

## DIASPORA NATIONALS COMMEMORATE MARTYRS DAY

Eritrean nationals in South Sudan, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, South Africa, UK, Uganda, Ethiopia, Angola, Saudi Arabia, Austria and various cities of the US, commemorated Martyrs Day with patriotic zeal.

In an event organized in South Sudan on 18 June under the theme “Trusteeship in Practice” featuring a candlelight vigil, a walkathon, cultural and artistic programs, and contributions to augment the Martyrs Trust Fund.

The nationals also assumed the responsibility of supporting 124 families of martyrs, and certificates of recognition were handed out to those who have fulfilled their responsibility of supporting families of martyrs.

Likewise, at the commemoration event organized in Nairobi featuring various programs that depict the day, the nationals contributed 285 thousand Kenyan Shillings to augment the Martyrs Trust Fund,

In the same vein, nationals in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, organized similar events to

commemorate the day including a candlelight vigil and cultural programs.

At the event, the nationals contributed 23 thousand dirhams towards boosting the Martyrs Trust Fund, and took the responsibility of supporting 211 families of martyrs.

In a similar event in Doha, Qatar, the nationals contributed 3,900 US dollars and 5 thousand Qatari riyals, and also took similar measures of supporting 5 families of martyrs.

Meanwhile, nationals in South Africa also held an event on 18 June in Johannesburg with patriotic zeal, featuring a candlelight vigil as well as various programs depicting the day.

The nationals also contributed 27,700 South African rand and also pledged to contribute 56,370 South African rand towards augmenting the Martyrs Trust Fund.

According to report, nationals in the South African cities of Durban, Kroonstad, Musina, and Polokwane also commemorated the day with various activities.

Similarly, nationals in the US cities of Cincinnati and Ohio commemorated Martyrs Day with a candlelight vigil and contributed 6 thousand US dollars to the Martyrs Trust Fund.

In an event in London where over 3 thousand nationals participated, the participants expressed their commitment to strengthen their contributions in support of families of martyrs.

The commemorative event organized by the Eritrean Embassy in Ethiopia and Eritrea’s Permanent Mission at the African Union and the Economic Commission of Africa, was highlighted by a candlelight vigil and tree planting. The nationals also contributed 708,696 Ethiopian birr.

At an event held in Jeddah and its environs, certificates of recognition were handed out to nationals who assumed the responsibility of supporting families of martyrs, and the participants of the event contributed 4,300 Saudi riyals.

Reassuring their readiness to live up to the trust of the martyrs,



nationals in Abu Dhabi contributed over 3,000 dirham, while nationals in Vienna, Austria, have taken the responsibility of supporting 9

families of martyrs.

Nationals in Uganda and Angola also commemorated Martyrs Day enthusiastically.

## MARTYRS DAY COMMEMORATIONS



Martyrs Day was commemorated in the Southern, Northern Red Sea, Anseba and Gash Barka Regions, featuring candlelight vigils, cultural and artistic programs, as well as laying wreaths at Martyrs Cemeteries.

According to report, the commemoration event was carried out in all the sub-zones of the Southern Region that include planting trees, and carrying out environmental sanitation activities.

As part of the commemoration event, 81 thousand Nakfa raised by Government employees were

distributed to families of martyrs.

In related news, at a similar event held in the port city of Massawa, Ms. Asmeret Abraha, Governor of the Northern Red Sea region, Col. Melake Teklemeriam, Chief of Staff of the Eritrean Navy, Col. Idris Fagir, Commander of the Popular Forces of the Eastern Command, Mr. Ibrahim Ali Sheik, Chairman of the Regional Assembly, and Mr. Rezene Adonai, Head of the PFDJ in the region, laid wreath at the Hitimlo Martyrs Cemetery.

The commemoration event in Keren, Anseba Region, was also conducted on 20 June featuring a

candlelight vigil, laying wreaths at the Martyrs Cemetery, and planting tree seedlings.

At an event held in Barentu, Gash Barka region, Ambassador Mahmud Ali Hirui, Governor of the Region, Brig. General Tsgai Mokenen, Chief of Staff of the Western Command, and various other heads of government institutions laid wreath at the Barentu Martyrs Cemetery.

Likewise, over 200,000 nakfa contributed by government employees in the sub-zones of Akordet, Shambuka and Mogolo were disbursed to families of martyrs.

The day was also enthusiastically commemorated in the Southern Red Sea region with different activities.

Ambassador Mohammed-Seid Mantai, Governor of the region, and Brig. General Abraham Andom, Commander of the Eastern Command, laid wreath at the Martyrs Cemetery.

## ERITREA CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIP COMMENCES

The Eritrean Cycling Championship 2023 has commenced yesterday, 23 June, with an individual time trial at the Mai-Diminet area.

In the elite category that covered 36 kms, Amanuel Gebrezgiabhier from team Trek became the fastest rider of the year, while Merhawi Kudus from EF Education and Aklilu Arefaine from Intermarche Circus Wanty won the silver and bronze medals respectively.

Amanuel finished the race in 43 minutes and 4 seconds riding his

bike in an astounding 50.1 km/hr in the windy road.

In the U-23 category, Aklilu Arefaine, became the gold medalist followed by Petros Mengis and Hebron Berhene who took the silver and bronze respectively.

In the female elite and under 23 categories Adiam Dawit from Denden Cub, Berikti Fesehaye from Gala-Nefhi, and Monaliza Araya from the Debub Team won Gold, Silver and Bronze medals respectively.





# Eritrean Delegation Statement: EID on the “HR Situation in Eritrea” at 53<sup>rd</sup> HRC Regular Session

Mr. President,

Eritrea celebrated its 32nd independence Anniversary on 24 May last month. The almost two-week long, vibrant, celebrations all over the country and the Diaspora were more extensive and spectacular by all standards. The additional vigour perhaps reflected and accentuated another dimension of the annual event. The celebrations this year indeed took place at a particular historical juncture when Eritrea's independence, sovereignty and national cohesion have become more reinforced and the inexorable march to achieve development and economic growth is proceeding at an accelerated pace. This was despite sanctions; unilateral coercive measures by certain powers; and, ramped-up external hostilities under various pretexts; including the politicization of human rights.

In reality, human rights are mainstreamed in Eritrea's nation-building process which is squarely anchored on the promotion of human dignity, security, sustainable development, and social justice. It is deplorable that for more than a decade now, some western countries have, and continue to, weaponize human rights to advance their visceral hostility against Eritrea for their own geopolitical considerations and interests.

To this end, the “Special Rapporteur” on Eritrea continues

to recycle fallacious reports, innuendos, and accusations from dubious sources without proper validation on their veracity and underlying motives.

Thus, the “Special Rapporteur” again peddles in his current Report, the usual vitriol, spiced by additional and sensational appeals, in order to widen the scope and duration of the deplorable and politicized witch-hunting campaigns against Eritrea under the umbrella of the UNHRC.

These appeals are intended to imbue credibility to the flawed Report – both in procedural and substantive terms, and to ring false alarm bells. In this regard, the constant themes harped revolve around:

- Spurious allegations on, and denigration of, the National Service. In this regard, the National Service is falsely misconstrued as “forced labour” without any serious attempt to examine its statutory provisions, rationale, dynamics and indispensable contributions for safeguarding the hard-won sovereignty and national security

in crucial periods of wars of aggression imposed on the country in the past decades.

- Presumptuous and absolutely false allegation of “discrimination and marginalization of the Afar ethnic group in Eritrea”. This is not only factually preposterous but reeks of some ulterior political agenda of certain external forces to foment ethnic cleavages and fragmentation of the country. Eritrea's reality is otherwise one of ethnic and religious national cohesion within a healthy climate of diversity. The exemplary harmony is indeed based on history, culture and government policies of social justice and equity.

- False and unacceptable allegations circulated by certain powers and affiliated media outlets on Eritrea's legitimate, collaborative, and defensive responses to roll back a War of Insurrection in the Tigray Region in northern Ethiopia whose pronounced and avowed objectives included acts of aggression against Eritrea.

Mr. President,

Eritrea has explained, in its previous communications, the unwarranted circumstances and politicized purposes for which the SR was first created in 2012. Throughout these years, the hand-picked experts have displayed disdain for objectivity and professionalism to act as militant mouthpieces for Eritrea's detractors and arch-enemies. The data they collect is invariably sourced from certain powers and forces who openly entertain illicit “regime change” in Eritrea.

Only last year, the current SR included in his Report, unfounded accounts accusing the Government of Eritrea of deploying Somali troops who were receiving normative training in the country in accordance with bilateral security cooperation agreement with the Government of Somalia, in the war in the Tigray Region in Ethiopia.

Eritrea vehemently opposed the Report at the time, and the Foreign Minister subsequently wrote to the President of the HRC to rescind the whole Report and take appropriate measures of accountability against

the Special Rapporteur.

In a nutshell, the mendacious allegations and approaches of the Special Rapporteur have and continue to be in contravention of the Code of Conduct for HRC Special Procedure Mandate-holders. On a broader level, Eritrea continues to reject politicization of human rights that were deliberately woven to substitute normative mechanisms of consultation and dialogue. Against the backdrop of the repetitive and scandalous failures of the politicized mandate, Eritrea kindly requests the current UNHRC Session to:

- Reject, in its totality, the unacceptable Report submitted by the SR in the present EID;
- Terminate the unwarranted tool of harassment against Eritrea;
- Support and promote dignified engagement and cooperation with Eritrea on the basis of constructive and genuine partnership.

*I thank you Mr. President!*  
19 June, 2023

## LOCAL NEWS

### NRS: YOUTH TRAINING

Office of the PFDJ in the Northern Red Sea Region organized a training to 200 youth in the region.

The two-week long training included ideology and politics, significance of organization, the history of the Eritrean armed struggle for Independence, psychological warfare and the meaning of resilience, in addition to the role of the youth in development programs.

Mr. Ahmed Jaefer, Head of the PFDJ Political Affairs in the region, said that more similar training programs will be organized with a view to developing the capacity of the youth.

The National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students also organized a similar training program to 67 youth in the sub-zones of Massawa, Foro, Ghinda, Gelalo and Sheib.

Mr. Gebreyonas Gebretensae, Head of civic education at the union branch in the region, said that similar training programs will be organized in the other sub-zones.

Speaking at event organized on 17 June, Mr. Rezene Adonai, Head of the PFDJ in the region, called on the trainees to transfer the knowledge they gained to fellow youth in their areas.

## CONTRIBUTION TO THE MARTYRS TRUST FUND

At an event organized in connection with the Martyrs Day, nationals in Italy, Belgium, Luxemburg, Finland and the US contributed over 38 thousand Euros and 5 thousand US dollars towards augmenting the Martyrs Trust Fund and in support of families of martyrs.

According to report, at commemoration events held in 17 Italian cities, the nationals expressed conviction to live up to the trust of the martyrs and contributed 30 thousand Euros.

Nationals in the Belgian cities of Brussels, Antwerp and Kortrijk, as well as in the US, contributed 5 thousand US dollars towards augmenting the Martyrs Trust Fund.

commemorated the Martyrs Day.

At the events organized in Belgium and Luxembourg the nationals contributed 2,750 and 1,500 Euros respectively.

Similarly, nationals in Finland commemorated the Martyrs Day featuring candle light vigil and contributed about 3 thousand 780 Euros towards augmenting the National Martyrs Trust Fund.

In the same vein, at commemoration event organized in connection with Martyrs Day, nationals in Columbus, the US, contributed 5 thousand US dollars towards augmenting the Martyrs Trust Fund.



Luxembourg enthusiastically

towards Martyrs Trust Fund.

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# Development

## Self-Reliance: Basis of Eritrea's Progress

Lwam Kahsay

The past thirty-two years of Eritrea's post-independence period reveals the ups and downs the country has gone through to safeguard its sovereignty and to achieve sustainable development. The government of Eritrea, like its precursor the EPLF during the armed struggle for independence, has been able to successfully do this by pursuing policies of development anchored on the principle of self-reliance.

But what does self-reliance mean?

It is achieving development by avoiding reliance on foreign aid and depending on your own resources and capacities. It is through this strong principle of self-reliance that the nation is marching towards sustainable development. Eritrea has already made significant progress in healthcare, education and other social services.

It is known that its location in the Sahel region makes Eritrea vulnerable to drought. And taking account of this fact, the government has been pursuing a policy that gives emphasis to agriculture to ensure food security for the entire society. To achieve this the government has been engaged in promoting water and soil conservation schemes, greening campaigns, the production and use of natural fertilizers, modern and advanced irrigation systems, and the empowerment of exemplary farmers. It has built around 700 dams located in different parts of the country.

Big dams like Kerkebet and Adi Halo, which have the capacity to hold relatively large amount of water, also have the potential to be used for hydroelectricity. Kerkebet dam, which is found in the Western Gash region, has the capacity to hold 1.6 billion cubic meter of water and generate 20 megawatt of electricity while Adi Halo dam has the capacity to hold 120 cubic meter of water and generate 10 megawatt of electricity. There are also other big dams such as Gahtaelay, Gergera and Logo that are being used as sources of potable water and for agriculture.



One of the most remarkable achievements in post-independence Eritrea is making schools easily accessible in urban and rural areas. Schools are built within 5 km radius relative to a village. Girls' enrolment in schools has been increasing over the years, and ongoing efforts are made to ensure total enrolment of girls in schools to create a level playing field for both genders. And as part of the efforts to empower women, an adult education program has been set targeting women. To maintain the quality of education, teachers are given on the job training while colleges have been built and equipped with qualified personnel to produce competent and skilled manpower that plays a role in the development of the country.

Healthcare service is seen as a basic human right in Eritrea. For this reason, the government invests heavily on healthcare facilities and human resource development. As a result, in a relatively short time, significant reduction has been made in morbidity and mortality due to preventable diseases. In addition to the numerous health centres and clinics, referral hospitals have been made available in every region. People everywhere in the country can now access healthcare service by travelling a maximum of 10 km from their home.

Eritrea has been successful

in reducing the incidence and prevalence of communicable diseases as well as mortality due to them, including HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria. On top of that it has made a notable transformation in the health of mothers and infants. It has also succeeded in preventive health services like immunization and antenatal care. It has engaged in public awareness initiatives through public health promotion to ensure people stay healthy physically, mentally and socially.

Eritrea's foreign policy, which is based on mutual respect and benefit, promotes regional cooperation and integration. Since independence, the government has been working

for peace, stability and regional integration in the Horn of Africa. The 2018 peace agreement made with Ethiopia is one of the most remarkable achievements in the region.

Eritrea believes very strongly that African issues and challenges should be resolved by Africans themselves, and, for this reason, it abhors foreign interference. It doesn't accept the donor – recipient unequal relationship based on prescription and dictation that has afflicted Africa. On this subject, President Isaias Afwerki once said: "Our independence should not be encroached upon by conditionalities of aid. This is a fundamental question of dignity which cannot be compromised by

temporary necessity." Sanctions have been imposed on Eritrea for its principled stand, but it has overcome the challenges through resilience and self-reliance. And Eritrea continues to be an advocate of peace and prosperity in the Horn of Africa and works for integration and international cooperation.

Eritreans have strong unity because of their shared history, especially their history of the armed struggle for independence which has strengthened their patriotism. Their unity and social harmony is based on the respect and trust among the nine ethnic groups. Their trust brightens their unity in diversity. Everyone's security is ensured and all citizens are equal users of the resources and opportunities available in the country.

The dignity of Eritreans is expressed by their loyalty to the law and their love of the nation. As there is no dignity without a nation, there can be no safeguarding of human dignity without law. And for this to be possible, the law should be in sync with the norms and values of the society. Development is change that transcends quantitative measurements, and, as such, it should be assessed in terms of fair distribution of resources and equity in access to services guided by social justice. When this is guaranteed, development initiatives can become successful.







# Battlefield As Cultural Heritage

Battlefields in Eritrea have significantly contributed to the nation's welfare; the critical historical features in the battlefields are crucial elements of the country's cultural heritage. The battlefields of the fights for Eritrea's independence and to safeguard Eritrea's sovereignty particularly have historical and cultural significance.

In 1961, the political struggle of the Eritrean people through a clandestine movement was transformed into an organized armed resistance under the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF). The period from 1961 to 1969 saw several organizational problems and challenges under Zonal Divisions that hampered the effective progress of the struggle for independence.

Consequently, several fighters emerged with constructive ideals of political and military strategies and the movement to re-orient the struggle towards a progressive direction, eventually leading to the birth of the Eritrean People's Liberation Army (EPLA) in 1970.

However, the struggle took a different turn during 1971-1976, with the EPLA (later renamed EPLF) playing a significant role amid recurrent attacks by the ELF and the occupying Ethiopian army. The EPLF survived these attacks and emerged strong during mid-1977 to mid-1978. During this period, the EPLF managed to control most of the cities in Eritrea. However, when the Soviet Union gave military and political support to the Ethiopian Dergue regime in mid-1978, the EPLF had to strategically withdraw from all the liberated cities and villages to the mountainous region of Sahel in Northern Eritrea. As a result, significant frontlines were created, and the EPLF leadership decided to wage the struggle through a protracted war. Battlefields during this period attest to the massive fighting between Eritrean freedom fighters and the occupying Ethiopian army over much of the fronts in the regions of Sahel and Barka.

A quarter of a million Ethiopian



troops with massive armaments entered Eritrea. From mid-1978 to the end of 1985, eight large-scale offensive attacks and numerous campaigns were launched to dislodge the Eritrean army. During those years, the Ethiopian military was made to pay hefty prices for every piece of land and suffered humiliating defeats. Indeed, the EPLF became the sole representative of the Eritrean political future by defending and launching counter-offensive battles as it emerged victorious after these significant phases of the struggle.

In 1987, the EPLF intensified its military operations inside the enemy's territory and gained the upper hand in the balance of power. In 1988, it defeated the most significant garrison of the Ethiopian army on the Nakfa Front, and, as a result, the Eritrean dream for independence got closer to being realized. During this time, the historic cooperation and alliance agreement between the EPLF and the TPLF (including other factions of Ethiopia) facilitated the demise of the Dergue regime in Eritrea and Ethiopia. In 1990, after a fierce battle, Massawa was liberated and the heavy war intensified around Keren, Ghinda, and Dekemhare fronts. The Ethiopian army was finally

defeated in 1991, resulting in the independence of Eritrea. The hundreds of battlefields reminiscent of the protracted struggle testify to the Eritrean people's resilience to fight for their right to self-determination.

After a brief period following Eritrea's independence, the TPLF-led Ethiopian government declared war upon Eritrea under the pretext of border conflict. Two years of intensive fighting resulted in decisive battlefields that thwarted Ethiopia's renewed aggression towards Eritrea. Battlefields fought over much of the borderland testify to the nationalist ethos of Eritreans and their heroic deeds to defend their sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Freedom was achieved thanks to the strong dedication of the vanguard leadership of the

EPLF and the heroic resistance of Eritreans. However, it was not easy. A lot of bloodshed and enormous wealth were paid. The war took the lives of thousands of young men and women from all classes of the Eritrean society, including students, peasants, intellectuals, and working men and women. Throughout the protracted armed struggle, thousands of combats occurred.

Massawa, Ghinda', Dekemhare, Badme, and EgriMekel. These regions embodied the memories of the fallen heroes who fought with courage, devotion, and determination and sacrificed their blood and sweat for the sake of the freedom of Eritrea and its people. These battlefields are also potential references to the present and future generations for their perception, understanding, learning, appreciation, and enjoyment of Eritrea's remarkable history.

Many sites are associated with Eritrean people's emotional attachment, like atrocities committed by the Ethiopian army. We value these historical heritage sites because they are deeply associated with our unity, identity, and integrity. Hence, preserving and remembering them is our national obligation. Battlefields, like other elements of the historic environment, are fragile and finite resources and are vulnerable to various impacts caused by human and natural factors. Therefore, they are always at risk and are endangered. If these battlefields are destroyed, they cannot be replaced, and their value will diminish forever. Therefore, to ensure their survival for the benefit of the present and future generations, it is imperative to protect, record and register battlefields before they decay or are destroyed. The loss or destruction of these valuable battlefield sites is the loss of an essential part of Eritrea's history.

*Glory to our Martyrs!*





## SpotLight

# Adi-Tsenaf: Working and Prospering Together

**Kesete Ghebrehiwet**

Working and prospering together is a deeply rooted noble culture of Eritreans. In this spirit, residents of Adi-Tsenaf, Gala-Nefhi sub-zone, Central region, have taken an initiative to construct a road connecting Sela'e-Daro to their village by mobilizing construction machineries, and the newly constructed road was inaugurated on 29 May.

For the inaugural ceremony, residents of Adi-Tsenaf gathered at the entrance to Sela'e-Daro to warmly welcome all those that contributed towards the construction of the road. At around 10 AM, Mr. Mehari Yohanes, administrator of Gala-Nefhi sub-zone, inaugurated the much awaited road accompanied

which now stands tall along with other two at the monument in Massawa, was used at the battle to liberate Massawa in 1990.

With support from Government institutions, residents of Adi-Tsenaf reconstructed the 57-year old road at the cost of 2.4 Million Nakfa, which was contributed by local community members and Eritreans in diaspora. The narrow road was expanded to 10 meters by deploying heavy machineries such as a bulldozer, an excavator, a grader, a roller, trucks for fetching water and heavy load trucks.

Residents of Adi-Tsenaf know that the provision of social services is not the responsibility of the Government alone and believe in the importance of taking own initiatives. If and when they realize they cannot complete a project on their own, they know they can always rely on the government. For instance, there are four bridges they could not build on their own and, therefore, have asked for the Government's assistance. There is also the issue of public transport, which is provided by the Government, the residents are eagerly waiting for.

Mrs. Leteyesus Habteab, a resident, said they used to have difficulties in their daily lives due to lack of a viable road, and pregnant women and the elderly, in particular, were not able to receive medical care on time. The construction of the road has now alleviated these challenges. Mrs. Leteyesus said the construction of the road is a great leap forward.

It is common knowledge that local communities and Eritreans in diaspora have been active participants in all development undertakings in the country. Mr. Kidane Russom from Atlanta,



**Mr. Kidane Russom**

by the ululation and dances of the residents.

Residents and religious leaders marched along the 6 km-long newly constructed road to take part in the inaugural banquet organized at the premises of Adi-Tsenaf Primay and Junior Secondary School. Women sang in unison, demonstrating their gratitude that their collective hard work paid off.

The event began with a minute of silence in honor of Eritrean Martyrs. Mr. Teklu Fsheatsion, administrator of Adi-Tsenaf, said that the village and its surrounding places were strategic during the armed struggle for independence, and the construction of the road is very rewarding to all who made it a reality.

The road was constructed in 1967 and was a strategic route for freedom fighters during the armed struggle. The legendary tank 'Commander 1,' which was captured by freedom fighters in 1977 at the battle of Sela'e Daro, was taken to the liberated areas through this very road. The tank,



**Mr. Teklu Fsheatsion,  
Administrator of Adi-Tsenaf**

USA, has made huge contribution in development undertakings carried out at his home village, Adi-Tsenaf. In addition to his financial assistance for the construction of the road, he has also given financial support for the construction of teachers' residential houses and the church, electrification of the village, and educational and sports materials. At the inaugural ceremony, Mr. Kidane donated four mountain bikes that were given as awards to outstanding students in the village who scored high marks in the 8th



Grade national examination.

Explaining the motive for his contributions, Mr. Kidane humbly said that it is a citizenship obligation for everyone to make contribution of any kind with whatever resource they have at hand. He added that even if one is far away from home, he or she needs to have strong attachment with the home land and make contribution to impact the livelihood of those who are in need of support. In conclusion, he said, "This is not the end; I have plans to do more."

A journey of miles starts with one step, and the development of any village starts with a small initiative and commitment. What the residents of Adi-Tsenaf have done by constructing a road linking their village to neighboring areas is just the beginning of something bigger to come. Like the residents of Adi-Tsenaf, communities across the country are working diligently to improve their living standards through concerted efforts.

Residents of Adi-Tsenaf are mostly farmers and used to transport their agricultural products through pack animals. The road will now make their lives a lot easier as they could use cars to transport their products to markets in Asmara.

Mr. Mehari Yohannes, administrator of Gala-Nefhi, said that a road is a channel to any sort of development and the initiative taken by the residents



**Mrs. Leteyesus Habteab**

of Adi-Tsenaf is exemplary. He congratulated the residents for their contribution to the successful implementation of the project.

Adi-Tsenaf has become beneficiary of electric services, educational facilities, supply of potable water, and the dam in the village is supplying fish to the communities around the area. Mr. Mehari, commended the residents for their commitment in implementing set out projects of different kinds and in supporting teachers who have been providing service in their village.

The construction of Adi-Tsenaf road has made residents of Gorbati, Adi-Tsegede, Azehayti and other neighboring villages beneficiaries of various social services.

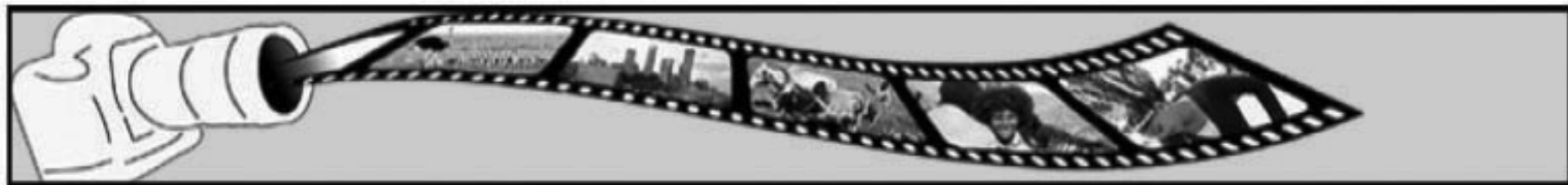
Adi-Tsenaf, 20 km south of Asmara and one of the 17 administrative areas of Gala-Nefhi sub-zone, Central region, is home to 400 people. Its residents are mostly farmers and pastoralists, with some small-scale traders.



## Photographers Corner

Photo: Tazaz Abraha

## Gash Barka: Working the Field With a Camel



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Alliance Française  
Asmara - Eritrea

Wishing a Happy Summer Time, Alliance Française d'Asmara continues its regular French language lessons for children, adolescents and adults. Class begins on the 10<sup>th</sup> of July. Registration Has begun.

For more information: Tel no 122605 or 115270

Address: Beside Mai Tesfa Elementary School,  
Near Arobana Restaurant.





## Vacancy Announcement

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Position:  | IT Superintendent  |
| Number required                                  | 1  |
| Location:  | Based at Koka Gold Mine (Zara)   |
| Reporting to:                                    | Finance & IT Manager   |
| Primary Responsibility & Scope of Work           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Reporting to the Finance Manager, the IT Superintendent is responsible for managing all IT infrastructure, applications, and staff.</li><li>- The position is responsible for overseeing IT projects from inception through completion and training IT staff. Work closely with senior management to provide workable IT solutions to business requirements.</li></ul>   |
| Duties:  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Accomplishes information technology staff results by communicating job expectations; planning, monitoring, and appraising job results; coaching, counselling, and disciplining employees; initiating, coordinating, and enforcing systems, policies, and procedures.</li><li>✓ Maintains staff by recruiting, selecting orienting, and training employees, maintaining a safe and secure work environment, and developing personal growth opportunities.</li><li>✓ Maintains the organization’s effectiveness and efficiency by defining, delivering, and supporting strategic plans for implementing information technologies.</li><li>✓ Directs technological research by studying organization goals, strategies, practices, and user projects.</li><li>✓ Completes projects by coordinating resources and timetables with user departments and data Centres.</li><li>✓ Verifies application results by conducting system audits of technologies implemented.</li><li>✓ Preserves assets by implementing disaster recovery, backup procedures, and information security and control structures.</li><li>✓ Recommends information technology strategies, policies, and procedures by evaluating organization outcomes; identifying problems; evaluating trends; anticipating requirements.</li><li>✓ Accomplishes financial objectives by forecasting requirements; preparing an annual budget; scheduling expenditures; analysing variances; initiating corrective action.</li><li>✓ Maintain quality service by establishing and enforcing organization standards.</li><li>✓ Monitor IT infrastructure including servers, routers, bandwidths, firewalls and storage, network access, backup system, and license requirements.</li></ul> |
| Formal Education, Certifications, or Equivalents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Required – IT-related University Degree</li><li>- Required – Current Cisco certifications (CONP or above).</li><li>- Any other recognized systems, network, or technology-related certificate.</li></ul>   |
| Working Experience – Nature & Length             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Minimum 10 years working in an IT role with at least 5 years spent in a senior position with supervisory responsibility and 5 years in the Mining industry.</li><li>- Proven ability to execute large IT projects.</li><li>- Expert knowledge in resolving complex IT-related business issues,</li><li>- Proven track record implementing and maintaining network communication including – VSAT/WAN Fibre Optic plant, Voice, Internet, and CCTV RF communications.</li><li>- Proven track record implementing and maintaining Microsoft Windows Server infrastructure – Active Directory, OWS, DNS, DHCP, SQL Server, etc.</li><li>- Extensive exposure to enterprise IT infrastructure and application concepts.</li><li>- Experience providing structured and on-the-job IT training.</li><li>- Experience managing 3<sup>rd</sup> party suppliers and contractors.</li><li>- Experience in troubleshooting and support of a large-scale ERP system.</li><li>- Experience in managing virtualized platforms.</li></ul>   |
| Leadership Experience - Nature & Length of Time  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- At least 5 years in a senior IT role supervising staff and proven experience managing IT project work.</li></ul>   |
| Other skills and abilities                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Valid driving license</li><li>- Excellent written and spoken English.</li></ul>  |

Salary: according to 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 documents will not be returned.

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

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

Deadline for application: 10 days from the day of the announcement.



Q and A

# A Conversation With a Promising Potter

**Luwam Kahsay H.**

*Thank you for coming, so how did you end up being an artist?*

From my childhood, I was very interested in colors, beads, or anything that had to do with art. Out of curiosity, I started making accessories from things I find around me. My first client was my



sister. As she started wearing them to school, her friends started to take interest in my accessories and the number of my customers started to grow.

At first, I had no idea that what I was doing could become a good source of income. While passing by a gift shop one fine day, I was amazed to see works of handcraft displayed. I was even more fascinated when the girl at the shop explained to me that the handcraft was procured from talented women around the country. When she knew that I too had an interest in handcraft, the girl from the shop introduced me to two artists and encouraged me to keep on my work. Ever since, she became my biggest customer.



*Our guest today is a promising multi-talented young woman, Sara Yibalh, who is working hard to boost her career in pottery and ceramic works overcoming her physical challenges.*

Later, I got the opportunity to attend a workshop on the introduction of art, along with my two new friends, at the American Center.

Alliance Francaise and several more at the Expo grounds during the National Festival.

*Your latest exhibition; what was it about?*

It was called The Recycled Garden, an all-women exhibition held at Alliance Francaise. This particular exhibition mainly focused on environmental conservation and making good use of recycled materials.

*Tell us about your work in general.*

As I have said earlier, I mainly focus on pottery and ceramics. I mostly work on small decorative materials, which include Christmas decorative products made of ceramics and small household decorations. Recently, I started

*When did you start getting serious in the field?*



In 2009, I took a nine-month long training on the basics of ceramics including pinching, slabbing and coiling. Thanks to my ceramics teacher's guidance and support, I was able to showcase my work at a Christmas bazar which is held annually at the Ertro- German Center. Through this platform, I was able to be introduced to big artists of different fields.

This also helped me take a big step in my career. Not long after, I joined a group of women I met at the bazar and we started organizing group exhibitions. We organized three different exhibitions at Ambasoira Hotel, Ertro- German Center, and The Gallery, more than five times at the American Center,

making special focus on fashion accessories such as bags, earrings,



bracelets and necklaces made from leather, different fabrics and recycled materials. As I have also started growing an interest in fashion, I am practicing manicure and pedicure.

On top of these, I also design



postcards on occasions such as Christmas, Valentine's Day and other holidays.

*Where do you get the ideas for your work?*

I always try to be observant of my surrounding, I read magazines and follow the works of others on the internet.

*What other things do you want to tell us about yourself?*

I was born with spinal deformation known as Scoliosis. To be honest, at the beginning it was tough blending with people around me, especially as a kid. But after experiencing a very difficult time due to my

working as a sales woman, for nine years in a row, at the annual book-fair held in Asmara. I also worked as a receptionist at a computer school. Later in my career, I started working for the DHL office in Asmara. And currently I am employed at legal consultancy office. While jumping from one job to another, I took computer courses and French Language classes.

*Anything you want to say to the disabled?*

Disability only defines people who do not utilize their ability not those who are physically challenged. Let's not waste our energy complaining about our disability because there is always one day in our life where we regret the opportunities and time we have wasted doing nothing.

*Your goal in life...*

I plan on upgrading my profession with necessary education so that I can showcase our culture and tradition to the rest of the world through my products.

I also plan to share and exchange my experience with anyone about handcraft and anything related to art.

*Thank you once again, I wish you a successful life.*

condition at one point in my life, I understood that I had to teach myself to be adamant and overcome the challenges I encountered.

Besides, I love exploring new things and try any kind of job. When I returned from Sawa, I started