



MARTYRS DAY COMMEMORATED WITH PATRIOTIC ZEAL

Nationals both inside and abroad commemorated Eritrea's Martyrs Day with patriotic zeal.

President Isaias Afwerki, with utmost reverence, laid a wreath in tribute to the heroic martyrs at the commemorative event in Asmara. The event, steeped in solemnity, commenced with a public procession from Shida Square to the Martyrs Cemetery and included cultural and artistic performances

that depicted the precious sacrifices made by the gallant freedom fighters for independence and national sovereignty.

The ceremony was attended by senior Government and PFDJ officials, Army Commanders, members of the diplomatic community, and thousands of Asmara residents.

Martyrs Day was also marked

on 19 June in Asmara with a candlelight vigil in memory of those who sacrificed their lives for the country and its people.

The commemorative event, which saw the participation of thousands of Asmara residents, featured a candlelight vigil and a walkathon from Martyrs Avenue to Bahti Meskerem Square.

Mr. Fesehaye Haile, Governor



Photo: Aklilu Zerezgi



Photo: Saleh Abdelkader

PRAYER SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH MARTYRS' DAY

Prayer services and sermons marking Martyrs' Day were held at St. Michael Church and Al-Khulafae Al-Rashideen Grand Mosque in the capital city, Asmara.

On June 19, in the morning, Abune Petros, Archbishop of the Eritrean Orthodox Tewahdo Church, Abune Lukas, Secretary General of the Holy Synod, and other members, including archbishops and a number of the faithful, attended the service at St. Michael Church. Religious leaders from the Catholic and Lutheran Churches also attended the service.



Photo: Saleh Abdelkader

Abune Petros, in his speech, underscored the profound significance of the day and the solemn responsibilities it entails for every citizen, fostering a sense of shared purpose and commitment.

Merigeta Mulugeta Simon from the Office of the Patriarch, in a poignant reminder, stated that the peace and tranquility we currently enjoy is the precious gift of our martyrs. He emphasized that Martyrs Day is a sacred day, a day on which every citizen renews their pledge to live up to the expectations of the martyrs, instilling a sense of duty and responsibility in the audience.

Similarly, in the afternoon hours of June 19, Salat and Dua services were conducted at the Al-Khulafae Al-Rashideen Grand Mosque, preceded by Sheik Salem Ibrahim Almuhtar, Mufti of Eritrea.

Sheik Salem Ibrahim said that our martyrs have sacrificed their precious lives so that we can live in peace and harmony, and he called for reinforced contributions in support of the families of martyrs.



Photo: Kibrom Tsehaye

of the Central Region, proudly highlighted that the younger generation's active participation had upheld the martyrs' trust and met the people's and country's expectations. He called for a renewed pledge to honor and enforce the martyrs' trust through practical actions, inspiring hope

and responsibility in all.

Eritrean Television and Radio Dimtsi Hafash broadcast the ceremony at Bahti Meskerem Square live. Across the country, Martyrs Day is observed with candlelight vigils and cultural and artistic programs that emphasize its significance.

ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH MARTYRS DAY

Members of the cooperative association of the first round of the national service and the taxi owners association conducted various activities in connection with Martyrs Day.

Members of the cooperative association of the first round of the national service conducted a walkathon program from Biet-Gergis to the Mai-Diminet area and organized cultural and artistic programs.

Mr. Jemal Saleh, chairman of the cooperative association, emphasized that the responsibility bestowed upon us by our martyrs lives in the hearts and minds of every citizen and expressed a firm conviction that we must live up to the expectations of the martyrs.

General Flipos Woldeyohannes, Chief of Staff of the Eritrean Defense Forces, and Ms. Askalu Menkorios, Minister of Tourism, commended the cultural program presented by children and youth, depicting the heroic feats demonstrated. They called on all government institutions to stand alongside the cooperative association in all its endeavors.

Similarly, members of the taxi owners' association conducted cultural programs in the Mai-Diminet area in connection with Martyrs Day.

Mr. Mengisteab Gilamicael, chairman of the association, stated that the program was part of the association's activities every year in connection with Martyrs Day.

Col. Kinfe Habtom, General Manager of the Forestry and Wildlife Authority, praised the association members' initiative in planting tree seedlings in the Mai-Diminet area and called for its sustainability.



PHOTOGRAPHY BRANCH ERITREA-MOZ

Statement by Mr. Habtom Zerai, Charge d’Affairs at the Permanent Mission of Eritrea to the UN in Geneva

Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Eritrea

Mr. President,

It is with a heavy heart that I bring to the attention of this Council that this annual ritual of demonizing Eritrea has coincided with June 20th- Eritrea’s Martyrs Day. It is not a day of mourning but a day of reflection.

For over a decade, Eritrea has consistently communicated to this Council the reasons for its categorical rejection of country-specific mandates. Today is too important a day to us Eritreans to be overshadowed by such technical arguments about the intrusive nature of country-specific mechanisms.

This Day holds Mr. President, immense historical importance, symbolizing our sacrifice and the relentless struggle for independence and social justice.

Seventy-four years ago the inalienable right of the Eritrean people to self-determination was sacrificed for the voracious strategic interests of some members of this Council. The harrowing atrocities endured by the Eritrean people under the watchful eyes of the so-called free-world are too gruesome to mention here. Ultimately, our fight became not only for independence but also for the



broader principles of social justice, equality, and human rights.

When peaceful political efforts bore no result and became untenable, the armed struggle commenced in 1961. In the three decades that ensued Eritreans waged one of the longest, bloodiest perhaps the loneliest of liberation wars to which most countries of the core group were vehemently opposed. Thus ‘against all odds’ as one writer put it, Eritreans won de facto independence by force in 1991 and de jure independence after legitimizing it through a UN-monitored referendum in 1993.

We know that our independence did not come on a silver platter. Over 65,000 of Eritrea’s best sons and daughters sacrificed their lives for its independence, and many thousands, to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity. We abhor that once again the very countries that are today sponsoring this resolution against Eritrea, and funding the so-called human rights defenders who are hired to populate the reports, were the very same states that prolonged the border conflict by refusing to uphold their moral and legal obligations as guarantors and witnesses of the Agreements signed.

Mr. President,

Eritrea’s National Service Program will celebrate its 30th Anniversary this year, and the thousands who have undergone the program are today laying the foundations for Eritrea’s development. It is ironic that these countries would today shed crocodile tears about the prolonged National Service program, when they were instrumental in its prolonging and its misrepresentation.

Despite this, human development, human security and human dignity will continue to define human rights in Eritrea. Those states in this chamber that engineered and instituted this country-specific mandate, the 9-year-long illegal and unfair UN sanctions and ongoing unilateral coercive measures, in lieu of

dialogue and solidarity, do not have the moral authority to talk about the promotion of human rights in Eritrea.

Mr. President,

We Eritreans have profound respect and admiration for our martyrs. Honoring them is deeply

ingrained in our culture, that we open and close every official event, big or small, with a minute of silence in their remembrance. We pause in silence for remembrance and we rejoice for our independence. Their legacy continues to inspire and touch the lives of many. Today, June 20 stands as a perpetual tribute to their sacrifices, inspiring generations to uphold the values of independence, peace, and social justice. Our Martyrs’ selflessness and unwavering dedication to a just cause will forever inspire us to continue the struggle for freedom and human rights.

And, today as in the past, in the footsteps of our martyrs, we will continue to chart our own course to full prosperity.

Eternal glory to our martyrs!!
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20 June 2024, Geneva

LOCAL NEWS

MARTYRS DAY COMMEMORATION IN VARIOUS REGIONS

Martyrs Day observance was enthusiastically conducted in the Southern Red Sea, Gash Barka, and Anseba regions.

The ceremony organized in the port city of Assab on 19 June was attended by Ambassador Mohammed-Seid Mantai, Governor of the Region, Brig. Gen. Abraham Andom, Commander of the Eastern Command, as well as a number of residents of the port city and members of the Defense Forces. The event was highlighted by a candle vigil, walkathon, and cultural programs portraying the significance of the day.

At the official ceremony on 20 June at the Martyrs Cemetery, 15 km from Assab, Ambassador Mohammed-Seid Mantai and Brig. Gen. Abraham Andom laid wreaths at the Martyrs Cemetery.

Speaking at the event, Ambassador Mohammed-Seid said that Martyrs Day is a day to renew our pledge to live up to the expectations of the martyrs and to strengthen participation in the nation-building process. He also mentioned that this year’s Martyrs Day commemoration is being

observed at a time when Eritrea is standing in an encouraging stage, foiling all external hostilities and conspiracies aimed at derailing the country’s economic progress.

Martyrs Day was also commemorated in the 16 sub-zones of the Gash Barka Region, featuring popular campaigns, supporting families of martyrs, as well as cultural and artistic programs.

On June 19, a candle vigil program was conducted in Barentu, attended by Ambassador Mahmud Ali Hirui, Governor of the region, Brig. Gen. Eyob

Fesehaye, Commander of the Western Command, and a number of Barentu residents and members of the Defense Forces.

At the official ceremony on 20 June, Ambassador Mahmud, Brig. Gen. Eyob, and Ambassador Mahmud Ali Jabra, Secretary of the PFDJ in the region, laid wreaths at the Martyrs Cemetery in Barentu.

Similarly, Martyrs Day was commemorated in the Anseba region, featuring support for the families of martyrs, planting tree seedlings, and the cultivation of trees.



ERITREA PROFILE

Published Every
Wednesday & Saturday

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Advertisement: 12-50-13

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Development

World Drought and Desertification Day: Eritrea's Commitment to Land Restoration and Sustainable Development

Habtom Tesfamichael

Having been officially declared by the United Nations General Assembly in 1994, the International Day to Combat Desertification and Drought is annually observed on June 17. The objectives of the day are to raise public awareness about effective ways to address the critical issues of desertification and drought.

The goal is to convey the message that there are realistic solutions available, and that the most effective methods involve strengthening community participation at all levels. Another key aim is to reinforce the implementation process of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, particularly in countries facing serious drought and desertification challenges, including those in Africa.

How does desertification affect us?

Desertification is a global concern that directly impacts all of us, no matter where we live. Approximately 23% of the world's land area is no longer productive, and 75% of the land has been degraded through human activities over the past 50 years. This rapid and unprecedented change in land degradation is becoming alarmingly visible.

Everyone should understand the direct impact of desertification, land degradation and drought on our daily activities, and that our own actions can either exacerbate or tackle these challenges.

Healthy and restored land is our first line of defense against natural disasters like droughts and floods. With 99% of the world's energy needs coming from the earth, ensuring the sustainability of our land is crucial for human well-being.

Ensuring sustainable land management is the responsibility of everyone. Working together, we can restore the productivity of more than 2 billion hectares of poor land and improve the livelihoods of more than 1.3 billion people.

Global and Local Challenges

Globally, about 40% of the world's land is affected by degradation. Every second, an area the size of a football field turns into desert, amounting to 100 million hectares of fertile land lost annually. Climate change and mismanagement of

natural resources have also led to a 29% increase in drought incidents since 2000.

In Eritrea, deforestation and unsustainable farming practices have exposed the land to erosion and degradation, making it vulnerable to drought and desertification.

Opportunities for Action

Under global commitments, one billion hectares of deserted land can be rehabilitated by 2030. Investing in land restoration can yield economic benefits ranging from \$1 to \$30 for every dollar spent, and create jobs for up to 600 million young people.

Eritrea is taking action, with water conservation and afforestation being policy priorities. Community-based efforts, including student and defense forces involvement, have led to the construction of over 110,000 hectares of contour bunds, the planting of 148 million tree seedlings, and the establishment of over 396,000 hectares of land closures for rehabilitation.

Looking ahead, Eritrea's strategic plans aim to treat 80,000 hectares of agricultural land and 45,000 hectares of uncultivated land, and construct 397,500 cubic meters of check dams and 77 new water reservoirs by 2028. To combat drought and to achieve safe food and nutrition security as part of the five years strategic plan, there is a program that goes by the mantra "nutritious food for all, everywhere". The new program will help farmers adopt sustainable farming practices on 1,000 square meters of land.

Collective action against these challenges is central to achieving many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The consequences of one decade of land degradation can cause significant damage, while a one-decade effort of land recovery can provide a wide variety of benefits.

Commemorating World Desertification and Drought Day in Eritrea

On June 17th, Eritrea joined the global community in observing World Desertification and Drought Day. The event was held at the premises of the Confederation of Eritrean Workers in Asmara. It brought together government officials, representatives from UN agencies, experts from the



Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), representatives from various ministries, and officials from the Forest and Wildlife Authority.

In his keynote speech of the day, Mr. Semere Amlesom, Director of the Agricultural Extension Division of the MoA, said "As we commemorate the World Day of Combating Drought and Desertification, our focus and the world's focus is on ensuring healthy land for future generations, and driving global prosperity and stability." This year, it's being marked under the theme "United for Land: Our Legacy, Our Future" and seeks to mobilize all segments of the society in support of sustainable land stewardship.

Mr. Semere emphasized that the earth is the foundation for all life, and 95% of the world's agricultural production is land-based. However, he warned that one-third of the land used for agricultural production has declined in productivity due to land degradation, negatively impacting about 3.2 billion people globally. This is leading to increased hunger, poverty, unemployment, and forced migration.

Located in a region prone to drought and desertification, Eritrea is greatly affected by these issues. Mr. Semere called for a concerted effort to fight back by mobilizing

resources. He highlighted Eritrea's achievements in combating drought and desertification through the joint efforts of the members of communities, students, members of the defense forces, and government employees.

Mrs. Nashida Sattar, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, also spoke at the event. In her speech she stressed the urgency of promoting awareness about the critical issues of desertification, land degradation, and drought that are affecting the global population. She noted that up to 40% of the planet's land is degraded, and 75% has been transformed from its natural state.

In the Horn of Africa, including Eritrea, desertification, land degradation, and drought remain significant threats, affecting 100 million people. Ms. Sattar acknowledged Eritrea's efforts, including the signing and ratification of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, water and soil conservation activities, the construction of water reservoirs and dams, and the National Greening Campaign launched in 2006.

Five research papers on a range of critical topics were also presented at the event.

The first paper examined Eritrea's commitments and experiences under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. The researchers provided an overview of the country's national action plan and the progress made in its implementation.

Another paper focused on Eritrea's drought monitoring and forecasting capabilities, as well as the assessment of the impacts of drought on the country's agriculture and natural resources. This work is crucial in helping communities



prepare for and mitigate the effects of persistent dry conditions.

A paper was also presented on initiatives to regulate salinization and combat land degradation, which threaten the productivity of Eritrea's farmlands. Experts shared best practices and innovative solutions being implemented nationwide.

The role of agroforestry systems in combating desertification, land degradation, and drought was another key topic dealt with. The researchers highlighted how these integrated land-use systems can enhance the health of soil, increase biodiversity, and improve local resilience.

Finally, the potential of date palm plantations to combat desertification and address climate change was explored. Participants learned about the environmental and economic benefits of this hardy, drought-resistant plant.

Following the insightful presentations, conference attendees engaged in a lively discussion, raising questions and sharing opinions. The panelists and representatives from relevant government bodies provided thoughtful responses, further deepening the understanding of Eritrea's efforts in this critical area.



Discussions on Presentations. 2024 #UNited4Land OUR LEGACY. OUR FUTURE. DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT DAY · 17 JUNE 2024. 17 يونيو 2024

SpotLight

Portraying Eritrea's Brutal Past Through Art

Mussie Efriem

Eritrea commemorates its fallen heroes on June 20th, Martyrs' Day, a day dedicated to Eritrea's heroes who gave their lives in the war for independence. The day is a reminder of the brutal realities the Eritrean people endured. We assemble with our loved ones in public places late at night, confident that we will return home safely. The comfort of our homes, the joy of reuniting with loved ones after a long day – these are all freedoms secured by the selfless actions of our martyrs.

On Martyrs' Day, parents and grandparents tell their children and grandchildren stories, sharing their experiences as freedom fighters. They take them to the streets holding candles and tell them the history of our dauntless heroes. Veteran fighters take center stage at various events, their voices resonating with the triumphs and challenges of the struggle. Their firsthand accounts breathe life into history, ensuring the weight of their comrades' sacrifice is never forgotten.

The spirit of Martyrs' Day permeates the media. Songs, imbued with the sorrow and the fire of national pride, fill the airwaves. Poems, penned with both grief and gratitude, grace the memorial parade. These artistic expressions ensure the stories of the martyrs find a voice that resonates with all. As night falls, a poignant ritual unfolds across Eritrea. Homes and streets flicker with the warm glow of candlelights. These flickering flames are more than just a symbol of remembrance; they represent the unwavering spirit of a nation that cherishes its heroes. Through these powerful traditions, Martyrs' Day transcends a single date. It becomes a living testament to the enduring power of sacrifice and a reminder

of the heroes who paved the way for a brighter future.

Eritrea's Martyrs' Day commemorates not only the sacrifices made on the battlefield but also the innocent lives lost in the struggle for liberation, civilian fathers and mothers, sons and daughters who never returned home. The cost was high, and countless Eritrean families have been forever changed by their



sacrifice. The generations in the Ethiopian colonization era remember the dark days under the successive Haile Selassie and Derg regimes. Eritrean towns and villages became grim scenes of mass shootings and civilian massacres, acts of brutal revenge for losses on the battlefield. The weight of this history is heavy, a stark reminder of the tyranny we fought so valiantly to overcome. The weight of history presses heavily on this day, forcing us to remember not just the glorious victories but also the senseless atrocities committed against our people.

One such atrocity that is forever etched in the memory of Asmara is the killing of innocent football fans in the 1980s. In a horrific incident near Kidane Mihret, at the heart of Asmara, a group of young people who gathered to watch a football match on television were

gunned down in cold blood. This act of brutality shattered not just the lives of those directly affected, but also the spirit of a city yearning for normalcy. The daily civilian mass shootings that occurred in the majority of Eritrean towns and villages was one of the enemy's brutal reactions to the Eritrean people. In Ona, a village two km from Keren, and surrounding villages, Ethiopian soldiers massacred the inhabitants, looted

their properties and burned their houses in retaliation of the killing of Major General Teshome Ergetu, commander of the second division that was stationed in Eritrea. On that dreadful Tuesday morning, no one was spared. Human beings and animals were targeted. Families burned in flames in their homes. Ona turned into a hell on earth. The blood of the defenseless civilians covered the ground and the sky turned dark with smoke. More than 800 people died, including pregnant women, children and the elderly.

Besikdra, located 20 kilometers north-east of Keren, was also among the villages that experienced mass killing. In that village the army opened fire at the people in the village mosque and killed 120 people. The people fled their homes and went to the mosque to seek refuge who had sought sanctuary in what because they thought it was the safest place. Overall, 220 Eritreans of all ages were killed in the village. A lot of similar stories took place in Keren, Geleb and Shieb. The story of Rora biet Gebru in Keren, which the enemies burnt, and on another day killed 45 people who were accused of having a hand in helping the EPLF. In Geleb, the enemy hung 26 men and burned women alive. On 12 May, 1988, She'eb witnessed a brutal killing of its inhabitants; Over 80 innocent



civilians, including women and children, were run down by tanks. Their bodies couldn't even be buried. There was no way out of the situation, and no one could escape from the shelling of fires targeting innocent civilians. A number of people were shot while trying to escape the bloody scene. As a result, 400 civilians were massacred by Ethiopian soldiers. There is hardly any place in Eritrea that hasn't witnessed the bloodshed of its innocent people. People were hoarded into churches and mosques and killed there. Sometimes people were burnt alive in their homes and places of worship.

In Gash Barka, the scars of the Dergue's brutality are visible. Agordat's "Black Sunday" and the Omhajer massacres stand as grim reminders of the regime's callous disregard for innocent life. Southern Red Sea wasn't spared either. The Derg's reign of terror extended to Assab and other towns, leaving a trail of suffering in its wake. The horrors of Haile Selassie regime also cast a long shadow. The Hazemo massacre in Southern region during the 1970s stands as a chilling testament to the emperor's ruthlessness. The sheer scale of devastation is almost incomprehensible. Over 170 villages were utterly destroyed during the combined reigns of Haile Selassie and Mengistu. These weren't just statistics; they were communities ripped apart, families devastated, and dreams extinguished. Every village and every life lost are the sacrifice made to liberate Eritrea and defend its sovereignty.

Ghidey Ghebremichael, an artist, has been studying the atrocities committed by colonial powers and has continued to present them through sculptures in order to bring to light the pitiless deeds perpetrated against innocent Eritreans. Mr. Ghidey is one of the most dedicated citizens who annually commemorate Martyrs' Day by displaying various artistic works on Asmara's main street, Harenet Avenue, in front of the

Ministry of Education. For the past 23 years, Mr. Gidey has been showing pieces depicting the horrible mass killings and agonies caused by colonizers.

This year's exhibition differed slightly from the previous one. Mr. Gidey, through months of meticulous research, crafted a documentary that delves into the stories of individuals brutally killed during Eritrea's struggle for independence. His research relied heavily on police documents at that time. The documentary isn't easy to watch because it is filled with accounts of unimaginable brutality. However, Mr. Gidey believes it's crucial for the younger generation to understand the sacrifices made for Eritrea's self-determination and the value of their hard-won freedom. It's an essential part of Eritrea's history. Sharing this narrative with the world honors the immense sacrifices paid by the Eritrean people in their fight for independence. Mr. Gidey says: "We must never forget the years of fear and oppression as well as the constant threat of violence that haunted our daily existence." As a survivor who escaped death, Mr. Gidey witnessed this.

Mr. Gidey describes Martyrs' Day as a powerful wake-up call that reminds us of the invaluable treasures that our heroes have given us. Because of their sacrifice, we can walk down the street without fear of bombs dropping from the sky. We may breathe freely, without fear of arrest or worse. He adds that the history he witnessed stimulates a burning desire within him to ensure that the younger generation and the rest of the world are aware of Eritrea's history of resistance. June 20 serves as a powerful motivator for each and every Eritrean to assume responsibility. We must build a nation that honors our heroes' sacrifice, a nation that thrives in peace and security. With every flickering candle on Martyrs' Day, we rekindle not only the memory of our fallen heroes, but also the unwavering resolve to protect their legacy.

Preserving Culture, Promoting Education & Strengthening Equality Through Mother Language

Dr. Fikrejesus Amahazion

“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart” – Mandela

On a basic level, language is much more than just a tool for communication. It is a vehicle for our active participation in the surrounding community and cultural life, and it is critical to our overall survival. So fundamental and significant is the freedom to communicate and express ourselves through language that it is recognized as a key human right. Specifically, United Nations Resolution A/RES/61/266, adopted by the General Assembly on 16 May 2007, called upon Member States, “to promote the preservation and protection of all languages used by peoples of the world”, while linguistic rights are enshrined within a broad array of regional and international rights documents and instruments.

Although estimates vary slightly by particular organization or source, it is believed that there are approximately 6,700-7,000 languages spoken or signed around the world. Unfortunately, however, languages have been disappearing at an alarmingly rapid rate, with a large number being threatened with extinction. Across the past century, it is believed that hundreds of languages have disappeared. What is more, within the fast-changing, increasingly important digital world, it is estimated that less than a hundred languages are used.

In addition to the points outlined above, languages remain a key element of culture and they play a role in the formation of one’s identity. Importantly, languages allow people to keep hold of and pass on the memories, traditions, and ways of thinking that their languages represent. When a language disappears, it takes with it unique modes of thinking or expression and an entire cultural and intellectual heritage.

Another critical dimension of language is its close interlinkages with education, development, and inclusive societies. According to the United Nations, approximately 40 percent of



the world’s population does not have access to an education in a language that they speak or understand. Naturally, this has far-reaching and profound implications for learning and achievement, especially for early childhood education.

The Global Partnership for Education, a global multi-stakeholder partnership and funding platform that aims to strengthen education systems in developing countries, states, “It’s an undisputable fact that children learn better if they understand the language of instruction.” Other global organizations, such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), as well as a plethora of empirical literature, also indicate that multilingual education based on one’s mother tongue is crucial, especially within early levels, to avoid knowledge gaps and increase the speed of learning and comprehension. It also helps to facilitate access to and inclusion in learning for communities or population groups that speak non-dominant languages, languages of minority groups, and indigenous languages.

As a final point, but no less important, protecting and preserving languages, along with promoting multilingualism, can also be powerfully effective tools for cultivating peace and fostering dialogue, tolerance, understanding, and respect for others.

Mother language policy and multilingual approach in Eritrea

Eritrea is blessed with a unique blend of beautiful cultures and rich cultural diversity. It

is home to a colorful array of ethnolinguistic groups – nine in total – which speak a diverse range of languages. Not only is this great diversity deeply cherished and widely celebrated, it remains central to Eritrea’s national identity and is positively distinguished as one of the country’s greatest assets and strengths.

Prior to Eritrea’s independence, a range of language policies were implemented by external ruling powers. For example, at one point Amharic, the language of the occupying forces, was made the official language, while widely spoken local languages, such as Tigrigna, were banned. However, after achieving independence, and consistent with the EPLF’s longstanding principles and approach during the protracted armed struggle, Eritrea has pursued a pluralistic language policy and approach, recognizing and embracing all languages as equal.

Today, there is no special status or distinction for any particular language, with all being recognized and appreciated for their substantive inherent value and contributions to the country’s rich, unique cultural tapestry.

Notwithstanding a range of challenges, this policy approach has been an important mechanism for protecting human rights and preserving Eritrea’s unique diversity, culture, values, and traditional or indigenous knowledge systems. Furthermore, it reflects the country’s unwavering commitment to social justice, ending discrimination, and fostering peaceful coexistence, tolerance, and respect for others. This latter point is something of great significance and worth noting, especially within the context of a region and wider global community that historically has been – and continues to be – shrouded by the dark horrors of ethnic- and identity-related strife and conflict.

In addition to media and public life, one of the areas that most powerfully reflects some of the multilayered benefits of Eritrea’s pluralistic language policy approach is education. Since independence, Eritrea has made considerable strides within this sector, particularly in terms of expansion in enrolments and increases in literacy: enrolment at all levels now hovers at around 700,000, up from 346,266 in 1997/98, while total youth literacy has risen sharply to reach approximately 93 percent. Granted, these improvements have been driven by a multitude of factors. Yet, one strong contributing element has been Eritrea’s mother language policy.

Appreciating the benefits of mother language instruction, Eritrea has remained committed to ensuring that all children receive their elementary education in their mother language. Developed and implemented by the Ministry of Education, the

policy mandates multilingual education based on the mother language from pre-primary until the end of elementary level, when other languages are gradually introduced and integrated into the overall teaching-learning process and curricula.

This approach enables Eritrean learners whose mother tongue is different from the dominant language of instruction to bridge the gap between home and school, to discover and engage with the school environment in a familiar language, and thus, learn faster and better. For example, youth from Eritrea’s different ethnolinguistic groups that are able to speak the language of instruction are better able to read with understanding, while mother language learning has also been associated with improved classroom participation and retention.

In recent years, in close cooperation with global partners, Eritrea has heavily invested in the recruitment and training of numerous teachers and community members on mother language education to enhance their capacity and competencies. It has also printed and distributed several million textbooks and teaching guides in nine languages. (As a further reflection of the country’s principle of social justice, the materials are provided to students and educators free of charge.)

Furthermore, Eritrea has explored the potential for use of digital platforms within education, while a public language committee for the country’s various indigenous languages has been established, aiming to ensure the effective application of mother language instruction and raising public awareness about the importance of mother language learning.

Ultimately, Eritrea’s championing of linguistic diversity and multilingual education has played a positive role in increasing access and ensuring inclusive, quality education for all, particularly through reducing repetition and dropout rates, improving academic results, fluency, and literacy, and leading to greater family and community involvement.






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- 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: 10 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
Abo 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;

Dozer Operator

Number required – (03)

Type of contract – Indefinite

Major Duties and responsibilities.

- Control waste dump materials
- Control waste dump levels
- Construct road ways and ramps

Safety

- Operate the machine in a safe manner
- Pre check before operating
- Operate according mine operating procedures

Reporting

- To the production Supervisor

Develop Standards

- Ensure training complies with local and international standards.

Profile: Qualifications and Experience

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalents

- Secondary schooling
- Able to read and write

Working Experience – Nature & Length

- Mining experience in the sense of ripping and dozing
- Six months and longer dozer experience on a mine
- Roadway and ramp construction
- Loading pad clean up

Technical Skills

- Able to identify any problem that will be a safety risk to machine and operator.
- Able to identify and report damage to machine
- Able to read and understand the display panel in the cab

Behavioral Skills

- Communication - Local (English will be an advantage)
- Safety leadership by example
- Good Interpersonal skills
- Commitment to deliver on agreed targets
- Physical condition to climb heights

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: 10 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



Zara Mining
Share Company

Vacancy Announcement

Position:	Junior Accountant
Number required	1
Location:	Based at Koka Gold Mine (Zara)
Reporting to:	Financial Specialist Superintendent
Primary Responsibility & Scope of Work	To provide financial information to Finance Manager or management by researching and analysing accounting data; preparing reports required.
Duties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recording financial data into Accounting Software or ERP by compiling, analysing and summarizing accounts information. - Maintain & prepare various financial reports, tax related matters, accounts payable & receivables, monthly Payroll, bank, and accounts reconciliations. - Documents financial transactions by entering account information. - Recommends financial actions by analysing accounting options. - Substantiates financial transactions by checking documents. - Maintains accounting controls by referring existing accounting policies and procedures. - Reconciles financial discrepancies by collecting and analysing account information. - Secures financial information by completing data base backups. - Maintains financial security by following internal controls. - Answers accounting procedure questions by researching and interpreting accounting policy and regulations. - Complies with Eritrean Government financial legal requirements by studying existing and new legislation, enforcing adherence to requirements. - Prepares special financial reports cash flows by collecting, analysing, and summarizing account information and trends. - Maintains customer confidence and protects operations by keeping financial information confidential. - Maintains professional and technical knowledge by attending educational workshops; reviewing professional publications; establishing personal networks; participating in professional societies. - Assists in preparing payments by verifying documentation and requesting disbursements. - Contributes to team effort by accomplishing related results as needed.
Formal Education, Certifications, or Equivalents	- University Degree or Diploma in Accounting.
Working Experience – Nature & Length	- Minimum 3 years' experience as an Accountant. Mining experience will have an asset.
Leadership Experience - Nature & Length of Time	
Other skills and abilities	Accounting, Corporate Finance, Reporting Skills, Deadline-Oriented, Reporting Research Results, Confidentiality, Time Management, Data Entry Management. Good math and computer skills. High-level of attention to detail. Strong organizational skills. Independent work skills. Analytical and problem-solving skills. Computer skills, especially the ability to use accounting software. Written and verbal communication skills.

Salary: According to the Company's salary scale.

Additional Requirement for nationals: Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligations and provide evidence of a release paper from the Ministry of Defence. Provide clearance from the current/last employer. Applications should be sent through the Post Office. Only short-listed applicants would be considered as potential candidates for an interview. Application will not send to the sender.

Address: Please mail your applications to Zara Mining Share Company. P. O. Box 2393. Asmara, Eritrea.

Note to Eritrean applicants: - Please send a copy of your application to Aliens Employment Permit Affairs P.O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea. and Eritrea. Mineral Resources Management P. O. Box 272

The deadline for application is 10 days from the day of the announcement.

Notice

Here given to the public that members of the Central PLC on their extra ordinary meeting held on 12/05/2024 resolved:-

1. The member Haben Mustofa Nurhusien withdraw from company by selling her 350 shares of value 350,000 Nkf, 340 shares of value 340,000.00 Nkf to Sofia Mohammed Tabete ; 5 shares of value 5,000.00 Nkf to Amina Tesfahanes Garza and 5 shares of value 5000.00 Nkf to Jemila Mohammed Tabete par value 1000.00 each respectively.
2. The member Munir Said Feli withdraws from the company by taking the company's house in kind of his shares 700 shares.
3. Decrease the capital of the company from 1,400,000.00 Nkf to 700,000.00 Nkf.
4. Sofia Mohammed Tabete appointed to be the manager of the company for unlimited period of time.

Art.1 of the memorandum of association amended as follows:-

Name	No of shares	Value in Nkf
1. Sofia Mohammed Tabete	690	690,000.00
2. Amina Tesfahanes Garza	5	5,000.00
3. Jemila Mohammed Tabete	5	5,000.00
Total	700	700,000.00

Central PLC



Q and A

June 20th: The Day we Renew Our Pledge

Sabrina Solomon

My name is Yoel Solomon. I'm 22 years old and work with the cartography and information department.

How does this day reflect on you?

For me, this day reminds me of what we have overcome and our united vision as a nation. It's a day we renew our pledge to our martyrs, and it reminds us of what has been sacrificed to have such an independent and self-reliant nation. It's a day to reflect upon the tremendous sacrifice for the greater good and pay our respects to those who have given everything for our freedom.

This year is filled with overwhelming, but proud emotions with a hope for a brighter future. I believe that our nation's best years are yet to come, all thanks to our martyrs. Seeing the streets of the city filled with people lighting candles, marching united, and consoling each other is beyond my vocabulary of words to explain. It's so heart-touching. My whole body's filled with emotions and feelings I can't explain. I want to send out love, appreciation, and solidarity to everyone who has lost their family member, and may our martyrs rest in peace. They are always in our hearts, and their legacy is immortal. Thank you!

Kebedesh Zeriezghi, a 70-year-old mother who lost her sons to the war. We met her at the martyrs' cemetery

Well, I'm here paying my respects to all the martyrs and laying a wreath as a token of my appreciation. I have lost two of my sons to the horrific war. They sacrificed their lives so that their mother, their younger siblings, and their people could breathe freely. I'm so emotional and heartbroken to have lost them both, but they had a clear goal ahead of them, and they made it happen. They died for their goals; I couldn't be ever prouder than this. We as a society have passed through this traumatizing period where we lost our beloved children, and spouses. This day is for them, their honor, and their courage. It's a day of consoling each other and being proud of them. They died so we can live.

June 20th, a day of honoring Eritrean martyrs, brings people together to pay tribute to those who have fought and sacrificed their lives for the independence and sovereignty of the country. Eritreans across the globe commemorate June 19th, the eve of the Martyrs Day, with candle light vigil, and cultural activities. Nationals all across the country march in the streets of the cities holding candles, staging various artistic performances that depict the weight of the day, and conducting tree planting in the morning hours. Following are some random interviews conducted during the candle light vigil.

This is the virtue of every Eritrea.

What message would you like to send out on this day?

A message of resilience to every Eritrean and a message of gratitude to our martyrs. I would love to renew my pledge to all the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for independence and sovereignty. We were able to raise and educate our kids in a free and united nation that was earned through the blood, sweat, and tears of those who gave everything for their people. For 33 years now, we have been living in peace and harmony, free from merciless colonizers. We are all aware of what we have overcome and are responsible for passing this history to the younger generation by guiding them till the very end. I would also love to give my condolences to the mothers who have lost their children, to the children who have lost their parents, and to those who lost their friends and families. We are forever proud of our martyrs for their relentless fight until the very last drop of their blood, and they are always and forever in our hearts.

My name is Natnael Negasi. I'm 26 years old and work in the water supply department of the Central Region.

It's a weighty feeling. People remember the martyrs with pride. Everyone in our nation has lost a family member due to the horrible war for independence, and to safeguard the sovereignty of the



country after independence. And so, every single person is affected in one way or another. Reliving the whole scenery is very overwhelming, but it's crucial to commemorate our fallen heroes proudly. Besides, Martyrs' Day marks the history struggle and the



reason behind our united vision. I get to reminisce what our fathers and forefathers have

gone through, which helps me remember what is required of me to uphold my pledge. Radio programs and TV documentaries that were aired and televised during this period allowed me to delve deeper into the history of our armed struggle. Being born in

this new generation, it's possible to be lost in misconceptions and misinformation. Our Martyrs

Day, however, allows me to reflect on my duty as a youth of this nation. Hearing about the horrible massacres, the fortitude of our fighters, their heroic feats, about how every single person was affected makes me wonder if I'm doing enough for my country like my elders have done. It's a wakeup call. They have done so much for us; what can I do for my country in return? That is a question that comes to my head.

Anything you'd like to add...

We have come a long way, and there is a longer way ahead of us, but we have embarked to build a prosperous and great united nation. I am forever grateful to our martyrs for their undeniable feeling of nationalism and commitment. We're ready to take our part and make them proud. Thank you!

