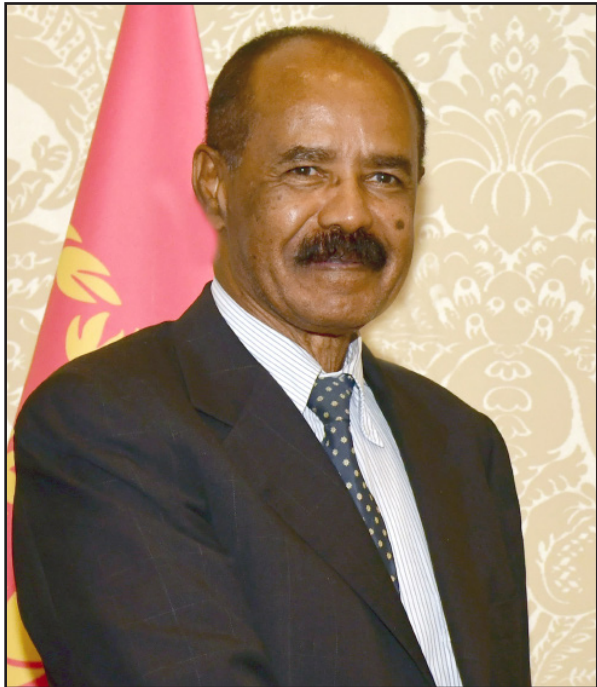


MESSAGES OF CONGRATULATIONS



Leaders of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Republic of Egypt, on behalf of their respective

the Republic of India, the Republic of France, the Republic of Austria, and the Republic of Korea have sent messages of congratulations to the people and Government of Eritrea in connection with the 34th anniversary of Independence Day.

In their messages, sent

countries and themselves, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman of Saudi Arabia, President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi of Egypt, President Droupadi Murmu of India, President Emmanuel Macron of France, Federal President Alexander Van der Bellen of Austria, and Mr. Lee Ju-Ho, Acting President of the Republic of Korea, conveyed their best wishes for good health to President Isaias Afwerki, as well as peace and prosperity to the Eritrean people.

The leaders also expressed their countries' readiness to develop further and strengthen bilateral relations for the mutual benefit of their nations and Eritrea.

CALL FOR ORGANIZED VISITS TO HISTORICAL SITES

A call has been made for organized visits to historical sites where heroic feats have been demonstrated by liberation fighters during the armed struggle for independence, to pass this legacy to future generations.

The appeal was made during a visit to the Meshalit and Genfelom trenches in the Hamelmalo sub-zone on 17 May, as part of the 34th anniversary of Independence Day celebrations.

The program was attended by over 1,300 students, Government employees, members of the Defense Forces, and residents of the administrative areas of

Gizgiza, Wazintet, and Genfelom. Attendees received briefings from veteran fighters who had been stationed in those areas.

In their briefings, the veterans emphasized the heavy sacrifices made during the struggle, calling for a deep understanding of the country's history and encouraging the youth to uphold and carry forward this national legacy.

The participants of the tour said that the program makes it special for it was conducted during the 34th Independence Day celebrations week and called for the continuation of such educational initiatives.

SCHOOLS INDEPENDENCE WEEK IN ANSEBA REGION

Schools Independence Week in the Anseba Region, which began on 13 May under the theme "Students and Independence," has concluded colorfully. The program was held in connection with the 34th Independence Day anniversary.

The closing ceremony, held in the city of Keren, featured cultural performances portraying the sacrifices paid for independence and the significance of the national flag and sovereignty.

Mr. Kiflai Andemicael, head of the regional education office, stated that the objective of Schools Week was to instill national values in students, enhance their understanding of the heavy sacrifices made for independence and sovereignty, and deepen their sense of history and identity.

Highlighting that this is the third time Schools Week has been organized at the Keren sub-zone level, Mr. Yosief Okbaselasie, head of the education office in the sub-zone, commended all participants and contributors for making the event a success.



SWEET POTATO AND CASSAVA: ENCOURAGING RESULTS

A pilot project for cultivating sweet potato and cassava, implemented by exemplary vegetable and fruit farmers in the Barentu sub-zone, is yielding promising results, according to experts and farmers.

Farmer Kalid Ahmed from the Kuluku administrative area reported that the sweet potato and cassava he planted alongside his vegetable and fruit crops as part of the pilot project are producing encouraging outcomes. Mr. Kalid attributed the success of the project to the guidance and support provided by agricultural experts.

Eng. Musie Bahta, a water and soil conservation expert, noted that the number of exemplary farmers in the sub-zone continues to grow, highlighting Mr. Kalid as a leading example. He stated that Mr. Kalid has cultivated sweet potato and cassava on 2.5 hectares and has achieved notable success.

Ms. Tsega Teklai, a vegetable and fruit development expert, emphasized the economic and nutritional benefits of sweet potato and cassava. She urged other farmers to follow the commendable example set by Mr. Kalid.

Women engaged in vegetable and fruit farming in the area said that the ongoing development efforts, supported by agricultural experts, are expected to motivate more farmers to cultivate sweet potato and cassava on a wider scale.

PROGRAM DEPICTING HEROIC FEATS OF ERITREAN WOMEN

The National Union of Eritrean Women organized a program yesterday showcasing the heroic feats demonstrated by Eritrean women during the struggle for national independence, in safeguarding national sovereignty, and in the country's development drives.

At the event, which was attended by senior Government and PFDJ officials, Ms. Zaid Mesfun, coordinator of the program, stated that the National Union of Eritrean Women has been working to realize the sustainable development of Eritrean women in all sectors, and that encouraging results have so far been achieved.

The event featured programs highlighting the Union's achievements over the past 10

years, along with a documentary film portraying the heroic contributions of Eritrean women.

In the same vein, a product exhibition organized by the 'Tinsae' Women Artists' Association in the Central Region opened on 19 May in front of the

Ministry of Education in Asmara.

The exhibition, which includes various artifacts, will remain open until 25 May. The 'Tinsae' Women Artists' Association was established in 2012 under the auspices of the National Union of Eritrean Women.



Our Cohesion: Our Armour!

REPORTAGE

Echoes of Harmony: Asmara Carnival

Mussie Efriem

Carnival, a vibrant and globally celebrated phenomenon, serves as a powerful lens through which diverse cultures express themselves. More than just a spectacle of music, dance, and masquerade, Carnival functions as a dynamic cultural portrayal, reflecting a community's history, values, and social dynamics. From the grand parades of Rio de Janeiro to the street festivals of the Caribbean, each Carnival offers a unique glimpse into the traditions, beliefs, and identities of its people, often rooted in historical resistance, religious syncretism, and the affirmation of cultural pride.

As May unfolds, a palpable anticipation builds, culminating in Eritrea's annual Independence Day

into vibrant corridors of national pride. People begin to stake out their spots early, eager to secure a front-row view of the spectacular shows to come. It's more than just a parade; these carnivals, beautifully organized by the sub-zonal administrations, are a living testament to the magnificence of our cultures, a proud showcase of our national unity. This past Monday, May 19th, the air hummed with energy as a truly magnificent carnival swept through Asmara's main streets. Thousands upon thousands of local and foreign spectators lined the avenues, their faces alight with excitement. This grand spectacle, masterfully orchestrated by the Central Region Administration in collaboration with the Commission of Culture and Sports, resonated with this year's



iconic Harnet Avenue, and finally culminating in a joyous crescendo at Bahti Meskerem Square.

The carnival parade was far more than just a colorful spectacle; it was a living embodiment of Eritrea's rich cultural heritage and its hard-won independence. The core of the event lay in the cultural songs performed in various Eritrean languages. This wasn't merely entertainment; it was a deliberate and powerful expression of unity amidst diversity. Eritrea is a nation made up of nine distinct ethnic groups, each with its own language and traditions. By featuring songs from all these languages, the parade powerfully demonstrated that these groups are interconnected and form a cohesive national fabric. Furthermore, the expressions conveyed through these performances explicitly reflected the hard-won independence, with themes of struggle, resilience, triumph, and the cherished freedom that came after years of armed struggle. It was a communal act of remembrance and celebration of their nationhood.

The phrase "summing up the Eritrean people's essence in one street" beautifully encapsulates the parade's ability to compress

a vast and multifaceted national identity into a tangible, observable experience. For a foreigner, this carnival offered an unparalleled opportunity. Instead of needing to travel extensively or study various texts, an observer could, in one moment, gain sufficient information about all the Eritrean ethnic groups and their beauty. This implies that each group showcased its unique attire, music, dance, and customs, allowing a comprehensive and immediate appreciation of Eritrea's diverse cultural landscape. It was a powerful, living museum, offering an intimate glimpse into the soul of the nation.

Spectators along Sematat and Harnet avenues, as well as at Bahti Meskerem Square, adorned themselves in vibrant and colorful traditional garments. Women particularly stood out in fabrics displaying the colors of the Eritrean flag and the Eritrean coat of arms, featuring the camel and golden olive branch. Upon reaching the final destination, Bahti Meskerem Square, attendees were treated to a concert by the renowned Asser cultural troupe and choreographic groups including Admas, Sbrit, and Snit. The hour-and-a-half-long concert filled the evening air with

a mix of new and beloved songs, performed by both seasoned and emerging singers. A highlight of the concert was a rendition of the iconic song "Erena," originally performed three decades ago at the Asmara stadium during the independence anniversary. This performance by a group of gifted young singers resonated deeply with the spectators, who passionately sang along, their voices rising as one. The vividness and spirit of the song, with its powerful message of unity, perfectly encapsulated this year's theme, "Our Cohesion: Our Armour."

The powerful performance of Osman Omer, a Nara singer, created a vivid and unforgettable show that thoroughly entertained the audience with his exceptional gift of dance, particularly through his repeated use of the word "tifo." Initially, the meaning of "tifo" was a mystery to me, and likely to many others in the crowd. Yet, the sheer warmth emanating from the singer and the ear-deafening repetition of the word by the spectators ripped through the atmosphere at Bahti Meskerem Square. It wasn't just a sound; it was an eruption of shared energy. As I later learned from a Nara journalist of Dimtsi Hafash, "tifo" functions as a non-lexical word in Nara culture, much like "la la" or "woo" in English singing, serving to warm up the audience and create a specific mood. Beyond his compelling vocalizations, Osman's appearance further immersed the audience in Nara tradition; he wore the surwalok, traditional Nara trousers, carried a Jebreekat, a traditional animal-skin bag used by shepherds for snacks in the Eritrean western lowlands, and sported a kurra, a wooden comb typically kept in the hair by Nara men. This combination of powerful sound, enthusiastic audience participation, and authentic traditional attire transformed the performance into a profound and multi-sensory celebration of Nara's cultural identity.

This year, the festivities began as early as May 7th, marked by a cascade of cultural activities and concerts spearheaded by students. It's an excellent prelude, gradually building momentum and excitement, and the entire sojourn of independence celebrations will culminate in the grand official ceremony on May 24th. It's a testament to how deeply ingrained this national holiday is in the collective spirit, stretching beyond a single day into a period of continuous reflection, pride, and vibrant expression.



celebrations. There's nothing quite like it. Every year, particularly the main arteries of Asmara—Sematat and Harnet avenues—transform

Independence Anniversary theme: "Our Cohesion: Our Armour."

The sheer diversity on display was truly captivating. Thirteen subzones of the Central Region poured their hearts into their participation, each a vibrant thread in the rich tapestry of Eritrea. They showcased our nine ethnic groups, each distinct in their traditional attire, rhythmic dances, and captivating performances. The parade was a journey in itself, commencing on Sematat Street, weaving its way through the



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SpotLight

Eritrea: A Nation Forged Through Struggle

Bana Negusse

Situated in the volatile Horn of Africa and blessed with a long, pristine coastline along the Red Sea, Eritrea is a country marked by a rich, complex, and turbulent history. After one of the longest and most destructive wars for liberation in modern African history, Eritrea finally achieved independence from Ethiopia in 1991.

This is Part 2 of a series that seeks to illuminate the country's decades-long struggle against colonial occupation. While Part 1 explored the foundations of Eritrea's colonial experience and early political aspirations, this instalment focuses on the systemic erosion of the "Federal Act" under Ethiopian rule and the pivotal events that gave rise to the armed liberation struggle.

Resilience amidst efforts to quash independence

On 2 December 1950, following a protracted international process, the United Nations General Assembly passed Resolution 390(V) with a vote of 46 to 10. This resolution dashed Eritreans' hopes for full independence, instead federating Eritrea with Ethiopia as "an autonomous unit ... under the sovereignty of the Ethiopian Crown." According to the resolution, Eritrea was to retain legislative, executive, and judicial autonomy in domestic matters, while Ethiopia would

control defence, foreign affairs, and international trade.

However, Ethiopia's absolute monarchy, under Emperor Haile Selassie, viewed the federal arrangement with disdain. This contempt was laid bare in a 22 March 1955 speech to the Eritrean Assembly by the Emperor's representative, who declared:

"There are no internal or external affairs as far as the office of His Imperial Majesty's representative is concerned, and there will be none in the future. The affairs of Eritrea concern Ethiopia as a whole and the Emperor."

Over the following decade, Ethiopia systematically dismantled the federal structure. Merely 19 days after the arrangement came into force, the regime issued Proclamation 130, placing Eritrea's final court of appeal under the Ethiopian Supreme Court – an overt breach of the Eritrean constitution. Eventually, the Eritrean constitution was abolished altogether, the national flag replaced by Ethiopia's, and Amharic was imposed as the official language, with Eritrean languages banned in schools and official transactions – one of the regime's most damaging acts.

The Ethiopian regime resorted to additional draconian measures. Elected local leaders were forced to resign. Eritrea's

(Part II)

share of customs revenues was confiscated, and foreign investors were pressured to divert investments to Ethiopia. Eritrean tax revenues served imperial interests, and profits from successful Eritrean industries were siphoned to the Ethiopian heartland.

Repression also intensified,

nationalist Eritrean leaders like Woldeab Woldemariam and Ibrahim Sultan were forced into exile, where they continued the resistance and helped form opposition movements.

Although Eritreans were promised the right to appeal to the UN in case of violations, repeated petitions by Eritrean leaders to protest Ethiopia's actions were met with deafening silence. The UN and the

complicity by its silence when the bogus "Federal Act" was willfully and utterly abrogated by the Ethiopian regime, nudged them to resort to armed struggle as the only option for regaining their inalienable national rights and human dignity.

The birth of armed resistance

On 1 September 1961, Hamid Idris Awate, a seasoned soldier with a reputation among Italians, British, and Ethiopians as a rebel, fired the first shots of the armed struggle in the Gash Barka region. Leading a small band of fighters armed with a handful of aging rifles, Awate initiated what would become a 30-year war for independence.

Awate had earned medals for bravery during his time in the colonial army and was respected for his military acumen. A few months after the start of the armed resistance, Abdu Mohamed Fayed became the first martyr of the struggle when he was killed in Adal near Sawa. (Fayed's grave is now in Sawa, and Awate died of food poisoning roughly 10 months after launching the revolution.)

For the peace-loving Eritrean people, the armed revolution was "the expression of the indignation of a people whose rights [were] flagrantly and ruthlessly suppressed." As one scholar succinctly put it, "Three times denied their dreams, the Eritreans now had no other recourse than to take their destiny into their own hands."

G.K.N. Trevaskis, who served as political secretary during the British military administration in Eritrea, presciently warned Ethiopia in his 1960 book, *Eritrea: A Colony in Transition, 1941–1952*, that the federal structure was in the best interest of both countries. Yet he foresaw the danger: "...the temptation [for Ethiopia] to subject Eritrea firmly under her control will always be great.

Should she try to do so, she will risk Eritrean discontent and eventual revolt, which, with foreign sympathy and support, might well disrupt both Eritrea and Ethiopia herself."

As history would show, his warning proved prophetic.



while peaceful opposition was violently crushed. In 1957 and 1962, students in Eritrea staged mass demonstrations, and in February 1958, a four-day general strike by underground trade unions brought the country to a standstill. Ethiopian troops responded with lethal force, killing dozens, wounding many, and arresting hundreds. Prominent

international community failed to uphold their commitments. Ultimately, "Eritreans' hopes and faith in the United Nations waned as the situation worsened."

Finally, in November 1962, Emperor Haile Selassie formally dissolved the Eritrean parliament by force and annexed the territory as Ethiopia's 14th province. Western observers described the move as a "putsch" and "a brutal and arbitrary act." Eritreans, dismayed and outraged, refused to participate in the regime's staged celebrations.

As these events unfolded, the international community remained silent, time and again, despite the clear violation of Resolution 390A(V), which stated that only the UN General Assembly had the authority to alter the federation. Rather than defeating the Eritrean national movement, this betrayal galvanized it. The imperial annexation became a turning point, spurring the transition from peaceful protest to armed struggle. Indeed, if Eritrea was denied the right of decolonization in the first place in the 1940s, the international community's





May: Eritrea's Month of Merriment and Memory

Shgey Abraha

In Eritrea, May stands out as a month brimming with cultural and national ceremonies, uplifting the spirit of citizens, young and old, men and women. A time for matrimonial and Independence Day celebrations, nearly the entire month of May is infused with a joyous atmosphere.

Historically, May in Eritrea has held a unique significance. Coming at the end of winter and right before the onset of spring, it is associated with 'Azmera,' a transitional period of mild rainfall. For the majority of the people in rural areas, whose livelihood heavily depends on rain-fed subsistence farming,

abruptly stopped whatever they had been doing and flocked to the streets. Some cheered loudly in exhilaration, broad smiles on their faces, while others shed tears of joy. The crowds had assembled to greet their freedom fighters, whose entry into the capital signaled the complete defeat of the colonial power. The people had never experienced such a pleasurable moment; for many, it was difficult to grasp the reality unfolding before their eyes. Many Eritreans could not believe what they were witnessing.

Eritrea had endured a succession of colonial powers for over 600 years. Like other former colonies in Africa and

1961, a protracted war against the Ethiopian colonial power ensued. The thirty-year conflict cost many Eritrean lives. People sacrificed a substantial value for the liberation of their nation.

May 24, 1991 brought an end to all the suffering and colonialism. Eritrean patriots risked their lives for the sake of freedom and the creation of an independent and sovereign nation. Since then, it has been the right and duty of every citizen to celebrate Independence Day and honor the martyrs. For the past thirty-four years, every citizen has eagerly waited for the blissful month of May.

To celebrate the most esteemed day in Eritrea's history, citizens spend months in preparation. The streets in all towns and cities are adorned with colorful flashing lights that match the red, green, blue and yellow colors in the national flag. In the capital, Asmara, ten days prior to May 24, the main thoroughfare, Harnet (Liberation) Avenue, is closed to all vehicles after 6 pm, allowing people to roam freely with family and friends, enjoying the delightful atmosphere of independence celebrations, including carnivals and parades. Schools, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and neighborhoods nationwide throw parties in honor of Independence Day.

The 34th Independence Day is being celebrated under the theme "Our Cohesion: Our Armor."

Asia, Eritreans eagerly longed for independence after Italy's defeat in World War II. However, while other colonies were granted independence in the 1960s, Eritrea's right to freedom and a sovereign state was unlawfully violated.

Eritreans' quest for independence was expropriated from their hands by the world's great powers. Their peaceful means to claim their right to independence was met with violence against civilians. The people were denied control over their nation's affairs, which became a domain of outside forces. Even the United Nations turned a blind eye, violating important terms of its own foundation regarding colonialism. When Eritreans were left with no peaceful means to seek their liberty and sovereignty, they had no choice but to take up arms and resort to an armed struggle.

Beginning in September



May is considered a blessed month, providing relief from the dry winter and offering a favorable time for sowing seeds.

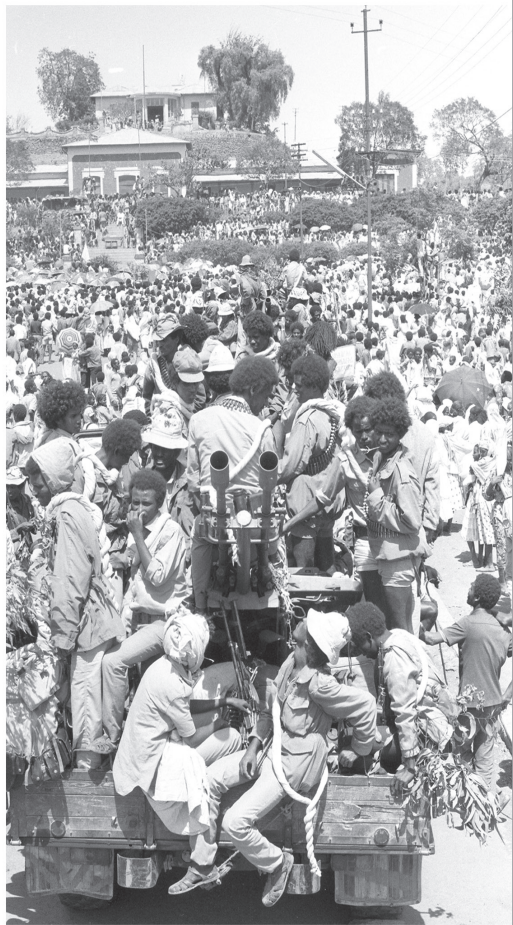
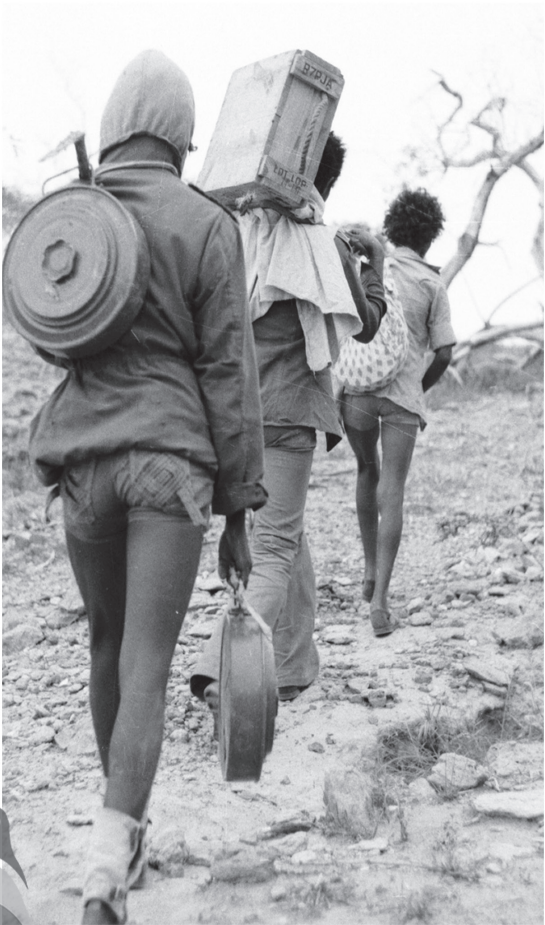
In the cities and towns, people immerse themselves in celebrations, particularly weddings, in the month of May. For Christians, May marks the end of the 'Great Lent,' a time when adherents refrain from eating meat and other animal products and, therefore, do not hold wedding ceremonies. Many Moslems, too, try not to have wedding ceremonies during Lent to make sure their Christian friends partake in the wedding feast. For this reason, May is one of the busiest months for wedding feasts.

Thirty-four years ago, in May 1991, the significance of May was transformed by an event that created a massive impact on the lives of every Eritrean citizen, both at home and abroad. Around 9 in the morning, on Friday, May 24, 1991, people in Asmara





Our Cohesion: Our Armour



PHOTOGRAPHY
BRANCH
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Design: Tazaz Abrha
Photo: MoI Archives

ADS



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Congrtulation the People and Government
of Eritrea on the 34 Anniversary of Eritrea
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OUR COHESION OUR ARMOUR



*ON THIS REMARKABLE 34th ANNIVERSARY OF ERITREAN
INDEPENDENCE DAY*

*LIBYAOIL ERITREA & TAMOIL MALINDI ERITREA SH. CO.
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&

*A COLORFUL FESTIVE HOLIDAYS FILLED WITH PRIDE,
HAPPINESS AND THE SPIRITE OF FREEDOM*



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Tel. ++291-1-153986
Asmara, Eritrea

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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

Rigger
Number required – (01)
Type of contract – Definite For 2years

Major Duties and responsibilities

- Assist the Rigging Supervisor. to recruit, train and mentor a crane Operator and Rigger team that will deliver quality rigging services to the fixed plant. He will be responsible for all rigging requirements on site and assist the Rigging Supervisor Training National Staff.
- The Rigger is responsible for planning, coordinating and directing all daily rigging and crane/truck movement activities required to maintain the mechanical and structural integrity of the Plant. This person will report to the Process Plant Rigging Supervisor and assist with various administrative and management functions.

TASK DESCRIPTION Expanded TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

General responsibilities:

- Ensure compliance with quality, health and safety rules, guidelines, and regulations.
- Planning, prioritizing, assigning, supervising, reviewing, and participating in all tasks related to rigging maintenance.
- Development and implementation of statutory inspection and preventative maintenance programs for all site-based rigging gear and crane/truck mobile equipment
- Recruitment and coordinating training sessions in rigging, crane operation safety procedures, and methods.
- Train Crane Operators, light truck operators and riggers
- Manage, motivate, develop, and provide direct leadership to maintenance staff.
- Ability to interface with other departments, particularly Production Operations.
- Ability to build and motivate a team comprising of expatriates and national employees.
- Understanding computer driven maintenance management programs,
- Able to compile reports, update/compile Job Description etc.
- Develop the Operation Readiness program for the Rigging section

Profile: Qualifications and Experience

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalents

- Trade Qualifications as a Rigger or equivalent
- Mobile Crane Operator License

Working Experience – Nature & Length

- 10 years’ experience in large scale open-pit mines in the areas of rigging, lifting and crane operation
- 5 years’ experience as Maintenance Supervisor
- In-depth knowledge of different Fixed Plant Equipment
- Operation Readiness Exposure
- Good ability in cross-cultural communication skills.
- Excellent leadership qualities.
- Sound knowledge of preventive maintenance programs
- Functional communication
- in English is mandatory.
- Computer literacy including planning systems

Technical Skills

- Statutory requirements regarding lifting, rigging and crane operation
- Rigging Equipment knowledge, including heavy lifts to 200t
- Analytical skills
- Writing & Compiling report skills
- Plan, organize and execution skills.
- Valid crane Operation License

Behavioral Skills

- Safety leadership by example
- Ability to work in developing countries

- Ability to work under pressure with challenging targets
- Demonstrated training and people development skills previous experience training national Staff.
- Strong interpersonal relationship-building skills and adaptability to work with people of different cultures.

General Information and other requirements:

- ☐ **Place of Work:** AMSC Site
- ☐ **Type of contract:** Definite Period
- ☐ **Salary:** As per the Company salary scale

Additional requirements for Nationals:

- Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligation and provide evidence of release paper from the Ministry of Defense.
- Present clearance paper from current/last employer.
- Testimonial documents to be attached (CV, work experience credentials, a copy of your National Identity Card, etc.).
- Only shortlisted applicants would be considered as potential candidates for an interview.
- Application documents will not be returned to the sender.
- All applications should be sent through the post office.
- Deadline for application: 7 days from the day of publication in the Newspaper.

- ☐ **Address: Please mail your applications to;**
Asmara Mining Share Company,
P. O. Box 10688 Asmara, Eritrea
- ☐ **Applicants shall be required to send a copy to:**
Mineral Resources Management
P.O. Box – 272
Asmara
- ☐ **Note to Eritrean applicants:**
Please send a copy of your application to
Aliens Employment Permit Affairs,
P. O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea



NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public that The National Insurance Corporation of Eritrea Share Company will hold its 21st Ordinary Annual General Meeting of Shareholders on the 7th of June 2025.

Place: HOTEL ASMARA PALACE - (SELAM CONFERENCE HALL)
Time: 08:00 a.m. Commencement of the Meeting

Agenda for the Meeting

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Appointment of the Resolutions Committee
3. Approval of the Minutes of the 20th Ordinary Annual General Meeting
4. Matters Arising from the 20th Ordinary Annual General Meeting
5. Management’s Report on the Activities of the Corporation
6. Report of the Board of Directors
7. Report on the 2024 Accounts and the Appropriation of Profits
8. Appointment of External Auditors
9. Election of the Board of Directors
10. Any Other Business
11. Date and Venue of the 22nd Ordinary Annual General Meeting

Shareholders who cannot attend the meeting in person can collect their instrument of proxy from our head office or from our website www.niceritrea.com and shall submit the completed form not later than the 12:00 hrs 5th of June, 2025.

National Insurance Corporation of Eritrea Share Co.
By the order of the Board of Directors



Q and A

Samsom Amare: A Journey of Grit, Triumph, and Dedication

Samsom Amare, born in 1994 in Kemene village, Mendefera subzone, is an Eritrean long-distance runner whose remarkable achievements have solidified his status as a dominant force in East African athletics. His career highlights include a 10th-place finish in the marathon at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games and a victory at the 2024 Shanghai Marathon with a time of 2:06:26. With three consecutive wins in the East Africa Half Marathon Championship (2022, 2024, and 2025) and multiple triumphs in the Fenkil Marathon, Samsom Amare has become synonymous with resilience and excellence in Eritrean and regional athletics.

Luwam Kahsay H.

When and how did your journey into athletics begin?

Back in 2010, when I was in 7th grade, my teacher, Mengsteab, selected me to participate in a 100-meter race at the youth festival

become an athlete continued to grow. In 2014, I officially began my journey by competing in an 800-meter race at the Debub Region Students' Festival, where I won first place in both the preliminary and final rounds. Shortly after, I participated in a 3km race and won again.

loved running. When he noticed my growing dedication to the sport, instead of asking me to help him on the farm, he encouraged me wholeheartedly. His words and support gave me the confidence to pursue my dreams.

While I had no formal inspiration at the beginning, today I look up to Zersenay Tadese, Eritrea's celebrated Olympic athlete. He has paved the way for so many of us.

When did you first gain complete confidence in your abilities?

I've had unwavering enthusiasm for athletics since the first competition I witnessed. Before the pandemic in 2020, I finished second in the Fenkil Marathon, where Olympic athlete Ghirmay Ghebreslassie claimed victory. That placement alone didn't make me a qualified athlete, but it fueled my determination.

Two years later, in the same competition, but with a renewed structure organized as the East African Half Marathon Championship, I won the race. Despite my victories, I never focus solely on past successes; instead, I constantly analyze my weaknesses and work to improve. I wouldn't say I have achieved my peak yet—there is always more to strive for.

Were there moments when you considered leaving the sport?

I have encountered numerous challenges throughout my journey. There were moments when I even felt frustrated with myself because of the sport. However, no matter how

By 2015, I had the opportunity to join the Debub Region Athletics Club, home to Olympic legend Zersenay Tadese. From that point, my life as an athlete took a structured path. In 2016, I competed in an 800-meter youth race, securing third place. Later that year, in an international race held in Sudan, I also placed third. That experience gave me a deeper understanding of the demands of elite-level competition, inspiring me to push myself even harder.

Who inspired you to join athletics? Who is your role model?

Honestly, no one inspired me to join athletics—I found my way into the sport. Coming from a farming family, I naturally developed physical endurance, as growing up in a village meant constant movement and physical activity.

Since childhood, I remember racing my brother, Zerisenay Amare, in 100-meter sprints every day. My father, also a huge fan of athletics,



for all subzones of our region. Unfortunately, I was unable to compete due to a lack of necessary information about the event. However, being present at the competition gave me invaluable exposure to the sport. From that moment on, my passion for athletics started growing within me.

Tell us about your first competitive experiences.

As wise people say, where there's a will, there's a way—but it also requires hard work. After witnessing my first competition, my desire to



tough things became, quitting was never an option. I've learned that challenges are what shape us into stronger competitors.

Some of your victorious competitions...

In March 2025, I won the Wushi Marathon in China. The previous year, I also took first place in the marathon in Shanghai.

I have proudly won the East African Half Marathon Championship three times (2022, 2024, and 2025), competing against top athletes from East Africa. In Accra, Ghana, I secured first place in the All-Africa Half Marathon Championship, and in the 2023 Dubai Marathon, I emerged victorious once again.

One of the greatest highlights of my career was competing in the 2024 Paris Olympics, where I finished 10th among some of the world's most renowned marathoners.

What did you gain from your experience in Paris?

Participating in such a prestigious competition and competing against some of the world's best athletes was an invaluable experience. Finishing in 10th place in the Olympic marathon further boosted my confidence. I gained important insights that will shape my future races.

How confident were you about winning your third East Africa Half Marathon Championship?

Despite challenging weather conditions, I had already set my mind on making history. To prioritize this competition, I even canceled my participation in a half-marathon in

China scheduled for February 23rd.

I firmly believe that teamwork and collaboration lead to victory. My coach and teammates played a pivotal role in my success. This championship was a testament to the new generation of talented Eritrean athletes emerging today—I am confident they will redefine the future of athletics!

You won the 2023–24 Airo Award for Best Sportsman. What does this recognition mean to you?

The Airo Award, organized by the Commission of Sport and Culture of the Southern Region, is presented to the best sportsman of the year. Receiving this honor carries great responsibility—not just for me, but for every athlete in our region.

This award has fueled my motivation to strive even higher and pursue even greater achievements.

How would you define the contribution of the Athletics Club of the Southern Region?

Our club is built on the values of teamwork, communication, and mutual respect. The coaches serve as mentors and role models, fostering a supportive environment for all athletes.

The Department of Culture and Sport and the Regional Administration continuously provide us with everything we need for competitions. I want to extend special thanks to Mr. Abraham Yohannes, General Director of the Department of Culture and Sport, whose unwavering support and encouragement inspire every athlete. His presence always motivates us, and when he is there, victory feels inevitable.

What should we expect from you in the future?

My ambition is to make my name and my country's name recognized worldwide. I dream of seeing Eritrea's flag fly above all others. With dedication and hard work, I believe that dream will become a reality.

Thanks for your time, Samsom, we wish you success.

Our Cohesion: Our Armour!