

The Ethiopian Millennium

Reflections on the Past, Present Challenges, & Light into The Future

September 8-9, 2007

Howard University, Washington, D.C.

(Howard University Hospital, Tower Building, 5th & V st.)

Symposia Program

Thursday and Friday, September 6 & 7

**Arrival of Guests
Capital**

Holiday Inn,

**C St., SW
Washington DC**

Saturday, September 8, 2007

8:00-9:00 A.M Registration Howard University Hospital Tower Building, 5th & V St

Opening Session

9:00 – 9:15 Opening remarks by Artist Alemtsehay Wodajo, Executive Director of CCEM

9:15:- 9:25 Welcoming remarks by Mrs Nebiat Solomon, Director of African Affairs Washington DC Mayor Adrian Fenty Office,

Session 1. THE QUEST FOR DEMOCRACY IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM

(Co-organized with Support group for Democracy in Ethiopia)

9:30- 10:45 Plenary Session 1.a. Quest for Democracy

(Co-organized with Support group for Democracy in Ethiopia)

Moderator: Ato Negussie Mengesha (Voice of America, VOA)

- *The Quest for Democracy Under TPLF: Lessons from 2005 Elections*
Dr. Mesfin Araya, City University of New York, NY

- *The Challenges of Balancing Collective and Individual Rights*
Mr. Dima N. Sarbo, University of Tennessee,

- *Democratic Response to National Question in Ethiopia*
Ato Ephrem Madebo, Systems Engineer, FAA

10:45-11:00

Refreshment Break

**11:05- 12:05 Plenary Session 1.b. Quest for Democracy
(continued)**

Moderator: Ato Negussie Mengesha (Voice of America, VOA)

- *Millennium Beliefs and Radicalization*

Dr. Messai Kebede, University of Dayton

- *Ethiopia and United States Relations:*

It's Impact on the Quest for Democracy in Ethiopia

Dr. Getachew Metaferia, Morgan State University

12:05 – 12:35

Question & Answer Session

12:35 – 1:35 P.M Lunch Break

1:45 – 3:45 P.M Sessions 2 & 3 (concurrent)

Session 2: The Essentials of Peace & Reconciliation in Ethiopia

(Co-Organized by the Ethiopian Women for Peace and Development, EWPD)

Moderator: Dr. Maigenet Shifferaw, (University of The District of Colombia)

- *The Role of Civil Society in the Transformation of Governance and Peace
Building in Ethiopia*

Dr. Berhanu Mengistu, Old Dominion University

- *What Made The South African Reconciliation Possible?*

Dr. Kogila Adam- Moodley, University of British Columbia & Director of Research and
Development at the Desmond Tutu Peace Centre in Cape town, South Africa

- *Conflict Resolution in Divided Societies: Lessons from South Africa for Ethiopia*

Dr. Herbert Adam, Simon Fraser University & University of Cape Town

- *The Role of Women in Peace and Reconciliation: A Case of Women in the Southern
Region*

Ms. Agere Tefera, Arlington Diocese Office of Migration & Refugees Services

- *Institutional Formation as an instrument for Conflict Prevention and Positive Change in
Ethiopia: The Case of the Ethiopian Institute for Nonviolence Education and Peace
studies (EINEPS)*

Ato Elias Wondimu, Tsehai Publishers & EINEPS

Session 3. Ethiopian History, Language, and Culture in the Past Millennium

Moderator: Ato Alemayehu Gebre Hiwot, Author & Poet, Washington DC

- *Ethiopia Ena Lelaw Alem*
Professor Getatchew Haile, St. John University, MN
- *Ethiopian History and Literature*
Dr. Fikre Tolossa, Writer, Poet & Playwright, California
- *The Ethiopian Millennium as a Signifier of Long Historical Journey*
Dr. Ayele Bekerie, Cornell University, NY
- *Ye Ethiopia Uletegnaw Millennium Be getami (Poet) Ayin*
Ato Assefa Gebremariam Tessema, Author & Poet, Las Vegas , Nevada
- *The Ethiopian Calander*
Dr. Aberra Molla, Ethiopic Computer & Software Inc, Colorado
- *Ethiopian Millennium: Past Offerings and Future Appeal*
Dr. Tadele Gebere Hiwot, Houston University
- *Hoping for a Free and Vibrant Press in Ethiopia:
A Bird's Eye view of the Development of Modern Media over the Last One Hundred Years.*
Dr. Meseret Chekol Reta, University of Wisconsin - River Falls.

3:35-3:50PM

Refreshment Break

3:55- 5:55 P.M.

Sessions 4 & 5 (concurrent)

Session 4: Ethiopia's Millennium Challenges: Economic Development & the Environment

Moderator: Dr. Gezahegne Bekele, International Affairs & Trade (USGAO)

- *Ethiopia's Command Financial Economy:
Measures for Transforming the Financial Sector in Next Millennium.*
Professor Lemma Wolde Senbet, University of Maryland
- *The Ethiopian Economy in the New Millennium:
A Despoiled Economy in Perspective.*
Dr. Getachew Begashaw, Harper College, Chicago, Illinois
- *The Challenge of Economic Development:*

Can Ethiopia Claim the 21st Century or its Coming Millennium?
Dr. Sisay Assefa, Western Michigan University,

- *Sustainable Development and Peace in Ethiopia: Possibilities of Our Time?*
Ato Mersie Ejigu, Partnership for African Environmental Sustainability,
- *Global warming: the challenges and business opportunities*
Dr. Brook Lakew, NASA
- *Desertification in Ethiopia: A Challenge in the New Millennium.*
Ato Fekade Shewakena, National Institute of Health (NIH)

Session 5: Ethiopians in the Diaspora: Prospects, Challenges, and opportunities

Moderator: Ato Abdul Aziz Kamus, African Resource Center, Washington DC

- *The History of Ethiopian Immigrants in the US, a Profile*
Dr. Solomon Addis Getahun, Michigan State University
- *Ethiopian Musicians at the Diaspora Crossroads*
Dr. Kay Kaufman Shelemay, Harvard University
- **Success in Business & Entrepreneurship:**
Lessons for Ethiopians in Diaspora
Dr. Gabe Hamda, ICATT Consulting, Inc, Jacksonville, Florida.
- *Standing Up and Speaking Up for your community*
Mr. Abdulaziz Kamus, African Resource Center, Washington DC
- *Presentation on issues concerning Ethiopian Americans*
Ms. Selam Mulugeta, Special Assistant to Cong. Mike Honda

6:15 .P.M. End of Saturday symposia program

The Ethiopian Millennium Grand Musical and Cultural Show at **Stadium Armory** Starting from 8:00 PM on Saturday.

www.ethiopianmillennium2000.com/millennium.html

Sunday, September 9, 2007

9:15-10:15AM Registration Howard University Medical Building(5th & W)

10:30- 12:30 P.M. Sessions 6 & 7 (Concurrent)

Session 6. Human Rights Advocacy, Justice and the Rule of Law in Ethiopia

(Co-organized with Coalition for HR 2003 & EACA)

Moderator: Wro Meron Ahadu, Human Rights Activist, Los Angeles, CA

- *Diaspora Human Rights Advocacy: Lessons Learned, Building on Current Capacities, and Setting the Stage for Future Challenges*
Prof. Alemayehu Gebre Mariam, California State University, San Bernardino, CA
- *Targeted Legal Reform To Promote Democracy in the New Millennium: Building an independent judiciary and reform in criminal justice*
Ato Dereje Demisse, Law Offices of Demisse and Church, Boston, MA
- *Unity on Principles and Deeds"*
Mr. Obang O. Metho, Anuak Justice Council, Human Rights Advocate
- *Talking Beyond Human Rights Violations in Ethiopia"*
Mr. Birhanemeskel Abebe, Human Rights Center University, Minnesota
- *The Human Rights Condition in the Ogaden Region of Ethiopia*
Mr. Yassin Quassim, Human Rights Activist, Atlanta, Georgia

Session 7. Building Democratic Institutions, & Civil Society (Co-organized with Ethiopian National Congress, ENC)

Moderator: Ato Elias Wondimu, Teshai Publishers & EINEPS, Los Angeles, CA

- *Way Out of Seven Deaths: Ethiopian Prospects for the New Millennium.*
Dr. Teshai Berhane-Selassie, Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick, Ireland
- *Citizens Charter: The Vital Role of a Strong Civic Movement*
Dr. Berhanu Abegaz, College of William and Mary, VA
- *Peace and wartime shifts in the behaviors of the state and civil society and socioeconomic and political change in Ethiopia*
Dr. Teshome Tadesse, Michigan State University

- *Building Democratic Institutions of Governance & Civil Institutions*
Dr. Erqu Yimer, Ethiopian Community Center, Chicago, IL

12:30-1:30 P.M. Lunch Break

1:40 – 4:00 P.M. Sessions 8 & 9 (concurrent)

Session 8. Ethiopia's Millennium Challenges: Health and Women issues

Moderator: Mr. Nebiat Aklilu, Health Program Manager, Washington D.C.

- *The Role of Women in the struggle for Democracy & Human Rights*
Wro. Aslefech Retta, IEWO

- *Health and Good Governance: The Challenges in the New Millennium*
Dr. Kassa Ayalew

- *Health and Women*
Wro Lemlem Tsegaw

- *HIV/AIDS in Ethiopia*
Dr. Ashenafi Waktola

Session 9. The State of Education and the Youth in Ethiopia

Moderator: Ato Yohannes Assefa, Attorney & Publisher, Washington D.C.

- *Modernity, the Ethiopian Youth and the Challenge of the Third Millennium*
Dr. Paulos Milkias, Concordia University

- *Timhert BeEthiopia: Tinanet Ena Zare*
Dr. Aklilu Habte, Former President of Addis Ababa University

- *The Psychological Consequences of Miseducation*
Dr. Abeba Fekade

- *Ethiopia's Beleaguered Youth:
Can It Meet the Challenges of the New Millennium?*
Dr. Abraham Bekele

- *Matter of Interest*
Ato Mehari Belay, Strayer University

4:00 – 4:20

Refreshment Break

4:25- 6:25 P.M

Closing Plenary Session 10

Session 10. The State, Ethno-nationalism , regional politics, and security issues:

Moderator: Ambassador Ayalew Mandefro, former Ambassador & Minister of Defense

- *Millennium Hopes for creating a Security Community from the Red Sea to the Indian Ocean: Confronting the Challenges with Courage and Wisdom*

Dr. Mamo Muchie, Aalborg University, Denmark

- *Be Haya Andegnaw Kifele Zemen Be Ethiopia Yetedergu*

Ye Lewit Mukerawoch: Tahisas, Yekatit Ena Ginbot.

Dr. Negede Gobzie, Author and Political Activist, Belgium

- *Whither Ethio-Eritrean Relation in the Next Millennium? A Time for Reflection.*

Dr. Shumet Sishagne, Christopher Newport University, VA

- *Ethno-nationalism as a Hindrance to the Democratization of the Ethiopian State*

Dr Assefa Negash, De Geestgronden Institute of Mental Health,
The Netherlands

6:30- 7:30

Questions and Answer period

Closing Remarks & End of symposia program

8:00 P.M. CCEM will host a dinner reception for symposia guests at Meaza Restaurant, VA

To contact the Council for the Celebration of Ethiopian Millennium, regarding the Symposium you can write to: Neaminz@aol.com, or

symposium@ethiopianmillennium2000.com; phone: 202-386-3037 or 301-681-1201

www.ethiomeia.com