



## MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS



President Isaias Afwerki sent message of congratulations to President Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan, on the occasion of the celebrations of

Independence Day.

In his letter, President Isaias expressed his confidence that the traditionally close and solid relations between the two countries will continue to grow and strengthen in the years ahead.

President Isaias also wished good health to President Salva Kiir Mayardit as well as success, peace and prosperity for the people of the Republic of South Sudan.

Republic of South Sudan declared its independence on 9 July 2011.

## WORKSHOP ON MEDIA OUTLETS AND GENDER EQUALITY

The National Union of Eritrean Women organized a workshop focusing on media outlets and gender equality on July 10. The workshop was attended by representatives from various ministries and associations.

Ms. Fatma Abdurahman, Head of Research and Information at the union, stated that the objective of the workshop was to create a forum for discussing and exchanging experiences on the role of media outlets in promoting gender equality.

Research papers were presented at the workshop, including "Proper Use of Media Outlets," "Role of Art in Society," and "Role of Journalists in Nurturing a Competent Society."

## VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR WORKERS IN MASSAWA

The Massawa Workers' Training Center has provided training to 389 workers. The comprehensive training program included both theoretical and practical training in computer technology, tourism, catering, computer networking, electronics, metal and woodworks, and electricity.

At the concluding event held on July 9, Eng. Aklilu Asmerom, Deputy Director of the Training Center, stated that the center has been offering regular vocational training since 2023. He highlighted that the participation of women this year increased by over 56%.

Mr. Woldeyesus Elisa, Director General of Social Welfare at the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, emphasized the Ministry's strong efforts to collaborate with various training centers to enhance the capacity of workers.

A representative of the trainees commended the training opportunity provided and expressed their commitment to contributing to the implementation of development programs.

Ms. Asmeret Abraha, Governor of the Northern Red Sea Region, underscored the significance of the training and expressed her readiness to support the National Confederation of Eritrean Workers in its endeavors.



## BINIAM WINS HIS HAT-TRICK ON THE 12<sup>TH</sup> STAGE OF THE TOUR DE FRANCE

Eritrean professional cyclist Biniam Ghirmay, a member of Intermarché-Wanty, made history on July 11 with a hat-trick stage win on the 12th stage of the Tour de France.

Biniam Ghirmay's victory was sealed with a breathtaking sprint at the finish line of the 203.6 km long race. He completed the race

in 4 hours, 17 minutes, and 15 seconds, outpacing his competitors and solidifying his status as one of the sport's greatest athletes.

Biniam Ghirmay has become the first cyclist to win three podiums on the 3rd, 8th, and 12th stages of this year's 111th Tour de France tournament.

Meanwhile, in yesterday's messy

13th tour stage, thankfully, Biniam Ghirmay avoided the crash and took 4th place safely in the sprint.

Biniam Ghirmay has amassed a cumulative 346 points, retaining the green jersey for the point classification, followed by Jasper Philipsen and Anthony Turgis, who have 271 and 141 points, respectively.

## ASSESSMENT MEETING ON STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUSING ON WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT

The National Union of Eritrean Women branch in the Southern Region organized an assessment meeting on the activities conducted regarding the strategic plan for women's overall development in the region.

Ms. Senait Afwerki, head of the union branch in the Southern Region, stated that the union has carried out commendable activities aimed at increasing awareness and organizational capacity among women, strengthening their participation in all development programs, and enhancing their economic capacity.

Mr. Kaleab Tesfaselasie, Director General of Social Services and chairman of the regional committee overseeing women's development, presented a report on the activities conducted over the past five years. The report highlighted efforts in strengthening organizational capacity, addressing health and social issues, and improving the economic capacity of women.

Ms. Senait Lijam, reporting on the activity assessment, mentioned that 30 to 50% of the planned programs have been implemented over the past five years. She emphasized that women's issues should not be left

solely to the union and called for an integrated effort.

Ms. Tekea Tesfamicael, President of the National Union of Eritrean Women, stated that the struggle for the emancipation and equality of women spans generations and called for coordinated efforts to ensure its continuity.

Mr. Habteab Tesfatsion, Governor of the Southern Region, urged all concerned institutions to contribute to the implementation of the union's programs. He also called for a study to address the issue of female student dropout rates in secondary school education.





# Celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Eritrea's National Service: A Testament to Unity and Resilience

As we commemorate the 30th Anniversary of Eritrea's National Service, we reflect on the journey that began on November 6, 1991, and was solidified with the first group of participants embarking on their journey to Sawa on July 14, 1994. This milestone is not merely a marker of time but a celebration of national unity, resilience, and the unwavering spirit of the Eritrean people.

under the guidance of President Isaias Afwerki, recognized the need for a unifying force that would not only defend the nascent state but also further crystallize social cohesion and nation-building. Thus, the National Service was born as an embodiment of our collective commitment to safeguarding and developing our beloved homeland.

### Sawa: The Cradle of Nation-Builders

Sawa, the emblematic camp where the first round of national service participants gathered in 1994, has since become a symbol of Eritrean resilience and fortitude. It is here that young Eritreans from all walks of life converge, setting aside regional and ethnic differences



### Overcoming Challenges

Despite facing considerable challenges, including external pressures and unjust sanctions,

who has answered the call to serve their country. It is a celebration of our unity, our resilience, and our unwavering commitment to the principles of justice, equality, and self-determination. As we honor this milestone, we reaffirm our pledge to work tirelessly for the continued prosperity and sovereignty of our beloved Eritrea. In the spirit of our forebears who fought for our

independence, and with the same indomitable spirit that has driven our National Service, we march forward together, united in purpose and steadfast in our resolve.

*Long live Eritrea!  
Long live our National Service!  
Awet'Nhafash*

W. Jelhanti



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**Layout**  
Azmera Berhane

to forge a unified national identity. The rigorous training and education provided at Sawa have equipped generations of Eritreans with the skills and discipline necessary to contribute to our nation's development.

### The Role of National Service in Nation-Building

The National Service has played an indispensable role in Eritrea's socio-economic development. It has been a crucible where leadership skills are honed, and civic responsibility is instilled. Beyond its military aspect, the service encompasses various development projects, from infrastructure building to educational initiatives, thus directly contributing to the country's progress. Our national service members have been at the forefront of major projects, including the construction of roads, schools, and health facilities. These efforts have not only improved living standards but also reinforced the spirit of self-reliance that is central to our national ethos.

Eritrea's commitment to the National Service has never wavered. The international community often mischaracterized our policies, but our determination to stand firm in our principles has proven our critics wrong. The resilience of our service members, their dedication, and their sacrifices have been instrumental in navigating these turbulent times.

### A Beacon for the Future

As we celebrate this significant anniversary, we look to the future with hope and determination. The National Service remains a cornerstone of Eritrea's strategy for sustainable development and national unity. Our young people continue to be the vanguard of our nation, embodying the values of patriotism, discipline, and selflessness that are the bedrock of Eritrea's identity.

### A Nation United

The commemoration of the 30th Anniversary of Eritrea's National Service is in tribute to every Eritrean

*From Social Media*

**Yemane G. Meskel** @hawelti

Sawa is bracing - with appropriate pomp - to celebrate on Saturday this week the 30th Anniversary of the launching of the National Service in tandem with the Graduation of the current 36th Round. The indispensable contributions of Sawa in the defense and developmental agendas of the country in the past crucial decades is a testament to the farsightedness and wisdom of GOE policy that was enunciated at the time.

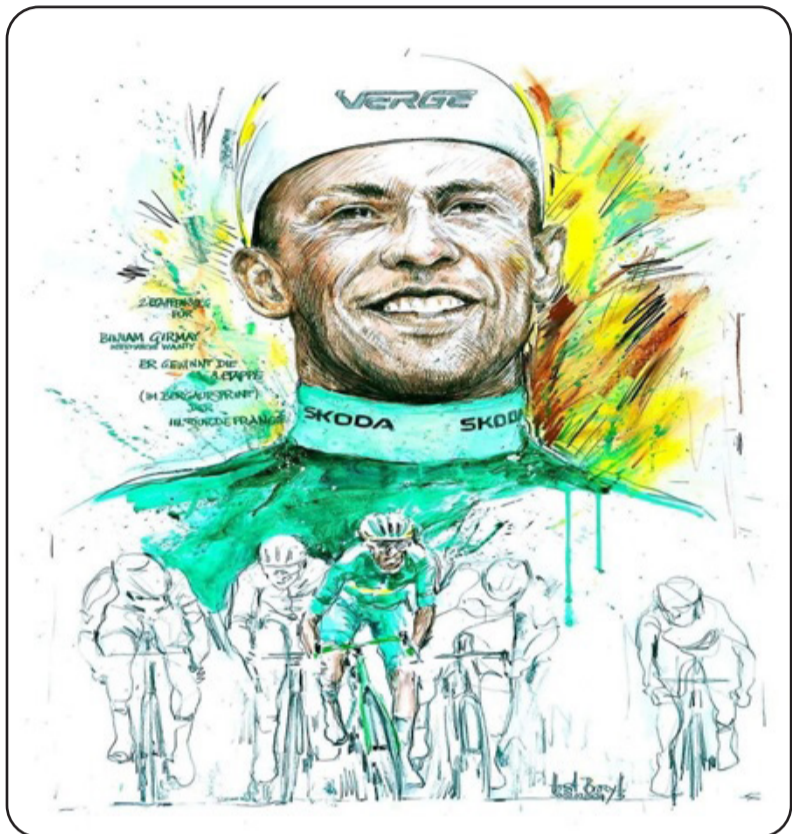
But the National Service has also been employed as the cudgel of choice by Eritrea's detractors in their incessant campaigns of defamation and harassment. The disparaging narrative has nothing in common with the underlying rationale, key attributes and trajectory of the National Service as illustrated in the attached article. [shabait.com/2023/05/27/nat...](http://shabait.com/2023/05/27/nat...)

4:44 PM · Jul 11, 2024 · 16.7K Views



# 111-Year Barrier, Broken in 12 Days!

## Bini at the Tour de France



Natnael Yebio W.

The first was a longtime dream made a reality in Turin; the second was a statement win in Colombey-les-Deux-Églises and his third in Villeneuve-sur-lot was a coming-of-age victory. For many, achieving such feats in the world's most prestigious cycling competition, the Tour de France, is the culmination of a long career. Bini, on the other hand, has accomplished this remarkable trilogy in the span of just 12 days, during only his second appearance at the Tour.

This is a seismic shift in the world of professional cycling unfolding right before our own very eyes. Bini is not merely winning stages; he is captivating the imagination of millions who had yearned to see African stage winners in the Tour de France, who share the Continent's heritage and embody its dreams. Bini is a powerful statement against the backdrop of a sport that has often been seen as exclusive and inaccessible to many.

"I'm the only Black rider in the peloton and that's not nice, to be honest." Said Bini in an interview with Alasdair Fotheringham.

Not content to rest on his laurels, the crescendo of his performance come with a third stage victory. As they approached the finish line, Bini surged ahead, claiming his third stage victory in this Tour. Wout van Aert, Michael Matthews, and Arnaud Demare were all in close contention, but it was Bini who crossed the line,

in doing so, he extended his lead in the point's classification for the Green jersey to a staggering 328 points.

Stage 12 was a perfectly curated plan by his team, followed to the tee. The plan was for me to be more protected in the last 5 km and then to get a good lead out. Mike did a super good lead out in the last kilometer and dropped me off 200 meters from the line." Bini stated in his post-race interview.

These victories are deeply

personal for Bini, yet they transcend the individual. They are also victories for a team with the smallest budget in the Tour de France. Beyond that, the profound impact of representation illuminates the path for future generations of African cyclists

long career ahead of him-he is only 24, after all-but his legacy is already etched into the fabric of cycling history.

Bini's breakthrough in a sport that has long remained untouched by the diversity he represents,

This year's Tour de France is not over yet, and certainly, Bini is not done yet.

This will be remembered for generations to come. There will be books written about it, soliloquies penned, movies made



who now know that they too can rise to the pinnacle of the sport.

"I'm just super happy to show and deliver it so that cycling can be more global." Stated Bini when asked if he was comfortable with the huge impact, he was having as a rider.

Bini undoubtedly has a very

is the embodiment of nature's wild and unpredictable beauty, breaking through the rigid structures of a sport steeped in history and convention. In his triumphs, there is a romantic defiance, a bold assertion of independence against the collective expectations of conformity.

about Biniam's achievements. He has transcended the boundaries of a predominantly white sport and has shattered long-standing barriers. After a 111-year wait for a black African to win a stage at the Tour de France, Bini has so far won three. Yes, three!!!! This is only the beginning. This is his time!





# The Chronicles of Heritage

Sona Berhane

*Delving into Eritrean customs, Bereket Amare's insightful book "ኩባ ብሪ ናብ ብሪ" offers a captivating exploration of Tigrigna society across the twelve months of the year. Published in 2022, the book meticulously records the various traditions and customs that shape Eritrean life. To illuminate the cultural significance of July, the following excerpt is drawn and translated from the chapter dedicated to this specific month.*

By the hand of the sun, July arrives, cloaked in thick fog that lingers heavy on the land. Lush greenery drapes the hills and mountains, where the newborn shoots of the farmer's toil breaks through the moist earth, painting the world a deep emerald. But this gentle beauty comes at a cost. Lands parched by June's fiery glare are reborn with near-constant rain that keeps the farmer from his tilling and the common folk from their labors. It's no wonder, then, our forebears, wise in the ways of the land, likened a moody countenance to "face of June and July."

Should the rains of July fall with particular fury, the sun itself becomes a stranger. "The clink of the flask," our people say, "vanishes with the June sun," speaking to the gloom that descends with the unrelenting wet. And, indeed, swaddled in thick fog, the days do grow uncommonly dim. These times of heavy rains and shadowed skies are known as "Dimama."

During "Dimama," the mud and deluge render travel near impossible. When death visits in such a season, the bereaved are unable to hold a proper wake and burial. Only the closest kin can brave the elements to lay a loved one to rest. The true mourning and final farewells must wait for the sun's return.

Yet, amid the trials of July, the farmer's heart swells with joy as the seeds he sowed with sweat and calloused hands break ground and reach for light. This fertile month, the earth teems with life, and mothers return home with baskets overflowing with fresh vegetables.

But with the bounty comes the bane. Weeds run rampant in July, choking the life from the farmer's crops. A good weeding is as vital as the rain itself, a way to breath life back into the land and its yield. A well-weeded field is a field reborn, its crops revitalized. Our wise elders captured this truth in the proverb, "Tell the farm it has been weeded, tell the maiden she is to be wedded," for both bring tidings of new life.

The weeding can be done by the lone hand or in a gathering of neighbors. Alongside the weeding, follows the careful pruning of crops. This month, the farmer's attention turns to maize, sorghum, and their kin. It is vital to catch these crops



young, before they bloom, lest their stalks weaken and split, leading to a wilting death. Thus, the farmer tends to the pruning with a watchful eye.

Not always was pruning a common practice, mind you. In times long past, farmers used to let their crops grow unchecked, their stalks tall and spindly. Come harvest, these unkempt plants crowded each other, their tangled stalks reaching for limited sunlight, and their yield was meager. It is said that a wealthy landowner fathered an illegitimate son with a mistress. Fearing discord within his family after his death, he confessed his folly to his wife and

sons, and declared his illegitimate son an equal heir. This decision was met with hostility from the legitimate sons, who refused to acknowledge their half-brother.

Upon receiving his land, the illegitimate son began cultivating his fields, planting crops and tending to their growth. But the brothers begrudged their half-brother. They resented his right to their father's land. Resentment festered within them, and they soon began to plot against him. Under the cloak of darkness, they crept onto his land, their plows drawn by spite. They tore through their half-brother's

farm, crushing the tender shoots and leaving behind a trail of ruin.

Daybreak revealed the devastation. The village gasped at the sight of the trampled field. Though he didn't know who the culprits were, grief gnawed at the illegitimate son's soul. He sought justice from the village elders who listened to his woes with heavy hearts. They offered him little solace, assuring him that the divine has doubtless has better prospects for him. The young man, angered and disheartened, was unable to face the wreckage of his field. He left his ravaged fields untouched for several days. Days quickly



turned into weeks. Then a strange thing happened. The broken maize stalks began to sprout anew, their leaves bursting forth with a renewed vigor. During the harvest season, the village stood aghast as the younger son's field, once trampled, now overflowed with the most bountiful crop. In the coming years, the villagers began to adapt the method of gently pruning their crops at the early stages. And this, it is said, is how we came to use pruning in our farming.

## Bridging the Gap . . .

Continued from page 8

of communication between deaf and blind individuals, creating a new language called Eritrean tactile language. This language can be of great significance for the deaf community, as it can be used for communication even in darkness when traditional sign language is not effective.

Through our project, we hope to break down communication barriers and enhance social interaction for individuals with sensory impairments in our society

### What are your plans for the future?

Our newly developed Eritrean Tactile Language is just the beginning of our journey towards inclusive education and inclusive way of living for all. We are committed to ensuring that every individual, including the deaf-blind, has access to the resources they need to thrive in society. By working with experts and creating a reference booklet, we want to take a step towards training educators in this new medium of communication. Our ultimate goal is to empower the deaf, blind and deaf-blind community and solve the challenges they face in their everyday life. Together, we can make a difference and create a more inclusive and accessible world for all.

*We wish you the best of luck in all your future endeavors and thank you all for your time*

## SpotLight

# Tireless work, Invaluable Contributions: NUEW Leads the way to Equality and Empowerment

*Dr. Fikrejesus Amahazion*

During the past week, the National Union of Eritrean Women (NUEW) branch in Anseba, one of Eritrea's six regions (locally called 'zobas'), conducted its annual six-month activity assessment meeting. According to reports from local media outlets, the gathering, which was attended by members of the NUEW, local government officials, and a range of stakeholders, reviewed the progress made on outlined plans, discussed various challenges encountered, and identified different lessons learned in the course of its work conducted over the past six months. Additionally, the meeting saw attendees spend some time laying out a series of

to strengthen women and girls' empowerment.

As was reflected in the points raised during the recent meeting in Anseba, the NUEW is a key national organization and it is engaged in extremely important, valuable work. Using that as a useful starting basis, the following paragraphs briefly trace the organization's long history of valiant struggle, while also shedding light on progress achieved with regard to gender equality and empowerment in the country – made possible through the organization's tireless work and invaluable contributions.

Decades of work toward equality and empowerment

The NUEW was established in

number of important sociocultural changes.

Following Eritrea's achievement of independence, the NUEW continued in its important work, reconstituting itself as an autonomous non-governmental organization dedicated to improving the status of the nation's women and girls. Broadly, the organization's mission is to ensure that all Eritrean women and girls, regardless of status, region, background, or any other characteristic, are able to confidently stand for their rights and equally participate in all aspects of life and sectors of society.

Since independence, some of the main objectives of the NUEW have included, among others: ensuring gender equality and women's rights in political, economic, social, cultural, and all other spheres; increasing women's social awareness and knowledge; endeavouring for the active participation of Eritrean women in overall development programmes in such a way that they also benefit from their efforts; promoting peace and development; and strengthening the NUEW in order to make it more efficient and influential.

Over the course of its decades-long history, the NUEW has significantly grown, both with regard to its overall membership, as well as to the scope of its work and the impacts that it has been able to make on the ground. At present, it has thousands of members of all ages and backgrounds, dispersed across all the nation's villages, communities, and regions. As well, there are numerous active branches and members in countries around the world. (Today, there are active branches of varying sizes in countries in Africa, Europe, North America, the Middle East, and Australia.) These not only promote gender-related issues and empowerment of women in their communities, they also support the work of NUEW in Eritrea in various ways, from donating resources and sharing experiences to participating in campaigns, raising awareness of pressing issues, and conducting workshops or training programs. In effect, although members in Eritrea and from around the world may be separated by thousands of miles, they remain united in their vision and efforts for a more equitable nation.



The NUEW has continued to take on a wide range of social projects over the years to promote gender equality and support the empowerment of women and girls. For instance, it has established several professional training centres, as part of its broader aim of capacity-building, and worked closely with the Ministry of Education to raise female enrolments and eradicate illiteracy. As well, it has maintained a legal counseling department, which has helped to significantly increase women's knowledge and understanding of legal issues and their rights (especially with regard to issues such as divorce, alimony, paternity, inheritance, and land ownership, among other issues), while also fighting residual stigma and discrimination. Furthermore, the NUEW has campaigned to improve women's access to healthcare, promote their inherent rights and dignity, and also supported their socioeconomic empowerment through training programs, skills development, as well as financial loans.

Important gender-related progress – with NUEW playing an invaluable role

Eritrea has made important improvements and registered notable progress in relation to gender equality and empowerment over the years. These forward strides are rooted in a number of different factors, from high-level political commitment and prioritization to investment of time and resources, among others. Of course, they have also been achieved through the tireless efforts and valuable, multifaceted contributions by the NUEW.

To briefly recap some of the improvements, life expectancy has jumped from less than 50 in 1991 to about 68 years at present, while the percentage of women beneficiaries

within the national micro-credit and saving scheme today is about 56 percent, as compared to only 16 percent in 1995. Furthermore, female involvement in small-scale businesses has grown, with women now holding about 48 percent of business licenses issued nationwide – again, a considerable improvement from past years. As well, women account for marginally over half – about 51 percent – of the country's total formal labor force, constitute about 46 percent of all employees holding managerial positions, and make up 22 and 29 percent of all members of the National Assembly and Regional Assemblies, respectively. The government's commitment to ensure equal access to health services, water, and sanitation is also contributing to an array of positive health outcomes for women and girls, while rates of harmful traditional practices (from child marriage to FGM/C) have been reduced significantly.

Alongside all of the above, land, both for housing and commercial and subsistence farming, is equally distributed with men, and women's financial inclusion, in terms of access to bank loans and use of various financial services continues to trend in a positive direction. Within education, important progress has been made. Female literacy has increased steadily (youth female youth literacy is above 93 percent, almost equal with males), while across all levels, female enrolment continues to steadily grow and the historically huge gender gap is being progressively narrowed. Parity between girls and boys has been achieved within middle education and it is almost fully achieved in pre-primary and secondary education, while improvements continue to be registered at the primary level. Enrolment at the tertiary level among males and females has remained almost equal, a positive transformation compared to past decades.

As a result of different factors, including the leading role played by the NUEW, girls and women are tangibly contributing within all areas of society and in many diverse, important ways, ultimately playing a vital role in families, communities, the nation's socio-economic improvement, and its general development. Not only should this be applauded by all, but firmly supported and encouraged.



tangible steps needing to be taken in order to successfully implement the year's remaining programs and initiatives, as well as exploring different aspects of the country's five-year strategic plan for gender equality and development.

President of the NUEW, Tekea Tesfamical, offered important comments highlighting how gender-related issues are extremely significant and have considerable bearing on different dimensions of society. She also went on to encourage individuals, communities, institutions, and partners to work together to promote gender equality and empowerment, as both a moral imperative and way to drive development. Also speaking at the event were Colonel Tesfatsion Girmay, Director General of Social Service and chairman of the regional committee overseeing women's development, who called for continued efforts to strengthen women's participation in all national development programs, and Ambassador Abdella Musa, Governor of Anseba, who outlined the array of measures being taken by the regional administration

1979 with the complete backing and firm support of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front. During the long struggle for freedom, it not only helped to organize and mobilize Eritrean women as a core and integral part of the formidable armed liberation forces, it also played a fundamental role in sensitizing Eritrean society to the importance of a range of gender-related issues and promoting gender equality in all its manifestations.

Scholars and historians have described in detail how, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, Eritrean women's valiant contributions to the armed struggle were distinguished and largely unparalleled in the annals of the history of liberation movements worldwide. In addition to comprising approximately one-third of all the liberation forces, Eritrean women also fought heroically on the frontlines and held a variety of strategic and leading positions in the field. As well, despite the challenges of a devastating conflict, and the residual, lingering effects of discrimination, the NUEW played a key role in helping to drive a



**厄特四川矿产建设有限公司**  
**ERITREA-SICHUAN MINERAL CONSTRUCTION CORP. LTD.**

# Vacancy Announcement

**Eritrea Sichuan Mineral Construction CORP. LTD. (ESMC) is inviting applicants for the following position for Asmara project sites.**

**Position:** Chef/ Cook  
**Department:** Administration  
**Number Required:** 01  
**Contract Type:** Indefinite

**Major Duties and Responsibilities**

- ❖ Conduct daily shift briefings to kitchen colleagues.
- ❖ Planning and development of Menu to keep their establishments fresh and innovative.
- ❖ Preparing best meals every day at the right time.
- ❖ Train, lead and motivate kitchen staffs.
- ❖ Ordering different supplies needed for the Catering.
- ❖ Supervise kitchen staff from dishwashers on up, oversee food safety, and work with the front of house staff.
- ❖ Managing kitchen budget, ensure weekly orders are placed and accurate according manpower plan.
- ❖ Enforcing health and safety regulations at all times. Ensure proper hygiene requirement.
- ❖ Ensure quality standards are met by actively participating in kitchen with kitchen staffs..
- ❖ Ensure all VIP visitors are handled and prioritized properly.
- ❖ Preserving food quality and timelines of service.
- ❖ Minimize food wastage and spoilage.
- ❖ Research all ethnic foods to have an understanding of items and cooking methods.
- ❖ Advising standard manpower needed for quality service.

**Qualification and other Skill**

Formal education, certificate or equivalent	❖ Certificate in Food Preparation and Hotel Management. Diploma in the above stated field is advantageous.
Work Experience – Nature & Length	❖ Minimum 5 years as Chef/ Cook and 5 years as assistant and/or Chef/ Cook.
Other skills and abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Certificate in Food Hygiene.</li> <li>❖ Certificate in Cook Training</li> <li>❖ Effective spoken and written communication.</li> <li>❖ Attention to details, deliver results according to company procedure &amp; solution oriented</li> <li>❖ Team player and good interpersonal communication skills</li> </ul>

**General Information and Other Requirement**

- ❖ Place of Work: Asmara Project Sites (Emba Derho)
- ❖ Salary: As per Company salary scale

**Additional Requirement for Nationals:**

- ❖ Having fulfilled his/ her National Service Obligation and Provide evidence of Release Paper from Ministry of Defense.
- ❖ Present Clearance from current/ last employer or Unemployment card from Labor office.
- ❖ Testimonial documents to be attached (CV, work experience credential, 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 application should be sent through the post office.
- ❖ Deadline for application; 05 days from the date of publication on the newspapers

**Address: Please mail your application to;**

Eritrea Sichuan Mineral Construction CORP. LTD (ESMC)  
 P.O. Box. 4832 Asmara, Eritrea

**Required to send a copy of their application to the following address**

Mineral Resources Management, Department of Mines  
 P.O. Box. 272  
 Asmara, Eritrea

**Note to Eritrean applicants:**

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



**厄特四川矿产建设有限公司**  
**ERITREA-SICHUAN MINERAL CONSTRUCTION CORP. LTD.**

# Invitation for Bid

Eritrean Sichuan Mineral Construction CORP. LTD. (ESMC) is inviting legitimated supplier who can provide foodstuff and beverage. The purpose of this solicitation is to award a contract to make available grocery and other incidental products related to meals served at EMSC sites. The company, who shall be also recognized as the ordering agency.

**Description**

1. ESMC will offer one-year contract effective July 15th, 2024 – July 14th, 2025.
2. Vender must ensure and deliver the required foodstuff and beverages as per timeframe set up by end user (The Company).
3. Bid is closed to all legal vendors/ suppliers.
4. Vendors must provide original documents, a copy of 2019 renewed license and a clearance of Inland Revenue for the year 2024.
5. Vendors are welcome to visit our ESMC Office to get detailed bid documents and other information during working hours.
6. Bid will be remain open from the date announced on local newspaper for five (05) days. Bid documents should be delivered with legal person signature & seal of firm to ESMC Office.
7. Bid value ERN 20,000.00 on CPO base should be provided to EMSC Office.
8. Bid will be accomplished by the directives of Eritrea Sichuan Mineral Construction procedures.
9. EMSC has the right to accept or reject the bid entirely or partially.

**Address:** Eritrea Sichuan Mineral Construction CORP. LTD (ESMC)

Abo street house # 14 Gejeret, Asmara  
 Telephone; 113439

Tel: 291-1-113439 St. Abo, zip178 No.14 Nishtey Gejeret P.O. Box 4832 AS-MARA – ERITREA





# Bridging the Gap: Introducing Eritrean Tactile Language to Foster Inclusive Education and Accessibility

Eyobiel Tsigehanes

Temesgen Iyasu, Rodas Tekle, and Daniel Teklegergish, counselors at the Warsay Ykealo School in Sawa, have developed a form of communication especially designed for the deaf, blind, and deaf-blind communities. This groundbreaking medium will revolutionize how individuals with sensory impairments connect with one another.

we were working as counselors at Warsay Ykealo School in Sawa. Upon our annual visit to Asmara for the summer, we promptly implemented the initiatives we

Temesgen Iyasu

Why don't we start with your passion about disability advocacy



Temesgen Iyasu

Disability can affect anyone at any time, reminding us of the unpredictability of life. As social beings, humans rely on one another to fulfill their needs and achieve a sense of completeness. Just as pieces of a puzzle come together to create a unified image, individuals require interactions and support from others to reach their full potential. It is through mutual dependence and connection that individuals are able to enhance their strengths, address their weaknesses, and ultimately find fulfillment in their relationships and experiences. Thus, the notion of perfection is not attainable in isolation, but rather through the collaboration and support of others. When my blind friends need me to read something for them, they never fail to crack me up with their request: "Hey, can I borrow your eye?" It's always said in such a witty and lighthearted manner that I can't help but chuckle. It just goes to show that humor truly knows no bounds.

Rodas Tekle  
Before discussing the new

medium of communication you have developed, it is important to first establish a clear understanding of blindness, deafness and deaf-blindness.

Blindness, deafness, and deaf-blindness are distinct conditions that affect a person's ability to see, hear, or both. These conditions can be diagnosed through various tests and evaluations conducted by medical professionals, such as ophthalmologists, audiologists, or deaf-blind specialists. Proper diagnosis and understanding of the specific type and extent of the individual's impairment is crucial in determining the appropriate support and accommodations needed to help them navigate and thrive in their daily life. Individuals who are blind may face challenges in two out of the four communication skills - reading and writing. However, they are still able to effectively



Rodas Tekle

communicate through speaking and hearing. Additionally, alternative methods such as Braille can also be utilized for reading and writing purposes. And deaf individuals often rely on alternative forms of communication, such as sign language, to interact with the world around them. Sign language allows deaf individuals to communicate through hand gestures and visual cues, as they are unable to hear spoken words. By learning to read and

write, deaf individuals are able to effectively communicate with others using their visual and tactile senses. This unique form of communication highlights the resilience and adaptability of blind and deaf individuals in navigating a world designed primarily for those who can see and hear.

And in case of deaf-blindness?

Individuals with deaf-blindness can be categorized into four groups based on their level of vision and hearing. The first group includes those who can partially see and hear. The second group consists of individuals who can partially see but are profoundly deaf. The third group includes those who can partially hear but are visually impaired. The fourth and rarest case is complete deafness and blindness.

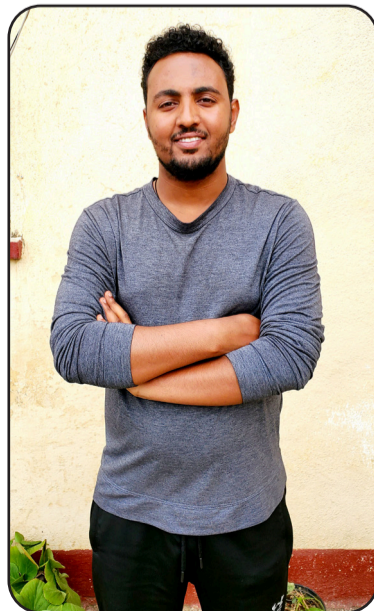
Daniel Teklegergish

Can you give us an overview of your project?

This medium of communication is called Eritrean Tactile Language. And it offers an alternative mode of communication that does not rely on the traditional skills of hearing, listening, reading, and writing. Instead, it is based entirely on tactile skills.

How was the project initiated?

Two years ago, the idea for



Daniel Teklegergish



our project was born when Mr. Amanuel Tekie, a blind teacher at Abrha Bahta School for the Blind, highlighted the communication challenges faced by individuals who are both deaf and blind. He shared with us the difficulties encountered when these individuals gathered at events, particularly those organized by the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare. Mr. Amanuel explained how the chairmen of the deaf and blind associations resorted to communicating through a third party, a translator, which often resulted in unnatural and ineffective communication. This revelation sparked our interest, leading us to delve deeper into how we could address this issue and facilitate more efficient and seamless communication for these individuals.

Our journey began with research and literature analysis on how individuals who are deaf-blind communicate through pro-tactile techniques in America. Pro-tactile encompasses American Sign Language with tactile methods, enabling successful communication for the deaf-blind community. In order to adopt this approach to our Eritrean context, we decided to integrate Eritrean Sign Language with the Eritrean script, Geez, to create an Eritrean tactile language.

How did the process go and what steps did you take?

We conducted research and planning for our programs while

had developed. We took the opportunity to bring our idea to life by collaborating with Abrha Bahta School of the blind and Akrya School of the deaf. With their support, we selected four students from Abrha Bahta School of the blind, including one who is deaf-blind, two students from Akrya School of the deaf, and one student who is neither blind nor deaf. This diverse group of students is the sample of our project. Our innovative communication method for the deaf-blind combines elements of Braille and sign language. We teach individuals to use their palm as a writing surface, similar to Braille, with a grid of nine imaginary dots representing Geez alphabet characters. In addition, we provide instruction in international deaf-blind gesture alphabets and English block letters, as well as training in tactile language by giving students a vocabulary of 50 words. Finally, we demonstrated that individuals who are deaf and blind can effectively communicate with each other without the need for a translator.

What are the main goals of this program?

Our primary goal is to facilitate communication for the most vulnerable members of society - the deaf-blind - and integrate them into the community. We also aim to establish a means

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