



CONSTRUCTION OF GAHTELA DAM

95% of the construction works of Gahtelai dam that began in 2016 by Gedem Construction Company has been finalized. The report was made by Mr. Daniel Mebrahtu, coordinator of the project. Gahtelai dam is located in Gahtelai sub-zone, Northern Red Sea region.

Indicating that the dam is expected to alleviate potable water supply problems in the area in addition to significantly contributing to the agricultural activities, Mr. Daniel said that the Government has employed adequate human power and machinery for the timely

completion of the project.

Mr. Daniel indicated that the dam has the capacity of collecting from 46 to 50 million meter cubic water and cultivating 10 thousand hectares of land.

NRS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY REGULAR MEETING



The Northern Red Sea regional Assembly conducted its 16th regular meeting on 20 and 21 February under the theme "Development with Work".

Noting that the new era of peace and cooperation unfolding and the lifting of the illegal sanctions was the result of the strong resilience and steadfastness of the Eritrean people and its leadership, Mr. Ibrahim Ali Sheik, Chairman of the Assembly, stressed the need to take advantage of the situation being created for the benefit of the people and the country.

At the meeting report was presented focusing on the activities implemented in the sectors of social services, infrastructure, Agriculture and others and the participants

conducted discussion on the report presented.

Noting that praiseworthy activities have been carried out in 2019 through integrated efforts on the part of the public, government and PFDJ institutions as well as members of the Defense Forces, Brig. General Tekle Libsu, Governor of the region, called for reinforced participation for the implementation of the planned programs for 2020.

The participants also adopted various recommendations including the finalization of the master plans of semi-urban centers, for sustainable awareness activities with a view to encouraging the public to participate in the implementation of the charted out development programs among others.

NEW LOCUST SWARM PUT UNDER CONTROL

A new desert locust that swarmed on 21 February in Demas and Yangus areas, Ghinda sub-zone, Northern Red Sea region, and that was stretched on more than 400 hectares was put under control.

Mr. Dawit Angesom from the Ministry of Agriculture said, "The origin of the desert locust is not yet known", and added that immediate response was made upon receiving report on the prevalence of the locust.

Noting that the activity was part

of the effort made to control desert locust invasion in July 2019, Mr. Ghide Kiflai, from the coordinators of the campaign, said that the Ministry of Agriculture is ready in all aspects for any eventuality of detecting cross border locust invasion.

The campaign was carried out in coordination with the public, members of the Eritrean Defense Forces as well as staff members of the Ministry of Agriculture and area administrations.

WATER PROJECT INSTALLED IN HOMIB IMPROVES LIVELIHOODS

Potable water project installed in Homib administrative area, Forto Sawa sub-zone, has improved the livelihood of residents, Mr. Wehaj Osman, area administrator of Homib said.

The solar powered water project installed through the Adi-Halo project includes 1km pipeline extended from Hadas River, two big water reservoirs and six water

distribution stations.

Mr. Wehaj commended staff members of the Adi-Halo project in the construction of the water project and called on residents to play due part in the proper use and preservation of the water project.

Located 30km north of Forto Sawa sub-urban center, Homib administrative area, comprises of over 6 thousand residents.

ACTIVITIES BY NATIONALS ABROAD

Eritrean nationals in the UK, Germany and the United States carried out various activities portraying their attachment with their homeland.

According to report, the Eritrean Ambassador to the UK and Northern Ireland, Mr. Estifanos Habtemariam, gave seminar to nationals residing in London on the objective situation in the homeland and regional developments.

At the seminar, Ambassador Estifanos gave briefing on the charted out national programs and achievements registered in various sectors.

Indicating that the new era of peace and cooperation in the region is the result of the strong resilience and perseverance of the Eritrean people and its leadership,

Ambassador Estifanos called for reinforced contribution.

Mr. Suleiman Hassan, head of Public and Community Affairs, also gave briefing on Consular activities.

In the same vein, seminar was organized on 22 February to nationals residing in Nordrhein Westphalia, Germany, under the theme "Economic Investment: Resources and Opportunities in Eritrea".

At the event, Mr. Kahsai Tewolde, head of Public and Community Affairs at the Eritrean Embassy in Germany, briefed the participants on the investment opportunities being created with a view to improve the livelihood of citizens and called on the nationals to take advantage of the opportunities and

do their part in the nation-building process.

In related news, nationals in Frankfurt commemorated the 30th Anniversary of Operation Fenkil.

Noting that Operation Fenkil was a historical operation that heralded the final push for the full liberation of Eritrea, Mr. Birhane Afwerki, secretary of the National Committee, emphasized the need to bequeath the noble national values and strengthen contribution in the implementation of the national development programs.

Eritrean women residing in Cincinnati, the United States also commemorated the International Women's Day as well as the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the National Union of Eritrean Women.



INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT ISAIAS AFWERKI

PART V & FINAL: DOMESTIC ISSUES

It is to be remembered that on 7 and 9 February 2020, National media outlets, Eri-TV and Dimtsi Hafash Radio Programme, have conducted exclusive interview with His Excellency President Isaias Afwerki on range of subjects focusing both on regional and domestic issues. Excerpts of the fifth and final part of the interview on domestic issues follow:

Mr. President, in light of the developments in relation to the prevailing peace in the region, what are the plans charted out regarding the regional partnership in development programs, foreign investments and the encouragement of local investors?

Our view of investment is comprehensive. Investment does not mean the arrival of an investor carrying his bag of money. The real investor is that farmer who seeks here and there to market his products from crops and livestock. It is this that revives the economy and helps accumulate wealth. If it provides an appropriate environment for this activity, this means that there is an appropriate environment for investment. But to achieve this reality, what should be done? Here it is necessary to refer to the national

programs. If you are seeking to create a suitable atmosphere for the promotion of development, you must look at the condition of your infrastructure -- asphalted roads, railways and others. I mean, what is the status and reality of the infrastructure components that help to push any economic activity? What are the costs required for structural projects? If there are impassable methods, we can move as easily as we want, and we can produce more with lower costs. In the event that such opportunities are available to most of the people of the country, the total return on benefits to the national economy will be very large. I mean, the investors must find, whether it is from the inside or provided from the outside, the foundations of qualified infrastructures that enable them to perform their duties comfortably.

If we take electricity, for example, the power plants in Hirgigo and other sites have not been able to provide the required services. Therefore, a fundamental solution to the energy problem must be found, and the electricity services must be integrated so that investors can work without obstacles. At the same time, the cost of energy services needs to be appropriate. Energy should be made available everywhere, whatever the source of energy. The same applies to land, sea and air transportation as well. This is how you create the right atmosphere for investment.

Education and health services are among the most important factors for economic growth and development. You may have money or natural resources, but skills and capabilities are the most important. An investor requires skilled professional capabilities to accomplish his project, especially in an era that requires technical know-how.

If we asked about the level we have reached in the field of vocational training so far, then most of our programs that were not profitable are our educational programs. Every year, more than 10,000 students complete their secondary school education, and we wonder what these young people have achieved. We must change our educational system from ground up as it is related to our development. The number of those who go to college does not exceed 15%, so where do the rest go? What can a high school graduate do after 12 years of education? We can attract investment and the



ability to accumulate wealth, but we must work hard to enhance our human capital, which is the basis for ensuring sustainable development. Thus, it is important to create an appropriate environment for investment.

Of course, it is not possible to compare our economic standards with the major industrial countries. If the industrialized countries are the standard of technical development, then we must create economies that are more industrialized, and in order to achieve this we must fully meet the requirements of development.

There is no difference between a foreign investor and a domestic investor. No investment can be underestimated. A small project for livestock farmers in the villages may have a good contribution to the economy. The important thing is to create appropriate conditions for this situation.

The current challenges and obstacles facing us in our development efforts are not few. The economic war that was waged against us for 20 years to prevent us from developing our infrastructure and economic capabilities was more powerful than direct military aggression. What did countries do when the dispute occurred between us and Ethiopia, which was a source of happiness for them? They want us to live in this state of hostility forever, fall behind in development and fail to compete. They have no desire to see a joint action to achieve development. In such a situation, you cannot accomplish any project, build roads and airports, or exploit your marine resources. What

they want is for other countries to advance and for us to wait at the bottom. You must be disabled and paralyzed so that you cannot catch up with them. In such a situation, I remember Britain's actions in Eritrea in the past. The economic development in this country was big and unparalleled in the region. A railway was established and we had cable cars. We had an active port in Massawa, which was known as the Pearl of the Red Sea. The first thing that the British did to ensure that this country could not rely on itself to survive was to attack the economy of the country until it collapsed. After that, wars came, and there is no room for reconstruction under the weight of war. We missed many opportunities. These events did not happen by coincidence, but were deliberate because economic war is worse than military war.

The story is still continuing today. There are obstacles facing us. We cannot pave roads and implement energy and other development projects. This means that this matter is not new; it is a continuation. Of course, it is not something that terrifies us and affects our morale. In fact, we are working and we are aware of its existence. So we continue on our path, and in this context our products should be distinct and able to compete in the local and global markets.

The priority in investment is our people. We must create an appropriate environment for development in any location, on the shores of the sea, with our marine resources, or in the field of agriculture, including livestock, or other natural resources, especially

mining. Our focus is to strengthen our people's capabilities to produce. In the same way, we need to create a suitable atmosphere for Eritreans in the diaspora to provide them ample opportunities in any field they wish to invest in.

There is no difference between foreign and domestic investments. If we look at the textile factories in our country in the past, we know the manufacturing industries had been very well established. There was cotton plantation in Aligidir and other areas. The cotton was processed and turned into garments at manufacturing plants. The added value made manufacturing profitable and helped create many jobs.

The leather manufacturing factories that functioned well in the past do not exist anymore. There is not much to talk about the best shoes that were once made here. And exporting leather as a raw material is not profitable. What must be done is building solid economic foundations for better and more valuable production, with fewer expenditures, and job opportunities for the largest number of people.

What we are witnessing today are obstacles aimed at stopping the growth of our economy and the development of our nation so that we can fall into the arms of charitable organizations. We are not facing these challenges alone. There are other peoples who also live in the same atmosphere and suffer from this reality. If we are to get out of this cycle, we should do

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**ERITREA
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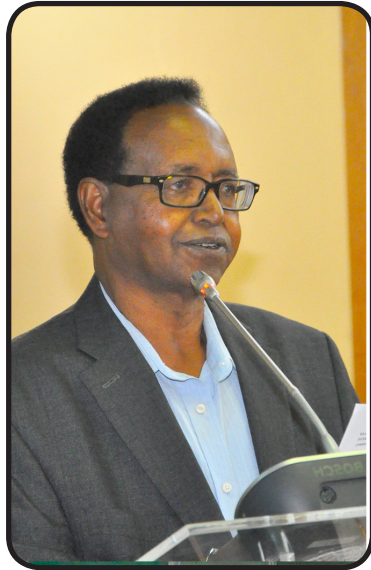
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Working on Industrial Safety

Ruth Abraham

A conference was held on industrial safety on 22nd February, 2020, at the National Confederation of Eritrean Workers (NCEW). It was organized by the Eritrean Association of Chemical Engineering in collaboration with the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI), safety management at Bisha Mining Share Company (BMSC), safety management in Total Oil and the Eritrean Crop and Livestock Cold Store Quality Control.

The Eritrean Association of Chemical Engineering (EACHe) is a professional nonprofit organization that aims to bring together chemical engineers and chemical technologists to create a network and encourage collaboration in research projects and help in the development of the field. The idea of forming the association was originally presented by the 2012 graduates of chemical engineering the Eritrean Institute of Technology in Mai Nefhi. Currently, EACHe is believed to have made modest progress in publicizing and setting a solid foundation for the association by conducting two conferences so far, linking to industries and conducting monthly educational programs where members share their experiences



Mr. Abraham Yohannes

in their respective field of work.

The main focus of the conference held on 22nd February was the safety measures that should and are being taken during the occurrence of chemical accidents in industries. 'Industrial safety' relates to the management of all operations and events within an industry in order to protect employees and assets by minimizing hazards, risks, accidents and failures.

Three types of industrial safety measures were presented at the conference where the system automatically prevents the hazardous situation or the people involved take their own lines of caution. In addition to

the measures taken by the system, there is also Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) where the company provides gloves, helmets, eye protection materials such as glasses, goggles, hearing protection, foot protection and also respiratory protection materials such as face masks and cartridge filters. The ILO estimates that some 2.3 million women and men around the world experience work-related accidents or diseases every year; this corresponds to over 6000 deaths every single day. Worldwide, there are around 340 million occupational accidents and 160 million victims of work-related illnesses annually.

As the chairman of EACHe, Mr. Abraham Yohannes, said in his opening speech, the issue of industrial safety is not only limited to industrially developed countries but also applies to countries at their infant stage of industrialization. In fact, the issue should be addressed at early stage in order to avoid human loss and injury as well as damage to the companies and the environment.

The issue of industrial safety dates back to the 4th Century BC when scientists of that time recognized the lead toxicity and many industrial hazards were recognized and guilds began assisting sick workers and their



families. But, it was in the 20th century that the implementation of industrial hygiene, safety, occupational health, and hazard communication programs began to be taken seriously. Soon after the occupational safety and health administration and their regulations started to get recognition.

One of the worst chemical accidents in the world is believed to be the 1984 Bhopal accident, where a poisonous gas leaked from a Union Carbide pesticide factory in Bhopal, India. It took many lives and left many others devastated. According to the presenters at the conference, safety is given utmost priority in organizations. As part of the industrial safety issue, the Occupational Safety and Health was discussed in the conference, referring to the legislative side

of the issue. Accordingly, the Eritrean Labor Proclamation number 118/2001 addresses the issue of OSH and industrial safety, containing XIII titles and 162 articles. It is a comprehensive legal instrument that deals with contract of employees, working conditions of young employees and adults and other laws related with the handling of chemicals and pesticides.

Mr. Mengis Fitwi, a chemical engineering manager at Total, said that 85% of an organization's loss can be controlled by its management system alone. The representative of BMSC, Mr. Yacob Keleta also outlined that maintaining a safe work place for everyone involved is the duty of the employers as well as the employees. The employer should make sure the working environment is safe, cooperate with the employees, and provide information and training to ensure the employees' safety, make the employees aware of the possible hazard and also provide PPE. Mr. Yacob added that the employees should follow safety and health instructions, report possible hazards and use the PPE well. After all, careless employees can degrade all of the organization's efforts and put their coworkers and themselves at risk. This is a big answer to the big question, who is in charge of safety? Everyone is, I am, you are and we all are in charge of our own safety. That way, the safety of the environment and the people as well as the organizations is safeguarded.

Mr. Thomas Habte, secretary of EACHe, said recognizing possible industrial threats and implementing proper prevention methods should be the ultimate goal of everyone involved.





Leap Year Traditions: Born on the 29th Of February. How old are you really?

Natnael Yebio W.

Have you ever wondered if you had been born on the 29th February, when you should celebrate your birthday on a non-leap-year? On the 28th or on the 1st? Or possibly not at all? How old are you really? What is a leap year and why do you have to skip your birthday because of it? And that's without even considering all the myths that are associated with a leap year. Brain teaser, isn't it?

The year 2020 seems to be going by so quickly that we're already nearing the end of February, and for a lot of people, this time of year is just another month coming to an end. But to some, specifically those born on a leap year, is quite special.

Individuals born on Feb. 29th are called "leap lings" or "leapers," and as much fun as they might have claiming to age only 25% as fast as the rest of us, people once thought that leapling babies would inevitably prove sickly and "hard to raise." According to History.com, about 4.1 million people around the world have been born on Feb. 29, and the chances of having a leap birthday are one in 1,461.

A leap year is a year in the Gregorian calendar with 366 days

instead of 365 - and unless you've been living on a planet with exact orbital resonance and some sort of self-adapting time system, you should be well aware of this. But just for clarification, the leap year's extra day is vital because a complete orbit around the sun takes slightly longer than 365 days - 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 46 seconds longer, to be exact, and a day is added every four years to compensate for the rest of the time that is lost every non leap year. Without that occasional extra day thrown in, our entire calendar and its corresponding seasons would eventually be way off and we'd be celebrating Christmas wearing shorts in summer.

History has it that at one time people observed a 355-day calendar, with an extra 22-day month every two years; however, this caused havoc within the calendar season and in 45BC Julius Caesar ordered his astronomer, Sosigenes, to simplify things.

Consequently, Sosigenes opted for the 365-day year with an extra day every four years to use up the extra hours. But why choose February and not October or December. Well, the extra day is added to February because it used to be the last month of the Roman calendar.

The system was then fine-tuned

by Pope Gregory XIII. He coined the term "leap year" and declared that a year that is divisible by 100, but not by 400, is not a leap year. So 2000 was a leap year under the Gregorian calendar, as was 1600. But 1700, 1800 and 1900 were not. If leap year had not been created we would have lost about six hours of our calendar at an annual rate.

But it isn't just a scientific thing. There's a lot of lore behind it, and it's observed and celebrated in a variety of ways.

Because such years are rarer than normal years, they have become lucky omens. Indeed the 29th February itself is an especially important day. Anything that starts on this day is considered sure to be a success.

Certainly February 29th in the leap year of 1504 was very successful for Christopher Columbus. The famous explorer had been marooned for several months on the small island of Jamaica. Though the island natives had initially offered him food and provisions, Columbus' arrogant and overbearing attitude had so annoyed the natives that they stopped this altogether. Facing starvation Columbus came up with an inspired plan. Consulting a shipboard almanac and finding that a lunar eclipse was due, he called together the native chiefs and announced to them that God would punish them if they did not supply his crew with food. And as an omen of God's intent to punish them, there would be a sign in the sky: God would darken the Moon. Right on cue, the lunar eclipse started.

Columbus dramatically disappeared into his cabin as the natives began to panic and begged him to restore the Moon. After more than an hour, Columbus emerged from his cabin and announced that God was prepared to withdraw his punishment if the natives agreed

to supply him and his crew with everything they needed. The native chiefs immediately agreed, and within minutes the Moon started emerging from the shadow, leaving the natives in awe of Columbus' power. Columbus continued to receive food and supplies until he was rescued in June 1504.

There are also other many interesting traditions and superstitions that occur on leap day, especially regarding weddings. Some people believe that leap day is the equivalent of Friday the 13th and that it signifies bad luck. In Greece, a number of people dread the idea of getting married during leap year, and it is considered especially unlucky to get married on leap day.

In Ireland, the idea of marriage on leap day is not considered bad luck. In fact, leap day is a day on which women in Ireland traditionally propose to men. Just as leap year balances our calendar with respect to the Earth's irregular revolutions around the sun, leap day in Ireland brings some balance to the traditional roles of men and women. If a man refuses a proposal on leap day, he is expected to pay a penalty to the woman, which can range from a gown to money.

Where as in Italy legend has

it that women are erratic during a leap year and several proverbs warn against planning important life events in a leap year. "Anno bisesto, anno funesto" means "leap year, doom year".

On the other hand, Farming folklore says beans and peas planted in a leap year "grow the wrong way". Scottish farmers believe leap years are not good for crops or livestock, thanks to the old proverb: "Leap year was ne'er a good sheep year."

In terms of the weather and leap year, in Russia it is believed a leap year is likely to bring more freak weather patterns and a greater risk of death all round.

As superstitions have it perhaps that is the reason we are experiencing unpredictable weather patterns these days, mornings are either cold or mildly warm only for noon to be utterly hot and evenings unbearably cold. I for one am having a hard time keeping up with the weather.

Past the traditions and lore's, our calendars, be it the Gregorian calendar, Julian calendar, Islamic calendar or traditional lunisolar calendar, all are just as imperfect as us humans. It is, however, in a way, our imperfections that make us perfect.

To those born on the 29th of February, Happy Birthday!



INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT ISAIAS AFWERKI

PART V & FINAL: DOMESTIC ISSUES

Continued from page 2

more to improve our economy and encourage foreign investment. For example, when investors asked to buy Ex-Baratollo Textile Factory, a committee was set up to assess the factory. But, what is better for us -- the millions that we get from selling the factory or rehabilitating the factory? And if it is to be sold, the investor should work to modernize the factory through advanced technology, by giving training to the work force, and by improving the quality and quantity of production.

The glass factory in Asmara was unparalleled in the region in the past, but today it does not exist. Today, we produce gold, but we sell raw materials that have not been refined. It is not possible to run an economy this way. So in order for us to strengthen all productive institutions and take advantage of our competitive advantages, our ultimate goal should be to raise the level of the economy. The issue is not whether the investor is local or a foreigner. As is known many factories were privatized in the early nineties, but there hasn't been any change. What is most important is producing premium products to be sold at low prices so that they can compete in the world market. We need to create a suitable atmosphere for this to happen.

Your Excellency, in the speech you delivered on the occasion of the 28th anniversary of Eritrea's independence, you mentioned 11 points that focused on development programs that would be implemented, including social services, infrastructure, industries, housing projects, and others. What are the programs that we can start working on this year?

These programs will be implemented using not only local resources but require regional collaboration. Joint action helps to produce good results and tangible development quickly. I am not certain that we have overcome all challenges. But we must work hard to enable the ports to become fully operational, not only for Ethiopia, but also to make good use of the available opportunities. As we are a maritime country, in addition to strengthening the ports we should also benefit from the international waterway. We also have to work

on medium and large scale infrastructure to take advantage of our long coastline, including Assab, Barasole, Edi, Tio, Beilul and Zula as well as other areas in the northern coastal region. But before doing anything else, let's start by activating the operation of the two main ports.

We have designed a development plan regarding the port of Massawa, but we are not in a hurry to implement it at the present time. We have to start with the first stage, which is its rehabilitation. The second stage relates to developing the port so that it can provide better services. The third stage includes the port's expansion. The port can be expanded by 20 kilometers from the north side as well as the southern side, and we will start this with our local capabilities or take advantage of external loans, if necessary. We are also making efforts targeting the port of Assab. We have developed a road map aimed at developing and expanding the port, but it is better to start with what is available.

As for the fisheries industry, preliminary studies do confirm that we have stored marine wealth estimated at between 80,000 and 100,000 or 120,000 tons, but what percentage have we harnessed in the past. The rate does not exceed 10,000 tons. Are there any reasons to justify this? We must establish the infrastructure. We built jetties in Edi, Tio, and other areas. Despite the provision of facilities, such as refrigerators, in these jetties, they were not utilized at full capacity. So we have to establish all the requirements needed to start benefiting from the marine industry. We have to create roads linked to the beaches from the southern and northern sides.

The total amount of raw materials at the Gedom cement factory does not exceed 30 million tons, and the raw materials for the cement industry in Tio are estimated at 100 million tons. The development of this factory meets local as well as export needs. We also have potash resources at Colluli although production has not yet begun. But starting production requires the provision of electricity, water and transport. We are well placed to identify those plans for the management this year.

The Massawa - Dekemhare - Serha - Zalambesa road is being rehabilitated. The road needs to be



expanded and bridges of various sizes need to be built heavy machinery and more manpower.

The "Ring Road" that connects Asmara-Adi-Guadad-Dekemhare and Mendefera is under construction. And the construction of the Adi-Guadad - Mensurea -Akordet - Omhajer road will start this year.

As for the energy sector, we will upgrade Assab electric supply by 30 megawatts, Massawa by 20 megawatts and Asmara by 10 megawatts. All in all, there will be an addition of 60 megawatts and this will be gradually upgraded to 120 megawatts and then to 240 megawatts.

And in terms of transportation services such as cable cars and other means of transportation, we are working to complete studies which will help us to have a clear picture. I do not think that there are any obstacles that can impede the completion of the task.

Water is the most crucial thing because we cannot accomplish any task without preserving sufficient water. So, we will continue to construct small, medium and large dams. Nothing can be carried out without performing these tasks. We are not in a hurry to work on

"White Elephant" projects. Instead, we have to work on development projects that progress at a steady pace. To do this successfully, we have to secure our human resources, raw materials, heavy machinery and other equipment and then proceed with the implementation of the projects..

As for the mining sector, we are still working hard. Generally, we do not just talk about our programs in the new era of development of peace and partnership. We must try to understand the joint work that is going on between Eritrea and Ethiopia. How do we connect roads and railway networks between the two countries? We can also implement this jointly with our Gulf partners. Likewise, these actions can be carried out with Sudan. You can start the journey alone but we would like to succeed jointly with our partners. However, there are many forces that work hard to block these joint actions, especially with Ethiopia. So, we take into account these obstacles in the context of our development undertakings and design practical strategies. Before talking on the media or conducting public relations campaigns, we have to learn about how to connect roads and railways that benefit everyone. All of these programs will start in 2020 if preparations are completed,

and if not they will start in 2021.

Your Excellency, for 20 years we went through a difficult stage to protect our sovereignty, and we finally won because of our determination. What is your message to the Eritrean people, especially the youth, at this stage?

We do not distinguish between age groups. During the past two or three years we have carried out successful evaluation projects. We planned for zero wastage of human resources. The youth, and generally all citizens, should make good use of their time, without wasting time on what is not beneficial. Unfortunately, we have not succeeded in our academic programs as we should have.

We have to organize effective vocational training courses, and these only succeed with the empowerment of human capabilities and accumulated experiences. All people, especially the young, must be involved. Every young person must acquire a profession.

We have introduced vocational training program at SAWA, and the established training schools have accomplished a lot. But we should not be complacent. The potential of young people must be strengthened, and we must employ those capabilities in the required programs. Whatever technology and equipment we have, we must provide effective human power and this is a major priority.

Our educational programs, from preschool all the way to higher education, need to be reviewed. Of course, no one expects this to be accomplished in just a year or two. We understand the need for strengthening human power, but the question here is not about how the programs are completed on paper. The issue lies in identifying the human resources before everything. We really worked hard and we have tried some programs. We are still working to empower citizens through training programs offered locally and abroad. Despite this, it has not progressed as it should. The need for skilled human power is now considered essential, especially for the youth. Some programs have started and some are under study. We do not want young people to waste their time. It is necessary to provide the youth with training programs to develop a qualified workforce.



Zara Mining
Share Company

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position:	Carpenter
Number required	1
Location:	Based at Koka Gold Mine (Site)
Reporting to:	Mining/Maintenance/Project
Primary Responsibility & Scope of work	To provide all carpentry works for building and construction of the company.
Duties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing carpentry services for building and concrete work, maintenance of the company's Project Camp. • Repair and maintain all structures through the camp. • Being accountable for the safe commissioning of all equipment. • Work in liaison with the Senior Mason to develop and implement a rigorous planned maintenance program. • To maintain all structures to the company's operation on site. • Any other related work requested by management.
Knowledge & Skills Required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Full trade qualifications for a carpenter. ▪ Strong communication and interpersonal skills ▪ Team player ▪ Must be able to work and perform under pressure
Training & Education Required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum Secondary School. ▪ Completed a carpentry apprenticeship.
Experience Required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimum of 5 years working with carpentry work. - Minimum of 5 years mine maintenance experience or similar.
Leadership Experience – nature & length of time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not required but a preference to demonstrated leadership experience.
Physical Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To be able to pass a full Doctor's Physical examination ▪ An enthusiastic, self-starting attitude towards working with all, based on a foundation of mutual respect for all.
Key Performance Indicators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Willing to undertake tasks requested by management outside the job description should the need arise
Salary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Company salary scale
Additional requirement for nationals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligations and provide evidence of release paper from the Ministry of Defence. Clearance paper from office of the Eritrean Police and present Medical Certificate and Clearance paper from current/last employer. - Only short list applicants considered as potential candidates for interview. <p>Application documents will not be returned back to the sender</p>

Address: Please mail your applications to: ZARA MINING SHARE CO. 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.



	POSITION DESCRIPTION
Position:	Commercial Supervisor
Number required	1
Location:	Based at Koka Gold Mine (Mining Asmara)
Reporting to:	Commercial & Logistic Superintendent
Purpose & Scope the Job.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Follow up all Local Suppliers, Customs, Transport, Fuel delivery, Custom on Port and AirportSupervise Asmara Commercial Office daily work activities
Duties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensure effective and timely implementation of all Commercial and Logistics daily operational goals inclusive of shipping functions.Follow up of heavy machinery spare parts from local suppliers, collect proforma and posting in ERP system and arrange transport.Evaluation analysis maintained on the collected Performa invoice to choose the best, lowest cost of material to be purchase.Follow up of all service ordered by maintenance department and other project.Ensure effective Daily and Monthly commercial and logistic work task ReportCommunicate with government office to arrange logistic and commercial issues.Develop and initiate monthly reports having required project timelines, corporate metrics and productivity measurements.Insure all the necessary specification, measurement and quantities disclosed purely on material requestion letter (form)Establish and manage relations with warehouses, customs, clearing and forwarding offices, sales force and customers.Support simplification and standardization of processes to accelerate logistics and enhance efficiencies.Assist audits of vendor invoices and month-end processing to incorporate finance accruals.Support all Logistics Issues with different contacts such as, Customs,Transit Services, Escort and Transport Teams and Permits for Import and Export.Ensure effective Follow up fuel supply to Zara site with concerned offices to arrange transportation to have regular fuel supply.Other jobs can assign by Manager or Superintendent.
Knowledge & Skills Required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Highly knowledgeable in Computer skill & inter- personal communication
Training & Education Required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">BA in Marketing management & Related field
Experience Required:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Five to eight years in Marketing management & related areas of work.
Additional requirement for nationals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligations and provide evidence of release paper from the Ministry of Defence. Clearance paper from office of the Eritrean Police, current/last employer, and present Medical Certificate.Only short list applicants considered as potential candidates for interview.Deadline for Application: 7 days from the date of this vacancy announcement
Salary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Company Salary Scale

Address: Please mail your applications to: ZARA MINING SHARE CO. P. O. Box 2393. Asmara, Eritrea.

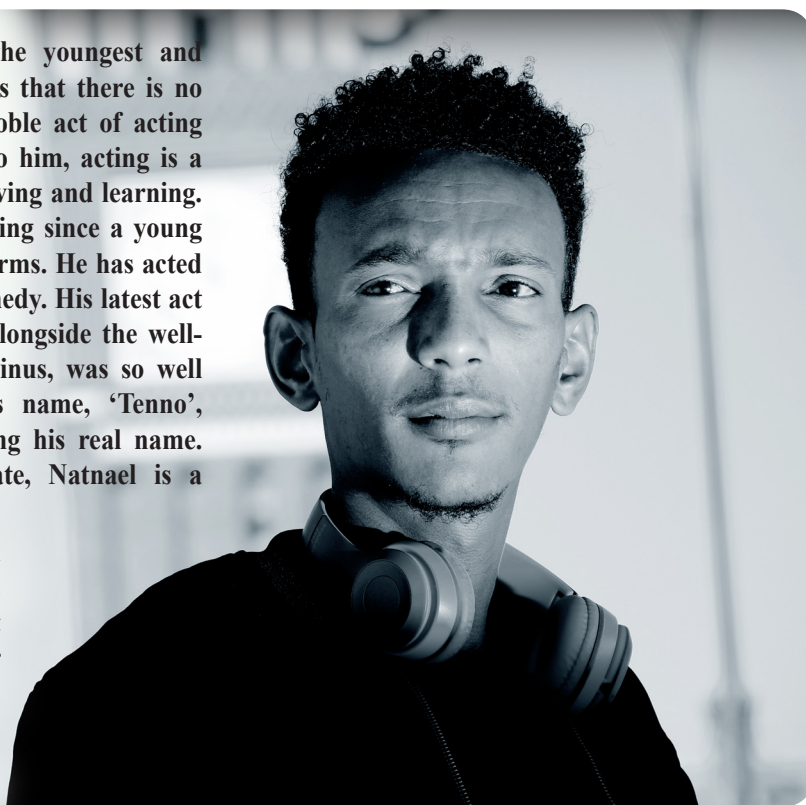
Note to Eritrean applicants: Please send a copy of your application to: Aliens Employment Permit Affairs P.O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea.



"Since Actors and Filmmakers Here Grew Up in a Society that Appreciates the Beauty of Cinema, Our Passion and Devotion Towards It is Immense." Eritrean Actor Natnael Selemon

Billion Temesghen

Natnael Selemon, one of the youngest and popular actors of Eritrea, says that there is no "innovation" in acting; the noble act of acting is impersonation. According to him, acting is a never-ending journey of observing and learning. Natnael Selemon has been acting since a young age enjoying a variety of its forms. He has acted in plays, films and a bit of comedy. His latest act of comedy, which he played alongside the well-known Eritrean comedian, Minus, was so well received that his character's name, 'Tenno', became his nickname replacing his real name. Young, vibrant and passionate, Natnael is a member of the Eritrean Defence Force's cultural troupe and also works behind the camera as an assistant director. What is it actually like to be an actor in Eritrea? Natnael Selemon gives answers.



Thank you for your time. You're known as Tenno, the comic character you played some four years ago but in reality you have played other memorable roles, both on the stage and in films.

I have. I enjoy acting and the pleasure and thrill it gives me is beyond explanation, which is why I constantly and relentlessly take up on new roles. I started acting when I was young which gave me time to grow professionally. Tenno is a comic character that I played some four years ago in a series called 'Wedi Shuk'. The title, Wedi Shuk, literally means street smart. Our comedy puts in light this trait giving it an ironic touch. 'Wedi Shuk' was loved very much by the public, both here and the Diaspora. Likewise, the role I played in the series, Tenno, received a lot of attention. That is how that name took over my real name. I have worked on several feature films afterwards. There is a film series in which I play a role is being aired on ERITV. Nevertheless, Tenno dominates almost every other character that I have played so far.

Do you think you're better off

acting in comedy than in other feature films or plays?

I'd rather not confine my potential to one genre. I started off as an actor and comedy was something that I happened to do on the way. I like the fact that I can widen my experience, without having to limit myself to one form. At the end of the day, comedy or not, it is all acting. Of course, people loved my act as Tenno and with that I simply want to believe that I played the character successfully.

What roles did you enjoy playing outside comedy?

The role I played in the film series 'Giorgio', currently being aired on ERITV, is one of my favorites. My character in the film 'Metaabiyti' is also one that I played with great pleasure. 'Metkel' is a crime story. It is about the cross border crimes of smuggling people. My role there as a Sudanese smuggler is one of the most memorable acts I have performed. And the list can go on but let's just say that I have so much respect for every character I play. There is one common belief amongst

actors; actors create characters. I disagree. As an actor, I simply imitate people that already exist. I don't create characters. I just strive to imitate them through my own interpretation of their existence, which is why I say that I respect my characters. Not only do I enjoy playing my roles and successfully deliver them to the public but it actually gives me pleasure to transform myself into the characters while acting. To answer your question, I enjoy my profession as an actor.

Let's go back to the beginning. How did you start acting?

I am glad you asked me that because the foyer to my acting profession is especially different and a story that I want to share.

Please do.

I was born in 1988 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. All of my family was over there. I went to school there and spent my earliest childhood there. I had turned eight years old when the war broke out and the Ethiopian government started tormenting Eritreans who lived in Ethiopia. Families were separated, and so was mine.

Soldiers came to our house one day and found my mother and me. They took me away from my mother and put me in a car. All I remember afterwards was being put in a big warehouse alongside other Eritreans and we were brutally kicked out of there and were made to walk back to Eritrea, a country I had little knowledge about. Once we reached Eritrea I remember being warmly welcomed by people that looked like me but spoke in a language I didn't understand well. They were nice to me, and so even if I was confused and perplexed I felt safe. Bit by bit I realized I was being left alone. People came to pick their family members up and take them home. I had no one. So my stay in the Dembesko boarding school, our temporary shelter, was long. I was stressed. When the rest of my family was deported, they heard about me and I finally was able to join them. I was put to school and my Tigrigna teacher suggested I take part in the extracurricular activities in order for me to socialize and learn to speak Tigrigna. I joined the acting group and I loved it there because it was the only way for the young me to understand what was going on.

What do you mean by "the only way for the young me to understand what was going on"?

At school we learned ordinary things but in the acting group we were doing art with our rather infant imagination. And art normally reflects time. Our time was the time of war. Therefore, most of the small performance we did reflected our ideas, fears and, generally, what was going on in our surrounding. At that point, my very first steps in to acting were an attempt not only to make friends but to understand the situation.

That is interesting. And what happened afterwards?

From then onwards acting

became my number one tool of research, understanding and expression. As I kept getting involved with more groups I grew as an actor. From school groups I advanced to the National Youth Union's clubs, and once I became popular other artists wanted to work with me. The network grew and so did my passion. And here I am.

What is it like to be an actor in Eritrea?

Difficult. The whole film industry is difficult. We, as a people, have a longstanding culture of cinema. Eritrea has marvelous theaters and people know the beauty of theater and cinema. But for a couple of decades cinema has been interrupted for reasons that are pretty much obvious. Our seniors have passed down the legacy to us but the overall situation was not favorable for the growth of cinema and other aspects of art. When we finally started, after a long break, we realized the world had already introduced technologies that accelerated the pace of cinema everywhere else. So now we're required to work harder, learn faster and put bigger investments if we are ever to catch up with the rest of the world. That being said, the passion of actors, filmmakers and writers here is great. Since we come and grew up in a society that appreciates the beauty of cinema, our passion and devotion towards it is immense. Which is why we keep on going making films despite shortages we encounter; it is easy to give up but we don't. We are convinced that one day our stories will turn the tables.

On what notes would you like to conclude the interview?

I want to express my gratitude to the Eritrean community worldwide. Thank you for supporting our work; it really does encourage us to work twice as hard and do better. Also, much love to my wife and my baby son.