



Ethiopian News

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PM Abiy Ahmed wins Nobel Peace Prize





Editorial



File Photo: Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed with Egypt's President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi

Technical Talks on GERD must and will succeed

On 11th October 2019, the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Ethiopian Prime Minister, Dr Abiy Ahmed. A first for the nation, the awarding of the 100th edition of the Prize is deserved recognition of Ethiopia's indefatigable commitment to the mutually reinforcing causes of peace and reconciliation.

These commitments are further evidenced by Ethiopia's role in the ongoing tripartite talks on the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD). Since before the launch of the project in 2010, Ethiopia has consistently championed the right of all countries on the Nile to equitably and reasonably utilise its waters. In particular, this position was

embodied by Ethiopia's role in the establishment of the first and only all-inclusive basin-wide institution in the history of the River – the Nile Basin Initiative – and in its ratification of the Cooperative Framework Agreement (CFA). Ethiopia has remained an unflinching advocate for greater cooperation, negotiation and compromise on the Nile, in particular - a hallmark of our approach to all international challenges.

There are countless examples of this, but the case of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam project, is revealing. To begin with, the Project, though identified within Ethiopia as a potential development on the Blue Nile as early as the 1960s,

owes its most recent genesis to the Eastern Nile Joint Multipurpose Project (JMP) programme launched by Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia in 2005. The GERD site project was confirmed as offering significant benefits to all three countries, but the JMP process was abandoned by Egypt, forcing Ethiopia to pursue the project nationally.

Ethiopia's desire to see the GERD to fruition has since seen it take a number of unprecedented steps to enhance trust, encourage dialogue and promote peace amongst Eastern Nile neighbours. In the first of these moves, Ethiopia, as part of the IPoE initiative, voluntarily invited technical experts from both Egypt and Sudan, as well as a group of independent international experts, to assess the impacts, if any, of the Dam. Upon the acceptance of the recommendations of the IPoE for further studies, Ethiopia together with Sudan and Egypt, hired two international engineering firms to conduct the remaining studies while tripartite technical consultations continued.



Tripartite talks in Khartoum, October 2019

In March 2015, these engagements yielded the Declaration of Principles on the GERD Declaration of Principles (DOP), signed in Khartoum by leaders from the three countries. In addition to the long-established international water principles on reasonable and equitable use, and the causing of no significant harm, the DOP also established principles of cooperation, development, trust-building and the peaceful settlement of disputes. In an effort to operationalise the principles of the DOP and allay the remaining concerns of the downstream states on the first filling and operation of the GERD, Ethiopia initiated the establishment of a National Independent Scientific Research Group, the NISRG, comprised of five technical experts from

each country who have engaged in a series of tripartite technical talks aimed at developing options for the filling and operation of the GERD. Thus far, the NISRG has held five meetings, with Ethiopia displaying the degree of flexibility required to satisfy all countries.

Though there have been some bumps along the way, there must be acknowledgement of the nine-year journey to arrive at this point. Thanks, in large part, to Ethiopia's longstanding commitment to cooperate, negotiate and compromise, the three countries are on the cusp of forging a win-win consensus on the GERD. This agreement should not be jeopardised by a return to short-termism or zero-sum approaches. The technical challenges of filling and operating the Dam can only be resolved through the existing mechanisms of cooperation, as embodied by the work of the NISRG to date.

The rights of one hundred million Ethiopians to live in dignity and security, cannot be compromised. A dignity that can only be secured by the extrication of our nation from the cruel cycle of poverty, fuelled by its current underdevelopment.

The Ethiopian Government has a duty to responsibly utilise all the resources at its disposal, including Nile waters, to meet the present and future needs of the citizens it represents.

Proposals intent on compromising the ability of the Government to fulfil this duty of care have no place in the good-faith negotiations we are currently engaged in with our neighbours on the Nile.

The awarding of this year's Nobel Peace Prize to a citizen of the Nile should embolden and inspire our proud nations to settle these talks in the spirit of mutual respect and empathy – providing African solutions to African challenges – and empowering millions of lives as a result.

ETHIOPIA IN UK



Ambassador Fesseha presents his credentials to Her Majesty the Queen

On 23rd October, the new Ethiopian Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, H.E. Mr Fesseha Shawel Gebre, was invited to Buckingham Palace by Her Majesty the Queen to formally present his credentials.

On the day of the ceremony, which is steeped in tradition and royal pageantry, the official state carriages arrived at the Embassy where the Director of Protocol and Vice-Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps, Mr Neil Holland, escorted Ambassador Fesseha, his wife, Mrs Aseggedech Amberber, and four senior diplomats: Mr Ababi Demissie (Deputy Head of Mission), Mr Araya Kidane (Minister – Business Diplomacy), Mrs Roza Yerukneh (Minister – Diaspora Affairs) and Mr Zerihun Abebe (Minister Counsellor – Political Affairs).

On arrival at Buckingham Palace, the Ambassador and his delegation were escorted inside by the

Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps, H.E. Alistair Harrison CMG CVO, to meet Her Majesty the Queen, for the presentation of his credentials and an audience.



Ambassador Fesseha and his wife, Mrs Aseggedech Amberber, aboard the royal carriages together with the Vice-Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps, Mr Neil Holland

During his audience with the Queen, Ambassador Fesseha reiterated his commitment to further strengthen the relationship between Ethiopia and the United Kingdom, especially in trade and investment, higher education and tourism, adding that Ethiopia receives the highest number of tourists from the United Kingdom.

Her Majesty the Queen spoke of the strength of the relationship between Ethiopia and the United Kingdom, and noted the recent changes in Ethiopia and Prime Minister Abiy's Nobel Peace Prize. She also spoke fondly of her visit to Ethiopia in the 1960s.

Following the ceremony, Ambassador Fesseha hosted a *vin d'honneur* at the Embassy with officials from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Ambassador's family, diplomats and staff.

In his remarks at the reception, Ambassador Fesseha said:

“Today is a great day! I am honoured to have presented my credentials to Her Majesty the Queen...Here’s a toast to Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali, Her Majesty the Queen, and to the prosperity of the people of Ethiopia and the United Kingdom.”



Toasting the strengthening of Ethio-UK relations, H.E. Alistair Harrison CMG CVO said:

“It was a privilege to take the Ambassador to meet the Queen...Our relationship has flourished in the past, it is flourishing now in the present, and it will definitely flourish in the future.”

Following the official cake-cutting ceremony, Ambassador Fesseha presented H.E. Alistair Harrison with the gift of a tie featuring Ethiopia's ancient Aksum Obelisk. Guests were then treated to an array of authentic Ethiopian cuisine, Ethiopian wine, and a traditional coffee ceremony.



Ambassador Fesseha Shawel Gebre officially assumed his duties as the newly-appointed Ethiopian Ambassador to the United Kingdom on Monday 4th March 2019.

A career diplomat, Ambassador Fesseha brings with him almost 30 years of experience having served at Diplomatic Missions in Juba, Nairobi, Mogadishu and Cairo, as well as at various posts within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

To watch the a video report of the day's celebrations, please visit our YouTube page at www.youtube.com/EthioEmbasyUK.

Embassy receives BRAAD Award for “Outstanding International Relations”



BRAADAWARD
BRITISH AWARD FOR AFRICA DEVELOPMENT

On 24th October 2019, H.E Ambassador Fesseha Shawel was presented with the BRAAD Award ((British Award for African Development) for "*The Embassy with Outstanding International Relations in 2019*" at a ceremony hosted by the patron of the awards and the British Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Ethiopia, Mr Jeremy Lefroy MP.



The awards ceremony formed part of **The African Disruptive Technology London Conference**, which brought together some leading businessmen, entrepreneurs, and government officials from African Diasporas, to discuss strategies and policies that can help mobilise further investment that is needed in the African digital economy.

BRAAD is a business and development forum that seeks to recognise and highlight the exceptional achievements within the African Diaspora that focuses on innovative business ideas and entrepreneurship. BRAAD provides a nexus for exploring business opportunities between the United Kingdom and African markets. It seeks to co-create and foster long-standing opportunities to further economic growth by engaging public and private sector finance.

Ambassador gives Briefing at Institute for Strategic Studies

On 29th October, His Excellency, Mr Fesseha Shawel Gebre briefed an audience comprised of diplomats, civil servants, researchers and members at the International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS) in London.

Organised under the Africa Sessions of the Conflict, Security and Development Programme at the Institute, the Ambassador led a briefing, chaired by Dr Andrew Tchie, Research Fellow and Editor of the Armed Conflict Database, on Ethiopia's domestic reforms and priorities in the Horn of Africa.

The Ambassador began by highlighting the recent awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, confirming it as clear recognition of the success of the ongoing reforms he is leading. He followed this by discussing the importance of overcoming the current challenges facing these reforms before providing a brief overview of Ethiopia's strategic priorities in the Region.



Ambassador Fesseha with Dr Andrew Tchie, IISS Fellow, who chaired the briefing

The Briefing closed with a question and answer session, which covered a range of topics including: the Prime Minister's mediation of the Sudan crisis; the challenges to the formation of a Government of National Unity in South Sudan; engagements with Egypt and Sudan over the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam; and preparations for the 2020 national elections in Ethiopia.

The video of the Ambassador's Briefing will be on our YouTube page soon. Subscribe at www.youtube.com/EthioEmbassyUK

Lemn Sissay and Befeqadu Hailu share PEN Pinter Prize



Back in June, Lemn Sissay was chosen as the recipient of the PEN Pinter Prize 2019. At the Prize ceremony, held on Thursday 10th October at the British Library, it was announced that Ethiopian writer, activist and co-founder of blogging platform Zone 9 Befeqadu Hailu is this year's International Writer of Courage.



Ambassador Fesseha and the Head of Public Diplomacy, Mr. Mekonnen Amare, attended the awards ceremony. Here they are pictured with Lemn Sissay and Befeqadu Hailu

Making the announcement, Lemn Sissay said:

"It is because of his passion for writing and belief in freedom of expression for Ethiopians that I have chosen Befeqadu Hailu. He is a novelist and a poet and a blogger. He is a man who stands by his word and whose words stood in the face of prison and arose far far above to declaim in the name of humanity. When I was considering him I spoke to many Ethiopians in Ethiopia about him. He is loved by his people and the younger generation: he is a

twenty first century hero. It was obvious that the Writer of Courage had to be him. He is my hero."

In his acceptance speech, Befeqadu Hailu, said:

"I think freedom of writing or freedom of speech is an intermediary path between change and violence. Many writers disdain violence. And yet, they write sour truth and encourage audiences to get out of their comfort zone to configure a better world. No war, no force, no campaign has as much power to change the world without claiming lives as writing."

The PEN Pinter Prize goes to a writer who is deemed to, in the words of Harold Pinter's Nobel speech, cast an "unflinching, unswerving" gaze upon the world, and show a "fierce intellectual determination...to define the real truth of our lives and our societies". Lemn Sissay, was described by judges as "an Orpheus who never stops singing", who in every work "returns to the underworld he inhabited as an unclaimed child", and "from his sorrows ... forges beautiful words and a thousand reasons to live and love".

The prize is shared with an international writer of courage who has been persecuted for speaking out about their beliefs.

THEY DID IT! UK and Ethiopian amputee duo ascend Ethiopia's highest mountain

British quadruple amputee, Alex Lewis, Ethiopian double amputee Emebet Dires, accompanied by the Wild Wheelchairs Project team successfully reached the Ras Dashen Summit at 4,533 metres on 6th October.

Alex had both arms and both legs amputated, and underwent extensive skin grafts and facial reconstruction, after contracting strep A toxic shock syndrome, septicaemia and necrotising fasciitis in 2013. Emebet, now 19, was hit by a car at the age of three and lost both her legs from the knee down. She now plays wheelchair basketball, races tricycles and is also keen to take on the challenge.

Arriving in Ethiopia on 27th September, the team were accorded a warm Ethiopian welcome in Bahir

Dar by local government officials and Emebet. In a video shared widely on social media, Alex and Emebet are seen doing the Eskista – a traditional Ethiopian dance.

Over the next several days, Alex and Emebet ascended Ethiopia’s highest mountain using a special solar powered handcycle designed by students from the University of Southampton.

This was no easy feat for the two amputees, especially given the weather conditions – Ethiopia was at the last stages of the rainy season! At one stage, the pair managed to drive their handcycles past a bus stuck in the mud. A few days later, the support team had to carry the handcycles across a river ford in knee-high water.



Alex Lewis, Emebet Dires and David Collinson at the summit of Ras Dashen

On 30th October, the team were welcomed to the Embassy for a meeting with Ambassador Fesseha who congratulated them for their monumental achievement and thanked them for choosing Ethiopia for their first expedition. The Ambassador reiterated the Embassy’s support for their future

endeavours and extended an invitation to the team to explore other parts of Ethiopia on their next trip.



Briefing the Ambassador, Alex said: “Our expectations [in Ethiopia] were met! It was the most remarkable 17 days I have ever had.” Alex also applauded Emebet, the Ethiopian double amputee who accompanied him on the adventure, adding that she will make a great Ambassador for disability awareness in Ethiopia.



Alex and Emebet speaking to school children in Ethiopia

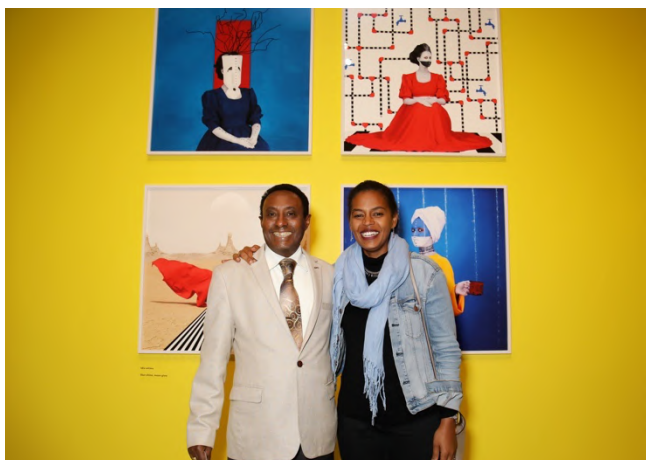
Founded by Alex Lewis Trust and David Collinson, Wild Wheelchairs Project is raising money to finance the construction of a wheelchair manufacturing facility in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia, and support ongoing programmes to help the disabled in that region. For further information, visit: <http://bit.ly/WildWheelchairsProject>.

Alex’s and Emebet’s full journey has been filmed by director Simon Ratigan for a documentary to be screened at a later date.

Ethiopia at the 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair

The annual 1-54 Contemporary Art Fair was held at Somerset House in London. This year, Ethiopian representation included Aida Muluneh and Addis Fine Art.

On 2nd October, Ambassador Fesseha was among guests at the launch of 'Water Life', an exhibition by celebrated Ethiopian photographer and artist, Aida Muluneh.



Ambassador Fesseha with Aida Muluneh at the launch of the exhibition at Somerset House

Commissioned by WaterAid and supported by H&M Foundation, the exhibition, which was on show at Somerset House until 20th October, brought to light issues of water scarcity and its impact on women.

Addis Fine Art was represented by Rakeb Sile and Messai, who were exhibiting works by Ethiopian artists: Tadesse Mesfin, Ermias Kifleyesus and Merikokeb Berhanu.

Visiting their space, we discussed Addis Ababa's emerging art scene and future collaborations in London to promote Ethiopian art.

Addis Fine Art has quickly become one of the leading international galleries from Africa, facilitating critical engagement with the local and mainstream art markets, championing an underrepresented yet rich space in modern and contemporary art.



Mesai Haileleul and Rakeb Sile of Addis Fine Art

Elsewhere at the fair, works by Ethiopian artist, Elias Sime, who is best known for transforming salvaged electronic materials into monumental compositions, were also on display.

Habeshaview - bringing Ethiopian film to London theatres

On 19th October, the sold-out international premier of Leza Award-winning Ethiopian movie, Enchained (Quragnaye), was held at Rich Mix Cinema in London in the presence of the film's director, Dr Moges Tafesse and leading actor Zerihun Mulatu.



(l-r) Leading actor Zerihun Abebe, Dr Moges Tafesse, Tigist Kebede (habeshaview Operational Director) and Marco Orsini from the International Emerging Film Talent Association (IEFTA)

Enchained is a new Ethiopian historical and fictional film which explores the traditional justice system and its effects.

The screening was followed by a Q+A with the Dr and Zerihun, with Behailu Shiferaw as moderator.

Additional screenings of the film also took place on 20th and 23rd October. The film now goes on tour this December to the USA (Washington and New York) before making its debut on the habeshaview streaming platform via the app (android/iPhone) in January 2020. For further information, visit: <https://www.habeshaview.com/hv>

Ahead of the international premier, the production team also met with Ambassador Fesseha at the Embassy.



In discussions, the Ambassador congratulated them for their achievements and encouraged them to continue promoting Ethiopia's diverse history and culture through this medium.

EMBASSY NEWS IN BRIEF

On 1st October, Ambassador Fesseha Shawel and the Business Diplomacy Department, attended a **working lunch with British companies**, organised by the Eastern Africa Association in partnership with DLA Piper.



The Ambassador briefed attendees on the current situation in Ethiopia, investment opportunities and the broader economic reforms spearheaded by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed.

The working lunch offered an opportune moment to network and discuss a range of issues.

Companies present expressed interest in investing in Ethiopia with most being attracted by the investment opportunities on offer, Ethiopia's rapid growth, and the ongoing reforms.

On 2nd October, Ambassador Fesseha Shawel paid a **courtesy call on Baroness Lynda Chalker** at the House of Lords, in her capacity as President and Founder of Africa Matters Ltd.



Discussions focussed on the upcoming UK-Africa Investment Summit, due to take place in London in January 2020.

Briefing Baroness Chalker on the economic liberalisation measures currently underway in Ethiopia, the Ambassador encouraged British companies to seize the lucrative investment opportunities in Ethiopia.

Also, on the same day, Ambassador Fesseha met with Elliot Kratt, a Senior Analyst at G3 - an organisation that helps companies and investors capitalize on opportunities.

In discussions, the two exchanged views on the current situation in Ethiopia, with a particular focus on increasing British investment in the country.

Ambassador Fesseha reiterated that, with good policies, a conscious government, and the economy opening up, this is the right time to invest in Ethiopia. He said the Embassy can facilitate any upcoming missions to Ethiopia.

Illustration: Niklas Elmehed

THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE 2019



PM Abiy awarded Nobel Peace Prize

*Prime Minister Abiy is the first Ethiopian to be awarded a Nobel Prize.
This year's prize is also the 100th Nobel Peace Prize.*

The Nobel Peace Prize for 2019 is awarded to Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali for his “efforts to achieve peace and international cooperation, and in particular for his decisive initiative to resolve the border conflict with neighbouring Eritrea.”

In a statement, the Norwegian Nobel Committee said the prize is also meant to recognise all the stakeholders working for peace and reconciliation in Ethiopia and in the East and Northeast African regions.

The statement goes on to say:

“When Abiy Ahmed became Prime Minister in April 2018, he made it clear that he wished to resume peace talks with Eritrea. In close cooperation with Isaias Afwerki, the President of Eritrea, Abiy Ahmed quickly worked out the principles of a peace agreement to end the long “no peace, no war” stalemate between the two countries. These principles are set out in the declarations that Prime Minister Abiy and President Afwerki signed in Asmara and Jeddah last July and September. An important premise for the breakthrough was Abiy Ahmed’s unconditional willingness to accept the arbitration ruling of an international boundary commission in 2002.”

“Peace does not arise from the actions of one party alone. When Prime Minister Abiy reached out his hand, President Afwerki grasped it, and helped to formalise the peace process between the two countries. The Norwegian Nobel Committee hopes the peace agreement will help to bring about positive change for the entire population of both Ethiopia and Eritrea.”



The chairwoman of the Norwegian Nobel Peace Prize Committee, Berit Reiss-Andersen, poses with a picture of Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed in the Nobel Institute in Oslo

“In Ethiopia, even if much work remains, Abiy Ahmed has initiated important reforms that give many citizens hope for a better life and a brighter future. He spent his first 100 days as Prime Minister lifting the country’s state of emergency, granting amnesty to thousands of political prisoners, discontinuing media censorship, legalising outlawed opposition groups, dismissing military and civilian leaders who were suspected of corruption, and significantly increasing the influence of women in Ethiopian political and community life. He has also pledged to strengthen democracy by holding free and fair elections.”

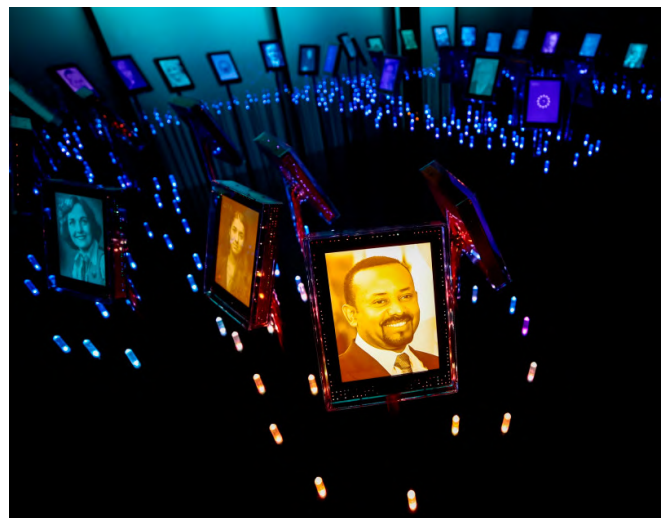
“In the wake of the peace process with Eritrea, Prime Minister Abiy has engaged in other peace and reconciliation processes in East and Northeast Africa. In September 2018 he and his government contributed actively to the normalisation of diplomatic relations between Eritrea and Djibouti. Additionally, Abiy Ahmed sought to mediate between Kenya and Somalia in their protracted conflict over rights to a disputed marine area. There is now hope for a resolution to this conflict. In Sudan, the military regime and the opposition have returned to the negotiating table. On 17th August, they released a joint draft of a new constitution

intended to secure a peaceful transition to civil rule in the country. Prime Minister Abiy played a key role in the process that led to the agreement.”

“The Norwegian Nobel Committee hopes that the Nobel Peace Prize will strengthen Prime Minister Abiy in his important work for peace and reconciliation. Ethiopia is Africa’s second most populous country and has East Africa’s largest economy.”

A peaceful, stable and successful Ethiopia will have many positive side-effects, and will help to strengthen fraternity among nations and peoples in the region. With the provisions of Alfred Nobel’s will firmly in mind, the Norwegian Nobel Committee sees Abiy Ahmed as the person who in the preceding year has done the most to deserve the Nobel Peace Prize for 2019.

This is the eighth time a recipient on the African continent has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and the 100th time the Prize has been awarded. It is also the 15th time the Nobel Peace Centre has created an exhibition about the Nobel Peace Prize, which is open until 11th December.



A picture of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed on display at the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo

The prize, worth nine million Swedish crowns, or around \$900,000, will be presented in Oslo on 10th December, the anniversary of the death of Swedish industrialist Alfred Nobel, who founded the awards in his 1895 will.

In a statement released shortly after the announcement, the Prime Minister’s Office said:

“This recognition is a timeless testimony to the MEDEMER ideals of unity, cooperation, and mutual coexistence that the Prime Minister has consistently been championing...Since Prime Minister Abiy assumed political leadership in April 2018, he has made peace, forgiveness, and reconciliation key policy components of his administration.”

“As the world takes note and celebrates his achievements through bestowing the Nobel Peace Prize, we invite all Ethiopians and friends of Ethiopia to continue standing on the side of peace. This victory and recognition is a collective win for Ethiopians, and a call to strengthen our resolve in making Ethiopia – the *New Horizon of Hope* – a prosperous nation for all.”

The full statement is available on our website at bit.ly/NobelPeacePrize2019xPMAbiyAhmed

Celebrations galore!

On 13th October, Ethiopian Cabinet members celebrated Prime Minister Abiy’s Nobel award at his offices.

Expressing their admiration for his leadership and the milestone achieved, they gifted Prime Minister Abiy a gold necklace with the inscription : ‘Truly, Love Wins’.



Here in London, Ambassador Fesseha and staff congratulated the Prime Minister for his award in a social media post shortly after the news was made public. And on 26th October, a reception was held at the Embassy with members of the Ethiopian Diaspora.



The event was also attended by Embassy staff, including Ambassador Fesseha. Other Ethiopian Embassies abroad have also held similar celebrations.

My deepest gratitude to all committed and working for peace. This award is for Ethiopia and the African continent. We shall prosper in peace!

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed

THE WORLD REACTS...



I have said often that winds of hope are blowing ever stronger across Africa. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed is one of the main reasons why. His vision helped Ethiopia and Eritrea achieve a historic rapprochement, and I was honoured to witness the signing of the peace agreement last year. This milestone has opened up new opportunities for the region to enjoy security and stability, and Prime Minister Ahmed's leadership has set a wonderful example for others in and beyond Africa looking to overcome resistance from the past and put people first.

Antonio Guterres, United Nations Secretary General

**The 2019 Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to our Prime Minister, Dr Abiy Ahmed.
Congratulations Prime Minister! You deserve it!
Congratulations our beloved Ethiopia!
Congratulations to all Ethiopians at home and abroad!
Let us recommit to join hands and work for Peace,
Prosperity in Ethiopia, our region and Africa.**

H.E. Sahle-Work Zewde, President of Ethiopia

It is with great pride that I congratulate Ethiopian PM Abiy Ahmed on being the 100th recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize for his historic peacebuilding efforts that have given the world hope at a time it needs servant leadership more than ever.

Moussa Faki Mahamat,
Chairperson of the African Union Commission

Prime Minister Ahmed stands out as a relentless champion for peace, stability and prosperity of his country, our region and the entire African continent.

H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of Kenya

**This is tremendous news for Ethiopia and for Africa.
Congratulations to Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali.
A well-deserved recognition.**

Professor John Struthers
Honorary Consul of Ethiopia to Scotland

Congratulations to PM Abiy Ahmed Ali for receiving the, well deserved, Nobel Prize. PM Ahmed is a source of pride and admiration. A true leader whose service to Ethiopia and Africa is exemplary. He has been instrumental in creating economic stability and promoting peace in the region.

H.E. Abdalla Hamdok, Prime Minister of Sudan

Heartfelt congratulations to PM Abiy Ahmed Al who champions peace and reconciliation, inclusion, gender equality and protecting the environment. The UN looks forward to accompanying you on these vital efforts #ForPeopleForPlanet.

Amina J Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

Congratulations to Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Abiy Ahmed for the Nobel Peace Prize. A pride for Africa, Ethiopia and the world, delivering a vision of a peaceful and prosperous Africa.

Dr Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Africa

Congratulations to Ethiopian PM Abiy Ahmed. Africa's youngest head of government and a committed reformer and peacemaker. This is well deserved. Was an honour to meet him earlier this year in Addis Ababa.

Leo Varadkar, Irish Prime Minister

Wonderful that Abiy Ahmed Ali was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize - a well-deserved recognition for his efforts to bring peace to his region and beyond. We at UNHCR are proud to count him among the conveners of the upcoming Global Refugee Forum. Congratulations to him and Ethiopia!

Filippo Grandi, UN High Commissioner for Refugees

We congratulate the winner of the Nobel Peace Prize Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed. With his courage, he built bridges in the region, restarting peace talks after 20 years of stalemate with Eritrea. We stand with Ethiopia in its journey towards democratic reform and peace.

European Commission

Congratulations to my dear friend PM Abiy Ahmed Ali on this Nobel Peace Prize! A prize to courage and hope. A prize to a great man and to a great Continent. An example for all those that stubbornly build peace through dialogue and not arms.

Frederica Mogherini, Vice President of the EU Commission

Nobel peace prize for Abiy Ahmed is one of the recent great news from Ethiopia which should help to further consolidate peace and human rights agenda both in Ethiopia and Africa.

Daniel Bekele,
Chief Commissioner, Ethiopian Human Rights Commission.

Good choice, both for peace efforts with Eritrea and important improvements in Ethiopia itself, where the government released thousands of political prisoners and committed to other reforms.

Andrew Stoehein, European Media Director, Human Rights Watch

Congratulations to my brother and friend Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed. Well deserved! Your remarkable commitment to Ethiopian unity, as well as regional peace and cooperation, are an inspiration to many in Africa.

H.E. Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda

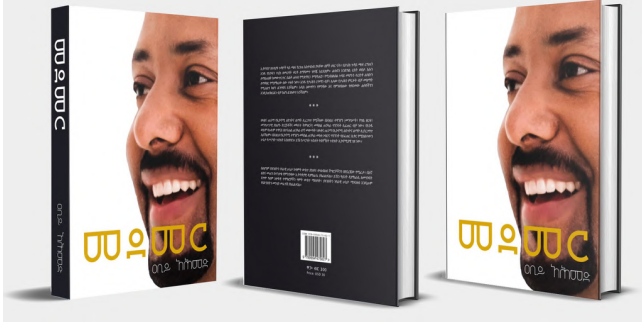
He released all journalists from jail. He made his cabinet fifty percent female. He appointed a great woman for president. He made peace with Eritrea. He is the prime minister of Ethiopia and today he has been awarded a Nobel Prize.

He is Prime Minister of Ethiopia Dr Abiy Ahmed.

Lemn Sissay MBE, Ethio-British Poet

LOCAL NEWS

Prime Minister Abiy's Book on MEDEMER launched



Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's book on MEDEMER (synergy) was launched on 19th October in Addis Ababa and concurrently in 65 cities/towns nationwide, as well as the United States, which has a large diaspora community.

In Addis Ababa, the book launch was held at the Millennium Hall in the presence of senior government officials, invited guests, and over 8,000 Ethiopians from across the country.

The 280-page book examines and outlines the economic, political and foreign policy directions of Ethiopia.

In his remarks, the Prime Minister said that the idea of MEDEMER believes in scaling up best practices, rectifying past mistakes, and creating a better future.

The Prime Minister also reflected on his Nobel Peace Prize and on the plan of the ruling party, EPRDF, to transform itself into a single party.

"The Prize is the result of all Ethiopians," he said, adding "We should also target winning the prize in the Chemistry, Physics, and Literature fields.

The book, which is available in Amharic and Afan Oromo, costs 300 Birr and a million copies have been printed. The English version will be released in three months' time.

Income generated from the sale of the book will be used to expand access to education in the rural parts of the country.

Ethiopia Recognised for its role in Promoting Peace in East Africa

The US Department of State and Washington Foreign Law Society honoured Ethiopia for its role in promoting peace in the East Africa region.

Acting Legal Adviser of the Department of State, Marik String expressed his appreciation for the ongoing reforms in Ethiopia and its role in peacebuilding efforts across the region.

Ambassador of Ethiopia to the United States Fitsum Arega on his part thanked the organisers of the programme to honour Ethiopia, and underscored Ethiopia's unwavering commitment to crystallising the ongoing reforms at home and contributing a leading role in the peace-making efforts and economic integration of the region.

Prime Minister's statement on protests in Oromia region of Ethiopia

In a statement following protests in the Oromia Region on 23rd October, the Prime Minister expressed his profound sorrow at the loss of lives and destruction of property, including churches and mosques. He said unless Ethiopians cooperate and unite, the way forward would be frightening and full of challenges.

Despite the heart-breaking situation, Ethiopians have shown their greatness by providing food and shelter for displaced people, the Prime Minister said. Muslims have been witnessed protecting churches from damage, and Christians protecting Mosques, one ethnic group protecting the other, and elders and religious leaders working tirelessly to ensure peace and security in their community. There are citizens who are not afraid of these reckless actions but hopeful and determined to work for the future of Ethiopia.

The Prime Minister stressed that his government is always ready to ensure the rule of law and bring those responsible to justice. He said, "it is known why this has happened and no one will stop us from the journey we have embarked upon."

President Sahle-Work delivers maiden address at the opening of Parliament

Ethiopia's House of People's Representatives (HoPR) and House of Federation (HoF) opened a new session on 7th October.

Addressing the joint session for the first time as President of Ethiopia, H.E. Sahle-Work Zewde presented some of the key social, economic and political directions and plans that the government will pursue in the new Ethiopian year, which started on 12th September.



National security and stability are major targets for the government, President Sahle-Work said, adding that the government "will implement activities that focus on national reconciliation and understanding," aiming to sustain the ongoing national reform.

"The government will strive to make sure that the next elections will be more democratic, free and fair than previous elections," she said. She also stressed that the public's role in supporting the Ethiopian government's resolve for assuring a democratic election procedure, is important.

Noting the major aspirations of the homegrown economic reform, President Sahle-Work also outlined some of the major plans in the economic sector that include ensuring macroeconomic stability, promoting private sector intervention in key economic sectors, and integrated job creation efforts.

The President praised the joint efforts made by the federal and regional states in returning internally displaced people (IDPs) to their areas of origin. She said the number of IDPs has reduced to less than

100,000, from more than two million. It will be up to the government to return and rehabilitate the remaining IDPs in the future, she said.

The President also noted that, as a result of Ethiopia's citizen-centred diplomacy, more than 90,000 Ethiopian nationals had returned to Ethiopia from exile.

President Sahle-Work also disclosed that Ethiopia's first ever satellite will be launched into space in December this year from a centre in China. The satellite, once it commences its operations, will help Ethiopia modernise its agricultural sector. "The satellite will provide all the necessary data on changes in climate and weather-related phenomena that will be utilized for the country's key targets in agriculture, forestry and natural resources protection initiatives," she said.

The President added that the country will have three telecoms operators, including Ethio-telecom. Two international companies will join Ethiopia's telecoms industry next year.

Head of Ethiopia's Security Service Meets with MI6 Chief

The Director General Commissioner of Ethiopia's National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) Demelash Gebremichael met with Sir Alex Younger, Chief of the UK's Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) and exchanged views on the current security situations and threat of terrorism in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa region.

In a statement, NISS said the two agreed to team up efforts and exchange information to contain the threat of terrorism by deterring the activities of al-Shabaab and ISIS terrorist groups operating in the Horn of Africa.

During the discussion, Commissioner Demelash told Sir Alex that the NISS is undergoing reforms and amending legal frameworks to better accomplish its mission.

MI6 has agreed to share its rich experience in the sector with its Ethiopian counterpart and this, according to the Commissioner "would be beneficial for both sides to jointly combat the threat of terrorism and instability in the region."

Sir Alex Younger said they discussed cooperation between the two institutions in counter terrorism operations.

Commending the recent measures taken by Ethiopia against terrorist groups, he said MI6 would share its experience and provide capacity building support to the reforms being undertaken by NISS.

Ethiopia successfully hosts the Social Enterprise World Forum

The 12th Social Enterprise World Forum (SEWF) - the leading forum for international exchange and collaboration in social entrepreneurship and social investment - was held in Addis Ababa from 23rd-25th October, the first time the forum was held in a developing country.



The week-long forum brought together around 1,200 delegates from 70 countries and territories, ranging from social enterprise leaders, policy makers, development partners, private sector representatives, academics, practitioners and supporters.

The forum promotes sustainable economic growth for human development and offers an opportunity to establish new relationships and create synergies for working together to increase the visibility of social enterprise on the global stage. It also created a platform for on-going collaboration connecting people across Africa and the world, from advanced and developing economies.

The forum was complemented with a concurrently held youth week, policy forum, academic symposium, study tours and networking evening cultural receptions.

Speaking at the opening of the Forum, Dr Tilaye Gete, Ethiopia's Minister for Education said: "This is the right time for Ethiopia to host the Social Enterprise World Forum." To cheers and applause, he noted Prime Minister Abiy's Nobel Peace Prize award for his success in ceasing the long-running conflict between his country and Eritrea. "We are pleased to have you here to celebrate that with us," he said.



Against the backdrop of the many positive changes that are happening throughout Ethiopia, Dr Tilaye highlighted his hope that social enterprise would contribute more to the country's development.

"Our ambition is for the Social Enterprise World Forum to be a catalyst...to create an environment in which social enterprise flourishes," he said.

He added that the movement had the "country-wide commitment of the government of Ethiopia".

Dr Hirut Kassaw, the Minister for Culture and Tourism echoed his message. Social entrepreneurship was "one of the most important initiatives" for Ethiopia, she said.

Kibret Abebe, president of Social Enterprise Ethiopia and founder of Tebita Ambulance, agreed that it was an "exciting time" for the country. He added: "We want the government to understand that social business is the best strategy to lift Ethiopia out of poverty...and to create a fair, inclusive economy for all."

Speaking at the closing ceremony, Gerry Higgins, founder and managing director of the Social Enterprise World Forum, said:

"Ethiopia has been outstanding. If there was a better way to showcase the energy and the enterprising potential of this country, I can't think of it."

Moses Anibaba, the British Council's regional director for Sub-Saharan Africa, said: "It's been an amazing week. I cannot think of a better time or a better place in history to be alive, to be an African. This continent is the continent of now and of the future. I have an unwavering belief and conviction about what this region has to offer."

He added: "I think we have been part of history and I think we will look back and see the difference this forum has made."

Dr Ephrem Tekle, the commissioner for Ethiopia's Job Creation Commission, said: "We the government of Ethiopia recognise the importance, the value and untapped potential of social enterprise. We have not been open about saying that before."

He added: "We see a great value in social enterprise in addressing the challenge of the poor, the challenges of our society."

He said Ethiopia's social enterprises required support, particularly financial support. He also highlighted the importance of introducing a regulatory and legal framework. Although, he said, the government could not promise to fulfil all the 60 recommendations it had received from the social enterprise sector, he said: "We can actually help you make a difference. At least we will be side by side working together to make a difference - that is the promise I have for you."

"Go change the world," he said, "because there has never been a time when this world needs it more."

At the close of Forum it was announced that the next Social Enterprise World Forum will be held in the town of Halifax in Nova Scotia from 23rd to 25th September 2020.

New \$5m National Blood Bank Inaugurated

A new \$5 million National Blood Bank Services building was officially inaugurated on 26th October by State Minister of Health Saharla Abdulah and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Mission Director Sean Jones.



The new facility will provide the National Blood Bank Services with the capacity to receive a much-increased volume of blood donations, screen and process blood products more efficiently, and distribute life-saving blood to health centres and patients throughout the country.

In addition to the new blood bank, the project has built a total of 22 new health centres and 10 pharmaceutical warehouses and renovated another 10 existing health centres.

...Blood donation campaign launched

The inauguration of the National Blood Bank Services facility coincided with the start of the Ministry of Health's national blood donation campaign, which aims to register 100,000 new blood donors and collect 10,000 units of blood.

The campaign was launched under the theme, "***Life for Life! Give Blood, Save Life!***"

Ethiopia's Health Minister, Dr Amir Aman, was among the first to donate blood and encouraged others to do so.

Around 10,000 people nationwide were expected to donate blood on the day of the launch. This was surpassed within a few hours!



Dr Amir Aman, Ethiopia's Health Minister, donating blood

The initiative aims to register 100,000 regular blood donors and 300,000 donors a month.

Those in Ethiopia who wish to register as a regular blood donor, can use the following link: <https://bloodbank.moh.gov.et>.

Blue Heart Campaign launched to curb human trafficking

As part of efforts to prevent human trafficking, Ethiopia launched the Blue Heart Campaign - a global awareness raising initiative to fight human trafficking and its impact on society.



Representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Federal Attorney General's office, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime attended the launch held at Millennium Hall.

Speaking at the event, Ethiopia's Deputy Attorney General Gedion Timoteos said the campaign would help move Ethiopia's ongoing fight against human trafficking one step forward. He also called on all citizens to play their role in preventing the problem.

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

“You are looking at a new Ethiopia...we hope you jump in and ride with us” – Dr Eyob

On 14th October, the Embassy hosted a business roundtable with State Minister of Finance, H.E. Dr Eyob Tekalign Tolina on the recently launched **Homegrown Economic Reform Agenda**. Present on the occasion were Ambassador Fesseha Shawel, the UK Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Ethiopia, Mr Jeremy Lefroy MP and a number of British businesses from various sectors, including those looking to tap into Ethiopia's diverse economy.

Welcoming guests, Ambassador Fesseha reiterated that Ethiopia is open and ready for investment and that the Embassy is ready to facilitate opportunities for British businesses.

Jeremy Lefroy MP began by congratulating Prime Minister Abiy on his Nobel Peace Prize award, adding that he has been impressed by the determination of Ethiopians over the last 18 months, and looks forward to supporting more UK investment to Ethiopia.



In his keynote address, Dr Eyob outlined Ethiopia's Homegrown Economic Agenda, which was unveiled last month by Prime Minister Abiy after “several months in the making, spearheaded by some of Ethiopia's finest minds”.

The Agenda is aimed at unlocking the country's development potential and create a pathway for prosperity for all, prioritising sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, mining, tourism and ICT.

He also highlighted available investment opportunities including: Textiles and Apparel, Energy, Pharmaceuticals and Minerals. The potential is huge in Telecoms, Railways, Sugar and Logistics, he added.



Noting the reforms underway in Ethiopia, Dr Eyob concluded his address by saying: “You are looking at a new Ethiopia...we hope you jump in and ride with us.”

A Q and A session followed where questions on policy, the reform agenda and future government plans were raised by delegates.

Dr Eyob concluded the session with this message to investors: “Forex shortages will not be the defining feature of Ethiopia's economy, so you will need to change your talking points going forward.”

...Dr Eyob attends FT Africa Summit

Preceding the roundtable, H.E. Dr Eyob Tekalign Tolina and Ambassador Fesseha Shawel attended the *FT Africa Summit*, held at Claridges in London.

The annual event, hosted by the Financial Times – one of the world’s leading business news organisations, features high profile speakers in business, politics and economics, as well as heads of state committed to making business central to their development goals.

In his opening keynote address, H.E. Cyril Ramaphosa, President of South Africa, began by congratulating Prime Minister Abiy and Ethiopia on the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Dr Eyob took part in the ‘Big Economies - Big Changes’ panel with Jose de Lima Massano,

Governor of the National Bank of Angola, chaired by Tony Blair, former British Prime Minister and founder of Tony Blair Institute for Global Change.



Discussions focused on the prospects of two of the fastest-growing economies in Africa - Ethiopia and Angola - and their roles in the economic transition taking place in Africa.

On the side-lines of the *FT Africa Summit*, Dr Eyob held a private meeting with Tony Blair to discuss the details of the Economic Reform Agenda, and held discussions with Andrew Stephenson MP, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the UK Department for International Development. The two exchanged views on bilateral matters and Dr Eyob briefed Mr Stephenson on the ongoing reform process in Ethiopia.

Full coverage of the roundtable and *FT Africa Summit*, including an exclusive interview with Dr Eyob, is available on our YouTube page: www.youtube.com/EthioEmbassyUK.

Two telecoms licences by April

According to Balcha Reba, Director General of the Ethiopian Communications Authority, two telecoms licences will be awarded by April 2020 to multinational mobile companies.

The telecoms industry is considered the big prize in a push to liberalise the economy, allowing foreign and private investors into key state-owned companies in an effort to attract new players to the economy.

It is estimated that EthioTelecom, Ethiopia’s only mobile and internet provider, has more than 40 million customers.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM

Ethiopia at World Travel Market London

Discover the new Ethiopia and its infinite possibilities

Ethiopia will take part in this year's World Travel Market, the leading global event for the travel industry, from Monday 4th to Wednesday 6th November at ExCeL London.



This will be a unique opportunity to showcase the very best of Ethiopian tourism with a delegation led by H.E. Mr Sileshi Girma, CEO of Tourism Ethiopia, H.E. Mr Fesseha Shawel, Ethiopian Ambassador to the UK, Mr Michael Yohannes, Ethiopian Airlines UK Manager and around twenty four operators from Ethiopia.

Visit the **Ethiopia stand (AF645)** in the Africa Hall to speak to one of our experts about what Ethiopia can offer you.

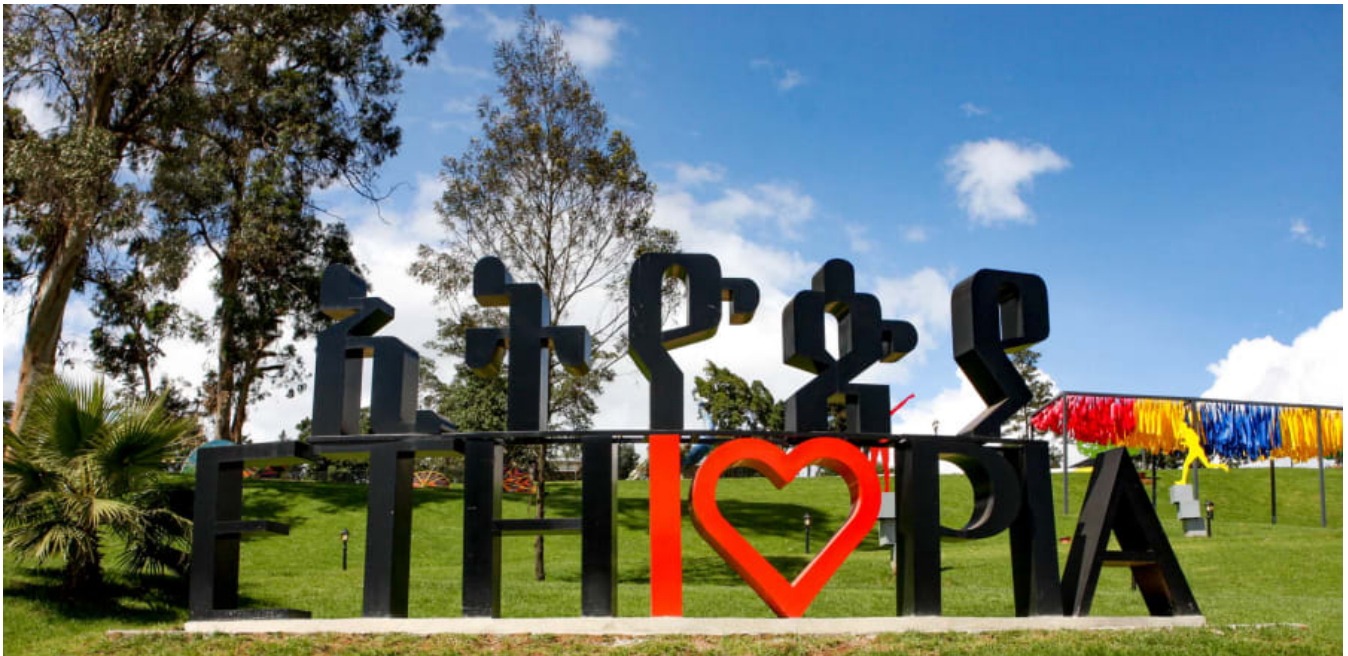
Tuesday, 5th November 2019
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Join us for a networking reception at the Ethiopian stand (AF645) on **Tuesday 5th November from 4:00 pm** and be in with a chance to win a return London-Ethiopia ticket courtesy of Ethiopian Airlines, including two nights' stay for 2 at the Skylight Hotel. Winner will be announced at the reception.

Ethiopian wine and beer will be served.

- A full list of exhibitors at the Ethiopian stand is available at <http://bit.ly/EthiopiaWTM>.
- For meeting and interview requests, contact the Embassy on press@ethioembassy.org.uk
- For Ethiopian Airlines, please contact mohammedb@ethiopianairlines.com

Ethiopia opens doors to its Imperial Palace for the first time



On 11th October Unity Park opened its doors to the public – locals and tourists - for the first time in more than a century. The Park's 40-acre compound is home to Menelik Palace, which was established in 1887 by Emperor Menelik II.

The park comprises a mix of landscaped open areas, renovated palace buildings and animal enclosures. The restored rooms feature items like Menelik's sword and a life-size wax replica of former Emperor Haile Selassie.



Unity Park, was inaugurated by Prime Minister Abiy and symbolizes Ethiopia's ability to "come together for a common goal and cross the finish line by creating an exquisite lasting print of our collective worth."



A waxwork of former emperor Haile Selassie sits in the Throne House

On 10th October, regional heads of state, government officials, the diplomatic corps and other dignitaries toured the expansive site before attending a banquet.

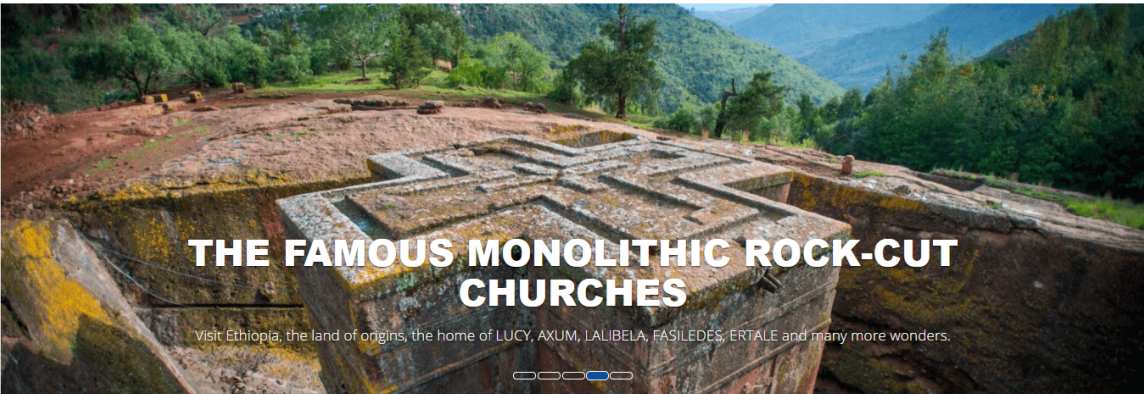
Tickets to visit the Park can be purchased online at <https://unitypark.et>. Regular tickets cost \$20, while VIP options are \$50. Children under 12 go for free.

More than 200,000 visitors arrive in Ethiopia on e-Visa



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Visit Ethiopia, the land of origins, the home of LUCY, AXUM, LALIBELA, FASILEDES, ERTALE and many more wonders.

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Planning to be frequent e-VISA user? Register and let us remember you; So you won't have to fill application forms from scratch every time you visit.

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Provide requested information and apply for Ethiopian e-VISA.

CHECK STATUS
Track the status of your e-VISA request here.

WELCOME TO ETHIOPIAN E-VISA

Official Ethiopian e-Visa website

With the introduction of the e-Visa service back in June 2017, Ethiopia has opened its doors for foreign visitors wider than ever before. Ever since, the e-Visa service has redefined visitors' travel experience, easing entry into the country with digitised service accessible from any part of the world. More than 200,000 people from 217 countries have visited Ethiopia so far using the e-visa service.

Backed by dedicated round-the-clock customer support via email, the e-Visa service enables travellers to secure an e-Visa in less than 6 hours with a short turnaround time at the airport.

"The milestone in the number of travellers who visited Ethiopia through the e-visa service comes as good news to all of us in the tourism and travel industry," says Mr Tewolde GebreMariam, Group CEO of Ethiopian Airlines. "The number of visitors who use the digitized service is on the rise. This will bring more benefits to Ethiopia in terms of facilitating travel and promoting tourism, trade and investment to the country."

With the boom in the global Meetings, Incentives, Conferences & Exhibitions (MICE) industry, the e-

Visa service gives Ethiopia an opportunity to reap the benefits the industry offers.

The air connectivity Ethiopia enjoys as the hub of Ethiopian Airlines Group, coupled with the mushrooming of hotels and lodgings in the country, will further elevate Ethiopia as a preferred MICE hub.

In the past few years, Ethiopia has made travel simpler and seamless. Besides the e-Visa service, travellers flying Ethiopian also enjoy a seamless end-to-end service using the airline's innovative mobile application.

To get your e-Visa, visit the Ethiopian Immigration and Nationality Affairs Main Department website at www.evisa.gov.et.

...Ethiopian Airlines carries 12.5m passengers

Ethiopian Airlines carried more than 12.5 million passengers during the last Ethiopian fiscal year, which ended on 7th July. Despite facing its biggest challenges in years, the airline remains profitable, and the number of passengers who use the airline continues to increase, said Tewolde Gebremariam, Group CEO.

According to a Reuters report, Ethiopian's operating revenue jumped nearly 30% in the year to July 31, while the operating revenue jumped by 28.6% year on year to \$3.9 billion.

The CEO said more works will be undertaken in this Ethiopian fiscal year to increase the global competitiveness of the airline.

He said five new airports will be built in different parts of Ethiopia, namely Debre Markos, Metu, Borena, Yabello and Mizan Aman.

He also said the airline will invest more than 5 billion birr this fiscal year alone, including for expansion projects.

Ethiopia to host 2020 World Tourism Forum

Ethiopia will host the World Tourism Forum Global Meeting in 2020. The announcement was made official following a meeting between Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and the Forum's President Bulut Bağcı.

The Prime Minister informed the delegation that Ethiopia is working to reveal the real tourism potential of the country.

The World Tourism Forum presented Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed with the World Tourism Award of Leader in Tourism, for his outstanding efforts to promote the growth and improvement of the Ethiopian tourism industry.



The Global Meeting in 2020 will be held in Addis Ababa from 4th–6th March, with more than 2,500 foreign delegates expected to attend.

MoU Signed for construction of Mesob Tower

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) has been signed for the construction of a 70-storey Mesob Tower, in Addis Ababa.



Mesob Tower
5B+G+70
250m high Skyscraper
Cultural Hotel

H.E. Dr Hirut Kassaw, Ethiopian Minister of Culture and Tourism, signed the MoU together with the architects who designed the tower.



"The design of Mesob Tower is unique and reflects our culture. It is our brand," Dr Hirut said. Mesob is a traditional Ethiopian wicker basket that is used to serve food.

The total cost of the 250-metre-high Mesob Tower, is estimated to be over \$681 million, and will include hotels, shopping malls, a cultural centre representative of all the regions of Ethiopia, a gym and a golf club.

SPORTS

Kenenisa wins Berlin Marathon 2 seconds short of the world record; Ashete wins women's race

The legend is BACK!

Ethiopia's Kenenisa Bekele performed "one of the greatest comebacks of all time" winning the Berlin Marathon on 29th September just two seconds short of the world record set by Kenya's Eliud Kipchoge the previous year.



Winning podium: Kenenisa Bekele and Ashete Bekere

Running the second-fastest marathon in history, Kenenisa led an Ethiopian 1-2-3 in the men's race with Birhanu Legese in second and Sisay Lemma in third place.

In the women's race, Ashete Bekere won in 2:20:14 followed by compatriot, Mare Dibaba.

Ethiopians thrive in Doha World Championships

Team Ethiopia performed another thrilling performance at this year's World Athletic Championships which were held in Doha, Qatar from 27th September – 6th October.

The team won two gold, five silver and a bronze medal to finish 5th on the medals table, and second in Africa after Kenya.

In the men's 5,000 metres Muktar Edris outsprinted compatriot Selemon Barega to retain his title in the distance. Telahun Haile Bekele came fourth.



Muktar Edris wins the 5000m at the IAAF World Athletics Championships Doha 2019

In the men's marathon, Lelisa Desisa won ending Ethiopia's 18-year wait for the title.

“This is for 100 million Ethiopians who were behind me. I am the second man from my country to win this title and it is not just for me, it is for my country.”

~Lelisa Desisa



Lelisa, the 2013 silver medallist in Moscow, held off compatriot Mosinet Geremew by four seconds to claim the biggest gold of his career. The 29-year-old,

a winner of numerous World Marathon Majors, won in two hours, 10 minutes and 40 seconds, beating Geremew and Kenya's Amos Kipruto.

In the men's 3,000m steeplechase final, just one one-hundredth of a second separated Kenya's Conselsius Kipruto from Ethiopia's Lamecha Girma. Kipruto ran a time of eight minutes 1.35 seconds. Girma crossed the line in a new national record time of 8:01.36.

On their return to Ethiopia, the athletes were warmly received by high-level government officials, including Dr Hirut Kassaw, Minister of Culture and Tourism.

The next World Championships will be held in Eugene, Oregon, the United States in 2021.

that has attracted many local and foreign mining companies from exploration through to mining activities.

"A reformist prime minister is in charge and is [implementing] profound economic and political reform, driven by a strategy to shift the engine of economic activity to private sector development," the ministry stated.

The onset of construction at Tulu Kapi – a 140,000 ozpa (ounces per annum) gold mine scheduled to start producing in 2021, will at \$250 million be the largest single export revenue generator in the country. It is situated 360km west of Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa.

The government's aspirations are in the right place and should enable investors to consider the country open for business says KEFI Minerals chairman Harry Anagnostaras-Adams.

"We would like to express our appreciation of the enormous efforts made by the ministry of finance, the Ethiopian central bank and other authorities to establish regulatory frameworks to oversee and support policies and actions being dealt with for the first time, as the Tulu Kapi gold project fulfils its first-mover position in modern Ethiopian mining."

Mining has been identified as the key contributor which will narrow the country's trade deficit by generating foreign currency while enabling regional development as well.

Read more at <http://bit.ly/ETHOpen>.

ETHIOPIA IN THE NEWS

Ethiopia: We're open for business says mining minister

Miningreview.com writes that the mining sector in Ethiopia is on the brink of evolutionary growth and progress as the country's first modern gold mine - KEFI Minerals' Tulu Kapi - moved into development in October.

Ethiopian Mines and Petroleum Minister H.E. Dr Samuel Urkato says the country is looking to drive significant growth from its mining sector and believes it could ultimately contribute 10% towards the country's GDP.

Investment policy in Ethiopia is established under the principle and practices of a free market-driven economy and the government believes it has enacted a very competitive legal and fiscal regime

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