

FUNERAL SERVICE OF MINISTER WOLDEMICAEL ABRAHA



The funeral service of veteran fighter and Minister of Local Government, Weldenkiel Abraha,

was held yesterday at Asmara Martyrs Cemetery in the presence of President Isaias Afwerki,

Ministers, senior Government and PFDJ officials, Army Commanders, family members,

and a large number of nationals.

Veteran freedom fighter Minister Weldenkiel Abraha began his political career in 1961 as a member of the Eritrean Liberation Movement. He formally joined the EPLF in 1974 and was elected to the Central Committee during two of the EPLF congresses. He was also elected as a member of the PFDJ Central Committee and the National Assembly at the 3rd Congress held in 1994.

Minister Weldenkiel played a pivotal role in consolidating EPLF mass associations, serving as Chairman of the National Union of Eritrean Workers (1979–1987) and as Chairman of the Coordinating Committee of the National Unions of Eritrean Workers, Students, and Women.

Following Eritrea's independence, Minister Weldenkiel

served with dedication in various high-level Government positions, including Head of the Ports and Marine Transport Authority, Governor of the Central Region, Eritrean Ambassador to Germany, Governor of the Southern Red Sea Region, Minister of Transportation and Communication, and finally as Minister of Local Government.

President Isaias Afwerki laid a wreath on the tomb of Minister Weldenkiel Abraha on behalf of the Eritrean Government. Mr. Yemane Gebreab laid a wreath on behalf of the PFDJ; Ambassador Abdella Musa, Governor of the Anseba Region, on behalf of the Ministry of Local Government; and Ms. Mewalit Weldenkiel, daughter of the veteran fighter, on behalf of the family.

Minister Weldenkiel Abraha passed away on 24 May at the age of 87 in Asmara due to illness.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

The 34th Independence Day anniversary is being celebrated with patriotic zeal across the country under the theme “Our Cohesion—Our Armour.”

According to reports, the Independence Day celebrations in the Gash Barka, Central, Southern Red Sea, Anseba and Southern Regions have featured a variety of programs, including public gatherings, cultural and artistic performances, children's events, military parades, seminars, and more.

The regional celebration in Barentu on 21 May was attended by senior Government and PFDJ officials, as well as numerous Barentu residents. The event included a public parade featuring over 300 military personnel, cultural and artistic performances portraying the meaning of independence and the sacrifices paid, as well as a calisthenics show.

Speaking at the event, Ambassador Mahmud Ali Hirui, Governor of the region, stated that the Independence Day anniversary is a time for the Eritrean people to remember the heavy sacrifices made for freedom and to renew their commitment to resilience and increased efforts in the nation-building process.

Celebrations across the region have continued featuring cultural and artistic performances and public gatherings.

Similarly, the Independence Day anniversary was marked in the port city of Assab with various programs. The event was attended by Ambassador Mohammed Seid Mantai, Governor of the Southern Red Sea Region; Brig. Gen. Abraham Andom, Commander of the Eastern Command of the Eritrean Defense Forces; and the Sultan of Rahaita, Abdulkadir Dawud, along with many Assab residents.

In the same vein, the 34th Independence Day anniversary was celebrated at the regional level in Mendefera on 22 May under the theme “Our Cohesion—Our Armour.” Held at Mendefera Stadium, the event was attended by senior Government and PFDJ officials, invited guests, and numerous Mendefera residents and surrounding communities. It featured cultural and artistic performances as well as a circus show.

Mr. Habteab Tesfatsion, Governor of the Southern Region, highlighted that the Eritrean people have remained united in the face of external hostilities and conspiracies, safeguarding their national sovereignty. He emphasized the heavy sacrifices made for independence and sovereignty, and called for redoubled efforts in the implementation of national development programs.

Mr. Abraham Yohannes,

chairman of the region's Holidays Coordinating Committee, outlined the extensive preparations made to ensure a colorful celebration and commended all who participated and contributed to the success of the event. He also noted that the Independence Day anniversary was celebrated with patriotic fervor across all sub-zones of the region.

The “Warsa” program, held in Mendefera for Government employees, featured a seminar on “The History of the Armed Struggle of the Eritrean People,” delivered by veteran fighter Seium Woldemariam from the Office of the Chief of Staff of the Eritrean Defense Forces.

Ms. Amete Neguse, Secretary of the PFDJ in the region, stated that the program was part of the wider Independence Day celebrations and called on the youth to inherit the proud history of their forefathers and to strengthen their participation in national affairs.

A carnival show marking the 34th Independence Day anniversary was also conducted in Keren city on 22 May. The event was officially opened by Ambassador Abdella Musa, Governor of the Anseba Region. Residents from the city's eight administrative areas took

part in cultural shows reflecting Eritrea's rich cultural diversity, along with product displays by Azel Pharmaceutical Plant and various agricultural and health institutions.

Residents across all sub-zones of the Central Region also celebrated the 34th Independence Day anniversary on 22 and 23 May by organizing community gatherings.

At these events, attended by senior Government and PFDJ officials and other dignitaries, sub-zone administrators underscored the profound meaning of independence for the Eritrean people. They especially urged the younger generation to grasp the magnitude of the sacrifices made and to carry the legacy forward and transfer to future generations.

Participants, including both youth and elders, expressed that these community gatherings embody the unity in diversity of the Eritrean people and reaffirmed their readiness to contribute wherever their country calls.

Similar celebratory events are being held across the country with patriotic fervor, featuring diverse programs that reflect the significance of the occasion.



Development

Building a Healthier Nation: Eritrea's Remarkable Strides in Public Health

Editor's note: This article is the first part of a two-part piece on health care service in Eritrea.

Habtom Tesfamichael

Eritrea has achieved remarkable progress in its health sector since gaining independence. The Eritrean government remains steadfast in its commitment to providing quality and affordable healthcare services to all citizens, a noble objective that has driven significant efforts to expand health infrastructure and cultivate a skilled healthcare workforce from the very beginning.

Upon its independence, Eritrea inherited a severely limited and dilapidated healthcare system. The nation faced the dual challenge of rebuilding and expanding health facilities while simultaneously developing its human capital in the medical field. Initial steps focused on the crucial rehabilitation of damaged facilities, followed by the strategic establishment of new health facilities nationwide. Concerted efforts have been made to ensure that a health facility is accessible within a 10-kilometer radius or within a two-hour walk, a goal now achieved in approximately 80% of the country. In some regions, approximately 60% of the population has access to health services within a five-

kilometer radius or an hour's walk from their homes.

Health services in Eritrea are organized into a three-tier system to ensure comprehensive and accessible care.

The first tier provides foundational services through the community-based health care system, working under local administrations and local health agents. Trained village health agents or community health workers serve populations of 500-2,000 people, focusing on health promotion, disease prevention, and managing conditions such as tuberculosis through approved treatments and medication. Such health services can be provided from spaces as small as 25 square meters.

Health centers serve 5,000-10,000 people as primary healthcare facilities, offering basic care, including health promotion, disease prevention, and treatment. They typically feature a maternity ward, examination rooms, short-stay observation beds or inpatient holding areas, and pharmacies. Health centers require about 3,500 square meters to function well. Under the National Health Policy 2020, existing health posts are being upgraded to health centers. Some large health centers serve 50,000-100,000 people, with many now upgraded to community hospitals. In line with the 2020 policy, the upgrading of remaining health centers to community hospitals will continue as needed, while others will retain their status.

A community hospital serves a population of 100,000-200,000 people as a primary healthcare facility, overseeing and supporting subordinate health centers and community-based services. A community hospital is a big facility, standing on approximately 4 hectares, that has inpatient wards, maternity wards, operating theaters, radiology wards, diagnostic wards, laboratories, and physiotherapy units.

Regional referral hospitals primarily represent the second tier. These comprehensive facilities offer a wide range of medical services and serve as the primary regional referral point for the health

facilities within the respective region, typically serving over 200,000 patients. The facilities commonly include maternity wards, operating rooms, X-ray rooms, examination rooms, physiotherapy, laboratories, inpatient bedrooms, and pharmacies.

The third tier consists exclusively of the national referral hospitals in Asmara. These referral hospitals offer advanced and specialized care, serving as key centers for research and training of healthcare professionals.

Expanding Reach and Capacity

The Ministry of Health (MoH) has consistently focused on both spreading health services and significantly improving their efficiency and effectiveness. Its commitment is evident in the remarkable growth of health facilities, which has increased from 93 in 1991 to 342 today—a 231% rise. This expansion wasn't solely about adding more facilities or broadening coverage; it was strategically aimed at enhancing the efficiency, depth, and breadth of health services, representing a substantial investment in health care. It's crucial to understand that improving service efficiency is an ongoing journey, not a one-time achievement. While considerable efforts have been made to boost efficiency, the MoH acknowledges there are still gaps to address and services that require continuous improvement.

Building health facilities and providing medical equipment

are essential, but not sufficient, without adequate, qualified staff. That is why from the get go, the government engaged in creating a conducive environment for training health professionals and recruiting doctors from abroad, ensuring that human resources are available.

During the challenging period from 2011 to 2021, significant strides were made, including the construction of hospitals in underserved areas and the upgrading of selected health centers to community hospitals. Many new health centers were also built where services were previously unavailable. While the number of health posts and clinics decreased from 271 to 219 due to closures, the overall picture of healthcare expansion over the 30 years, from 1991 to 2021, is remarkable. The number of hospitals in the country more than doubled (a 125% increase), health centers increased more than tenfold (a 960% increase), and the combined number of health posts and clinics nearly tripled (a 231% increase).

Medical services within hospitals encompass a wide range of departments and procedures, beginning from the moment a patient's card is processed. These services typically include patient consultations for both outgoing and incoming patients, as well as those requiring admission, various laboratory tests, diagnostic imaging, and surgical procedures. Other specialized services are also available depending on the hospital's capabilities.

Medical laboratory services

Medical laboratory services are crucial for enhancing the efficiency of health services, playing a significant role in diagnosing and controlling diseases. The laboratory services in the country are organized in such a way that at the apex is one national central laboratory, supported by four national referral hospital laboratories and six regional referral hospital laboratories. Below these are 11 regional hospital laboratories, and at the base, there are 65 community hospital laboratories, with some still operating at the health center level. Overall, there are 241 laboratories administered by the Ministry of Health (MoH), and 87 of these are managed by specialist laboratory personnel.

Laboratory testing has undergone a significant transformation, moving from manual and small-scale equipment to sophisticated, automated systems across many locations. For example, all hospital-level laboratories now utilize advanced automated equipment for blood testing, completely replacing older manual methods. Clinical chemistry tests, once exclusively performed at the National Health

Laboratory (NHL), are now also conducted at national referral hospital laboratories and most regional referral hospital laboratories. Furthermore, CD4 count testing, previously only available at the NHL, is now widely accessible in most hospitals.

Continued on page 4

**ERITREA
PROFILE**

**Published Every
Wednesday & Saturday**

**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**



Duhtum Zonal Referral Hospital- Promoting Healthcare Services in the Southern Red Sea Region

SpotLight

Harnessing Youth Potential for a Resilient and Productive Agricultural Sector in Eritrea

Bana Negusse

Highlighting agriculture and youth

Agriculture, alongside livestock, forms the backbone of Eritrean livelihoods, sustains the national economy, and remains central to the country's long-term developmental ambitions. Eritrea is mainly characterized by arid and semi-arid conditions, marked by minimal and highly unpredictable rainfall. According to recent estimates from the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), the country has approximately 2.1 million hectares of land suitable for rain-fed agriculture and an additional 600,000 hectares that are viable for irrigation. Recent reports also suggest that nearly 500,000 hectares are actively cultivated, with more than 93 percent relying on modified rain-fed farming systems, while the



remaining portion utilizes irrigation.

An estimated two-thirds of Eritrea's population resides in rural areas, though urbanization is on the rise. Most individuals and households still depend on rain-fed agriculture and pastoralism for their livelihoods. Broadly, approximately 65 to 70 percent of the population is believed to rely on farming, livestock herding, and fishing as their primary means of subsistence.

While the agricultural sector has historically operated below its potential and efficient scale and scope, recent years have witnessed a positive transformation driven by substantial government investment and focused interventions by the MoA. These efforts elevate standards, enhance efficiency and productivity, and gradually steer the sector toward fulfilling its vast potential. As just one reflection, compared to the early 1990s, there has been a marked decline in the number of people living in poverty or experiencing food insecurity.

Livestock, in particular, holds immense value in Eritrea. Beyond being a key source of nutrition for countless individuals and households, livestock represents a critical economic and social asset – especially for low-income groups,

women, and pastoralist communities. The livestock sector is growing not only in terms of quantity but also in local demand and broader significance. As national agricultural capacity expands, the role of livestock is becoming even more central to community well-being and economic stability.

Equally crucial is the role of Eritrea's young population. As in many developing nations, youth comprise a substantial share of the



population. According to figures from the National Statistics Office (NSO), nearly 40 percent of Eritreans are under age 15, while approximately 72.5 percent are under 35, illustrating a predominantly young nation with strong potential for a demographic dividend in the years ahead. While Eritrea is richly endowed with an array of natural resources, tremendous cultural and linguistic diversity, a strategic geographical position along one of the world's most important maritime shipping lanes, and an extensive unspoiled Red Sea coastline, its youth are arguably its greatest national asset. Historically and today, young Eritreans contribute meaningfully across sectors, demonstrating remarkable resilience, work ethic, and promise.

Tapping into the vast potential of youth

The active involvement of young people in agriculture – both in Eritrea and globally – is vital for numerous reasons. First, youth can act as catalysts for innovation, advancing the adoption of modern agricultural technologies and practices. Their openness to new ideas helps facilitate the transition to more efficient and productive farming systems,

ultimately contributing to increased food availability and affordability for communities across the country.

Furthermore, young people are at the forefront of global efforts to prioritize sustainability and environmental stewardship. Their growing engagement in agriculture can significantly promote eco-friendly practices, such as agroforestry, organic farming, and

multidimensional impacts

Beyond sustainability, agriculture offers youth a meaningful pathway toward steady, dignified employment and income generation. As in many developing regions, youth unemployment remains a critical challenge in Eritrea. The agricultural sector, including agribusiness and value-added services like food processing, packaging, and



conservation agriculture that help mitigate the impacts of climate change. Their natural inclination toward experimentation and climate-smart approaches can aid in preserving soil, conserving water, protecting biodiversity, and strengthening resilience against environmental shocks.

This is especially important within the context of Eritrea remaining extremely vulnerable to climate change's variegated and adverse effects, even though it accounts for among the smallest shares of total global greenhouse gas emissions. Both the country's marine and terrestrial ecosystems have been negatively affected. Across the past 60 years, it is estimated that the country's average temperature has risen by approximately 1.7°C, at an average rate of around 0.37°C per decade, with far-reaching consequences and multilayered,

distribution, provides diverse opportunities for dignified work. This empowers youth economically, stimulates rural economies, and contributes to broader poverty reduction efforts. Importantly, increased youth participation can also help reshape public perceptions of agriculture, making it more appealing and relevant to the next generation.

In sum, young people hold a vital and transformative role in Eritrea's agricultural sector. They bring with them boundless energy, creativity, and capability, offering a range of critical contributions. Supporting and investing in youth engagement in agriculture will be fundamental to addressing Eritrea's pressing challenges – including food security, climate adaptation, and employment – while unlocking new opportunities for sustainable development and national progress.





Wedding Bells and Rites

Milka Teklom

All Eritrean ethnic groups have their own unique and vibrant wedding traditions. As we find ourselves in a month bustling with weddings and wrapped in the broader festive spirit of Independence Day, it's a perfect time to explore some of these fascinating customs. Among them, the Saho ethnic group offers a vibrant tapestry of rituals that make their wedding ceremonies unforgettable.

One of the most captivating

of Passage

groomsmen also arrive on mules.

Their arrival is a lively affair, accompanied by energetic songs and traditional sword dances. A popular tune sung during the journey is Simbelo weyu; asembile hankerima belo—loosely translated, “Look at her new clothes! Their beauty dazzles like lightning!” (Likely because they were a gift from the

challenge, he proudly wears the ring in front of the assembled guests.

The Das itself, traditionally constructed in the bride's family compound, was once made of rectangular wooden frames and adorned with leaves, branches, and flowers. Due to environmental concerns, these structures have been replaced with eco-friendlier materials, such as sturdy fabrics and metal frames. The groom and his party are seated in a reserved area called Riedo, where they are treated to a lavish feast of traditional dishes and beverages.

While the groom enjoys his celebration, the bride has her private gathering with friends and close relatives inside the house. The event culminates when she is formally presented to the groom. The return journey to their new home is again made on a decorated mule, accompanied by a close male relative—usually her father, uncle, or brother—as per custom.

On the wedding night, the bride stays in her in-laws' house, sleeping beside her mother-in-law. This tradition originates from a time when marriages were often arranged, and the couple had little prior interaction. The mother-in-law plays a guiding role, helping the bride understand her new husband and household.

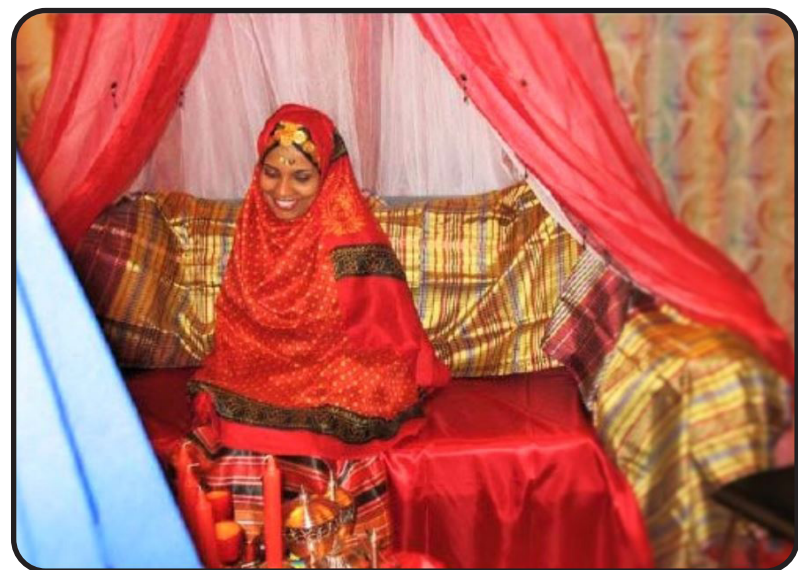
The following day marks the start of the honeymoon phase. The first item on the agenda is the construction of the Ado Aree (White House), a cone-shaped tent that serves as the honeymoon home. Although it can be made from various materials, it must include evergreen leaves, symbols of fertility. The best man is responsible for building the tent, and any failure to do so results in social reprimand unless the groom's mother or sister intervenes on his behalf.

Once the Ado Aree is ready, the bride is ceremonially carried inside, specifically into her section, called Adet Aree, by the best man. This act, performed at night, is believed to ward off the evil eye. A unique challenge now awaits the groom: the Kudkudo, or the unveiling of the bride. Her entire body is wrapped in 7 to 9 meters of cloth tied with secret knots. The groom must locate and untie each knot using only his hands—tools are forbidden, as their use would bring shame and question his manhood. To ensure this, the best man thoroughly checks him before he enters Adet Aree.

groom's family).

Upon reaching the bride's home, a messenger is sent ahead to announce the groom's arrival. He performs a dramatic sword dance known as Rate, signaling that the groom is near the Das, the traditional wedding tent. In response, the bride's family sends out popcorn and a special bread containing a hidden ring (Mezwer). The challenge for the groom's party is to find the ring without damaging the bread. Success allows the groom to wear the ring into the Das. At the same time, failure results in subtle mockery and embarrassment—a test believed to measure not only the groom's intelligence but the character of his family, reflecting the belief that a man is shaped by his lineage.

If the groom completes the



aspects of a Saho wedding is the distinctive way of welcoming and bidding farewell to the bride and groom. This cherished tradition is often considered the grand finale, the “cherry on top” of the entire celebration. Guests eagerly await the arrival of the groom, his groomsmen, and extended family, who come to join in the joyous occasion.

Although both families celebrate, the bride's family typically serves as the host. Around midday, the groom and his party—accompanied by close family members and neighbors—begin their ceremonial journey to collect the bride. In earlier times, couples often married within the same village, making the trip short. Yet, as a sign of respect and honor, the groom rides a highly decorated mule. If the family is wealthy, the



If the groom struggles to untie the knots, the best man discreetly steps in to assist—but under no circumstances must the bride learn that her husband needed help.

When the unveiling is complete, the groom gifts his bride new clothes. The original fabric used to wrap her is then hung in front of the Ado Aree for the entire village to see, signifying the completion of the rite.

The honeymoon typically lasts seven days, although it can

sometimes be longer. Afterwards, the bride returns to her parental home and remains there until she gives birth to her first child. Meanwhile, the groom prepares for their life ahead together.

This beautifully layered tradition is not merely a celebration of marriage—it is a reflection of Saho heritage, values, and the deep respect for familial legacy and community unity that continues to thrive across generations.

Building a Healthier Nation . . .

Continued from page 2

Advanced screening equipment, such as GeneXpert PCR machines, has been introduced in national and regional referral hospitals for the diagnosis of influenza. This advancement has dramatically improved diagnostics, notably enabling HIV diagnosis in children within days of birth, a process that historically took approximately two years. Additionally, advanced Hemoglobin A1c testing equipment (DCA Vantage Analyzer) has been installed at both national and regional referral hospitals. Thanks to recently acquired equipment, the NHL can now perform several crucial tests domestically that previously had to be sent abroad,

including testing for the levels of Hepatitis B and C viruses, therapeutic drug monitoring, and various cancer indicator tests. The laboratory is also initiating other critical diagnostic services, including pathology. Modern imaging services are no longer limited to basic X-rays. The field has advanced considerably, with routine X-ray procedures now performed using sophisticated equipment by specialized experts.

To bolster oxygen supply, the MoH is strategically placing oxygen processing facilities. Oxygen generators are being installed at Orotta and Halibet National Referral Hospitals and Mendefera Referral Hospital. These health facilities will produce oxygen for their own use and other facilities.

Eritrean Women: The Backbone of Independence and Nation-Building

Luwam Kahsay H.

As Eritrea proudly celebrates its 34th Independence anniversary, it is essential to acknowledge and honor the invaluable contributions of Eritrean women, both during the struggle for independence and in building the nation after independence. Their courage, unwavering commitment and sacrifices have played a pivotal role in Eritrea's history and continue to influence the country's development.

The National Union of Eritrean Women (NUEW) marked Eritrea's Independence Day in the morning hours of May 20th. The event,

ongoing efforts, in collaboration with various stakeholders, to enhance women's participation in education, health, agriculture, entrepreneurship, politics, and other key sectors.

Mrs. Zaid ended her speech by announcing the winners of a literature competition that described the heroism and courage of Eritrean women. This demonstrates NUEW's dedication to encouraging women participation in literature.

Eritrean women made up 30% of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), and they served as fighters, commanders, and in operatives behind enemy lines. Their

unimaginable acts of heroism behind enemy lines. One such example is the highlight of the documentary "ጥላ 302" (From the Heat), which is based on a true story of the bravery of Mrs. Aster Kahsai and her mother, Hiryti Habtemariam. Their skill and courage in gathering and delivering critical intelligence about the enemy to the EPLF commanders proved instrumental to Eritrea's armed struggle. Watching them execute a mission with ingenuity and masterful precision by risking their lives is a testament to their bravery. Truly, what more can a mother offer than her own daughter's life for the love of her country?

fighters. They also contributed through cultural expressions, including movies, music, and dances, which kept the spirit of nationalism alive.

Eritrean women in the diaspora also demonstrated immense love and dedication for their homeland. Many funded the armed struggle, offering everything they owned—including their jewelry—to support the cause. Others took on the responsibility of mobilizing Eritrean communities, ensuring strong international solidarity for Eritrea's liberation movement.

A powerful example is the group "Adetat Adi Tilyan", Eritrean women living in Italy, which played a pivotal role in organizing Eritrean communities in Italy and across Europe. Their efforts reinforced the belief that while one may leave their country, the country never leaves them.

Founded in 1974, 14 years before Eritrea's independence, NUEW began operations in Arag, Sahel, advocating for civil laws protecting women's rights. Over the years, it has worked relentlessly to ensure fair access to schools, minimize poverty among Eritrean women, and eliminate harmful cultural practices such as Female Genital Mutilation and early marriage.

The relentless efforts that have been made by the government and the NUEW over the years is giving promising results. Gender disparity in education has significantly



Mrs. Zaid Mesfn

decreased, with more women now pursuing higher education in various fields, demonstrating Eritrea's commitment to ensuring equal opportunities for all. In the current academic year, women make up 45.4% of the more than ten thousand students attending



Mrs. Aster Kahsai

college in Eritrea. This commitment reflects the Eritrean principle that sustainable socio-economic development cannot be realized without the full participation of women.

Although challenges persist, Eritrea continues to make strategic progress in empowering women across all sectors—not only as a moral imperative but as a necessity for sustainable development and national development. Women's growing representation in government, business, and education proves that their contributions remain fundamental to Eritrea's future prosperity.

As we celebrate Independence Day, let us reflect on the invaluable sacrifices of Eritrean women—our mothers, sisters, and daughters—who offered everything, including their lives, for a free and sovereign Eritrea. With deep gratitude, I proudly declare "I am honored to be part of their legacy and, above all, to be their daughter—an Eritrean woman."

Wishing all Eritreans a joyful and inspiring Independence Day!



held at the NUEW's headquarters, was made attractive with displays of artistic works showcasing the essential role of women in Eritrea and documentary films portraying women's heroic contributions.

involvement laid the foundation for the transformation of women's role in the socio-economic, political, and cultural development of Eritrea.

Women demonstrated

Beyond their roles as fighters, Eritrean women played vital roles in sustaining the liberation movement by offering morale and material support, providing food, shelter, and medical care for the freedom

One of the most notable documentaries screened at the event was "A 10-Year Journey in Tactical Plans." Based on a true story, it depicts the bravery of an Eritrean mother and her daughter during the colonial era. The event also featured an AI-generated video clip of the heroic activities of Eritrean women during the armed struggle. After an inspiring morning, the event ended with the traditional "Independence Breakfast."

At the event, Mrs. Zaid Mesfn, head of the coordinating committee, congratulated all attendees and portrayed Eritrea as an exemplary nation not only in the Horn of Africa but across the continent. She attributed this status of Eritrea to the country's firm principles and consistent dedication. Mrs. Zaid gave a highlight of NUEW's





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;

Senior Maintenance Supervisor – Workshops
Number required – (01)
Type of contract – Definite For 2years

Major Duties and responsibilities

- Assist the Maintenance Superintendent to recruit, train and mentor a Maintenance team who will deliver quality maintenance services to the fixed plant. In doing so, ensuring KPI's that facilitate sustained and productive operations are delivered.
- The role will organize day-to-day workshops and maintenance activities. Furthermore, the incumbent will oversee and inspect maintenance works to ensure safe and effective repair and servicing fixed plant equipment.
- This person will report to the Process Plant Maintenance Supt. and assist with various administrative and management functions.

TASK DESCRIPTION Expanded TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Planning, prioritizing, assigning, supervising, reviewing, and participating in all tasks related to 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
- 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.
- Ensure compliance with quality, health and safety rules, guidelines, and regulations.
- 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 to observe the quality of the maintenance performed and the operating condition of the equipment.
- Knowledge and experience to operate a Machining workshop including safe operation of lathes, shapers, milling machines, as well as complicated mechanical fitting procedures.

Profile: Qualifications and Experience

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalents

- Trade Qualifications as a Fitter & Turner Mechanic or equivalent

Working Experience – Nature & Length

- 5 years' experience as a Senior Process Plant Maintenance Supervisor

- Familiarity with relevant health and safety standards and regulations.
- In-depth knowledge of different Fixed Plant Equipment i.e. Crusher, Mills, Conveyor belt, Pumps etc.
- Ability to co-ordinate shift crews and effectively manage shifts
- Comply with all HS&E policies, procedures and instructions. Experience working in Africa

Technical Skills

- Experience in Slurry Pumps, Crusher, Mills, Conveyor belt and Floatation Cells structural steel, pipes and chute work.
- Train and develop local staff
- Analytical skills & Decision-making skills
- Plan, organize and execution skills
- Basic knowledge of CMMS systems & Proficient Microsoft skills
- Valid Driver's License

Behavioral Skills

- Safety leadership by example
- Strong Supervisory skills.
- Ability to work in developing countries
- Good Interpersonal skills
- Demonstrated team building and mentoring skills
- Strong interpersonal relationship-building skills and adaptability to work with people of different cultures.

General Information and other requirements:

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

Additional requirements for Nationals:

- Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligation and 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 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
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;

Senior Maintenance Supervisor – Floatation
Number required – (01)
Type of contract – Definite For 2years

Major Duties and responsibilities

- Assist the Maintenance Superintendent to recruit, train and mentor a Maintenance team who will deliver quality maintenance services to the fixed plant. In doing so, ensuring KPI’s that facilitate sustained and productive operations are delivered.
- The role will organize day-to-day workshops and maintenance activities. Furthermore, the incumbent will oversee and inspect maintenance works to ensure safe and effective repair and servicing fixed plant equipment.
- This person will report to the Process Plant Maintenance Supt. and assist with various administrative and management functions.

TASK DESCRIPTION Expanded TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Planning, prioritizing, assigning, supervising, reviewing, and participating in all tasks related to 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
- 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.
- Ensure compliance with quality, health and safety rules, guidelines, and regulations.
- 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 to observe the quality of the maintenance performed and the operating condition of the equipment.

Profile: Qualifications and Experience

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalent

- Trade Qualifications as a Fitter & Turner Mechanic or equivalent

Working Experience – Nature & Length

- 5 years’ experience as a Senior Process Plant Maintenance Supervisor
- Familiarity with relevant health and safety standards and regulations.

- In-depth knowledge of different Fixed Plant Equipment i.e. Crusher, Mills, Conveyor belt, Pumps etc.
 - Ability to co-ordinate shift crews and effectively manage shifts
 - Complies with all HS&E policies, procedures and instructions.
- Experience working in Africa

Technical Skills

- Experience in Slurry Pumps, Crusher, Mills, Conveyor belt and Floatation Cells
- Train and develop local staff
- Analytical skills & Decision-making skills
- Plan, organize and execution skills
- Basic knowledge of CMMS systems & Proficient Microsoft skills
- Valid Driver’s License

Behavioral Skills

- Safety leadership by example
- Strong Supervisory skills.
- Ability to work in developing countries
- Good Interpersonal skills
- Demonstrated team building and mentoring skills
- Strong interpersonal relationship-building skills and adaptability to work with people of different cultures.

General Information and other requirements:

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

Additional requirements for Nationals:

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

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



Honoring the Legacy of Freedom on Eritrea's 34th Independence Day: Together as One

Luwam Kahsay H.

Independence Day celebration in Eritrea is a cherished tradition, deeply embedded in the fabric of its communities. Every May, neighborhoods across the country, including the capital, Asmara, transform into vibrant hubs of national pride. Residents gather in communal tents to commemorate the nation's hard-fought freedom. The 34th Independence Day was no exception, with districts like Gajaret hosting lively celebrations that reflected Eritrea's enduring resilience and unity.

A Community United: The Spirit of "Our Cohesion, Our Armour"

One of the focal points of the festivities was Algen Camp, where residents—young and old, men and women, community leaders, and religious figures—came together under banners bearing this year's powerful slogan: "Our Cohesion, Our Armour." The square was adorned with national flags, a powerful symbol of Eritrea's sovereignty and determination.

Addressing the attendees, Msgna Woldeyesus, Head of Algen Camp, spoke passionately about the significance of the occasion. He emphasized that this year's Independence Day was particularly special, marking a period of renewed hope, economic recovery, and the strengthening of international partnerships. He noted that Eritrea had successfully overcome decades of conspiracies aimed at destabilizing the country, thanks to its unwavering commitment to progress and development.

Following his heartfelt speech, a delightful cultural program was presented by kindergarten students and youth, reinforcing the crucial importance of passing national values to the next generation. Freedom fighter Khadija Mohammed Ali then shared her poignant memories of the struggle for independence, recalling her time with the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF). She spoke of the battles she fought and the immense sacrifices she made, revealing that she first heard news of Eritrea's liberation while receiving treatment in a clinic for wounds sustained in combat. Her compelling story served as a powerful reminder of the immense price paid for freedom and a call to



Khadija Mohammed Ali

Eritrea's youth to remain steadfast in preserving the country's hard-won independence.

Across Asmara: A Symphony of Joy and Patriotism

Beyond Algen Camp, celebrations unfolded across the Mai Welakhu suburb, where a palpable sense of unity and national pride was evident. Residents prepared a variety of traditional foods and drinks, welcoming guests with warmth and enthusiasm. The administrator of the area, Mrs. Brzaf Tesfagaber, expressed her joy over the collective spirit demonstrated by her community. She highlighted the enthusiastic participation of local artists, who contributed their talents to entertain attendees with patriotic performances.



Mrs. Brzaf Tesfagaber

Echoing similar sentiments, Rediet Gebreamlak, from the Celebrations Coordination Committee, emphasized the significance of communal celebrations. He stated that the tradition of honoring Independence Day in public tents was vital for fostering unity, instilling patriotism, and preserving the enduring legacy of Eritrea's freedom fighters. Such gatherings, he explained, reinforce a collective responsibility to uphold national values, ensuring they are passed down through generations.

Mr. Hebtmikael Hebtmariam,

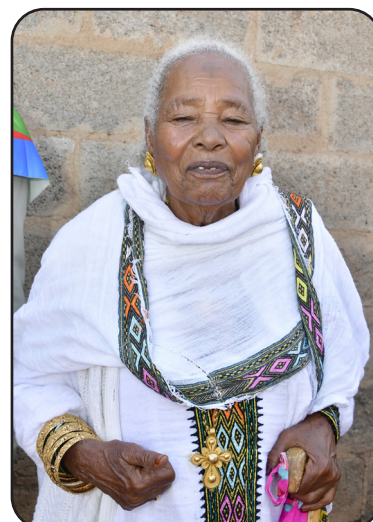
the coordinator of the area's celebrations committee, delivered a speech praising Eritreans for their indomitable resilience. He specifically acknowledged the Eritrean Defense Forces and all those who played a role in securing the country's sovereignty, recalling Eritrea's triumph over global superpowers through steadfast determination and unity. Despite facing external pressures, the Eritrean people, in collaboration with their government, had successfully defended their pride, secured stability, and continued steadfastly on their development



Mr. Hebtmikael Hebtmariam

path.

Another remarkable celebration took place in the Halibet administrative area, where residents gathered to express their joy through vibrant cultural performances and traditional dances. Among the attendees was Mrs. Mihret Gebremedhan, an Eritrean who had lived in Lebanon, Britain, Italy, and the United States before returning home. She shared her experiences, explaining how Eritreans in the diaspora played a crucial role in supporting the revolution. Through festivals and donations, they contributed financially and morally, aiding the movement until independence was finally achieved.



Mrs. Mihret Gebremedhan

"Thanks to the unified national effort and the great sacrifices made," she said, "we are now able to celebrate our freedom in peace."

The pivotal role of women in organizing the celebrations was particularly notable. Mr. Mahari Burhani, head of the Halibet administration area Celebrations Coordination Committee, praised their contributions in meticulously preparing food, decorating tents, and ensuring the overall success of the events. A significant focus was placed on educating children about the profound meaning of freedom, reinforcing the vital idea that independence must be preserved for future generations.

Residents such as Ms. Samira Saleh echoed this sentiment, emphasizing that celebrating Independence Day sends a strong message to both allies and adversaries: that Eritreans cherish their freedom and are unshakably committed to safeguarding it. She extended her congratulations to the people of Eritrea at home and abroad, as well as to members of the national defense forces, for their continued dedication.

Among the most heartfelt reflections came from Alganesh Teweldbrhan, a mother who



expressed her deep belief that freedom means living in peace—a precious privilege secured through immense sacrifice. She underscored the critical importance of passing on this understanding to younger generations so that they genuinely recognize the price paid for independence and remain committed to preserving it.

Throughout the Gajaret subzone, tents resonated with patriotic songs, lively folk dances, and inspiring speeches from officials. The celebrations culminated in an outpouring of national pride,



Ms. Samira Saleh

as participants reaffirmed their unwavering dedication to upholding the principles of independence. Leaders from various suburbs reiterated the profound significance of this year's Independence Day slogan, "Our Cohesion, Our Armour," emphasizing that Eritrea's unity and resilience remain its strongest assets.

As the festivities drew to a close, one thing was crystal clear: the tradition of celebrating in public tents was more than just a social gathering; it was a powerful act of remembrance and renewal. The joyous atmosphere reflected Eritrea's unwavering commitment to its freedom, reinforcing the unbreakable bond between its

people and their homeland. Through speeches, performances, and shared experiences, Eritreans reaffirmed their commitment to protecting their sovereignty and honoring the sacrifices of those who fought valiantly for their independence.

The 34th Independence Day was not merely a celebration; it was a reaffirmation of Eritrea's indomitable spirit—a powerful reminder that the legacy of freedom is not only preserved but proudly carried forward by each successive generation.