



Ethiopian News

July – August 2013 Issue

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Melkam Addis Amet!

(Happy New Year)

from Everyone at the Ethiopian Embassy

**Ethiopians at home and abroad celebrate the New Year (*Enkutatash*) on 11th September. Ethiopia still uses the ancient Julian calendar which is seven to eight years behind the Gregorian calendar, showcasing Ethiopia’s rich cultural tradition which includes its own languages, alphabet and calendar months. In addition to the New Year, the festival commemorates the end of the long rainy season (*kremt*), when the sun comes out and the fields are filled with yellow daisies.

PM Hailemariam at the G20 Summit in St. Petersburg



This year’s G20 Summit concluded on 6th September after endorsing a resolution to concentrate on long term development

support instead of short term relief aid.

Under the “*Petersburg Development Strategy*” each member country is expected to deliver an employment strategy to the G20 summit to be held next year in Australia. The resolution urges member states to strive to speed up development in their respective countries as this will contribute to economic recovery and financial stability at the global level.

Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn, who attended the Summit as Chairman of the African Union, said the G20 leaders reflected a common stance on investment, job creation and on accelerating development.



Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, and Prime Minister of Ethiopia, chairman of the African Union Hailemariam Desalegn during the official welcome of heads of delegations.

The G20 Leaders Declaration has been published following the G20 Summit in St. Petersburg and can be found on the following link: <http://en.g20russia.ru/news/20130906/782776427.html>



PM Hailemariam at the second working meeting of the G20 heads of state and government, heads of invited states and international organizations

Thirty four world leaders and representatives of international organizations were in attendance at the two-day G20 Summit.

PM Hailemariam also held talks on the sidelines of the Summit with leaders from various countries on ways to strengthen development cooperation with African states, including The Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper PC MP, Prime Minister of Canada.

Discussions covered the bilateral relations of the two countries and various African issues. The two sides agreed to make efforts to enable Canadian companies engaged in infrastructure and the mining sector in Ethiopia to become operational. They also agreed to work towards strengthening the cooperation between Ethiopian Airlines and Canadian carriers.

The two Prime Ministers exchanged views regarding the current situation in Mali and on ways to consolidate the relative peace and stability in Somalia. Mr. Harper underlined Somalia's need for a military training centre to build up the capacity of its security forces and affirmed that Canada would support such an initiative.

PM Hailemariam confers with Tony Blair

On 24th July, Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn held talks with former British Prime Minister Tony Blair.

The Premier on the occasion lauded Mr. Blair for his vital role played for the success of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) as well as the development endeavours of Ethiopia. Mr. Blair on his part affirmed that he will continue to support the development activities being carried out in Ethiopia. He expressed belief that the age-old bilateral ties between Ethiopia and Britain will continue to be further strengthened.

Happy Ethiopian New Year

Ethiopia welcomed its New Year for 2006 on 11th September.



New Year celebrations in Ethiopia are mainly a family affair and traditionally, children get new clothing and distribute freshly picked flowers, families visit friends and the countryside echoes with New Year songs. The New Year is celebrated by both Muslims and Christians.

The President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, H.E. Girma Woldegiorgis, in his annual New Year message, conveyed his best wishes and hoped that the new year will be a year of peace and prosperity for all Ethiopians.

The president also announced that his government had pardoned 458 inmates. He termed the pardons as "an indication of the progress registered in the building of the nation's democratic and justice system." He urged former inmates to assist the newly released group integrate into the community and contribute to national development. Pardons are given to prisoners who show regret for their actions and who demonstrate good conduct.

In his message for the New Year, Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn expressed assurance that the New Year would be a time during which the Growth and Transformation Plan would be accomplished with the combined efforts of the public. The premier called on the public to support the ongoing national development endeavours towards realizing Ethiopia's renaissance. He

also expressed his government's commitment towards the same cause.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs also wished all Ethiopians and Ethiopian-born foreign citizens a happy and prosperous New Year. The Ministry hopes the new Ethiopian year will be a year in which Ethiopians living at home or abroad will redouble their efforts to support their country's development efforts. The Ministry would also to extend its wishes that the New Year will be a year when our efforts to bring lasting peace and stability throughout our sub-region will bear fruit.

TDA-Europe Festival takes place in London



The Tigray Development Association (TDA) Europe Festival took place in London on 24th August as Chapters of the TDA in Europe launched their reports, in the presence of a high level delegation led by H.E. Abay Weldu, President of the Tigray Regional State.

The various Chapters are members of the TDA International. TDA International is a non-profit community based development organization with more than 800,000 members all over the world, mainly in the Tigray region.

The two-day annual festival is organized by TDA-UK and its supporters.

In a report at the gathering, Executive Director of TDA International, Dr. Tadesse Hagos, elaborated on the development projects carried out by the organization in the areas of education, health and the construction of other social facilities, which have contributed to the improvement of the livelihood of the people of Tigray.

In the discussion that followed, participants appreciated the increased role of the Association in the provision of basic services to the society, that are central to the improvement of the quality of life of the people of the regional state.

Members of the association vowed to implement projects and programmes with commitment and dedication to ensure the overall development of the region.



The delegation arriving at the venue led by H.E. Ato Abay Weldu, President of the Tigray Regional State.

Speaking at the meeting, President of the Tigray Regional State, H.E. Ato Abay Weldu, paid tribute to the late Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, the pioneer and leader of the economic and social transformation that has taken place in Tigray and across Ethiopia. The people of Tigray, now masters of their destiny, are enjoying the fruits of the economic and social development made possible through the implementation of

successive poverty alleviation programmes and the current five-year Growth and Transformation Plan.

A number of higher learning institutes, health posts and clinics, thousands of kilometres of road, irrigation schemes, small and medium enterprises, communication networks, electricity and potable water supplies, were constructed as part of the pro-poor programmes, instrumental for the betterment of the living conditions of the people of Tigray, he said.

He commended the contribution of the TDA Chapters in Europe for the realization of development activities, and called on members to remain seized in the fight against poverty.

Addressing participants at the meeting, Ethiopian Ambassador to the UK and Scandinavian countries, H.E. Berhanu Kebede, noted how crucial the role of the Diaspora has been in the nation-building endeavour and urged members of TDA to further intensify engagement in mobilizing resources and transfer of knowledge to foster development of the Tigray Regional State, and the nation at large, with particular focus on education, health and other social facilities.

He expressed gratitude for the support rendered by the Association in the UK and beyond for the success of the popular cause and urged for more of the same in future undertakings for the implementation of the mega projects both at the national and regional level.



He called on TDA members to rise with more vigour for the realization of the vision of the Great Leader, the Renaissance of Ethiopia. Appreciating the GERD bond sale and the funds raised by TDA-UK, he urged participants to march forward for yet more successes in building a vibrant and prosperous Ethiopia.

Earlier at the event, Chairman of TDA-UK, Ato Kelem Laike, made remarks regarding the contribution of the Association which focused on mobilizing resources and material for development projects being undertaken in the Tigray Regional State.

A presentation on the overall political, economic and social activities in the region was delivered by the head of the Regional Customs and Revenue Bureau.

H.E. Kidusan Nega, Speaker of the Tigray Regional Council and member of the high level delegation that presided over the meeting held discussions and consultations with Tigray women on issues of development and major achievements in improving the living conditions of the people.

As part of the festival, renowned artistes staged concerts and an assortment of activities were undertaken including discussions with professionals and association supporters.



A minute's silence was observed in memory of the Great Leader and compatriots who paid their ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty serving the cause of the people.

Ethiopia among top three countries gaining food security

Ethiopia, Botswana and Niger were the top three most improved Sub-Saharan countries in the 2013 Global Food Security Index, rising eight places on average in the global food security rankings.

According to the report, Developing countries made the greatest food security gains in the past year with improvements attributed to greater food availability and income growth.

Developed by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), the annual Global Food Security Index is a first-of-its-kind ranking tool to comprehensively measure food security and monitor the ongoing impact of agriculture investments, collaborations and policies in 107 countries, 28 of which are in Sub-Saharan Africa.

To view the Global Food Security Index 2013 visit: <http://foodsecurityindex.eiu.com>

EIAR and AGRA launch new initiative to boost crop productivity

The Ethiopian Institute for Agricultural Research (EIAR) and the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) launched a new breeding program for five Ethiopian grain crops - Maize, Tef, Sorghum, Soybean and Faba bean.

The three-year initiative will boost household food security and incomes through introduction of high-yielding varieties in Ethiopia.

AGRA will invest over \$1 million to reach directly and indirectly more than 200,000 smallholder farmers in Ethiopia.

This initiative will help to improve the food security situation through developing and deploying more than 10 improved crop varieties better than varieties on farmers hand and previously released and promoting these among farmers. The initiative will also build capacity among researchers, extension agents, and public-private seed companies, and enhance the linkages between all the seed value chain players of target crops.

Mobile phone coverage to expand after telecoms deal

As part of Ethiopia's telecommunications expansion project worth \$1.6 billion, Ethio Telecom signed two agreements - one of \$800 million with China's ZTE and the other of \$700 million also with China's Huawei

Technologies- which will help expand the mobile phone infrastructure, double the number of mobile phone subscribers to more than 50 million, while also increasing the 3G Internet accessibility nationwide.

The expansion, which is part of Ethiopia's Growth and Transformation Plan, will also see the introduction of 4G broadband internet in Addis Ababa.

13,200 homes powered with solar energy

The Ministry of Water and Energy announced 13,200 solar power systems have been installed across the country since the launch of a \$11 million solar power project in December last year.

The project, which is part of the Government's effort to improve power generation in the country, will be used to power 25,000 homes in rural Ethiopia and "will provide enough power for lighting, mobile phones, a computer and solar fridge for each home".

The solar systems will power locations not connected to the national grid system, according to the Ministry's Director of Public Relations, Bizuneh Tolcha.

The project is part of a grant from the World Bank totalling \$40 million launched to accelerate the development of renewable energy projects in Ethiopia - In January this year, the Bank had announced that over the coming months it would create a \$20 million fund to promote geothermal energy projects while another \$20 million would be added later as a part of a private sector initiative funded by the World Bank.

EEPCo approves Aysha Wind Farm

The Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EEPCo) approved the launching of the first phase of the construction of Aysha I Wind Farm project in the Somali Regional State.

Construction of the project, split into three phases, will begin soon, with the first phase, to be carried out by the Chinese Company, Dongfang Wind, expected to produce 120MW of energy when completed.

The project will have a total capacity of 300MW, however there are plans for expansion in the future.

In related news, the Adama wind project will have 102 1.5MW turbines after a contract worth \$95 million with Chinese wind turbine maker, Sany, was signed.

Construction commenced in June and is expected to enter operation in 2014.

Sugar Corporation updates on new projects

According to the Ethiopian Sugar Corporation, developments over the past three years have shown encouraging progress.

Of the planned seven new factories, construction of four have now been 50% completed.

Expansion projects on three existing factories have been now been completed, of which two will start production in November and the remaining one in December.

These developments will enable the corporation to meet domestic demand and allow the government to shift the cost of importing more than two million quintals of sugar to other areas.

Irrigation for 50,000 hectares of sugar plantation at the Tana Beles Sugar development project, including over 30km of inland waterway has been completed. Another 24km of canals and temporary river diversion have also been built at the Omo Kuraz Sugar project.

Ethiopian Airlines acquires 49% of Air Malawi; Airline's CEO first African to receive Award for Regional Leadership

Ethiopian Airlines, the fastest growing airline in Africa, recently bought 49% equity shareholding of Malawi Airlines. The remaining 51% will be held by the Malawian government and Malawian private investors.



This new partnership is part of the airline's Vision 2025 strategic roadmap of setting up multiple hubs in Africa.

The airline will use Lilongwe Airport as its third regional hub in Africa, after its main hub in Addis Ababa and its West Africa in Lomé.

Tewelde Gebremariam, CEO of Ethiopian Airlines said, "Ethiopian and the newly formed Malawi Airlines will harmonize their flight schedules so as to provide seamless and best connectivity options for travellers within, to and from the Southern Africa region."

Clients will now have an easier access for reaching Lilongwe when flying with Ethiopian Airlines or Air Malawi.

Ethiopian has just successfully completed its third year of its fifteen year strategic road-map, Vision 2025. By 2025, the airline aims to become the leading aviation group in Africa with seven business units generating 10 billion dollars in revenue annually.

Tewelde Gebremariam was also recently given the **2013 Airline Strategy Awards for Regional Leadership** award becoming the first African Airline CEO to receive it in the award's 12-year history, which is given out annually by Airline Business Magazine, a publication of Flight Global, the world's leading aviation media brand.



Thierry Lindenau, co-leader of the Global Aviation Practice Group at Spencer Stuart and Tewelde Gebremariam, CEO of Ethiopian, during the award ceremony

The Airline Strategy Awards for Regional Leadership is given for a management team that has demonstrated excellence in leading a carrier, which provides strong transport links in its geographical region. A key criterion for this award is the successful utilization of regional markets with high operational integrity as well as the ability to produce good growth rates while keeping a tight grip on costs.

The judges gave Tewelde the award for delivering consistent profits while developing Ethiopian Airlines' fleet, network and business infrastructure and, in doing so, for showing leadership in the continent.

After receiving the award, the Ethiopian CEO said, "I am pleased to receive this prestigious strategy award which

is recognition of the hard work and special dedication of the 8,000 employees of Ethiopian Airlines. It is also a confirmation that our vision 2025 strategic road map of fast, profitable and sustainable growth is right and a sound one. As a truly indigenous pan-African airline, successful execution of our strategy is enabling the airline to serve seventy-five international destinations in five continents with the aim of bringing Africa together and closer to the world. I would like to thank the Airline Business Magazine management and the panel of judges for selecting us for this award."

International training institute for peace-keepers to be opened in Ethiopia

An international institute for the training of peace-keepers, set up in collaboration with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Ethiopian Government, is to be established in Ethiopia and will serve as a training facility for peace-keeping organizations within and around East Africa.

The centre will equip peace-keepers and institutions with advanced skills in conflict analysis (applied research), training design, and for peace-building interventions.

The Government of Japan is set to provide \$14.77million for the establishment of the institute. Agreement for the institute will be signed between the UNDP and the Ethiopian government.

8.5 million hectares covered with trees

The Ministry of Agriculture reported that 8.5 million hectares of land has been covered with trees over the past three years, exceeding the target set for the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP).

The target set for the end of the GTP's five year period was to cover 7.5 million hectares of land.

The State Minister of Agriculture, Sileshi Getahun, said the activities undertaken through the sustainable land management program enabled Ethiopia to achieve the five-year plan within three years. Activities undertaken with the close collaboration of the public to prevent biodiversity loss, raise rainforest coverage and increase soil activity were successful in achieving this target.

At the beginning of the GTP period, 3.5 million hectares of land was covered with trees, now it has risen to 13 million hectares.

In the coming two years, the Government has given due attention to benefit the public from ongoing afforestation and soil fertility development programs.

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

\$3 billion secured from foreign trade

The Ministry of Trade announced that during the just concluded budget year, Ethiopia secured over \$3 billion in revenue from foreign trade - \$59.8 million more than that of the same period the previous year.

The revenue was from the export of a variety of products including coffee, live animals, vegetables and fruits, flowers, food and beverage, tea, cereals, oil seeds, spices, honey and foot wear.

Ethiopia exported these products to a total of 133 countries including Somalia, China, Germany, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland and U.S.A.

Leather sector earns \$123.44 million

The Ethiopian Leather Industry Development Institute (LIDI) said Ethiopia earned \$123.44 million from leather exports in the just concluded budget year mainly from finished leather products, footwear, gloves and other products.

The revenue earned exceeds by \$12.6 million compared to the same period the previous year owing to the export of only finished leather products and support given for tanneries and footwear firms.

Ethiopia envisages earning \$300 million from the sector this budget year.

Ethiopia to join WTO in 2015

The Ministry of Trade announced that Ethiopia will join the World Trade Organization (WTO) by 2015 with its accession to WTO expected to be finalized in the third quarter of 2015.

This is in accordance with the time frame set out in Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP).

Currently 159 countries are fully fledged members of the global trading body while 34 others are on the accession track.

ECX trades 20 billion birr of commodities

20 billion birr worth of commodities was traded at the Ethiopian Commodity Exchange (ECX) during the 2012/13 budget year.

Coffee made up 45% of the total volume of trade, while sesame 40% and haricot white beans 15%.

ECX currently has 358 members and 12,000 customers since.

Established in 2008 by Eleni Gebremedhin, the value of trade from the exchange has risen from just 2.7 billion birr to the present level of 20 billion birr.

Thanks to the commitment of the Government of Ethiopia, the ECX team, Members of the Exchange, and collaborators, the Ethiopia Commodity Exchange (ECX) can now boast to be a success story, not only in Ethiopia but also in Africa.

ECX will hold an Ethiopian Coffee Conference in November 2013, which will bring together stakeholders and promote Ethiopian coffee.

The Ethiopian Commodity Exchange – the first of its kind in Africa – is credited with helping grow the country's coffee exports.

TOURISM

Ethiopia Sees Tourism Increase

Ethiopia earned \$663.7 million from more than 629,000 tourists during the just ended Ethiopian fiscal year, visiting historical, natural and religious attractions.

The revenue has grown by 37% while the number of tourists grew by 7.8% compared to the past year.

As part of the Growth and Transformation Plan, the Ethiopian government plans to earn \$3 billion from more than one million foreign tourists, who will visit the country until the end of the five-year Plan.

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism will carry out awareness-raising activities to increase the revenue from tourism sector and improve service facilities. The Ministry is also striving to make Ethiopia one of the first five African tourist destinations in 2012E.C.

Kenenisa Bekele opens new hotel

Ethiopian long distance runner, Kenenisa Bekele, inaugurated his new hotel in Addis Ababa, Kenenisa Hotel on 4th August.

The hotel in Addis offers 51 rooms with modern amenities.

Bekele, the world record and Olympic record holder in both the 5000 metres and 10,000 metres events, also has a resort based in Sululta which has a training camp for athletes offering a unique opportunity to experience high altitude training in the mountainous regions of Ethiopia. Kenenisa Resort Training Camp is also a perfect holiday for running enthusiasts of all levels.

See page 12 for AFP story on the camp.

SPORTS

Ethiopia qualifies for final Africa round of World Cup 2014; plays Nigeria

Ethiopia secured a place in the final round of the World Cup qualifying in Africa zone joining the elite group of the best 10 teams in Africa fighting for a place at the World Cup 2014 in Brazil.



The FIFA World Cup Local Organising Committee on 16th September held a draw at the Cairo headquarters of the Confederation of African Football where the ten African sides who reached the play-off stage discovered their fate for the next stages.

Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal and Tunisia will fight for the continent's five places at the 2014 FIFA World Cup. Accordingly, Ethiopia will face Nigeria for the final playoff round with the first match played in October at Addis Ababa Stadium and the second leg in November in Nigeria.

Draw

Côte d'Ivoire	vs.	Senegal
Ethiopia	vs.	Nigeria
Tunisia	vs.	Cameroon
Ghana	vs.	Egypt
Burkina Faso	vs.	Algeria

The ties will be played between 11th – 15th October 2013 and 15th – 19th November 2013.

Ethiopia at the World Championships in Moscow

Ethiopia finished sixth at the 14th IAAF World Championships in Moscow with ten medals, three of them gold.



Tirunesh Dibaba on 12th August got her 5th IAAF World Championships gold medal in 10,000m with a seemingly effortless performance.

The 28 year old, nicknamed 'The Baby Faced Destroyer', finished the race in 30:43.35. Ethiopian teammate, Belaynesh Oljira, finished third in 30:46.98, while Kenya took silver.

Ethiopia, famous for its long distance runners, won its first World Championship gold medal in the 800m on 13th August. Mohammed Aman finished the race in 1:43.31, making it the third-fastest time in World Championships history and the youngest man ever to win this event at a World Championships.



This win added to his 2012 World Indoor Championships gold medal.



Meseret Defar regained the women's 5,000m title at the World Championships to win gold with a strong finish of 14 minutes, 50.19 seconds, beating silver medallist Mercy Cherono of Kenya by 1.03 seconds. Teammate Almaz Ayana won her first major championship medal coming in third place with a time of 14:51.33.

Other medals came from Ibrahim Jeilan who came second in the men's 10,000m distance behind Britain's Mo Farah. Hagos Gebrhiwet won the men's 5000m silver; Lelisa Desisa got silver at the men's Marathon while teammate Tadese Tola got bronze and Sofia Assefa got bronze in the women's 3000m Steeplechase.

The Ethiopian Embassy in Moscow held a reception in honour of the team following the games where local residents and Ethiopians who had come to the championships from abroad feted the athletes and spent an evening mingling and dancing to traditional music.

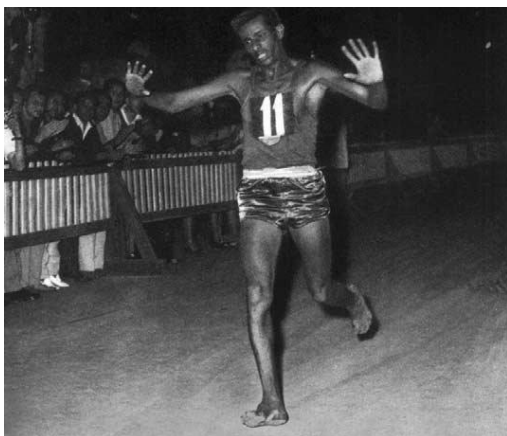
Google features Abebe Bikila



On 7th August, Google honoured Abebe Bikila with a Google Doodle.

The double Olympic marathon champion is most famous for winning a marathon gold medal in the 1960 Summer Olympics while running barefoot. And in 1964, Bikila made history again, breaking the world record for the marathon, becoming the first athlete in history to win the Olympic marathon twice.

He was born on 7th August, 1932 and passed away at the age of 41 in 1973.



Bikila at the 1960 Olympics

"I wanted the world to know that my country, Ethiopia, has always won with determination and heroism" – Abebe Bikila

EVENTS

Mulatu Astatke at the Village Underground

Ethio-Jazz legend, Mulatu Astatke, will perform two special shows at London's Village Underground on 8th and 9th October to celebrate the release of his new studio album 'Sketches of Ethiopia'.



The new album, released on 2nd September 2013, brings to mind the great arrangements of Gil Evans and late Ellingtonian tone poems and is homage to the rhythms and dances of Mulatu's homeland that still provide the engine for his music.

Tickets can be purchased with the event organisers: <http://villageunderground.seetickets.com/venue/village-underground-shoreditch-london/4330>

The 3rd International Conference on Family Planning

Addis Ababa will host the 3rd International Family Planning Conference from 12th – 15th November 2013, organised by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Bill and Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. The conference will bring over 4,000 health researchers, program managers, policymakers, and representatives from international donor organizations and foundations, including many young people and newly emerging leaders in the field of family planning and reproductive health.

The conference will be held under the theme: **Full Access and Full Choice.**

BOOKS

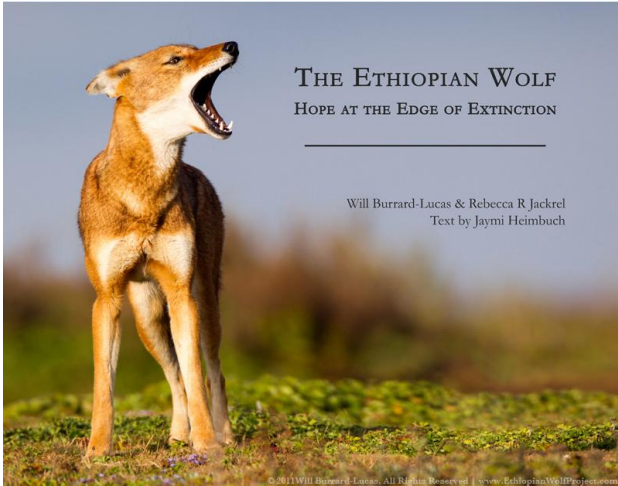
The Ethiopian Wolf: Hope at the Edge of Extinction

Photographers Will Burrard-Lucas and Rebecca R. Jackrel travel to Ethiopia to document the lives of the Ethiopian Wolf and the work of the Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme in a compelling illustrated book.

Will Burrard-Lucas, a professional wildlife photographer from the UK and Rebecca R Jackrel, a



nature and wildlife photographer from San Francisco, tell the story of these endangered wolves and the work the conservation programme is doing to preserve the species for future generations.



The book is widely available on online stores as well as on the EWCP website. To learn more about the work of EWCP, visit their website on <http://www.ethiopianwolfproject.com/book/>. 50% of profits from every book sale purchased directly from this site will be donated to the Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme.

NEWS IN BRIEF

20,700km roads to be constructed, renovated

The Ethiopian Roads Authority set a target to construct and renovate up to 20,700km of new and existing roads this current fiscal year, at a cost of 28.9 billion Birr.

Construction of 45 new road projects will be launched while other 42 ongoing projects are expected to be completed.

During the just ended budget year, 19,500km of roads were constructed and renovated, increasing Ethiopia's road coverage to 80,000km, up from 63,000km from the previous year.

43% of the Addis Ababa Light Railway completed

The Ethiopian Railway Corporation announced that 43% of the Addis Ababa Light Railway has been completed.

The project is expected to be completed at the end of 2014.

ETHIOPIA IN THE NEWS

H&M to expand in Ethiopia



In recent reports, Swedish fashion retailer, Hennes and Mauritz (H&M), announced its plan to expand its network of suppliers into Ethiopia.

Jens Hansgard and Heide Vogt report that H&M's move to Africa would expand its sourcing footprint...H&M is looking to source one million garments a month from Ethiopia. A spokeswoman said the fashion company has placed test orders with Ethiopian suppliers and that large-scale production could begin as early as this fall.

Tesco PLC and the British arm of Wal-Mart Stores Inc. (ASDA) are also buying clothing from Ethiopian manufacturing plants.

Read the full article on Wall Street Journal Online: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324823804579014792348431448.html>

Also read Deutsche Welle's take: <http://www.dw.de/ethiopia-next-stop-for-textile-industry/a-17043826>

Ethiopia named as one of the countries to succeed China

In a recent report by Stratfor, Ethiopia has been tipped as one of the sixteen countries which will succeed china as an economic hub.

The countries, named the "PC16" or "the Post-China 16", include Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania from Sub-Saharan Africa, and also countries such as Cambodia and Mexico.

Founder and chairman of Stratfor, George Friedman explains that "China represents a certain phase of economic development, which is driven by low wages, foreign appetite for investment and a chaotic and disorderly development...The country will continue to exist and perhaps prosper, but this era of Chinese development -- pyramiding on low wages to conquer global markets -- is ending simply because there are now other nations with even lower wages and other advantages."

China is at the fringes of its low-wage, high-growth era. Other countries will replace it. The international system

opens the door to low-wage countries with appropriate infrastructure and sufficient order to do business.

There is no single country that can replace China. Its size is staggering. That means that its successors will not be one country but several countries, most at roughly the same stage of development. Taken together, these countries have a total population of just over 1 billion people. We didn't aim for that; we realized it after we selected the countries.

Stratfor is a geopolitical intelligence firm that provides strategic analysis and forecasting to individuals and organizations around the world.

To read article: <http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/pc16-identifying-chinas-successors>

10 things that make Ethiopia extraordinary



Oliver Robinson lists his top 10 “unexpected attractions” in Ethiopia including fairy tale castles, superb coffee, Martian landscapes and the Ark of the Covenant.



“Lalibela's monolithic churches still impress nine centuries later”

Bush-crow diaries: Reflecting on Ethiopia



Samuel Jones, a postgraduate student at Imperial College London and an early-career ornithologist and conservation scientist, reflects on his time in Ethiopia spent researching on ‘one of the most remarkable African discoveries of the twentieth century’ - the Ethiopian Bush-crow.

“In recent years I have had the wonderful privilege to travel widely, experiencing a great variety of places in many remote and relatively untraveled regions of the world, but something about this country took hold of me and never let go, quite unlike anywhere I have ever been. Pride is a word that I will now associate with Ethiopia probably more than any other. The Borana people are oozing with enthusiasm to tell you about their world and way of life and were even keener to share it with me as an outsider.”

His full blog can be found on the Scientific American website:

<http://blogs.scientificamerican.com/expeditions/2013/07/29/bush-crow-diaries-reflecting-on-ethiopia/>.

Links of his previous blogs on his Ethiopian expedition can be found on the same site.

Discovering Africa: Ethiopia



Read Ventures Africa guide into Ethiopia. The piece features Ethiopia's history and places to visit. “Ethiopia is a country of extraordinary natural beauty, great potential and historical and cultural interest.”

<http://www.ventures-africa.com/2013/07/discovering-africa-ethiopia-cradle-of-humanity/>

Translating Amharic script into art



BBC Africa's Jenny Horrocks interviews Ethiopian artist, Wosene Worke Kosrof, who explores the aesthetic potential of symbols from the Amharic script.

Wosene began distorting the symbols of his language 35 years ago and is now an integral part of his work.

His exhibition Wordplay is being shown at London's newly opened Gallery of African Art.

AUDIO: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-23412025>



Soulful Sounds from Ethiopia

VOA interview Ethiopian duo act, Munit & Jörg, on their Ethio-Acoustic Soul. They play original compositions as well as arrangements of classic works such as “Yekermo Sew” by Ethio-Jazz master Mulatu Astatke and Ethiopian folk music.



Their interview also features a live performance of three tracks off their new album “2”: “Trans-Africa Highway” (written by Munit & Jorg), “Yekermo Sew” (music by Mulatu Astatke), and “Hagare” (written by Munit & Jorg).

VIDEO: <http://blogs.voanews.com/african-music-treasures/2013/07/15/soulful-sounds-from-ethiopia/>



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Rhythm divine: the Ethiopian nun whose music enraptured the Holy Land



Harriet Sherwood reports from Jerusalem on Emahoy Tsegué-Mariam Guebrù’s rise to the spotlight after her piano compositions, acclaimed by critics and devotees, have been published as a book, ensuring the long-term survival of her music.

Read the full story on the Guardian website: <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/aug/18/ethiopian-nun-music-holy-enrapture>

A track above the others: Ethiopia’s running camp in the sky

Read Kenenisa Bekele’s journey of transforming his camp in Sululta into what he hopes will be a world-class training centre.



Speaking to AFP, he says the track will attract foreign athletes eager to train in the ideal climate and altitude of the Ethiopian highlands. He is also hoping to attract running enthusiasts of all levels, finding a new way of marketing Ethiopia as a tourist destination and tapping into a growing market of "hobby joggers" the world over who are eager to rub shoulders with east Africa's elite.

Read the full story on the Global Times website: <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/809045.shtml#Ui3nyMaTg4o>



Let’s make optimal use of whatever support we have managed to mobilise. Let’s ensure that the people always benefit, that we listen to them. . . we are of no use unless we serve and listen to them.”

– H.E. Prime Minister Meles Zenawi
1955 – 2012