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Photo - Eyob Teferi

Ethiopia welcomes Emblems of Unity, Synergy, Perseverance

The victorious athletics delegation that has enabled Ethiopia secure second rank in the world and first in Africa participating in the 2022 World Athletics Championships held in Oregon, US, arrived home later yesterday. Senior government officials accorded the delegation a warm welcome at Addis Ababa Bole International Airport. The Delegation would celebrate the outstanding victory with residents today touring along the streets of Addis. National award and recognition ceremony are also expected to take place at the National Palace later in the day.

Ethiopia, Russia agree to bolster bilateral ties

BY ABDUREZAK MOHAMMED

ADDIS ABABA – Ethiopia and the Russian Federation have agreed to continue strengthening their relations in terms of economy, science, culture, and trade.

This was noted during the course of discussion on various issues of mutual interest between Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister of Ethiopia Demeke Mekonnen and Foreign Affairs Minister of the Russian Federation Sergey Lavrov.

Briefing journalists on the discussion, the two ministers reiterated yesterday that Ethiopia and the Russian Federation have shared values and interests in various areas.

Demeke noted that they held a fruitful discussion and agreed to continue working together on issues of mutual interest. During the discussion, they talked about national, regional, and global issues, as to him.

“We are grateful to Russia’s unwavering support in helping us in safeguarding Ethiopia’s sovereignty,” Demeke said adding, more recently, the Russian Federation stood with Ethiopia during the



Photo - Tsehay Negussie

last two years of posing the undue pressure to press Ethiopia in the agenda of the United Nations Security Council.

Demeke further indicated that he and Lavrov agreed to further strengthen bilateral ties of the two countries and identify actions to be undertaken by Ethiopian and Russian inter-governmental commission on economic,

scientific, cultural, and trade cooperation areas.

He briefed Lavrov on Ethiopia’s commitment to the trilateral talks among Ethiopia, Egypt, and Sudan on the first filling and operation of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD).

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 4th Floor, Dabi Building, Bole road Addis Ababa Ethiopia



Ethiopia sees promising future amid challenges: Premier

BY MENGESHA AMARE

ADDIS ABABA—Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) stated that Ethiopia and Ethiopians have continued registering remarkable achievements despite a number
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Ten-year plan envisions Industry to play leading role: panelists

• EPA’s 7th Edition ‘About Ethiopia’ kicks off in Adama

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News



Photo - Tsehay Negussie

Council declares three - day nationwide thanksgiving program

BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA - The Inter-Religious Council of Ethiopia (IRCE) has declared a three day nationwide thanksgiving as of tomorrow.

In press briefing yesterday, IRCE Secretary General Tagay Tadele said that each religious institution across the country will implement the thanksgiving program according to their respective religious rules for three days.

The thanksgiving program is organized in response to the national call by the Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) under the theme "Let Ethiopia thanks God" and will be observed for three minutes by each religion across the country, he indicated.

The prayer and thanksgiving program has been organized to request divine intervention in the challenges facing the country, bringing the spirit of unity, harmony and peaceful co-existence among the society in general. The council called up on the religious institutions to implement the program accordingly and underlined the need for unity, forgiveness, and love for one another.

It was learnt that the main objectives of the program are to foster and promote peaceful coexistence, interfaith harmony, and respect, human dignity among the people of the country and beyond. Due to different reasons, the relationship among the society is deteriorating and the councils underscore the need to significantly enhance peace and co-existence in and between the society by understanding, respect, and tolerance among religions, cultures and people.

He recalled that the council is doing its level best in strengthening harmony among the Ethiopian society and playing significant role in facilitating situation for the National Dialogue and negotiation process.

Diaspora host dinner for Ethiopian athletes

BY HAILE DEMEKE

ADDIS ABABA – Member of the Ethiopian Diaspora community based in Washington and New York, in collaboration with other stakeholders hosted reception dinner for Ethiopian athletics delegation who registered impressive results in World Athletics Championships, Oregon 2022.

Ethiopia finished the 18th World Athletics Championships in Oregon, USA ranking 2nd in the overall medal table securing 4 gold and 4 silver, and 2 bronze medals.

Ethiopian missions in Washington and New York, in collaboration with Ethiopian Airlines Bureau in New York and members of the Ethiopian community organized the reception.

Welcoming the Ethiopian Athletics delegation in New York, Ethiopian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the USA Seleshi Bekele extended congratulatory message to the team on their outstanding achievement.

He tweeted that "It was delightful to welcome the 18th edition of IAAF winning Ethiopian athletics team in New York, USA, on their way back home. Ethiopia won 10 medals; 4 Gold, 4 Silver and 2 Bronze, ranked 2nd in the world next to host USA.



Big congratulations for all and wish the team safe flight."

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations Teye AtskeSelassie also congratulated the Ethiopian athletics team and the people of Ethiopia in general up on their outstanding achievement in the 18th Oregon World Athletics Champion.

He tweeted that "a great delight to welcome fellow Ethiopian athletes at New York International Airport and with other staff. Ethiopia believed in them as they delivered with excellence and love of their country. We shall glorify these young heroines and heroes. Congratulations!"

"The achievement is an epitome of courage and determination and congratulations to the brave and young Ethiopian athletes and this takes, sweat, hard work and excellence."

He further described that the achievement as "a moment of true pride, and congratulations to Ethiopian athletes. Looking forward to seeing more success in the years ahead and keep the faith and Ethiopia shall prevail."

It is to be recalled that Minister of Sport and Culture Kejela Merdasa recently said, "It was great honor that Ethiopian athletes have achieved remarkable victory at the prestigious international event of World Athletics Championships Oregon which was concluded last Sunday, July 24, 2022."

Ethiopia, Kenya ink energy sale agreement: MoF

BY MESERET BEHAILU

ADDIS ABABA—Ministry of Finance announced that Ethiopia and Kenya have reached a consensus to Put power sale into practice which would exhibit Ethiopia's power export trend.

Citing the process in his twitter page, Finance State Minister, Eyob Tekalign (PhD) said the partnership between the two sisterly countries and the excellent power deal of 200 MW (growing to 400 in due course) is really promising.

Republic of Kenya Energy Minister, Amb. Monica Juma (PhD) on her part tweeted that the deal concluded by the countries would really pay off. The day when Kenya Power and Ethiopian Electric Power (EEP) inked a significant and historic agreement of the 200 MW gets Kenyans highly glad and the step would further cement the bilateral ties between the two countries.

She said that the efforts of both the Kenya and Ethiopia sides are critical to delivering energy security for Kenya and the region,



too.

She further said: "The energy would have an additional value to our national quantum of clean, reliable and sustainable energy, and places Kenya in the 6th position globally in the generation of renewable energy. It was a great honor to President Kenyatta to host

this historic moment."

She has also had the pleasure of the company of her counterpart Eyob and the Ken Gen team led by Gen (Rtd) Samson Mwathethe, Chair, Maj Gen (Rtd) Gordon Kihlangwa, PS Energy and Mrs. Rebecca Miano, CEO.

Afar People call for emergency healthcare support

BY TAMERU REGASA

ADDIS ABABA- Afar state residents, health professionals and government officials announced that the state is exposed to severe health care problems because of the destruction of health institutions by Terrorist TPLF and they have expressed the need to get emergency support.

According to VOA, patients who live in areas that used to be controlled by Terrorist TPLF have been dying in Afar because of lack of getting health facilities.



Berhale town is among Afar towns that used to be controlled and destroyed by Terrorist TPLF and currently the residents of the town have been exposed to lack of health facilities.

Resident of the town, Meriam Abdela told VOA that her child died on journey from Berhale Health Center to Semera Hospital following a referral case to get surgical service.

Mentioning the destruction of 60 health centers following Terrorist TPLF invasion, Afar state government called on concerned body to provide necessary support.

Physician in Berhale Health Center Mohammed Husein (MD) said that, the center used to serve citizens with surgery services. However, the center is now

incapable of providing surgery service as it was destructed and looted by Terrorist TPLF.

World Health Organization (WHO) told VOA that crises around the globe obstruct the organization to provide support for Ethiopia. But it recommended that food supports provided for Ethiopia should be given along with medical supports.

WHO Advisor Ilham AbedelhayiNur (MD) on her part recommended that medical services provided especially for women and Children should be provided along with nutrient foods.

News

Ten-year plan envisions Industry to play leading role: panelists

• *EPA's 7th Edition 'About Ethiopia' kicks off in Adama*

BY DANIEL ALEMAYEHU

ADDIS ABABA - EPA's 7th Edition 'About Ethiopia' photo exhibition and panel discussion was kicked in Adama dubbed as 'Economic Structure Transformation'.

Presenting a discussion paper at the event, Planning and Development Minister Fitsum Assefa (PhD) yesterday disclosed that Ethiopia had registered a 9.5 percent economic growth on average from 2003-2010 E.C. "But, the growth was not persistent as it was not supported by structural economic transformation."

Fitsum stressed that the aforementioned economic growth was brought about through loans and state-owned projects.

It was learnt that Ethiopia used to spend much money on perishable goods. When the economic transformation is begun to implement, the nation has saved a lot of such expenses, Fitsum said adding that without the transformation; it is difficult to record sustainable economic development.



Economic growth should go along with structural transformation in a bid to obtain the expected result. Following the transformation, positive changes have come about both in the manufacturing and service sectors, Fitsum said.

Accordingly, by the end of the ten years, agriculture share will be reduced from 32 percent to 22 percent in the economy. The agriculture will be transformed to value added production. Moreover, industry share

will rise to 35.9 percent so that it is expected that the manufacturing sector will have 17.2 percent share.

By the same token, Finance State Minister Eyob Tekalign (PhD) said that the government has gone far to implement the economic transformation and it has already started registering tangible changes.

The state minister outlined the seven major points that have been used to implement the transformation by the government.

Among the major steps, creating healthy political economy is a must to ensure equal distribution and allocation of resources across the country and institutions, he said.

As to the minister, the private sector is the vital part in the transformation. Investors and the government take the lion share in developing the economy. Accordingly, changes are being witnessed regarding improved relation between the aforementioned actors, said the state minister.

Ethiopian investor Belayneh Kinde on his part discussed challenges and opportunities regarding investment. He said: "If we love our country, we should start from the challenges."

Belayneh has listed out natural and man-made investment opportunities and challenges in the country. He also shared his experience regarding opportunities.

Taking the opportunity, the investor urged the government to attract investors improving nation's policies and fighting corruption and misconduct.

U.S. provides over 488 mln USD in humanitarian assistance to Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA /ENA/ -The United States through the USAID is providing an additional 488 million USD in critical humanitarian assistance to the people of Ethiopia, the U.S. Embassy in Addis Ababa said.

At a press briefing the U.S. Embassy gave yesterday, communities across Southern and South Eastern are experiencing the worst effects of the four back-to-back drought seasons.

Farmers are also experiencing widespread crop losses and 2.5 million livestock deaths have been reported a significant loss in sources of food and income.

With yesterday's announcement of over 488 million USD in humanitarian assistance, USAID partners will meet urgent needs for



4.8 million people across Ethiopia.

This includes emergency food assistance for millions of people, starving off starvation, life-saving nutrition to treat malnourished children, support for farmers to prevent crop and livestock losses, support for populations, farmers and agribusiness to

build residence among other support.

With this announcement, USAID has provided more than 668 million USD in humanitarian assistance for the Ethiopia emergency drought response in fiscal year 2022.

Ethiopia,...

Demeke also recalled that Addis Ababa is chosen to hold the upcoming Africa-Russia Partnership Summit and assured the Minister that Ethiopia will be working with the Russian Federation to make the Summit successful.

During the press briefing, Russian Foreign Affairs Minister Sergey Lavrov said that his country would continue to work together with Ethiopia on international and regional issues.

Meanwhile, Lavrov gave a briefing for the representatives of the diplomatic corps and media in Addis Ababa.

In his briefing, Lavrov thanked African and Asian nations for not cooperating when westerners imposed unacceptable sanctions on Russia.

Ethiopia sees...

of ups and downs targeting at dismantling this great nation.

Forwarding gratitude to the Almighty creator who allowed Ethiopia and Ethiopians to reach at this level overcoming a multitude of untold challenges, the Premier said that the name Ethiopia is a name of glory that doesn't kneel down to problems, passes through challenges by overcoming complications.

He said, "Ethiopia has reached this time following its sons and daughters unreserved effort to bring about change even if the storm of hardship is about making our strength lame. Ethiopia won't stop trekking to the next level of success and prosperity with the help of the Almighty God/Allah."

As to him, as gratitude has a great power to

help look at the past as victory, the present as good luck, and the future with bright hope, all citizens have to come up with positive thinking and affection.

In due course of protecting Ethiopia from being disintegrated and making it amodern state, conflicts, invasions and power disputes and others have occurred in mass. True, he said, Ethiopia has experienced rapid and continuous changes despite many challenges and the victory of Adwa is replicated in our time.

Revolutions, civil wars, epidemics, hunger and other natural catastrophes like flood have still been giving Ethiopia hard times. Even if Ethiopia's internal and external foes, historical enemies near and far are trying to

challenge Ethiopia, they haven't so far been successful. They have exerted utmost effort to open smear campaign and repeatedly denied its justice on international platforms.

He further stated that in the midst of all this, however Ethiopia has been protected by the efforts of its children and the will of its creator. "When we think of our country's endurance to overcome all these hardships, it is quite fair and reasonable to thank Allah/God."

Though the country was once labeled a land of drought and poverty, it has continued creating an earthly heaven by planting billions of trees and making parks everywhere. At the time of foreigners are thinking Ethiopia's survival is based on the wheat of the west, Ethiopia is on the verge of exporting wheat and vegetable

farms apart from quenching domestic consumption. He said, "Addis Ababa, which was once known as Africa's garbage dump, is about to take a look compatible to its name. Even through the challenges we have faced have incurred us expensive prices, we believe that we are capable of overcoming all hurdles, and we have to thank our creator as what we have gained is greater than what we lost."

The victory of Adwa has been repeated in our time, and the black cloud of disintegration has been removed.

"We all have to be committed than ever before and enjoy amalgamating instead of widening differences by singling out minor differences among citizens. Ethiopia continues triumphing!" he underlined.

Opinion

Establishing strong institutions still remains as unfinished task

BY ABEBE WOLDEGIORGIS

Ethiopia is one of the few oldest and sovereign countries which have their own longest history.

In its thousands years of existence it came across various upside downs and defends its territorial integrity from foreign intruders. It's tangible and none tangible heritages indicates that the country is endowed with abundant material and none material culture.

People began worshipping monolithic religions, Christian and Muslim religions existing to date earlier than the other countries.

Traditionally the political system was established and led by king of kings and regional lords. History also tells us that "Fitha Negest" and "Kibre Negest" though they were none secular based, served as constitution. Kings had an absolute power over their subjects and church and politics were fused together. The kings obtained legitimacy by the church endorsement. Kings held their political tenure for life and power succession had been takes place through inheritance by birth. However, there were power struggles between the off springs to assume the throne. Nevertheless without the church endorsement obtaining legitimacy had been impossible. The economic system was feudal with archaic mode of production. The production relation hampered the productive forces development had left static the system with no change. In the Ethiopian modern history for the first time the cabinet ministries was introduced during the emperor Menilik era in the dawn of 20th century but it was not evolved to the modern type.

The king served as head of the army and jury. The treasurer was appointed by the king.

The advent of modern politics and establishment of institutions began in the time of emperor Hilesilasie I.

The introduction of secular constitution in 1930 further consolidated the accentuation for institutionalizing politics and civil services. In fact to make institutions functional, the government had to have broad tax bases however, non-monetized economy prevailed that time hampered to collect sufficient taxes which could be spent to cover the governance expenditure. The constitution paved the way to the establishment of the legislative, executive and judiciary branches of the government. The legislative was bicameral which had a lower and the upper house but the members of the upper house had been totally hand-picked by the emperor.

Even though the debate took place in the lower house the ultimate say had been left to the emperor. As the system was totally

feudal in which land lords had dominant power both the economic and political power had been at their hand. Therefore, the appointment of officials on the civil services had been based on birth and kinship rather than merit. Employment opportunity was also characterized by nepotism than competition. The expansion of education gave way for the emerging of elite class. Providing scholarship to the youth to attend their education in abroad was growing from time to time but the educated men joined the civil serves directly or indirectly were forced only to serve the statuesque rather than the public who paid tax for their education.

Until the second constitution was introduced in 1948 the election which had been took place was nominal and the public had no voted directly for the parliament it was feudal lords recruited by the political establishment obtained sit in the parliament.

The second constitution boldly asserted the right to freedom of expression, the right to association and clearly indicated how the government was established through election.

That time though there had not been political parties individuals above the age of 21 could compete for the legislative organ of the government. The entrance of the newly foreign educated elite class in the government structure to somehow gave way for the flourishing of institutions filled by the competent civil servants. Debates with regard to reforming the land tenure system were floured to the parliament but because of the conflict of interest some members of the parliament who had huge stake on the land system opposed it. Nevertheless, other progressive members of the parliament tried their level best to make the parliament strong. Even at the last era of the imperial regime high ranking officials such as Ketema Yifru advised the emperor to give up power in favor of the elected prime minister? But the response was deaf ear.

The world history tell us that, Europe passed through the feudal system in the middle age until capitalism was emerged and countries such as Great Britain, Sweden, Italy, French had been governed by absolute monarchial system. But the advent of industrialization and the accentuation of new political culture that they came across it pressured them to change their political system from absolute to that of constitutional monarchy in which executive power would be at the hand of the elected prime minister were separation of power among the three branches of the government put in place. Such transition gave way for the advancement of democracy.

In our cause the avenue to go from the absolute monarchial system to that of

constitutional was closed. The emperor though he was various time advised to give up power even in favor of his son, he rejected and ultimately he was unceremoniously removed from his throne by his grand children who established the Dergue. Many agreed that the demise of the old monarchial system proved the failure of the process of the establishment of modern nation state and still we pay for that by witnessing political instability and conflict. Power was personalized rather than institutionalized. The theory of modern political science indicates that the failed states reached to what they are because of the absence of strong institutions. The absence of strong institutions functioned by merit system also left the nation to indulge in to left wing politics induced by revolution.

The assumption of power by the Dergue did not bring change in terms of establishing strong and independent institutions rather open the way to illiterate cadres to be appointed in the civil services and public institutions. The appointees were only expected to be loyal to the socialist ideology and party programme. The nation regressed from the system where merit was in its infancy level to nowhere. Separation of power between the three branches of the government which promote institutional independence and strengthen merit system had got no value.

Party loyalty got the upper hand over professional integrity. The Dergue government though gradually it changed its name in to People's Democratic Republic it exercised one man power in which put the value of institution in to question. Though it claimed as if it stands for the nation territorial integrity the absence of institutional freedom in the military structure left the government to be defeated by its junior rebel groups. When Mengistu left to the country the army simply gave up fighting against the rebels because power was personalized and had it have institutional independence fighting would not had been halt.

History indicated that dictatorial regimes do not give chance for the establishment of strong and independent institutions because such experiment might risk their arbitrary rule. They fear independent institutions because they put them in to accountable for their corruption and extrajudicial killing and arbitrary rule. In the countries where arbitrary rule is a norm party loyalty and opportunism will be prevailed.

Election will be conducted nominally and vote rigging will be common. Ultimately power will be by the hand of few individuals and their affinity. Politian will involve in business and evade tax. The state apparatus including institutions such as army and police which established to protect the nation security from domestic

and foreign threat dedicate their time and resource only to perpetuate the ruling party power tenure. The executive power will have a dominant power over the legislative and the judiciary and no one put it in to accountable to its misdeed. We had been experienced such authoritative practice in the EPRDF era.

Institutions were set to meet the objective of the ruling party which orchestrates ethnic polarization which paves the way for dismemberment of the country. Though civil and individual rights were unequivocally enshrined in the constitution, no institution dared to implement it because their implementation risks the ruling party leaders and put account for their mal practice.

The revolutionary democracy introduced by the Dergue and consolidated by the EPRDF coupled by the experiment of ethnic federalism failed to give room for the flourishing of merit system with independent institutions. Institutions which need competent leaders were filled by weak yes men hand-picked by their party loyalty leading for exacerbating rampant corruption.

The TPLF officials who were core decision maker in the ruling party officially claimed that their loyalty is not for the constitution rather for the revolutionary democracy principle which not accepts peaceful power transition.

The ruling party put in place red book which was the manual for the Ministry of defense only to serve the party interests. The passed away of Melese Zenawi clearly showed the absence of the functioning institution. That time the nation was ruled with no Prime Minister for 6 months.

Because TPLF was unwilling to give up power to the person out of the member of its party.

Had there been rule of law with functional institutions the next prime minister would oath to assume power within days.

In the recent past the experience of African countries such as Malawi and Ghana showed that how far they developed strong and independent institutions. When the heads of states in these countries passed away the vice presidents resumed power after three days.

The Prosperity Party promised to establish independent institutions and took some measures. We also witnessed the flourishing of some strong institutions but it has to do more. Because it is the only venue to establish and consolidate democratic system.

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

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General Manager
Tel. 011-126-42-22
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Advertisement and Dist. Department

email: etpresspromotion@gmail.com
Tel. 011-156-98-73/011-811-13-15

Editor-in-Chief: Worku Belachew
email- workubelachew@press.et
Address- Nifas Silk Lafto Sub-city
Woreda - 05, House No----
Tel- +251 111 26 41 98

Managing Editor: Wakuman Kudama
Email: wakuma220@gmail.com

Deputy Editors-in-Chief:

Alem Hailu
Elizabeth Mengistu
Zekarias Woldemariam
Desta Geberehiwot
Daniel Beyene
Website: www.press.et
email: ethiopianherald@press.et
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Editorial

We're grateful, hopeful—no matter what!

In his latest address to the people, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) has reiterated that we Ethiopians have to weigh the balance of those that befell on us and those that are done to us.

Without denying that Ethiopia has undergone a lot of misery ever since the turning of the century, he also notes that it is good that we as people also be grateful for the good things, values and opportunities we are endowed with.

Indeed, as Abiy clearly stated no one can change what ever has happened in the past whether good or bad. Such encounters also happen to anyone in the world, not only Ethiopia and Ethiopians but also to every nation as well as to all human beings in the world.

These incidents actually cause a lot of chaos on the life of the people. They also leave a scar in the minds of the people. However, history has witnessed that many people in various countries have passed through such formidable challenges and reached a marvelous goal. This is because they chose to ignore the misery of the past, take lesson from it and work hard for a better future than always cling on it.

At this very moment Ethiopian people are also found in such kind of situation. Whatever happens to us we Ethiopians have also exercised that life continues. And we keep on doing the good things enduring the storm that befallen on us. It is good if things always go simple and positive for us. However, this is so unrealistic even to imagine. People pass through the thick and thin.

This is also in this way that the country reached today. To recall some of Ethiopia has contended with foreign invasion and aggression by some countries since the 1880s. It has also passed through protracted civil war that devastated its economic progress.

Various types of plots were also sanctioned against the country. All of these were meant to cripple the country's political and economic

system so that it can become easily vulnerable to the foreign manipulations that are always against its sovereignty.

But we do not waste our time complaining and dizzying ourselves due to the mayhem of the past. We would rather take this as a blessing in disguise to learn and always build up a better future. If we don't do so we are fulfilling the evil designs of the enemy.

If we keep on scratching the scar of the past and use it to avenge those who we accuse of perpetrating it, we are only prolonging the duration of the vicious cycle of the problem.

If we do not want to see the plight of the past we should think about a new, bright and prosperous day. The Premier's statement revolves around the notion that the power of changing and properly using the future largely depends not on the past but focus on the future.

As mentioned earlier, the Prime Minister has accentuated on the need to remember that what happened to us so far is not only a disaster that can cause our destruction, but also a blessing that can deliver us the future. That is why we are weighing the balance of the two and is choosing either to keep on crying on the past or to be grateful to God for the protection, the blessing.

The Ethiopian New Year is approaching. Ethiopians would celebrate the year 2015 according to the Ethiopian calendar in less than two months' time, on 11 September. The New Year is also thought of as a time of thanks giving, new thinking, new opportunity, new weather and everything new. It is also a time of exchanging best wishes, forgiveness and making various types of resolutions.

Let's all hope and strive to see that majority of the people of Ethiopia would repeat their long ingrained tradition of relieving the paid of the past, giving thanks to their god for his protection and blessings than reverting to the dangerous tendency of scratching the old scar.

Opinion

Africa maintains strong ties with Russia through its principled approach

BY DARGIE KAHSAY

Upon arrival at Bole International Airport late Tuesday, Russian Foreign Affairs Minister, Sergey Lavrov, has received warm welcome by Demeke Mekonnen, Ethiopian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Lavrov's arrival in Ethiopia is part of his Africa tour which included a visit to Egypt, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda and Ethiopia with the aim of strengthening diplomatic relations.

Russia's FAM Africa tour has come at a very special time both for Russia and Africa. Even though Lavrov arrived to only some of African countries the significance of his historical visit goes beyond mere bilateral affairs with these countries. Rather it shows Russia's due place that it attaches to the continent on such trying and decisive times.

The Russia-Ukraine war has badly hit Africa as the continent imports most of its grain from the two warring countries. The shortage of Agricultural products and agricultural inputs due to the war, especially wheat, edible oil and fertilizer has affected African nations. To discuss the issue and to find peaceful solutions for the Russia-Ukraine war, the current African

Union (AU) Chairman and Senegal's President Macky Sall has visited Moscow early June, and held talks with his Russian Counterpart Vladimir Putin.

Now, Moscow sent its FM to Africa to discuss bilateral issues and to strengthen diplomatic relations. Russia knows-well Africa's consistent, principled and wise diplomacy and even the potential of the continent. Africa and Russia have strong historical relations especially since the era of colonization. Russia has stood by the side of African countries and has shown due solidarity to their freedom struggle. Since then, the political, social and economic relations of Africa-Russia is increasing and widening.

There were blames that the Africa-Russia relation only focuses on political and military diplomacy. But, now, following the Russia-Ukraine war, the world proves the interdependence of Russia and Africa in the economy sector. The agricultural products of Russia have a huge share in the African market. This indicates that Africa and Russia have strong mutual connections which need strong relations.

Considering Africa's great role in the world politics with its huge potential, Russia is working to strengthen trade,

economic, social, cultural and military relations with the African countries. No doubt, at this time, FM Lavrov has hot issues at home since his country is at war with Ukraine.

He left his country for days to visit African countries. During his visit to Africa, Lavrov may carry back home some meaningful offers that are vital to solve the agricultural products crises in the African market. Hopefully, both Africa and Russia will get profits from Lavrov's tour.

Actually Africa usually adheres to its consistent diplomatic ties with its neutral position and principled diplomatic approach. Its non-aligned position makes the continent friend for the world super powers. Africa's stance is unwavering and clear, working with all countries without meddling in the internal matters of the states and their relations with other countries.

Russia is pro-African countries diplomatic activities and stances. So far, I never hear any lobby from Russia to stand African countries with its decisions or relations with regard to its relations with other countries. Russia only wants its African friendly only to keep their friendship at any circumstance, which is on the ABC of

African diplomacy.

Though, Africa is affected by the Russia-Ukraine war, Africa has continued its warm relations with both countries and calls only for diplomatic solutions to the conflict, without siding to the other. As friends for both Russia and Ukraine, Africans are calling for peaceful ways to solve the war between the two neighbors.

As Africa and Russia have longstanding, strong diplomatic ties Africa's neutrality and keeping its friendship with Russia at this difficult time more attracts Russian diplomacy. This does not mean that Africa is siding with Russia; Africa would stand to remain on its true and familiar neutral position.

Lavrov's visit would boost Africa-Russia economic, cultural, social and cultural diplomatic relations. With the consistent stance of African countries, the continent would become an important factor in the new world order. Africa's stance is a new balancing position in the new world order.

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

Business & Economy

Self-sufficient in wheat production paving the way for ensuring food security

BY DANIEL ALEMAYEHU

When disaster and natural calamities occurs in one corner of the world, the poor became highly vulnerable. It is witnessed that war, famine, and other natural and social ills seriously damage the lives of millions. The simple example at this particular moment is the war between Russia and Ukraine. As these two countries are the main providers of agricultural products like wheat and edible oil to the world market, countries have been suffering shortage of such basic commodities. Not only that, due to the current war, the fuel price hike created economic turmoil in many parts of the world.

As the basic commodities become expensive, even countries considered as the most developed are trying their level best to meet the demands including through providing products to consumers in the subsidized price.

It is observed that the price inflation hit every boat in the world. Because of such global challenges, the government is trying to find a better way to come up with answers to the price inflation and scarcity of basic commodities. Ethiopia for long has strived to find a way out.

There have been a number of actions taken to cope up with the aforementioned problems. One of the most praised responses from the government is the summer wheat production. It is reported that due to the war between Russia and Ukraine, the world unable to obtain the supply of wheat and other products from these countries. In this regard, mostly African countries, demand for wheat products has been unmet. The problem also directly points to Ethiopia too. Fortunately, the government predicted and worked so hard to become self-reliant regarding wheat production. It is important to remember that agriculture is the main stay of the economy and means of employment for the majority of the population but unless it is modernized attaining food security will be a night mare.

Monitoring African Food and Agricultural Policies (MAFAP) reported about situation in Ethiopia regarding wheat production in 2013. It stated, "Because of inadequate incentives and low technology inputs, nearly 80 percent of all the wheat produced in Ethiopia has been consumed by producers. However, with improved policies and more investment in improving wheat production, Ethiopia can be able to meet domestic demand and preparing itself to export to neighboring countries.

If wheat production is continues boosted substituting imported wheat can be



realized. To that end, conducive policies are introduced by the government helpful to producers and other operators in the value chain. Promoting the use of more inputs and new technologies, reducing marketing costs, and encouraging value addition (for example with additional processing) would make domestic wheat more competitive.

Adugnaw Anteneh and Dagninet Asrat have conducted a study on wheat production and marketing in Ethiopia in 2020. According to the study, 68 percent of the Ethiopian agricultural GDP is constituted crop production. Wheat is one of the cereal crops that provide calories. Besides, the study disclosed that, the average area coverage rate of wheat production has shown increment from 2005 up to 2017. Such increment has made the nation one of the largest wheat producers in Sub-Saharan African countries.

The study also disclosed that even if the production rate is increasing, there are still a number of challenges that the country is facing. Limited storage capacity, lack of demand due to poor quality of local wheat, and lack of grade and standardization are some of the real challenges observed in wheat production. On the other hand, regardless of the challenges, there are blessings. The study indicates about the suitable climate conditions and increasing domestic demand for wheat from time to time is among the opportunities that the nation can tap.

On the same token, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) coupled with Global Agriculture Information Network (GAIN) described achievements regarding grain and feed annual report in 2021. The report compared the wheat production in Ethiopia in 2021/22 and 2020/2021 fiscal

years. In this regard, in 2021/22, the wheat production is projected to 5.18 million tons which is 1.6 percent increment from the previous fiscal year. The report mentioned that such achievements have registered because the government has been engaged in irrigation, better input supply and mechanized farming in the low land and central part of the country.

Moreover, in 2022 USDA again reported that in the coming fiscal year, 2022/23, Ethiopia's wheat production will be expected a record level of 5.7 million metric tons.

With all efforts exerted by the government and with the cooperation of responsible stakeholders, tangible achievements have been scored. Recently, it is reported that summer season irrigation wheat production has brought massive production in the country. Ministry of Agriculture, Oumer Hussien has disclosed that summer wheat production has created the capacity to save more than one billion USD that would be allocated for the importation of wheat for domestic consumption.

The minister also stated that due to the implemented reform in the previous Ethiopian fiscal year, it helps to enhance production and productivity through improving agricultural strategies. "Ethiopia will become one of the wheat exporting countries next year. More efforts have been exerted to utilize the rainy season to enhance productivity," the minister said.

He also said that 550 agricultural mechanization technologies have been imported and supplied to farmers so that accelerating the sector transformation will go in a better pace.

The minister elaborated that the government subsidized 25 percent of fertilizer procurement to help farmers and to mitigate the current inflation witnessed in the country. In addition, it is working aggressively to support farmers living in the nearby areas of conflicts to start farming activity and contribute in the green legacy efforts.

Reports reaffirmed that Ethiopia will soon be wheat self-sufficient. A report by International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) also supported the above point. It says, "African Development Bank (AfDB), ICARDA and partners are working together to help the Ethiopian government towards achieving wheat self-sufficiency by 2025. The Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation (TAAT) project – launched in 2018 - offers improved, climate-smart, high-grain yielding, better grain quality, water use efficient and drought-tolerant wheat varieties to be cultivated on the arid lowlands."

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Art & Culture

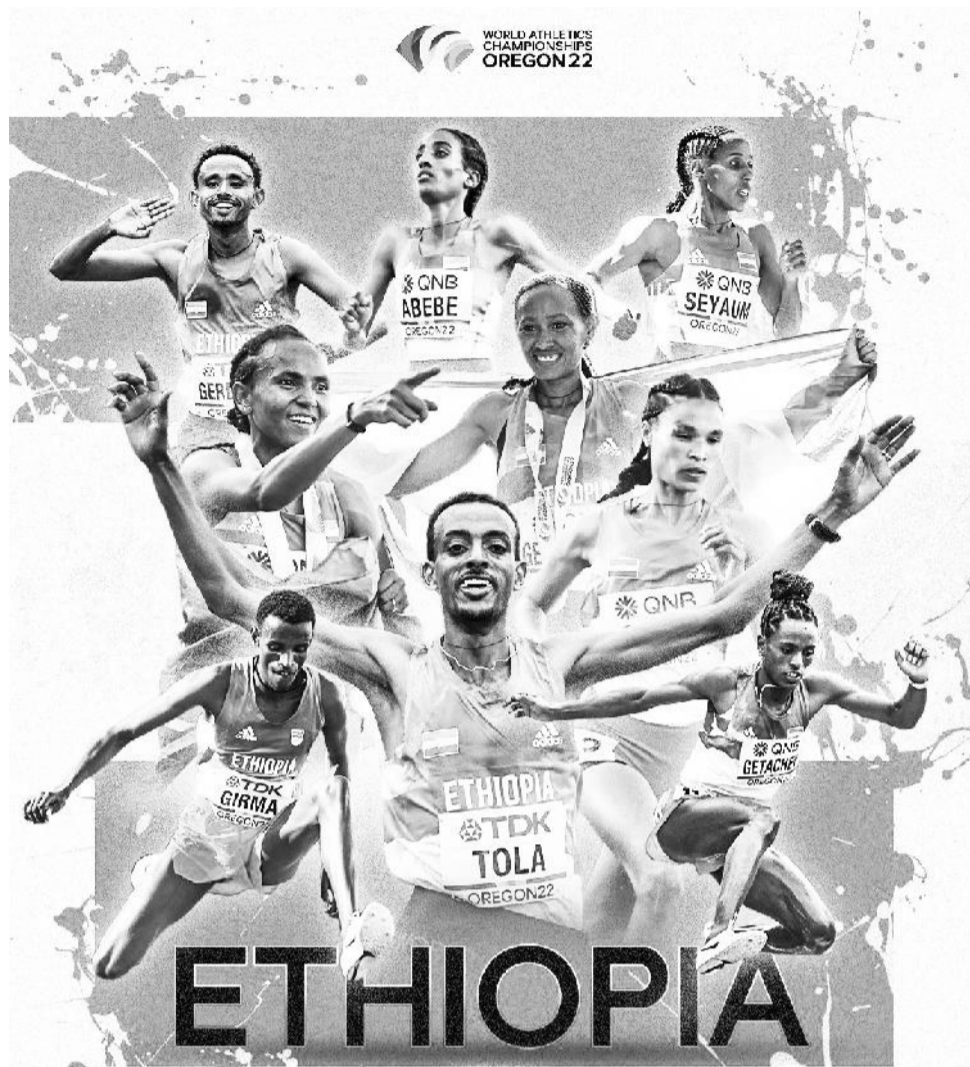
The name Ethiopia is a name of honor: Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed

BY KFLEEYESUS ABEBE

It cannot be an exaggeration if one says Ethiopia has travelled on such a bumpy road over this year. It had to go facing several bumps to reaching this day. Or, you could say it was swaying like a pendulum from calm to turbulence and the otherwise that we managed to get here. Ethiopia is winding a year that has been dark and distressing like the rainy winter—traditionally called Hamle (July). But, there is a glimmer of hope at the end of the tunnel. The year was terrifying in the beginning, coming causal at times and now ending happiest as Ethiopian athletes dominate in Oregon Athletics Championship.

Following this, Prime Minister Dr. Abiy Ahmed extended a message of congratulations and asked Ethiopians to join him in extending their hands in gratitude to their creator. “Today, like yesterday, we have crossed the challenges victoriously, and we extend our hands in gratitude! Dear people of our country, Ethiopians: The name Ethiopia is a name of honor of not bowing down to problems, passing through challenges and overcoming obstacles. There are very few times in the history of our country without challenges. By the efforts of her unyielding children and by the grace of the creator, she has reached here by facing the onslaught of difficulties.”

It is customary to end a year thanking God; and the last months and days were usually reserved for this. The premier in his message recalled this culture and highlight on the role of gratitude to everyone's life. “For those of us who believe in our firmness and the Creator's help, we always see the bright spring that comes next to the chilling winter. We know that beyond the darkness, there is a bright light. Believing that there is no reason not to overcome today's darkness, we will not fail to thank the Creator who has given us the stamina. Gratitude has the power to make us look at the past with victory, the present with luck, and the future with optimism. On the other hand, bitterness and ungratefulness create an attitude of defeatism and misfortune. It makes us unable to look at inside ourselves and others with positivity and love. He who is busy with bitterness and ingratitude does not see the grace that is bestowed on him..”



The premier said Ethiopia has been tested numerous times in the past but had sustained enduring and triumphing over challenges. “Our country with an invisible force has resisted divisions inside like in that was the era of nobilities; colonial pressures from abroad. It can be called a miracle that it has remained strong without losing its history and identity. For modern Ethiopia to come from disintegration to unity, it had to face several wars, conflicts, countless invasions and power struggles. Although revolutions, civil wars, epidemics, severe famines, man-made and natural crises have stormed Ethiopia, of course, they have shaken it but cannot and will not destroy it.”

However, the past four or five years were baffling as Ethiopia had experienced two extremes. “It can be said that the past four or five years had been the time that we experienced hope and suffering, unity and diversity, international praise

and condemnation, progress and setbacks, freedom and conflict at an unprecedented level in the history of Ethiopia. It was the time when Ethiopia not only found its children but also lost them. Our Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), whose construction was said to have been interrupted or came to halt, has already started generating power. A country that was dented with drought and misery continues its progress towards greenery by planting billions of saplings and setting up parks everywhere. While some think that the guarantee of its existence is westerners wheat, Ethiopia with its summer wheat and large grain and vegetable farms produced enough for itself and is on the verge of exporting.”

Prime Minister Abiy emphasized Ethiopia has lost a lot from the internal conflicts and war that happened the past two years. “When we look back at the past few years,

where a brother was cruel to his own brother, where we clashed in such a way that we didn't even live together, where human lives were taken by the greedy, and when the blood of our people was shed in vain by people who had no purpose but a target, our hearts break with sadness. As a generation, we feel shame. When we think of the human lives lost and the property destroyed owing to the conflicts in the northern and western parts of our country, it is not only our eyes that tears but also our souls stain in tears.”

He also distinctively mentioned the mounting foreign pressure Ethiopia resisted the last two years but managed to be firm and committed. “Many countries failed to withstand similar international pressure and influence that came down on Ethiopia in the last two years and collapsed. But the God of Ethiopia did not hand us over to our enemies. It has given us strength and power to stand up, to persevere, to regain power and be strong. Even today, Ethiopia continues to amaze and witness the world. It looks forward to the future with the strong support of this arm. Praise be to the God of Ethiopia who let us see with our own eyes the steadfastness of Ethiopia that we have heard about in history.”

Prime Minister Abiy went on giving all the reasons Ethiopia should be grateful for by listing what it had accomplished over the year. The impressive Ethiopian athletes victory in 18th World Athletics Championships in Oregon, USA is also among the blessing of the year. Ethiopia collected ten medals; four golds, four Silvers and two Bronzes and ranked third in the overall medal table. “Are they not the Ethiopians who resist the internal challenges and the external pressure and secured victory after victory on the world sports stage? Aren't there Ethiopians who wave the flag of their motherland high in the sports field, stretch their hands to unto the lord and thank their creator on the field where they won? If we think calmly and carefully, count our blessings, we Ethiopians have many other reasons and causes to be grateful for rather than nursing bitterness. That is why we should stand and praise and honor the Creator in many matters that our hearts have not understood or thought about.”

Dinglen book launched

An Amharic novel written by Sentayehu Gebru was launched last Wednesday at Ras Hotel in the presence of veteran writers, media practitioners, poets, teachers and the art community.

The setting of the book that stretched between Gojjam and Europe narrates a story of self-discovery and the process of figuring out a successful generation in nation-building.

The book promotes indigenous knowledge and innovation for national development. It also points out the way out of the circle of neocolonialism.

In this book, the author also promotes

Ethiopian features of honoring wisdom and wise people, honesty, teamwork, diligence, and so on.

Dinglen book with 250 leaves is on market at a price of 290 ETB.

Prominent figures like Ayaleh Mulat, Zenebe Wela, Taye Bogale and others attended the launching event.

The author thanked all those who supported him in organizing and attending the launching event.

Sentayehu Gebru is a journalism and communications lecturer at Bahir Dar University who is currently conducting his doctoral degree at Addis Ababa University.



China-Africa cooperation advancing to peace support in HoA

BY YOHANES JEMANEH

China has been a multidimensional development partner to African countries. This economic partnership has been cemented through time and now seems to have advanced to peace and security cooperation.

When the First China-Horn of Africa Peace, Good Governance and Development Conference was held in Addis Ababa between 20 and 21 June 2022, Horn of Africa countries pledged to work together with China to maintain peace and security in the region. High-level government officials from Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, and China attended the two-day meeting.

They agreed to peaceful resolution of regional problems, jointly address natural disasters, and uphold a coordinated approach to combat cyber security, terrorism, illegal arms, and human trafficking, among others.

China has pledged to play a constructive role for the peace and development of the Horn of Africa. China's special envoy for the Horn of Africa Xue Bing said that his country will support Horn African nations to build sustainable peace.

"China will continue to support countries in the region to uphold the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, to protect regional peace and security, and silence the guns in the Horn of Africa," he said.

China wants to support countries in the Horn to address the challenges of security, development, and governance and pursue a path of unity and self-improvement. As an anchor state in the region, China expects Ethiopia to play a constructive role in promoting peace in the Horn of Africa, according to the special envoy.

National Security Adviser to Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD), Ambassador Redwan Hussein believed that countries in the Horn need to employ different approaches to solve the challenges of illegal immigration and terrorism, internal displacements, and consequences of war.

"The nexus between peace and security is too obvious to be elaborated here. Making the region free from the burden of war and conflict, and ensuring peace and security, remain the priority of all parties. The people of the region have suffered enough, and it's incumbent upon us to resort to a civilized, mature way of addressing our difficulties and differences," Redwan said.

The Horn of Africa is found in a strategic location. Thus, peace and stability in the Horn are essential to peace and development of the entire continent. In recent years, however, regional hotspot issues, including boundary and religious ones, remain complex and make headlines from time to time. On the other hand, external interference makes the situation



even more volatile and complicated, only to undermine the interests of the countries and people in the region.

China has expressed its distress to see conflicts raging on and causing misery. African issues should be solved by the African people in the African way, and foreign intervention is by no means conducive to complete resolution of issues. And, as a responsible major country, China upholds international equity and justice and always speaks up for fellow developing countries. For peace and security in the Horn, it has put forward its proposal.

China also proposed idea is for regional countries to independently address the triple challenges of security, development and governance and realize lasting peace, stability and prosperity. Under its Outlook, regional countries will play the lead in regional affairs, and hold their future in their own hands.

Participants have expressed that the conference was crucial to work out ways to overcome security challenges in the volatile region. It was provided a platform for regional countries to sit down together and settle differences through consultation and negotiation. It also opened a pathway that leads to political consensus and concerted actions.

At the wrap-up of the First China-Horn of Africa Peace, Good Governance and Development Conference, the two sides issued a joint statement emphasizing that the HoA is the common home for people in the region and realizing regional peace, stability, development and prosperity serves the fundamental interests of all countries and meets the shared aspirations of all peoples in the region. The participants of the conference also uphold the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative, and sustainable security and work together to maintain peace and security in the region and build HoA where the guns are

silenced for sustainable peace, according to the joint statement.

The statement reads, "the parties are ready to step up high-level engagements and exchanges at all levels to enhance mutual political trust and keep improving relations among the countries in the region."

As per the statement, China and the Horn countries have shown the mutual spirit to demonstrate political determination, take confidence-building measures, manage differences and disputes between countries of the region, and pursue peaceful settlement through dialogue and negotiation in an effort to ease the security situation in countries of the region.

It was stated that the HoA countries reaffirmed their respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, commitment to non-interference in the other's internal affairs, and respect for countries' independent choice of development path, values and social systems.

"The parties remain committed to peaceful resolution of regional problems independently, and while supporting multilateralism, oppose unilateral sanctions as well as external interference in the internal affairs of the countries of the region," the joint statement read.

They uphold a coordinated approach to traditional and non-traditional security such as cyber security, terrorism, illegal arms and human trafficking, among others; and commit to greater cooperation in counter-terrorism in the region, and agree to jointly address extreme weather and natural disasters such as drought, flooding and locust infestation and safeguard food security of the region.

Noting that security, development and good governance challenges require a holistic approach, the parties reiterated to sustain regional integration by enhancing

connectivity, strengthening cooperation in areas such as agriculture, trade, manufacturing, industry and infrastructure in order to build industrial and economic belts, create more jobs, drive growth and enhance self-driven development capacities.

They further agreed to promote exchanges and experience-sharing on good governance to increase the synergy of the development policies of the countries of the region and explore ways to settle disputes in an effort to foster a development environment for solidarity, stability and harmony.

The countries of the region further commend China for initiating the outlook on the Horn of Africa Peace, Good-governance and Development Conference, and commit to actively participate in implementing the Global Development Initiative and the Global Security Initiative.

China reaffirmed its resolve to deepen cooperation in areas such as health, illegal migration, agricultural development for poverty reduction, trade, investment, infrastructure, green development and support efforts for building a development framework featuring "Two Axes plus two Coasts" such as the Addis Ababa-Djibouti and Mombasa-Nairobi development corridors and any other similar projects that enable to achieve regional integration, according to the joint statement.

China and Africa are a community with a shared future. In its cooperation with Africa, China has upheld the principle of pursuing the greater good and shared interests. Now, under the Outlook on Peace and Development in the Horn of Africa, China will continue to work with regional countries on the three pillars of security, development and governance. And this will inject more impetus to building a China-Africa community with a shared future in the new era.

Law & Politics

The unflinching Ethiopian Diasporas' stance to fend off western intrigues

BY ADDISALEM MULAT

Ethiopian Diasporas residing in all parts of the world have played a paramount role in fending off the unprecedented western pressure and interference aimed at twisting Ethiopia's arm and weakening the sovereignty of the country under the veil of a humanitarian crisis, human rights violations, gang-rape, mass killings, and more of the same.

No matter how hard the West tried to pursue their objectives, they failed to attain the intended destination as a consequence of the concerted efforts of the Ethiopian Diasporas residing in various parts of the world.

It is no hyperbole to say Ethiopian Diasporas have gone to the end of the earth to thwart the illegitimate actions of the west that have been going persistently behind closed curtains to move the country into uncharted territory and pour cold water on the positive development unfolding across the country.

Albeit the western nations have been on familiar terms with the fact that the Terrorist TPLF group attacked the Northern Command of the Ethiopian National Defense Forces and caused indescribable human brutality by manifesting extreme brutality and showing unprecedented betrayal, they embarked on giving the cold shoulder to the unvarnished truth.

Worse even, the western nations kept on taking sides with the criminal enterprise and mystifying the international community with fictitious stories.

As Ethiopian Diasporas everywhere in the world know the conspiracy of the west like the palm of their hand, they made an all-out effort to nip in the bud the efforts of the Western countries by holding mass rallies numerous times across the globe. Through the passage of time, they turned out to be successful in attaining the intended target by lifting the lid and acquainting the international community with the concealed and unspoken truth of the Terrorist TPLF group.

The unflinching determination and commitment of the Ethiopian Diasporas have really been successful in bringing to light the criminal acts of the Terrorist TPLF group and its henchmen. Even though the West knows the heinous deeds of the criminal enterprise that have been turning upside down the lives of Noncombatants residing in the northern part of the country, they failed to condemn the group.

It must be borne in mind that Ethiopian Diasporas and friends of Ethiopia residing in all parts of the world regardless of religion, gender and age managed to hold public rallies in furtherance of protesting against the undue foreign pressure and interference and the inappropriately named international media outlets propaganda.

The low-rated international media outlets have been bewildering the international community with fake news turning a deaf ear to summary killings, gang rapes, looting, and other criminal acts perpetrated by the



Terrorist TPLF group. Failing to stick to journalism ethics and standards, the media outlets have been many a time and oft disseminating disinformation across the entire planet.

It is evident that Ethiopian Diasporas leaned over backwards to make the European Union and the United States of America halt interfering in the internal affairs of the country and distance themselves from putting unwarranted pressure on Ethiopia.

In a similar vein, the Ethiopian Diasporas urged western nations not to take sides with the Terrorist TPLF group that has been turning the lives of civilians, and to work in close collaboration with the democratically elected government. Other than that, they have been urging the international community to take sides with the truth and justice by condemning atrocities perpetrated in the northern part of the country by the Terrorist TPLF group.

In addition to fighting the western conspiracy, the Diasporas have been making every effort to ensure Ethiopia's sovereignty and familiarize the evil deeds of the Terrorist TPLF group with the international community on the grounds that the group is a threat to the Horn's peace, solidarity, and sovereignty.

Although in the present climate, the unwarranted foreign pressure and interference have been diminishing, Ethiopian Diasporas as usual should stand in unison by the side of the government and keep fighting western interference aimed at weakening the sovereignty of the nation.

According to information obtained from the Ethiopian Diaspora Agency, this year, the diaspora community has provided 675.44 million Birr in cash, 565.97 million Birr in kind for the support of citizens who were injured in various areas and the construction of damaged infrastructures, 4.7 million Birr for the prevention of COVID-19, 3.5 million Birr to support advocacy and lobbying activities, and more than 148 million Birr for charity work by coordinating stakeholders.

The participation of the Diaspora was also huge in social media campaigns in a way

that secures Ethiopia's national interest and builds its image. Thus, they are engaged in clarifying Ethiopia's truth to international organizations and political electorates who participated in various campaigns in the countries the Diasporas are residing.

The Diasporas held about 79 demonstrations in various international cities concerning #NoMore movements and campaigns to denounce the H.R. 6600 draft laws.

They have also held discussions and collected signatures and sent them to the elected representatives of the American Councils, the European Union Commission, leaders of the countries, members of the Security Council, and the human rights institutions to understand the truth about Ethiopia.

It is appropriate to recall Ethiopian-American Development Council (EADC) stated that it has sent 50,000 letters to Congress and the White House, and contacted 94 senators via an electronic medium, some 362 representatives out of 435 ones within six days.

It did all this deed to stop ratifying the H.R. 6600 bill thereby defending Ethiopia against repressive U.S. policy and keeping Ethiopia's interest.

Not knowing very well the peace effort the Ethiopians and Ethiopian government have currently exerted, Congressman Malinowski of New Jersey drafted the H.R.6600 bill to merely threaten Ethiopia by imposing sanctions under the guise of security, finance, investment, basic right, and others.

The bill does not understand the complicated problems in Ethiopia and fails to recognize the facts on the ground too, instead, it focuses on alienating a democratically elected government, punishing innocent Ethiopians, exacerbating the existing problem, creating a power vacuum, and driving Ethiopian American relationship in the wrong direction, said Ethiopian American through their message to U.S. officials.

This bill does not try to hold TPLF accountable for previous or current aggression and human rights violations that are escalating the humanitarian crisis in Northern Ethiopia.

It should not be forgotten that American

political analyst the American-Ethiopian Public Affairs Committee (AEPAC) disclosed close to the 100,000-strong Ethiopian American community in Virginia State switched their votes from the ruling Democratic to Republican Party to show grievance over a conspiracy against their country.

Political analyst Andrew Korybko believed that the vote switch demonstrates the Ethiopian community's firm stance to protest the U.S. ruling party's regime change campaign against their homeland.

"The switch shaped the results and shows that foreign policy can determine state elections, including those that have national implications like the latest ones do ahead of next year's midterms," he added.

The analyst further noted that most Americans are oblivious to the fact that their government is waging a Hybrid War on Ethiopia aimed at restoring the formerly most influential faction of the old ruling party, the TPLF, to power despite the group designated by the Ethiopian government as a terrorist organization. This is being done to hold the country's stride to be a regional power in the geostrategic Horn of Africa back.

Korybko highlighted that the potential consequences of this unconventional war against Ethiopia could be its "balkanization," whether formally into separate identity-centric states or informally via its post-war internal partition along the same lines.

The Ethiopian Diaspora Agency (EDA) lately disclosed that the participation of the Diaspora community is further increasing from time to time and witnessed by contributing 4.2 billion USD remittance this year alone.

EDA Communication Director Wondwosen Girma told *The Ethiopian Herald* that the Diaspora community has been showing active participation throughout the country's endeavors for socio-economic growth.

The Diasporas contributed significant roles in public diplomacy, technology transfer, investment and remittance, voluntary service, and direct funding to realize the country's development projects like the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD).

Accordingly, the Diaspora community has contributed 4.2 billion USD through remittance in the just completed Ethiopian fiscal year showing tangible progress from the past similar period of 3.6 billion USD remittance.

In addition, the Diaspora community has contributed some 1.6 billion Birr for the institutional establishment, rehabilitation process for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), GERD, and other voluntary services, he said.

"The Diaspora community has contributed over 126 million Birr to the accomplishment of the GERD through gift and purchasing bonds while mobilizing 150 million Birr for voluntary services and supports," he noted.

Women in Focus

Indomitable spirit, unbounded commitment

BY BETELHEM BEDLU

For a century, Ethiopian athletes have been dominating field and track competitions with a glittering track record in the world's limelight. Ethiopian athletes have also been shining in middle and long-distance races holding a lead in one of the world's most watched sporting events.

The legendary athletes, from Abebe Bikila to Derartu Tulu and Haile Gebreselassie, Ethiopian runners attested their knacks by competing and becoming indomitable contestants, scoring glittering successes, and honoring their country at the world of athletics tracks and fields.

Even these days, Ethiopia's successive athletics communities have continued keeping their nation over the moon; standing tall in the athletics arena and making Ethiopia's name reverberate across the horizon. For this reason, Ethiopia is known as home to enduring runners and talents.

In fact, dubbed Ethiopia's traditional sport, athletics has long been the source of pride and heroism for the entire Ethiopian population.

The country has nothing short of miraculous achievement on the global stage and in hoisting the tri-colored Ethiopian flag in different cities and at different times. Home to favorable climate conditions, suitable topography, and uninterrupted talent, Ethiopia indeed came out to be a towering figure in the world of athletics fielding notable sportsmen and women who dominated the race not only once but dozen times. Suffice it to mention athletes Kenenisa Bekele and Tirunesh Dibaba.

The gallant athletes, who have inked an unforgettable history though their sweat, have enabled their nation to shine on the world stage winning gold medals and accolades to the coffer of the country. Ethiopia's athletics history replete with age-old success and triumphs continues till the present with new coming talent and charisma. The marvelous yet most revered success has turned the country's image in the eye of the international community; also changed the bad reputation in which Ethiopia has been portrayed wittingly or unwittingly. The success of its athletes earned the country an acclimation and inspiration in Africa and beyond.

The remarkable stories have broken the glass ceiling that Africa cannot achieve what other continents can achieve in global competitions. Of course, Ethiopians have set an exemplary lesson to other African people engaged in other professions. If supported by hard work



and determination, Africa, in fact, is well place to lead the world on various frontiers. And, Ethiopian athletes are undisputable proof in this regard.

The heroic deeds of Ethiopian athletes have been proved time and time again. This sparkling success has also been repeated in the World Athletics Championships, held in Oregon, US.

Upon the completion of the most-watched athletics track and field, Ethiopia finished 2nd in the rank list with 10 medals. This year's contest marked a record achievement for team Ethiopia who won four gold medals with Ethiopian women runners winning three gold medals perpetuating the strakes of Ethiopian victories in the middle and long-distance races.

The country has written a living history ranking second among the powerful nations that have abundant resources and staggering technology.

Ethiopian women maintained their domination of the middle and long-distance races by clinching gold medals in the 10,000 and 5,000 meters, and also the marathon while winning silver and bronze medals in Footrace. Letesenbet Gidey, Gudaf Tesegay, and Gotytom Gebreslase have respectively won the gold medals in 10,000m, 5,000m and also at the marathon for their country.

The victory has in fact come amidst a turbulent year and myriads of setbacks facing the country. For quite a while now,

good news has been in short supply in the country accompanied by a tsunami of misinformation and media propaganda.

In fact, the success of Ethiopian athletes proved naysayers' wrong assumptions by coming out top on the world stage with demonstrable unity and solidarity.

Having won the 2021 Berlin Marathon a little less than a year ago, on her debut, the Ethiopian star continues to improve as was evident with her record time in Oregon.

Gotytom Gebreslase completed the feat in a championship-record time of 2 hours, 18 minutes, 11 seconds. After taking the silver medal in the women's 1,500 meters at these World Athletics Championships, Gudaf Tsegay clinched a gold medal in women's 5,000 meters. "I am happy about this result," Tsegay said. This win is for all of Ethiopia, said Gudaf, according to the Oregon championship website.

World record-holder Letesenbet Gidey of Ethiopia won the women's 10,000 meters in a wild finish in the World Athletics Championships at Hayward Field.

The victory has far-reaching implications and is just beyond winning medals. The triumph has shown the world the other face of the country and brought unity among the Ethiopian people. Oregon Championship asserts that Ethiopians can emerge victorious against all odds. They even cultivated a new sense of patriotism and determination in the

country unifying the people under one flag. Ethiopia may currently face different challenges but its victory is inevitable.

Putting the divisive rhetoric aside, Ethiopia has embraced good team spirit and unity proving internal and external adversaries wrong. With their victories, Ethiopia athletes have also shown the world that Ethiopia has all that it takes to turn calamities into opportunities. Yes! Ethiopia is beyond conflict and starvation. Good things are happening in the country even though the international media turn a blind eye to the positive success. The championship has opened a window of opportunity to reveal Ethiopia's true identity to the world. By overcoming the challenges, the athletes exhibited the deep social fabric of Ethiopians and their defiance against all odds.

The athletes who came from different ethnic and religious lines have broken the barriers and unified their people. Ethiopian athletes do, in fact, run for the glory of their people and their country.

As witnessed in the sporting event, nothing can stand in the way of Ethiopians when the people are united and resilient. As the athletes conquered the challenges, Ethiopians will overcome internal and external problems by fostering unity and solidarity. And, the enthusiasm and patriotism that captivated Ethiopians from all walks of life will be repeated in other frontiers owing to the hero and herons of Ethiopian athletes.

International News



Museveni lauds Africa-Russia ties as US fires back on Lavrov's visit

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov says his country is ready to sell oil and wheat to African countries even as the US Mission in Uganda opened a Twitter storm against Moscow.

Mr. Lavrov on Monday met with Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni in Entebbe, where they discussed the issue of rising fuel and food costs in Africa following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February.

In a joint press conference at State House Entebbe, Mr Lavrov, on the second leg of his trip to four African countries, said the two discussed "the current energy situation and the food crisis".

"We sell oil to all the interested countries, and if there is a state that is interested or

willing to buy our oil, whether it's India or an African state, then there are no obstacles to this," said Russia's top diplomat.

"Not only do we sell oil, but we provide assistance in terms of developing its own infrastructure like refineries and oil products. So we are committed to having a discussion with our Ugandan friends on this topic," he added.

Mr. Lavrov, who started his four-nation Africa tour in Egypt, then the Congo Republic before heading on Monday to Uganda, from where he will proceed to Ethiopia, observed that Africa has been hard hit by the economic dimension of the sanctions imposed against Russia.

Source: EastAfrica

WHO donates 2,400 monkeypox test kits to Uganda

The World Health Organization representative to Uganda, Yonas Tegegn Woldemariam (left) hands over a monkeypox test kit to Health minister Jane Ruth Aceng in Kampala on July 26, 2022. PHOTO | NMG

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has donated 2,400 monkeypox test kits to Uganda to help in its response against the spread of the infectious disease.

The WHO also accredited three labs -- the Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI), National Health Laboratory Services, and another under the US

Department of Defense -- to carry out the tests.

While receiving the kits in Kampala on Tuesday, Health minister Dr Jane Ruth Aceng said the donation would strengthen Uganda's surveillance.

"We have been carrying out tests for monkeypox. In the beginning, we were taking tests to South Africa as we run the race to make sure that the cartridges are available in Uganda," she said.

She added: "Subsequently, the department of defense of the US government brought in the cartridges and we started testing in-



country as we wait for WHO to accredit the laboratories that would test so that our results are internationally recognized."

To date, the country has carried out more

than 70 tests for the monkeypox virus, and all have turned out negative, meaning the disease has not been detected in Uganda.

Source: DAILY MONITOR

Kenya: Mercy Corps Says Hate Speech Spreading Ahead of Kenya's Election

Nairobi — The run-up to Kenya's Aug. 9 elections has seen an increase in hate speech aimed at influencing voters, mainly through social media. Groups such as the U.S.-based charity Mercy Corps are running education campaigns to counteract such speech and raise awareness on misinformation and disinformation.

The insightful comments are both online and at campaign stops ahead of the country's general elections.

Research by the U.S.-based humanitarian group Mercy Corps finds a growing use of words that amount to hate speech and could spark violence, especially in the event of a contested election.

Charles Apondu, program manager for peace-building and conflict management at Mercy Corps in Kenya, said some speakers use code words in an effort to promote ethnic tension.

"There is the term Kihihi," Apondu said.

"Kihihi means uncircumcised male, basically terming them a child and unfit for leading. There is the use of the term fumigation, which sort of means target for the extermination of particular groups."

The National Cohesion and Integration Commission, a body that promotes good relations and peaceful coexistence in Kenya, published a list of 23 words and phrases they say could spark intercommunal violence.

Some of the words call for communities not original to a specific area to leave.

Daniel Omondi is the head of the Global Peace Foundation Kenya office, which like Mercy Corps is trying to combat the rise in hate speech. He said he's seen inflammatory speech on the campaign trail, though he shies away from predicting disaster.

"When you go to where people meet, there is a lot of tough speech, tough sloganeering," he said. "But as a peace actor, I do not want to spread fear as a result of what is going on.

It's just that our politics is strong, vibrant."

Analysts say potential hot spots for election-related violence are Nairobi, the neighboring counties of Kiambu and Nakuru, Deputy President William Ruto's home county of Uasin Gishu and former Prime Minister Raila Odinga's home, Kisumu County.

Political commentator Michael Agwanda said Ruto and Odinga are partially to blame for the tension in the country.

"People are deviating from real campaign slogans, philosophies and beliefs and development structures and getting too personal," Agwanda said. "I think this is as a result of cues that they are getting from their presidential aspirants. And mainly, they tend to follow through what the leader says and what the leader believes in."

In an effort to tamp down the tension, peace campaigners are mounting campaigns on social media and holding town halls to educate voters on how to get reliable

information regarding the election.

Apondu said they are trying to demonstrate ways of resolving political issues besides violence.

"We are also using social media to create awareness on what are the available alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in the country other than resorting to protests, resorting to violence, or targeting each other's supporters," Apondu said. "They need to know that we have a political party dispute tribunal. You can go to the courts. You can use internal party dispute resolution mechanisms."

Previous Kenyan elections have been marked by violent protests and attacks on people because of their ethnicity. In the 2007 election, a disputed presidential poll sparked attacks that killed more than 1,100 people and displaced a quarter million from their homes.

Source: VOA

Society

People to people relations deeper than any intervention

BY LEULSEGED WORKU

The peoples of Ethiopia and Sudan have century old historic, economic and cultural relations. This deep rooted historic, social and economic relation among the neighboring people is still strong and intact. However, this does not mean that the relations of the two people had never disrupted at all; and never face challenges. There were times that the political agendas of some anti-Ethiopian elements had been used as a means to distract the good relationship of the two peoples. There were repetitive actions incited aiming to ruin the relationship of the two countries. However, none of them ruin the relations of the two peoples; and caused them to be in hostile state. This clearly demonstrates the level of intimacy the two peoples have established.

Recently, following the dispute occurred at the Ethio-Sudan border, the peoples residing in the border areas held discussion to further strengthen their people to people relations. As part of this effort, intellectuals, elders and representatives of the border community of the two countries, religious leaders, held discussion at Metema Yohannes Town, Amhara Media Corporation reported.

Ethiopia and Sudan people have strong historical relations that are cemented by culture, language, marriage as well as trade and other activities. For this reason, the political agenda that may arise in various seasons has no power to tear up such a strong bond.

This strong tie that the peoples of the two countries have established for long has been attested by several challenges. However, the challenges were overcome by the commitment of the two brotherly peoples. The recent protest against the action of the Sudanese Government is one of those instances. It is a good indication that the people of Sudan are against all forms of conflict with their good neighbor- Ethiopia.

The people of Ethiopia and Sudan enjoy mutual benefits from trade, cultural exchange, and regional security. Their bond is beyond the political will of their governments. Using their historic relationship as a ground, representatives of the people in the border area have discussed on matters how they can resolve their differences sustainably, further maintain their peace and reinforce their trade relations.

As it was indicated representing the Ethiopian border area peoples, the leader of the delegate Gezat Birhane said that the relations between the peoples of the two countries have deep natural and cultural bond that cannot be eroded by regime change or any political situation. The strong historical relationship of the two countries has overcome several challenges.

However, since recent time, the Sudanese Government has been providing support for T-PLF and the extremist Kemant militants that are working to destabilize Ethiopia. Following the discussion held between the governments of the two countries in Nairobi in the areas of regional integration and people to people relation, they have reached to an agreement. And we have to cease this



opportunity for future peace, he said.

Appreciating the effort of the two governments, Sudan public Diplomacy Head Gedaref area elders delegate representative, Alfadun Hassan Ali, on his part said that the situation (conflict) that was observed between the two countries has no value for both countries other than damaging them.

It has a devastating impact on the people of the two countries. According to him, the border conflict that was observed between peoples of the two countries will erode the historical strong relations of the two countries. In this regard, besides strengthening people to people relations of the two countries, elders and representatives of the two people have a great interest to resolve the dispute in a sustainable way and work for the good of the two peace loving people. The tension in and around the border area is unacceptable by any means. The representatives of the two countries have a responsibility to work for the common good of their people.

“We must work irrespective of the political interest of the two countries. We are duty bound to influence the governments of the two countries to work for the good of their people and support the peaceful discussion between them. We have a firm belief that no single political agenda will harm the historic relationship of Ethiopia.”

He also added that the representatives of the two countries have a goal to further strengthen the trade and social people tie in the two border towns of Galabat and the Metema Yohannes. “In order to achieve that goal we have organized a committee that works focusing on people to people agenda. What is more, using all available means for peace, we will notify each and every instant and new development to our respective governments.”

He said that the Ethio-Sudan people-to

The people of Ethiopia and Sudan enjoy mutual benefits from trade, cultural exchange, and regional security. Their bond is beyond the political will of their governments

The political commitment and the will of the two countries to avoid clashes on the border area is a good indication how the people of the two countries are keen for peaceful coexistence for their people. However, this agreement must be confirmed by legal agreements. It is well remembered that, in 2008, Ethiopia and Sudan under the leadership of President Omar al-Bashir and the late Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, had reached a relatively cordial land use agreement by which the two countries could cultivate the land until final demarcation was finalized.

It is recently witnessed that Ethiopia and Sudan have agreed to reach such an urgent and permanent solution on the border issue subsequent to discussion held between the two countries leadership to settle the border dispute. Apart from opening the border, the Sudanese Technical Committee of the Security and Defense Council has also decided to set up border monitoring and improve coordination between the two countries to stop the movement of armed elements across the border.

Ethiopia is pursuing a policy of promoting peaceful relations with its neighbors. Despite all instability in the Horn of Africa, the relation Ethiopia has with its neighbors is cordial and moving in the right direction. In this regard, the nation is working aggressively to deepen its diplomatic efforts with neighboring countries. This mutual interest is being expressed in the form of peace and security issues.

Despite the border clash the two countries (Ethiopia and Sudan) experienced lately, the people of Sudan and Ethiopia are still enjoying the fruits of peace and solidarity. The commitment of the two countries to help each other in times of difficulties and working aggressively to avoid clashes is an exemplary step towards sustainable peace in the region.

people relation is stronger and much better than any other country. “We don’t even have such a strong people to people relationship with the newly independent South Sudan. There is no earthly power that can separate such relationships.”