

## MEETING TO REVIEW PROGRESS OF CIVIC EDUCATION



The Ministry of Education conducted a meeting to assess the progress of civic education on 8 and 9 September in Asmara. The meeting was attended by representatives of regional administrations, heads of the PFDJ and national organizations, heads of departments and branches of the Ministry of Education, as well as representatives of other concerned institutions.

Mr. Zemihret Yohannes, head of Research and Documentation at the PFDJ, speaking on behalf of the PFDJ, said that although civic education was introduced relatively recently, it has reached a promising stage. He called for

preserving the achievements registered and building on them to advance the program further.

Noting that civic education focuses on nurturing citizens, Mr. Zemihret said that the meeting will contribute significantly to critically reviewing the activities implemented and designing future programs.

At the meeting, research papers were presented on the background, objectives and pillars of civic education; the existing curriculum structure and civic education; a new education system supported by animation; and the experience of political

education in the Central Region. The participants held extensive discussions on the papers and put forward constructive ideas.

Speaking at the event, Dr. Halima Mohammed, Minister of Education, commended the presenters and participants, stressing that the task should not be left to the Ministry of Education alone. She called for stronger participation by all stakeholders.

According to the Ministry of Education's Department of General Education, civic education has been regularly provided in grades 4 to 10 since 2013. The preparation of reference books for grade 11 civic education is currently in its final stage, and the preparation of reference books for grade 12 will follow.

## NATIONALS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND COMMEMORATE BAHTI MESKEREM

Nationals in the Australian cities of Melbourne, Perth, Sydney, Adelaide and Brisbane, as well as in various cities in New Zealand, commemorated the 65th anniversary of the beginning of the armed struggle for independence with patriotic zeal.

At the commemorative event in Melbourne, Mr. Endrias Abraham, Eritrea's Consul General, said that Bahti Meskerem is a historic day that demonstrated that no force could suppress the Eritrean people's aspiration for independence.

Mr. Endrias went on to say that the struggle launched on that historic day was aimed not only at achieving national independence

but also at building a developed Eritrea. He added that the occasion serves to renew the pledge of the Eritrean people and their vanguard organization, the PFDJ, to realize this goal by overcoming temporary challenges.

Mr. Kidane Ginbot, chairman of the Eritrean community in Victoria, expressed gratitude to the organizations that contributed to the colorful event and to the participants.

Nationals in various cities in New Zealand also commemorated the 65th anniversary of the beginning of the armed struggle for independence.

The events featured cultural and artistic performances reflecting the significance of the day.



## HIS HOLINESS ABUNE BASILIOS GIVES BENEDICTION



His Holiness Abune Basilios, the 6th Patriarch of the Eritrean Orthodox Tewahdo Church, gave a benediction in connection with the Kudus Yohannes Holiday.

His Holiness Abune Basilios congratulated the Eritrean people inside the country and abroad as well as to members of the Eritrean Defense Forces. He also wished peace and prosperity to the Eritrean people.

Abune Basilios also called on the faithful to extend a helping hand to disadvantaged citizens, in keeping with the traditions and culture of the Eritrean people.

## PUBLIC CELEBRATION IN CONNECTION WITH KUDUS YOHANNES HOLIDAY



A public celebration in connection with Kudus Yohannes Holiday was held in the Gerenfit administrative area in the Gash Barka Region.

The celebratory event, organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Information and the Commission of Culture and Sports, was attended by Ambassador Mahmud Ali Hirui, Governor of the Gash Barka Region, senior government officials in the region, Army Commanders,

religious leaders, and public representatives from the Gerenfit administrative area.

Extending his best wishes for a happy Kudus Yohannes Holiday, Mr. Idris Saleh, Director General of Culture and Sports in the Gash Barka Region, said that Kudus Yohannes is one of the religious holidays that reflect the noble culture and values of the Eritrean people. He added that the

holiday was particularly special as it coincided with the Golden Jubilee of the beginning of the armed struggle for independence and the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Revolution School.

The celebratory event featured cultural and artistic presentations by the Aser cultural troupe and a traditional cultural troupe from the Brar administrative area.

# SpotLight

## Exploring the Enchanting Senafe Sub-Zone: Eritrea's Hidden Gem of History, Faith, and Culture

By: *Habtom Tesfamichael*

Nestled in the southern highlands of Eritrea, roughly 135 kilometers southeast of Asmara, Senafe sub-zone is a captivating destination where history, spirituality, culture, and natural beauty intertwine. Far

fathers), Senafe offers a journey through time. At the same time, the sub-zone's dramatic terrain—dominated by Mount Soyra, deep valleys, and rolling hills—makes it a haven for nature lovers.

### A Crossroads of History and

religious figures, along with valuable crosses dating to the 7th and 8th centuries AD. Among the remarkable discoveries was an ancient oil lamp bearing an engraving of a fox leaping over another animal.

structures offer direct insight into ancient regional architecture, while surrounding tombs, pottery, and tools made of bronze, stone, and pearl illustrate a sophisticated early society.

### Spiritual Heritage and Natural Wonders

In the immediate vicinity of Senafe town lies Metera's spiritual sanctuary, deeply rooted in the tradition of Tsadkane Metera. This lineage traces back to early ascetic monks—often associated with Syrian and Byzantine traditions—who introduced monastic discipline to the region.

Their lives and teachings are recorded in the Gedle Tsadkan (Acts of the Saints), a historic parchment manuscript detailing their journeys through Metera, Bareknaha, and the surrounding ranges. Though initially met with apprehension by locals, the holy men soon proved their devotion was strictly spiritual, centered on prayer, solitude, and extreme self-denial.

Tradition holds that the Tsadkane abstained entirely from cultivated grains, surviving solely on wild leaves, fruit, and grasses. Monasteries associated with this tradition eventually spread across fifteen sites in the region, including Bareknaha (24 km south of Senafe), Harsa, Sef'o, Maetso'a, Serahto Mekane Giorgis, Gel'o May Tsada, Damo Kinito, Mezeker, and Tebkale.

•**Mount Soyra:** Local oral history suggests that the cross-bearing ascetics named the region's highest peak "Mount Syria" in honor of their origins, a name that eventually softened into Soyra. Towering at 3,013 meters above sea level, Mount Soyra is the highest

point in Eritrea, serving as both a natural landmark and a monument to spiritual history.

•**Abune Libanos Monastery (Ham):** Founded between the 5th and 6th centuries AD, this ancient monastic complex is renowned for its historical manuscripts and preserved mummies of early saints, making it an invaluable resource for religious scholars and historians.

### Living Culture and Warm Hospitality

Senafe sub-zone is home to a diverse cultural tapestry, primarily composed of the Saho and Tigrinya ethnic groups. Each community preserves its distinct identity through music, dance, oral poetry, crafts, and culinary traditions.

Annual religious and cultural gatherings—such as the vibrant Abune Ambes Festival—draw community members and visitors together in shared celebration. The sub-zone holds immense potential for domestic and international heritage tourism, where guests can experience the famed coffee ceremony, traditional food preparation, and regional instruments such as the wata, krar, and traditional drums.

Senafe's greatest asset remains the genuine warmth of its people. Visitors are routinely welcomed into homes to share meals and stories, transforming standard travel into a deeply personal cultural exchange.

As Eritrea continues to promote its rich historical and natural assets, the Senafe sub-zone stands ready as an essential destination—a place where ancient stones, living faith, and dramatic mountain peaks tell an enduring story.



from a mere transit stop, Senafe invites visitors into a landscape shaped over millennia by ancient civilizations, trade routes, and enduring traditions.

From the archaeological treasures of Metera and Keskesse to the monastic legacies associated with the Tsadkane (righteous

### Trade

Senafe sub-zone is steeped in antiquity, its strategic position making it a critical nexus across centuries. The town of Senafe itself historically flourished as a bustling trading post along ancient commercial arteries.

Local tradition links the name "Senafe" to Arabic roots. Legend holds that when early travelers—ancestors of regional Yemeni traders—arrived in the area, they asked "Sen'a fen?" ("Where is Sen'a?"), a phrase that gradually evolved into the region's name. Over the centuries, diverse communities traversed this highlands corridor, leaving behind a rich tapestry of ruins, inscriptions, and artifacts.

**Metera (Belew Kelew):** Echoes of an Ancient Trade Hub

Metera, also known as Belew Kelew, flourished as a major urban and trade center from approximately the 7th century BC to the 7th century AD. A decade-long excavation during the 1960s, led by French archaeologist Francis Anfray, unveiled the site's true scale. Prior to these excavations, Metera was known primarily for a single five-meter obelisk and surface pottery sherds.

Anfray's team uncovered residential complexes once inhabited by ancient elites and

•**The Metera Obelisk:** Erected around the 3rd century AD, this five-meter monument remains the centerpiece of the site. Near its peak, it features engraved symbols of a crescent moon and sun disc, underscored by early Ge'ez inscriptions.

**Keskesse:** Architecture, Tombs, and Ancient Life

Spanning roughly ten square kilometers within a fertile agricultural basin surrounded by hills, Keskesse stands as another pillar of Eritrean archaeology. The site features a fallen monument that once rose nearly ten meters, alongside five large broken stone pillars. Ruins of residential



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# Vital Arteries of Development, Social Inclusion, and National Integration

Bana Negusse

Roads are far more than just physical infrastructure. They are the vital arteries of development. In addition to connecting communities to markets, farmers to buyers, patients to healthcare, and children to schools, they facilitate commerce, reduce isolation, encourage mobility, and help bind together regions that might otherwise remain disconnected. For developing countries in particular, transportation networks are among the basic foundations upon which economic growth, social inclusion, and national integration are built.

However, despite these clear benefits, hundreds of millions of people worldwide – particularly in developing regions – still lack adequate road infrastructure, and Africa remains the region where this gap is most striking.

Across much of the continent, road density remains substantially below global averages. According to a variety of estimates, Africa has roughly 204 kilometres of roads per 1,000 square kilometres of land, compared to a world average of 944. Even more telling, only about 30-40 percent of Africa's roads are paved, versus more than half globally. According to the Center for Global Development, Africa is the only region in the world where road density has actually declined over the last two decades. Of the roads that are paved, a large proportion is within a few countries (e.g., South Africa), thus leaving much of the rest of the continent with limited coverage.

This shortfall has had profound economic consequences. With about 80 percent of goods in Africa transported by road, inadequate infrastructure drives up costs, restricts trade, and undermines competitiveness. For millions of Africans, particularly those in rural areas, the nearest reliable road may be hours, and sometimes even days, away, greatly limiting access to markets, essential services, and opportunities.

Even where roads do exist, a plethora of challenges abound. Colonial patterns of development concentrated networks around



ports and urban centres, leaving vast rural areas underserved and creating relatively few cross-border connections between neighbouring countries. Maintenance has often been neglected, resulting in pothole-ridden highways, deteriorating bridges, and dirt roads that become difficult or impossible to use during the rainy season. The consequences are significant: higher transportation costs, constrained trade, restricted investment, and barriers to social mobility and development.

Weak infrastructure also undermines regional integration. While Africa has made considerable progress toward economic blocs and free-trade arrangements, poor transport corridors remain a major obstacle to realizing these ambitions. After all, trade agreements may remove barriers at the border, but goods still have to travel from one market to another. In this sense, Africa's limited physical connectivity remains one of the major impediments to its integration.

Within this broader context, Eritrea's experience offers a compelling case study. During Italian colonization, which extended from the late 1800s until the 1940s, the country developed an extensive road and rail system. By the mid-20th century, foreign administrators described Eritrea as a territory with "superb roads" linking its cities, ports, and neighbouring countries. Yet the decades that followed brought destruction. Years of war, bombing

campaigns, looting by the British, and neglect left Eritrea's once enviable road system in ruins. When independence was finally achieved in 1991, the country inherited a shattered network: minimal in coverage, dilapidated in condition, and insufficient to support national recovery and reconstruction.

Rebuilding from such devastation required determination and investment. Despite limited resources, prolonged sanctions, and recurring geopolitical and climate-related challenges, Eritrea embarked on an ambitious programme to expand, rehabilitate, and modernize its roads. Between 1991 and 2015, the country's road network grew from roughly 4,930 kilometres to over 14,500 kilometres – an almost threefold increase. (Much more work has been conducted in the years since, with these figures being further improved.) Importantly, many of these roads were not simply new additions to the network. Existing routes were reconstructed and rehabilitated, while dirt roads were upgraded to improve their quality and reliability. Investment has continued in recent years, with rural access roads, highways, bridges, and other infrastructure forming part of a broader strategy to link the country's diverse regions and stimulate development. Notably, government officials, including President Isaias, have also pointed to infrastructure, and roads in particular, as an important area of national focus in the years ahead. The impact has been far-

reaching. Today, more than 85 percent of Eritrean villages are connected by road, reducing isolation and improving access to essential services. Children can travel more safely and comfortably to schools, including during rainy seasons that once rendered paths muddy and treacherous. Dust-filled dirt roads have in many places given way to smoother and more reliable routes, while bridges and culverts now allow villagers to cross rivers and streams that once cut them off entirely. For many rural households, the difference is transformative. Crops can reach markets before they spoil, patients can reach clinics in emergencies, and opportunities that were once distant can become considerably more accessible.

Economically, better roads have helped lower transportation costs, facilitated trade, and strengthened local markets. Producers are able to reach buyers more easily, while goods and services can move more efficiently into rural communities. The resulting increase in connectivity can stimulate economic activity well beyond major urban centres.

Socially, the benefits are equally important and should not be overlooked. Improved roads have expanded access to healthcare and education while fostering greater interaction and integration among Eritrea's diverse communities. In line with contact theory, this increased connectivity and interaction can also contribute to deeper social cohesion, mutual understanding, and national unity.

Overall, Eritrea's experience demonstrates that road development can have an impact far beyond the infrastructure itself. The expansion and rehabilitation of the country's road network has helped reduce geographical isolation, facilitate economic activity, improve access to essential services, and bring communities into closer contact with one another. It illustrates how investment in physical connectivity can contribute to both development and national integration.

The lesson extends beyond Eritrea. For Africa, where inadequate transportation infrastructure continues to constrain trade, investment, and mobility, improving connectivity remains an essential part of the development equation. Economic agreements, markets, institutions, and investment can only achieve their full potential when people and goods are able to move efficiently between them. Closing Africa's infrastructure and connectivity gap must therefore remain an important development priority.

Ultimately, development is not simply about building more. It is about creating the conditions that allow people, communities, and economies to connect and advance. Roads are among the most fundamental of those conditions.





# Eritrean Iconic Beauty Captured in a Smile

By: Kidane Shimendi

In 1965, American photojournalist James P. Blair captured one of the most widely circulated, deeply beloved, and fiercely contested images in the modern history of the Horn of Africa. The photograph was taken in Tessenei, a vibrant border town in the Gash-Barka region of Eritrea, during an assignment for National Geographic.

Blair's camera met the eyes of a young boy whose radiant, pearly-white smile captivated hearts worldwide and came to define Eritrean warmth and beauty. The photograph captured a striking portrait of traditional identity: a brilliant, natural smile balanced by distinct facial markings and a meticulously crafted hairstyle.

The young boy's hair grew into a dense, cloud-like crown on top, framed by tightly coiled ringlets along the jawline. His cheeks bore vertical incisions—traditional scarification serving as a rite of passage, a marker of clan lineage, and a symbol of aesthetic heritage.

That boy was Omar Muhammad

Idris Haji Ali Goret. His image traveled across the globe, mirroring Eritrea's renowned hospitality, resilience, and the core national value of "unity in diversity."

## Hospitality, Resilience, and Heritage

A genuine smile is the foundation of exceptional hospitality. Transcending language barriers, it diffuses tension and creates an approachable environment. Omar's sparkling smile manifested the very spirit of welcome for which Eritreans are widely praised.

The image resonates deeply because it reflects common cultural traits found across Eritrea's nine ethnic groups. For instance, those in the Bidawyet/Hedareb ethnic group carve three prominent vertical or horizontal parallel slits onto the cheeks to highlight tribal identity, clan lineage, aesthetic beauty, and rites of passage. In the Tigrinya group, small and subtle parallel vertical slits are carved onto the temples or next to the outer edge of the eyebrows; these

are believed to serve as a folk-medical remedy to prevent eye infections and act as a regional cultural marker.

In the Afar ethnic group, intricate geometrical patterns are cut into the cheeks or forehead to mark a rite of passage signaling maturity, bravery, and ancestral lineage. Among the Nara, thick and prominent vertical or horizontal parallel cuts on the cheeks serve as vital markers of tribal identity and clan lineage. In Bilen (Blin) culture, facial tattooing (called Nishani) on the chin, neck, or lower jaw is used by women to show aesthetic beauty and marital status, while small incisions are made on the temples of children to prevent eye ailments.

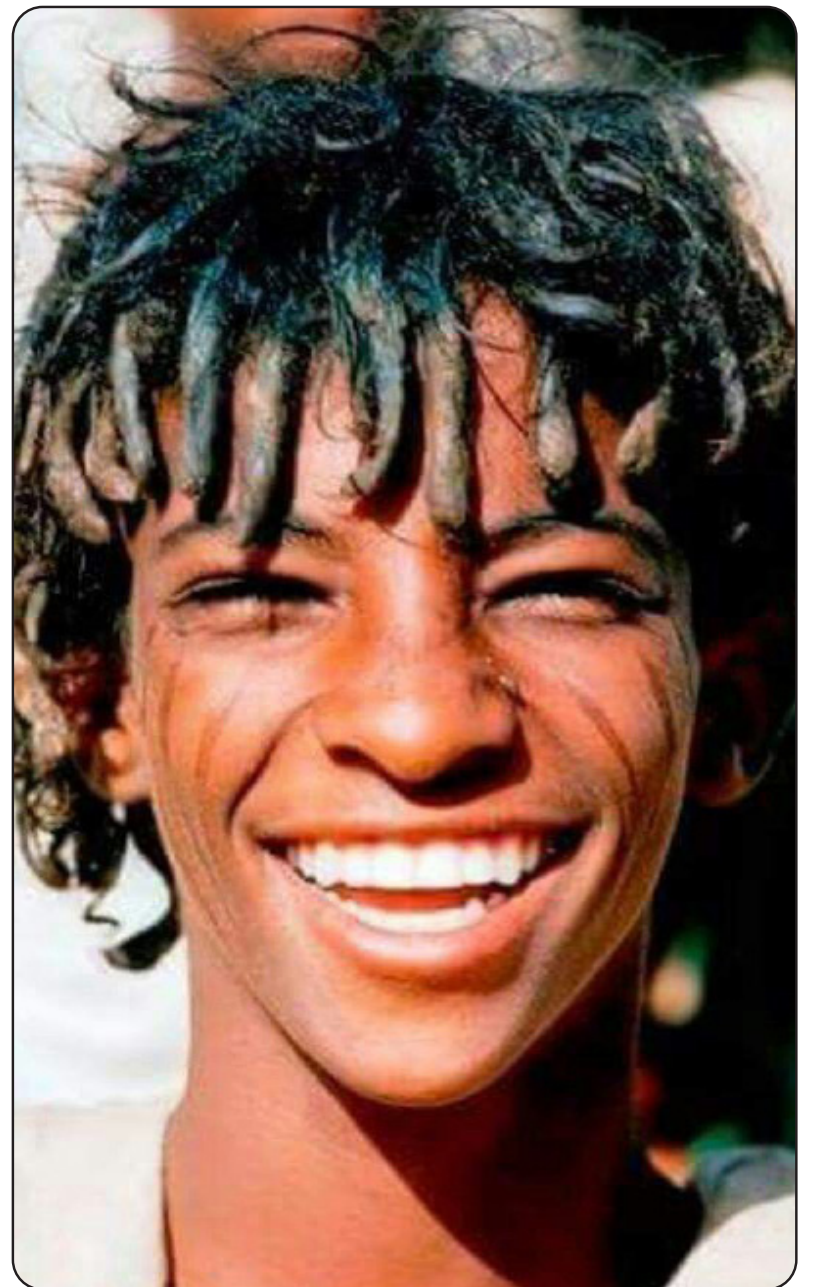
Among the Tigre, three vertical parallel slits are sliced onto both cheeks during infancy for tribal identification and as a traditional medical treatment to relieve facial swelling and infections. The Kunama generally do not practice facial scarification for tribal identity, relying instead on distinct hairstyles, body jewelry, and cultural body modification. In Saho culture, small, subtle vertical incisions are located near the temples or at the outer edge of the eyebrows, used almost entirely as a preventive folk-medical remedy for eye health and headaches.

Distinctly, the Rashaida ethnic group has no facial markings; the practice is strictly forbidden by cultural taboo, with aesthetic expression focused instead on the intricate, heavily embroidered veil.

## The Art and Science of Scarification

Globally, facial marking was once a widely practiced cultural tradition across diverse societies. Scientifically called scarification, it is a form of permanent body modification that involves cutting or burning a pattern or design onto the skin.

Traditionally, within indigenous cultures, people performed scarification for ritualistic purposes, such as rites of passage or preparing children for adulthood. The procedure



often involved using a wooden hook, thorn, or razor blade on the skin to create a design. Practitioners would sometimes pack the wound with ash or mud to prevent clean healing, thereby creating a deeper, raised scar.

Today, scarification is less common among indigenous communities as traditional practices gradually decline. However, it remains preserved in select cultures as a way to reconnect with ancient heritage. Medically, scarification carries a high risk of infection due to the historical use of unsterile equipment.

## A Symbol of National Fortitude

When Blair took the photo, the Eritrean armed struggle had already begun. The Eritrean lowlands, where Blair met Omar, served as the cradle of the revolution. Because the Eritrean people were enduring colonial oppression, Omar's image came to symbolize unbreakable national resilience.

Bright, sparkling smiles that shine through difficult situations evoke profound admiration. We often expect smiles only in moments of joy, yet in Eritrea, a smile also emerges

during hardship as an emblem of fortitude—a cherished national value nurtured across generations. Consequently, it became a familiar sight during the Eritrean armed struggle to see freedom fighters sharing captivating smiles amid severe adversity.

In an era where maintaining dental health is more crucial than ever, Omar's image holds unique cultural and aesthetic significance. It offers a powerful reminder of nature's inherent beauty and the timeless elegance of a healthy smile.

Unfortunately, Omar never saw his image become iconic during his lifetime. He passed away in 1981, a decade before national liberation. Though his physical body has returned to the earth, his image—alongside other historic photographs—remains an enduring symbol of Eritrean national identity.

Finally, digital historians, grassroots artists, and cultural advocates should continue working tirelessly to collect, preserve, study, and share these valuable archives. These efforts will help counter external misrepresentations and firmly place Eritrea's timeless beauty in its rightful global frame.



# Summer in Asmara: Vibrant Community Celebrations and Beautiful Memories





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# VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Bisha Mining Share Company is inviting applicants for the following positions

1. **Position: Head Chef**
- Department: Employee Services
- Section: Village Service
- Number required: One (01)

## Primary Purpose

- The Head Chef is responsible for leading all culinary operations within the BMSC camp catering facilities. The position ensures the delivery of safe, nutritious, and high-quality meals to a diverse workforce while maintaining food safety standards, operational efficiency, cost control, and workforce development. The Head Chef provides leadership to kitchen personnel and supports the development of national employees through ongoing training and mentorship.

## Main Functions

### Kitchen Management and Leadership

- Manage and coordinate daily kitchen operations to ensure safe, efficient, and high-quality food production.
- Allocate duties and schedules to kitchen personnel to support operational requirements.
- Supervise cooks, bakers, kitchen assistants, and other catering employees.
- Foster a positive, disciplined, and productive working environment.
- Conduct training, mentoring, and coaching of national employees to develop culinary and supervisory capabilities.
- Participate in workforce succession planning and nationalization initiatives.
- Coordinate with catering and service teams regarding menus, special requirements, and operational changes.
- Provide input into kitchen facility improvements, equipment upgrades, and operational efficiencies.

### Food Production and Culinary Excellence

- Develop, implement, and continuously improve menu cycles that meet workforce dietary and nutritional requirements.
- Prepare and oversee the production of international, Western, regional, and local cuisine.
- Ensure food quality, taste, presentation, and consistency standards are maintained.
- Monitor portion control and food preparation standards.
- Adapt menus and recipes to accommodate dietary restrictions, allergies, and medical requirements preferences.
- Introduce innovative menu items and seasonal offerings to improve customer satisfaction.
- Ensure meals meet the nutritional requirements of employees working in physically demanding environments.

### Health, Safety, Environment and Sanitation

- Ensure compliance with company HSE standards, food safety regulations, and local health requirements.
- Promote and maintain safe work practices within kitchen operations.
- Conduct regular workplace inspections and identify potential hazards.
- Ensure proper sanitation of kitchen equipment, food preparation areas, and storage facilities.
- Maintain HACCP requirements and food safety documentation.
- Report incidents, near misses, and non-compliance matters as required.
- Support regular audits and inspections conducted by management and regulatory authorities.

### Supply Chain, Inventory and Cost Control

- Monitor inventory levels of food, beverages, and kitchen consumables.
- Implement stock rotation and storage control procedures.
- Conduct regular stock counts and reconcile inventory records.
- Minimize food waste and improve utilization of resources.
- Monitor food costs and maintain expenditure within approved budgets.
- Provide recommendations regarding procurement requirements and replenishment schedules.
- Ensure proper care and accountability of kitchen equipment, utensils, and catering assets.

### Administration and Reporting

- Prepare operational reports as required.
- Maintain attendance records and manpower information for catering employees.
- Submit menu plans and significant menu changes for management review and approval.
- Maintain accurate records relating to food safety, inventory, training, and operational performance.
- Participate in departmental meetings and provide recommendations for continuous improvement.

## UNIQUE REQUIREMENTS / OTHER INFORMATION

- Ability to work on a remote mining site rotational roster.
- Ability to work flexible hours, including weekends and public holidays when required.
- Must be capable of working effectively in a multicultural and multinational environment.
- Expected to transfer skills and knowledge to national employees to support succession planning and workforce nationalization objectives.

| Qualifications:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Knowledge and Experience                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Diploma in Hospitality Management, Culinary Arts, Professional Cookery, or equivalent recognized qualification.</li><li>HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point) Certification.</li><li>Food Safety/ Food Handler Certification.</li><li>Additional culinary certifications are desirable.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minimum 5 to 10 years of culinary management experience in high-volume catering operations, mining camps, remote site facilities, hotels, resorts, or industrial catering environments.</li><li>Minimum 3 years' experience as a Head Chef or Senior Sous Chef in a large-scale commercial kitchen.</li><li>Demonstrated experience managing multicultural and multinational workforces.</li><li>Extensive knowledge of international, Western, and regional cuisines.</li><li>Proven experience in menu planning, food costing, inventory management, and budget control.</li><li>Experience implementing food safety, hygiene, and sanitation standards in industrial catering environments.</li><li>Experience coaching, mentoring, and developing national employees through structured training programs.</li></ul> |
| Technical Skills                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Behavioral Skills                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Advanced culinary and food preparation techniques.</li><li>Menu planning, recipe development, and food costing.</li><li>Inventory control and stock management.</li><li>HACCP and food safety management systems.</li><li>Nutritional planning and dietary management.</li><li>Knowledge of halal and other special dietary requirements.</li><li>Kitchen equipment operation and maintenance practices.</li><li>Intermediate Microsoft Office skills (Word, Excel, Outlook.)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Strong leadership and people management skills.</li><li>Effective communication and interpersonal skills.</li><li>Coaching and mentoring capability.</li><li>Customer service orientation.</li><li>Ability to work in a remote-site environment.</li><li>Planning and organizing skills.</li><li>Problem-solving and decision-making abilities.</li><li>Ability to perform under pressure and manage multiple priorities.</li><li>Commitment to safety, teamwork, and continuous improvement.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

2. **Position: Scaffolding and Rigging Field Advisor**
- Department: Processing Plant
- Section: Engineering Process Plant
- Number required: One (01)

## Primary Purpose

- The Scaffolding and Rigger Field Advisor will train, supervise and ensure world class competency in the field on rigging and dogging tasks as well as building of scaffolding structures throughout the Process Plant as required. Safety is of utmost importance while building, use and dismantling.

## Essential Functions

Continued on page 7



Continued from page 6

- Design and present scaffolding training programs (e.g., basic, intermediate, advanced and inspection courses) tailored to adult learners. Teach trainees how to interpret technical drawings, structural designs, and manufacture instructions for various types (e.g., tube and clamp, system scaffold, birdcage).
- Deliver engaging classroom instruction and hands-on practical training.
- In a hands-on field role, engage, train and ensure all rigging tasks are done safely and correctly. Observe and do Planned Task Observations on lifts including equipment selection, calculation of lifting points, slinging and dogging and safety.
- Train and ensure compliance during equipment inspections such as slings, wire rope, chain blocks, lifting tackle, etc.

TASK DESCRIPTION EXPANDED TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Planning**
- Scaffolding assessments and delegates any scaffolding requirement in BMSC.
  - Be responsible for preparing the materials to provide access to elevated tasks by means of scaffolding.
  - Be responsible for training the nationals to become competent scaffolders and be able to provide a safe working platform for any personnel that are required to work at heights
  - Determine rigging equipment requirements (design, load, length, etc.).
- Implementation of the Plan**
- Identify the highest priority for each week and focus on completing relevant tasks.
  - Ensures good housekeeping.
  - Ensures “rigging/scaffolding” operations on the mine are carried out in an efficient and effective way to minimize downtime, effecting production.
  - Performs regular legal inspections on all lifting and scaffolding equipment on site to detect potential problems before they cause safety incidents
  - Controls downtime by ensuring the best techniques are being used to repair breakdowns.
  - Ensure safety requirements are fulfilled at the workplace, including leading Field Level Risk Assessment (FLRA) and proper use of the appropriate PPE. Report any safety issues/incidents.
  - Comply with mine’s cardinal rules and other safety, environmental or other rules and standards as directed. Identifies any hazards in the workplace.
  - Maintains equipment; parts and supply stocks by carrying out regular stock takes and ordering replacements as required.
- Scaffolding**
- Ensure all scaffolding on site is in a good usable safe condition. Any non-compliant items must be removed and destroyed before disposal.
  - Ensure there are correct quantities of each component on site
  - Ensure storage is neat and organized.

- Train nationals and lead in a hands-on manner ensuring all scaffolding erected is fit for purpose and safe.
- Sign off on scaffolding installations.
- After use, ensure scaffolding is dismantled timeously.

- Slinging training**
- Splice cables to prevent ends from fraying
  - Splice cables according to required standards (Thimbles)
  - Sling complex loads and communicate during crane operations
  - Sling normal loads and communicate during crane operations.

- Lifting Training**
- Ensure correct lifting points have been identified
  - Ensure correct lifting equipment has been identified
  - Ensure equipment is correctly used
  - Ensure that load is always controlled
  - Establish and enforce whistles and other forms of communication.
  - Perform pre-use maintenance and inspection on lifting machinery and equipment
  - Direct the operation of an overhead crane
  - Lift and turn a load
  - Lift and move a load using manual lifting equipment and tackle.

- Writing Reports & Data Control**
- Compile regular training reports with progress, challenges and next steps

- UNIQUE REQUIREMENTS / OTHER INFORMATION**
- Candidate must be physically medically fit
  - Candidate must be qualified as Rigging and Scaffolding
  - Must be able to work outside exposed to Heat, wind and dusty environments
  - Must be able to work at Heights.

| Qualifications:                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Knowledge and Experience                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grade 12 (Technical School) with maths and English.</li><li>• Official lifting and slinging as well as scaffolding training by a recognized body.</li></ul>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 10 years + of lifting, slinging and scaffolding</li><li>• 4 years + of training and mentoring national teams.</li></ul>                                                                                                                              |
| Technical Skills                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Behavioral Skills                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Attention to detail</li><li>• Rigging &amp; Crane experience</li><li>• Problem solving skill.</li><li>• Intermediate Microsoft Office skills (Word, Excel, Outlook.)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communication (English)</li><li>• Prioritizing skills</li><li>• Ability to work towards strict deadlines</li><li>• High level of accuracy</li><li>• Self-motivation.</li><li>• Commitment to safety, teamwork, and continuous improvement.</li></ul> |

- General Information and other requirements:**
- **Place of Work:** Bisha.
  - **Salary:** As per Company salary scale.
  - **Type of Contract:** Indefinite

- Additional requirements for Nationals:**
- Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligation and provided evidence of release paper from the Ministry of Defense.
  - Present clearance paper from current/last employer.
  - Testimonial documents to be attached (CV, work experience credentials, a copy of your National Identity Card etc.).
  - Only shortlisted applicants will be considered as potential candidates for an interview.
  - Application documents will not be returned to sender.
  - All applications should be sent through the post office.
  - **Deadline for application: 10 days from the day of publication in the Newspaper.**

**Address:** Please mail your applications to:-  
Bisha Mining Share Company,  
P. O. Box 4276 Asmara, Eritrea

- Note to Eritrean applicants:**
- Please send a copy of your application to:
1. Aliens Employment permits Affairs,  
P. O. Box 7940  
Asmara, Eritrea.
  2. Mineral Resources Management  
P. O. Box 272 Asmara, Eritrea

# Notice

Notice is hereby given to the public that **Hamassien Import-Export PLC** has conducted its extra ordinary meeting on 24/08/2026 and resolved that:

A. Five shareholders namely - 1. Kidane Tesfamichael 2.Rahel Tesfamichael 3.Tigsti Tesfamichael 4.Agazit Tesfamichael 5.Maedot Tesfamichael each have donated and transferred 10 shares at par value 1,000 Nakfa to Freweyni Tesfamichael and 2 shareholders namely- 1.Tomas Gebremeskel 2.Milka Gebremeskel each have donated and transferred 5 shares at par value 1,000 Nakfa to Ferweyni Tesfamichael, and they have withdrawn from the company donating all their shares.

B. Freweyni Tesfamichael has increased her shares from 70 to 240 by contributing 170,000 Nakfa, and Yofthie Tesfamichael has increased his shares from 20 to 50 by contributing 30,000 Nakfa; hence the capital of the company to rise from 100,000 (one hundred thousand) Nakfa to 300,000 (three hundred thousand) Nakfa.

C. Hence, the new shareholdings of the company will be as follows.

| Name                     | No. shares | Value in Nakfa |
|--------------------------|------------|----------------|
| 1. Semeraeb Tesfamichael | 10         | 10,000         |
| 2. Freweyni Tesfamichael | 240        | 240,000        |
| 3. Yoftahie Tesfamichael | 50         | 50,000         |
| Total shares             | 300        | 300,000 Nakfa  |

**Hamassien Import-Export Plc.**



# An Exemplary Female Farmer: "Farming Without Soil"

*Exegenet Okbazgi is an exemplary farmer who embodies the resilience and ingenuity of Eritrean women. Translating her creative ideas into direct action, she has built a highly successful agricultural enterprise in her own home.*

*Living in Adi Mongoti—a village located about 4 kilometers from Mendefera in the Southern Region—Exegenet diligently manages her livestock and poultry. Utilizing the reflective power of her thinking, she has adopted a simple, soil-free cultivation method to grow nutrient-rich fodder for her cattle and chickens. Through this innovative approach, she has made a tangible difference in her family's livelihood and raised her farming operations to a whole new level.*

By: Merina Paulos

**How did you first start this soil-free farming process in your home?**

The foundation of livestock production is having a sufficient and healthy supply of feed, so I knew I needed to secure nutritious food for my animals. One day, while watching Eri-TV with my husband, I saw a segment on producing green animal feed without soil. We watched the process very carefully.

At first, we were skeptical about how crops could grow without any soil, but once we tried the method ourselves, we achieved excellent results right away.

**What tools and procedures are required to practice hydroponic farming?**

It is a simple process that requires very few tools. You just need to follow the hydroponic method carefully.

First, clean the grains—such as barley, wheat, or maize—by rinsing them three times with clean water. Next, add a small cup of sanitizing solution (berekina) and let the grains soak overnight. It is important to know the required soaking duration for each crop; for example, maize needs 48 hours of soaking, whereas wheat and barley require 24 hours.

After soaking, drain the water, cover the grains with plastic, and leave them in a dark place until germination begins. Once sprouted, transfer them into open plastic baskets placed in a well-ventilated area with moderate temperature—avoiding extreme direct sunlight or complete darkness. From that point on, you water them day and night until the fodder grows fully. The drainage water can even be recycled and used again.

Initially, we only used barley and wheat, but after receiving training and guidance from the Ministry of Agriculture, we



started growing maize, which yielded our highest fodder production.

**What are the main differences between farming with soil and farming without soil?**

There is a vast difference, and hydroponic farming offers major advantages over traditional soil farming.

First, it is easy and simple to manage. Second, the fodder grows remarkably fast in a very short period. In contrast, soil-based farming requires significant labor, land, water reservoirs, specialized equipment, and substantial financial investment. Soil-free farming produces high yields at a fraction of the cost and physical effort.

**How has this feeding system affected your livestock production and income?**

It has been extraordinarily productive and has increased both the quantity and quality of my yields.

For instance, in my poultry operation, I keep about 100 chickens. Feeding them hydroponic green shoots has improved the quality of their eggs—the yolks are richer, darker, and better-tasting, allowing me to sell them at premium market prices.

It has also transformed my dairy production. I feed this hydroponic green grass to my cow, and as a result, she produces between 30 and 40 liters of rich, high-quality milk per day.

**What message or advice would**

**you share with other farmers?**

I continuously encourage other farmers to adopt this system because it is cost-effective, low-effort, highly productive, and excellent for animal health. Every farmer should try this technique with guidance from the Ministry of Agriculture.

Encouraged by these results, I plan to expand my poultry and dairy operations. This simple method provides a reliable way to secure healthy animal feed, and I strongly recommend that other households adopt it.

**Expert Insight: The Ministry of Agriculture Perspective**

**To gain broader insight into this method, we consulted Keshi Mehari Teweldebrhan, an agricultural expert with the Ministry of Agriculture, who shared his observations regarding Exegenet's accomplishments:**

"Exegenet Okbazgi is an exemplary farmer who works closely with us at the Ministry of Agriculture. She follows our technical instructions step-by-step and exemplifies what a modern, forward-thinking farmer should be. She has built an

integrated enterprise—combining dairy, poultry, and vegetable farming—achieving wonderful yields. Her success has inspired many neighboring farmers to adopt hydroponics to solve local fodder shortages.

The word hydroponics comes from the Greek words hydro (water) and ponos (labor)—meaning 'water-working.' In this system, green fodder is grown using only water, without any soil. It requires minimal water and space to produce fresh green grass for livestock.

first rinsed and treated with a mild sanitizer solution to prevent mold and pests, then placed into perforated plastic trays or baskets.



**Keshi Mehari Teweldebrhan**

It is environmentally friendly, saves time and labor, requires no



Crops are typically germinated indoors or in shaded areas where light, temperature, and humidity can be managed. Grains like maize, barley, and wheat are

farm plots, and significantly cuts costs.

**C**ontinued on page 5

