



PRESIDENT ISAIAS HOLDS EXTENSIVE TALKS WITH CROWN PRINCE MOHAMMED BIN SALMAN

President Isaias Afwerki met on Wednesday in the mid-afternoon hours with Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed Bin Salman at Al Yamamah Palace in Riyadh for extensive discussions on bilateral cooperation and issues of mutual interest.

The meeting reviewed the historical and brotherly relations between Eritrea and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and explored prospects for strengthening and expanding economic cooperation between the two countries.

On regional matters, the two sides

exchanged views on developments in the Nile Basin, the Horn of Africa, the Red Sea, and the Arabian Gulf. The consultations also addressed the constructive role Saudi Arabia could play in fostering stability and cooperation across these regions.

President Isaias highlighted the previous absence of an active Saudi role in regional affairs, underlining that sustainable peace and stability are indispensable foundations for meaningful economic development. He further called for enhanced Saudi contributions to promoting peace and stability in the wider region, and in Eritrea's immediate

neighbourhood.

Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman, for his part, stated that he will dispatch a delegation to Eritrea in the near future for deeper consultations on the vital regional issues discussed.

Foreign Minister Osman Saleh; Eritrea's Chargé d'Affaires Weini Gerezgiher; Saudi Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan; Advisor for National Security Dr. Musaed bin Mohammed Al-Aiban; and Saudi Ambassador to Eritrea Mushael Hamdan Elroquin participated in the meeting.

PRESS RELEASE:

ERITREA HAS WITHDRAWN ITS MEMBERSHIP FROM IGAD

Eritrea has formally informed the IGAD Secretary General of its decision to withdraw from the Organization.

Eritrea's decision stems from, and is predicated, on the following poignant facts and events:

1. As it will be recalled, Eritrea played a pivotal role when IGAD was revitalized in 1993, and subsequently worked, in collaboration with other Member States, for its transformation and effectiveness so that it would serve as the primary vehicle for enhancement of regional peace and stability, thereby paving the ground for viable regional economic integration.

2. Unfortunately, over time and especially since 2005, IGAD has not only failed to meet the aspirations of the peoples of the region, but instead played a deleterious role, becoming a tool against targeted Member States, particularly Eritrea. These unwarranted acts prompted Eritrea to suspend its membership in April 2007.

3. Eritrea re-activated its membership in IGAD in June 2023, hoping that the Organization would heed Eritrea's call for reform and rectify its past records. Regrettably, IGAD has and continues to renege on its statutory obligations, thereby undermining its own relevance and legal mandate.

In the event, Eritrea finds itself compelled to withdraw its membership from an organization that has forfeited its legal mandate and authority, offering no discernible strategic benefit to all its constituencies and failing to contribute substantively to the stability of the region.

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Asmara
12 December 2025*

PRESIDENT ISAIAS AFWERKI ARRIVES IN JEDDAH



President Isaias Afwerki, in continuation of his visit to Saudi Arabia, arrived in Jeddah in the mid-afternoon hours yesterday.

President Isaias Afwerki and his delegation were accorded warm welcome by the Deputy Emir of the Makkah Region, Prince Saud bin Mishal bin Abdulaziz, on

their arrival at King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah.

During his stay in Jeddah, President Isaias will visit significant developmental institutions.

Earlier in the day, President Isaias Afwerki met leaders of

the Eritrean community and national associations - Youth, Women, PDFJ - in Riyadh and its environs.

President Isaias underlined that Eritrea's strength has always been anchored on the patriotism of its people. In this regard, President Isaias urged the Community and National Association bodies to redouble their efforts in order to preserve and enhance the Diaspora's commendable culture of hard work, unity and proper upbringing of their kids.

President Isaias further stressed the need for coordinated approaches by all civil society stakeholders to combat subterfuges that may be concocted to dilute the culture, values and cohesion of the young generation in the Diaspora.

The representatives of the Eritrean community, the National Union of Eritrean Women, PFDJ, and YPFDJ, who attended the meeting, forwarded questions focusing on the objective situation in the homeland in light of regional and global developments, relations between Eritrea and Saudi Arabia, and their prospects, as well as

national development programs and their progress. They also expressed their conviction to enhance participation in national affairs.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Osman Saleh, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Ms. Weini Gerezgiher, Chargé d'Affaires at the Eritrean Embassy.



Statement by Ambassador Beyene Russom at the 7th Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly



Mr. President, Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,
All Protocols Observed,

At the outset, my delegation conveys its sincere appreciation to the Government and people of Kenya for warmly hosting this Assembly, and to UNEP and the UNEA-7 Bureau for their committed leadership.

Mr. President,

Eritrea is situated in a region where the climate crisis is not a distant possibility but a daily reality. We continue to endure recurrent droughts, erratic rainfall, land degradation, and steadily rising temperatures. Yet, despite the well-documented vulnerabilities of our region and the developing world more broadly, the global response remains far below expectation. Climate-finance pledges are unfulfilled; technology transfer is limited; and the international environmental architecture remains

fragmented, duplicative, and difficult for least developed countries to access. This situation is neither sustainable nor just.

Mr. President,

In the face of these constraints, Eritrea has chosen a path grounded in determination and self-reliance. We continue to combat environmental degradation through domestic capacities and community-driven action. One of our most transformative national undertakings has been the construction of hundreds of dams across the country; efforts that have strengthened drought resilience, expanded irrigated agriculture, and secured drinking water for rural communities.

These investments have become lifelines for villages repeatedly affected by climate shocks.

Our long-standing popular mobilization campaigns; particularly the active participation of youth and students, have advanced soil and water conservation, afforestation, and reforestation, contributing meaningfully to ecosystem recovery and biodiversity protection.

Mr. President,

Eritrea is also a major Red Sea nation, with a long coastline and more than 350 islands, including the vast Dahlak Archipelago of over 200 islands. These islands, known for rich marine biodiversity, pristine coral reefs, and centuries-old pearl fisheries, extend our environmental responsibilities beyond the land to the marine realm.

Today, our seas and islands face increasing pressure from coral bleaching, pollution, and climate impacts. In response, Eritrea is:

- Expanding marine and island protected areas;
- Strengthening coastal and island community surveillance to deter illegal activities;
- Restoring coral reefs, mangroves, and coastal vegetation

as natural climate buffers;

- Advancing a sustainable Blue Economy strategy that safeguards marine resources while supporting local livelihoods.

These measures reflect our conviction that a healthy marine environment is central to the resilience and prosperity of coastal and island communities.

Mr. President,

Eritrea is further accelerating investments in solar, wind, and geothermal energy. However, for many least developed countries, the renewable-energy transition requires substantial upfront capital and technical expertise. We therefore reiterate the urgent need for accessible, predictable, and timely climate finance delivered without burdensome bureaucratic conditions.

In closing, my delegation

welcomes the establishment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste, and Pollution. We trust it will strengthen the global science-policy interface and catalyze more decisive action.

We commend the outgoing Presidency for its stewardship and extend our full support to the incoming one.

*I Thank you.
Nairobi, Kenya*

From Social Media



Yemane G. Meskel  
@hawelti

As the UN, other relevant International Institutions, and Governments issue statements on the 25th Anniversary of the Algiers Agreement, the brief remarks of wisdom that President Isaias Afwerki delivered at the signing ceremony: "we (Eritrea and Ethiopia) are not cursed but blessed to be neighbours", carries greater weight and significance today. This is in view of the turbulences that have occurred intermittently in the subsequent period due to willful and repetitive violations of international law by successive Ethiopian regimes.

As it will be recalled, Eritrea fully adhered to its Treaty obligations and accepted the final and binding EEBC Award that was rendered on 13 April 2002 without equivocation.

But incumbent Ethiopian regimes invoked flimsy and unlawful pretexts first to obstruct and delay the implementation of the EEBC Arbitral ruling, and ultimately to reject, the entire agreement with impunity.

The current Ethiopian regime first signaled its decision to abide by, and fully implement, the EEBC Award. This seemingly positive stance led to diplomatic reproachment between the two countries culminating in the signing of the five-point Declaration of Peace and Friendship in Asmara on 9 July 2018.

The Agreement heralded, among other things, "the end of the state of war between Ethiopia and Eritrea and the opening of a new ear of peace and friendship", (Article 1); and, "the implementation of the EEBC Award", (Article 4).

But barely five years down the road, the current regime has reneged on its commitments to foment a dangerous situation of tension and conflict through its brazen declaration of "acquiring sovereign access to the sea through peaceful means if possible, and force if necessary".

These days, the regime has gone further to insinuate the illegitimacy of Eritrea's inviolable independence in flagrant violation of international law, the UN Charter and the AU Constitutive Act.

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**ERITREA
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**Editor-In-Chief
Amanuel Mesfun**

**Asst. Editor-In-Chief
Sirak Habtemichael**

P.O.Box: 247

Tel: 11-41-14

Fax: 12-77-49

E-mail:

eritreaprofilemoi@gmail.com

Advertisement: 12-50-13

Layout

**Azmera Berhane
Betelhiem Tadese**

SpotLight

Child Health Progress Amid Global Setbacks

Bana Negusse

Over the past few centuries – and especially the past few decades – reductions in child mortality have stood among the most remarkable achievements in global health and development. Yet for the first time in 25 years, this progress is showing signs of reversal. New projections from the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), released in the Gates Foundation's latest Goalkeepers report, warn that child mortality from preventable diseases is set to rise after a quarter-century of steady decline.

According to the report, an estimated 200,000 additional children under the age of five may die this year from illnesses that modern medicine can prevent through vaccines or readily available treatments. The projected increase is linked to a complex set of economic and political pressures, most notably deep cuts to global health spending by major donor nations.

If these trends continue, the number of children who die before their fifth birthday could reach 4.8 million in 2025. This would mark the first global increase in under-five mortality in the 21st century and a stark reversal of the steady year-on-year improvements observed since 2000.

Against this sobering global backdrop, Eritrea's trajectory offers an essential and instructive contrast. Despite facing significant regional challenges and other constraints, the country has made remarkable and sustained gains in reducing child mortality. This moment, therefore, presents a critical opportunity to examine Eritrea's child health trajectory and its relevance for a world at risk of losing hard-won ground.

Since gaining independence in 1993, Eritrea has achieved remarkable progress in reducing child mortality. According to UNICEF, the country's under-five mortality rate has fallen from 131 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1993 to just 35 per 1,000 in 2023, representing a nearly fourfold reduction in only three decades. This dramatic improvement means Eritrea has moved from having one of the highest child-mortality burdens in the world to outperforming the global average and ranking among the strongest performers in Africa and the broader developing world.



Among the most widely studied aspects in the vast literature and practical work on child mortality has been the identification of the specific factors that may influence and contribute to its decline. Empirical analyses across numerous settings, time periods, and contexts indicate that no single cause accounts for the reduction in child mortality; instead, child survival is broadly associated with multiple interrelated factors. Similarly, in the case of Eritrea, there is no single explanation for the country's success. Instead, it reflects a constellation of reinforcing factors – some of the main ones of which are highlighted below – beginning with consistent high-level political commitment.

Notably, the first international convention Eritrea ratified after independence was the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The country acceded to the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) in December 1999, shortly after the charter entered into force, thereby signalling that the health, protection, and development of children would be national priorities. This commitment is further embedded in the country's foundational documents. The 1994 National Charter, which articulates Eritrea's vision for development and nation-building, places children at the centre of its social agenda. It states:

"Eritrea should strive to minimize infant mortality and to care for its children. The children of martyrs, in the tens of thousands, who were deprived of the love of their parents, as well as other orphans, must be provided with proper upbringing and care. In Eritrea, the rights of children to education, health, love, safety, play, and to human dignity must be respected."

This firm normative and political grounding has shaped Eritrea's approach to child health ever since, ensuring that improvements in

child survival are not accidental but the result of deliberate national priorities.

A central pillar of Eritrea's strategy to reduce child mortality has been its national immunization program, which has dramatically reduced the incidence of preventable diseases such as diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, measles, and smallpox. At independence, the national immunization schedule consisted of only six vaccines; today, it includes more than a dozen. According to UNICEF, national vaccination coverage – which was just 10 percent at independence – now exceeds 95 percent, placing Eritrea among the strongest performers not only in Africa and the developing world but, in some cases, comparing favourably with far wealthier nations. All of these initiatives are free of charge, ensuring access and uptake.

To strengthen the national health system, the government has invested heavily in health infrastructure, thereby improving access, coverage, and service quality, particularly in poor, remote communities. At the same time, there have been gains in the quantity and quality of

health personnel, enhancing both access and care. Robust public campaigns encourage women to attend healthcare facilities during pregnancy and delivery, promote basic interventions such as breastfeeding and vitamin A supplementation, and provide insecticide-treated mosquito nets in malaria-endemic areas.

Eritrea has also worked to improve access to water, hygiene, and sanitation facilities. These efforts have contributed significantly to reducing the prevalence and spread of serious diseases that thrive in contaminated water sources or unimproved sanitation conditions, ultimately improving children's overall health and survival.

Improvements in women's and girls' education have also played a transformative role in Eritrea's child-health gains. Over the past three decades, educational attainment has risen sharply, particularly for women, following a series of reforms, campaigns, and targeted interventions.

Literacy, a key indicator of educational attainment and a well-established determinant of women's health, autonomy, and social and economic empowerment, underscores the magnitude of the shift. In 1990, Eritrea's adult literacy rate was 46 percent, with male literacy at 59 percent and female literacy at 35 percent. By 2018, adult literacy had risen to approximately 77 percent, with male literacy at 84 percent and female literacy at 69 percent. Progress has been even more dramatic among youth: youth literacy increased from 61 percent in 1990 (73 percent for males and 49 percent for females) to 93 percent

for both males and females by 2018. School enrolment at all levels has continued to rise, and the once-wide gender gap has rapidly narrowed.

These educational gains have had far-reaching effects. Higher levels of schooling for women and girls have enhanced their agency, autonomy, and decision-making power; increased their knowledge and use of health and preventive services; supported later marriage ages; improved their ability to plan, space, and limit pregnancies; and expanded their opportunities for meaningful employment and social engagement. Collectively, these factors are strongly associated with reductions in high-risk births and significant improvements in child well-being and survival.

A further contributor to Eritrea's progress has been its longstanding cooperation with a small yet strategically selected group of international partners. These collaborations have helped fill critical gaps, address system deficits, and strengthen national capacity while respecting and supporting Eritrea's own priorities and development vision. The partnerships are rooted in shared values, mutual trust, and a commitment to reinforcing, rather than substituting for, the country's internal efforts.

Overall, Eritrea's experience shows that real progress in child survival is possible even amid global setbacks. Its achievements – rooted in political commitment, strong public health systems, educational gains, and targeted partnerships, among other factors – demonstrate that child mortality can continue to fall when priorities are clear and action is sustained.



PHOTOGRAPHY
BRANCH
ERITREA-MOI

SpotLight

A Heart That Defied Empires: Eritrea's Legacy of Resilience

Kesete Ghebrehiwet

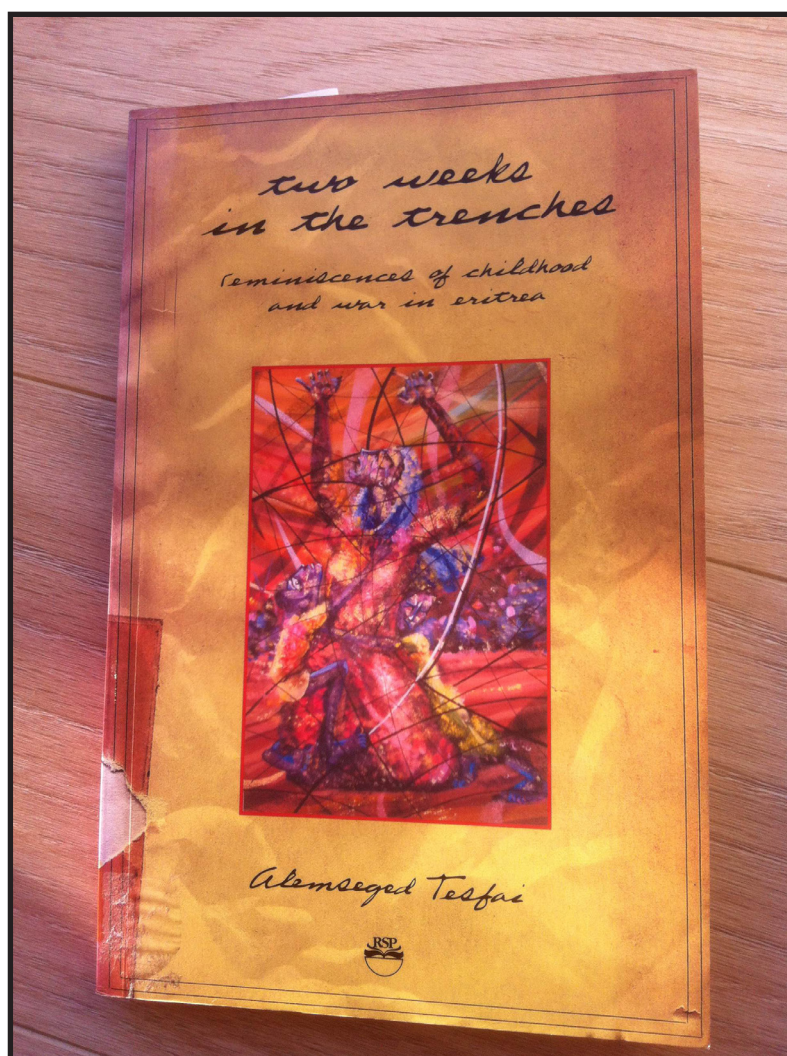
Every nation possesses symbols that reflect its history and identity. In Eritrea, these symbols run deeper than the colors and emblems stitched onto the national flag, which proudly honors the nation's sacrifices and unity. Eritrea also carries another profound symbol—one not stitched onto fabric, but forged in the furnace of struggle itself: a human heart.

This heart, vividly described by Eritrean historian and freedom fighter Alemseged Tesfai, captures the essence of Eritrea's resilience. It represents the determination, courage, and unbroken spirit of a people who fundamentally refused to bow down to oppression. The story of this heart is, in many ways, the story of Eritrea itself—a nation shaped by struggle, defined by sacrifice, and secured by unwavering resolve.

In his book, *Two Weeks in the Trenches*, Alemseged recounts a powerful and harrowing scene during the pivotal Battle of Afabet. Following a fierce engagement that spanned a day and a night, Alemseged and a then division commander Ali Ibrahim, later martyred, marched through the captured trenches. The battlefield was littered with the remnants of the fight, but one image stood out: a pool of fresh blood, still flowing, where they discovered the heart of a fallen Eritrean fighter—a Tegadalay.

For Alemseged, this heart transcended its physical form. It became the ultimate symbol of the Eritrean freedom fighters' defiance and, more broadly, of the Eritrean people's unshakable resilience. It was the heart of a nation that refused to surrender, even in the face of overwhelming hardship. In his reflection, that solitary heart transformed into a living emblem of endurance, selflessness, and revolutionary spirit.

Eritrea's resilience did not begin with the modern armed struggle; it is rooted in a history long preceding the famous shot fired by Hamid Idris Awate from Mount Adal in September 1961, which signaled the start of the revolution. The Eritrean people



have, throughout history, resisted foreign invasions, defended their lands, and protected their identity against external domination.

Historical natural strongholds like Mount Adal, Mount Elit, and Jebel Hamid stand as enduring reminders of this legacy. These sites served as centers of resistance long before modern warfare reached the region. For countless generations, Eritreans

utilized their rugged landscape not merely to survive, but to remain unconquered.

Among these historic landscapes, Mount Elit in Haykota is a powerful testament to the country's ancient tradition of resistance. More than just a mountain, Mount Elit was a fortified settlement. Mr. Abdelqadir Adem, Manager of the first Administrative area

in Haykota sub-zone, noted: "Families lived at its summit, cultivating crops in the broad, fertile plain that tops the mountain. The people sustained themselves entirely from what they grew above the plains, living close to nature and far from danger."

The mountain holds a rich trove of heritage, including ancient cave paintings of wildlife and seven wells meticulously carved into the stone to provide sustenance. Artifacts, pottery fragments, and tools remain scattered across its landscape, silently narrating the story of Eritrean endurance. Mount Elit demonstrates that Eritrean fortitude is not just a product of modern history but an ancient, unbroken tradition.

The same courage reflected in Mount Elit and Mount Adal flowed directly into the trenches of the armed struggle. The trenches of Nakfa, iconic symbols of Eritrean determination, became the backbone of the liberation movement. Similarly, Mount Denden and the Northeastern Sahel trenches carry their own sagas of courage, endurance, and strategic brilliance.

Carved into the ground by hand, these trenches were more than military fortifications—they were tangible expressions of an unyielding resolve. Fighters endured hunger, thirst, harsh weather, and relentless attacks,

yet they stood firm.

Each of these sites—whether ancient mountain fortress or modern trench—forms part of a continuous narrative: the story of a people who refused to kneel to oppression.

Together, they reveal that the heart discovered in Afabet was not an isolated symbol, but the embodiment of this long-standing, generational tradition.

The symbolic heart revealed in Afabet did not die with the fallen fighter; instead, it continues to beat in the life of the nation today: it beats in the hearts of the Eritreans who work tirelessly to build a prosperous, self-reliant country; it beats in those who protect Eritrea's sovereignty—its land, sea, and airspace—with unwavering commitment, and it beats in the collective promise to honor the martyrs' trust and uphold the hard-won independence.

This heart, carried by generations of Eritreans, reminds us that independence is not merely a historical event but an ongoing responsibility. It is a call to continue protecting the country's identity, values, and sovereignty with the same devotion demonstrated by the Tegadelti who sacrificed their lives.

Today, this steadfast determination is not inherited by chance; it is passed down like a sacred duty. The Eritrean flag remains a powerful representation of this journey, symbolizing unity, sacrifice, and national dignity. But the heart of the Eritrean people gives it life. The heart and the flag are two inseparable symbols—one carried by the land, the other carried within the people.

The Heart of the Tegadalay, discovered on the battlefield of Afabet, is not just a symbol of one fallen fighter but of an entire nation's spirit. It links ancient traditions of resistance, the courage of the armed struggle, and the ongoing commitment to sovereignty and national pride. The torch of independence, lit by generations of Eritreans, remains bright and will never be extinguished.

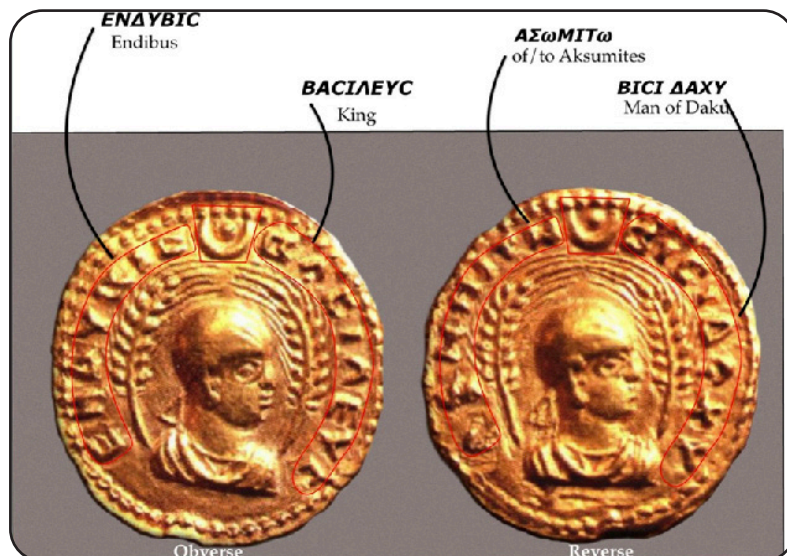


OPINION & ANALYSIS

Adulis: The Ancient Powerhouse in The Region — And Ready to Reclaim Its Story

By: Ezra Musa

For far too long, the history of the Horn of Africa has been told backward, beginning with Aksum and treating the Eritrean ancient port of Adulis as its maritime appendage. However, a growing body of archaeological, historical, and materials science research is finally rewriting the narrative. Evidence now shows that the ancient port city of Adulis, located on Eritrea's Red Sea coast, is older than Aksum, politically independent, economically influential, and technologically advanced in ways that place it among the great centers of the ancient world. This is not speculation; this is science catching up to what Eritrean heritage has long preserved. This evidence refutes other accounts lacking a scientific



Culture and Sports continue to study Adulis, Qohaito, Matara, Keskese, Sembel, and others in modern Eritrea, systematically pushing the timeline further back.

Daniel T. Habtemichael's 489-

hierarchy and significant wealth concentration.

- Specialized labor organizations and construction require large, coordinated workforces.

- Unique Architecture: The labor time quantified through the analysis of Graduated Masonry proves a sustained commitment of resources indicative of a state-level system, not a satellite outpost.

Military Export Power: The War-Elephant and Gold Industries

Adulis was not only a commercial port—it was a military and financial supplier of global importance (Chapters 5 & 4).

- The War-Elephant Industry: Classical sources and archaeological evidence confirm the port's role as the strategic hub for training, supplying, and exporting war elephants, specifically the African forest elephant (*Loxodonta africana cyclotus*). This was the ancient equivalent of modern heavy weaponry, driven by the Ptolemaic "arms race." The immense, self-perpetuating cost of this military subsystem created a "guiding economic logic," whereby elephants were used for "jural support" (enforcing laws) even in peacetime, proving the system was an internal, self-sustaining power structure. No "minor port" could dominate such a system. Only a genuine regional power could.

- Gold Concentration: The financial evidence is conclusive: approximately 70% of all gold coins in the Northern Horn of Africa were found in Adulis (Chapter 4), indicating an unmistakable concentration of wealth and financial authority that suggests other regional powers, perhaps even Aksum, were paying tribute.

- Structural Strength: The

unique architecture of Adulis was designed to withstand the weight of elephants, a detail that further links the city's construction technology to its core military industry.

A Structured Government and Trade Empire (Chapters 1, 4, 6)

Adulis's continuous power and independence are confirmed by its political, religious, and economic structures:

- Structured Government: The Eritrean Italian Adulis Project reveals a blueprint of a state: Monumental public architecture, administrative complexes, and a harbor engineered for international commerce. The existence of the Throne of Adulis (Chapter 4) and high-ranking figures like Bishop Moses of Adulis (who reportedly characterized the Aksumite king as a minor ruler) proves a robust, autonomous political and religious hierarchy.

A study published in Heritage Science—conducted by an international team that includes Dr. Abraham Zerai—used FT-IR (Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy) to analyze fragments of torpedo jars excavated at Adulis.

The FT-IR spectrum shown above closely matches the known FT-IR fingerprint of natural asphalt/bitumen. It shows all the hallmark peaks used by material scientists and archaeometrists to confirm bitumen in ancient Adulis.

- Bitumen Discovery: The results were decisive: the jars contained natural asphalt (bitumen). This discovery is a technological signature that reshapes how Adulis is understood. Historically, Bitumen was foundational to the world's earliest technological civilizations. For instance, evidence shows the use of asphalt in Ancient Babylon (Mesopotamia) dates back as far as 5,000 to 7,000 years ago (c. 5000–



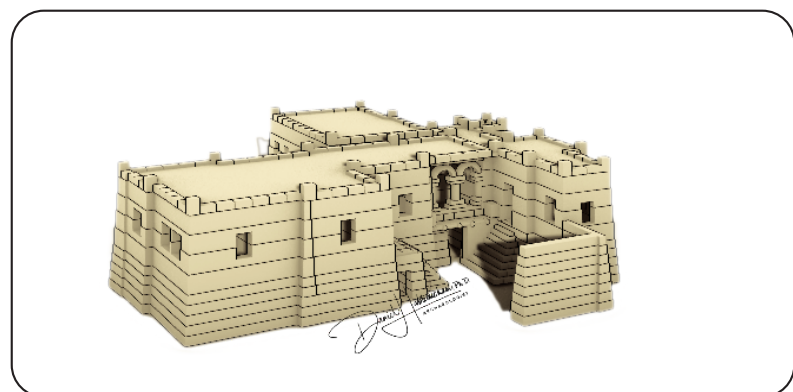
basis.

Older Than Aksum: A Timeline Based on Scientific Facts

Excavations in the Adulis corridor have revealed material dating back 1500–500 BCE, centuries before Aksum emerged as a kingdom. Ceramic traditions, structural foundations, and imported goods demonstrate continuous occupation dating back long before the formation of highland states. The port was a lived reality, a trade crossroads, and a cultural hub during eras when Aksum did not yet

page doctoral research from the University of Massachusetts Amherst (UMass Amherst), titled Modeling the Local Political Economy of Adulis 1,000 B.C.E. – C.E. 700 A.C.E., complements these excavations, utilizing scientific methodologies to model the city's political economy. Dr. Daniel T. Habtemichael's work, detailed across the podcast chapters (1–7) of the Eritrawi Podcast (YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@EritrawiPodcast>), shows that Adulis functioned as its own local political economy, not as an early dependency of Aksum.

Using 3D modeling and Energetic

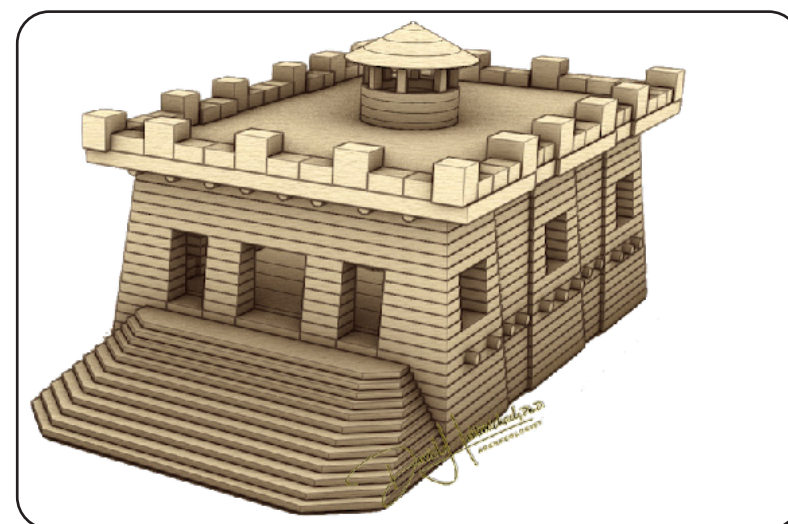


exist as a political entity.

Dr. Tsegay Medin and his young, dynamic team in the Department of Archeology at the Commission of

Analysis (Chapter 3) on 39 structures, Dr. Daniel T. Habtemichael's work provides scientific proof that the city possessed:

- A complex administrative



- Red Sea Gatekeeper: Adulis controlled the movement of Aromatics (Chapter 6), Ivory, Gold, Exotic animals, and Military assets. Its geographic position made it essential to ancient Red Sea trade, a fact proven by Chapter 6, which confirmed Adulis as the logistical bottleneck and gatekeeper for the indispensable trade of frankincense.

Material Science Confirms Advanced Technological Culture

I learned so much from Dr. Daniel T. Habtemichael's dissertation and the 7-part Eritrawi Podcast (YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@EritrawiPodcast>) series based on the study. I was further excited to gain additional material information from items found in Adulis. A part that particularly thrilled me is the discovery of bitumen (natural asphalt), a material I study from historical and technological perspectives.

3000 BCE). King Nebuchadnezzar II, around 600 BCE, extensively used asphalt as a waterproofing membrane and mortar in monumental construction, including temples and ziggurats. Similarly, in Ancient Egypt, the material was used for shipbuilding, sealing, and mummification as early as the 3rd Millennium BCE.

- Technological Peer: The finding of this natural asphalt in the torpedo jars excavated at Adulis confirms that the city was not peripheral but was on par with the technological sophistication of ancient Babylon, Egypt, and the broader Near East. Given the timeline of the Adulis corridor (1500–500 BCE) and the continuous evidence of sophisticated imports, the use of bitumen technology

Continued on page 8



ASMARA MINING SHARE COMPANY
Abo Street, No. 178, House No. 16
Gejeret, P.O. Box 10688

Tel. ++291-1-153986
Asmara, Eritrea

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Asmara Mining Share Company is inviting applicants for the following position;

Health And Safety Officer
Number required – (01)
Type of contract – Indefinite

Major Duties and responsibilities

- Assist the Health and Safety Superintendent to develop and implement the mine safety management system inclusive of safety meetings, workplace inspections, prestart information sections and inspections, event reporting/investigation and reporting of lead and lag indicators.
- Assist in building, implementing and overseeing H&S programs and initiatives for Asmara Mining Share Company (AMSC)

TASK DESCRIPTION Expanded TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS
Health and Safety

- Communicate all Health and Safety procedures and protocols to the operations.
- Assists the development and review of H&S documents in accordance with AMSC standards and Eritrean regulations.
- Assists facilitate and promote the adoption of new health and safety programs and practices.
- Assists in audits, risk assessments, reviews, monthly H&S meetings and inspections.
- Supervise all signages and artworks across the company.

Execution

- Analyze and suggest improvement opportunities from leading and lagging indicators.
 - Conduct needs analyses to develop or update training materials to parallel emerging HSE industry trends.
 - Review of JHAs | Other unplanned / ad hoc projects
 - Advise line management on safety issues.
 - Follow up on departmental action and events close outs.
- valuation and Maintenance
- supporting the development of a continuous improvement culture to ensure training and development remains a top priority for improving Health and Safety standards across Asmara Mine.
 - Oversee the effective storage of records via electronic and hard copy means.
 - Provide Progression feedback reports to the Superintendent and End User Management, as required
- Profile: Qualifications and Experience

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalent

- Bachelor’s Degree in a Science related programs
- Workplace Trainer and Assessor in Mining is an advantage

Working Experience – Nature & Length

- Minimum of 2 years’ generalized experience in Health and Safety, with previous facilitation experience in the Mining, Oil or Construction industries, of which 1 year should be in training capacity.
- Sound knowledge of technical and operational aspects of open cut and underground mining.

Technical Skills

- Advanced training and strong facilitation skills.
- Strong communication (written and verbal - Tigrinya & English) and interpersonal skills.
- Plan, organize and execution skills
- Valid Driver’s License
- Computer Literacy (MS Office – Intermediate, Excel) Plan, organize and execution skills.
- Valid Driver’s License.
- Computer Literacy (MS Office-Intermediate, Excel)

Behavioral Skills

- Approachable | Assertive | Customer Focused | Goal Oriented | Influential | Initiative | Pro-Active | Reliable | Results Driven
- Well organized

General Information and other requirements:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| ☐ | Place of Work: | AMSC Site |
| ☐ | Type of contract: | Indefinite Period |
| ☐ | Salary: | As per the Company salary scale |

Additional requirements for Nationals:

- Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligation and provide 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 would be considered as potential candidates for an interview.
- Application documents will not be returned to the sender.
- All applications should be sent through the post office.
- Deadline for application: 7 days from the day of publication in the Newspaper.

- ☐ **Address: Please mail your applications to;**
Asmara Mining Share Company,
P. O. Box 10688 Asmara, Eritrea

- ☐ **Applicants shall be required to send a copy to:**
Mineral Resources Management
P.O. Box – 272
Asmara

- ☐ **Note to Eritrean applicants:**
Please send a copy of your application to
Aliens Employment Permit Affairs,
P. O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea



ASMARA MINING SHARE COMPANY
Abo Street, No. 178, House No. 16
Gejeret, P.O. Box 10688

Tel. ++291-1-153986
Asmara, Eritrea

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Asmara Mining Share Company is inviting applicants for the following position.

Health and Safety Training Officer
Number required – (02)
Type of contract – Indefinite

Major Duties and responsibilities

- Assist the Health and Safety Training Coordinator to develop and implement the mine safety management system inclusive of safety meetings, workplace inspections, prestart information sections and inspections, event reporting/investigation and reporting of lead and lag indicators.
- Assist in building, implementing and overseeing H&S programs and initiatives for Asmara Mining Share Company (AMSC).

TASK DESCRIPTION Expanded TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

Health and Safety

- Communicate all Health and Safety procedures and protocols to the operations.
- Assists the development and review of H&S documents in accordance with AMSC standards and Eritrean regulations.
- Assists facilitate and promote the adoption of new health and safety programs and practices.
- Assists in audits, risk assessments, reviews, monthly H&S meetings and inspections.
- Supervise all signage work across the company.

Planning and Analysis

- Contribute to the provision of an appropriately trained and skillful workforce that is fully trained on HSE elements.
- Develop and plan training session plans, as well as associated schedules, in accordance with approved and prescribed Health Safety and Environment curriculum and principles.
- Conduct needs analyses to develop or update training materials to parallel emerging HSE industry trends.
- Identify training needs through determining risk profiles and training matrices and requesting these from the relevant supervisors and/or managers.

Module Development

- Research, plan, and develop training and material programs to meet training needs, as per the competencies required; schedule and socialize training sessions.
- Contribute to the conceptualization, development and update of HSE training aids, resources and learning solutions.
- Conduct investigations into HSE events, in conjunction with the event investigations teams, distill learning and include in the training content.
- Develop assessment components, comprised of both theory and practical elements.

Execution

- Conduct both Technical and Competency based HSE training and assessments for both permanent and contractor employees, by using on-the-job technical teaching methodologies to impart skills, knowledge and competencies.
- Coordinate refresher training on topics, as required.

Evaluation and Maintenance

- Confirm that all training and assessment procedures are followed and all competencies; standards and/or regulations met before signing for the issue of certificate and permit.
- Support the development of a continuous improvement culture to ensure training and development remains a top priority for improving Health and Safety standards across

Asmara Mine.

Profile: Qualifications and Experience

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalents

- Bachelor’s Degree in a Science related programs
- Workplace Trainer and Assessor in Mining is an advantage

Working Experience – Nature & Length

- Minimum of 2 years’ generalized experience in Health and Safety, with previous facilitation experience in the Mining, Oil or Construction industries, of which 1 year should be in training capacity.
- Sound knowledge of technical and operational aspects of open cut and underground mining.

Technical Skills

- Advanced training and strong facilitation skills.
- Strong communication (written and verbal - Tigrinya & English) and interpersonal skills.
- Plan, organize and execution skills
- Valid Driver’s License
- Computer Literacy (MS Office – Intermediate, Excel)

Behavioral Skills

- Approachable | Assertive | Customer Focused | Goal Oriented | Influential | Initiative | Pro-Active | Reliable | Results Driven
- Well organized

General Information and other requirements:

- Place of Work: AMSC Site
- Type of contract: Indefinite Period
- Salary: As per the Company salary scale

Additional requirements for Nationals:

- Having fulfilled his/her National Service obligation and provide 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 would be considered as potential candidates for an interview.
- Application documents will not be returned to the sender.
- All applications should be sent through the post office.
- Deadline for application: 7 days from the day of publication in the Newspaper.

- Address: Please mail your applications to; Asmara Mining Share Company, P. O. Box 10688 Asmara, Eritrea

- Applicants shall be required to send a copy to: Mineral Resources Management P.O. Box – 272 Asmara

- Note to Eritrean applicants: Please send a copy of your application to Aliens Employment Permit Affairs, P. O. Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea



"The People Are Our Greatest Treasure": Italian Tourists on Eritrea's Hospitality

Eritrea's growing tourism potential is attracting visitors from around the globe. They are captivated by the enchanting landscapes, conducive climate, timeless cuisine, and diversified cultures. Yet, a common thread unites their experiences: the Eritrean people's hospitality is unanimously attested as the nation's most precious resource. Today, we share the travel impressions and well-wishes of a group of Italian tourists.

Kidane Shimendi

Tourist Impressions

Luca: The Warmth of Home

"My name is Luca, I'm from Italy. I work in the tourism business as a tour operator, organizing trips for European tourists to many countries, including Eritrea. This is my second time here; my first visit was in 2017. Both times, the impression was extremely positive, especially regarding the people. Eritrea is beautiful, but its biggest resource is not the mountains, the islands, or the sea; it is the people of Eritrea. They are kind, welcoming, proud, and gentle. They are graceful and noble, making us feel at home. As an Italian, Asmara truly feels like a home away from home."

"My favorite parts are Asmara and Massawa. In Massawa, you can still see the scars from the liberation war, but there is such a strength, pride, and dignity in the people that really touches your



Luca

heart."

"I wish Eritrea to be prosperous, and I would also like to invite others to come and see the beauty of Eritrea."

Marco: A Small Country, A Real World

"My name is Marco, I come from northern Italy, and this is my first visit to Eritrea. In the past, I didn't really consider it a destination because it felt quite



Marco

far away. However, as soon as I discovered its history, I wanted to visit. I have been truly amazed by the country—by its diversity, how interesting it is, and how welcoming the people are, especially given their link with our country, Italy."

"I have really enjoyed visiting the cities. Eritrea is a small country, but within it lies a real world. Every region and city is different, yet welcoming in the same way."

Eleonora: Unity in Diversity

"My name is Eleonora, I am a tour guide from Italy, and this is my first time in Eritrea. I honestly



Eleonora

love this country, especially the people. What I loved was the diversity of languages, ethnicities, cultures, food, and landscapes. All of it really surprised me. I clearly see Eritrea is a unique country

in Africa; you don't often find a nation so united despite all the diversity."

Arianna: Openness and Hidden Jewels

"My name is Arianna, and I come from Milan, Italy. My impression of Eritrea is wonderful. The very first thing I saw when I arrived at the airport was many people cycling. In fact, we organized a cycle trip because we saw it was common and we wanted to experience life like the local



Arianna

people here."

"I really liked the openness of the people; everyone is nice and happy to talk to us. This makes me feel like I'm in Italy, as it is very easy to communicate and interact with everyone. The landscapes and the food are amazing as well. There are so many places to visit that a few days are certainly not enough. Asmara is amazing and has a lot of little jewels—you have to walk all around and seek them, because sometimes they are a bit hidden, but once you find them, you see they are incredible. I also visited Massawa, which was a discovery. The architecture is beautiful, and we really liked going by boat to the magnificent islands."

"Finally, I wish the Eritrean people an endless joy and a good, thriving relationship with Italy as well."

Georgia: Fascinating Linger

Links

"My name is Giorgia, I am from Rome, Italy, and this is my first time visiting Eritrea. The trip was



Georgia

so amazing; I loved everything. Asmara is super interesting for us, being Italian, because you see so many Italian features standing all over."

"The people are so friendly, really welcoming, and interesting to talk to. What is also amazing is how some elderly people still speak Italian—they speak a wonderful Italian with vocabulary we no longer use. Listening to them speak was fascinating. Of course, the nature is amazing as well; we went to the Red Sea, Massawa, and the islands. Overall, my tour time here was truly magnificent."

Eritrea is a world's yet-to-be-discovered tourist treasure, featuring a favorable climate, diverse culture, timeless traditional and modern dishes, beautiful landscapes, historical architectural buildings, and a clean, rich coastline with magnificent islands.

However, the consistent message from these Italian visitors confirms that the Eritrean people's hospitality remains the nation's most precious resource, acting as a powerful magnet that attracts tourists from across the world.

Adulis: The Ancient Powerhouse in The Region ...

Continued from page 3

confirms Adulis was participating in advanced technological networks dating back at least 2,500 to 3,500 years ago, placing it on the same technological footing as the great centers of the ancient world.

Adulis wasn't just a casual cluster of huts or a simple port village — it was an engineered port-city: its buildings reflect a hybrid design combining monumental and functional architecture, resilient building materials (stone and basalt masonry), and practical storage systems tuned for long-distance trade and the demands of a grain and bulk-goods economy.

It proves Adulis was:

- Connected to advanced Near Eastern technological networks and elite long-distance trade circuits.

- Skilled in waterproofing, sealing, and storage techniques used only by sophisticated states.

A society that understands,

imports, manipulates, and deploys bitumen is not peripheral. It is a civilization in conversation with the most advanced cultures of its age.

Reclaiming the Narrative: Time to Tell Our Story

For centuries, outside narratives have minimized Adulis—reducing it to a footnote. However, scientific evidence demonstrates that Adulis was older than Aksum, politically independent, a military exporter, a technological innovator, and a major Red Sea trading empire.

As detailed in the Eritrawi Podcast series (Chapters 1–7), based on Dr. Daniel T. Habtemichael's work, Adulis's history is deeper, broader, and far more connected to the ancient world than colonial or modern revisionist narratives ever allowed. It is time for us to tell our story with clarity and confidence—and keep the dreamers, distorters, and historical revisionists at bay. Adulis is not a footnote in Aksumite history. Aksum is a chapter in the long, powerful history of Adulis.