of SUKE happened in 1980 when it bought two military trucks from Germany and filled them with goods and medical equipment. Dr. Toni and his peers drove from Egypt through the Nubian Desert to Port Sudan where the trucks

were handed over to the Eritrean Relief Association (ERA), which moved the consignment to the EPLF liberated zones. In fact, SUKE was a support group that worked closely with ERA.

SUKE continued its support in the medical field, at the Orrota hospital, a 25km-long underground hospital. As a gynaecologist/obstetrician, Dr. Toni was in awe to see that Dr. Abrehet was the only gynaecologist in the field and was working tirelessly with the surgeon, Dr. Michael. "We help to put a Solar system for the blood bank; it was a very sophisticated infrastructure at that time", the founder of SUKE said.

SUKE continued sending relief goods but also development goods such as sewing machines and another trip was made to bring ambulances on the same route from Egypt. When the drought hit in 1984, SUKE raised funds for ERA's food distribution.

SUKE was involved with the diaspora, going every year to Bologna and "we used to shake hands and saying see you next year in Asmara, and finally it became reality", Dr. Toni said. The focus of the solidarity group switched from a humanitarian support towards a development one focusing mainly on rural areas and every year Dr. Toni and members of SUKE come and visit the projects. Accordingly, at independence, SUKE didn't pack its belongings back to Switzerland, as many other organizations tend to do. In fact, since independence SUKE has reinforced its willingness to support the newly independent nation the best way it can thanks to the support of its donors and engaged volunteers.

When the war broke out again with Ethiopia in 1998, the Ethiopians targeted the SUKE supported Health Center in Shambuko. SUKE still stood up and supported Eritreans during the hardship of the border war through assistance and distribution of relief goods in Afabet and by informing the outside world about the violation of Eritrean sovereignty.

SUKE, and its democratic structure, continues to be a recognized entity registered in Switzerland where donations and volunteers driven by passion and willingness to help continue to give life to this unique group. As a matter of fact, Dr. Toni



Dr. Toni Locher standing with one of the women beneficiaries of the Donkey distribution project in Tokombia.

and his peers insist that SUKE is a solidarity group and not a western NGO.

SUKE, indeed, as a solidarity group has dialogue and engages with the Eritrean authorities, civil society groups as well as local communities to ensure that the support provided responds to the needs of the country. "We follow projects the Eritrean Government thinks are needed, it's a joint partnership that we have", said Dr. Toni.

Driven by passion, SUKE multiplies its projects throughout the country. Several water irrigation projects, construction and monitoring of schools such as the Abraha Bahta School for the Blind in Asmara or the schools of hearing impaired in Asmara and Keren have been accomplished. One of the greatest projects was the construction of the Semomo Dam on the outskirts of the town of Adi Quala in addition to the Areza Dam.

For instance, in Berak, located in the highlands, SUKE supported the integrated village development including water supply, electricity and building schools and kindergartens by working together with the village development committee and the local Government of Berak.

Similar projects were supported in Tokombia in partnership with the National Union of Eritrean Women (NUEW) in the distribution of donkeys to vulnerable women, micro-credit project and the building of mogogo adhanet, an economical and smokless cooking stove. "We always try to be in direct contact with the people because our aim is to create a sense of solidarity and friendship" added the president of SUKE who very often visits the different projects along with his colleagues. "They get the means to support their own life

which is a principle of self-reliance that SUKE strives for", said Ester, project manager of SUKE.

Also, the dam project in Begu in the Anseba region has changed the lives of the inhabitants. It is important to have different types of projects in different areas. That's when you start to really know the country", Dr. Toni said.

Engagement indeed is mainly done by actively working with civil society groups such as the National Confederation of Eritrean Workers in the distribution of bicycles. "The bicycle project is an interesting one as it linked the people of Switzerland and Eritrea. All bikes that are not used any longer by Swiss people are collected and repaired by disabled people living in Switzerland and then they are sent to Eritrea and given to the Association of the Disabled War Veterans and the National Confederation of Eritrean Workers (NCEW)" said Mrs. Isabella Locher, who is in charge of communications of SUKE.

A great cooperation also exists with the Association of HIV/Aids, locally known as Bidho, supporting income-generating activities in rural areas such as bee farming as well as providing support in the production of eye lenses in Asmara.

These examples of SUKE - and of the ingenuity of Eritreans in the development of their country-supported projects need to be told to the Swiss audience and fight back against the media rhetoric on Eritrea. The Newsletter is part of the process of raising awareness on Eritrea but also by showing SUKE's projects and the country in general to Swiss journalists and more recently the visit of parliamentarians to Eritrea.

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Posing in front of one of SUKE donated ambulance in Quatit with Dr. Toni Locher in the early 1990s.



Respecting Yourself

Dr. Fikrejesus Amahazion

“Let’s stop in here,” Tedros suggested to his young son, Dawit, pointing to a small café. “I’m hungry.”

“Yeah, I could eat,” agreed Dawit. “Plus, it will help us pass some time while we have to wait for this darn bus” he added.

It was early evening on a Sunday in the middle of August. Tedros and Dawit were returning home from a long day of work at the family’s small electronics repair shop. Having travelled by foot a long distance in the unforgiving heat, with the sun beaming overhead, they now eagerly looked forward to a cold drink, small snack, and some cool confines. “We’ll sit over here,” Tedros stated, pointing to an unoccupied table located near the entrance and facing the large Samsung television stationed above.

The small, neat café was empty, except for a group of what appeared to be tourists congregated at a table near the back. Dawit settled down, swatting away some flies. Tedros slowly ambled to the washroom to rinse his hands and wash the sweat from his face. “Order whatever you want, and I’ll have a Fanta and panino,” he instructed Dawit.

Dawit nodded while his eyes and attention were glued to the football highlights running on the television screen. As Tedros returned to join his son, his stomach growled, announcing his deep state of hunger. He hadn’t eaten anything since the early morning, which now seemed a distant memory. Although it was Sunday, a day traditionally reserved for prayer, relaxation, and visits to family, friends, weddings or baptisms, a house full of kids and countless obligations meant Tedros simply had to work. The day was hectic. There had been numerous visitors to the shop and little opportunity to take a break. Sighing deeply as he sat down, he asked Dawit, “Did you order, yet?”

“No,” Dawit responded. “No one came yet.”

Slightly surprised, Tedros turned

his head, trying to flag down an employee. Oddly, none seemed to be around. Furrowing his brow, he turned back to Dawit, whose eyes were still transfixed upon the television, reassuring his son, but also himself, “They’re probably just busy in the back. They’ll be out any minute now.”

After nearly ten more minutes, and still yet to have placed an order, Tedros began to get impatient. He clapped his hands loudly. No success. Shaking his head in frustration, he turned around again to seek out an employee. “What the heck do you have to do to get some help around here,” he muttered to himself quietly in disgust.

Scanning the back of the café, gaze shifting from side to side, his focus zeroed in on the table of tourists. Their large backpacks, adorned with colorful patches and pins, were sprawled out on the empty chairs surrounding their table, and everyone had a large bottle of beer in their hands. They were speaking loudly in Italian and the conversation was accompanied by manic gestures, sporadic bouts of hysterical laughter, and regular pauses for selfie photos. Tedros watched them intently, slightly envious. “Man, I could so use a cold drink right now,” he thought to himself.

His attention then moved to the end of their table, where he noticed a large stack of dishes; the scraps of food, leftover condiments, half-eaten vegetables, and chicken drumstick bones served as evidence of a recent feast. “Dad, where’s the waiter?” Dawit asked, tapping his father’s leg in annoyance, no longer concerned with the television.

Just as Tedros was about to turn around to respond to his son, a short, balding man made his way out of the back and took a seat among the tourists, passing out several more bottles as he did so. While the others at the table were clearly foreigner tourists, he was a local.

“Does he work here? Maybe this is some sort of self-serve spot?” Tedros thought to himself, slightly puzzled.

“Dad, when can we order?

I’m hungry,” Dawit persisted, now grabbing and shaking his father’s arm, breaking his train of thought.

“Um...soon,” Tedros responded, continuing to focus on the table at the back.

To him, it was clear the “local” man was not an employee. He was pounding back the drinks and looked to be a part of the group. As Tedros arose from his seat, finally having decided to leave, he briefly made eye contact with the local man. Placing his bottle on the table, the man got up, pushing his chair back, opened the door to the kitchen, and loudly called out, “Hanna, get out here. We have some customers.”

Tedros was taken aback. Changing course from the front exit and toward the back of the café, he approached the man, questioning him sternly, “You work here?”

“Work here? I am the owner,” responded the man with a mix of pride of bewilderment, arms folded and resting upon his protruding belly.

“Really? And you didn’t see me and my son waiting there patiently?” Tedros replied. “You didn’t even offer us a glass of water. Even a simple menu,” he continued, his irritation increasingly palpable.

“Sorry,” the man responded, almost sneering. “I was busy helping other customers...but now Hanna here will help you.”

He turned back to sit with the tourists who, engaged in joking and drinking, had been largely oblivious to the discussion.

“Ah, I see,” Tedros stated in disgust. “Shame on you,” he added, pointing at the man and with his voice rising. “You see, your problem is that you think you are someone you are not. You think you’re laughing with the group here...one of the boys. No. They are laughing at you. People respect those who respect themselves.”

With that, Tedros grabbed Dawit’s hand and led him out of

the café.

So, what exactly happened at the café? The same thing that occurs every day in countries across the Global South.

Such as when Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, Nigeria’s first prime minister, closed his speech at Nigeria’s independence ceremony with the words, “God Save Our Queen”. It’s the same thing as why phrases like, “tsaeda getzu, tsaeda libu,” and “kei kem ade Mariam,” remain so prevalent in our own society. It is why, no matter where you go, a white lie is excusable, and a black lie is all that is wicked. It is what Lula, former leader of Brazil, meant in describing, “Many times here in South America, we had governments that were subservient. Many times, it was also the same with the elite. Everything American was good, everything European was good, everything Japanese was good. Everything that was ours was worthless.”

Colonialism and imperialism did not function merely through

suppression and violence, but through the export and institutionalization of external or foreign ways of life, organizational structures, values, interpersonal relations, language, and cultural products. Although seemingly long gone, confined to history, colonialism and imperialism remain potent and continue to have an impact.

As Fanon (1973) has evocatively written, the cultural encounter with the colonized created a long-lasting Caliban complex, an internalized sense of inferiority that lingered long after the colonialists had returned home. In the same way that the café owner completely neglected his local customers, brushing them off and assigning them a “lowly” local employee, while he attended to the tourists, “The colonized is elevated above his jungle status in proportion to his adoption of the mother country’s cultural standards. He becomes whiter as he renounces his blackness, his jungle” (Fanon 2008: 9).

However, respect comes to those who respect others. And, of course, to those who respect themselves.



FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Fruit and vegetable farmers in Forto-Sawa sub-zone conducted a meeting concerning environmental conservation in line with their farming activities and boost production.

The Administrator of the sub-zone, Mr. Abubakar Mahmud, commended the farmers for their contribution in supplying the markets with their produce and called on them to ensure animal fodder and plant trees to prevent soil erosion.

Stating that 1,750 hectares of land is being cultivated in the sub-zone, the Head of economic development, Mr. Okbay Gebreamlak, said that fruit and vegetable produce has met the local demand and emphasized the need for a better outcome.

The fruit and vegetable farmers on their part voiced readiness to strengthen their efforts and called on concerned institutions to provide them professional assistance in their endeavors to alleviate underground water scarcity in the sub-zone.

LETTER to the EDITOR

New Era of China's Development: Broader Prospects for China-Eritrea Friendly Relations

From October 18th to 24th, the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China was successfully convened in Beijing. The Congress is of great significance as it was held during the decisive stage in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and at a critical moment as socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era. The congress reviewed the work of the Party over the past five years, outlined new plans for China's future development, revised the constitution of the CPC, and elected new central leaders of the Party, with Mr. Xi Jinping being re-elected as the General Secretary.

President Isaias forwarded two congratulatory letters to General Secretary Xi Jinping, conveying His Excellency's congratulations for the Congress and General Secretary Xi's re-election respectively. Well informed through media broadcasts such as TV coverage, the Chinese people have deeply perceived the friendship of President Isaias, People's Front for Democracy and Justice, the Eritrean government as well as its people.

General Secretary Xi pointed out in his report that during the past five years, under the leadership of the CPC, China has overcome disadvantageous external factors such as sluggish global economic recovery, frequent outbreaks of regional conflicts and disturbances as well as intensifying global issues, and has appropriately dealt with profound changes as China has entered a new normal in economic development. China has made great historic achievements in economic construction, deepening reform, democracy and law-based governance, ideological and cultural construction, ecological civilization and so on.

Over the past five years, the Chinese economy has steadily remained No.2 in the world, with its contribution rate to the world economic growth exceeding 30%. China took on a new look day by day and its comprehensive national strength has increased substantially. People's lives have been constantly improving and decisive progress has been made in poverty alleviation, with over 60 million poverty stricken people being lifted out of poverty in a steady manner. Moreover, the ecological environment has also been greatly improved.

General Secretary Xi also pointed

out that we would build China into a great modern socialist country that is prosperous, democratic, civilized, harmonious and beautiful by the middle of the 21st century. The Xi Jinping Thought of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics in the New Era produced in the congress has become the guiding ideology of the CPC and will direct China to realize all the construction and development goals smoothly and make the Chinese dream of great rejuvenation of the Chinese people come true.

The Chinese people's dream is closely inter-connected with the dreams of different peoples from all the countries around the world. As the path, theories, system and culture of socialism with Chinese characteristics keep on evolving, the approaches to modernization for developing countries such as African nations have been expanded. Those countries and peoples that hope to speed up the pace of development while preserving their own independence are provided with utterly new options. China has contributed its wisdom and solutions to the problems of the mankind.

China will unswervingly stick to the path of peaceful development and advocate for an open strategy of mutually beneficial and win-win outcomes. It will seek for an open, innovative, inclusive and reciprocal development prospects while promoting harmonious and all-embracing civilization exchanges. China will always serve as a promoter of the world peace, a contributor to global development as well as a vindicator of the international order.

The overall objective of major-country diplomacy with Chinese features in the new era is to advocate for present the world with a new modality of international relations featuring mutual respect, fairness and justice, cooperation and win-win solutions, and to promote the building of a shared future of common destiny for mankind. It aims to foster a world that enjoys enduring peace, universal security, common prosperity, openness and inclusiveness, cleanness and beauty. In growing its relations with Africa, China will continue to stick to the principles of sincerity, real results, affinity and good faith while following the right approach to justice and interests, further strengthen solidarity and cooperation with the developing countries, increase assistance to developing countries, stand shoulder



Ambassador Yang Zigang

to shoulder with them in overcoming global challenges and ultimately propel common development.

China and Eritrea, the CPC and the PFDJ, and the peoples of our two countries enjoy solid traditional friendship. The two sides embrace a high level of mutual political trust, constantly expanded economic and trade cooperation and increased people-to-people and cultural exchanges. All the achievements have brought tangible benefits for the two peoples. China's development has entered a new era, and this will definitely usher in new opportunities for enhancing China-Eritrea friendly cooperation with broader prospects.

In recent years, China-Eritrea exchanges and cooperation in extensive areas such as infrastructure, agriculture, education, energy and mining, medical care and capacity building have constantly achieved substantial progress. However, they have not reached a certain level to fulfill people's expectations. We have to work harder to ensure that our friendly cooperation will develop on more platforms and at a higher level.

Chinese President Xi Jinping announced the China-Africa 'Ten Cooperation Plans' during the FoCAC Johannesburg Summit Meeting held in 2015, which aims to assist African countries to realize industrialization and agricultural modernization. The plans cover vast areas of China-Africa cooperation such as infrastructure, trade and investment and poverty alleviation. The "Belt and Road Initiative" proposed by President Xi in 2013 has become the largest and most open cooperation platform in the world through construction after several years' construction. We are glad to see that more African partners have participated into this initiative. Eritrea is most welcome to take an active part in it to explore opportunities of cooperation and development since it enjoys such strategic and geographical advantages as being

along the 'Maritime Silk Road'. There are vast opportunities and limitless prospects for China-Eritrea pragmatic cooperation under the two frameworks of FoCAC and 'Belt and Road'.

As socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new

era, I have seen new development prospects for China-Eritrea friendly cooperation. We are ready to march on hand in hand with our Eritrean friends, to embrace a brighter future of our two countries.

(Mr. Yang Zigang, Chinese Ambassador to Eritrea)

SUKE Celebrating . . .

Continued from page 3

Ms. Silvia Voser, a photographer and member of SUKE, just launched her photo book project depicting portraits of ordinary people of Eritrea.

"Photography is like a language for me; it is my way of telling a story to the Swiss people. A photograph can tell a story. I take photos to tell stories of Eritrea that I want to bring back to the Swiss people".

Besides its active engagement with local communities and associations, SUKE is working closely with sister solidarity groups such as the Eritrean Relief Association of Germany "to create synergy in areas of common support to the country by ensuring that all projects are community-based", added Mr. Martin Zimmerman, President of the Eritrean Relief Association of Germany, which is known as EHD.

A more recent project looks at the cultural exchange between Switzerland and Eritrea through the support of music schools in Asmara. The group, Sound of Oasis, with the support of SUKE, is teaching youngsters music theory and how to play different instruments as well as providing musical instruments such as pianos and violins. Sound of Oasis has already shown success and is appreciated by the local Eritrean audience when performing several times at the opera house, Cinema Asmara and other piano bars in the city.

At the end of this year, to mark the 40th anniversary of SUKE, a grape-farming project with the NARI in Halhale will be launched. It will be an occasion to share the longstanding tradition of grape planting of Switzerland with Eritrea while creating opportunities for employment and professional development in this sector.

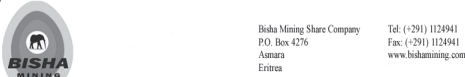
To promote vocational training for the youth, the Massawa Vocational Training Center in collaboration with NCEW, will be launched by the end of November. This center, which was jointly financed by SUKE and NCEW, aims at giving skills for the youth living in the Port City and its surrounding to increase their chances in finding jobs.

Since 1977, SUKE has shown determination and compassion to the Eritrean cause. SUKE listens to and engages with local communities and responds to their needs by providing assistance for sustainable development for the people.

As any voluntary association, SUKE is facing challenges financially as well as in informing the Swiss public on the Eritrean reality and responding to numerous media trying to diminish the image of SUKE among the Swiss general public.

Undeterred by the challenges, the student group continues to expand its work and engage young people volunteering in Switzerland. The solidarity group carries on its work with the vision of creating a prosperous Eritrea in which SUKE, one day, won't be needed any longer as a development assistant but in terms of cultural exchange between the peoples of Eritrea and Switzerland.

An important milestone has been reached in 40 years and SUKE continues to work tirelessly with the motto of solidarity and friendship. The efforts are paying off as the Swiss Federal Council, through its Switzerland Cooperation Development Office, has decided to renew its support and cooperation with Eritrea after having withdrawn from the country more than ten years ago and SUKE will surely have an important part to play.



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Bisha Mining Share Company is inviting applicants for the following 2 positions for Bisha site project;

- 1) Chief Exploration Geologist
Number required: (01)
Definite Period: 1 Year

Major Duties and Responsibilities
Primary Purpose

Generate, Plan, Initiate, and oversee day-to-day execution of Exploration Geology and Geophysics programs as part of business and corporate strategy and provide front-line technical support and guidance of field activities -- ongoing interpretation and analysis of geoscience data including geological, geochemical, and geophysical.

Job Description

- Program Supervision - Technical
 - Design, Initiate, and provide front-line guidance of Exploration Geology Programs
 - Directly supervise day to day activities of Exploration Geologists, Geophysics and Contractors
 - Day to Day monitoring of activities and results; adjust programs based on interpretation of results to provide best outcome for the project, done in real time 24/7
 - Real time communication of results to Superintendent
 - Report to Management on technical results on a weekly and monthly basis.
 - Planning the longer term aspects of the programs, monitor, schedule, and recommend changes
- Program Supervision - Administrative
 - Manage data collection and database inputs as per company procedures □ ensure compliance of by staff and contractors.
 - Maintain quality assurance and quality control of Geology & Geophysics field work, data collection and interpretation
 - Liason and co-ordinate required logistics with Chief Exploration Services
 - Provide timely and effective reporting of activities
- Superintendent Services
 - Help to Identify and interpret related legislation and its impact on exploration strategy.
 - As Required report on a monthly basis on the status of the Mining and Exploration licenses.
 - Assist with and Provide annual technical reports to Government on Mining and and Exploration Licenses.
 - As needed - Prepare applications for new and existing Exploration licenses.
 - As required Prepare applications and technical reports for new and existing Exploration licenses.
 - Review and approve policies, procedures (SOP's), and processes for Geology Group to ensure alignment with legislation and/or Company policy.
- Health and Safety
 - Ensure that Geology team adhere to PPE requirements.
 - Knowledge of Health and Safety standards as well as policies, procedures and processes
 - Attend and participate in all Health and Safety meetings/toolbox talks
- Budget and Finance
 - Assist with monthly cost reporting for Geology.
 - Cost Control
 - Report on risks and potential risks
- Human Resources

- Ensure training, guidance and orientation is provided for new employees
- Supervise employees to ensure that Exploration standard is upheld
- Assist, guide and counsel employees to ensure that the operational requirement is met
- Ensure that all employees Performance Appraisals are discussed with the individual and provide ratings and ensure sign-off as per the procedure
- Other
 - Perform Exploration related duties as assigned by superintendent or manager

Qualifications:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">BSc Degree in GeologyProfession Geoscientist designation highly desirable

Knowledge and Experience:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">10 – 15 Years relevant experience in Exploration environment.5 Years VMS Deposit experience10 Years experience in front-line application of Exploration methods (Geological, Lithogeochemistry, Geophysical)5 Years experience in Exploration Supervisory roleGreenfields, brownfields, and within Mine exploration experience within a VMS (volcanogenic massive sulphide) contextCareer history of effective Exploration team co-ordination in a large company processes and procedures5+ years experience in Ni exploration would be very advantageous

Technical Skills	Behavioural Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Comprehensive knowledge of VMS geological enviromentsFront-line Project Supervision, Logistics, and guidanceAdvanced Technical Knowledge and SkillsAnalytical Data skill - Technical KnowledgeSolid Communication and Presentation skillsCompetent Technical Report writing skillKnowledge of Health and Safety procureduresKnowledge of policies, procedures and processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Communication skills (English)Interpersonal Relations skillsMentoring and CoachingHonestyIntegrityTake Ownership of projectsTake InitiativesSeek Continual improvementsTeam PlayerDeliver Results

- 2) Senior Exploration Geologist
Number required: (01)
Definite Period: 1 Year

Major Duties and Responsibilities
Primary Purpose

- Supervisory position to lead a team of front-line Exploration Geologists and Technicians. Assist and implement exploration projects under guidance of exploration department strategy. Supervise staff, contractors □ ensure compliance with exploration procedures for safety, environment, field logistics etc. Promote training and development; help manage project; provide effective reporting and communication.

Job Description

- Technical
 - Implement exploration projects as defined by Exploration Superintendent.
 - Directly supervises day-to-day activities of on-going field activities including contractors.
 - Daily hands-on monitoring of activities and results – adjust programs on-the-fly as required based on interpretation of results to provide best value-added to the project.
 - Timely communication of on-going results to the superintendent.
 - Assist planning longer term aspects of the project – monitor schedule, recommend changes when required.
 - Ensure compliance with QAQC procedures.
- Supervision
 - Manage program field logistics, data collection and database inputs as per company procedures – ensure compliance of by staff and contractors.
 - Maintain quality assurance and quality control of field work, data collection and interpretation.
 - Liaison and co-ordinate required logistics with contractors.
 - Provide timely and effective reporting of activities.



Continued from page 6

- Administration
 - Manage and promote an effective staff training and development program.
 - Assist in maintaining and monitoring cost-controls for company. Keep within budget, and schedule.
 - Complete written reports of activities and results □ daily summary and assist with weekly update and month end reports.
- Health and Safety
 - Ensure that Exploration team adhere to PPE requirements.
 - Knowledge of Health and Safety standards as well as policies, procedures and processes.
 - Attend and participate in all Health and Safety meetings/toolbox talks.
- Human Resources Management
 - Ensure training, guidance and orientation is provided for new employees.
 - Supervise employees to ensure that Exploration standard is upheld.
 - Assist, guide and counsel employees to ensure that the operational requirement is met.
 - Ensure that all employees Performance Appraisals are discussed with the individual and provide ratings and ensure sign-off as per the procedure.
- Other
 - Perform Exploration related duties as assigned by Chief Exploration Geologist or Manager.

KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

Qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none">BSc GeologyProfessional Registration advantageous	
Knowledge and Experience: <ul style="list-style-type: none">8 Years experience in Exploration environment3 Years experience in Volcanogenic Massive Sulphide (VMS) exploration3 Years supervisory experienceExperience required with GIS and Geology software package(s)	
Technical Skills	
Behavioural Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none">Interpreting geological and geophysical dataExploration target generationKnowledge of Volcanogenic Massive Sulphide terrainsTrack record in exploration/target generationGIS software and geological addons3D Geological software advantageousMS Office – IntermediateKnowledge of Exploration policies, procedures and processesKnowledge of Health and Safety proceduresReport writingGeological mapping skillsKnowledge of Drill hole loggingCommunication (English)TeamworkInterpersonal relations skillDeadline drivenCultural Diversity AwarenessSupervisory skillConflict handling	

- General Information and other requirements for the above 3 positions:
- Place of Work: Bisha.
 - Salary: As per Company salary scale.
- Additional requirement 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 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 Non-Eritrean applicants: Please send a copy of your application to Aliens Employment Permit Affairs, P. O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea.

SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE (SPN)

State of Eritrea PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT OF MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SUPPORT TO SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FOR EMPLOYABILITY AND ENTERPRENEURSHIP [SSDEE] PROJECT INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)	
Date: Nov 01, 2017 Grant No.: Loan No.: IFB No.: SSDEE/ADF/G/ ICB/001/2017	
Procurement of Reference Book for TVET	
1.	This Specific Procurement Notice follows the General Procurement Notice for this project which appeared in Development Business Issue on June 12, 2015, and on the African Development Bank’s Internet Website (www.afdb.org).
2.	The Government of The State of Eritrea (GoSE) has received a financing from the African Development Bank in various currencies towards the cost of SUPPORT TO SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FOR EMPLOYABILITY AND ENTERPRENEURSHIP [SSDEE] PROJECT . It is intended that part of the proceeds of this financing will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for the Procurement of Reference Book for TVET .
3.	The Project Management Unit of the Ministry of Education (PMU–MoE) now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the supply of Reference Book for TVET .
4.	Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the office of PMU–MoE, Hday Street No.: 748-1, Dembe Sembel, Block “A”, First Floor, P. O. Box: 1099, Asmara, Eritrea, Tele: +291-1-151614, Fax: +291-1-152181, Email: mgilagaber@gmail.com , or michaelsheghe@gmail.com
5.	A Complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of written application to the above and upon payment of non-refundable fee of US\$ 50 (Fifty US dollars only) or Eritrean Nakfa (ERN) 750 (seven hundred fifty Nakfa), or in any other freely convertible currency.
6.	The provisions in the Instructions to Bidders and in the General Conditions of Contract are the provisions of the African Development Bank Standard Bidding Document: Procurement of Goods.
7.	Bids must be delivered to the above office on or before 9:30 hours local time (GMT +3) on December 01, 2017 and must be accompanied by a security of: USD 3,000.00 (Three thousand only) or ERN 45,000.00 (Forty five thousand only); or any other convertible equivalent currency.
8.	Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders’ representatives who choose to attend at 9:30 hours local time (GMT +3) on December 01, 2017 , at the offices of PMU–MoE, Hday Street No.: 748-1, Dembe Sembel, Block “A”, First Floor, Asmara, Eritrea.



Dear Customers

We are pleased to inform you that Turkish Airlines Winter Schedule (01NOV-25-MAR/2018) will still remain DIRECT from ISTANBUL-ASMARA-ISTANBUL. There is slight arrival and departure time change as follows:

TK576 will arrive in Asmara at 00:50 local time

TK577 will depart at 01:50am

As usual, days of operation remain unchanged.

Check in time at Asmara International Airport will start on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 10:30pm.

All passengers with connection flights to Europe destinations are kindly requested to report to our sales and reservation office located at Saba Building or contact your Travel Agency.

For more information, please call our office with telephone No. 184949/184952.

Have a Pleasant Journey!!



Italian Tourist Of Two Generations Speak Of Eritrea...

Billion Temesghen

On Tuesday's issue we published the first part of the conversation we had with an Italian group of tourists. I talked to them last week just before they packed to go back to Italy. The group of Italian tourists were composed of two mini groups. The first comprised seven grown-up men and women while the second sub group were young students supervised by their professor!!! Here follows the impression of the adults.

FABIO MAFATTI, Etno-Antropologiche Research Center

Hello, I am Fabio Mafatti. By profession I am a social anthropologist. I am interested in the theme of sustainable development. I came to know Eritrea through a friend Pietro Marri.

My point of view is informed by a researcher's point of view. My aim was to somehow create discussion podiums for the objectives of our projects, mainly dealing with sustainable development, which is also Eritrea's core ideology for its national development. I know little about Africa. My previous experiences mainly dealt with South America. So it was definitely a different experience. What impressed me most about this country is the extreme care the country invests in infrastructure. Moreover, the hygiene level is exceedingly impressive. I was surprised because coming from an abundant involvement in Latin America where trash is left in the streets my experience in Asmara is positive. I know there is a lot to learn about Eritrea and so ten days were quite brief for me. I admire the several opportunities I was granted for open dialogues.

ALESSANDRO GHIOZOLI, Ass. Partecipazione e Sviluppo

Glad to be here. I am Alessandro Ghionzoli, President of the Ass. Partecipazione e Sviluppo in Lucca. I have known Eritrea since a very long time ago. Starting from my early days as a University student. It was time of the armed struggle. I discovered it recently through engagements we have been taking part of.

When Marcello Marchi came to us looking for contribution to carry on the project Associazione Lucca-Massawa Un Lungo Ponte we decided to actively participate and create a podium whereby students acquire firsthand knowledge about Eritrea and share their experience with their friends and family back in Italy. Unfortunately, the information we get in Europe about Eritrea are distorted; very far from what we have just experienced. I needed to see if all of the violence related to

Eritrea was real and so here I am. I met many hard working youth. A loving people that is exceedingly welcoming and an atmosphere that is opposite to what we normally hear of. We are also collaborating with the Eritrea club Bologna. I visited and talked to the president of the Eritrean Workers Union. What we are doing is taking small steps, respecting the reality in Eritrea, opting to put our proficiencies accessible if needed.

MARIA ANNUNZIATE BIZZARRI, Vice President Coop. Solidarieta' e Sviluppo

I got to know Eritrea through asylum seekers from sub Saharan countries who reached Tuscany. I had to come and for myself see the country whose name I constantly hear mentioned in bad connotations.

We have visited Asmara, Massawa and other places. We have talked to different people of all social levels and really enjoyed our trip. What impressed me most of Eritrea is the social level and the Eritrean women. I noticed that the condition of women here is more advanced than that of Italy. I was stunned. They seem to be happier and free. Personally speaking, I sometimes don't feel at ease to be alone in the streets of big Italian cities. To the contrary, here it is another world; I see young girls and women of all ages calmly going around. As if they don't even consider the smallest possibility of incidents of violence. They are beautiful, confident and serene. I return home with new perspectives and ideas inspired by Eritrean women. All ugly is talked about Eritrea, the land of violence they say, but I return home wanting to come back.

PIETRO MARRI, Vice President Ass. Luca-Massawa

I have heard about Eritrea since the armed struggle for independence. Despite the fact, of course, that back then we had little information about the struggle from media outlets. So what I know, I knew from people. Now that I have retired, I finally have time to establish with the willingness of friends an association called *Associazione Lucca-Massawa Un Lungo Ponte*. What we aim for is a cultural exchange by coming to

Eritrea every 6 months. I can totally assure you that I feel 'Eritrea sick' away from Eritrea.

It is my 5th time in Eritrea. Particularly, though, I am happy because this year a cooperative with the Eritrean government was launched. I conducted a seminar in the College of Marine Science in Massawa and not long ago I received an answer confirming the building of a new solar water distillation plant. It is an extremely simple and easy project to realize.

SILVAN GIAMBASTINI, Lawyer

My husband and I have been, for the last four years, involved with an Asmarino friend, Marcello Marchi, and his explosive passion for Eritrea. We have been in an adventure that turned out to be probably the most interesting of my life. Eritrea was indeed, for me, a new world



to discover. Through the Eritrean people and the life style in Asmara I had the ability to see how far the Italian culture moved all the way to Africa! And luckily, around this time, being part of a touristic group mainly composed of young people gave me a chance to feel the youth's energy and be part of their enthusiasm. We became, just like them, young and passionate adventurers. Therefore, I want to applaud their initiative. This experience will certainly reside in our hearts and I hope to translate it to factual initiatives because we have comprehended that the link (Eritrea-Italia) is not a link of the past and the colonial era, but a link that endured through time and is still existing.

SERGIO VAMIGLIO, ASL

I also followed my friend Marcello Marchi involved me in an extraordinary adventure. I call it adventure because I have visited many countries in Asia and Africa but none has ever fascinated me like this one. I can say that the presence of youngsters heightened our sensations. Getting to know people of this land has been an honor for the reason that they are very welcoming and extra friendly to Italians with a touch of brotherhood, at least so I felt. It was an emotional journey, especially meeting Eritrean students. The commemoration we did for Eritrean and Italian martyrs was unquestionably a sign of solidarity.

Eritrea's Marine Resource . . .

Continued from page 3

found scattered in different parts of the coast.

To support their livelihood most coastal populations depend on artisanal fishing and livestock production. These communities are usually involved in a variety of fishing practices such as shell fish collection, commercial fishing and the growing sea cucumber collection. Meanwhile, annually around 806.30 ton of fish (67.19 monthly) are collected by fishermen. Fish is commonly done in high levels of the sea and fishermen are constantly encouraged to return endangered fish species to the sea if they find them accidentally. Approximately around 613 boats are used in marine activities. Fishes such as Spanish mackerel, Grouper, Emperor, Barracuda, and Red Snapper are collected by fishermen. According to Mr. Samson Zekarias, head of zoba branch in the MMR, a boat or vessel is allowed to fish only if it has been issued a license (permit) of fishing in the Eritrean Red Sea,

delivered by the licensing unit of the MMR. The licensing fee depends on the size or on the engine power of the vessel. To prevent illegal fishing the MMR does monitoring, control and surveillance. Illegal fishing is practiced especially by foreign artisanal vessels and trawlers from neighboring countries in areas where the frequency of patrolling is reduced.

Unlike those in the north, southern populations are the most actively

engaged in fishing. Half of the total fishing communities (about 30,000 people) are estimated to be engaged in fishing and processing dried marine products (snail nail, shark fin, dried mullets, sea cucumbers) for export. For these people fishing is an inherited economic activity that attaches them closely to the sea. Fishermen use traditional boats known as Hourri and Canoes or Sambuk (cover 80% of the fleet) and very primitive fishing gear such as hand line and gill nets.



Research Crew inside the Red Sea