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Premier emphasizes public-private partnership in medical sector

BY BETELHEM BEDLU

ADDIS ABABA- An integrated engagement of the public and private investments in the medical sector is essential towards the realization of national health goals, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) said, adding that the partnership is key to address the sector's challenges.

The Premier made the above remark

yesterday while inaugurating a kidney transplant and dialysis center on the premises of Menelik II Referral Hospital. The coming into force of the dialysis center is a demonstration of what individuals and groups of people can achieve when responding to their professions and life goals.

"Efforts being undertaken to enhance medical care within our nation are

encouraging. The Addis Ababa City's demonstration of a new dialysis facility through drawing private sector investments is crucial to address the many challenges our health care system have been facing. While appreciating Ethiopians living abroad that have mobilized professionally in service of their country, I encourage many others to multiply such endeavors."

See Premier emphasizes.. page 3

West's ill-management prolongs northern conflict: Foreign journalists

BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA- The International Community's (IC) failure to hold The Terrorist TPLF (T-TPLF) and its enablers accountable have resulted in the prolonging of war in northern Ethiopia, foreign journalists said.

In particular, the IC also remained tightlipped when it comes to denouncing the misconduct of WHO Chief Dr. Tedros Adhanom, they said.

Journalists from international media who have witnessed the horrific crimes the T- TPLF committed in the neighboring Afar and Amhara states in person made the global community's negligence as the major factor for the public's suffering in the aforementioned area.

Journalist and Editor at New Zealand



Alastair Thompson

Publication called Scoop Alastair Thompson told local media that the conflict is horrific and western community who manage this conflict has made it worse and the IC doesn't seem to be willing to acknowledge that the TPLF is the cause of the war.

It is becoming very clear that the war is



Ann Garrison

continuing because of the IC's failure to hold T-TPLF accountable, address the misdeeds of the public servants like Tedros Adhanom Director-General of World Health Organization, who is needlessly prolonging the conflict. The story of this conflict hasn't

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UN lauds gov't humanitarian response to Tigray

BY TEWODROS KASSA

ADDIS ABABA-The level of humanitarian delivery to the needy people of Tigray and the government's engagement in this regard is something worth admiration, the United

See UN lauds.. page 3

News

Ethiopia builds ethical, able army: Commander-in-Chief

BY YESUF ENDRIS

ADDIS ABABA- Ethiopia has built a well-trained, ethical and able army that is capable of withstanding challenges and ensuring the peace, stability and territorial integrity of the country, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) said.

The Premier's remark came on Sunday whilst gracing the 69th Graduation Ceremony of the Ethiopian Military Academy.

The Prime Minister who is also the Commander-in-Chief of the Ethiopian Defense Forces (ENDF) has also lauded senior and retired members of the army for their selfless sacrifice and urged the new graduates to learn from their senior comrades.

"You graduates should learn from senior and former members of the army of Ethiopia.



Those who are now retired have immensely struggled for their motherland. You officers, graduated from this military academy, have

acquired some scientific learning. But, the practical wisdom you must take is coming in your future. Then, you will have the best

skill you've ever experienced before."

"Our forefathers and mothers have demonstrated their noble bravery throughout history. Now, it is our turn to maintain their legacy and keep the peace and stability of this great nation."

"Congratulations to today's graduating officers of the Ethiopian Military Academy! I trust you to develop heroism, patriotism-based purpose, and never-ending knowledge on your next journey," the Premier remarked. ENDF Chief of Staff Field Marshal Birhanu Jula said at the ceremony that the army has gone through a broad-based reform amidst intensified conflicts with public enemies.

Now, the army is in a heightened readiness to ensure the rule of law and deter any attack that may come from both local and foreign enemy quarters, the Chief of Staff emphasized.

Researched, participatory operations key to ensure lasting peace

BY MULATU BELACHEW

ADDIS ABABA- The law enforcement operation the government is now carrying out nationwide has to be based on well-studied operations and in a participatory way so as to ensure citizens' peace, said a Law Lecturer.

Approached by *The Ethiopian Herald*, Wollo University Law Lecturer Temesgen Tesema said that the state is being challenged by the very nature of T-PLF and its accomplices. Hence, ensuring the rule of law is crucial to maintain citizens' peace as well as maintaining national unity and interest.

Temsegen, who is also a Lawyer and Legal Advisor, said that TPLF uses any opportunity to realize its greedy and destructive mission. That is why it declared an invasive war against Ethiopia by attacking the National Defense Force base in the Tigray region.

Its invasion of Afar and Amhara regions is also the other incident terrorist TPLF group made to disintegrate citizens' age's old trust and unity. Accordingly, huge public and private property were looted and pillaged apart from immense loss of human life. So the government has to continue ensuring rule of law against T-PLF belligerence.

Evil acts and atrocities committed by TPLF when it was in power have been well known by all as making and sponsoring conflict is its very nature. Governments' first role is ensuring citizens' peace and security and defending the state

sovereignty from internal and external enemies, he added.

Accordingly, "I have no reservation on this but the government has to take operations across the country in a very systematic and studied way because the step will make people remain united and free from anti-peace groups."

The studied operation has to exhibit ironic direction whether it is peaceful or military. For this to happen, studying the very possible alternatives and making the people part of the law enforcement operation is key.

National elders, celebrities, scholars, and religious fathers, as well as the general people, should take part in the process of finding peaceful solutions instead of taking campaigns like military measures without study. This is crucial to resolve the dispute and get the root causes of conflicts dried, he added.

He said, "The law enforcement operation and peace finding should go in a participatory manner with all and each actor relevant and linked to the crisis to end conflict and bring lasting solutions to peace and stability problems."

"Tigray is part of Ethiopia and the people are Ethiopians. Hence, the government has to serve and lead these people like other Ethiopians and rescuing them from the oppressive hands of terrorist TPLF. Besides, the government has to apply measures aimed at abolishing the group forever via strengthening the already existing internal unity."



Economist points international experience to arrest parallel market

BY MESERET BEHAILU

ADDIS ABABA-Ethiopia should draw important lessons from international experiences to reduce the burden emanating from foreign exchange by bridging the wide gap between bank currency and parallel market exchange, a well-acclaimed expert in the field said.

An economist in the field, Costentinos Berhutesfa (PhD) told *The Ethiopian Press Agency* that Ethiopia should take serious measures on filling the wide gap of foreign currency between the bank and the black market through taking lessons from experienced countries.

According to the economist, South Sudan exploited various foreign currency systems to bridge the shortage of dollars via balancing the demand and supply scheme two decades ago.

"For example, Sudan National Bank has

been collecting billions of dollars from diaspora citizens with a view to keep the currency rate. Hence, Ethiopia should look to some Latin America countries because they are effective through a stretching system of foreign currency exchange in addition to the regular dollar exchange rate."

Costentinos further noted that the value of one dollar is equivalent to 51.55birr in the bank while over 78 birr in the parallel market. It indicates that dollar currency in the bank and in the parallel market is very wide and it has imposed a serious impact on the development projects of the country. Lack of adequate dollars in the bank is the main serious factor to widen the currency gap in Ethiopia.

Ethiopia needs to implement a serious economic law system and take prompt corrective action to reduce the burden of the foreign currency shortage so as to stabilize the market, the economist recommended.

News

Ethiopia, Nigeria to Hold Joint Commission Meeting on Trade, Economy, Political Development

ADDIS ABABA (ENA)- Ethiopia and Nigeria have concluded arrangements to hold a Joint Ministerial Commission meeting in Addis Ababa on June to discuss various areas of bilateral relationship and exchange perspectives on a range of international issues of mutual interest, according to Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia.

Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari hosted Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed to a State Visit and a presidential lunch attended by the First Lady of Nigeria, Aisha Buhari and Ethiopian First Lady Zinash Tayachew, in State House, Abuja on Wednesday.

A major outcome of the visit is the desire of both countries to take concrete steps to expand bilateral relations in key areas such as the economy, trade, science and technology, solid minerals, among others.

Nigeria's Ambassador to Ethiopia, Victor Adeleke spoke to the media, explaining the essence of the visit and the burgeoning state of relations between both countries.

Ambassador Adeleke said that Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has always taken Nigeria as one of the pillars in Africa and a strong country in stabilizing democracy in Africa.

"In the spirit of African brotherhood and seeking African solutions to African problems, President Buhari and the Prime Minister consult from time to time and this visit is an icing on the cake," the ambassador added.

Ambassador Adeleke stated that "President Buhari has been in Addis Ababa a couple of times so the Prime Minister thought it is wise to visit Nigeria and confer with President Buhari enroute to Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, for the humanitarian conference and the African Union Extraordinary Summit on Terrorism and Unconstitutional Changes of Government."

Noting that the state of relations between Ethiopia and Nigeria is very warm, the ambassador pointed out that the two countries are working together and they will soon be convening the Joint Ministerial Commission to discuss various areas of relationship that will be beneficial to both countries.

"Nigerian officials are heading to Addis Ababa in June to discuss various areas of relationship including political, economic, science and technology, mines and industry," the ambassador pointed out.

"We have been engaging and we will continue to engage," he said adding that "in the private sector, Dangote has a big cement factory in Ethiopia and Ethiopia has an expanding economy in Africa. So this is a very important and useful visit that will help officials from both countries to continue to network."

Commission to incorporate human rights issues in curriculum

BY TAMERU REGASA

ADDIS ABABA- The Ethiopian Human Right Commission said it has been carrying out activities to incorporate human rights issues into the education curriculum with a view nurturing a democratic and tolerant generation.

Having a stay with *The Ethiopian Herald*, Education Department Coordinator Mekdes Tadale (PhD) said that the plan to incorporate the issue of human rights into the education system is very helpful to protect human rights through filling public awareness gaps towards the issue.

As to her, the plan is very helpful to teach students about human dignity and equality which is the base to respect human rights. The commission participated in the



evaluation of the education curriculum and its effectiveness to create a generation that respects human rights last year.

The coordinator further noted that the commission has agreed with stakeholders to provide education related to the issues at elementary and high school level through including it in Civic and Ethical Education

courses. "In line with the new curriculum student text books have been published by the Ministry of Education."

The ongoing national reform has enabled the commission to execute various activities that will lay the human rights issues in a solid base, Mekdes remarked.

UN lauds gov'ts humanitarian...

Nations' Horn of Africa Special Envoy said.

The Minister of Peace Benalf Andualem and the UN Special Envoy Hana Tetek discussed the issue yesterday.

The parties exchanged views on various issues including the efforts of the Ethiopian government towards building sustainable peace and stability, providing sustained humanitarian support to the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), and ways of building peace in the region.

The special envoy reaffirmed UN's unreserved support and joint works with the Ethiopian government towards rehabilitating those IDPs in other states. The



UN will stand by the side of the Ethiopian government to realize the on-going national

consensus and support the efforts of sustainable peace building.

West's ill-management prolongs northern...

been told, he indicated.

"I spoke to a monk welded by monastery and told me experiences of monks in that monastery which was invaded eight months ago and a number of monks were killed and being tortured, many others were assaulted. Travelling to Afar, I was quite shocked to discover that the true story of what has happened in Afar is much worse than we had understood."

Before their withdrawal from Afar region of Abala the T-TPLF remnants have disrupted all of the people and caused close to one million displacements. The information that we have had about the war is very poor and news from social media are wrong, which is among the core problems indeed, he stated.

We have clear video evidence that the T-TPLF is actively recruiting child soldiers and the elderly again to conduct another invasion. None of this is being reported in international media partly because of the Ukraine war and IC doesn't seem to be willing to acknowledge that the T-TPLF is the cause of the war and as they have perpetuated the war.

It is completely clear that another catastrophic war will go ahead unless the IC, particularly the U.S. changes its position and seeks to try and pursue the path of peace; and the only way they can do so is to put pressure on the T-TPLF. The terror enterprise clearly thinks that they can act with impunity and continue to enjoy the support of the UN in Europe and America though the situation is desperately wrong.

Also, Journalist and Producer at Pacifica Radio Network Ann Garrison said that immense suffering in Amhara and Afar regions has occurred because of T-TPLF. Amnesty international and human rights watch have also typically defended the state department position.

Following the conflict, the U.S. government started to lining up behind the terror syndicate as it was constantly being told on the media that ethnic Tigrayans are the victims.

She said, "I feel that it is my responsibility to come and observe what's really going on and do my best to inform the American public and also the global community. I spoke to drivers of the International Committee for Red Cross convoys, refugees and others."

Premier emphasizes...

The center, which complies with international standards in the provision of dialysis service, has the capacity of serving 90 patients per day at full capacity and is particularly beneficial to sections of society with low to no income.

Addis Ababa Mayor Adanech Abiebie said

on the occasion that the City Administration has carried out various activities to ensure adequate and modern healthcare delivery to the public and the dialysis center is part of the wider endeavor. Also, consolidated activities have been executed to make Addis Ababa a preferred medical tourism

destination.

The center is a public-private partnership between Menelik II Referral Hospital, under the auspices of the Addis Ababa Health Bureau and the privately-owned YeAb Medical Center, it was learned.

Opinion

ET TU, Karen Bass stab Ethiopia in the back!

BY ALMARIAM

PART ONE

In Shakespeare's play "Julius Caesar," Brutus hesitatingly joins an assassination plot hatched by conniving Roman senators afraid to lose their power if Caesar declared himself Emperor and became dictator of the Roman republic.

Brutus was a dear, trusted and loyal friend of Caesar, but he was hoodwinked and bamboozled by Caesar's senatorial enemies who convinced him that Caesar must die to preserve the republic.

Once the conspirators lured Caesar into the senate, they gang stabbed him to death. In his death throes, Caesar looks at Brutus and in his last breath says, "ET TU, Brute?" ("You too Brutus?").

Karen Bass Brutus was also a good, loyal and trusted friend of Ethiopia. She was a loyal representative of her Ethiopian American constituents in the California State Assembly and in Congress.

Bass has traveled to Ethiopia several times. In 2018 Bass visited Ethiopia and discussed human rights violations with torture victims of the terrorist TPLF.

Bass issued a Proclamation and put an entry in the Congressional Record recognizing Ethiopian Prime Minister Dr. Abiy Ahmed when he visited Los Angeles on July 29, 2018.

Bass visited Ethiopia in September 2020, less than 2 months before the TPLF terrorists launched a sneak attack on the Ethiopian Northern Command.

Ethiopian Americans in Los Angeles voted and raised funds for Bass for well over a decade.

I must confess I am personally indebted to her. On February 22, 2007, Bass sponsored Assembly Joint Resolution 12, a resolution I drafted. Bass Brutus was a good friend of

Ethiopia and Ethiopians.

Unfortunately, like Shakespeare's Brutus, Bass was also had, hoodwinked and bamboozled by modern day US Senators and House Representatives to stab Ethiopia in the back.

On June 22, 2021, Bass, Chair of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa, issued a press release casting unfounded doubt on the Ethiopian election:

I am deeply concerned about the provisions of the national elections in several regions of Ethiopia... Elections were not held in many regions of the country and several political parties were not allowed to participate. Voter registration was low and there was a limited number of election observers.

It was all a BIG Lie. The truth is the party of PM Abiy Ahmed won by a landslide in an election certified by the African Union as peaceful, free, fair and credible.

Elections were not held in a few areas because of terrorist war unleashed by the TPLF. The political parties that chose not to participate did so, on their own without any government pressure.

On August 10, 2021, Bass issued a press release stating, "I am deeply concerned by the recent calls from the Government of Ethiopia to expand the size of its armed forces... This expansion has resulted in human rights violations and increased suffering..."

While Bass mentions the terrorist TPLF once, to make it look balanced, the statement in its entirety is a deceptive and ignorant indictment of the Ethiopian government for alleged human rights violations, population displacement and suffering.

Bass completely omitted reference to the fact that the entire humanitarian tragedy in Northern Ethiopia was caused solely by the terrorist TPLF.

On May 28, 2021, Bass introduced H.Res.

445 calling on the Government of Ethiopia and the Government of the State of Eritrea to remove all Eritrean troops from Ethiopia" and commanding "all belligerents in the conflict", including "the Ethiopian National Defense Forces to cease hostilities" and conduct "independent investigations of credible atrocity allegations."

Bass indulged in the false equivalency that the Ethiopian government and the terrorist TPLF were on par with each other.

Bass had the audacity and arrogance to trample on Ethiopia's sovereignty and tell the government of 115 million people what to do by legislation sitting in her posh office in the US Congress. She is either willfully ignorant or a patsy of terrorist TPLF lobbyists.

On November 13, 2021, Bass under considerable pressure from her constituents and Ethiopian American voters took a stand and condemned those who "threatened to oust Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed – through political negotiation or military force if necessary – and install a transitional government" made by the alliance of the Tigrayan People's Liberation Front with the Oromo Liberation Army."

On December 21, 2021, under intense pressure from her Ethiopian American constituents, Bass co-wrote a letter to Biden asking him to "reconsider his decision to suspend Ethiopia's eligibility on such an abrupt timeline and allow time for all parties in Ethiopia to take the necessary steps to end the conflict, deploy humanitarian aid to those who need it, and continue negotiations to garner peace."

Writing an electronically-signed letter is no big deal as a staffer could prepare and send it without Bass even seeing it. Of course, Bass never received a response nor did she follow up to find out. It was just window dressing to placate the constituents.

When Representative Tom (Malicious) Malinowski introduced HR 6600 (Imposing Crippling Sanctions on Ethiopia Act, officially labeled as "Ethiopia Stabilization, Peace, and Democracy Act") and conscripted 15 co-sponsors, Bass's name was conspicuously absent.

How could such an impactful legislation on the oldest and one of the most important African countries be introduced without Bass' knowledge and approval as the chairwoman of the Africa Subcommittee?

While Bass did not want her constituents to detect her fingerprints on the highly controversial HR 6600, she had clearly signaled a threat in November 2021 that "Congress will continue to work with this administration and ensure all appropriate measures are brought to bear for a peaceful and immediate end to this crisis."

HR 6600 was introduced on February 4, 2022, two months after Bass and friends issued their statement, and made good on their threat of appropriate congressional measure, namely crippling sanctions.

Suffice it to say, as Chairwoman of the Africa Subcommittee, head of the Black Congressional Caucus and as Biden's short-listed potential vice-presidential mate, Bass had the clout and could have done a lot to bring Ethiopia and the U.S. closer and promote peace in Ethiopia.

Minimally, Bass could have applied pressure to delay Ethiopia's removal from the AGOA regime. But Bass chose to side with the terrorist TPLF and took commands from Susan Rice, the Princess of Darkness!

Editor's Note: The views entertained in this article do not necessarily reflect the stance of The Ethiopian Herald

The inception of fascism, ...

discipleship to a revolutionary democracy while in reality they were working on the group to promote Tigrian nationalism by using article 39 of the FDRE constitution in the most villainous manner. They lied to the people of Ethiopia about democracy and human rights arrested and castrated thousands of citizens in the various mini concentration camps and dungeons they prepared to eliminate their opponents of any person with a different view point they would not accept. State terrorism was at work over the last 27 years of terrorist TPLF dominance.

The western powers think that they can continue to pursue their interest in the Horn of Africa by providing multiple sets of supports terrorist TPLF is interested in these powers as long as they flow in line with the terrorist interests. In the long run, the terrorist group would not be able to fulfill their interests because it will have no backing from the people of Tigray and the third war for which they are preparing may not even spare them from a political collapse let alone creating Greater Tigray which will never materialize.

One of the main attributes of fascism is creating a false image which does not tally with the reality on the ground. In Tigray, there is no accountable regional government and the people in the region are "the wretched" of the earth described decades ago by Franz Fanon. There is no government let alone good governance.

Fascist ideology applied false information and character assassination and defamation as a tool for promoting war in Europe. In preparation for its third round of war on Ethiopia and Eritrea, terrorist TPLF is being assisted by prominent media outlets like the Economist and Time Magazine. These media outlets have already started launching defamation campaigns on the leaders of Ethiopia and Eritrea as part of their propaganda support for terrorist TPLF war.

One of the reasons why terrorist TPLF is a nascent fascist organization is its belief in war as the only solution to enforce its ideology. One of the basic characteristics of fascist ideology is totalitarianism. In this context terrorist TPLF is attempting to run a totalitarian state in which no idea or opinion

from any areas in Tigray is tolerated. In fact, thousands of women and young persons are imprisoned for either not allowing their children to be conscripted for the military or those who refuse to join military training.

The other manifestation of Nazi type strategy that terrorist TPLF has implemented over the last 27 years of its rule is deliberate instigation of ethnic conflicts for the purpose of organizing a total civil war in the country to facilitate the balkanization of the entire country and formation of Greater Tigray. Today however, the terrorist organization has turned Tigray into the earthly purgatory in which millions of citizens are suffering.

Terrorist TPLF is working from dawn to dusk to create a deliberate conflict between Amhara region and Eritrea with propaganda which none of the peoples in Eritrea and Amhara region would believe.

Terrorist TPLF is trying to provoke the NDFE into a war that it has intended to use as a stage play for its futile accusation of genocide. The truth is the genocide conducted by terrorist TPLF in Amhara

and Afar regions is only comparable to the Rwanda Genocide. Because terrorist TPLF is aware of the fact that it can never win a war on Ethiopia, it could use unemployed lumpen and paid assassins to disrupt the peaceful life of the people of Ethiopia.

Terrorist TPLF has boarded a sinking ship and can do anything to save the lives of the group even if it takes the lives of millions of the Tigrian population. The terrorist TPLF is engaged in a draconian policy of engaging with the west to sell off the Horn of Africa in cooperation with Sudan and Egypt to the US hegemony in repayment for food aid for its rag tag army.

The whole western powers are hoping that terrorist TPLF will over run Ethiopia during the rainy season and install itself in Addis Ababa. There is no harm in dreaming together with terrorist TPLF and who will ever advocate for the poverty stricken people of Tigray.

Reasonable and dignified life has stopped in Tigray and the future has a lot to reveal.

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The Ethiopian Herald

Editorial

Evil in the mask of human rights

By its very nature human rights are universal or global issues. Every human being, society or international organizations up to the United Nations has responsibility for human rights' protection.

Countries of the world that are signatories of the UN declaration of human rights have equal responsibility in safeguarding human rights of people both throughout the world as well as in the respective nations.

As a shared responsibility, it is good if concerned international organizations and countries view each other's performance in the protection of human rights. This helps to learn from each other as well as put in place, transparency and accountability to the relevant international laws.

However any attempt to manipulate countries under the guise of human rights is unacceptable.

For decades Ethiopia has been active participant in global efforts of protecting human rights. For instance, it has stood in the forefront to deploy peacekeeping troops to troubled regions for several decades. It has also discharged its responsibilities capably in the protection of human rights of its people.

On top of that, it has been working closely with global institutions of human rights as well as establishing committed local human rights institutions. Accordingly, the government has been working with due commitment to enable the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission to carry out all the necessary jobs to safeguard the safety of the peoples.

In addition to executing its regular activities the Commission also works in collaboration with relevant international human rights organizations to conduct investigations in areas where alleged

human rights violations are committed.

Accordingly it has enabled the formation of Joint Investigation Teams, Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC)/Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), to investigate human rights violations following the conflict in northern Ethiopia. The commission has also conducted similar studies and investigations in areas where conflicts and unrests have taken place.

The government has also been working per the recommendation of the JIT regardless of some reservations on methodologies for investigation or some arguable issues.

What more do other international organizations and some countries want from the government or the country then? Some groups that work in the mask of human rights are trying to interfere in the domestic affairs of Ethiopia. What makes their attempt worst is that they are using the pretext of human rights to achieve their destructive ends.

The experience so far shows that those who intervene in the sovereign and internal affairs of other countries with the pretext of human rights protection have caused state collapse in many regions of the world.

Therefore, it is much better to leave intact the sovereign rights of countries and their governments as well as to keep them accountable only as per the provisions of the international conventions which all the countries of the world are signatory. Any other attempt to manipulate the human rights cause as a pretext to execute a hidden agenda would only end up devastating the peaceful situation in a country and worsening the human rights of people there.

Opinion

The inception of fascism, T-TPLF day dream

BY SOLOMON DIBABA

Although the HPR has labeled TPLF as terrorist organization, the nature of the original establishment of this group and its ideological mix is far beyond terrorism. Terrorist TPLF, a quasi-fascist clique is not only a terrorist group but is also a fascist group formed on the back of our citizens in Tigray. Why and how can one call terrorist TPLF fascist organization? Some say it is simply an organization that is known for its terrorist and fascistic actions and is not necessarily a fascist organization. However, the real profile of this group shows that it is a home grown fascist clique that has existed on deceptive lies luring the people of Tigray into a wrong self-perception and identity crisis.

Roger Griffin describes fascism as "a genus of political ideology whose mythic core in its various permutations is a pangenetic form of populist ultra-nationalism." Griffin describes the ideology as having three core components: "(i) the rebirth myth; (ii) populist ultra-nationalism, and (iii) the myth of decadence."

To have a better understanding of the real essence of terrorist TPLF, it is imperative to analyze the profile of this terrorist and fascist organization from the above mentioned three perspectives.

The rebirth myth in TPLF's terrorist ideology emanates from what it called the

struggle of *kedamaye woyane* and terrorist TPLF considers itself as the protagonist of the feudal insurrectionists who were at loggerheads with the former imperial regime of Emperor Haile Selassie. The concept of Greater Tigray which is described in detail in *Tigray Manifesto* (1975) and the TPLF Strategy (2020) also asserts how this rebirth could take place by destroying Ethiopian statehood by first destroying the ENDF.

The objective of the rebirth theory and its implementation follows a similar strategy charted out by Hitler in his *Gros Deutsche Ober Alle* political strategy formulated by Adolf Hitler (*Mein Kampf* 1925). A couple of days back, in his usual weird presser, Dr. Debretsion Gebremichael appealed to the people of Eritrea reaffirming his desire to form 'Greater Tigray' again by destroying Eritrea and Ethiopia, in a similar plan prepared by Hitler to destroy and conquer Europe in what it called a *Blitzkrieg* speed. Terrorist TPLF, Ethiopia's fascist and fake liberation front is trying to follow at the footsteps of Benito Mussolini in the 21st century.

The populist ultra-nationalist stance of this homegrown fascist and terrorist organization is clearly indicated in the two documents mention earlier. Terrorist TPLF tries to broadcast propaganda of exclusiveness and bigotry considering the *Tigraway* as a special people just like

Hitler who considered the Germans as a special Aryans race as part of his anti-Semitic campaign of total annihilation of the Jews. In its populist and militaristic fascist propaganda, terrorist TPLF brags of a military superiority even when it cause the death of 370,000 youth in Tigray for no tangible reason. The ultra-nationalist profile of this terrorist organization is clearly indicated in its propaganda of hatred in considering the people of Eritrea, Amhara and Afar as "enemies".

The prevalence of decadence or the decline of morality is typical of any fascist group and terrorist TPLF shares these savage acts it has conducted in Amhara and Afar regions over the last 18 months. Daylight pillage of farmer's crops and property, indiscriminate killings, rape, vandalizing religious institutions and killing their leaders all explain why TPLF is not only a terrorist group but also a fascist group.

Terrorist TPLF has destroyed the age old values of respect, dignity and strong national feeling that the people of Tigray have cherished for thousands of years. The terrorist and fascist group has enslaved, humiliated and terrorized the people of Tigray by its fascist ideology of war mongering and isolationist policy in the name of self-determination.

Terrorist TPLF uses false propaganda and distorted facts and gives itself the liberty

to lying to the world Dr. Joseph Goebbels, Minister of Propagandas of Fascist Germany enumerated five main principles of Nazi Party propaganda which included voiding abstract ideas - appeal to the emotions, constantly repeating just a few ideas, using stereotyped phrases, giving only one side of the picture, continuously criticizing opponent and picking out a special "enemy" for special vilification.

It is now obvious that terrorist TPLF is using the same principles in its propaganda war on the people and Government of Ethiopia and Eritrea. For example, Amhara, Afar and Eritrea have already been identified by the terrorist group as "enemies."

Goebbels defined propaganda as "the art of making people believe what they do not actually believe under normal circumstances." One could easily note that terrorist TPLF is employing fascist style propaganda principles in its expansionist war on the people and government of Ethiopia.

The homegrown fascists claimed their

See The inception ... page 4

Editor's Note: The views entertained in this article do not necessarily reflect the stance of The Ethiopian Herald

Business & Economy



"About Ethiopia" Photo exhibition and panel discussion took place in Dire Dawa

Private sector's unceasing role in the nation's economic maneuver

BY HIZKEL HAILU

Despite both spider and lizard are creatures of different types and feed on other small insects, the earlier can get its food easily through its webs, while the later spends more time to catch the prey once a day. The strategy the first predator applies is a good example for building a system and working in harmony is of paramount importance to become successful in the economic activity. Taking this fact as a spring board, if the private sector and the government work together for the realization of prosperous Ethiopia through a well-developed system and integrity, it will be possible to reap the fruit sooner than later.

Following the government's unwavering ambition to work with the private sector, the participation as well as contribution of the local and foreign investors in Ethiopia's economic maneuver is being increased from time to time. On the panel discussion that was arranged by Ethiopian Press Agency (EPA) last week in Dire Dawa, MIDROC Investment Group Head, Jamal Ahmed underscored that the current investors' contribution to Ethiopia's economic growth has been accelerated despite some challenges in the sector.

While presenting a paper on the contribution and challenges of the private sector in the manufacturing industry on the session "About Ethiopia" photo exhibition and panel discussion that EPA has organized in Dire Dawa, he said that the government should increase its support to local investors.

Despite the challenges that the investors are facing in the sector, local investors are playing irreplaceable role for the nation's economic growth, Jemal described. "If the government can come up with much attention and support for the local investors, we will be on the right track to exploit the nation's resource potential for good via exerting our utmost effort viewing its economic growth," he noted.

Mentioning that the role of local investors is crucial for the sustainable development of a country, he suggested that priority should be given to local investors although foreign investors are also key components for the prevalence of better competition and

experience sharing.

Highlighting the engagement of the private sector's irreplaceable role in the socio-economic development of the nation, Jemal called for the equal treatment of local manufacturers with foreign businesses. "Forex shortage, malpractice, poor working culture and insufficient implementation of policies and strategies remain the major setbacks of the manufacturing industry and seek viable solutions," he remarked.

According to him, the manufacturing industry is the main engine for sustainable development; so that the problems of the investors need to be identified and solved in order to utilize the potential of the sector.

He further stated that, the shortage of foreign exchange and its unfair utilization, weak working culture and inability to proper implementation of policies and guidelines to encourage the sector are the main problems of investors in the sector that needs to be addressed swiftly.

"We will not solve all our problems at once," Jamal said, adding that the government should work closely with the investors to solve the problems. He further accentuated that they need to have a solid system which can easily integrate the private sector with the government for a magnetic success in the nation's economy.

The movement called 'Let Ethiopia Produce' aiming at building the manufacturing sector's capacity is a good will that enables the country to attract the foreign direct investment, and MIDROC is always ready to work with the government and other institutions to make a difference at national level. "Some shortcomings and gaps hindering the realization of private sector's operation not to act as expected are witnessed though the government has been striving to encourage the investors."

Responding to the private sector's inquiries, Finance Minister, Ahimed Shide who conducted the panel discussion as a chair person said that the only way to solve the country's foreign exchange deficit is to increase local production through building strong system in the country. As a result, the Minister pledged the panelists and all investors, on behalf of the government, to

work in unison with the private sector.

The Minister further said that, the problem of foreign exchange supply raised by the investors can only be solved in a sustainable way if local production can be increased. To this end, the government is working prioritizing foreign exchange supply. However, as to Ahimed, it has been allowed that local investors have to exercise their rights of using the currency they have generated.

Moreover, enhancing local products and productivity is the instrument to ease the pressing forex in the manufacturing industry. Given the sector's economic potential, the manufacturing industry has been given utmost priority within the nation's homegrown economic policy, he said.

Emphasizing the private sector's pivotal role for the growth of the manufacturing sector, Ahimed reiterated the government's commitment to address the bottlenecks. It was stated that, the expansion of infrastructural services, ensuring the rule of law, improving foreign currency allocation and curbing maladministration are measures that the government has been executing to boost the performance of the manufacturing sector.

As the manufacturing industry is one of the most important sectors in the local economy and the engine of the country's development, the government is working hard to support this sector. Noting that the sector is growing mainly with the participation of the private investor, he said that the government is expected to expand infrastructure, ensure the rule of law, increase foreign exchange supply and ease bureaucracy in the provision of public services.

"Both domestic and foreign investors have significant role for the national economic growth. Cognizant of the fact Ethiopia's financial and technological capabilities are still limited; we need also to work with foreign investors. Therefore, we will further continue to support both," he said.

Sharing other developed countries' experience, Ahimed Shide further underscored that their first and foremost action to provide solution to the foreign exchange deficit is increasing production.

As to him, lack of execution capacity on the part of the investors coupled with lack of commitment of the leadership to implement policies has prevented the sector from producing as much as expected.

Dire Dawa City Administration Mayor, Kedir Juhar on his part said that, his administration is fully committed to provide the necessary support for both local and foreign investors who want to be involved in the city's untapped investment opportunities.

Speaking at the photo exhibition and panel discussion session arranged by the Ethiopian Press Agency and hosted by Dire Dawa City Administration recently, the Mayor stated that, the city has untapped investment opportunities especially, in agriculture, agro-processing, hospitality and manufacturing sectors among many others. The City Administration has been closely working with relevant stakeholders to create conducive business climate.

Dire Dawa is situated in a strategic location; 300 km away from the Port of Djibouti that could allow businesses to import and export goods easily and amicably. The railway that passes through the city is another contributing factor to boost investment that any investor can reach the Djibouti Port only within five to seven hours journey, the Mayor elaborated.

"Not only natural resources, but we do have skilled and disciplined labor force that can operate heavy industries efficiently," he added. It was also indicated that the expansion of infrastructure in Dire Dawa has greatly contributed to the opening of new hotels, hospitals, bottled water manufacturing facilities and other firms in the manufacturing sector.

Preparations to support incoming investors have been completed though further initiatives are being explored. In this case, the City Administration has been working steadily to pull new investment with respect to the potential resources. In addition to the major Industrial Park, medium-sized facilities have been constructed by the effort of the City Administration, Kedir noted. In line with this, EPA's photo exhibition and panel discussions will also take place in nine more cities across the nation, it was learnt.

In the Sphere of Diplomacy

Ethiopia's unreciprocated diplomacy over Al-Fashaga

BY YOHANES JEMANEH

When war broke out in northern Ethiopia in November 2020 following the terrorist TPLF's onslaught against the Ethiopian Defense Forces of Northern Command, the Sudanese military occupied the Ethio-Sudan borderland called Al-Fashaga. The war had served as a blessing in disguise for Khartoum's opportunist invasion. The fertile land has been a source of agricultural production for several Ethiopian farmers whose livelihoods have been built on growing sesame, maize, and cotton.

The land has been part of Ethiopia until the Sudanese government occupied it in November 2020 unveiling its diplomatic camouflage and began echoing the sound of claiming possession. Since then, Sudan provoked tensions have escalated between the neighboring states on the border. The Al-Fashaga is located between Sudan's eastern province of Al-Qadarif and the Amhara regional state of Ethiopia.

Though Ethiopia extended an olive branch and tried to resolve the dispute through diplomatic means, the sought-after goal failed to produce meaningful results.

In fact, Sudan's invasion resulted in the displacement of thousands of Ethiopian farmers and the obstruction of livelihoods apart from creating a rift between both countries.

Sudan's invasion has been nothing less than an irresponsible act to Ethiopia's responsible role in Sudan's internal politics. Ethiopia has been a notable peacemaker in the Sudan conflict and transition. Diplomats from Ethiopia have been shuttling from Addis to Khartoum to broker a peace deal between Sudan's conflicting factions. However, the occupation triggered a mistrust and diplomatic row even if the good people of Sudan still recognize longstanding Ethiopia's role in extending a helping hand during their rainy season. From deploying a peacekeeping mission to facilitating diplomatic solutions, Ethiopia indeed has been a reliable partner in Sudan's quest for development and democracy. But dejectedly, Sudan has been digging its heel into its violent approach in the face of international silence.

Even worse, the Sudanese government has been colluding with Ethiopia's internal and external adversaries to destabilize Ethiopia.

Some Sudanese military officials and politicians have been using the border issue as first aid to quell public grievances.

Lately, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) lambasted the deaf ear turned by the international community to the invasion citing it as part of the global pressure on Ethiopia. It is obvious that the borderland that Sudan occupied has been part of Ethiopia for many years and the two countries agreed in the 1960s on the cooperation framework the issue should be entertained, the ministry added.

The agreement has helped the nations to solve some discords but some unresolved issues morphed into the current invasion. But the war in Ethiopia emboldened Sudan to occupy the land. Perplexingly, no country



was able to denounce this invasion, said Deputy Prime Minister and MoFA Minister Demeke Mekonnen.

"A clear invasion has taken place, but Ethiopia's position has been settling the issue through a peaceful means. We do not want to use war as an option. We have been consistently expressing this to the international community including the UN and AU. We still have hopes that these bodies will pressure Sudan to follow Ethiopia's suit," Demeke said.

The border dispute must be solved peacefully as a domino effect not only on the peace and security of the two countries but also on the entire region since both countries share a huge population in the area.

As explained by some geopolitical analysts, Sudan has been exploiting geopolitical shifts in Ethiopia to its own internal strength and makes incursions in the area. And the border dispute, therefore, has become an indicator of the relative strength of one compared to the other, and the nature of their relationship, a report published by the International Crisis Group in June 2021 indicated. That is exactly what Sudan made in November 2020 as it exploited the Tigray conflict to immediately occupy the Al-Fashaga area that it has been craving for years.

Improving internal strength is important for Ethiopia to solve the border dispute through every option. In this regard, addressing local conflict and ensuring rule of law, achieving national consensus on major national issues using the national dialogue as a tool is to secure Ethiopia's national interests in the region and sovereignty. This approach is

also a key measure to settling the dispute with Sudan and other neighboring countries. Building internal strength transforms the country's capacity to positively influence its diplomatic relations with Sudan and the rest of the world. Ensuring local peace and unity consolidates Ethiopia's diplomatic pressure to solve border disputes, Demeke said.

To seek a win-win solution and resolve border issues is one thing, but to invade and displace Ethiopian farmers is another thing if not a sinister act.

Except for the 1902 border agreement, the Ethiopia and Sudan boundaries were never clearly demarcated. The beginnings of the Al-Fashaga dispute go back to the 1902 Anglo-Ethiopian Treaty—a colonial-era document that sought to determine the frontier between Ethiopia and Sudan under British dominion.

The treaty, which was the result of protracted negotiations between Emperor Menelik II and the British government, assigned the territory that is now the border region of Benishangul-Gumuz to Ethiopia and addressed the flow of Blue Nile waters from Ethiopia's Lake Tana. Ethiopian claims to Al-Fashaga extend 40-50km west of a line delineating the border between Sudan and Ethiopia, defined only in general terms by the treaty and loosely demarcated by the British, ICG reported.

Following the 1972 visit by Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie to Sudan as part of his mediation of Sudan's north-south conflict, the two countries sought to resolve the boundary dispute with an exchange of notes that would guide demarcation. However, the 1974 revolution in Ethiopia

disrupted this effort.

In 2007, the late Prime Minister Meles Zenawi and former President Omar Al-Bashir agreed on a cooperation framework in which Ethiopian and Sudanese citizens could both cultivate the land, with the two sides agreeing to undertake formal demarcation at an unspecified later date.

Sudan's incursion of the borderline in 2020 is a stark departure from the previous path defined by strong comradely and close ties.

Sudan's Al-Fashaga claim and its call for demarcation of the occupied area is open aggression against Ethiopia's rights. Ethiopia expects Sudan to withdraw from the area it has occupied. The international community needs to denounce the invasion of Sudan and put pressure to evacuate the land it occupied from Ethiopia thereby peaceful negotiation would be started.

On the way forward considering ICG's suggestion is worthwhile. ICG recommends the countries find a lasting solution to the border dispute by demarcating the boundary through the Joint Border Committee of the two neighboring nations. The African Union Border Programme could help in this regard through facilitating support.

Ethiopia and Sudan have strong historic and cultural relations supporting each other in trying times. The two neighboring peoples have developed a culture of tolerance and coexistence. They will continue this amicable relationship if the Sudanese government tends to smooth its stubbornness in retaining Al-Fashaga through military power and prioritize diplomatic means.

Law & Politics

National dialogue's undeniable role in realizing lasting peace

BY ADDISALEM MULAT

Successful national dialogues play a paramount role in conferring mechanisms and settling differences and conflicts that can back countries into a corner, and put lives at risk. Apart from setting up trust, peace, and mutual understanding, national dialogues also serve as a springboard to building a democratic system.

Credible dialogues are an effective instrument for the settlement of disputes, political developments, and expanding debate on the subject of the country's path beyond the elite bargain. An inclusive national dialogue also brings about trust, confidence, and lasting solutions among the public on the grounds that strategies that are put in place have the power of fixing socioeconomic and political conundrums.

Past experiences have shown that nations that had been marred by conflicts managed to get to the bottom of their problems in an atmosphere of calm through national dialogues.

Albeit conflicts among people happen in various shapes and forms due to internal and external factors, national dialogues help realize peace and tranquility.

National dialogues offer the potential for meaningful conversation about the fundamental drivers of skirmish and ways to comprehensively tackle disputes no matter what the cost may be. To this point, the National dialogue processes have taken place in a vast number of nations going through political reforms and have impacted the end products of these shifts.

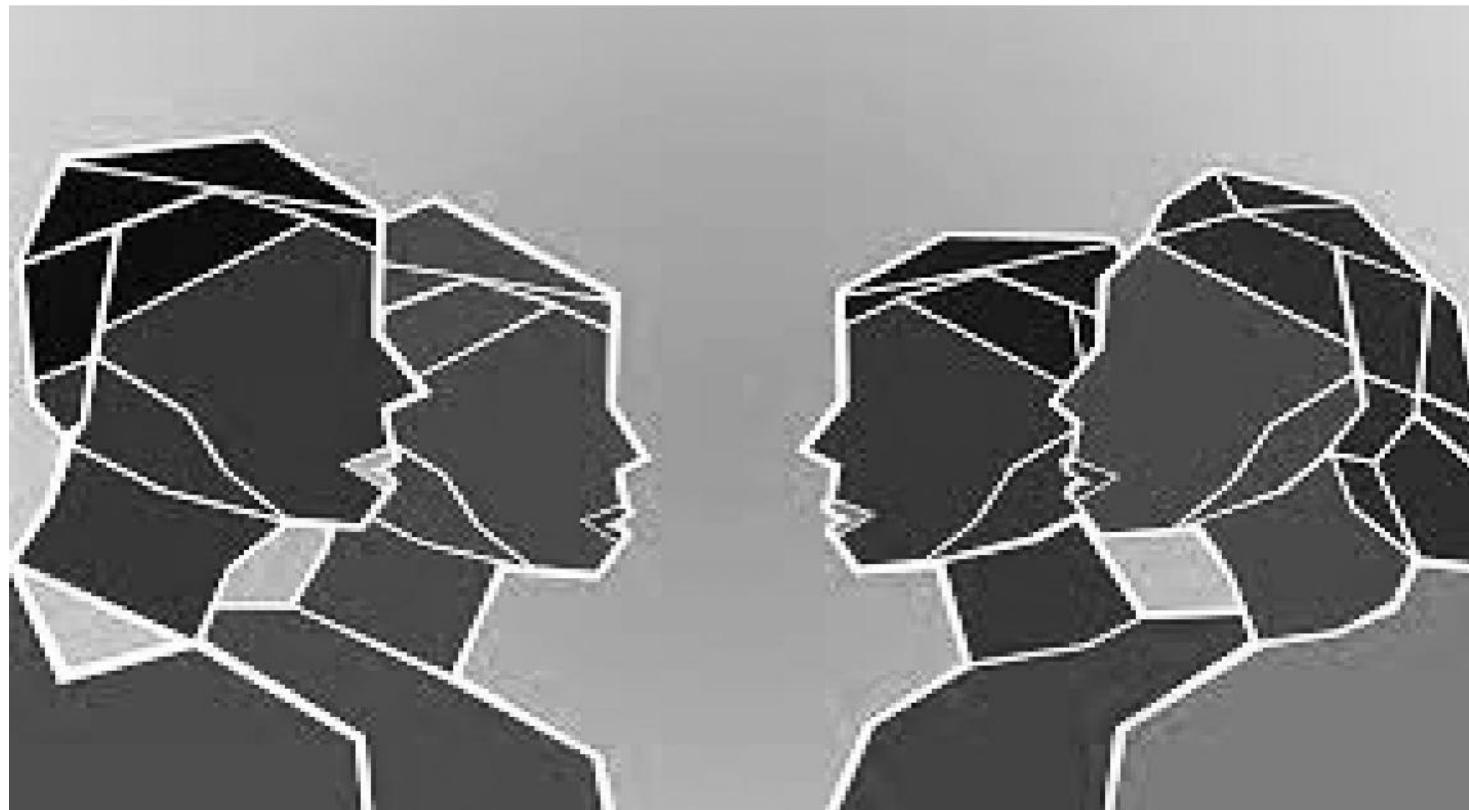
A fruitful national dialogue embraces a diverse range of stakeholders for intentional gain. To take full advantage of the dialogue's potential to tackle the actual drivers of struggle; all significant minorities should be requested to take part in the dialogue.

Currently, Ethiopia is bracing for an inclusive national dialogue that is expected to address major differences among the people.

It is worth mentioning that the various Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples of Ethiopia possess more than a few indigenous conflict resolution mechanisms that help them effectively resolve their problems. It is no secret that Ethiopians for centuries have been making use of several effective strategies that help them resolve differences and get back on the right track.

National dialogues have taken place in a number of countries going through political transitions and have influenced the outcomes of these transitions. Several West African countries held national conferences in the early 1990s as they moved from authoritarian to democratic governments (Benin, Togo, Congo Brazzaville, Niger, Mali, and Zaire, among others).

However, similar world lessons indicated that if national dialogues are not supported



with proper tools, they risk triggering further chaos and instability. That is perhaps why many experts argue national dialogues should be inclusive, transparent and credible.

In a previous interview with *The Ethiopian Herald* Anteneh Tsegaye (PhD), Assistant Professor of Intercultural Communication at Addis Ababa University said that in principle, national dialogue involves the public at all structural levels, formal or informal, and brings significant actors to the table, going beyond the elites, to deal with issues of discontents and misunderstanding in the course of the nation-building process. In its real sense, for example, civil society leaders, and even external actors, can initiate informal dialogues between key actors, even if they have lesser mandates than one initiated by the state. These informal dialogues can entail trust-building meetings, negotiations, and consultations that lay the groundwork for formal national dialogue, he noted.

He stressed that in practice, however, it is often attempted after exclusive elite-based negotiation formats which have failed or are considered inadequate to prevent further instability as lessons learned from the failure of countries in the current conflict zones.

Ethiopia needs a highly inclusive and bottom-up approach to a national dialogue. Engaging the public and civil society should enforce the Ethiopian national dialogue as the country owns indigenous approaches to dealing with conflicts and reconciliation processes. As history informs, the elites of Ethiopia have been at the center of political fragmentation and agenda-setting for more than a century, he added.

The planned national dialogue has been increasing hope among Ethiopians that lasting peace and string Ethiopia is possible through genuine and transparent national dialogue.

Commenting on the issue, a renowned

politician Lencho Letta said that the proposed national dialogue could be a tool to reach mutual understanding, and create trust and peace between the public.

Approached by *The Ethiopian Press Agency* (EPA) Lencho said that National Dialogue is an enabling tool to build a democratic system to ensure peace via raising public trust and mutual understanding between the peoples.

"It will realize peace between the people and help to build a democratic system because it will play a significant role to create trust and mutual understanding between the people"

The process of the national dialogue will have a significant role in ensuring peace via strengthening trust and mutual understanding between peoples. He said adding in areas where conflict happened, the national dialogue will help bring peace.

As to Lenchos' explanation, the national dialogue will create fertile ground to build a political system that realizes peace, mutual understanding, and trust between the peoples.

Identifying the cause of conflict, proceeding via ensuring peace, and providing a relevant solution for conflict-affected areas are necessary things he recommended adding most of the political disagreement created on basic national matters will be resolved in the national dialogue.

The dialogue will help to discover what kind of people the country has and what kind of democratic system is reliable to all of the Ethiopians unless it is challenging to build democratic systems that realize peace in the country. He also indicated that in the conflict-affected areas, it is necessary to build mutual trust and understanding besides ensuring peace across the country.

It is vital to reach a mutual understanding of the national dialogue, he said, adding identifying the cause of conflict through study and ensuring rule of law is expected

from the government. Providing innovative ideas that suit the current circumstance of the country is expected from scholars' side, he added.

With the commission set up and the proclamation endorsed, the National Dialogue Commission is now devising mechanisms to help all Ethiopians participate in discussions thereby exploring different views from every citizen.

Speaking to local media, Commission Chairperson Prof. Mesfin Araya stated that the commission will use a bottom-up approach for gathering all relevant discussion points and making the process inclusive. Besides, there won't be any discussion points to be left and the board won't interfere in the process of identifying the points. It would rather facilitate the process in a way everyone will have a part.

"If conditions are convenient, the commission will open branch offices in different states of the country. It has prepared a timetable and will soon present its strategic plan before stakeholders and collect relevant inputs along this line. The national dialogue is not limited to elites and political actors and every Ethiopian should make active participation in the process."

The discussion agenda will be collected in person by briefing people about the commission. People can also register ideas for deliberation through channels such as telephone, email, and letters. In addition to contributing ideas for discussion, citizens can also designate representatives for discussion, the chairperson elaborated.

If Ethiopians at home and abroad work in close collaboration with a view to restoring peace and tranquility considering the former harmony of the country, the envisioned target can be achieved sooner rather than later. Ethiopians are known for living in harmony, peace, unity, and other assets putting their differences aside and solving their problems when they occur.

Society

Enhancing people to people relations through art, culture festivals

BY MENGISTEAB TESHOME

Culture and art have incalculable power in terms of promoting relations among peoples of different social, cultural and religious background; and strengthening people to people relations, apart from their cultural and religious significance and entertaining facets.

What is more, they further strengthen social cohesion among the countries and promote people to people relations.

Needless to say Africa is rich in cultural and religious diversity, with over 3000 ethnic groups and over two hundred languages, histories among others which are distinctive to that specific group. However, these values are not utilized well in terms of promoting people to people ties, establishing networks, creating a cohesive sense of African people and strengthening relations between and among the countries.

In cognizant of this reality, currently Ministry of Culture and Sport, in partnership with Ministry of Foreign Affairs and stakeholders, has finalized preparation to host the East African Culture and Art Festival from June 14-19, 2022 to make sure that the new generations learn more about the region.

Speaking at a recent program organized to deliberate on this same matter with partners

Photo: Ministry of Culture and Sport



and stakeholders, Demeke Mekonnen, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister said that, East Africa culture and art festivals have unsubstantial role in promoting peace, fostering shared cultural values and enhancing people-to-people relations between and among countries of the region.

Ethiopia's foreign policy is rooted in relations with neighboring countries, It gives due attention to diplomatic relations, and regional integration. Such festival, therefore, would strengthen ties between and among the countries in the region and contribute to the success of Ethiopia's foreign policy.

The East African region should not always be associated with conflict, drought and other hardship; Demeke said adding that it is the responsibility of this generation to change the narratives of the region by using its natural resources.

Underscoring that East Africa is a hub for art, the Deputy Prime Minister stressed the need to work on changing the image of the regions by exploiting art and untapped cultural wisdoms.

"In order to change this image, we all are required to make efforts to turn the abundant blessings, arts and other natural resources that we had inherited from our forefathers of the region in to development."

"East African countries are hub of art and culture. We will also make the region known not only for athletics; but also for arts and culture festivals."

Stakeholders will exert their utmost effort to make the festival a success, Demeke added.

Minister of Culture and Sports, Kejela Merdassa on his part said East Africa is a region where the countries have interlinked by common rivers, geography, and biodiversity. It is also a region where peoples who have similar ancestors and

common history, language, religion and cultural values as well as shared heritages are residing in it. However, following the borders created by the European colonizers, the people are compelled to live separately

According to him, festivals will play an important role; as art and culture are crucial for the region's economic development. And the upcoming East African Culture and Art Festival will be a platform that further strengthens the longstanding ties of East African countries, and benefit the people through linking the region economically.

The festival by linking peoples of the region, strengthening cultural diplomacy, enhancing social and economic integration and promoting its image, would benefit Ethiopia too. Thus, the Minister urged, partners and stakeholders to join hands and work together for the success of the festival.

In the six days festival, which will be held in Addis Ababa, various activities, including exhibitions, musical and art performances, book fairs, and films that depict the overall cultures, ways of life, values and customs of the participating nations in the region, will be staged.

It is to be recalled that Ethiopia has proposed for East African Cultural and Art Festival to be hosted in rotation among countries in the sub regions annually.



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Teaching sincerity for better nation: Tolossa Guddina (PhD)

BY DIRRIBA TESHOME

Part II

"We believe that the history of malice, hatred, pressure, contempt, oppression, hurt and racism will end by this generation. It should not go through the same ordeal. Let us work hard to let the winds of concern, connection, peace, acquaintance, openness, respect, admiration and love blow from one end of the earth to the other. Otherwise, the morality of an educated and moral generation is questionable," Tolossa Guddina (PhD), *Ken* Ethiopia Chairperson said in his opening remarks of the annual 'Praise and Admiration Day' on May 20.

To grow your country by first embracing, respecting, appreciating, supporting, nurturing, praising and loving is needed, he advised adding: "Let your school be a focal point for intellectuals, mediators, admirers, mentors, and so on. Today, students who make fun of a crime become unreliable citizens. Therefore, it is a great discretion to stay away from foolish games."

Giving heart, time, support and smile to each other is admiration, he explained supplementing with: "To be thankful is to share the feelings of the other person, to



heal the wounds of another, to repair the brokenness of another, to ease the burden of another, to comfort the other."

Parents want students to be good at thinking, to do good, to speak truth, and to be a cure for the age-old disease of society. Children are the ambassadors of change for peace and development.

"Your vision grows only when you translate it into action. Do not be discouraged by the demands, problems, disadvantages, insecurities, and infirmities of today. In all of these, you need diligence, determination, vision, a healthy mind, a healthy tongue and a healthy attitude," he advised.

A nation will grow as much as its

generation grows. "The future of Ethiopia cannot be achieved without your diligence and contribution. We believe that by working diligently, as mediators, you will be the answer to all that has plagued the country for centuries. But in all of these, give thanks to your parents and teachers, for you are their fruit," he encouraged the generation.

"We entrust you with a sincere welcome, praise and support so that no one of you is left behind to ease the burden of the country. In order to be responsible for your future, you need to be realistic and considerate in your vision of what you want to do in the course of your life. We hope that today you will be a young citizen who is proud, respectful, and focused on your education, holding hands, across regions, religions and cultures," he hoped.

Equally, from an early age, parents have a responsibility to teach children love, respect, sincerity, truth, honor and forgiveness, he noted adding: "It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that our children are not exposed to the effects of evil, contempt, hatred, insults, anger, lies, racism. Children grow up with irritability, disorder and vengeance, and they usually learn from their parents; and we must at

least be very careful with our children."

Therefore, the generation has to be aware of racism and bigotry. It should not inherit fatigue and ignorance, but the good of their family and community. It also needs to have a vision for the future for all problems will pass and avoid insulting parents or friends. And maintaining its unity and solidarity by being patient with all is required.

Likewise, it has to develop a culture of appreciation for the healthy. Do not try to answer a question you do not understand, do not get involved in something that does not concern you. And it should not despair, no matter how dark it may be and it has to inherit the new age ahead with hope and faith, and should not give up easily.

Besides, it should respect parents and remember that patriotism is always important. And it needs to be grateful to parents, friends, teachers, and the beloved country but should not be a burden.

In general, if the generation works diligently, walks wisely against hatred and racism, works to reconcile the people to heal the globe and embraces the people in the East, West, North and South together, the world would be the best place to live in with fruitful citizens, he concluded.

Planet Earth

Massive coffee plantation to boost Ethiopia's green gold coverage

BY DARGIE KAHSAY

Ethiopia's Coffee export hits a record this year as it earned one billion USD for the first time within 10 months. This income was earned following comprehensive efforts both in increasing productivity, export and penetrating the international market by the efforts of the government and stakeholders.

According to the Ethiopian Coffee and Tea Authority (ECTA), Ethiopia has earned 1.014 billion US Dollars from coffee export during 10 months of this budget year, which is a record in history, as the country's earning from Coffee export surpasses one billion USD in a single budget year. Not only has the earned revenue, the country's Coffee export amount has increased. The record-breaking revenue from Coffee export has been earned by exporting some 232,000 tons of coffee over the last ten months.

In the 10 months export revenue from coffee, ECTA Director General Adugna Debela stated that, compared to the last year's the same period performance, the export revenue performance shows an increment of over 400 million US Dollars. For him, this is a remarkable achievement in the history of Ethiopia's Coffee export. For him, in addition to the revenue, the export volume of Coffee has increased by 40 percent from the past year's similar period.

Coffee remains the leading export item of Ethiopia with the lion's share in foreign currency earnings for the country and the authority plans to increase the export volume until the end of this year up to 300 thousand tons of Coffee. As the leading export product of the country, Ethiopia gives due attention to increase the productivity and revenue from the sector. Aiming at enhancing the productivity and revenue of the Coffee sector, Ethiopia is implementing Coffee Strategy, which includes modernizing the sector and investing in increasing the coverage of Coffee plant with new plantations.

As part of the strategy, Coffee plantation gets due priority in the current Green Legacy Initiative of Ethiopia launched in 2019 to increase the country's forest coverage by planting over 20 billion seedlings within four years period. For the upcoming rainy season, which is the fourth plantation season, Ethiopia prepares over 6.3 billion seedlings according to Ministry of Agriculture. From the total prepared seedlings, Coffee seedling has a huge share.

According to Ministry of Agriculture, from the total of over 6 billion prepared seedlings to be planted on the upcoming rainy season, over 40 percent are plants for food security purpose, mainly Coffee, Mango, Papaya, Banana and other fruits. Coffee takes the lion share from the plants preparing for the plantation for food security purpose. Taking



lessons from every year's achievements and performances of the plantation, huge amount of indigenous tree and plants for food security purpose seedlings are readied for the fourth year plantation period.

As part of both the Green Legacy Initiative and enhancing Coffee plantation coverage, Oromia state has planned to plant over 1.3 billion seedlings during the fourth year plantation period, according to Oromia Agriculture Bureau. Oromia Regional State announced that over 4.3 billion seedlings are prepared for the fourth year seedling plantation period, adding that from the total readied seedlings, 1.3 billion seedlings are Coffee trees.

Oromia Agriculture Bureau announced that preparation is underway for the fourth year green legacy initiative and necessary seedling is already prepared and land preparation continues. As the fourth year plantation campaign gives due attention for food security plants in addition to planting trees for forest coverage, the bureau stated, Oromia is preparing huge amount of seedlings for food security purpose, including Coffee, mango, avocado and other fruits and vegetables.

As the top producer of Coffee in the country, Oromia is giving attention to increase the coverage of Coffee tree parallel to caring the available coffee resource to enhance the productivity and revenue of the sector. For this purpose, due preparation is underway to plant over 1.3 billion coffee seedlings in the major Coffee producing Zones of the regional state, Bureau Deputy head Mohammed Sani told FBC. In addition to the seedlings, land and hole preparation is underway.

Visiting the preparation in Jima Zone of Oromia state for the upcoming seedling plantation season, Mohammed stated that

the preparation is going well to plant the seedlings. The Jima Zone preparation according to him is exemplary and similar preparations have continued across the state. Jima Zone Administrator Tijani Nassir on his part noted that necessary preparation is finalized to plant over 455 million Coffee seedlings in the Zone.

For Tijani all seedlings prepared in the zone are plants suitable with the ecology of the area including indigenous trees known in the area. On top of that, huge amount of the prepared seedlings have intentionally taken in to consideration the benefit of the trees for the farmers of the zone for food security and for animal feed.

Mohammed, Deputy Bureau head of Oromia Agriculture Bureau underlined that, the region is striving to increase the coverage of coffee plant to enhance the productivity of the sector including introducing modernizing the way of coffee farming. As a strategy to develop the coverage, productivity and revenue from the sector, cluster coffee plantation gets due attention. By increasing the coverage of Coffee, the region aims to increase the production and productivity which is vital to increase the export volume of the sector.

"Ethiopia has huge potential of coffee production naturally," Mohammed said adding that "adding efforts in the natural gift would help the country to further its revenue from the sector." As the major source of Coffee product, Oromia aims to increase its productivity in the sector for the sustainability of the ever growing export volume and revenue earning of the country's top export sector.

Similarly, Kaffa Zone of South Western Ethiopia State announced that preparations are underway to plant 32.9 million Coffee seedlings during the upcoming rainy season,

Coffee, Tea and Spice Office of the Zone announced, adding last year over 15.9 million coffee seedlings were planted in the Zone.

By planting over 32 million new coffee seedlings, Kaffa Zone has a plan to increase the Zone's Garden Coffee coverage from its current 182 thousand hectare to 190 thousand hectare, according to Office head Moges Tekle. The plantation is already started in the Zone Moges said adding that, in a single day on June 07, the Zone plans to plant 10 million coffee seedlings by mobilizing over 80 thousand people. For Moges, the coffee plantation is part of the green legacy initiative of Ethiopia that aims to increase the forest coverage and enhancing important plants for food security of the country.

Across the country, mainly in the major coffee producing states, increasing the coverage of coffee tree gets due attention in the national green legacy campaign during the past two years. Taking experiences from the first green legacy initiative, in addition to the billion seedlings planting for forest coverage purpose, Ethiopia gives due attention planting seedlings for food security purpose. Coffee, Ethiopia's naturally gifted green gold gets due attention in this plantation and it takes the lion's share in the seedling plantation.

By increasing the coverage of coffee plant with new plantation, Ethiopia aims to increase its production and productivity from the sector. By increasing its productivity, Ethiopia is working to sustainably increase its earning revenue from exporting coffee to the world market. In addition to increasing its plantation coverage, to penetrate the world market, Ethiopia is searching new export destinations. By doing so, its export and earning revenue is increasing from time to time.