



ETIPHANY COLORFULLY CELEBRATED NATION WIDE

Epiphany (Timket) was colorfully celebrated nationwide on 19 January.

The religious observance here in the capital in which Archbishops, members of the Holy Synod, representatives of the office of the Patriarch, Mr. Fesehaye Haile,

Governor of the Central Region and other Government officials as well as a number of the faithful took part witnessed a night long prayer.

Prayer service headed by His Holiness Abune Petros, Archbishop of the Eritrean Orthodox Tewahdo

Church, as well as Archbishops and members of the Holy Synod was conducted at the Epiphany Holy Water spot.

At the occasion, Merigeta Simon Beyene gave briefing on the background of the Timket Holiday and wished happy Epiphany to the Eritrean people inside the country and abroad as well as members of the Defense forces.

CONFERENCE OF NNEW BRANCH IN GERMANY



The German branch of the National Union of Eritrean Women conducted its 21st congress on 14 and 15 January in Frankfurt under the theme "Our Youth-Guarantors of Our Future".

The congress was attended by 125 representatives from 24 German cities.

At the congress, Ms. Okba Afwerki, chairperson of the union branch, presented activity report from 2014 to 2022 in terms of strengths and challenges encountered.

Speaking at the occasion, Mr. Yohannes Woldu, Charge d'Affairs at the Eritrean Embassy, gave briefing on the role and contribution of Eritrean women in all stages of the history of Eritrea.

Likewise, Mr. Kibreab Tekeste, Eritrea's Consul General in Frankfurt, Mr. Kahsai Tewolde, head of Public and Community Affairs, Mr. Teklu Lebasi, from national committee, and Ms. Miliete Tewoldbrhan, General Secretary of the National Union of Eritrean Women in Europe, as well as representatives of the National Association of Eritrean War Disabled Veterans and the National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students branch in Germany delivered messages of solidarity.

The congress also elected an executive committee for three years term.

The participants expressed readiness to strengthen participation and contribution in the implementation of the programs of the union branch.

CALL FOR REINFORCED PARTICIPATION IN TEACHING-LEARNING PROCESS

Ambassador Abdellas Musa, Governor of Anseba Region, called for reinforced participation and contribution of the community in the development of teaching-learning process.

At the occasion organized on 16 January to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Fireslam School in Mihlab, Ambassador Musa said that strengthening participation in the development of teaching-learning process attests to the growing awareness of the public on the importance of education.

region, on his part congratulating for the semi-centennial anniversary of the school called for reinforced effort for better outcome.

Fireslam School that was established in 1972 has been promoted to junior school in 2001/2002 academic year and to High school in 2022/2023 academic year and is providing educational service to 1 thousand 382 students.

At the occasion exhibition depicting the history and journey of the school was staged and the former students and teachers of the school presented their memory during their stay in the school.

Mr. Kiflai Andemicael, head of the Ministry of Education branch in the

Mihlab, Geleb sub-zone, is located about 48 km east of Keren city.



PRAISEWORTHY HEALTH SERVICE PROVISION

At a meeting organized on 17 and 18 January in Barentu, it was reported that as a result of substantial investment made on both in equipment and man power the medical facilities in the Gash Barka region are providing praiseworthy health service to the public.

At the meeting, report was presented focusing on the activities implemented regarding control of communicable and non-communicable diseases, capacity improvement of health facilities and community based

environmental sanitation activities as well as introduction of new equipment to health facilities.

Dr. Hayelom Kidane, head of the Ministry of Health branch in Gash Barka region, said that in 2022 delivery at health facilities has increased from 49.5 to 53.7%, vaccination coverage has reached 100% and cervical cancer vaccination to 94.2%.

Indicating that the achievement registered in the health sector was the result of the commendable participation of the public and

health professionals, Ambassador Mahmud Ali Hirui, Governor of the region, said that due attention will be given to address shortcomings of health facilities and to conduct sustainable environmental sanitation activities.

Speaking at the occasion, Ms. Amina Nurhussein, Minister of Health, commended the strong participation of the public, administrations and other Government institutions in the effort by the Ministry of Health to expand and to improve health service provision.



LOCAL NEWS

FAREWELL CEREMONY TO NATIONAL CYCLING TEAM



The Commission of Culture and Sports organized farewell ceremony on 19 January to the National Cycling Team to participate at the 16th round of Tour du Gabon cycling championship 2023 to be held from 23 to 29 January.

Speaking at the occasion, Ambassador Zemed Tekle, Commissioner of Culture and Sports, said that Eritrea has won the Tour du Gabon Cycling Championship seven times and expressed his confidence that they will win for the 8th time.

Ambassador Zemed also said that ethics is part of the

competition and called on members of the national team to preserve the good name of Eritrea.

Mr. Samson Solomon, coach of the national team, on his part said that they have conducted adequate preparation for the competition in which big teams are expected to participate.

The national team comprises Henok Mulubrhan, Dawit Yemane, Efrem Gebrehiwet, Aklilu Arefaine, Meron Teshome, and Michael Habtom.

At the 7 stages race that covers 933.7 km, 10 national teams, as well as 5 continental and pro-continental teams will take part.

from social media



← Tweet



Yemane G. Meskel
@hawelti

Scandalous, to say the least. And the worst part is their selective pontification on “human rights/decency” and the disparaging of alternative governance architectures that give primacy to social justice in its broadest sense and dimensions.

Oxfam International @Oxfam · Jan 16

The richest 1% have pocketed \$26 trillion (£21 trillion) in new wealth since 2020, nearly twice as much as the other 99 per cent of the world's population, an @Oxfam report reveals today. #SurvivalOfTheRichest
twitter.com/oxfamgbpress/s...

4:37 PM · Jan 16, 2023 · 12.7K Views

576 Retweets 4 Quote Tweets 550 Likes

A big fish captured, yet many more . . .

Continued from page 3

Subsequently, in contravention of normal operating procedures (as well as basic standards of decency and decorum to the host country), the documents were circulated quietly and confidentially to various countries while the Government of Eritrea was left in the dark throughout the entire process. Eritrea subsequently raised a series of reasonable and valid objections, and requested that the UNHCR review and rectify its reports and recommendations. But these were invariably and disrespectfully ignored.

The UNHCR's Guidelines, assiduously accompanied as they were by explicit campaigns to encourage Eritrean youth to cross over to neighboring countries from which they would be “resettled” in third countries – usually Europe, Canada, Australia and the US – has been the principal factor behind disproportionate migration of Eritreans during the past years.

Indeed, tens of thousands

of other Africans – including Ethiopians, Sudanese, Somalis, and others – were also prompted to seek refugee status posing as “Eritreans” due to the perceived ease of acquiring refugee status under this label. At one point in time, the Austrian Ambassador to Ethiopia confirmed that 60% of “refugees” in Austria were in fact Ethiopians posing as Eritreans. This was not a unique case but actually a broad representation of the prevailing reality in other western countries.

UNHCR's inexcusable demeanor is not limited to

these deplorable acts. There is overwhelming evidence of its close cooperation with TPLF officials and its refugee arm – the ARRA – in the past years in various illicit activities. The latter activities, such as intelligence gathering, recruitment for subversive agendas, rampant entrapment of minors, identity theft, and asylum fraud, and financial embezzlements, are fundamentally incompatible with UNHCR's core mandate, which is limited to purely non-political and humanitarian operations, enshrined in the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to

the Status of Refugees.

Underlying causes and dynamics of human trafficking need to be addressed

Today, global headlines rightly herald the capture of a major trafficking kingpin. But things should not stop there. The larger underlying causes, dynamics, and varied tentacles of the scourge of human trafficking need to be addressed. And as the historical record clearly shows, UNHCR, too, has much to answer for. Over the years, it has been mired in the politicized human trafficking of countless Eritrean youths.



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Editor-In-Chief
Amanuel Mesfun

Asst. Editor-In-Chief
Sirak Habtemichael

P.O.Box: 247

Tel: 11-41-14

Fax: 12-77-49

E-mail:

eritreaprofilemoi@gmail.com

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Layout
Azmera Berhane
Marta Bedali

Guest Column

A Big Fish Captured, Yet Many More Remain Free

Bana Negusse

Two weeks ago, an alleged human trafficker was arrested in Sudan after an international manhunt. While his capture is positive and welcome, other big fish, who have been major players in the trafficking of people across the Horn of Africa, remain free and their activities largely remain unknown.

Critical background

Between May 1998 and June 2000, Eritrea and TPLF-led Ethiopia fought the largest and deadliest conventional war in contemporary African history. The brutal conflict led to the death or injury of tens of thousands, large-scale displacement of civilians, and devastatingly high economic, infrastructural, and development costs for both countries. At its fundamental core, the war was the result of the TPLF's expansionist policies, as well as its desire to roll back Eritrea's independence.

Following the failed attempts to force "regime change" and erase Eritrean independence through a large-scale military invasion, the TPLF and its principal Western allies initiated a multifaceted effort to achieve their aims via other routes and mechanisms, albeit less direct and overt. In particular, these efforts included "isolation, destabilization, sanctions and economic warfare, vilification and psychological

operations, and degrading the country's ability to develop or defend itself". These subterfuges were accompanied by massive financial injection – to the tune of 40 billion US dollars – to prop up and "lionize" the TPLF regime.

Indeed, as the TPLF militarily occupied large swathes of sovereign Eritrean territory and carried out repeated military attacks or incursions, in direct violation of international law and UN agreements, the West, led by the US, showered it with billions in aid and military armaments, shielded it from any and all criticism or censure, and provided it with vital diplomatic and political cover.

At the same time, an array of Western-financed groups, including Human Rights Watch, Freedom House, and Amnesty International, among others, worked closely with the TPLF to produce an incessant stream of disinformation, denigration, and smears against Eritrea.

In 2009 and 2011, TPLF and US diplomats and intelligence officials collaborated to effectively hoodwink the international community and engineer an unjust, illegal sanctions regime against Asmara. For years, TPLF officials also relentlessly lobbied Western governments to cut off aid to, investment in, and cooperation with Eritrea, in the hopes of "making the economy scream"

and "strangling" the country into submission. A leaked 2005 US embassy cable in Addis Ababa described how the TPLF's strategy was to, "isolate Eritrea and wait for it to implode economically." Similarly, writing for Al-Monitor, Israel's former deputy minister of defense Ephraim Sneh indicated, "Over the last decade, the United States has espoused a policy designed to isolate and weaken the country."

Trafficking and strategic depopulation

Another critical dimension of the "full spectrum press" against Eritrea was the targeting of the latter's human resources, particularly its young population. The aim was to wean the country's youth from national service in order to downgrade Eritrea's defense and developmental capabilities.

Eritrea's law on national service was enacted in 1992, in the immediate aftermath of the country's long war for independence. The original law was further amended in 1995 and enacted as Proclamation 82/1995. The 18-months long national service – which may be prolonged in times of war – is a critical national institution and an important foundation of the country. Not only does it ensure the nation's security and defense, it also promotes development,

raises human capital, helps instill key socio-cultural values among participants, and fosters cohesion and nation-building within a highly diverse, multi-faith, multi-ethnic country.

Accordingly, for Eritrea's arch-enemies, targeting the institution assumed massive significance. If the national service could successfully be hollowed out and weakened, the presumption was Eritrea's defense capabilities would be severely impaired.

The principal conduit for implementing this malicious policy was the UNHCR. Although it has long portrayed itself as neutral and non-political, the organization has often been used as a potent, pliable tool by its principal and powerful donors. (Last year, the US provided UNHCR with a record \$2.1 billion. Historically, the US has been the organization's largest financial backer, providing it with around one-third of its funds.) Scholars and informed commentators have regularly expressed how due to its financial vulnerability and dependence on donor governments and host states, the organization's actions have been shaped by the interests of donors and hosts.

In order to provide a veil of legitimacy and hide the true intent of the scheme, in 2009 and 2011 the UNHCR issued

two "Eligibility Guidelines" on Eritrea. Simply, these advocated for the extension of "blanket asylum rights to all Eritrean migrants", especially the youth and national service members.

Although the documents were issued supposedly to "assist decision-makers, including UNHCR staff, Governments and private practitioners in assessing the protection needs of Eritrean asylum-seekers", they were characterized by glaring errors, exaggerated and fabricated information, and a complete lack of context.

Notably, despite the fact that the UNHCR maintained an office in Eritrea, and could thus evaluate first-hand the objective realities on the ground in the country, it instead relied on dubious and compromised sources, including individuals who had never set foot in Eritrea; so-called "experts and authoritative figures" who had actually been completely and utterly discredited many times over; groups that had openly and persistently advocated for "regime change" in the country; and, entities with shadowy ties to or financial backing from Western and TPLF intelligence services.



Continued on page 2



Celebrating 'Timket'

Lwam kahsay

Timket (Epiphany) is celebrated to commemorate the baptism of Jesus Christ in the hands of John the Baptist at River Jordan. The celebration, which is held annually on the 19th of January, is primarily a function in the purview of the Eritrean Orthodox Tewahedo Church, a ceremony as old as Christianity.

The first mystery of the Christian faith rests around Epiphany, which traditionally

is the Tabot, the wooden slab believed to be a replica of the Ark of the Covenant. This is the holiest object that has to be carried on the head of the arch priest of the parish church with much reverence.

The hymns of St. Yared and other religious songs, as well as popular songs, accompanied by tirumba, koboro, kirar and traditional dances highlight the festive mood of the day. It is believed that if there is not enough festivity and songs, traditional hymns sung by Deberas



calls for grand annual celebrations among Christians in Eritrea and Ethiopia. The ceremony led by the Eritrean Orthodox Church in Asmara is the most colorful one. The whole city, especially adherents of the faith, gather around the baptismal pool known as 'Mai Timket'.

The day marking the eve of the Timket celebration, seven Tabots of the Orthodox Tewahdo Church within the city flock towards Mai Timket from all directions. At the center of each parish church

(seasoned church educated elite), the Tabot would exert pressure on the priest carrying it and force him to stop from walking farther. The parishioners of every church are dressed up in their finest traditional costumes, respectively resting their Tabot in a tent of their own until the next day when the actual celebration begins.

After mass and the reading from the four Gospels is completed, the blessing of the water in the pool is performed by the Abun,

the Bishop of the city. At this instance the focus is on the pool of water, with much jubilation and ululation of the womenfolk. Then the Tabots, surrounded by the enthusiastic faithful, begin to return to their original parishes while more joyous moments are shared by the parishioners, dancing and singing to the best of their performance. This takes almost the whole day.

The pool of water is important for several reasons. It symbolizes the importance of baptism in

water and is believed to be the source of healing through the

blessings of the water by the clergy. As soon as the Abun and other members of the clergy bless the water in the pool with the holy cross, they sprinkle water on the faithful who are eagerly waiting aside for the showering of blessings. Many take the blessed water in bottles for their sick relatives and to keep in their homes for protection and good luck.

When the ceremony is closed with prayers, it is time to escort back the Tabots to their respective churches, which is done with great enthusiasm. Tabots have a long history in the Eritrean orthodox church as long as the history of "tabot xion" of the Old Testament. Since the introduction of Christianity every church sculpts its own tabot, the most sacred object of the Orthodox Church and a covenant between humans and God.

Another interesting part of the celebration is the clothes worn by believers, who dress up in traditional clothes that signify the importance of the event.



OPINION

Dear Man, What do You Need in a Woman..?

It is only fair to say that people tend to focus at beginnings and endings of things, and with all due acknowledgment of equal importance of what lies in the middle, this seems to be a widely accepted truth. A simple demonstration is that first and last born persons in a family are celebrated with their own distinctive appellations that come with certain privileges. In Eritrean families, first born person is called bokri which means the eldest, and hisaslide is a name given to the youngest in a family. All those who are in between are, at best, identified as the second, third and so on.

Beginnings and endings are dots enfolding an entire package. For someone who has lived as a renowned writer, his first and last books are remembered by him or others as they serve as references of his professional journey without these books having to be master pieces. That same perspective goes for a singer, a doctor, etc. In romantic relationships, the first and last persons are very well committed to memory and people tend to mention them while sharing their stories.

January and December, too, are in a way viewed as special months marking the beginning and the end of the year.

December is the month when we stop and look back at the choices and decisions we made, calculate mistakes we committed and successes we achieved throughout the twelve months. It is also the month we get ourselves together for a refreshed journey ahead. It is the finish line - but every finish line is also the beginning of a new race. For governments and public and private organizations, too, it is the month assessments of performances in the twelve months

are made.

January, on the other hand, is the harbinger of the new days, weeks and months ahead that are at our disposal to use as we see fit. People welcome this month with convivial fanfare, hoping the upcoming year to bestow prosperity in their lives. In this opening month, promises are made, plans are drawn and ideas are poured for change and betterment in life.

For as long as I can remember I was cynical on this matter, and so I saw New Years just as numbers that come and go, to which we annex significance to indulge ourselves to make embellished wishes and promises. But I grew to understand that there is more to it, and even



the abovementioned custom offers people hope. Without hope, which one of us could survive?!

Both months are also the months when the weather is cold, which some even dare to argue is a good reason for couples to cuddle and share a breath. The cloudy sky and the breeze are also ideal for kids to play and adults to take a healthy walk. After dusk, families gather

in their homes closer than ever around a glowing charcoal on a stove and share coffee or tea after dinner, chatting the night away.

These months are also adorned with a chain of cheerful festive atmosphere. Between parties, get-togethers of friends and colleagues to holidays, festivities are abundant.

Indeed, this time of the year undeniably generates an absorbing global spectacle where people worldwide enjoy the positivity it brings up in spite of cultural differences.

In Eritrea, especially in rural areas where the majority of the population live, both months mark

a period of the year when crops are harvested and stored. After months of hard work, families finally get to enjoy the fruits of their sweat. The amusement is accompanied by weddings.

In Eritrea, a union between a male and female means a union of two families. Its essence transcends the colorful celebration at weddings often held at weekends. Until not too long ago marriage in all Eritrean ethnic groups was predominantly arranged. But time has changed and so do the way things are done. There are conservative families and communities that haven't changed entirely, but young boys and girls today have more room to choose their significant-other than did their counterparts in the past.

In Eritrea, it is quite common to see bachelors and bachelorettes who live abroad (mainly Western countries) coming to Eritrea in search of their soul mates from



their home country.

January is the month when most weddings take place and the seed of marriage is planted. It even has a name in Tigrigna "T'ri E'bdi," which literally means Frantic January. It is to indicate that so

had a lot to say but what caught my attention was, "If you decide to be with a strong woman, you have to accept that she is tough and she has her own opinion, but if you choose an obedient woman, you must accept that she depends on you and you must ensure her life."

"But the latter are a breed who are under extinction," she adds mockingly, inciting I shall not be the head of the house as was my grandfather.

She, of course, said it sarcastically, but the point was that times have changed and women cannot be made submissive anymore and men are not the only bread winners in the house.

Man! Let's face this hard truth; power in a marriage is shared these days.

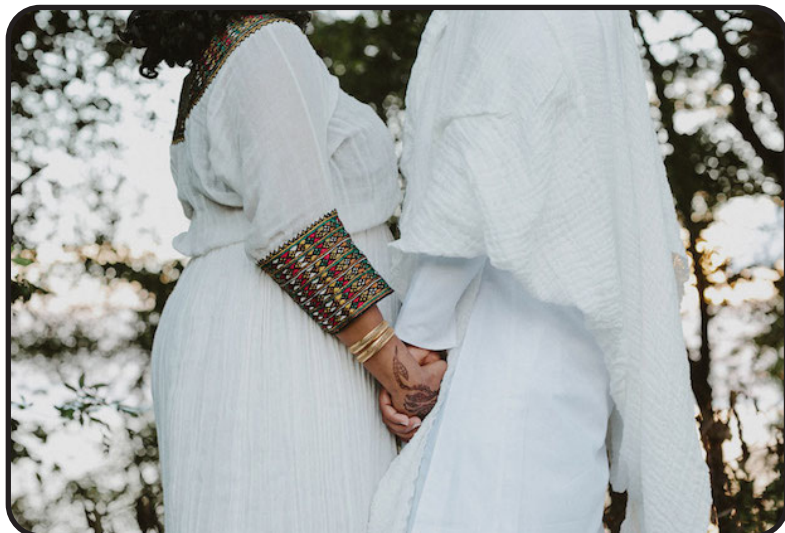
The woman of this era is ready to share power, making it a two-way street. She is not settling for less. She will not stay at home and wait for the man to come home with food. She will not accept the way of his grandfathers if the man raises his voice and demands things to be done for him in the house, and she surely will not be willing to just support his goals and dreams. She, too, has her own.

I believe you [man] should take the deal.

To the man who is not ready to accept this, he will have to get along or live solo, which will be likely regrettable, but if he chooses the former and consents to what modernity has brought, it will work out to his favor when he has a daughter.

So, dear man! It all comes to what you choose. The huge puzzle is: what do you need in a woman?

Filmon Mekonen





Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI)

Consulting Firm for Project Supervision and Management

Dekemhare 30 MW Solar PV Project

Government of the State of Eritrea

Sector: Energy

Financing Agreement References: TBD

Project Code: P-ER-FA0-001

The Government of State of Eritrea has applied for financing from the African Development Fund (ADF) toward the cost of the Dekemhare 30 MW Solar PV Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds of the grant to payments under the contract for 'Project Supervision and Management'.

The services included under this contract are:

- i. Assisting the project Executing Agency in the bidding process including the contract negotiations,
- ii. Review and approval of detailed designs, EPC contractor construction procedures and technical reports, supervision of constructions works, ensuring the Executing Agency obtains economic solutions of high technical standards and that the overall project is implemented in an efficient manner, with the agreed contract amount and completed within the expected timeframes of the project that includes 30 MW Solar PV plant with associated substation, Battery Energy Storage (BESS) and connection to 66 kV transmission line.
- iii. Participate in the Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) for important equipment.
- iv. Supervision of the implementation of Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP).
- v. Provide advisory services to the Project Executing Agency and capacity building and skills transfer for a selected number of client's staff focusing but not limited to Solar PV and Battery Storage Systems operations and maintenance, monitoring and control, solar energy forecasting and incorporation into daily dispatch program.
- vi. Provide full support to the Executing Agency during the commissioning and grid connection of the completed facility, and during the defect liability period.
- vii. The project will include but not limited to procurement and construction of the 30 MW Solar PV plant with associated 66 kV substation, BESS plant, other materials/equipment necessary for a fully functional and state-of-the-art modern industrial solar PV plant and local installation services. This component will mainly be implemented on an EPC contract basis.
- viii. The project site is located just outside of Dekemhare town located 40 km to the South-East of Eritrea's capital city Asmara. Physical presence of the consultant at site is required during the entire construction period.

It is expected that the consultancy service assignment will take 38 months.

The Project Executing Agency (Ministry of Energy and Mines (MoEM)) now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.).

Consultants may constitute joint - ventures to enhance their chances of qualification and the inclusion of local content is encouraged.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the shortlist and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's *Procurement Policy for Bank Group Funded Operations, dated October 2015*, which is available on the Bank's website at www.afdb.org. The Ministry is under no obligation to shortlist any consultant who expresses interest.

Interested consultancy firms may obtain further information at the address below from 08:00 - 12:00 and 13:00 - 16:00 hours during working days:

Expressions of interest should be sent Electronically to the addresses below through email or delivered to the address below by 20 February 2023 at 10.00 hrs. local time and mention: "**Consultancy services for Project Supervision and Management**".

Ministry of Energy and Mines (MoEM)
Department of Energy

Attention:

Name: Tefferi Abraha
Director, Energy Resources Development
Project Manager

Address

Street; Denden Street, No. 176
Postal Address: 5285
Postal Code: 174
Tel: 2911125972
Mobile: 2917175327
E-mail: tefferiab.pce@gmail.com



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

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

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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

Position: HME Engineer
Department: HME Maintenance
Number required: One (01)

PRIMARY PURPOSE

- Supporting the HME Management, to ensure operating targets and budgets set are achieved/exceeded, following the company safety and health policies.

TASK DESCRIPTION EXPANDED TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

Plannng

- Participate in suggesting new ideas/proposals, as well as encouraging others to improve the HME Engineering Division operation.
- Improve when relevant the “Annual Budgeting Process” to ensure production targets are set.

Implementation

- Support the HME Management team to ensure all maintenance and repairs in HME are completed in line with plans to ensure an efficient and effective fleet of equipment, in order to achieve/exceed operational targets.
- Ensure safety requirements are fulfilled at the workplace, including leading Field Level Risk Assessment (FLRA) and proper use of the appropriate PPE. Report any safety issues/incidents.
- Carry out RCFA when required.
- Comply with mine’s cardinal rules and other safety, environmental or other rules and standards as directed. Ensure all hazards and risks are identified, reported, and eliminated.
- Coordinate the HME Engineering Division resources (people; equipment; spares/consumables; and facilities to ensure processing utilization and cost management objectives meet or exceed targets.
- Assist in tracking equipment performances and identify and implement corrective actions.
- Ensure production, quality and costs are in line with budget.
- Ensure an appropriate level of resourcing for HME projects.
- Relieve the HME Manager and/or Superintendent when required
- Lead and follow through with direct management decisions and present data in support.

Reporting and Data Control

- Ensure that the “Information System” is updated.
- Carry out ICAM investigations and ensure any issues arising from such are dealt with in a timely manner.
- Analyse and process equipment data for fleet performance management

Supporting the HME Engineering Division

- Provide technical support for the team, as and when required.
- Provide training and mentoring for the team (especially safety standards and procedures).
- Ensure all HME Engineering Division personnel and contractors, work in accordance with relevant laws, regulations, company policies and procedures.
- Promote good HME Engineering Division behaviour and world best engineering practices.
- Propose, implement and manage improvement projects and studies
- Train and coach national engineer in his role.
- Providing input into the development of the Department’s Succession Plan, staff retention strategies and identifying potential leaders within the Section.

Running Condition Monitoring and Reliability Section for HME

- Identify and manage asset reliability risks that could adversely affect equipment reliability and/or business operations
- Participates in the development of new equipment specifications along with commissioning and formulating criteria for and evaluation of equipment and technical MRO suppliers and technical maintenance service providers.
- Ensuring that condition monitoring of equipment parts and systems is conducted as per the prescribed criteria and test results reported accurately and within the shortest period; preferably, within 24 hours from cutting of the sample.

- Ensuring that all salvageable parts from the Mine Scrapyard are segregated from scrapped items and repaired for use
- Aiding in driving continuous improvement by working with leadership Teams in identifying gaps in key performance areas and planning activities to increase overall equipment efficiency.
- Analyzing reliability and downtime problems in order to determine the reliability approach, personnel/equipment required for the particular situation, with consideration given to cost limitations for equipment uptime/downtime, repair/ replacement costs and weight, size and availability of materials/equipment.
- Participate in suggesting new ideas/proposals to improve the HME Department performance.

Qualifications:	Knowledge and Experience
Degree in Mechanical, Engineering	10 - 15 years relevant experience 5 - 10 years supervisory skills
Technical Skills	Behavioral Skills
Computer Literacy (MS Office – Intermediate, Excel – Advanced)	Communication (English)
HME Engineering Division, maintenance and environment experience	Assertiveness & Proactivity; Interpersonal Relations; Integrity, Prioritizing skills & multi-skilling; Ability to work towards strict deadlines
Attention to detail; Analytical skill, Management skills, Problem solving skill, Financial Management Skills, Strategy Exposure	Coaching & Team-building skills; Discretion; Self-motivation; Cultural Diversity experience
Condition monitoring and Reliability experience	

General Information and other requirements:

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

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 will be considered as potential candidates for an interview.**
- Application documents will not be returned to sender.**
- All applications should be sent through the post office.**
- Deadline for application: 10 days from the day of publication in the Newspaper.**

Address: Please mail your applications to:-
Bisha Mining Share Company,
P. O. Box 4276 Asmara, Eritrea

Note to Non-Eritrean applicants:
Please send a copy of your application to
Aliens Employment permits
P. O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea

Lighter Side

The Chinese Spring Festival in Eritrea

Sabrina Solomon

Countries all over the world celebrate cultural and religious festivals, which are vital in uniting countries and cultures.

Chinese lunar year was celebrated in Eritrea last week by the Chinese embassy. Chinese lunar year, which is also called the spring festival of China, is an important Chinese festival celebrated at the turn of the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar.

Due to the friendship between the State of Eritrea and the People's Republic of China, both countries have come to learn about each other's cultural heritages, cultural holidays, festivals, languages and much more. The spring festival, which has a history of about 4000 years, is celebrated by China's Embassy in Eritrea with people from both countries. In addition to the celebrations held by the Embassy of China, there were concerts organized by Eritrea's Commission of Culture and Sports and Confucius Institute to promote the exchange of culture between Eritrea and China.

Celebrations traditionally run from New Year's eve to the Lantern festival on the 15th day

interesting fact about the spring festival is that every New Year is represented by an animal, and

and Eritrean cultural outfits. Following a speech by an official from China's Embassy, a list of

movements, a performance by an Eritrean dance group, named Miras, added more color to the festival. For Eritreans who had already celebrated the New Year on January 1st, the occasion provided another opportunity to start the New Year afresh.

Festivals are playing a vital role in strengthening the relationship between Eritrea and China. Organizing such events can help strengthen the existing mutual relations between the peoples of the State of Eritrea and the People's Republic of China.

After I saw those Eritrean students singing and dancing as if they were Chinese and the Chinese people singing as if they were Eritrean, I realized that one can learn a new culture so long one has the will to embrace new things, which I believe the performers and organizers of the event have shown.

Eritrea enjoys a long history of harmonious co-existence of different ethnic and religious groups, and presenting this wealth to the rest of the world and learning the beautiful heritage of others boosts relationships between countries. The increase in the number of Eritreans who want to learn Chinese language and culture at the Confucius Institute is one proof.



of the first calendar month. The New Year festival is centuries old and has significance because of several myths and customs. An

the theme of the year 2023 is the rabbit.

The New Year is celebrated through lion dances, dragon dances, fireworks, family gatherings, etc. The date of the Chinese New Year changes every year because it is determined by the Chinese lunar calendar, which is based on the cycles of the moon and sun and is generally 21-51 days behind the Gregorian calendar. But it always falls between January 21st and February 20th. The day of the Chinese New Year is a new moon day, usually the second after the winter solstice.

Chinese New Year is celebrated and sometimes observed as a public holiday in a number of countries and territories where a sizable Chinese population lives. In Eritrea, it was celebrated on 14th January at the University of Asmara hall. The event was made colorful by cultural and artistic performances by both Chinese and Eritreans, depicting the cultures of the two countries.

The university hall was filled with young ladies from both countries dressed in Chinese

programs was introduced.

The Confucius Institute presented a number of performances expressing the beauty of the New Year through the young Eritrean dance groups, who are mostly below 18, dressed up in Chinese traditional clothes. Along with the young girls'



NEWS

CALL TO STRENGTHEN CONTRIBUTION IN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

At a meeting conducted with youth in Afabet sub-zone on 14 January, Mr. Rezene Adonai, secretary of the PFDJ in the Northern Red Sea Region, called on the youth to strengthen organizational capacity and participation in the charted out development programs.

At the event, it was reported that financial and material contribution worth 16 million Nakfa has been extended to members of the Eritrean Defense Forces.

Mr. Ahmed Mohammed-Nur, administrator of the sub-zone, on his part said that there is plan to readjust the shortcomings witnessed in 2022 with a view to conduct significant activities.

The participants on their part conducted extensive discussion on issues related to the youth and adopted various recommendations.