



HIGH-LEVEL NCEW DELEGATION PARTICIPATES IN FOUNDING CONGRESS OF HACTU

A high-level delegation of the National Confederation of Eritrean Workers, led by Mr. Tekeste Baire, Secretary-General, participated in the Founding Congress of the Horn of Africa Confederation of Trade Unions (HACTU), which was conducted from 26-27 October in Addis Ababa.

The establishment of the Confederation, comprising trade unions from eight East African countries, including Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, Djibouti, Kenya, Uganda, Sudan, and South Sudan, aims to promote the

free movement of people in the region and improves standards for workers.

In an election conducted during the Founding Congress, Mr. Tekeste Baire was selected as President of HACTU, while Mr. Kassahun Follo, President of Ethiopia's Trade Unions Confederation, was selected as Secretary-General.

After the election, Mr. Tekeste Baire said that the confederation will play an important role in defending the rights of workers and also in promoting peace and

stability in the region.

The governing structure of HACTU comprises a president, two deputy presidents, and secretary-general, while its headquarters will be in Addis Ababa.

NAEWDV CONDUCTS SEMINAR IN BARENTU

The National Association of Eritrean War Disabled Veterans (NAEWDV) organized a seminar on 27 October in Barentu. The seminar covered the vision, mission, and objectives of the Association.

The Chairman of the Association, Mr. Gebrebrhan Eyasu, reported that the NAEWDV has exerted strong efforts to improve the lives of war disabled veterans.

At the seminar, a detailed report on a range of the Association's activities was presented, detailing research conducted, workshops organized, organizational and information activities,

improvements to social services, development of academic and vocational capacity of members, efforts to strengthen members' economic capacity, creation of job opportunities, expansion of micro-credit and saving programs, and activities of branches abroad.

Participants conducted extensive discussions about the report and adopted recommendations.

Praising the strong efforts of the Association, the Governor of the Gash Barka region, Mr. Feshaye Haile, called on the public to support the Association's efforts to improve the lives of war disabled veterans.



MEETING ON IMPLEMENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

A meeting on the implementation of development programs was conducted in Adi-Keih sub-zone. The meeting was attended by the residents and representatives of line ministries in the sub-zone.

At a meeting the administrator of the sub-zone, Mr. Habtai Tesfazghi, held with the residents of the administrative areas of Hishemle, Hainebe, Unabur, Hadamu, Igle, Safira, Mesgolo-Zola, Sibiraso, and Awhune, as well as with members of the civil service in the sub-zone, the opportunities created by the new era of peace were discussed. Mr. Habtai also called for the active participation and contribution of all citizens.

Indicating that families are the foundations of a developed society, Mr. Habtai called on parents to actively participate in the education of their children and avoid engaging in harmful practices that can negatively impact children.

Reports indicate that similar meetings have been conducted with the residents of 21 administrative areas in the sub-zone.

EDUCATION: THE MAIN ARMOR TO ENSURE SOCIAL JUSTICE

Mr. Musa Hussien Naib, Director General of Comprehensive Education in the Ministry of Education, said that education is the main armor to ensure equitable development and social justice. Recognizing its significance, the Government of Eritrea is heavily investing in promoting education throughout the nation, Mr. Mussa added.

In a seminar in Sawa conducted for members of the 32nd round of national service, Mr. Musa presented a paper titled, "A Quarter of a Century Investment Made on Education in Eritrea, and Its Achievements and Challenges."

Stating that providing quality and equitable education is required to build a nation free from poverty and to ensure social justice, Mr. Musa called on the students to take advantage of educational opportunities offered to them.

He further stated that the Government is exerting strong efforts to expand and reinforce higher education institutions.

Documents from the Ministry of Education show that in 1991, there were 528 schools nationwide providing education to 245000 students. After independence, owing to strong efforts to ensure

equitable education, the number of students has increased to over 600,000 while the number of educational institutions has grown by 250% to 1937, including 7 vocational schools.

In a concluding remarks, Colonel Debesai Ghide, Commander of the National Service Training Center, called on the students to take advantage of the opportunities created for them.

Students at the seminar called for the introduction of technology services in all schools and qualified teachers in Warsai Yekealo Secondary School.



ERITREA in Mainstream Media

Eritrea and Ethiopia - Towards Stable Peace

Sophia Tesfamariam

H.E. Osman Saleh Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Eritrea in his remarks at the Second Italy-Africa Forum in Rome held on 24-25 October 2018 said the following:

“...Four months ago, Eritrea and Ethiopia gave themselves, their peoples, the Horn of Africa, Africa and the world, a pleasant surprise, the gift of peace and friendship. They decided that the conditions and the time were right to end a sad and abnormal chapter in their relations and go back to normalcy, over the years, many had offered to mediate between the two countries to no avail... And when peace finally broke out, it did not require any mediation. The two countries did it on their own. Ethiopia accepted the Algiers Agreement unconditionally. Eritrea decided to send a delegation to Addis Ababa. A week later, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed visited Eritrea and the Peace and Friendship Agreement between the two nations was signed... Many think that the peace was preceded by protracted behind-the-scene negotiations. That was not the case. The first time that the two sides met and talked was when the Eritrean delegation landed in Addis Ababa. And it was not just a physical encounter. It was a meeting of minds...”

Diplomacy is said to be the currency of peace, and those who scoffed at Eritrea's diplomatic acumen were caught off guard as the recent flurry of positive activities in the Horn region. In a very short period of time, in literally a few months, a peace declaration has been signed by Eritrea and Ethiopia. But Eritrea has also reached out to Somalia and Djibouti to find ways to enhance their bilateral relations and bring stable peace to the entire Horn region.

But farfetched analyses on the Eritrea Ethiopia peace persist....

Some have insisted that it was not diplomatic acumen, but money that greased the wheels of peace in the region. That it was the influence of the Arab states- especially the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia (SA). Some attribute it, without a shred of plausible evidence, to painstaking, year-long, diplomatic efforts by western countries!

The people and government of Eritrea neither lack intellectual capacity or wherewithal to engineer peace in the region- and only those who have forgotten, or are in denial, of Eritrea's history and vast experience, could be reduced to such shallow analysis.

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed inherited an Ethiopia which was, under the minority TPLF regime's rule, reeling from deadly internal ethnic conflicts that brought the country to the brink of implosion that threatened to further undermine the peace and security of the entire Horn region. It should be recalled that the nationwide protests that began in November 2015 in the Oromia region of Ethiopia and quickly spread to other regions bringing death and destruction and the displacement of millions from their homes and villages as protestors clashed with the regime's security and other forces. The protests and the emergency rule where still in effect in April 2018 when Prime Minister Abiy took over the leadership in that country.

So when PM Abiy signaled his desire to normalize relations with Eritrea, and expressed his country's acceptance of the Algiers Agreement without any pre-conditions, it was a change in Ethiopia's 20-year long belligerent stance. Eritrea did not hesitate to accept Ethiopia's rapprochement. Contrary to what has been disseminated by the mainstream

media in the past, Eritrea was not afraid of peace with Ethiopia. But the previous regime in Ethiopia was unwilling to make peace, it was more interested in coercion and hegemony.

Whether it was the external threats facing Eritrea or the internal threats facing Ethiopia that prompted the mutual acts of accommodation that culminated in rapprochement from both sides is as they say, neither here nor there at this point. But there is no denying that peace between Eritrea and Ethiopia provides PM Abiy and his government the reprieve it needs to stabilize the country and address the simmering internal conflicts and other negative remnants of the old regime. It also gives the government of Eritrea a chance to channel its energies and resources to address domestic priorities. It is not up to the mainstream media, or any other external entity, to dictate Eritrea's or Ethiopia's priorities. It should not be forgotten that it was in spite of the gloom and doom scenarios painted that the two nations have prevailed and brought peace.

In the meantime, the borders between the two countries have been opened and there is free movement of people and goods. These confidence building measures, so long as they are not abused, will add impetus to the peace process. The fast moving developments have taken both friend and foe by surprise- and it is the naysayers, the conflict entrepreneurs, that are found crying foul. The self-serving lamentations by individuals and groups who benefitted from stocking the anti-Eritrea rhetoric for the last 20 years are feeling the pinch. The shrill they emit will subside as peace in the Horn of Africa takes a strong foothold. While there are some spoilers who want to dampen the atmosphere with negativity and suspicions, for the most part, the peoples of Eritrea and Ethiopia, the real stakeholders, have welcomed and demonstrated their desire for peace.

The friendly relations and contacts between officials of both countries have enhanced relationships between ordinary citizens, as is evident by the growing number of visitors to both nations. There are always risks in taking such bold steps, as there are many that would like the peace to fail, but only the two peoples can prevent the process from unraveling. The decades long externally



induced geopolitical competition that suffocated both nations and squandered opportunities for real growth and development must be permanently shunned. The people of Eritrea and Ethiopia must not squander this golden opportunity to give peace a chance, to rebuild the confidence of the people in both countries, and enhance trade and other relations for the long term benefit of both peoples and the region.

The Diaspora communities can play a significant role in bridging the divides and creating an atmosphere of camaraderie and friendship between the two peoples and others in the region. They should work harder to bring renewed transformation in public sentiments in their respective communities. Both peoples should reject divisive sub-national tendencies and urge all to respect the sovereign rights, and right to self-determination of both Eritrea and Ethiopia. They should encourage policy makers to respond positively to the changes in the region and bring an end to the policies that exacerbated conflicts and created rivalries.

Eritrea's principled, persistent and consistent stance, often portrayed as being a "stubborn" one, withstood and survived the 20-year long assault by various quarters. When war broke out between Eritrea and Ethiopia in 1998, H.E. President Isaias Afwerki said, “**ብዓፍልን ብኣግሰትን ከይተሓለፍ ክንሰርሕ ኢና**”, implying that the imposed war will not come to an end and peace achieved easily; that it

would entail great sacrifice, restraint, patience, and relentless hard work. It was a costly journey that tested the nation's grit, but peace required it. Eritrea took on the challenge knowing its dividends would be generational. The same rings true today.

Changing the Horn of Africa's reputation from one of turbulence and strife to a peaceful zone of growth and development is not indeed a choice, but a necessity, if the peoples of the region are going to realize their full potentials. Indeed when the Peace Agreement was signed in Algiers on 12 December 2000, President Isaias Afwerki's prophetic words were: “the peoples of Eritrea and Ethiopia are not cursed but blessed to be neighbours”; stressing that the tragic wars should be seen as historical aberrations while enduring peace must be the norm regulating the ties between the two sisterly peoples.

Maintaining the peace will require even greater restraint, patience and hard work. With peace, Eritrea and Ethiopia can now pursue initiatives to move their nations away from brinksmanship and rivalry to programmatic cooperation for development and prosperity. The international community can play a constructive role in the region and restore its credibility as honest broker for peace by supporting the two countries as they embark on this difficult, but necessary journey to bring stable peace in the region. The future is indeed brighter, and what these two nations can achieve together is limitless...

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OPINION

Genuine partners of the Horn can only Support the Peace Process

Metkel Sewra

The recent statement by German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas at the Bundestag reeks of the shameful and destructive viewpoints that we had hoped were left behind – especially considering this new era of peace and enthusiasm over a bright future, a future earned by the people of this region and carved out into history with their own blood and sweat.

The statement is peppered with the usual buzzwords that give the semblance of “genuine care” for Eritrean political development, its “people’s human rights”, and issues of “good” governance. Luckily, only a fool would fall for such trappings. Indeed the statement makes no bones about the ill-intentions of the Ministry to interfere and meddle in the country’s internal affairs and even use ‘Its forthcoming seat at the UNSC’ to that end.

What is most peculiar to note is that while the speaker admits that “political and social transformation cannot be achieved overnight”, referring to Germany’s own history and experience, he somehow chooses to apply a skewed measuring stick to Eritrea. This stick is clearly rooted in the “do as we say, not as we did” paradigm that the world over has come to recognize as erroneous and probably even deliberately misleading.

But before going any further, one must leave room for well-meaning and forward-looking actors within Germany and perhaps even within the Bundestag that genuinely want to understand and work with Eritrea. Unfortunately, this statement does not reflect these sober voices and instead it is a sad reflection of business as usual – the same hostility and shortsightedness we have come to expect from some political circles in Germany.

Having said all this, one would think that the need for change of attitudes and a nuanced foreign policy towards African states – rooted in respect and based on African states’ cultural context, historical development, economic situation, human capacity, etc – is a no-brainer.

In fact, if anyone in Europe, especially at this time, was serious about Eritreans’ rights and well-being, the starting questions would be: Where are they now? How did they get here? Where do they want to go? What are the gaps between where they are and where they want to go? What plans does their own government have to fill in those gaps? How can we help them – partnership based on respect and context – deliver on those plans?

But this judicious approach is routinely shrugged aside by those who harbor ulterior motives on Eritrea and the region as a whole.

It really is quite amusing to read diatribes of what Africans ought to be doing and how they should be doing it. No, forget amusing. It is 2018, right? Well this is actually quite frustrating – especially to those who genuinely want to move away from externally-forced, crisis-management scenarios, to internally-driven sustainable, political, economic, and social development planning and implementation – free of the constant threat of war and conflict.

As far as Eritrea, Ethiopia, and the wider Horn of Africa region is concerned, anyone willing to see beyond a glass half empty will recognize that the four months old peace has ushered in a new wave of hope and optimism, of camaraderie

and solidarity, of respect for sovereignty and independence but a deep understanding and appreciation of a shared future.

Read that again: four months.

Now juxtapose that to 20 painfully long years of lost opportunity due to TPLF’s shortsighted and destructive policies. It is worth repeating here – lest people like Minister Mass attempt to rewrite history – TPLF’s aim was clear: regional hegemony of which isolating, demonizing and destroying Eritrea was just one part of its game.

For 20 years all forms of communication were cut off, diplomatic relations were sabotaged, people lived under constant fear of a renewed conflict, scarce resources were diverted away from national projects and plans, free movement of goods and people was made impossible and expensive due to baseless sanctions that have yet to be lifted, and the list goes on and on.

In fact, it is not only Eritrea and Eritreans that suffered – although probably they bore the brunt of this twisted and sick game. Every country and peoples in this region suffered immensely – one can even dare say that the only ones that did not were the few at the helm of the TPLF and those closely affiliated with them, from each country.

What is worse is that this suffering was prolonged by external powers, including many in Europe – and Germany played its role very well. The TPLF regime was in fact emboldened and encouraged to wreck havoc in the region through huge financial largesse and other critical support from these powers. The people of Eritrea, on their part, may choose to forgive, as they always do, but will never forget.

All of the above considered, this new era of peace that is upon us is here to stay and the people of the region, most especially Eritreans, find it absolutely hypocritical and downright precarious for anyone to be raining on their parade.

As far as Eritrea is concerned, the majority of Eritreans – and, in the grand scheme of things, that and nothing else is what really matters – see that phenomenal accomplishments were made in a very – very – short period. They also know that this peace was a key requisite, and will probably soon prove to be the only requisite, to move every people and country in this region up the development ladder, economic and political.

Indeed, pronouncements of cooperation based on complementarity, and a declared vision of a region that wants to put an end to, inter alia, poverty, insecurity, ethnic and religious

based divisions, catastrophic external interferences, unsafe migration, are slowly but surely seeing the light of day. No one can deny this.

Obviously, those invested in crisis “management... conflict resolution... and preventive diplomacy”, whatever that means, are hell-bent on derailing this wave and they are apparently already busy crafting nefarious ways of trying to achieve this.

The good news is that the people of the Horn of Africa, in complete unison, have said: GAME OVER.

Game over to “influencing developments”. Game over to “maximum public pressure”. Game over to the politicization of human rights and democracy. Game over to petty threats. GAME OVER to pretty much every prescription forced down our throats that guarantees nothing but conflict and mayhem.

In fact, just so we are clear: the Government of Eritrea owes no explanation to Germany or anyone else for that matter. Its strategy and trajectory of national development – in its broadest sense – is squarely a matter of a social compact with its own people; the sole proprietors of this country that was built on immeasurable sacrifice and an unwavering commitment to peace.



The Bundestag

Disclaimer: articles published in this column do not reflect the stance or opinion of Eritrea Profile



African Rock Art: the Greatest Surviving Witness of Our Cultural Evolution

Tsegai Medin

The origin and evidence of modern humans is well-known. Africa is the origin and home of our ancestors. Modern humans evolved in Africa and left the continent between 90,000 and 75,000 years ago. One of the greatest things they carried with them while living in Africa was culture. The cultural manifestation of humanity emerged in Africa and can be seen through various examples. Today, thanks to breakthroughs in archaeology, humanity's cultural evidence can be better understood. Archaeology encompasses several specialized fields of study, based on the evidence and methodological approaches applied. The evidence



Photo © Stephen Alvarez

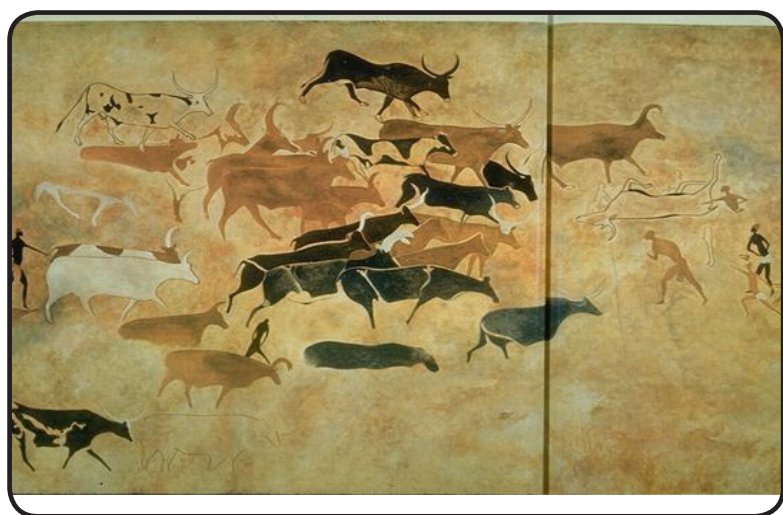
The engraved ochre from Blombos Cave, South Africa, dated to about 100,000 years.

the ability to plan.

Rock art makes up the most extensive records of human thought on earth. It shows the very emergence of human imagination. It is a priceless treasure and is irreplaceable. Rock art

is, therefore, an integral part of humanity's collective memory and the greatest surviving witness of our cultural evolution.

Around 30,000 years ago, a very developed and sophisticated painting and engraving tradition evolved in Africa. For example, there are painted stones in Namibia which date back to roughly 27,500 years ago. However, there is no known rock art evidence between 25,000 to 10,000 years ago in the context of South African rock art. Researchers believe that the great majority of African rock art depicting animal and human figures were made within the last 7,000 to 5000 years. Although these dates are suggested from the South African context, similar estimates could be made for other African rock art sites as well.



Neolithic rock art from North Africa (Central Sahara)

left by humans is a testimony of their lives and evolutionary trends over millions of years.

Although early humans had very rich cultural heritage, it is not well known in the archaeological record. Around 10,000 years ago, humans started cultivating plants. Not long after, Africans began breeding animals. This evidence shows the first domestication of animals and humans' sedentary practices. This turning point was followed by the beginning of agriculture, which gave birth to civilizations.

Culture is something that develops slowly over millennia. Culture, which began on the African continent, includes the greatest achievements of human creativity. For example, the first evidence of human cognitive behavior – apparent before humans left Africa – was documented in Blombos Cave in South Africa, approximately 90 - 100,000 years ago. This discovery indicates that, in terms of art, our ancestors had basic knowledge of chemistry as well as

is not just about the distant past. It is about today and tomorrow as well.

Rock art refers to human-made markings placed on the natural stone and it shows humanity's cultural, cognitive, and artistic beginnings. It further reveals the emergence of humanity's symbolic behavior before the advent of writing. It is commonly perceived as the visual language of prehistoric societies. The markings on natural rock surfaces may be prehistoric or historic, and they often are found in caves or rock shelters. Rock art is a very widespread phenomenon, occurring in locations around the world. The occurrence and preservation of rock art in various parts of the world became possible due to the selection of the suitable geology to manipulate the art.

Prehistoric rock art represents the strongest evidence of humanity's cultural, cognitive, and artistic beginnings. The art has portrayed and influenced the beliefs and cultural conventions of many societies. Rock

colors.

The art that represents pastoralism in the Sahara and the Horn of Africa is dated between 3,000 and 4,000 years ago. This art seems to have declined after this time although it continued in some areas. During these millennia, dramatic climatic changes took place and the art of the period reflects a changing attitude towards nature and property. Furthermore, man became much more important and human figures, accordingly, assumed a central role within the art. However, from this time onwards, man no longer appears as part of nature, closely allied to other animals, but is instead portrayed as being above nature, yet able to still

major drainage networks of the longest rivers in Eritrea. Thus, large concentrations of paintings and engravings are found in the central highlands, along cliffs and valleys forming the basins of major rivers.

Rock art in Eritrea features different color pigments, various human and animal figures, and geometric styles. It reflects earlier society's socio-economic and cultural lives. However, to date, no systematic research has been done on the rock art, and the lack of efforts to ensure preservation conditions is of great concern. The handful studies conducted on specific locations focused on identifying their general styles, distribution, and preservation



A rock art cave from the Southern Region of Eritrea, Der'a Site

derive sustenance from it.

Eritrean rock art has to be seen within the context of general African rock art. Eritrea's geographical and ecological diversity contributed to the distribution of rock art sites over much of the country. The nature of Eritrea's prehistoric rock art can be explained by considering the nature, content, and meanings attached to it as well as its preservation conditions. Evidence of rock art is well documented across the country, with the most prominent sites being Adi-Ålewti, Iyago, Karibosa, Saro, Mai-āini, and Quarura.

Eritrea's prehistoric art is disproportionately distributed across the country. Regions with invaluable rock art heritage include the Adi-Keih, Tserona, and Mai-āini regions of Zoba Debub, Ghala Nefhi region in Zoba Maekel, Nakfa and Qurora regions in Northern Red Sea, and the Asmat areas in Zoba Anseba. The central and northern highlands of the country, however, have the highest concentration of rock art. The highlands are the source of

conditions. As a result, the absolute dates of various types of rock art in Eritrea can only be explained relative to African and, specifically, the Horn of African sites. Therefore, considering the similarities in style and typology as well as the history of pastoralism in the region, the rock art sites in Eritrea could date back to 5,000 to 10,000 years ago.

The vulnerability and ongoing deterioration of this rare and priceless heritage calls for immediate action. These rock art sites have been exposed to destructive human actions and natural alterations. At present, African rock art sites, including Eritrean sites, are critically endangered. Hence, organized inventory, research programs, awareness, and preservation activities have to be developed in collaboration with African rock art foundations. Because, as former South African leader Nelson Mandela once stated, "Africa's rock art is not only the common heritage of all Africans, [it] is also the common heritage of humanity."

Pirates and Emperors

Dr. Fikrejesus Amahazion

Saint Augustine, the renowned Christian theologian and philosopher, was one of the Latin Fathers of the Church and among the most significant Christian thinkers. In fact, his influence as a thinker was arguably unrivalled in the early history of the Church. Of his numerous written works, those generally regarded as the most important and influential include *Confessions* and *The City of God* (fully, *The City of God Against the Pagans*), which both helped lay the foundation for much of medieval and modern Christian thought. In *The City of God*, written in Latin in the early 5th century AD and considered a cornerstone of Western thought, Saint Augustine tells the story of a pirate captured by Alexander the Great. The Emperor angrily demanded of him, “How dare you molest the seas?” With bold pride, the pirate answered, “How dare you molest the whole world? Because I do it with a petty boat, I am called a pirate and a thief. You, with a great fleet, molest the world and are called an emperor.”

Although written centuries ago, this story remains especially pertinent today as it helps illustrate the many glaring double standards apparent within modern international relations and the global political order. Consider, for instance, the issue of corruption. Over the years, the media, international organizations, development institutions, and analysts have devoted considerable time to covering the issue of corruption in developing countries. We incessantly hear and read about how many developing countries and their leaders are invariably corrupt. Quite often, of course, many are. Throughout the course

of the discussion, however, one significant thing notably missing is any mention of Western corruption. Therein lies the crux of the problem since the simple fact is that corruption is not unique or restricted to developing countries. Furthermore,

many of those quick to point out the faults of others cannot credibly claim to be entirely free

crisis, the point is that one cannot overlook how powerful Western companies and individuals (including bankers, politicians [many of whom were previously bankers], regulators, credit ratings agencies, managers, and academics) bent regulatory,

policy and legal institutions for their private benefit, including through lobbying and influence peddling.

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representing far more than the amount of money that African states receive as development aid and assistance from Western countries or international financial institutions.

Another area with blatant double standards is foreign policy. We regularly hear of how the West and its high-minded, virtuous political leaders place ethical

year, for example, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), an independent international institute dedicated to “research into conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament,” released a highly-detailed report titled, “Trends In International Arms Transfers.” The report, which lists the world’s largest weapons exporters between 2013 and 2017, revealed how the majority of the world’s top arms exporters are Western countries. In fact, 8 of the top 10 exporters are Western countries, and they account for approximately 62 percent of the total global volume of exports of major weapons. Note that this is only countries that made up the top ten. If other Western countries were included, the figure for the total global volume would be even higher.

It is important to point out that while this brief discussion of double standards has focused on corruption and international weapons transfers, it can easily be extended to a large number of other topic areas, including human rights, state surveillance, torture, global trade, migration, democracy, conflict, and international law, among others, and remain just as valid.

As a final point of clarification, this discussion should in no way be seen as an attempt to blithely dismiss or simply “gloss over” the serious challenges faced by developing countries. Undeniably, they merit great attention. That said, however, one cannot overlook the glaring and hypocritical double standards that operate within modern international relations and the global political order. They also need addressing.

of misdeed.

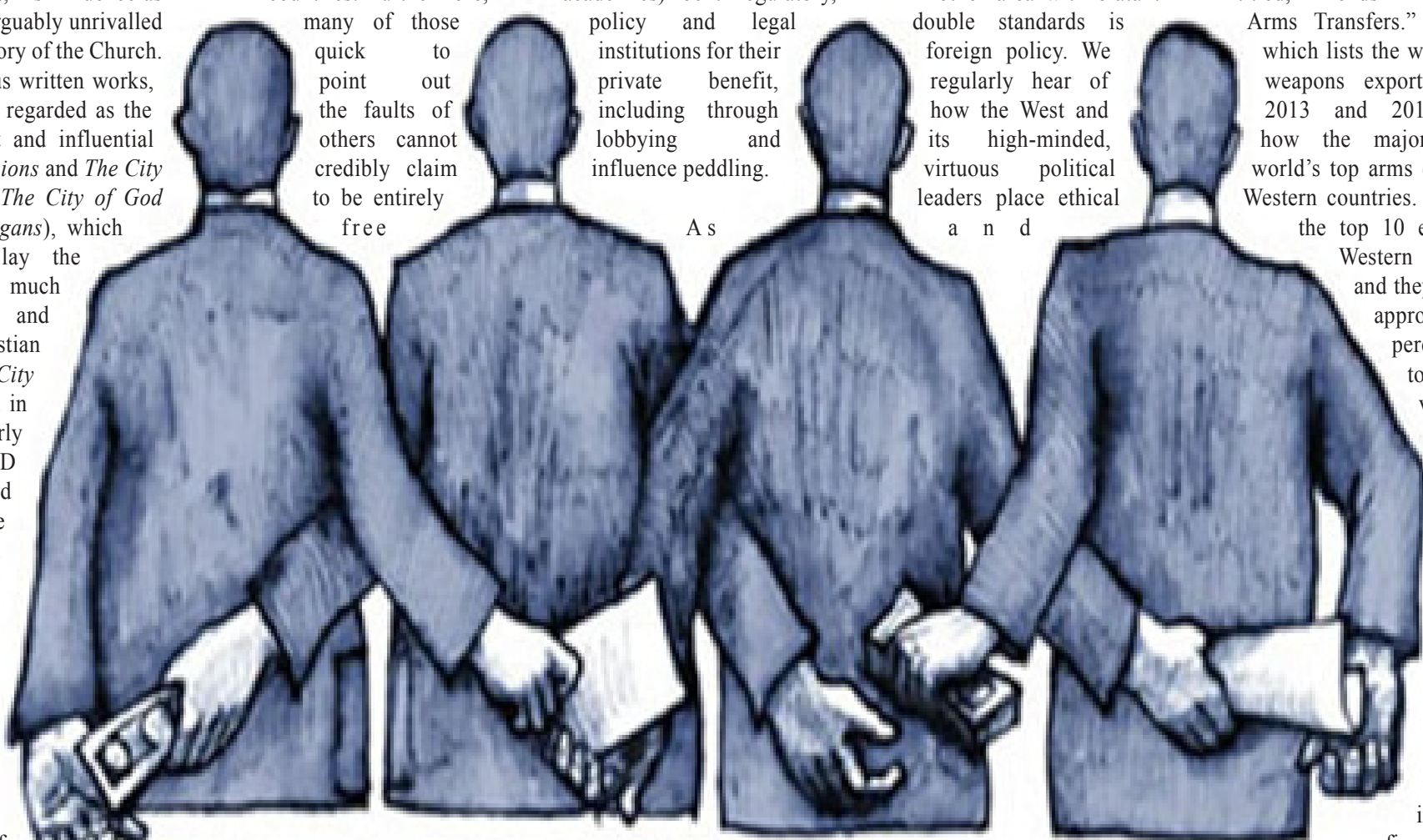
A clear case in point is the global financial crisis and how it was precipitated by considerable corruption within Western banking and finance. Speaking after the 2008 global crash, American economist Jeffrey Sachs captured the blatant double standards, describing how corruption in Western banking and finance, which helped lead to the crash, was overlooked and went unpunished: “They’ve completely walked away with billions and billions of dollars in this financial fraud. And this is nothing but impunity. If we saw it in an African country, if we saw it in a Latin American country, you’d be writing fulminate essays about how corrupt these countries are, and how they can’t govern themselves, and this is an explanation for their poverty and so forth.”

While there were multiple causes of the global financial

well, although it is certainly the case that corruption plagues many developing countries, it is important to recall that much of the corruption is often driven by Western structures or only made possible with the active involvement, support, and close coordination of Western bankers, accountants, lawyers, and government officials. Western banks and financial institutions, which are located in numerous Western locations, beyond just the Caribbean and Switzerland, facilitate the large outflow of illicit revenues and serve as secret havens. Moreover, tax avoidance by international corporations often costs developing countries far more than the corruption of “local” politicians or civil servants. In fact, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) estimates that illegal financial flows and tax fraud or avoidance by international corporations cost Africa tens of billions of dollars per year,

moral considerations at the heart of their foreign policy. They ostensibly emphasize the importance of upholding human rights around the world, while frequently and loudly proclaiming the virtues of peace. However, compelling research has shown the “organized hypocrisy” underlying the self-declared ethical policies of Western countries. In stark contrast to their characterization or rhetoric, major Western arms supplying states have generally not exercised export controls so as to discriminate against human rights abusing or autocratic countries during the post-Cold War period. Rather, arms have been exported to countries which serve supplying states’ domestic economic and security interests (Perkins and Neumayer 2009).

Moreover, Western countries’ regular proclamations and championing of peace seem to ring hollow when set alongside their actual practices. Earlier this



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Computer skills to operate Navision Dynamics software	
Attention to detail, Planning, Analysis and problem solving.	Evaluation & Interpersonal skills
Inventory management concepts, Numeracy & Housekeeping Skills	Communication (English & local language)

General Information and other requirements:

- **Place of Work:** Bisha.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

- **Salary:** As per Company salary scale.
 - **Type of Contract:** Indefinite
- Additional requirement 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 sender. All applications should be sent through the post office. Deadline for application: 10 days from the day of publication in the Newspaper.**
- **Address: Please mail your applications to; Bisha Mining Share Company, P. O. Box 4276 Asmara, Eritrea**
 - **Note to Non- Eritrean applicants: Please send a copy of your application to Aliens Employment permit Affairs, P. O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea.**

Specific Procurement Notice

SPN No 06.2/004/ST/2018
The State of Eritrea, Ministry of Agriculture
National Agricultural Project (NAP)

Agricultural Sector
IFAD Grant No. 8107 ER
ICB No. 06.2/004/FP/ICB/NAP/IFAD/GRANT/DSF-8107-ER/AED/ST/2018

The state of Eritrea (SOE), Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) has received a grant from the International Fund for Agricultural Development, (IFAD) toward the cost of the National Agricultural Project,(NAP) and it intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for **Supply of Agrochemical Inputs (Pesticides),Lot .1 Supply of Chemical Fertilizer (DAP) and Lot.2 Supply of Chemical fertilizer (UREA) and Lot.1 Supply of Sprayers and Lot.2 Supply of Protective Materials.**

Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding ICB as specified in the IFAD’s Procurement guidelines. Bidders shall submit a bid security 2% of the total amount of bid price.

Eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding document from the Procurement and supplies Management Unit of the MOA at the address below during office hours Monday through Friday 07:00-12:00 and 14:00-18:00 Asmara local time.

Bid shall be Valid for a Period of 120 days after Bid opening, and delivered to Procurement and Supplies Management Unit Office on or before December 6 ,2018 local hours 14:30 PM and will be Opened On the same date at 15:00 PM Local hours in the presence of the Bidders or Bidders’ Representatives who wish to attend.

Procurement and supplies Management Unit (PSMU)
Ministry of Agriculture
P.O.BOX 1048, Tel: 00291-1-189266/00291-1-180699
Fax: 00291-1-181415
E-mail:sinadostesfay@gmail.com
Asmara, Eritrea

The Ministry of Agriculture reserves the right to accept or reject this bid fully or in part if it finds any option better than this IFB without needing to justify the grounds for it doing so and compensation which the bidder may incurred in preparing its bid.

Ministry Of Agriculture



A Passion for Fashion

Asmait Futsumbrhan

Where do your inspirations start, Aman?

Although I was born with the talent for designing and art, it's my big brother, Luul Tekle aka Ayni, a renowned fashion designer, who influenced me to get into fashion. I began working at his shop when I was young, which allowed me to expand my knowledge of designing. In 2014, my brother opened a designing school, where I completed courses in design and make-up art.

After I graduated, I began working as a teacher. I teach about fashion design and professional make-up art. As well, I produce various types of artistic works, usually used as gifts.

What do you think about Eritrea's fashion standards?

A designer is like a country's ambassador. It is through a designer that we get to share our culture and identity with the world. In my opinion, fashion should be culture-based. However, that doesn't mean it should limit creativity. Until today, I don't think we have been very active or competitive within the fashion industry. Many reasons may come to mind as to why, but I think the main reason may be lack of copy right standards. Anyone can copy someone's design. Also, very few competitions have been organized over the years. However, I think that with the large number of talented students, there is going to be more competitions among designers, which can only help upgrade the fashion industry.

How talented are the fashion school graduates? What opportunities are available to them?

Honestly speaking, all the students who I had the pleasure of teaching over the years are highly talented and skilled. Since the fashion

Inspired by his older brother, Aman Tekle, he went to college to get a degree in Computer Science before he became a successful fashion designer. After college, he began working as a make-up artist and a fashion instructor. Yes, he does it all. Working out of Ayni Designing School, Aman showcases his wide array of talents while also encouraging young, aspiring fashion artists.

industry requires a great amount of income, many of the students that graduate are unable to work in the field. However, that shouldn't stop them. I always tell my students that being a designer doesn't always mean sewing clothes. It is all about creativity and using the little things you have to make something great. That is how you get to earn money and be a great designer. One always has to start at the bottom to get to the top. As long as they have the will to upgrade themselves as designers, they can make it. For example, they can always start by working at a tailor's shop. They shouldn't think solely about the money but instead focus on the experience they are getting. Money comes after that.

Although almost 90% of

doesn't depend on gender or age. For instance, last time we had an 11-year-old girl who came to learn

make-up during our first graduation. We had to get a hair and make-up artist to have the fashion show.

That is when I thought about learning more about make-up skills since we had graduations annually.

It is also an interesting field which is done by men and women. Make-up art includes the type of skin, types of faces, bridal wear, manicures and pedicures. These are all conducted according to specific rules and guidelines. It is important to understand the relationship between skin types, make-up and application procedures. Applying the wrong type of make-up can cause a permanent skin damage.

What do you think is required to be a good designer?



developing fashion skills, one has to choose the specific field of fashion in which to work. That is the only way that someone can be great at what they do.

Also, designers must decide if they are ready to confront the obstacles that they may face in the future. Is that where you belong? Again, work to be successful. Keep up with the latest trends in the fashion industry and stay inspired. But most of all develop your portfolio. All your work should be included in your portfolio.

Is there anything you would like add?

I would like to remind anyone who is interested in the fashion industry that fashion is for everyone. As long as we have a good aim, we all are capable of producing quality work.

Also, I am currently working on a designing book. It will be useful for anyone interested in fashion design. I also have a dream to one day open a student-centered fashion house, which students can use to showcase and sell their work.

I also would like to thank my wife, Hermon Ghirmai, who inspires me to work even harder. As well, I want to extend my appreciation to my brother, Ayni, my family and all the teachers who have been working with me. Nothing would have been possible without their support.



A traditional dress with modern touches, presented by a student

designing. She was one of the best students I had seen thus far. What I want to remind everyone is that as long as people recognize their talent and work hard, opportunities will come.

I have seen your students use recycled materials to create outfits. Please tell us about that.

At a time when textile resources are hard to come by, fashion designers are turning to recycled materials such as plastic, straws, paper and other materials. This is what we call the "Eco Fashion." We wanted to see how far the students would go to bring the level of creativity we wanted. It is amazing how they responded to our expectations. They came up with beautiful outfits made out of recycled materials.

Do you also teach make-up art?

Yes. I first became interested in



A dress made out of straws, presented by a student



A dress made out of newspapers and white papers, presented by a student

Most of all passion. You have to be passionate to be good at almost anything. Of course, one also has to have fashion skills. After