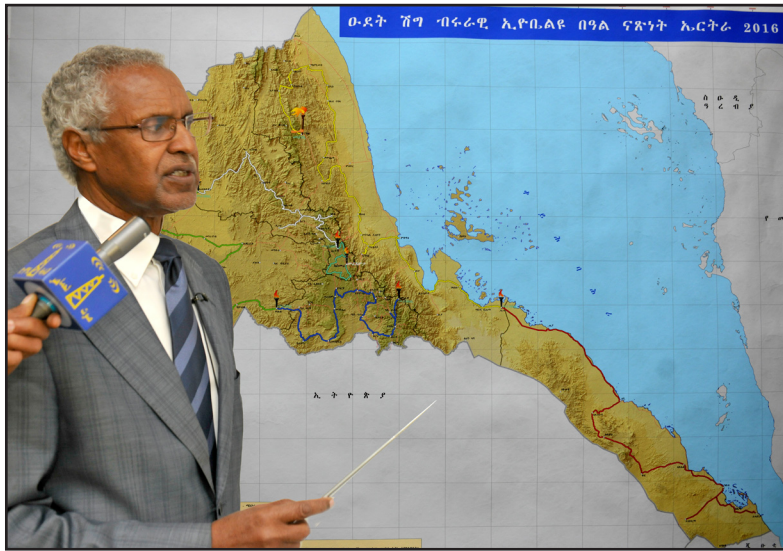




INDEPENDENCE TORCH IN NAKFA



Governor of the Northern Red Sea Region, stated that the Independence Torch prompts us to evaluate – as a people and nation – to what extent we have fulfilled the pledges we have made in past 25 years to uphold and advance the vision and dream of our martyrs.

The Independence Torch will cover more than three thousand kilometers in all the Regions of the country and reach Asmara, Eritrea's capital, on Independence Day.

In interviews with local media on the occasion, Ambassador Zemed Tekle, Chairman of the National Holidays Coordinating Committee, announced that extensive preparations are already underway both inside the country and abroad for the celebration for the Silver Jubilee of Independence Day under

Eritrea's Jubilee Independence Celebrations commenced yesterday, Friday 15th January, through a ceremony of lighting of the Independence Torch in the historic town of Nakfa. Major General Humed Karikare, Commander of

the Eritrean Navy, presided over the torch lighting ceremony in the presence of Army Commanders, village elders, religious leaders and members of the public.

Ms. Tsegereda Woldegergis,



the theme "Quarter of Century of Resilience and Development".

The Jubilee Independence Day celebrations will include cultural shows, symposiums, sports competitions, military parades,

carnivals as well as children's programs.

Thousands of Eritreans residing abroad and friends of Eritrea are expected to participate at the Jubilee Independence Day celebrations.

YOUTH CENTERS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

The construction of Youth Centers has been completed in Melebso and Halhal in the Halhal sub-zone at a cost of 7 million Nakfa.

The Youth Centers are equipped with various facilities including libraries, computer training rooms, counseling services as well as different entertainment amenities. The general public and the PFDJ office in the sub-zone have extended support, in various forms, to the realization of the project.

The Halhal sub-zone has about seven thousand residents and eight administrative areas.

SEMINAR FOR THE YOUTH

The PFDJ Office in the Northern Red Sea Region conducted a seminar for the youth on the 11th and 12th of January this week.

The seminars revolved around organizational capacity and enhanced participation of the youth in pivotal national development programmes.

Ms. Tsegereda Woldegergis, the Governor of the Northern Red Sea Region, presented an account of development projects that have been implemented to improve the overall quality of life in the region.

Mr. Haile Teweldebrian, Head of PFDJ in the Region, underscored

the importance of youth and popular participation and ownership in the Region's development programmes.

Participants in the seminars, which also included local members of the Civil Service, contributed around 800,000 Nakfa to the Martyrs' Trust Fund.



NEWS BRIEF

FARMER'S TRAINING IN DIBARWA

Around 45 farmers in the sub-zone of Dubarwa have received training on techniques and practices for increased production and productivity. The training, conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture, focused on optimal usage of water, prevention and treatment of crop diseases as well as on various crop cultivation methods.

Mr. Teklu Berak, Head of Crop Cultivation Branch of Ministry of Agriculture in the area, underlined the need for farmers to exert vigorous efforts in water and soil conservation programmes on a regular basis.

The trainees on their part urged for continuous training programs on specific topics and that cover both theoretical and practical issues.

SUPPORT TO FAMILIES IN GHINDAE

The Ministry of Labour and Human Welfare has extended material support to families in Ghindae whose properties were damaged by torrential rain and excessive floods.

The Head of the Ministry's Branch in the Sub-zone, Mr. Jabir Idris, stated that the support included provision of tents, kitchen accessories and foodstuff.

As it may be recalled, the homes of 52 families in the Sub-zone were destroyed by heavy rains in late December.

ASSISTANCE TO WAR DISABLED VETERANS

The Southern Region Branch of the National Association of Eritrean War Disabled Veterans (NAEWDV) has provided motorized wheel chairs worth around 1.3 million Nakfa to 17 of its members in Dekemhare.

Part of the expenditure was donated by a branch of the NAEWDV in Sweden.

Mr. Seyum Gebreyesus, administrator of the sub-zone, stressed that supporting the war disabled should not be left to the government alone and urged Eritrean citizens abroad who have the means to emulate the initiative.

Development

Prevention and Disposal of Obsolete Pesticides in Eritrea

Birhan Araya

Obsolete Pesticides are high risk to people, animals, water and more generally to all lives around them. Unless otherwise taken care of by the responsible organizations in their area, they could have a devastating effect.

Eritrea is understood to have significant accumulations of obsolete pesticides, as indicated in the inventory carried out by international consultants and national staff from the Ministry of Agriculture. So far the inventory has identified 400 MT of obsolete pesticides in different stores across the country. Eritrea also has sites, which are highly contaminated by pesticides, including persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

The Government of Eritrea believes that quick removal of these pesticides is of utmost importance. So far, the Ministry of Agriculture, with the support of FAO, has safeguarded 260 tons of pesticides and 92 tons out of those have been shipped for destruction outside the country. The knowhow of dealing with hazardous chemical waste safely, does not currently exist in most developing countries. Providing temporary solutions such as repackaging and storage in the hope that a better solution will emerge in the foreseeable future is unacceptable, since the long term unsafe state of these pesticides

and their containers cannot be guaranteed.

Obsolete pesticides threaten the health of thousands of people and contaminate their environment as well. Half a million tons of obsolete pesticides are scattered throughout the developing world. These toxic chemicals are often stored outdoors in leaking containers and seeping into the soil and water. For these which are still inside the stores, leaking is inevitable. In most cases, the only option for dealing with obsolete pesticides stocks is to destroy them. But destroying pesticide waste is neither cheap nor technically simple. Destruction processes vary depending on the type of contaminant. The search for environmentally benign destruction technologies has so far been unsuccessful. Therefore at present the only available technology, for the destruction of most obsolete pesticides, is done by high temperature incineration which in most cases is done in Europe, where they have the mandatory incinerators and capacity to take the wastes for disposal.

FAO along with its local and international partners have since 1994 been dealing with these problems globally with some

success stories.

It is practically impossible to develop land, fertilize the soil and use water for agricultural purposes, if they are contaminated with pesticides. Farming families in Eritrea can't hope to prosper, if they are suffering from severe illnesses caused by pesticide poisoning.

Therefore, eliminating these dangerous stocks is a developmental priority. Moreover, for the sustainable eradication of obsolete pesticides from Eritrea, and in order to come up with a solution of handling harmful pests and prevent further accumulation of obsolete pesticide stockpiles, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) - Farmer Field Schools (FFS) are being introduced.

The obsolete pesticide removal program is under implementation jointly by Ministry of Agriculture and Land, Water and Environment and FAO. The project has various components that seek to strengthen life cycle management in Eritrea. So far the project has determined the nature of pesticide waste and contamination through nationwide inventories. Another component of the project is focusing on



strengthening pesticide legislation and registration, analysis, monitoring and control of illegal and highly hazardous pesticide products.

To prevent further accumulation of obsolete pesticides and foster sustainable production intensification, the project has a component that seeks to promote safer alternatives to toxic chemical pesticides through IPM FFS. IPM is an ecosystem approach to crop production and protection that combines different management

strategies and practices to grow healthy crops and minimize the use of pesticides. IPM is the preferred approach to crop protection and is regarded as a pillar of both sustainable intensification of crop production and pesticide risk reduction.

In addition, the project recognizes the need to raise awareness on pesticide risks to various target audience hence there is a component on development of a communication strategy for sound pest and pesticide management.

ERITREA PROFILE

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Safeguarding obsolete pesticides from scattered warehouses across the country.

What are Obsolete Pesticides?

Obsolete pesticides are defined as stocked pesticides that can no longer be used for their original purpose or any other purpose and therefore require disposal.

How do we destroy obsolete pesticides?

By the application of a dedicated high temperature incineration.

Why do we destroy these pesticides?

Because the product has deteriorated as a result of improper or prolonged storage and became extremely hazardous to health and environment. So, it can no longer be used nor can it easily be reformulated to become usable again.

Where do we destroy obsolete pesticides?

In Europe where destruction facilities are licensed and monitored by competent authorities.

Who handles the safeguarding and destruction of obsolete pesticides?

The Ministry of Agriculture with the support of FAO will always ensure that in projects where it provides technical advice or appoints companies to destroy obsolete pesticides, the destruction facilities used are licensed and monitored by competent authorities.

Project Phase

So far over 92 MT of obsolete pesticides have been shipped outside the country for destruction.

ERITREA in Mainstream Media

Something Worthy to be Remembered

Sofia Tesfamariam

In his very first State of the Union address on 24 February 2009, President Barack Obama ended his hope filled speech with this statement:

“...if we come together and lift this nation from the depths of this crisis; if we put our people back to work and restart the engine of our prosperity; if we confront without fear the challenges of our time and summon that enduring spirit of an America that does not quit, then someday years from now our children can tell their children that this was the time when we performed, in the words that are carved into this very chamber, “something worthy to be remembered.”...”

Unfortunately, for Eritreans around the world, there really is nothing “worthy to be remembered” about the Obama Administration, and it has instead, left thousands with a bitter taste in their mouth, jaded and disillusioned about the promises he made back then, and the hopes he raised and the trust he betrayed.

Back in 2008, Eritrean Americans enthusiastically worked in his election campaigns and voted for him. They were hopeful that he would bring the change needed to improve US-Eritrea relations. They listened and believed him on 24 February 2009 when he said:

“...In words and deeds, we are showing the world that a new era of engagement has begun. For we know that America cannot meet the threats of this century alone, but the world cannot meet them without America. We cannot shun the negotiating table, nor ignore the foes or forces that could do us harm. We are instead called to move forward with the sense of confidence and candor that serious times demand... To meet the challenges of the 21st century – from terrorism to nuclear proliferation; from pandemic disease to cyber threats to crushing poverty – we will strengthen old alliances, forge new ones, and use all elements of our national power... As we stand at this crossroads of history, the eyes of all people in all nations are

once again upon us – watching to see what we do with this moment; waiting for us to lead...”

Eritrean Americans would soon find out that there was “no new era of engagement”, or unclenching of fists. Barely a year into office, just about 10 months later, dashing the hopes of Eritreans around the world, Barack Obama, the first African American President of the United States would make Eritrea, the then youngest nation in Africa, the very first country in Africa to be sanctioned. The illegal, unfair and unjust sanctions against the State of Eritrea, engineered by Susan E. Rice and the minority regime in Ethiopia were adopted by the UN Security Council on 23 December 2009. That infamous day will be remembered by generations of Eritreans.

The Obama Administration's unprovoked hostilities against the State of Eritrea continued throughout his presidency and in 2011, Susan Rice and the minority regime in Ethiopia led by Meles Zenawi, coaxed Africans on the UN Security Council to collude against Eritrea. Eritreans and Americans remember that sad episode in history well. The length that the US, through its UN representative Susan Rice, went to prevent the President of Eritrea from addressing the Council, while choreographing the shameless video conference of Meles Zenawi and other Horn leaders brought together to "strengthen sanctions" against Eritrea, is another sad record in the diplomatic and political relationship between the two countries. The obvious abuse of power and undermining of African institutions such as the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the African Union (AU) and using them as bully pulpits in order to advance US interests in the region are acts of the Obama Administration, which will not be "worthy to be remembered"

The people of Eritrea everywhere rejected the illegal, unfair and unjust sanctions from the get go. The truth about Eritrea and Somalia have since been exposed and the fact that the sanctions were based on false and unsubstantiated allegations, “evidences” cooked by Ethiopia and its handlers is a well-

known fact. Through their letters and the historic 22 February 2010 worldwide demonstrations, they protested and voiced their concerns. But the Obama Administration insists on maintaining its assault on the State of Eritrea, its people and leadership to this day.

Realizing that its sanctions regime were losing support, in 2012, another assault by the Obama Administration was launched by way of the UN Human Rights Commission. A resolution was adopted at the behest of the United States and its surrogates and pursuant to that resolution, a Special Rapporteur for Eritrea was appointed and a couple of years later, the Commission of Inquiry was established. Once again, the accusations leveled against the State of Eritrea have not been substantiated and the evidence presented remains questionable and not independently verifiable.

When President Barack Obama gave what was to be the last State of the Union address of his presidency on Tuesday 12 January 2015, Eritrean communities across the United States like their counterparts in Africa, Asia and the Middle East were engaged in their own historic effort. They were engaged in a global effort, collecting and sending thousands of letters of testimony to the Commission of Inquiry on Eritrea before its 15 January 2016 deadline on submissions. Unlike his first address in 2009, it did not garner much of their attention. The people of Eritrea everywhere have written thousands of letters rejecting the COIE report, questioning the credibility and impartiality of its authors and its dubious self-serving collaborators. They also reject the COIE's misrepresentation of Eritrean society, its exemplary customs, cultures and traditions of ethnic and religious respect and tolerance.

Throughout President Barack Obama's tenure in office, sovereign Eritrean territories including Badme, remained under Ethiopian occupation. December 2015 marked the 15 anniversary of the signing of the Algiers Agreements between Eritrea and Ethiopia, an agreement witnessed and guaranteed by the United States and others. 13 April 2016 will mark the 14th anniversary



since the Eritrea Ethiopia Boundary Commission delivered its final and binding delimitation decision on the Eritrea Ethiopia border. These anniversaries are also a reminder of the Obama Administration's conspicuous silence on Ethiopia's continued violations of Eritrea's sovereignty, the EEBC's decisions and international law. They also belie his Administrations persistent calls for "respect of international law" at various international forums.

In his inaugural speech in 2008, President Barack Obama seemed to be speaking the language of Eritreans and many believed that he really understood what nation building entailed, when he said:

"...In reaffirming the greatness of our nation we understand that greatness is never a given. It must be earned. Our journey has never been one of short-cuts or settling for less. It has not been the path for the faint-hearted, for those that prefer leisure over work, or seek only the pleasures of riches and fame. Rather, it has been the risk-takers, the doers, the makers of things -- some celebrated, but more

often men and women obscure in their labor -- who have carried us up the long rugged path towards prosperity and freedom...For us, they packed up their few worldly possessions and traveled across oceans in search of a new life. For us, they toiled in sweatshops, and settled the West, endured the lash of the whip, and plowed the hard earth...Time and again these men and women struggled and sacrificed and worked till their hands were raw so that we might live a better life. They saw America as bigger than the sum of our individual ambitions... We are not quitters...amid the most difficult circumstances, there is a generosity, a resilience, a decency, and a determination that perseveres; a willingness to take responsibility for our future..."

But Eritreans soon found out that, that was not a recipe for all, and Eritrea would be punished for pursuing a similar route of self-reliance, hard work and sacrifice to rebuild her war torn economic,

Continued on page 8



Stamps and Their Significance in History

Along came with the efficiency of the postal service the use of postage stamps. These little stamps carry a great pact of in-squaring in their rather small borders pictorial messages of an abundant significant meaning; some illustrative memorandum that highlights the pride of the aviating country or entity.

Agas ago, way before the use of adhesive paper stamps, letters were hand stamped or postmarked with ink. Matter of fact, primitive message systems have been in place as long as man has been in existence.

However, all these systems operated without the benefit of a postage stamp. Postmarks were the invention of Henry Bishop and were at first called 'Bishop Mark' after the inventor name. Bishop marks first debuted in 1661 at the London General Post Office, they marked the day and month the letter was mailed.

Later on May 6, 1840 the British Penny Black stamp was released, marking the first official coinage stamp. It had engraved in it, the profile of Queen Victoria's head, which remained on all British stamps for the next sixty years. In 1837 Rowland Hill invented the

adhesive postage stamps an act for which he was knighted. Three years after the invention of Rowland Hill, the very first adhesive postage stamp was made acknowledged worldwide and issued in England in 1840.

In many European countries and in the U.S.A, postal wages were at the time very expensive: many people refused to accept letters. In fact, many people choose to be a bit keener that the postal service folks and ended up developing secret codes by which they could cheat the postal services.

They would place secret marks on the outside of the letter that conveyed their message and all the addressee had to do was read the secret message, refuse to accept the letter, and thus not have to pay for it. Mainly for this reason, postal services turned to a means of prepaying postage.

But this stamp invention actually helped a lot the prepaying facility. As the popularity of this new system of sending mail and collecting the fee in advance spread fast, it didn't take long for other countries to use similar systems. In 1847, the United States Post Office Department printed its first stamps, a 5-cent stamp picturing Benjamin

Franklin and a 10-cent stamp picturing George Washington.

Here in Eritrea postal postage was introduced 1890 during the Italian colonization, the Italians brought with them stamps featuring Italian kits with over printed on the top "Eritrea Colonia Italiana", meaning "Italian colony". When the British administration staled in Eritrea; stamps were changed three times: the first with edition written on it "British Occupation" which was followed by another stamp featuring British kits that had been printed on it: "British Military administration in Eritrea". The last one had printed on it "British Administration".

During the Ethiopian regime the stamps were far from representing anything of Eritrean, not even the name of our country. They reflected Ethiopian usage, customs and portraits of their royal family.

It has been only natural for a stamp to portray some expressive and meaningful design so the usage and circulation of stamps neglecting the Eritrean tradition and history were somehow to stop.

So during the first Unity Congress in 1977 the matter was discussed and imprints expressing the Eritrean armed struggle of the E.P.L.F, the Eritrean history, colorful tradition and nationalism started being printed and circulated after the second the Unity Congress in 1988 in the liberated areas as well as outside of the borders thanks to the efforts of the Eritrean diaspora, wanting to make the then suppressed Eritrean vigorous entity and pride.

After Independence stamps representing our history and culture spread their wings in abundance. On the 19th of August 1993, Eritrea joined the Universal World Post Organization. Till this day there have been countless stamps of 55 types have been produced. Our stamps have undergone many changes since that first stamp in 1977.

They have been perforated, coiled, and printed in many different colors and have been



introduced in many types, formats, and designs. And are now one of the many things that we as Eritrean people, can proudly exhibit a historical time line, the bright colors of our traditions, the gorgeous marine and wild



life as well as some commemorative stamps printed in on the occasion of different important events.



OPINION

Social Media and the Question of Media Credibility

Until recently, traditional media outlets - newspapers, magazines, radio, and television - were the sole producers of media messages, whereas the public were considered consumers of the information gathered, analyzed and disseminated by media outlets. However, the advent and growth of information and communication technology (ICT) has revolutionized the media system.

Today, we live in an age where everyone has become a journalist. The era where "media organizations were considered as producers and the public as consumers of media messages" has been replaced by the concept of "prosumers" (producers and consumers) where everyone is a producer as well as a consumer of media messages.

In particular, this development is reflected with the emergence of social media. According to the Oxford Dictionary of Media and Communication, social media is, "a broad category or genre of communications media which occasion or enables social interaction among groups of people, whether they are known to each other or strangers localized in the same place or geographically dispersed.

It includes new media such as news groups, massively multiplayer online game (MMOGs), and social networking sites. Such media can be thought of metaphorically as virtual meeting places which function to occasion the exchange of media content among users who are both producers and consumers. Social media have also become adopted as a significant marketing tool."

Although social media is a broad term which encompasses several networking sites, Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, and blogs are the most powerful social media sites, with each utilized by a large number of users. Facebook statistics show that the number of users has crossed one billion and some scholars claim that, if Facebook was a country it would have been the third (and possibly even the second) most populous country in the world after China and India.

The number of social media users is growing daily; part of their popularity is their ease of use. Individuals simply create social media accounts for free, and the only things one has to possess to create or have a social media account are a personal computer,

Smartphone, Tab etc., an internet connection, and basic computer literacy. Once individuals create their social media accounts they can share and access information, publish updates, share photos, video clips and so on. That's why all media messages within social media are user-generated content.

Importantly, these internet-related innovations have created a free flow of information across borders. The exchange or dissemination of information on social media is rapid, and information shared by a user instantly reaches any part of the globe without any geographical barriers (unless the specific social networking site is blocked by the government). Information shared on social media goes viral in no time. Anyone can re-share any post published by a social media user to his or her account, thereby, multiplying the reach of the message.

Beyond individuals, social media is popular with government and non-government organizations, educational institutions, and business firms. These entities utilize social media to share messages, advertise products, and engage in public outreach.

For example, many governments are attempting to use these technologies for service delivery and policy engagement; the United Nations 2012 E-government report revealed that 40 percent of 78 UN member countries had a statement saying "Follow us on Facebook and Twitter" on their websites.

Additionally, the mainstream media has also actively employed social media to reach a broader audience. All the large television channels, radio stations, and print newspapers have their own websites and active social media accounts, while journalists, as well, can be reached on social media. In addition, media outlets invite audiences to participate in their programs via twitter and Facebook. Aljazeera's 'The Stream' is a useful example of how the mainstream media utilize social media within their day-to-day activities.

Yet, as users have become both producers and consumers of media content, the question of credibility becomes increasingly crucial. Since users can create accounts with fake names and addresses, and messages and/or information are exchanged on social media without prior review (some sexually explicit words are blocked in some networking sites) to avoid some ethical and legal issues which may arise between people; between an individual and an organization. However, credibility is the main precondition for any media outlet to be successful and trusted by the target audience.

Consequently, certain aspects and segments of social media have been characterized as lacking credibility. In certain cases, information shared on social media tends to be highly opinionated lacking impartiality. This may put the integrity of certain social media contents into question. In contrast, social media accounts created by the mainstream media, official organizations, and prominent people like presidents, prime ministers, ministers, CEOs, and celebrities tend to be responsible because whenever something arises they can be easily located

and brought to account.

Social media has also been utilized to promote political, social, and religious ideas and stands. For example, Terrorist groups like ISIS use social media to glorify their atrocities as well as recruit potential members. On the other hand, some people - trolls in the lexicon of social media - use social media to intimidate and defame people by creating accounts with fake names and addresses. Even though the address of the user can be located by the service provider or the owner of the social media site, it is very difficult to catch such persons and bring them to justice.

Many countries have tried to control and regulate social media by blocking the sites using sophisticated software and/or drafting legislation which govern the use of information and communication technology. In some countries, the fear of lack of credibility and accountability has led to some social media sites being completely restricted by the government. To remedy the blockage of such sites some countries have created their own versions of social media.

Significantly, social media has also become a voice to the voiceless, and provides an alternative view and perspective to the highly westernized and monopolized media conglomerates. The fact is mainstream media is not immune from narrow corporate and interest group values and dictates. In this sense, social media can be properly used as an alternative medium to stereotyped, politically-driven and biased coverage of news and events by mainstream media. Some responsible and concerned people from the Global South indeed use social media to present an alternative narrative and image of their countries, which are so often stereotypically portrayed by the mainstream media as places of drought, famine, and war.

By: Sertseyonas Negash
Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, CASS





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www.bishamining.com

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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

Information Technology (IT) Manager
Number required – (01)
Type of contract – Definite period (Two Years)

Major Duties and Responsibilities

- IT Infrastructure Service Support and Delivery
- Ensure that the Help Desk support provided is aligned with policies, procedures and service level agreements.
 - Ensure that the infrastructure is maintained to provide a continuous service.
 - Ensure that customer service is provided at the required level.
- IT Facilities and Business Continuity Management
- Manage all IT equipment facilities and related items.
 - Ensure licenses are paid, within budget, to ensure continuity.
 - Manage back-up and recovery policy, plans and procedures for entire organization on to safeguard information and ensure business operational efficiency/continuity.
 - Manage and maintaining an inventory of IT critical spares and equipment.
 - Plan through innovation and strategic thinking IT requirements for the organization to ensure that IT service provided are sufficient to the requirements for departments and the total organization.
- Risk Management
- Establish and manage information security and risk policies, standards, tools and procedures.
 - Ensure conformance to company information security and risk policies and procedures.
 - Ensure continues detection, recording and mitigation of information security risks or threats.
- IT Project Management
- Identify and prioritize long term and short term projects.
 - Plan, implement and deliver IT systems projects ensuring conformance to corporate project management methodology.
 - Manage Project teams / Project Meetings to ensure that deadlines are met timeously.
 - Ensure that management are informed on project progress, time lines and finalization.
 - Monitor project progress and that timelines and delivered in line with the approved budget.
- Financial Management/Capex/Opex /Budget
- Interact and communicate with departmental managers on Capex and Opex requirements.
 - Motivate and justify budget requirements to senior management.
 - Monitor approved budget costs against actual year to date spending and provide measures to ensure that all activities are within the budget.
- Human Resources
- Manage work performance of employees reporting directly into this position.
 - Identify training and development needs in line with the training needs analysis.
 - Ensure that performance is in line with departmental objectives.
 - Manage performance through counselling, training and disciplinary process.
 - Mentoring/Coaching individuals to ensure personal development.
 - Manage performance appraisal by identifying individual goals to be met and bi-annual reviews with individual employees.
- Audit Requirements
- Ensure all systems are implemented following by best practices with regards to security.
 - Ensure that all policies and procedures are supported by processes/process flow charts to comply with audit requirements.
 - Ensure that all systems comply with SOX compliance and that these are updated on a regular basis.
 - Address non-compliance audit reports and ensure that correct measures are put in place to comply.
 - Manage the preparation for audit to ensure that all processes are aligned.
 - Ensure that departmental periodic reviews are done as part of compliance to SOX and audit requirements.
- Administration
- Ensure that all IT activities are reviewed on a weekly and monthly basis to provide accurate reporting to senior management.
 - Monitor the effectiveness of the service of the help desk and provide improvements measures as required.
 - Review systems performance and availability and identify improvements as

required.

KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

Qualifications:	
Degree in Computer Science or equivalent	
Diploma in Management/Project Management will be an advantage	
Knowledge and Experience:	
10 – 15 Years progressive experience in IT environment	
8 – 10 Years Project management experience in IT	
Solid understanding of computer networking principles	
Project Management principles	
IT service level management/information security policy formulation/management Project management principles	
Technical Skills:	Behavioural Skills:
Computer Literacy (MS Office and In-house software packages – Advanced level)	Communication (English)
Standards for implementation and maintenance	Interpersonal skill / Interaction
Project Management Methodologies	Crisis management
Knowledge of IT policies, procedures and processes	Management skill
IT security to all users as per audit requirements	Ability to provide users with a simplistic technical understanding
Familiarise and keep abreast of IT changes	Analytical ability/ Problem solver
Business Writing	Time Management/Work under pressure
Process/Project Development	Coaching/ Mentoring
Advanced knowledge and experience in Networking, Servers & storage, Business applications	Innovative
	Attention to detail
	Strategic thinking

General Information and other requirements:


- 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 permits Affairs,
P. O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea.



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P.O. Box 4276
Asmara
Eritrea

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

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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

Air Conditioning Artisan

Number Required - (01)

Major Duties and responsibilities:-

- Planning
- Makes use of “Planned Maintenance Schedule”. (Daily Work Sheets).
Implementation of the Plan
- Identify the highest priority for each day and focus on completing relevant tasks.
- Ensures good housekeeping.
- Ensures the installation and maintenance and repairs of all Air Conditioner Units/ refrigeration plants are carried out in an efficient and effective way in order to minimize downtime. (Sketches, operation manuals, manufacturer’s instructions and engineering specifications. Troubleshooting malfunctions.)
- Performs regular inspections in order to detect potential problems before they cause breakdowns
- Controls downtime by ensuring the best techniques are being used to repair breakdowns.
- Ensure safety requirements are fulfilled at the work place, including leading Field Level Risk Assessment (FLRA) and proper use of the appropriate PPE. Report any safety issues/incidents.
- Comply with mine’s cardinal rules and other safety, environmental or other rules and standards as directed. Identifies any hazards in the work place.
- Assist with parts and supply stocks by carrying out regular stock takes and ordering replacements as required.
- Attends “Toolbox meetings” daily.
Reporting
- Reports progress of jobs to Crew Leader.

Profile: Qualifications and Experience

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Grade 12 for locals (Technical School).Technical College Electrical Diploma
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Working Experience – Nature & Length	<ul style="list-style-type: none">3 - 5 years relevant experienceComputer Literacy (MS Office – Intermediate), Attention to detail.Attention to detailAnalytical skillElectrical experienceProblem solving skillSupervisory experienceCommunication (English)IntegrityPrioritizing skills & multi-skillingAbility to work towards strict deadlinesHigh level of accuracySelf-motivation
Other skills and abilities	

General Information and other requirements:

- Place of Work: Bisha.
- Type of contract: Indefinite.
- 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 permits Affairs,
P. O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea.

Photographers Corner

Photo: Mhreteab Gebremichael
2006
Gelalo -Marsa Fatuma, Northern Red Sea Region





A chat with modern times poet: Meles Negusse

Born in 1975, graduated in electricity in 1995, after participating and winning in a writing contest in 2002, followed by his first collective book published in 2007 he officially became the talented poet and writer we know today and are glad to have in the Eritrean modern literature.

His latest book: a collection of short stories, enriched with an accurate touch of his own spellbinding the fans of his letters.

Better known for his lively and soulful poetry, poet and writer Meles Negusse, is our guest today.

When did you realize your inclinations for literature?

When I was very young, and I wouldn't give a specific day or time, but I did a lot of writing since an early age. I think I got it from my father, he likes reading books.

Poetry?

I started poetry in 1990 when I was in junior school. I participated in a school competition. My very first poem was entitled "my teacher", I had submitted it but then the Eritrean freedom fighters took control of the whole country and independence was finally attained so schools were closed and the whole system changed and never knew the score of my poem. There was another poetry competition in 1992 on a national level, I submitted another poem and won third place.

How did you develop your actual aptitudes in poetry?

Once I become aware of my inclinations in poetry I seized every opportunities came my way, I wanted to learn and know more about poetry. It is undeniably a vast and immense cultural compound so I am always interested. During the time I was in

the Technical School I attained some skills on poetry presenting from my teacher Mr. Mebrahtu Germatsion and I am still using them: other than that it is more of an assortment of skills that I learned with time.

About your poems

Poetry is... The core of poetry is a harmonic amalgamation of feelings, thoughts and imagination. They are a point in which human senses and mind acquiesce to put in words and sounds many feelings and emotions. So there is much I can say about my poetry, I can't put a 'tag' on my poems. They are just poems. I don't have even have definite style that I dare to say my own. I sometimes follow the technicality of great internationally celebrated poets of the past century and sometimes I do some the modern ones and many more time I choose to be spontaneous. Plus I wouldn't know the exact and definite theme of my poems; I do not want to set boundaries and margins to my mind.

Where do you present your poems?

In several occasions, TV, Radio, poetry recital stages and just whenever there is someone willing to hear and I do recite them on my own in my bedroom.

You do give lesson on poetry

Yes, I do. They are mostly organized by NUEWYS and I have been almost in every part of the country not only teaching styles and techniques but also gaining so much from my students. It is definitely one of my life's most cherished experiences.

First published poetry book.

My first book, which was a collection of several poems I wrote in several occasions. It is entitled



"Zihilu Iu Zihlu" meaning 'there will be whatever that is meant to be'. I was well aware that poetry books do not sell well when I first decided to publish it, I just wanted to find a peace of mind in sharing my poems but fortunately for me and also beyond my expectations the book was sold out in the first two weeks of its publication. I was surprised to have a second batch printed. And as I was just a beginner I found motivation to do more... it felt good to be heard.

You now have a new one too

Yes I do. This time is a collection of 11 short stories. I collected my short stories and present them in artistic way in my latest book, but originally I didn't have an intention of publishing such book but I took the initiative after seeing previous encouraging feedbacks my works received from the public.

What do you think of the books that are being published in Eritrea?

They are many in number and kind, which is according to my beliefs a very good thing. I mean what good can come out of not having many or even have few? So, it is good for now to have as many books as possible, but I do not believe it is not the right time to criticize. Let us just be for the moment appreciative of the increasing numbers of books that being published.

At the end

I want to thank every single one: friends and family whom contributed in the publishing of my latest book. I thank my friend Yosef Aregahn

better known by his nick name Jossi for laying out by book's cover page and my brother artist Matewos Abraha Barya whom stayed by my side through out the process. And I sincerely welcome my new baby daughter.

Something Worthy....

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social and political infrastructures. Eritrea's nation building strategies and policies were undermined and ridiculed and Eritrea is today being summoned to the UN Human Rights Council for pursuing the dreams and aspirations of her people and charting her own destiny and for encouraging her citizens, like the Americans back then, to see that Eritrea as "bigger than the sum of our individual ambitions". Eritreans, like Americans, are also not quitters and take full responsibility, and are perfectly capable of charting their own futures.

On Tuesday 12 January 2016, during his last State of the Union address, President Obama spoke about his hopes and dreams for the United States and the future of all its people:

"...That's the America I know. That's the country we love. Clear-eyed. Big-hearted. Undaunted by challenge. Optimistic that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word. That's what makes me so hopeful about our future..."

There was a lot of hope placed in the Obama Administration, and considering it was really the first time that Eritrean Americans had participated in US elections in such great numbers, it has been a disappointing Administration and

exposed the contempt for Africa that still prevails in Washington. For Eritrean Americans, President Barack Obama's presidency added salt to the decades' long injuries. His Administration will be remembered as one which continued the incoherent US policy for the region in general, and Ethiopia in particular. His legacy, unless he reverses his Administration's hostile stance towards Eritrea, annuls the illegal, unfair and unjust sanctions and restores Eritrea's sovereignty by compelling Ethiopia to end its 15 yearlong occupation, will not be one that will be "worthy to be remembered" by Eritreans.

As Eritrea prepares to celebrate the 25th Independence Anniversary on 24th May 2016, the Eritrean people remain hopeful. Despite the incredible defamation and vilification campaigns and attempts to diplomatically, economically and politically isolate Eritrea, the peoples' defiant resolve persists, and once again, the world has come to a new awareness and better understanding about the young nation and its people. Eritrea, like the United States, is a country that is loved by its magnanimous people, who are courageous and determined and remain "undaunted by challenge"...their struggle against all odds will be forever etched in memory and history as, "something worthy to be remembered"...

