

PRESIDENT ISAIAS AFWERKI MET AND HELD TALKS WITH SAUDI DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



President Isaias Afwerki met, in the late afternoon hours of 12 February 2025 at Denden Guest House, Saudi delegation led by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Engineer Waleed Bin Abdulkarim al-Khereiji.

At the meeting, President Isaias Afwerki underlined the importance of further consolidating the historical bilateral ties of friendship and cooperation between Eritrea and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

through the cultivation of shared and aligned views and positions on vital regional and international issues.

The two sides discussed, in greater depth, the role of the Littoral States of the Red Sea in guaranteeing the peace and security of the region against the backdrop of fluid regional and international developments and trends. In this context, the two sides decided to expedite the concrete implementation of cooperation

agreements in the political, economic, security, cultural and social sectors previously reached between Eritrea and Saudi Arabia.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Osman Saleh, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Saqr bin Suleiman Al-Qurashi, Director General for African Affairs at the Saud Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Meshal Hamdan Alrogi, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Eritrea.

ASSESSMENT MEETINGS ON PROGRESS OF RECONCILIATION COMMITTEES



Assessment meetings chaired by Ms. Fauzia Hashim, Minister of Justice, were conducted in the Northern and Southern Red Sea Regions. The meetings were organized in the port cities of Massawa and Assab.

At the meetings, in which members of the reconciliation committees and sub-zonal administrators took part, it was reported that the program, centered on the traditions and values of society, has made significant contributions to resolving disputes and enjoys wide public acceptance. A call was also made to conduct sustainable awareness-raising activities to ensure the continuity of the program.

Youth who participated in the meetings as moderators on family law and related issues indicated

that the event provided them with an opportunity to become familiar with those serving their communities, as well as to better understand the deeply rooted values and living traditions of the Eritrean people.

At the meetings, it was noted that reconciliation is a process that satisfies all parties, ensures lasting solutions to disputes, and promotes enduring harmony and unity by addressing grievances and offenses. These were described as noble values of Eritrean society that should be preserved and transferred to future generations.

In the Northern Red Sea Region, there are 515 reconciliation committees operating in 103 administrative areas, while in the Southern Red Sea Region there are 150 reconciliation committees in 30 administrative areas.

FENKIL COMMEMORATION WITHIN THE COUNTRY AND ABROAD



An exhibition in connection with the 36th anniversary of the Operation Fenkil commemoration was opened in the morning hours of yesterday in the port city of Massawa under the theme "Heroic Fenkil Operation: Heritage for Generations." The opening ceremony was attended by Mr. Tewolde Qelati, Minister of Marine Resources, and other senior officials of the Northern Red Sea Region.

The exhibition, which included

photo displays by the Ministry of Defense and the Eritrean Naval Force, as well as products from the Ministry of Marine Resources, public institutions, and student performances and youth village displays, was officially opened by Ms. Asmaret Abraha, Governor of the Northern Red Sea Region.

According to reports, as part of the celebratory events, a half marathon competition will be held tomorrow morning, 13 February, with the participation

of athletes from Eritrea, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, and South Sudan.

The 36th anniversary commemoration of Operation Fenkil, which commences with sports competitions, will be held from 13 to 15 February and will feature various programs.

Meanwhile, nationals in the Italian cities of Rome, Milano, Bari, Catania, Pisa, Parma, Verona, Napoli, and Palermo; in Rotterdam and Zwolle in the

Netherlands; as well as in Juba, South Sudan, commemorated the 36th anniversary of Operation Fenkil with patriotic zeal under the theme "Heroic Fenkil Operation: Heritage for Generations."

At the commemoration event in Milano, Mr. Amehatsion Teklesenbet, Eritrea's Consul General, stated that Operation Fenkil, conducted 36 years ago, signaled to both the international community and Eritreans the inevitability of Eritrean



independence. He also called for transferring the heroic victory to future generations.

According to reports, nationals in the Italian cities of Padova, Firenze, and Torino will commemorate the event on 15 February.

Likewise, at the commemoration events organized by Eritrean nationals in Rotterdam and Zwolle, the Netherlands, Mr. Isak Minasie, head of Public and Community Affairs, stated that Operation Fenkil, which heralded the ultimate goal of national independence, will be commemorated every year with patriotic zeal. He called on every Eritrean to renew their pledge to contribute their due share in national affairs.

Nationals in Juba, Republic of South Sudan, enthusiastically commemorated the 36th anniversary of Operation Fenkil through various programs depicting the occasion.

Continued on page 7

Development

Expanding the Blue Economy: Massive Growth in Fishery

Mussie Efriem

The Red Sea coast of Eritrea is widely recognized as one of the most favorable environments



Mr. Asmerom Paulos

for artisanal fisheries. Its unique marine ecosystem provides ideal natural conditions for the rich diversity of fish and other marine resources in the area. The presence of extensive coral reef systems, large areas of soft-bottom seabeds, and the relatively short distance to the continental shelf break contribute to the abundance and accessibility of fish stocks. These features make fishing activities in the area very productive and sustainable for small-scale fishers.

The diverse coral reefs also play a crucial role in supporting marine life by providing shelter, breeding grounds, and feeding areas for numerous fish species while

the wide mangrove mudflats and dense sea-grass beds along the coastline act as natural nurseries and protective habitats for juvenile fish, crustaceans, and other marine organisms. These ecosystems also serve as natural harbors, protecting boats from strong winds and waves and enhancing artisanal fishing operations. Overall, the combination of rich biodiversity, favorable geographic features, and naturally protected coastal areas make Eritrea's Red Sea coastline very suitable for the sustainable growth of artisanal fisheries. These resources not only contribute to food security and employment opportunities but also play an important role in the country's economic development.

snappers and groupers, which are harvested by artisanal fishermen using traditional hook-and-line techniques. The water column is divided between small pelagic, such as sardines and anchovies, targeted by beach and purse seines, and large pelagic, including tuna and mackerel, which are typically caught by gill nets. Beyond standard finfish, Eritrea has lucrative specialized resources such as sea cucumbers (locally known as hi'dra), snail shells, and trochus shells, along with a variety of shellfish, including crabs, lobsters, and cephalopods such as squid and octopus. While the region also supports a shark fishery, it is frequently driven by the high market value of fins.



Spanning over 121,000 km² of the Red Sea, Eritrea's marine territory is home to a remarkably diverse range of fisheries categorized by their specific ecological roles and harvesting methods. The soft-bottom demersal habitats are primarily exploited by industrial trawlers targeting species such as lizardfish, threadfin bream, catfish, and high-value shrimp. In contrast, the hard-bottom and reef environments support a vibrant ecosystem of food and ornamental fish such as

Eri-Fish, a marine processing facility established in the port city of Massawa in 1993, serves as a center, purchasing raw fish products from a diverse range of sources including artisanal fisheries as well as semi-industrial and industrial operators. Artisanal fishery in Eritrea is mainly carried out by local traditional fishermen who operate along the country's long Red Sea coastline. These fishermen typically work in relatively shallow coastal waters using small boats and simple

fishing gears such as nets, hooks, and traps. This type of fishery is labor-intensive and community-based, providing employment and income for many coastal families. Artisanal fishing represents about 80% of the Eritrean fishery industry, making it the backbone of the sector. It plays a vital role in ensuring food security, supporting local livelihoods, and sustaining traditional knowledge and practices that are passed down through generations.

In contrast, industrial fishing is characterized by larger, motorized vessels equipped with advanced technology and modern fishing gears. The vessels can operate in deeper waters, particularly along the continental shelf, reaching depths of up to 200 meters. Industrial fishery does differ significantly from artisanal fishing in scale, technology, and operational range, but both are important components of Eritrea's fisheries industry, each playing a distinct role in the sustainable use of marine resources.

Recent statistics highlight a historic period of growth in fisheries. Last year, Eritrea achieved a new record harvest of approximately 400,000 tons of qualified fish products. Compared to the 2024 production figures, this represents a 73% increase, marking the highest yield in the country's fishing.

Mr. Asmerom Paulos, director of the Fish Production Division of Eri-Fish, said that the rapid upward trend in fish production reflects the significant improvements made in freezing facilities, particularly the expansion of reliable ice-distribution services for fisheries. According to Mr. Asmerom,



Mr. Tekie Abraham

these improvements have greatly reduced post-harvest losses and preserved product quality, enabling fishermen to operate more efficiently and with greater confidence. He emphasized that the effectiveness of current harvesting strategies, combined with better post-catch handling systems, has strengthened overall productivity. Central to this progress is Eri-Fish, which plays a pivotal role in stabilizing and scaling the national blue economy by coordinating production, storage, and distribution processes across the sector.

On the other hand, the cold storage facilities serve as a critical bridge during the fishing off-season. By preserving surplus catch when fishing activity is high, these stores ensure a steady and consistent supply of fish products throughout the year. This system prevents shortage of supply in the market and guarantees that customers continue to have reliable access to quality fish products regardless of the season.

Overall, the growth reflects the expansion of the Eritrean fishing industry. Today, Eri-Fish boasts a processing facility with a capacity of handling more than 70 tons of fish per day, keeping up with the recent surge in marine production across the nation's coastline. The operation is run by one hundred employees.

Tekie Abraham, director of the marketing division of the shops in Asmara, said that the company operates with a strong spirit of cooperation and teamwork, maintaining close coordination between its production, marketing, and distribution departments to ensure smooth operations and customer satisfaction. Products are carefully prepared and transported to the shops, ensuring customers receive them in excellent condition and on time.



**ERITREA
PROFILE**

**Published Every
Wednesday & Saturday**

**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**

Towards 2030: Sustaining Eritrea's Momentum to Eliminate FGM

Bana Negusse

On 6 February 2026, as the world marked the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), communities in Eritrea were not simply observing a date on the calendar – they were renewing a longstanding national commitment. In the eastern escarpment of Senafe sub-zone, a seminar held on 4 and 5 February brought together local leaders, women's representatives, students, and residents to confront the persistence of harmful practices, particularly underage marriage and FGM, and to chart a path forward.

The event, organized in connection with the global day of action, reflected both national resolve and international urgency. Globally, an estimated 230 million girls and women are survivors of FGM, and around 4 million girls remain at risk each year. As the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals deadline approaches, progress stands at a critical juncture. Shrinking resources, funding uncertainty for grassroots organizations, and growing pushback against gender equality threaten to slow or even reverse hard-won gains. Against this backdrop, the 2026 theme – “Towards 2030: No End to FGM without Sustained Commitment and Investment” – underscores the need for political leadership, strong systems, community engagement, and reliable financing.

At the Senafe seminar, Ms. Emuna Salah, Head of Foreign Relations at the National Union of Eritrean Women (NUEW), outlined the health and psychological consequences of FGM and child marriage, stressing that while prevalence has declined in many areas, the practices have not yet been fully eradicated. Ms. Senait Afwerki, Head of NUEW in the Southern Region, highlighted progress in strengthening women's participation across social and economic spheres and emphasized the need for intensified, coordinated action. Participants pledged their readiness to contribute and called for sustained public awareness initiatives.

Taken together, the global commemoration and the local conversations in Senafe provide an opportunity to examine more closely the state of FGM in Eritrea, including its historical roots, the strategies adopted to eliminate it, and the measurable progress achieved so far.



Broadly, FGM is a deeply entrenched and harmful practice involving the partial or total removal of external female genitalia or other injury to female genital organs for non-medical reasons. It is internationally recognized as a violation of human rights and a manifestation of gender inequality, with serious physical and psychological consequences.

Historically, FGM was widespread in Eritrea, common across ethnic, linguistic, and religious lines. Sustained by patriarchal norms and social expectations, it was often linked to notions of purity, modesty, marriageability, and social acceptance. Although no religion mandates the practice, misconceptions contributed to its continuation, reinforced by fear of stigma or exclusion. Addressing such deeply rooted beliefs required not only legal reform but also sustained, culturally sensitive engagement with communities.

Eritrea's efforts to eliminate FGM predate independence. During the liberation struggle, awareness-raising initiatives were launched in liberated areas to discourage harmful practices. A decisive milestone came in 2007 with the enactment of Legal Proclamation No. 158, which criminalized FGM in all its forms. The law imposes penalties on practitioners as well as those who facilitate or conceal the act, signalling the government's firm stance against gender-based violence and its commitment to safeguarding the rights and dignity of women and girls.

Recognizing that legislation alone is insufficient, Eritrea has pursued a comprehensive approach that combines enforcement with education, advocacy, and community mobilization. In partnership with NUEW, the National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students (NUEYS), relevant ministries, and international organizations, nationwide awareness

campaigns have engaged religious leaders, elders, health professionals, educators, youth groups, and survivors. These initiatives promote open dialogue, dispel myths, and raise awareness of the health risks and legal consequences associated with FGM.

Importantly, community-based committees have been established across all regions, working closely with health and social welfare professionals to promote behavioural change and provide psychosocial and reproductive health support to affected women and girls. FGM awareness has also been integrated into school curricula, equipping younger generations with accurate information and fostering gender-sensitive attitudes. By embedding prevention efforts within local institutions and educational systems, the country has sought to ensure sustainable change.

These sustained efforts have yielded measurable results. Since 2014, mapping studies conducted by the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, and NUEW, with support from international partners, have tracked trends in FGM prevalence. The findings indicate a significant decline: prevalence among girls under 15 fell from 18.2 percent in 2014 to 2.3 percent in 2020, while among girls under five it dropped from 6.9 percent to 0.54 percent over the same period. Compared with the 2010 Eritrean Population and Health Survey, which reported 33.2 percent prevalence among girls under 15 and 12.4 percent among girls under five, this represents a substantial reduction within a decade.

Attitudinal shifts have accompanied these statistical gains. An increasing number of communities have publicly declared the abandonment of FGM, and awareness of its harmful consequences has grown among both women and men. Such developments reflect the impact of coordinated action that links

policy, grassroots mobilization, and international cooperation.

International partners have taken note of this progress, recognizing Eritrea's sustained and integrated approach as a noteworthy example in the global effort to eliminate FGM. Observers have suggested that the country's experience – particularly its combination of strong legislation, grassroots mobilization, engagement of religious and community leaders, and systematic data monitoring – offers useful insights for other

countries and regions confronting similar challenges.

Overall, Eritrea's experience illustrates that eliminating FGM requires more than prohibition. Specifically, it demands persistent engagement with communities, the empowerment of women and youth, reliable data, and strong partnerships at national and international levels. As the country approaches 2030, the challenge is not only to consolidate the gains achieved but also to ensure that progress reaches every community, leaving no girl at risk.

... History-Fenkil Operation: The Tide That Turned the War

Continued from page 4

More than three decades later, Fenkil remains a defining chapter in Eritrea's national story. It was the moment when the tide of history turned decisively, when military mastery, popular resilience, and political clarity converged to make independence inevitable.

Fenkil endures as proof that the collective will of a small nation, united in purpose and sacrifice, can overcome even the most entrenched injustice.

To conclude: Operation Fenkil stands as one of the defining moments in Eritrea's long and arduous journey toward independence. Its significance cannot be measured solely by the liberation of Massawa or by the scale of the military defeat inflicted on the occupying forces. Rather, its enduring meaning lies in the way it crystallized the convergence of military discipline, political clarity, and popular resilience at a decisive historical moment.

The operation marked the irreversible collapse of the occupying regime's military strategy in Eritrea and shattered its political and diplomatic dominance. By severing the enemy's lifeline to the Red Sea and dismantling its most fortified stronghold, Fenkil exposed the structural weakness of a force that had long relied on overwhelming firepower rather than legitimacy. The battle demonstrated that the balance of power had shifted

permanently and that the armed struggle had entered its final phase.

Equally important was the human dimension of Fenkil. The deliberate targeting of civilians before and after the battle revealed the true cost of occupation, while the steadfastness of the people of Massawa embodied the moral strength of the struggle. In the face of destruction and loss, the population endured, resisted despair, and reaffirmed its commitment to freedom. Their resilience transformed suffering into resolve and devastation into determination.

The Fenkil Operation reaffirmed a central truth of Eritrea's liberation struggle: military action was never an end in itself, but a necessary instrument to reclaim a political right denied through force and sustained by international neglect. The victory accelerated diplomatic recognition of Eritrea's cause and made independence no longer a distant aspiration, but an approaching certainty.

More than three decades later, Fenkil remains a powerful historical lesson and a living memory, especially for future generations in Ethiopia. It stands as a testament to what a united people can achieve when guided by discipline, sacrifice, and an unyielding belief in justice. As history continues to unfold, Fenkil endures not only as a victory of arms but as a triumph of collective will, a moment when the tide of history turned decisively in favor of freedom.

SpotLight

From the Annals of History-Fenkil Operation: The Tide That Turned the War

By: David Yeh

Operation Fenkil stands as one of the most decisive, transformative, and symbolically powerful moments in Eritrea's thirty-year struggle for independence. Conducted from 8 to 10 February 1990, the three-day offensive culminated in the liberation of Massawa, the country's most strategic port city and Ethiopia's principal military and logistical gateway to the Red Sea. While its military brilliance has long been acknowledged, the full historical significance of Fenkil emerges only when the human cost, civilian suffering, political consequences, and deliberate destruction inflicted before and after the battle are fully considered.

Fenkil was not merely a military victory. It was the moment when the balance of the war irreversibly shifted, when the occupying power's military, political, and diplomatic dominance collapsed, and when the resilience of a people tested under the harshest imaginable conditions proved indomitable.

The Road to Fenkil: A War Enters Its Final Phase

The success of the Fenkil Operation did not occur in isolation. It was the culmination of years of strategic patience, organizational discipline, and growing military sophistication. A decisive turning point had occurred two years earlier, in March 1988, with the collapse of a large Ethiopian military formation that had dominated the northern front for over a decade. That defeat shattered the myth of Ethiopian military invincibility in Eritrea and fundamentally altered the balance of power.

The liberation forces emerged from that battle not only strengthened by captured equipment at Nadew victory in

1988, but also emboldened by the realization that victory was no longer theoretical. The war had entered a new phase. The occupying army, once confident in its numerical superiority and firepower, was increasingly overstretched, demoralized, and strategically vulnerable. Fenkil Operation would confirm that this shift was not temporary but irreversible.

Massawa: Strategic Heart of the War

Massawa was not simply another city. As Eritrea's principal port, it served as the backbone of the Ethiopian military presence in the country. Supplies, reinforcements, heavy weaponry, and fuel flowed through its port facilities. The city housed major army units, mechanized divisions, and a large naval force, making it one of the most heavily fortified positions in the war.

Liberating Massawa meant severing Ethiopia's lifeline to Eritrea. It meant isolating remaining forces inland and dismantling the logistical infrastructure that sustained the occupation. The stakes could not have been higher for both sides.

The Offensive Begins: Precision and Coordination

When the offensive began on 8 February 1990, it revealed a level of coordination unprecedented in the liberation struggle. Infantry, mechanized units, and naval forces moved in precise synchronization across an operational area covering approximately 1,560 square kilometers. Years of meticulous planning culminated in decisive action.

Ground forces overwhelmed entrenched Ethiopian positions in the plains of Semhar, while mechanized columns advanced rapidly toward Massawa.

Simultaneously, naval units neutralized the Ethiopian fleet in the Red Sea, effectively eliminating one of the largest navies on the African continent. The enemy's ability to reinforce, resupply, or retreat by sea was destroyed.

Within three days, the occupying army's defenses collapsed completely.

The Scale of the Defeat

The military outcome of the Fenkil Operation was overwhelming. Of the over 20,000 Ethiopian soldiers stationed in and around Massawa, more than 8,000 were captured, including around 300 officers and two generals. An estimated 9,000 were killed during the fighting. Entire units disintegrated under the coordinated assault.

The liberation forces captured vast quantities of heavy and light military equipment: more than 80 tanks, large numbers of artillery pieces, missiles, rockets, ammunition, and extensive stockpiles of light and medium arms from both the battlefield and port armories. This massive transfer of military assets dramatically shifted the balance of power and further weakened the occupying army's capacity to sustain the war.

The defeat was total, irreversible, and strategically catastrophic for the occupying regime.

Before the Battle: Bombardment and Civilian Terror

The suffering of civilians did not begin with the ground assault. In the days leading up to the offensive, preemptive aerial bombardments were launched against Massawa and the surrounding areas. These attacks were intended to weaken defensive positions and sow fear among the civilian population.

Residential neighborhoods, markets, and public spaces were repeatedly struck. Civilians were killed and injured before the battle even began. Homes were destroyed, families displaced, and essential services disrupted. The bombardments revealed a deliberate strategy aimed not only at military defense but at terrorizing civilians and undermining morale.



After Liberation: Punitive Destruction from the Air

The human toll deepened dramatically after the liberation of Massawa. Enraged by the loss of the city and humiliated by the scale of the defeat, the Ethiopian regime unleashed relentless aerial bombardments with cluster and napalm bombs in the days and weeks that followed.

These attacks disproportionately targeted civilians. Densely populated neighborhoods were struck repeatedly. Homes, schools, clinics, warehouses, fuel depots, and port facilities were destroyed or severely damaged. Fires raged across the city. Roads, bridges, and water systems were damaged or rendered unusable. Historic buildings were reduced to rubble.

This destruction was not incidental. It was a systematic and punitive attempt to punish the population for the city's liberation and to undermine the morale of the liberation forces. Yet the people of Massawa refused to abandon their city. Amid ruins and bombardment, they sheltered one another, tended to the wounded, and began rebuilding even as attacks continued. Their endurance became one of the most powerful symbols of the national struggle.

Political and Diplomatic Shockwaves

The impact of the Fenkil Operation extended far beyond the battlefield. International media outlets that had long remained muted or indifferent were forced to acknowledge the scale of the victory and the brutality of the response. On 10 February 1990, the BBC described the liberation of Massawa as "a great blow" to the Ethiopian regime.

Across the region, political observers recognized that control

of the port fundamentally altered strategic calculations. Civic and political organizations in neighboring countries openly expressed solidarity with the Eritrean people, acknowledging that the operation had reshaped the political and military landscape of the Horn of Africa.

Diplomatically, the occupying regime's narrative collapsed. The illusion of control was shattered, and the inevitability of Eritrea's independence became increasingly difficult to deny.

For the Eritrean people, military victories were never an end in themselves. The armed struggle had been launched only after all political and peaceful avenues to assert legitimate national rights were violently suppressed amid international silence and complicity. In this context, military operations were unavoidable instruments to achieve a political objective: freedom.

Operation Fenkil shattered not only the enemy's military capacity but also its political and diplomatic dominance. It demonstrated conclusively that the war was approaching its final chapter.

Today, Fenkil Operation is solemnly commemorated as a tribute to the sacrifices of Eritrea's sons and daughters who gave their lives for freedom. Monuments in Massawa, including the tank memorial near the city center, stand as enduring reminders of the courage, discipline, and unity that defined the operation.

In 2004, commemorative stamps were issued depicting the memorial and the naval units that played a decisive role in the offensive, small but powerful symbols of a historic achievement.

Continued on page 3



Photographers Corner

Heroic Fenkil Operation; Heritage for Generations!



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Heroic Fenkil Operation: Heritage for Generations!

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ZHONG CHANG MINING P.L.CO

Jacaranda Sembel Street 199/18 No. 206, Asmara Eritrea Tel:00291-7198802

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Zhong Chang Mining P.L.Co invites qualified applicants for the following post:

- 1, Position: Drilling engineer
- Place of Work: Mai-Mine
- Starting Date: Feb 2026
- Salary: As per company salary scale
- Contract type: Indefinite period
- Number required: Three(3)

Main functions

1. Proficient in all operations of fully automated hydraulic drill rigs to ensure work efficiency and quality.
2. Follow all the health and safety procedures.
3. Prepare drilling reports to head office weekly.

Knowledge experience and skills

Qualifications:
Diploma and hold a professional certification.

Experience:
Ten years experience

Skills:
1. Good command of written and spoken English.
2. Physically fit.

- 2, Position: Blasting engineer
- Place of Work: Mai-Mine
- Starting Date: Feb 2026
- Salary: As per company scale
- Contract type: Indefinite period
- Number required: Two (2)

Main functions

1. Proficient in various blasting methods to ensure work efficiency.
2. Guarantee safety at the construction site.
3. Prepare work reports to head office weekly.

Knowledge experience and skills

Qualifications:
Diploma and hold a professional certification

Experience:
Ten years experience

Skills:
1. Good command of written and spoken English.
2. Physically fit.

Additional requirements for Nationals:

- 1.Having fulfilled his /her national service obligation and provide evidence of release paper from the Ministry of Defense.
- 2.Present the clearance paper from current or last employer.
- 3.Testimonial documents to be attachedCV, work experience credentials, a copy of your National Identity Card, etc
- 4.Application documents will not be returned to the sender.
- 5.Only shortlisted applicant will be considered as potential candidates for an interview.
- 6.Deadline of application: 5 days from the day of publication in the newspaper.

Address: Please mail your application to the following address

1. Zhong Chang Mining P.L.Co
Contact number: 07198802

2.Mineral Resources Mangerment
P.O.Box-272,Asmara

Note to Eritrean applicants:

- 1.Please send a copy of your applications to Aliens Employment Permit Affairs.
- P.O.Box 7940 Asmara, Eritrea.



Bisha Mining Share Company
P.O. Box 4276
Asmara
Eritrea

Tel: (+291) 1124941
Fax: (+291) 1124941
www.bishamining.com

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Bisha Mining Share Company is inviting applicants for the following positions

Position: Safety Officer
Department: Safety and Occupational Health
Section: Safety and OH
Number Required: One (01)

Primary Purpose

- Control “Safety & Health” in order to ensure employees, equipment and facility risks are minimized.

Maine Function

- Planning
- Implementing Safety & Health.
- Reporting.

TASK DESCRIPTION EXPANDED TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREAS

Planning - Ensure policies and procedures are place. - Ensure Mine is compliant with legislative and regulatory requirements. - Assist with the Safety & Health Management System.
Implementing Safety and Health - Inspect the workplace for potential hazards. - Respond to and investigate accidents and emergencies. - Liaise with on-site contractors to ensure compliance with safety regulations. - Coach and advice employees regarding Safety and Health. - Identify unsafe acts, conditions, hazards and investigate root causes as well as identifying corrective action. - Enforce on-site safety, health and emergency compliance to programs to minimise/prevent incidents. - Investigate incidents/accidents. - Conduct planned inspections/audits. - Co-ordinate monthly Safety & Health meetings.

Reporting

- Complete, daily, weekly and monthly reports.
- Report any incidents/accidents and risk assessments

Unique requirements/other information

- The candidate must be Physically and Medically fit

Qualifications: - Certificate: Occupational Health & Safety, emergency response - Grade 12	Knowledge and Experience 2/3 years previous experience in Health & Safety & Emergency Response
Technical Skills - Computer Literacy (MS Office – Intermediate, Excel) - Supervisory skills, Attention to detail and Analytical skill - Physical fitness and Problem solving skill - Drivers Licence, Plan, organize & execution skills	Behavioral Skills - Communication (English and Local language) - Assertiveness, Flexible and Integrity - Ability to work towards strict deadlines and Self-Discipline - High level of accuracy, Discretion and Organising skills

2.Position: IT Support Officer
Department: FITS
Section: Information Technology
Number required: Three (03)

Primary Purpose

- The primary purpose of an IT Support Officer is to provide technical assistance and support to users and organizations in maintaining and troubleshooting the IT systems, software, hardware, and network infrastructure. Also, must ensure that technology resources are functioning effectively to meet business needs and user requirements.



Continued from page 6

Essential Function

- User Support: Assist users with technical issues, troubleshooting problems, and providing solutions to ensure seamless usage of IT resources.
- Hardware and Software Maintenance: Perform routine maintenance tasks, updates, installations, and configurations for computer systems, devices, and software applications.
- Network Troubleshooting: Identify and resolve network-related issues, connectivity problems, and access concerns to maintain a stable network environment.
- Security Management: Implement security measures, antivirus updates, and access controls to protect systems and data from potential threats.
- Documentation: Maintain accurate records of technical issues, solutions, and configurations for future reference and analysis.
- Remote Support: Provide remote assistance to users facing IT challenges, offering solutions through phone, email, or remote desktop tools.
- System Upgrades: Assist in upgrading hardware, software, and network components to enhance system performance and capabilities

Main Functions

Trouble Shooting

- Maintain accurate records of IT Assets assigned to end users and respond to helpdesk ticket and resolve end user problems.
- On completion, write a report, close ticket and respond to phone calls or person-to-person requests

Installations

- Ensure correct software is installed and ensure hardware is sufficient for end user and correctly installed.
- Ensure correct User Access - Setup user requirements such as Usernames, passwords, email address as required.
- Install cabling as required to offices. Eg: Network cabling.
- Provide Technical support on installations and advise end users on system usage.
- Train end users in basic computer usage and install new hardware or hardware upgrades as required.

Administration

- Write detailed report on each technical support ticket for future problem solving and save the soft copy to Helpdesk program.

Maintenance

- Maintain anti-virus and various applications and repair & Replace hardware as required.

Unique requirement / Other information

- Technical Proficiency: Strong knowledge of hardware, software, operating systems, and networking protocols.
- Problem-Solving Skills: Ability to diagnose issues, analyze root causes, and devise effective solutions on time.
- Communication Skills: Excellent communication skills to interact with users, explain technical concepts, and provide clear instructions.
- Customer Service: A customer-oriented approach to ensure user satisfaction and effective problem resolution.
- Adaptability: Willingness to learn and adapt to new technologies and evolving IT trends.
- Time Management: Efficiently prioritize tasks and manage time to address multiple support requests.
- Data Security Awareness: Understanding of data privacy and security protocols to safeguard sensitive information

The candidate must be Physically and Medically fit.

Qualifications:	Knowledge and Experience
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- Diploma or Degree in Computer related fields.
- IT related certifications with 2 years of experience, or 4 years of experience in related field (IT Customer service's).
- Strong Knowledge of Windows Desktop Operating Systems (Windows XP & Windows 7,8,10 pro)
- Strong Knowledge of Microsoft Office 365 and knowledge of Computer Networks, TCP/IP.
- Knowledge with Active Directory Domain Services (ADDS), DHCP, DNS and Group policy.
- Knowledge of Computer Security and centralized antivirus system and basic knowledge of Microsoft Exchange messaging system.
- Interpersonal skills, with a focus on listening and questioning skills and exceptional written and oral communication skills.
- Ability to conduct research into a wide range of computing issues as required.
- Ability to absorb and retain information quickly and proven analytical and problem-solving abilities.
- Serve as the first point of contact for customers seeking technical assistance over the phone or email.
- Perform remote troubleshooting through diagnostic techniques and pertinent questions.
- Determine the best solution based on the issue and details provided by customers.
- Provide accurate information on IT products or services and follow-up and update customer status and information

Technical Skills	Behavioral Skills
• Microsoft Windows OS and Office; active directory • Email Systems e.g., Microsoft Exchange • Wired and Wireless Networking • Ability to write short reports and recommendations based on sound technical understanding and logic. • Enterprise Print Management • Desktop, laptop, and printer hardware maintenance	• Excellent Verbal and Written communications skills • Ability to work under pressure and prioritise work effectively • Strong people management skills. • Strong command of English language.

General Information and other requirements:

- Place of Work: Bisha.
- Salary: As per Company salary scale.
- Type of Contract: Indefinite

Additional requirement 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 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

... WITHIN THE COUNTRY AND ABROAD

Continued from page 1

Speaking at the event, Mr. Romodan Ahmedin, head of Public and Community Affairs at the Eritrean Embassy, called on nationals to strengthen their participation and contribution in national affairs.

In related news, the Eritrean community in Sheffield, UK, organized a seminar focusing on the objective situation in the homeland, as well as regional and global

developments.

At the seminar, Mr. Tewolde Yohannes, head of Public and Community Affairs at the Eritrean Embassy, provided an extensive briefing on the progress of national development programs. He also called for strengthening organizational capacity and preserving national culture and identity.

At the event, participants expressed

their readiness to play their due part in the implementation of the Tio Boarding School project.

The Eritrean community in Jeddah and its environs conducted its 2025 activity assessment meeting on 5 February.

At the event, Mr. Abdelkadir Malke, chairman of the Eritrean community, presented a report on the achievements registered and challenges encountered.

Similarly, the Eritrean community in Qatar conducted its 2025 activity assessment meeting on 6 February.

On the occasion, Mr. Neamin Araya, chairman of the community, presented a detailed report focusing on achievements registered, challenges encountered, and the community's participation in national development programs.

The participants conducted extensive discussions on the report presented and deliberated on programs for 2026.



The Monument Symbolizes Eritrea's Quest and Sacrifice for Freedom — Interview with Tank Driver Tesfay Gebrehiwet (Harbele)

Kidane Shimendi

Harbele, let's start with your background.

I was born in 1960 in Asmara. The political situation in Eritrea shaped my childhood memories during the 1970s. I attended school in Asmara up to the ninth grade. I remember hearing about the Dergue's atrocities in 1975—the burning of villages, the stirring national music, reading pamphlets distributed by EPLF mass organizations, and seeing vehicles carrying enemy soldiers. My curiosity to witness battles often motivated me to travel near conflict zones, such as Adi Nefas. Eventually, I decided to join the armed struggle in 1977.

How did life continue in the armed struggle?

When I joined the struggle, I was assigned to a combat unit. In 1985, as the number of tanks increased, new drivers were needed. Consequently, the Department of Transportation provided

Jaguar, Tiger, and Commander are tanks on display as monuments in Massawa. These tanks were used in the Fenkil operation, and many of their crew members were martyred. While most of the crews fell as heroes, some survived. Freedom fighter Tesfay Gebrehiwet (Harbele), the driver of the tank (Tiger), still carries vivid memories of the Fenkil operation. Eritrea Profile invites you to read about his memories and experiences during this historic battle.

of the well-known ones. Among them, Commander Number 1 was uniquely equipped with three radio communication systems. Tiger had a crew of four: Jemal Sulieman, Yemane Beyn, Afewerki Tesfay, and me, Tesfay Gebrehiwet. My first battle was in 1989, and it gave me valuable experience for the engagements that followed.

Tell us about Tiger's role in the Fenkil operation.

Our tank battalion was informed about the operation on February 7. Various military units then assembled around Shieb in preparation. Our tanks arrived at their destination after a delay due to difficult terrain. On February 8, the operation commenced, and our tanks joined the battle. By February 9, we had reached Gergusum, and the enemy fled further inward. On February 10, strong enemy

That morning, Jaguar, Tank Number 795, and Commander Number 1 crossed. Intensive enemy shelling destroyed Jaguar and Tank Number 795. Commander Number 1 managed to penetrate the enemy trenches and continued fighting, crushing various military vehicles along the way. Ultimately, Commander Number 1 was hit and fell with all its crew after crushing a Zu-23 anti-aircraft vehicle.

On the next attempt, my tank, Tiger, along with Tanks 990 and 930, was ordered to cross Sgalet Qetan. Despite heavy enemy fire, all three tanks made it across. The enemy advanced toward us, and we fought until our last bullet. When Tank Number 990 retreated, and Tank Number 930 was destroyed, Tiger was hit on its left side. Carbon monoxide from the hit temporarily paralyzed me, and I collapsed. Slowly regaining my breath, I crawled to shelter from enemy fire near the naval base. Afwerki was martyred inside Tiger; Yemane followed me, and Jemal was martyred on his way to us. That evening, I returned to our unit.

Later, I was reassigned to another tank, which was prepared for a different mission. When infantry forces tactically entered Massawa by loading onto speedboats, the tide turned, and Massawa was fully liberated.

What makes the Fenkil Operation unique compared to others?

Strategically, the Fenkil Operation was specifically aimed at crippling the enemy's main source of power. Militarily, few among us had experience from

It always reminds me of the precious price generations paid for freedom. This monument symbolizes the Eritrean people's quest and sacrifice. Through these tanks, the fighters' resilience,



Harbel

the 1977 war, and most were new to naval warfare. In this operation, our equipment, morale, and experience were at their peak. Thus, its strategic significance, naval warfare, sacrifices, and the quality of the People's Army all set Fenkil apart.

the principle of fighting with enemy resources, the sacrifice of generations, the unwavering vision of freedom, and capable leadership are all reflected. Anyone who sees the tank is drawn deep into the history of the struggle. During the war, their



Tiger tank 1990

tank driver training, and I was reassigned there to fill the vacancy. I took driving lessons and worked in the department until 1988. That year, following the demise of the Nadew Command, numerous enemy tanks were captured. Since recruiting new drivers became essential, vehicle drivers were reassigned to train as tank drivers. After completing the training, I became a tank driver in 1988.

How do you remember the tank Tiger?

Tiger was among the enemy tanks captured after the fall of the Nadew Command. When the EPLF's first captured T-55 tank—Commander Number 1—joined our battalion, we began naming our other tanks. Tiger, Fars, Jaguar, Tihisha, and Tsin'at were some

fortifications slowed our advance, but our intensive shelling pushed them back toward the Naval Base. We provided cover for infantry fighters battling to liberate the base. The Naval Base eventually surrendered, and over forty enemy tanks were captured around Gar.

Air strikes hampered our movement, and we lost many heroic comrades. At that point, the enemy was confined to Twalet and the Massawa side of Sgalet Qetan—a narrow causeway connecting the mainland to Massawa Island. On the morning of February 11, all tanks were ordered to position themselves around Sgalet Qetan. Unfortunately, one tank crossed into the wrong area and was destroyed. The plan was to cross the causeway and allow other units to advance into Massawa.



How did your struggle continue after the Fenkil operation?

After Fenkil, I participated in various battlefronts until independence. I vividly remember joining the struggle north of Asmara and returning home through the south of Asmara on May 24, 1991.

What do you feel when you see the tank Tiger today?

cannons fired shells; today, they cascade with water, symbolizing the nation-building process.

What message would you like to convey on the 36th anniversary of the Fenkil Operation?

I want to remind the younger generation that the Fenkil operation was not only the gateway to national liberation but also a commitment to protect our sovereignty, eradicate poverty, uphold self-reliance, end illiteracy, preserve our history, stop deforestation, strengthen national unity, and build a prosperous nation. In contemporary times, we must remain vigilant, skilled, diligent, and ready to face any challenge.

Harbele, thank you so much for your precious time and vivid memories. We wish you great success in all your future endeavors.



Tanks in Fenkil Operation