

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

A national workshop aimed at enhancing youth participation in the implementation of the strategic plan to “ensure nutritious food for all and everywhere” was held yesterday at the National Confederation of Eritrean Workers Hall. The workshop, themed “Integrated Youth Participation in Agricultural Development,” was organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Union of Eritrean Youth



and Students (NUEYS).

In his keynote address, Mr. Arefaine Berhe, Minister of Agriculture, highlighted the Ministry’s ongoing efforts, driven by a five-year strategic plan. He emphasized that the focus has shifted from simply achieving food security to ensuring access to nutritious food. Minister Arefaine stressed the critical role of youth in achieving this goal and mentioned ongoing efforts to support farmers in producing agricultural products year-round, utilizing micro-dams and larger dams in their areas.

The workshop featured extensive briefings from agricultural experts on key topics, including strategies for ensuring nutritious food, beekeeping as a business model, producing organic fertilizers from household waste, and fostering agricultural innovation and creativity.

Representatives from NUEYS also delivered presentations on the importance of vocational training and small-scale loan programs for youth involvement in agriculture.

Participants engaged in

thorough discussions on the presentations and put forward several recommendations, such as encouraging greater youth involvement in modern agricultural practices, organizing agribusiness-focused training programs, and conducting research on the current level of youth participation in agriculture.

In his closing remarks, Mr. Saleh Ahmedin, Chairman of National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students, commended the workshop for providing a platform to engage youth in agricultural activities. He reaffirmed the Union’s commitment to playing an active role in supporting these efforts.

The workshop was attended by over 140 officials and experts from the Ministry of Agriculture and NUEYS.

MEETING ON IMPLEMENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Mr. Yakob Idris, the administrator of Nakfa sub-zone, reported significant progress in various developmental activities, including water and soil conservation efforts. He made these remarks during a meeting with village elders, religious leaders, area administrators, and small business owners.

During the meeting, Mr. Yakob provided a detailed briefing on the extensive water and soil conservation efforts underway with strong participation of the public and members of the Defense Force. This includes the construction of terraces, water diversion schemes, road renovations, and tree planting initiatives.

He also announced the completion of two dams in the Agra’e-Leal and Midingag administrative areas, which have already begun collecting water. The construction of another dam in the Abelo administrative area is nearing completion. These dams are expected to significantly alleviate water shortages for both residents and livestock in the region.

The participants expressed their readiness to contribute to the successful implementation of these development programs.

EXTENSIVE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN AFABET SUB-ZONE

Extensive development activities are being conducted in the Afabet sub-zone.

According to the report, a 1,500-meter water pipeline has been installed in the eastern section of the town, and four water distribution centers have been constructed to ensure a potable water supply for residents.

Additionally, over 7,000 meters of terraces and water diversion schemes have been built, and numerous tree seedlings have been planted.

In collaboration with members of the Defense Forces, water and soil conservation and terrace construction activities are ongoing. The popular campaign aims to restore the environment and enrich the underground water supply.

SEMINARS ON HEALTH ISSUES HELD IN ANSEBA REGION

The National Union of Eritrean Women, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health in the Anseba Region, organized seminars for members in the sub-zones of Hagaz, Elaberet, and Hamelmalo. These seminars focused on communicable diseases, with a particular emphasis on HIV/AIDS.

The primary aim of the seminars was to reduce new infections and minimize deaths related to communicable diseases by educating participants on preventive measures.

Ms. Amna Hassan, Head of the National Union of Eritrean Women branch in the region, highlighted the union’s commitment to controlling the spread of communicable diseases.

She emphasized the importance of strengthening the union’s organizational capacity and raising awareness among women through peer education and other initiatives. Ms. Amna also stressed the need to preserve the achievements already made and to engage in awareness campaigns to educate the youth, preventing their exposure to these diseases.

Participants of the seminars called for the continuation of such programs, stressing the importance of environmental sanitation and the need for ongoing awareness-raising efforts, particularly on the significance of voluntary HIV/AIDS counseling.

SEMINAR ON PROTECTING CHILDREN’S RIGHTS

A seminar focusing on protecting children’s rights and eradicating harmful practices was conducted for residents of Tiravolo sub-zone in the Central Region. The seminar was organized in collaboration with the Ministries of Health and Labor and Social Welfare branches in the region.

Sister Ariam Eden, a public health expert at the health office in the sub-zone, underscored the

need for community and family protection for underage children until they reach the age of maturity. She also emphasized that female genital mutilation is prohibited by Eritrean law and that legal measures could be taken against offenders.

Sister Ariam, also called for respecting the educational rights of children and urged the community to play a due role in eradicating

harmful practices, particularly underage marriages.

Ms. Letu Abraha, a social welfare expert, called for due attention to children living with various disabilities.

Ms. Leul Asrat, administrator of the sub-zone, noting the significance of the seminar, called on the participants to strengthen their participation in these efforts.



Development

Improving Lives in Forto Sawa: A Testament to Government Initiatives and Community Engagement

Mussie Efriem

Social services and basic amenities serve as the foundation for progress in the intricate tapestry of societal development. These essential elements, ranging from education and healthcare to housing and infrastructure, play a pivotal role in shaping the lives of individuals and communities. By investing in social services and ensuring the equitable distribution of basic provisions, societies can foster inclusive growth, reduce inequality, and enhance the overall well-being of their citizens.

The Forto Sawa subzone, located in the western part of Eritrea, is one of the sixteen administrative subzones in the Gash-Barka region. Comprising thirteen administrative areas and a total of 85 villages, the subzone occupies a strategic location, sharing borders with neighboring Sudan and other Eritrean subzones. The Dige subzone borders the subzone to the south, while Sudan shares a boundary to the west.

Furthermore, Haikota and Tesseney border the subzone to the south, while Kerkebet borders it to the north. The majority of the residents of the

Forto Sawa subzone engage in agricultural activities, forming the backbone of the local economy. The population mainly relies on farming as their primary source of livelihood, cultivating various crops in the fertile lands of the subzone. Trade also plays a significant role in the economic landscape, providing opportunities for residents to engage in commercial activities and exchange goods and services. The Forto Sawa subzone, with a population of 34,404, is a relatively populated area within the Gash Barka region.

The Forto Sawa subzone experiences a distinct rainfall, with the southern part receiving significantly more precipitation compared to the northern region. This variation in rainfall distribution presents both opportunities and challenges for agricultural activities within the subzone. To address these challenges and maximize agricultural productivity, the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) is actively working to harness the available resources effectively.

The MoA is committed to ensuring sufficient and healthy food production by implementing strategies that optimize agricultural practices. One of the key approaches employed by the MoA is to encourage farmers to adopt effective agricultural techniques. By incorporating innovative methods and practices, farmers can mitigate the limitations imposed by scarce

resources and improve their overall yields. The MoA provides valuable support to farmers in this regard, offering a range of essential materials and resources.

These provisions include tractors, which are crucial for mechanizing agricultural tasks and increasing efficiency. Additionally, the MoA supplies essential medicines to protect crops from diseases and pests, ensuring healthy and productive harvests. The MoA also provides fertilizers to improve soil fertility and stimulate plant growth. Furthermore, the MoA offers various other provisions that are beneficial to farmers, contributing to their success and sustainability. Through these concerted efforts, the Ministry of Agriculture is playing a vital role in supporting the agricultural sector in the Forto Sawa subzone. By providing necessary resources, promoting effective agricultural practices, and addressing the challenges posed by varying rainfall patterns, the MoA is helping to ensure food security and sustainable livelihoods for the subzone's population.

In terms of the other social provisions, the subzone has made significant strides in providing potable water to its residents. A substantial portion of the infrastructure relies on solar energy, ensuring a reliable and sustainable supply. To meet the community's needs in areas where solar energy is not feasible, we have installed

hand pumps. Recognizing the importance of self-sufficiency, residents in certain localities have taken the initiative to construct their own hand pumps, further improving access to clean water. This community-driven approach demonstrates a strong commitment to improving their living conditions. Generators located in Kerkebet and Sawa primarily support the town's power grid, which give the town a stable power supply. This reliable source of electricity has contributed to the overall development and quality of life in Forto Sawa.

The Forto-Sawa subzone before independence experienced a significant dearth of educational services. Since then, the subzone has made remarkable progress by establishing schools ranging from pre-school to high school. This increase in educational opportunities has significantly improved the subzone's accessibility and education quality. Currently, the subzone boasts 21 schools, including comprehensive elementary and junior schools. These institutions collectively cater to approximately 5,000 students, of which a commendable 35% are female, demonstrating a positive trend in gender equality in education. A dedicated teaching staff of 172 educators supports the subzone's educational endeavors. The subzone provides elementary-level educational services in two mother tongue languages, Tigrinya and Arabic.



Recognizing the importance of lifelong learning, the MoE branch in the subzone has actively engaged in providing literacy and post-literacy programs for adults, as well as schooling opportunities for out-of-school youth.

The out-of-school youth program operates in three administrative areas, serving a total of 151 students. In the meantime, 23 different centers offer the adult literacy program, benefiting approximately 822 individuals, 50% of whom are women. Despite these commendable efforts, the subzone's sparse settlement patterns pose challenges for accessing education, particularly at the junior and secondary school levels, due to the necessity of traveling long distances. To address this issue, the MoE branch in the subzone has implemented boarding and semi-boarding (which provides breakfast and lunch meals) programs for students from remote areas.

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**ERITREA
PROFILE**

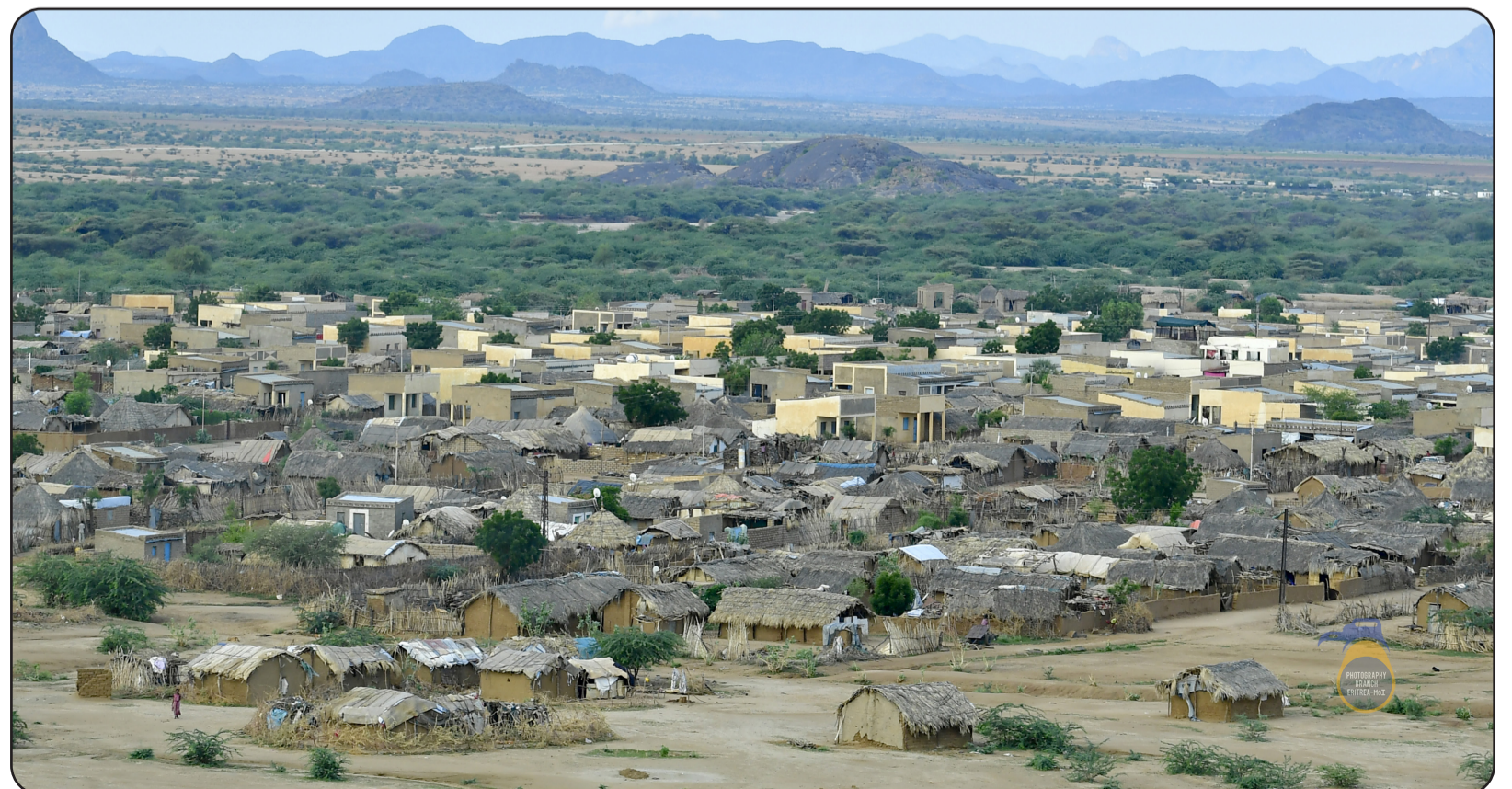
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**Editor-In-Chief
Amanuel Mesfun**

**Asst. Editor-In-Chief
Sirak Habtemichael**

P.O.Box: 247
Tel: 11-41-14
Fax: 12-77-49
E-mail:
eritreaprofilemoi@gmail.com
Advertisement: 12-50-13

**Layout
Azmera Berhane
Betelhiem Tadesse**



OPINION

A Story of a Challenging History

Dr. Fikrejesus Amahazion

The 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) opened several weeks ago. In just a few days, the general debate phase of the 79th session of the UNGA will open and then run until the end of the month. In addition to marking an important milestone for the United Nations (UN), the 79th session offers a valuable opportunity to reflect upon its history with regard to Eritrea. Even though Eritrea is one of the youngest states in the world, its history with the UN is actually quite long. And while the UN espouses many noble values, ideals, and principles, its historic relationship with and treatment of Eritrea have been problematic and fraught with injustice.

Brief review

Since its founding in the wake of World War 2, the UN has steadily grown into the world's premier multilateral body and contributed to some significant successes, including peace treaties, decolonization, an increase in access to education, human rights standards, eradication of diseases, a reduction in hunger, development of international law and landmark pacts to protect the environment, and helping to avoid a military confrontation between major global powers.

Today, the UN boasts 193 member states, a significant increase from the 51 it had upon its founding. Its main bodies, established back in 1945, include, among others, the UNGA, the Security Council, which has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, the Economic and Social Council, which drives the global push for sustainable development, and International Court of Justice, its principal judicial organ.

Challenges amidst successes

As highlighted above, the UN has helped to save millions of lives, contributed to many developmental successes (such as progress in health, education, and gender equality), and helped to develop international law, human rights standards, and protect the environment. At the same time, however, the organization is imperfect and regularly has been the target of much, often fierce,

criticism over the years. For instance, while, in principle, all nations small and large, rich and poor, are to have equal voice and representation, the true power at the UN lay with the Security Council, particularly with its permanent members. Moreover, the UN has often been criticized for showing excessive deference and favoritism toward its powerful member states, as well as for lacking initiative and remaining paralyzed in the face of major conflicts in which major powers have an interest or stake. Not only has this been an outgrowth of its dependence on the funding of the major powers, historically the latter have tacitly agreed that, whatever their differences, they were better off with a weaker and more compliant UN.

As has been evident in recent months and years, the UN has been racked by divisions, while there have been persistent calls for massive overhaul and reform. More and more, the UN is being seen as outdated and unreflective of the complex realities of today's multipolar world. Speaking at the UNGA last year, Osman Saleh, Eritrea's Foreign Minister, declared "As the principal international platform, the United Nations must indeed be elevated – in terms of structure and mandate – to a cherished umbrella organization that can fulfill its historic mandate with efficacy and potency." Similarly, writing several weeks ago, Jeffrey D. Sachs, called for urgently needed reforms of the UN and its structure and processes in line

with the emerging multipolar world.

Highlighting decades of injustice for Eritrea at the UN

Even though Eritrea is one of the youngest states in the world, its history with the UN is actually quite long. And while the UN espouses many noble values, ideals, and principles, its historic relationship with and treatment of Eritrea have been problematic and fraught with injustice.

Following World War 2, the UN overlooked Eritreans' calls for independence. Contrary to principles recognized by the UN, and unlike the other Italian colonies that received independence at the end of World War II, Eritreans' inviolable and inalienable right to self-determination was denied. After a lengthy international process seeking to develop an "appropriate" solution to the Eritrea question, on 2 December 1950, United Nations Resolution 390(V), was passed by the UNGA. Resolution 390(V), which was backed and sponsored by the US, extinguished Eritreans' hopes and aspirations for independence, federating Eritrea with Ethiopia as "an autonomous unit...under the sovereignty of the Ethiopian Crown."

However, Ethiopia, an absolute monarchy ruled by Emperor Haile Selassie, viewed the federal structure with disdain and contempt. In November 1962, after years of steadily erasing

the federation and subjecting Eritreans to repression, violence, and persecution, the imperial regime dissolved the Eritrean parliament under force of arms and annexed Eritrea, proclaiming it as the empire's fourteenth province. Throughout this period, the UN and the international community remained silent and failed to muster a response. This was despite the fact that Eritrea had been guaranteed a review of its case by the UN if Ethiopia violated the international resolution. The UN also could not claim ignorance since many Eritrean political leaders and activists, on numerous occasions, appealed and petitioned to the organization in protest of Ethiopia's actions.

For instance, writing and speaking to the UN, Ibrahim Sultan, a founding member of *Mahber Fikre Hager* and a leading nationalist figure who was highly active in Eritrea's early struggle for independence, powerfully declared that the Eritrean people's cause was a just one and warned that a failure to understand and acknowledge this would lead to instability and crisis.

Subsequently, over a period of several decades, the UN continuously refused to hear Eritreans' calls for self-determination and protection. In fact, not once throughout the long period – from 1950 to 1991 – did Eritrea, the scene of Africa's longest war, and victim of some of the grossest

violations of human rights, figure on the agenda of the UN. In the forward of the *Proceedings of the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal of the International League for the Rights and Liberation of People*, convened in 1980, it was declared: "No important struggle – be it in terms of military intensity or in terms of political impact – is so poorly known, indeed ignored, as is that which the Eritrean people have been engaged in for 20 years." Similarly, the following year, a decade before Eritrea would eventually gain independence, the International Commission of Jurists stated that:

"Of all the people who, since the Second World War, have been the victims of Great Power rivalries and ambitions, perhaps the one with the greatest claim for consideration is the people of Eritrea. Nevertheless, no nation has yet been willing to raise the issue of the rights of this people in the United Nations. The truth is that the 'Eritrean question' is a source of embarrassment both to the UN itself and to almost all 'interested parties'".

Nonetheless, in 1991, Eritrea was able to bring about what to many for so long seemed highly unlikely, if not essentially impossible: the defeat of Africa's largest, best-equipped army and the achievement of independence. After holding an internationally-monitored referendum two years later – with 99.81 percent of Eritreans voting for independence from Ethiopia – the country formally announced its independence. Eritrea was finally admitted to the UN as its 182nd member by General Assembly Resolution 47/230 of 28 May 1993. Several months later, on 30 September, Eritrean President Isaias Afwerki addressed the 48th Session of the UNGA. He proudly shared how the Eritrean people remained strong despite their struggle being ignored:

"[The years of] deafening silence pained our people. It also gave a free hand to the aggressors, thereby prolonging our suffering and increasing the sacrifices we had to make. But it neither shook our resolve nor undermined our belief in the justness of our cause



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Reflections on Eritrean Names

Simon Weldemikael

Traditional Eritrean names usually carry valuable sources of information. personal names have a strong historical and socio-cultural bearing that goes beyond referentiality. They can indicate gender, date and birth, ethnicity, religion, family situation, etc. In Eritrean society, personal names often reflect the circumstances under which a child was born. However, naming practices vary across ethnic groups. Eritrea has nine different ethnic groups (Afar, Bilen, Bidawyeet, Kunama, Nara, Rashaida, Saho, Tigre, and Tigrigna), with many unique naming practices. In each ethnic group, personal names are chosen for their meaning and may give more information about their holders. The knowledge about traditional names of Eritrea gives insight into Eritrean culture, philosophy, thought, history, environment, and religion, among many others. Eritrean names' symbolic nature and interpretation depict Eritrea's history, sociology, and anthropology.

The wealth of Eritrean personal names and the information embedded in them is beyond one's imagination. In a televised interview, Mr. Tedros Tekle, Director of Statistics and Information of Central Region, mentioned that the department has registered thirty-one thousand indigenous names in the central region alone. He advised families to be conscious of naming their children and ensure that the names are acceptable for registration on official records. Eritrean names have been influential in linking one to the broader society. Indigenous names can situate an individual in the society's cultural heritage. Among the portable cultural elements, names individually and collectively constitute a museum of intangible cultural heritage.

European and Ethiopian colonization have tried to influence the naming practice of the traditional Eritrean society but to no avail. In the rest of Africa, the determining factor for children's first names during colonial times was primarily the missionaries or colonial institutions. In the autobiography of N.R. Mandela, we find a striking sentence: "On the first day of school, my teacher, Miss Mdingane, gave each of us an English name... Miss Mdingane told me that my new name was Nelson. I have no idea why she bestowed this particular name on me." In

this way, Rolihlahla Mandela, the future President of South Africa, grew as Nelson Mandela. Eritrean society maintains its indigenous names and continues serving like a thread in the wider fabric of cultural heritage.

The function of personal names is not limited to identifying a person. A famous Eritrean proverb that goes on to say ስም ለሰው ጥፋት የሰጠህ meaning name leads while candle/taper lights best describe the value and significance of the name. A name constructs a person because the name one bears may create an attitude in those who hear it and the name bearer—knowing that Eritrean families are, to a great extent, cautious in selecting fascinating, pleasant, and meaningful names. Although the mother and father have a more significant say in choosing the name, the opinions and suggestions from families and friends are also considered. Families consider various accounts before picking the name for their children. My firstborn baby boy's (four months old) name is Mussie. When my wife got pregnant, our family pleaded heavily that if the delivery ended up with a boy, to name him Mussie. We agreed, and as expected, a baby boy came, and the already prepared name was given to him in memory of a freedom fighter martyred in 1979. In such a way, a baby born in May 2024 holds not only the name of that particular person but is also linked to the wider history of Eritrea's struggle for freedom. It's common in Eritrea to name a baby in memory of the lost beloved one. Some children are also given their

grandfather's name. Children can also be named after a prominent or famous person. This is true, especially among the freedom fighters who gave their children the names of their comrades in arms.

In official records, a person's full name must be written down in order, i.e., personal name, father's name, and grandfather's name. However, Eritreans traditionally use only the first and second names to address someone. Officially, no public statement is issued to regulate and govern Er-

help preserve the indigenous Eritrean names that serve as a valid identity mark. Besides that, it has also introduced standardized lettering of Eritrean person's names and place names. Previously, there were occasions when people identified by the same name spelled differently on their identification cards. Introducing the new directive helps standardize the name of the person and place. According to the new directive little variations were made in spelling. For example, previously, I spelled my name as Simon Weldemichael Haile.

However, names derived from religious roots may not indicate the holder's religion automatically. A person with an Islamic name is not necessarily a Muslim, and a person with a Christian name is not necessarily a Christian.

Eritrean names can also contain the names of historical places that have a special connection with the family. Historical places like Nakfa, Denden, Simoti, Tekli, and Dahlak have become common names for many Eritreans. Desyet (island), Dejen (rear base area),



itrean names. However, the Civil Status Office has made the administrative decision to instruct families to select Eritrean names for their children. The directive would

Now, it has slightly changed and is written as Simon Weldemikael Haile.

The new civil code of Eritrea (chapter 2 Art. 31) states that every person has a first name, a patronymic, and a second patronymic. The law specified that parents should choose the child's first name jointly.

Eritrean names are generally gender specific. However, some Eritrean names are not gender specific. For example, Awet (victory), Bisrat (good news), Fnan (morale), and Yohana (congratulations), Haben (pride), Fithi (justice), to mention very few, are used by men and women alike. Many Eritrean names are compound words, frequently using cultural and religious elements. For example, Mohammed-Assenay, Gebrehiwet, Fre-hiwet, Tsge-weini, and Abdel-was'e are names composed of compound words. Christianity and Islam heavily influence Eritrean names. Most of the names are derived from religious roots.

Mahta (spark), Feleg (river), Azmera, Akeza (the pre-summer rain), Fars (hero), and Awet (victory) are some examples of names that reflect the history and geography of Eritrea.

In Eritrea, women do not traditionally change their names upon marrying. They keep their original names from their father and grandfather. In Western societies, women may adopt their husband's last name. Marriage gives men and women a new social status with attendant rights and privileges. There is no alteration of names associated with marriage.

To conclude, Eritrean names are not arbitrary but based on socio-cultural and historical contexts. There is a direct and bold linkage between Eritrean names and Eritrean cultural heritage. Eritrean society believes that there is some inherent power and linkage in names and expects the names to reflect the lives and behavior of the bearer.



LOCAL NEWS

AWARDS TO OUTSTANDING FEMALE STUDENTS IN BARENTU

The National Union of Eritrean Women (NUEW) office in Barentu sub-zone has presented special awards to female students who excelled in the eighth-grade and national school leaving examinations.

The recipients of the awards include students who scored over 80 points in the eighth-grade national examination and those who achieved scores qualifying them for diploma and degree programs at higher education institutions.

Ms. Alem Hailemichael, head of the NUEW branch in the sub-zone, emphasized that educating women is synonymous with educating society. She stressed that empowering women is a responsibility that every citizen shares. Ms. Alem also congratulated the awardees, urging them to continue working hard and to strive for excellence.

Mr. Dawit Kalala, head of the education office in the sub-zone, called for a collective effort to enhance the competitiveness of students, with a particular focus on female students.

The Secretary of the PFDJ and the head of administration and finance of the National Union of Eritrean Women in the sub-zone remarked that recognizing outstanding students plays a significant role in inspiring others to follow in their footsteps.

EFFORTS TO CONTROL MALARIA PREVALENCE

The Ministry of Health branch in the Central Region reported that it is exerting strong efforts to control the prevalence of malaria.

Mr. Adam Mengisteab, a public health expert, stated that basic malaria monitoring and treatment are being provided at 34 health facilities. The increasing number of patients seeking treatment serves as a wake-up call for more intensive efforts.

Mr. Adam mentioned that sustainable environmental sanitation activities, led by

administrators and village health coordinators, are being conducted in areas suspected of malaria occurrence. In addition, impregnated bed nets have been distributed in the sub-zones of Berik, Gala-Nefhi, and Northern Asmara.

He further indicated that in the past nine months, awareness-raising programs have been organized for over 15,000 people. Mr. Adam called on the public to continue sustainable environmental sanitation activities, follow health experts'



guidelines, clear mosquito breeding areas, and report to health facilities if they observe symptoms of the disease.

Improving Lives in . . .

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The fully funded boarding schools are located in Forto-Sawa and Aderser towns. These boarding schools provide a conducive environment for students to focus on their studies and access quality education. In conclusion, the Forto-Sawa subzone has made significant strides in expanding educational access and improving education quality. This initiative aims to alleviate the financial burden on families and encourage greater school participation. Encouragingly, female students' enrollment has been steadily increasing over the years, particularly in recent times. This positive trend is indicative of growing awareness and acceptance of girls' education within the subzone. Moreover, the quality of education provided is evident in the impressive pass rates achieved in the national eighth grade examinations and high school matriculation exams. The pass percentages stand at 85% for elementary, 82% for junior, and 79% for high school, respectively.

The subzone is connected to various towns and subzones via the Forto-Haikota, Forto-Tesseney, Forto-Girmaika, and Forto-Akurdat routes. However, the availability of public transportation has been a challenge. According to Mr. Aregay Mebrahtu, the subzone's

administrator, there is a shortage of public buses, forcing residents to rely on private cars, which can be expensive. He expressed hope for prompt resolution of this issue to enhance accessibility and affordability for everyone. In certain areas, particularly Adibara and other northern parts of the subzone, communication challenges persist. He noted that addressing these communication gaps is essential for improving the overall quality of life and facilitating economic activities in the subzone.

A network of five health institutions, including two health centers and three health stations, equips the Forto Sawa subzone. The health center located in Forto Sawa town offers a comprehensive range of healthcare services, including outpatient departments for children and adults, inpatient wards, maternity and family planning services, immunization programs, laboratory facilities, and voluntary HIV/AIDS diagnosis, counseling, and guidance. To ensure that the subzone population receives adequate healthcare, the Ministry of Health has staffed the center with a team of qualified healthcare professionals.

This team includes one public health professional, seven midwifery nurses, and 15 assistant nurses. Three barefoot doctors, who provide essential healthcare services in remote areas, supplement the regular staff in the

subzone. Furthermore, a network of 30 malaria and tuberculosis promoters operates throughout the subzone, actively engaging in awareness campaigns, diagnosis, medication prescription, and referral to health institutions for severe cases. The Ministry of Health's efforts to raise awareness about health issues have yielded tangible results, particularly in increasing the number of mothers who deliver their babies at health institutions. This shift towards institutional childbirth has significantly improved maternal and child health outcomes.

Recognizing the subzone's vulnerability to malaria, the Ministry of Health has implemented effective measures to combat this disease. One such measure involves the regular distribution of mosquito nets to every household, providing a crucial tool for preventing malaria transmission. Additionally, the Ministry actively works to eliminate potential mosquito breeding sites, thereby reducing the overall mosquito population. Through these comprehensive efforts, the Ministry of Health is committed to ensuring the health and well-being of the Forto Sawa subzone's population. By providing accessible healthcare services, promoting disease prevention, and addressing specific health challenges such as malaria, the Ministry is making a significant contribution to improving the quality of life for the subzone's residents.

A Story of a . . .

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and the inevitability of our victory. As an Eritrean proverb says: 'The rod of truth may become thinner but it cannot be broken.' Indeed, justice has finally prevailed. This is a source of hope and happiness not only for the Eritrean people, but for all those who cherish justice and peace."

However, it was not long before the UN seemed to return to old form. Although Eritrea and Ethiopia had maintained generally strong and cordial relations after Eritrea's independence, things would soon considerably deteriorate, and between May 1998 and June 2000 the two fought the largest and deadliest conventional war in contemporary African history. After the failure of several efforts by the international community to mediate an end to the conflict, the two countries signed the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities in Algiers in June 2000. Months later, in December 2000, Eritrean President Isaias Afwerki and PM Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia signed the Algiers Peace Agreement. Inter-alia, the agreements established an independent and impartial Boundary Commission to delimit and demarcate the border based on pertinent colonial treaties (from the years 1900, 1902, and 1908) and applicable international law.

After a lengthy litigation process lasting just over a year, the Eritrea Ethiopia Boundary Commission rendered its "final and binding" delimitation decision on 13 April 2002 at the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague. While Eritrea accepted the decision hoping that the final determination of the border would open doors for lasting peace and development between the two countries and the region as a whole, Ethiopia essentially rejected it and sought an alternative mechanism to reopen the process. The UN, as one of the witnesses and guarantors of the agreement, completely failed to shoulder its legal and moral responsibility to ensure that Ethiopia comply with the decision. For years, it stood idly by as sovereign Eritrean territories remained under an illegal military occupation.

Finally, of course, in December 2009 and December 2011, the UN Security Council adopted resolutions imposing a series of punishing sanctions on Eritrea, despite the lack of any solid evidence for the claims and allegations raised. The measures were biased, unjustified, and not rooted in a genuine concern for international peace and security. Instead, they were engineered by previous US and Ethiopian governments in order to punish Eritrea for: a) refusing to yield its position and the legal course on the EEBC ruling, thus thwarting a key imperative for the former US administration's "regional enforcer" and proxy, Ethiopia, and b) for Eritrea's open and candid criticisms of flawed US policies in the Horn of Africa. For nearly a decade, far long after the alleged pretexts for their original imposition were clearly shown to be nonexistent, the unjust sanctions were maintained. Throughout, they were a great impediment to Eritrea's nation-building and development efforts and also had a negative impact on peace and cooperation across the region.



ASMARA MINING SHARE COMPANY

Abu Street, No. 178, House No. 16
Gejeret, P.O. Box 10688
Tel. ++291-1-153986
Asmara, Eritrea

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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

Geotechnical Engineer

Number required – (01)

Type of contract – Indefinite

Major Duties and responsibilities

- Assist the Senior Geotechnical Engineer to implement geotechnical systems and procedures to deliver sound geotechnical services to the Asmara Mining Share Company (AMSC) mines.
- The Geotechnical Engineer will ensure the stability and safety of mining operations at Asmara by monitoring ground conditions, design control and implementation of practical solutions.
- Ensure that the life of the mine plan is fully optimized with Geotechnical design parameters to maximize economic recovery of the resource in assessing geological structures, wall slope and ground conditions, designing support systems, and implementing measures to mitigate geotechnical risks.

TASK DESCRIPTION Expanded TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS
Safety

- Ensure that all employees are aware of their SHEC responsibilities and follow company policies and procedures.
- Develop a risk management approach to the team activities and ensure that high risk controls are in place.
- Support the creation of a workplace culture where staff are committed to working safely.
- Ensure that all SHEC actions are completed on time and to the required standard.

Mine Geotechnical Engineer

- Assist in developing and updating geotechnical and hydrogeological models and database.
- Ensure that appropriate ground and slope performance monitoring devices are used and maintained.
- Identify adverse ground conditions by way of visits and study of plans, sections and available Geotechnical information. Ensure that support recommendations for excavations are implemented
- Check that geotechnical parameters used in design are used appropriately and correctly.
- Appropriately inspect, evaluate and report all significant ground related incidents.
- Provide input relating to ground control management into short, medium- and long-term planning.
- Liaise regularly with mine planning, geology and mine production personnel.
- Provide geotechnical input into drill and blast design.
- Managing alarms and alert according to TARP procedure.
- Checking the slope design plan and perform design compliance
- Monitoring and Measure the extent of berm crest and toe lost during mining.

Data collection

- Density, moisture, weathering and weathering profile, swell factors, compressive strength, joint sets, expected modes of failure, and blasting parameters required.
- Ensure that the geomechanical and hydrogeological properties and behavior of the materials comprising the pit slopes and dumps are properly understood and incorporated into design and analysis

Quality

- Ensure wall scaling is done to design
- Ensure blasting (pattern design, charging, timing and tie up) respects the ground conditions
- Ensure all records are kept in order
- Ensuring continuous improvement of support for safe work standards and procedures (Conducting On-Site training and Task observation for contractors)
- Carry out audits, reviews and quality assurance programs

Analysis

- Review and collate all study data identifying limitations, data gaps that require further investigation, operational requirements and areas of improvement.
- Provide geotechnical advice to all Asmara operations
- Conduct stability analysis using appropriate software and provide advice.
- Ensure risk assessment is undertaken in all design procedure and impact highlighted
- Ensure that all ground stabilization measures and pit design modifications are designed and implemented using appropriate geotechnical analysis.

Reporting

- Daily, Weekly and monthly geotechnical reports are completed on time to a high standard
- Ensure the geotechnical conditions of the Asmara pits and underground are documented and updated regularly.
- Completing reports for wall failures within the open pit.

Develop Standards

- Collaborated with senior geotechnical engineer in developing pit wall control protocols and standards as directed to meeting statutory standards.
- Develop and update procedures and standards related to ground control.
- Ensure all works carried out comply with safety, quality and design requirements

Human Resource Management

- Manage the work performance of employees reporting directly into this position.
- Identify training and development needs in line with the personal development plans and company objectives.
- Ensure that all team members are appropriately trained and assessed so that they can safely perform.
- Manage people's expectations so that they are in-line with the companies' goals.
- Provide mentoring and coaching to the Eritrean workforce in resource estimation related topics.

Administration

- Assist the Senior Geotechnical Engineer to manage subordinate team members.
- Assist in the management of duty rosters in line company duty calendar
- Act as Senior Geotechnical Engineer in his absence and as when required

Profile: Qualifications and Experience
Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalent

- Geology or Rock Mechanics from an internationally recognized University is essential.
- Membership of a recognized international mining or geological professional organization e.g. AusIMM, SAIMM, SME.

Working Experience – Nature & Length

- Minimum 5 years' experience in Metalliferous Mining Industry and 2-3 years in a similar role is desired.
- Experience with stability analysis and geotechnical monitoring systems, rock mass characterization, and improvements to site operational systems
- Experience in pit excavation monitoring, structural mapping and logging practices.
- Ability to perform field work in an extreme mining environment.
- Knowledge of Rocscience software packages

Technical Skills

- Design Data collection program and interpretation of results for geotechnical studies (rock mass domains, Structural analysis, Rock property test interpretation).
- logging core for Geotechnical properties (RMR, RQD, etc.)
- Conduct geotechnical assessments and site characterizations to identify potential risks
- Ability to identify and Map Geological Structures which influence stability in mining operations.
- logging core for Geotechnical properties (RMR, RQD, etc.)
- Analytical, technical writing and presentation skills
- Implementing ground support design standards for underground mine development and rehabilitation
- Ensuring ground control audits and quality assurance programs are regularly documented.
- Understand mine operation requirement with respect to excavation, stability, design compliance.

Behavioral Skills

- Safety oriented
- Communication (English and Tigrigna).
- Interpersonal relation skills.
- Accuracy and attention to detail.
- Management skill.
- Ability to train and mentor team members.
- Sensitivity to confidential information.
- Commitment to maintaining safety standards.
- Performance management.
- Understands the cultural sensibilities of Eritreans.

General Information and other requirements:

- Place of Work: AMSC Sites
- Type of contract: Indefinite 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



ASMARA MINING SHARE COMPANY
 Abu Street, No. 178, House No. 16
 Gejeret, P.O. Box 10688
 Tel. ++291-1-153986
 Asmara, Eritrea

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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

Senior Maintenance Supervisor

Number required – (01)

Type of contract – Indefinite

Major Duties and responsibilities.

- Assist the Maintenance Superintendent to recruit, train and mentor a Maintenance team who will deliver quality maintenance services to the mobile equipment and fixed plant. In doing so, ensuring KPI's that facilitate sustained and productive operations are delivered.
- The role will organize day to day workshop and maintenance activities. Furthermore, the incumbent will oversee and inspect maintenance works to ensure the safe and effective repair and servicing of mobile and fixed plant equipment.
- Planning, prioritizing, assigning, supervising, reviewing, and participating in all tasks related to maintenance.
- Developing methods and schedules for equipment maintenance
- Responsibly handling emergency situations or after-hours calls for repair and maintenance
- Taking part in developing maintenance policies and standards for the organization
- Coordinating training sessions in maintenance, safety procedures, and methods
- Planning daily tasks and delegating them to Maintenance Technicians and other professionals
- Maintaining preventive maintenance standards for an organization's equipment
- Routinely inspecting various elements of the mechanical circuit.
- Keep in check and regulate budget and track maintenance expenditures.
- Regularly check and inspect the material and tools inventory and place orders when needed.
- Assist with the implementation of capital projects.
- Approving maintenance strategy including monthly reporting and KPI validation.
- Ensure compliance with quality, health and safety rules, guidelines, and regulations.
- Inspect and oversee equipment to resolve mechanical problems.
- Develop and maintain a planning and scheduling routine and preventive maintenance of equipment, prioritizing and estimating work and technical assistance when developing job plans.
- Manage, motivate, develop, and provide direct leadership to maintenance staff.
- Perform periodic inspections of recently maintained equipment so as to observe the quality of the maintenance performed and the operating condition of the equipment.

Profile: Qualifications and Experience

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalents

- Trade Qualifications as a Diesel Mechanic or equivalent

Working Experience – Nature & Length

- 10 years' experience in large scale open-pit mines in the areas of Mobile Maintenance,
- Underground maintenance experience is desirable.
- 5 years' experience as a Mobile Maintenance Supervisor
- In-depth knowledge of different mechanical systems.
- Familiarity with relevant health and safety standards and regulations.
- Ability to co-ordinate shift crews and effectively manage shift breaks and the servicing of all mobile equipment in collaboration with the production team
- Experienced with Open pit drill and blast equipment and maintenance requirements.
- Proficient spreadsheet, presentation, work processing and database skills
- Basic knowledge of CMMS systems
- Complies with all HS&E policies, procedures and instructions. This includes the correct use of safety devices and protective equipment, prompt reporting of any hazardous situations, which they cannot themselves correct, making the necessary changes to eliminate or control the hazard and reporting immediately any accident or injury which arises in the course of their work.
- Experience working in Africa

Technical Skills

- Leadership skill in multi-disciplinary environment.
- Strong Supervisory skills. Get things done attitude.
- Train and develop local staff
- Analytical skills
- Project management skills
- Attention to detail
- Report Writing skills
- Decision making skills
- Plan, organize and execution skills
- Understand Machine capabilities and productivities.
- Problem solving skill
- Valid Driver's License•

Behavioral Skills

- Safety leadership by example
- Ability to work in developing country
- Good Interpersonal skills
- Ability to work under pressure with challenging targets
- Commitment to deliver on agreed targets - Results oriented
- High level of initiative
- Ability to multitask
- Demonstrated team building and mentoring skills
- Demonstrated training and people development skills
- Strong interpersonal relationship-building skills and adaptability to work with people of different cultures.

- Good interpersonal skills with positive attitude..

General Information and other requirements:

- Place of Work: Asmara Office & AMSC Sites
- Type of contract: Indefinite 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



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 position for Bisha site project.

Position: Boilermaker

Department: FITS/Port Operations

Number Required: One (04)

Contract Type: Definite for 2 years

Primary Purpose

- Carries out general "Boilermaker / Welding / Fabrication" work/repairs on required equipment. (General repairs, fabrication of tanks, pipes, Shutes, lines & handrails; door frames; etc.)

Main Function

- Planning.
- Implementation of the Plan.
- Writing Reports & Data Control.

Unique Requirements / Other Information

- Candidate must be physically medically fit and must be able to work at Heights.
- Must be able to work outside exposed to Heat, wind, and dusty environments.

Qualifications:

- Technical School

Knowledge and Experience:

- 3 - 5 years relevant experience

Technical Skills

Attention to detail, Boilermaker & Welding experience, Problem solving skill, Attention to detail, Driving License Grade 2

Behavioural Skills

Communication (English), High level of accuracy, Integrity, Self-motivation, Prioritizing skills & multi-skilling, Ability to work towards strict deadlines.

General Information and other requirements:

Salary: As per Company salary scale.

Type of Contract: Definite for 02 years

Place of work: Bisha

Additional requirements for Nationals:

Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligation and provided 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 the 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 Eritrean applicants:

Please send a copy of your application to

1. Aliens Employment permits Affairs,

P. O. Box 7940

Asmara, Eritrea.

2. Mineral Resources Management

P. O. Box 272

Asmara, Eritrea



September's Transformation: From Summer Rains to School Days

As September dawns over, a quiet transformation takes place. The rains of Kremti, our summer rainy season, have nourished the soil, bringing forth new life across the hills, valleys, and farmlands. Greenery now frames the once-dusty streets, instilling a sense of renewal in the air. This year's rains were generous, a gift we hold dear at a time when our connection to the land remains as important as ever. With the arrival of September,

year of learning.

There is something uniquely inspiring about this transition from summer to school. Just as the rains have fed our lands, bringing forth crops that will sustain us, so too does the education of our youth serve as nourishment for the future of our country. The classrooms, soon to be filled with the sounds of excited chatter and the scratching of pencils on paper, represent

ies after a summer filled with play and exploration. With backpacks packed, uniforms neatly prepared, and hearts brimming with enthusiasm, they look forward to the opportunities. Many share their hopes for the New Year—whether it's mastering new subjects, joining school activities, or reuniting with old friends. This collective anticipation is a heartwarming reminder of the hope and optimism education brings to each child and the



we stand on the cusp of a new chapter that brings both the end of summer and the start of a new school year.

For families, this time of year brings a bittersweet transition. After nearly three months of relaxation and exploration, our children are swapping their playful, carefree days for the structured rhythm of school life. As a parent, I've enjoyed watching my two kids fully embrace their summer—whether through outdoor adventures, bursts of creativity, indulging in beles, or simply enjoying free time after a few hours of summer classes.

They've laughed, grown, and explored the world around them with the boundless curiosity that only childhood brings. As the school doors prepare to open, that same curiosity will find a new home in the classroom, where they, like countless other children, will embark on another

places of possibility. Every desk harbors a child awaiting the realization of their dreams, while each teacher guides this journey with wisdom and care. As parents, we entrust our children to these teachers, knowing that they will help shape their minds and character.

Eritrea has always understood the profound importance of education. The strength of our people's knowledge and resilience has built our history. We recognize that the future of our nation depends on the cultivation of young minds, and every September, as students return to school, we are reminded of that responsibility. The joy of returning to friends and familiar routines, as well as the quiet anticipation of growth ahead, fills the air.

In households nationwide, the excitement of a new school year is unmistakable. Children are eager to return to their stud-

community.

While the children are the focus of this season, we must also honor our teachers. They are

the ones who stand at the forefront of our educational journey. Their dedication to nurturing the minds of our children is an immense responsibility, one that they shoulder with grace and commitment. Each lesson, word of encouragement, and challenge they help students overcome is a step toward building Eritrea's future leaders, thinkers, and innovators.

Of course, our role as parents is equally important. We are our children's first teachers, and our support continues as they grow. We must encourage their curiosity, celebrate their achievements, and guide them through their struggles. The start of a new school year is a reminder that education is a partnership—one that involves students, teachers, and families working together toward a common goal.

As we close the chapter on

this summer and welcome the new school year, let us reflect on the blessings that have come our way. The rains of Kremti, which have nourished our land, also serve as a metaphor for nurturing our children's minds. Just as the land will yield its harvest in the coming months, so will our students' efforts bear fruit as they grow in knowledge and understanding.

With all its fresh starts and opportunities, September reminds us of the beauty of new beginnings. Embrace this season with gratitude, expressing our appreciation for the rain, our children's health, the inspiring teachers, and our shared hope for every child to thrive. May this school year be filled with joy, learning, and endless possibilities for every student in Eritrea.

Said Suleman

