

ACTIVITIES FOR STRENGTHENING ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY



Nationals residing in Great Britain, Germany, Switzerland, and Sweden have conducted various activities aimed at strengthening organizational capacity and awareness.

According to a report, Mr. Tewolde Yohannes, Head of Public and Community Affairs at the Eritrean Embassy in the UK and Ireland, conducted a seminar for nationals in Newcastle on 25 January, focusing on the objective situation in the homeland as well as regional and global developments.

Mr. Tewolde stated that at a time when the global system shows little respect for world order, it is becoming increasingly apparent that the only assurance lies in strengthening awareness, harmony, unity, and organizational capacity.

Noting that under the current objective situation it is crucial to enhance Eritrean national



identity as well as strengthen harmony and unity, Mr. Tewolde said that the most significant instrument for consolidating these important pillars is strengthening organization.

Mr. Habtom Tesfagergis, Secretary of the National Committee in the UK and Ireland, and Mr. Biniam Embaye, Chairman of the Eritrean Community in Newcastle, gave briefings on the progress of the construction of the Tio boarding school.

In the same vein, Ms. Leul Tewolde, Head of the Frankfurt and its environs branch of the National Union of Eritrean Women, conducted a seminar for members of the union branch on 17 January.

Ms. Leul, explaining the history and contribution of the National Union of Eritrean Women at various stages, said that the union is earnestly working, as in the past,

to enhance organizational capacity and participation in national affairs.

Underlining that Eritrean women are at the core of the existence and continuity of the country, Mr. Teame Haile, Head of Public and Community Affairs at the Eritrean Embassy, said that Eritrean women are carrying out significant activities organized under the umbrella of the National Union of Eritrean Women.

Mr. Kibreab Tekeste, Head of Consular Affairs, on his part expressed confidence that Eritrean women in Germany will strengthen organizational capacity and play their due part in national affairs.

At the event, Ms. Bisirat Woldai, Head of the union branch in Frankfurt, presented an activity implementation report.

Likewise, Mr. Habtom Zera, Chargé d'Affaires at the Eritrean Embassy in Switzerland and Eritrea's Permanent Representative to the UN Human Rights Commission, at a seminar he conducted for nationals in Lucerne on 25 January, spoke on the contribution of national organizations to the successful implementation of national development programs.

Mr. Habtom also answered questions raised by participants focusing on the objective situation in the homeland as well as regional and global issues.

The Eritrean National Committee in Sweden also conducted its annual activity assessment meeting on 24 January.

On the occasion, Ms. Zaid Okbazgi, Chairperson of the National Committee, along with members of the task force, presented reports focusing on activities implemented and challenges encountered.

The participants also adopted a plan of action for 2026.

Mr. Mohammed-Ali Mohammed-Seid, Chargé d'Affaires at the Eritrean Embassy in the Scandinavian countries, called on nationals to work with commitment in the implementation of the set-out programs.

CONFERENCE TO ENHANCE ROLE OF STUDENTS IN PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT

A conference aimed at enhancing the role of students in environmental preservation was conducted on 26 January in the port city of Assab. The conference, which was organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Land, Water and Environment and the Ministry of Education, focused on establishing environmental clubs in junior and secondary schools and enabling students to play their due part in environmental preservation.

Eng. Omar Mahmud, Acting Head of Agriculture and Land in the region, urged students to enhance their understanding of the environment and natural resources, and to actively participate in their preservation. He also called on the public to refrain from the use of plastics,



which are among the main causes of environmental pollution.

Mr. Aman Saleh, Head of Information and Promotion at the branch office of the Ministry of Land, Water and Environment in the region, stated that climate change, deforestation, soil erosion, biodiversity degradation, air pollution, irregular rainfall,

depletion of underground water, and the extinction of forestry and wildlife resources are among the major environmental challenges.

At the event, a general knowledge competition focusing on environmental issues was conducted among students with a view to enhancing their awareness, and awards were presented to the winners.



MONETARY SUPPORT TO FAMILIES OF MARTYRS

The Central Region branch of the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare extended over 42 thousand Nakfa to four families of martyrs. The beneficiary families were identified by their respective administrative areas.

Ms. Jim'a Ibrahim, Head of the office branch, said that the four families were provided with 10,600 Nakfa each, contributed by nationals residing in the Swedish city of

Fagersta that are organized under the "Walta" association.

Ms. Jim'a noted that although families of martyrs are provided with regular monetary support by the Government, contributions made by nationals individually and in groups attest to the noble culture of Eritrean society and the respect shown toward martyrs. Ms. Jim'a commended the "Walta" association and called on others to follow the noble example.

EXTENSIVE WATER AND SOIL CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES IN ADI-KEIH SUB-ZONE

Residents of the administrative areas of Igila, Mesgolo Zula, Safira, and Sibiraso in the eastern escarpment of Adi-Keih sub-zone are conducting extensive water and soil conservation activities.

The coordinators of the program said that the program,

which commenced in October 2025, is being carried out from three centers, and that over 84 km of terraces have already been constructed and more than 73 hectares of water diversion schemes renovated.

At the program, which is being

carried out six days a week, 450 manpower are participating daily.

The residents, on their part, noting the significance of the program in rehabilitating the environment and boosting agricultural production, expressed readiness to strengthen participation.

OPINION & ANALYSIS

By: David Yeh
Red Sea Beacon
(Abridged version)

The Facts of Harmony: Eritrea's Ethnic and Religious Unity

In a region where states fracture along ethnic and religious seams with alarming regularity, Eritrea stands as an uncomfortable anomaly. Eritrea has not collapsed into sectarian conflict, has not fragmented along ethnic lines, and has not descended into the cycles of communal violence that have destabilized much of the Horn of Africa.

Eritrean cohesion did not emerge from ideology imposed after independence; it was forged in a long historical process and further cemented under fire during a thirty-year liberation struggle in which survival itself depended on cross-religious and cross-ethnic solidarity. Eritrea's approach reflects a deliberate rejection of identity-based politics in favor of shared citizenship—an approach born not of dogma, but of hard lessons learned in struggle.

Eritrea's path to statehood was neither linear nor peaceful. Its modern political configuration crystallized during colonial time, as is broadly the case in the African continent and other similar areas. Again, this nationhood was further reinforced during through nearly three decades of armed resistance against Ethiopian domination and colonialism, beginning in the early 1960s and culminating in independence in 1991.

The first organized nationalist



movement was the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF), which began guerrilla operations in 1961. Initially rooted in lowland communities, the ELF expanded its social base as fighting intensified. But ethnic and religious affiliations did not define the movement's ultimate political goals; rather, shared oppression and resistance against a centralizing Ethiopian state fused disparate groups around the ideal of sovereign Eritrea.

The EPLF distinguished itself by its disciplined, inclusive organizational ethos and by its ability to build administrative structures in liberated areas. It was not a sectarian faction but a political movement rooted in social justice influenced principles of egalitarianism, collective decision making, and challenging social organization. Muslims, Christians, and all ethnic groups joined its ranks, and its campaigns drew on the loyalty of diverse communities shaped by shared sacrifice.

The military campaign intensified through the 1980s with significant victories against Ethiopian forces, including at Afabet and the Second Battle of Massawa, which crippled Ethiopian military capacity and demonstrated the EPLF's operational coordination.

A United Nations supervised referendum in 1993 delivered an overwhelming vote for independence, after which Eritrea was internationally recognized as a sovereign state. The experience of shared struggle among Eritreans across regions and faith communities was a unifying force: three decades of war produced not only military coordination, but a social identity forged through collective resilience.

A deeper analysis shows that Eritrean governance is rooted in historical imperatives: the historical evidence shows that unity emerged from collective

opposition to domination and the building of shared institutions under extreme adversity.

During the independence war, fighters and supporters came from all social segments: highland and lowland populations, Christians and Muslims, and people of multiple ethnicities. The EPLF's organizational culture emphasized solidarity, egalitarianism, and collective decision-making rather than sectarian division. The brutal conditions of guerrilla warfare made cooperation and shared purpose existential necessities, not theoretical ideals. Unlike states that mostly have institutionalized identities, Eritrea's policy is informed by its historical lesson: excessive factionalism undermines collective survival.

Central to Eritrea's unity has been leadership that prioritizes national survival and strategic resilience. President Isaias Afewerki and the EPLF/PFDJ leadership did not inherit a functioning state; they had to build one in the aftermath of a devastating war and in a region marked by volatility.

Eritrean leadership consistently emphasized representation from diverse communities during the liberation struggle and the immediate post-independence period, and coalition-building was essential for maintaining cohesion. Decisions were often made through collective deliberation within the EPLF/PFDJ framework, which cultivated loyalty across divisions and continued after reclaiming independence.

Rather than institutionalizing ethnic or regional identities, Eritrean leaders pursued a shared citizenship model. This model aimed to transcend narrow identity politics by promoting a common sense of nationhood. In this way, Eritrea sought to preempt the fragmentation seen in other



multiethnic countries.

Eritrea's strategic environment has been hostile. After independence, the country endured a brutal border war with Ethiopia from 1998 to 2000, resulting in tens of thousands of casualties and a prolonged "no war, no peace" situation that shaped domestic policies for years. Although a peace declaration in 2018 briefly eased

tensions, recent developments show renewed friction, including accusations of interference and escalatory rhetoric from the Potemkin Ethiopian government. In such a context, strong leadership, even at the expense of political pluralism, reflects a strategic choice to protect national sovereignty.

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from Social Media



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As accentuated by its frantic PR & diplomatic campaigns in the past few weeks, the Potemkin Party's pretensions to, and quest for, "sovereign access to the sea as well as regional power projection" squarely rest on usurping and leveraging the endowments and resources of its neighbors.

Fallacious discourses, repeated *ad nauseum*, on "historical legitimacy...existential threats. etc."; audacious arguments on its "indispensable role in the security of the Red Sea maritime route", often accompanied by provocative saber rattling, are indeed the tell-tale signs and fatal symptoms of this malaise.

The facts are otherwise simple and straight forward.

Ethiopia has unfettered and wide latitude for using several ports in the Horn of Africa neighborhood for access to the sea on the basis of normative commercial agreements with all the transit countries.

In as far as the security of the Red Sea is concerned, this is a matter for, and within the legal purview of, all the littoral States.

"Case closed"; in legal parlance.

In many respects, the PP's mindset and elusive posturing is perplexing as Ethiopia indeed possesses enormous domestic resources and endowments that it can judiciously leverage for advancing its regional and international ties of cooperation instead of veering into elicited and uncharted waters to provoke unnecessary and avoidable conflicts with detrimental consequences to regional stability and healthy cooperation.

Unfortunately, the Potemkin Party's fatal infatuation remains coveting and usurping the endowments of its neighbours: "ሰላም ጥጥር ወለል ፣ ሰላም ጠላም ካልረረ" ፣ አዩኑ ነገሩ።

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SpotLight

Living Symbols of a Resilient, Patient, Richly Diverse Nation

Bana Negusse

Animals have long served as symbols for nations around the world. From Canada's industrious beaver to China's gentle giant panda or mythical dragon, countries often choose creatures that reflect their identity, values, or natural heritage. In Africa, the springbok represents South Africa's agility, while the elephant embodies strength in the Ivory Coast.

In the Horn of Africa, Eritrea, with its diverse landscapes – from deserts and mountains to rugged hills and pristine seas – also carries a rich tapestry of wildlife, each species offering a lens into the nation's character. These animals are more than just inhabitants of the land and waters; they are living symbols of Eritrea's resilience, patience, diversity, and abundance, embodying the stories, struggles, and strengths of its people.

At the forefront of these

Their unwavering focus is captured in the famous Eritrean proverb: "The camel marches while the dogs bark," a saying that resonates given the persistent media attacks and external rhetoric the nation has faced and continues to confront. Even today, camels powerfully symbolize the country's steadfast endurance through unjust sanctions, external pressures, and environmental and climate challenges.

Equally symbolic is the tortoise, long associated with longevity, patience, persistence, and wisdom. In Eritrea, the tortoise mirrors the nation's principled stance and perseverance in the face of formidable challenges. The "slow and steady" approach commonly attributed to tortoises reflects Eritrea's pragmatic path to development – favouring deep, sustainable, equitable, and long-term gains over quick, flashy, or superficial results. The tortoise's hard shell also symbolizes a cohesive society capable of



making them powerful symbols of Eritrea's rich diversity in ethnicity, religion, and culture. That they thrive across the country also reflects the nation's unique harmony and cohesion despite its diversity – a rare achievement in historical and global contexts.

Eritrea's natural diversity

extends to its seas. With an extensive Red Sea coastline that is one of the longest in Africa, the country's waters surrounding hundreds of islands host over 1,100 fish species and 44 genera of hard coral, creating one of the highest levels of marine species diversity and endemism recorded anywhere. Around 18 percent of fish species and 20 percent of coral species are endemic to these waters. This rich marine life mirrors Eritrea's broader abundance of resources and potential, from minerals and landscapes to perhaps its most treasured asset: its people.

Gazelles further enrich Eritrea's symbolic wildlife. The country is home to several species, including the Dorcas and Soemmerring's gazelles, which symbolize agility, grace, and vitality. Remarkably, several years ago, a long-missing species – the Eritrean Gazelle – was rediscovered after nearly 90 years, highlighting both the resilience of wildlife and the importance of conservation.

This rediscovery also underscores Eritrea's longstanding commitment to protecting its natural heritage. While conservation has become a global priority only recently, Eritrea prioritized protecting land and wildlife even during the freedom struggle under the leadership of the EPLF. In many ways, these gazelles embody this ethos – enduring and adapting through challenges while thriving in a society that values and safeguards its environment.

Together, Eritrea's symbolic animals reveal a nation defined by resilience, patience, diversity, and abundance. They offer more than reflection – they provide perspective, showing how enduring values and collective strength shape a country's identity and potential. Beyond their individual traits, these creatures collectively mirror Eritrea's cultural identity and historical experience, from the endurance of camels to the freedom of birds and gazelles. In this way, the story of wildlife becomes inseparable from the story of the nation itself.



symbolic creatures is the camel, prominently featured on Eritrea's national emblem and even on its currency, the Nakfa. Camels are remarkable animals, embodying resilience, endurance, and adaptability – qualities honed by their ability to survive in harsh desert environments where few others can. In Eritrea, camels played a critical role during the long struggle for independence, transporting fighters, supplies, and resources across treacherous landscapes. They mirror the Eritrean people's resilience and capacity to adapt to ever-changing challenges.

withstanding external pressures while maintaining unity. Furthermore, the longevity and wisdom of tortoises resonate with Eritrea's deep cultural respect for elders, who are regarded as bearers of knowledge, tradition, and guidance.

From the deserts to the skies, birds provide another lens into Eritrea's character. While research is ongoing, the country is estimated to host between 550 and 600 bird species, including both resident and seasonal migrants. These birds are diverse and colourful, and they exhibit a wide range of behaviours –





Exploring the Marine Wonders of Eritrea

Irdi Issaias

Eritrea, a coastal country on the western shores of the Red Sea, boasts a paradise of breathtaking marine destinations that rival the world's most renowned beaches. Its diverse marine life, including a wide variety of fish species and coral reefs, is just one of the many unique features that make it a haven for marine enthusiasts. With its relatively unspoiled nature, it offers a tranquil, untouched environment that is a refreshing change from crowded destinations.

With its warm, friendly people, Eritrea is a rare and rewarding destination for those seeking a truly authentic, immersive travel experience, whether they're food enthusiasts, nature lovers, or simply looking for a unique, off-the-beaten-path adventure. From the pristine waters of the Red Sea to the crystal-clear lakes and hot spring resorts, this charming country has an abundance of natural beauty and recreational opportunities.

Marine tourism supports the livelihoods and cultures of local communities while causing a positive impact on the marine ecosystem and the country's economic growth. The global tourism market is diverse, and the appeal of coastal and beach destinations remains strong, with the majority of visitors drawn to these environments.



Eritrea's marine resources are scattered across the long, winding coast. As you delve into the details of the country's extensive marine environment, you encounter Eritrea's coastline, which features stunning beaches, mangrove forests, coral reefs, and an array of incredible marine species. Eritrea's maritime climate is well-suited to a thriving avifauna, making it a crucial stopover for migratory and resident birds throughout the year.

The coastal regions and the surrounding islands, including the Dahlak Archipelago, offer a diverse array of habitats. From sandy shores to complex ecosystems, including saltwater lagoons, coral reefs, and mangrove forests, the coastal archipelagic landscape of Eritrea provides a rich tapestry of plant and animal life. This unique environment has created a haven for seabirds, which breed and nest in the area's extensive wetlands.

While providing sheltered bays and inlets for fishing and leisure activities, the country's relatively calm waters and steady winds create a pleasantly moderate climate for sailing, diving, snorkeling, and other water sports and recreation. Eritrea's diverse marine landscape and climate, along with its rich cultural heritage, make it a fascinating and accessible destination for tourists to experience the thrill of ocean exploration, enjoy a variety of water activities, and discover the incredible natural beauty of this remarkable region.

The waters along the coast are shallow and relatively safe for swimming. Beyond those who crave adventure, numerous beaches on Eritrea's mainland coast and islands offer a variety of options for family visits, holidaymakers, and honeymooners alike, providing ample opportunities for relaxation and recreation. Given their facilities and the range of services they offer, Gurgussum beach hotels are the most preferred by most visitors. However, these beach hotels can become crowded on weekends, particularly during the summer holidays from June to September, when thousands of visitors from overseas flock to enjoy the sea, sun, and sand. Visitors are advised to book in advance during these seasons to save time and make the most of their travel experience.

The most comfortable seasons for diving and snorkeling in Eritrea are spring and autumn, when the waters are clearest, and the temperatures are moderate. For wind sites, the best locations are between 12.5 and 14.5 degrees north latitude along the southeastern coastline. The strong winds in this area during the dry season are driven by channeling and topographic enhancement to the southeasterly flow in the southern Red Sea inversion. Therefore, Eritrea's Assab

coastline is the best place for water skiing, surfing, and sailing.

The country's natural attractions are complemented by its rich history, which is a major attraction for historians, explorers, and divers. Several interesting shipwrecks, including several well-preserved World War II Italian vessels such as the Nazario Sauro, which is in excellent condition with intact furnishings, are available for exploration.

Visitors can also explore the ancient relics of Adulis, the necropolis on Dahlak Kebir Island, the Crater Lake of Badda, the unique ecosystems of the volcanic islands, and the thermal springs of Irafaile. These inland spots, combined with the country's numerous coastal villages and historical landmarks, provide a diverse and enriching experience for visitors from around the world.

In response to the pressing need for sustainable marine development in our coastal waters, a comprehensive and coordinated approach is essential. To achieve

preservation of coastal marine resources and the Dahlak Archipelago's unique aquatic ecosystem, a critical step in the preservation plan could be to have it inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Notably, several African sites, such as Aldabra Atoll (Seychelles), Banc d'Arguin (Mauritania), Simangaliso (South Africa), Sanganeb (South Africa), and Mukkawar (Sudan), are recognized by UNESCO for their outstanding marine ecosystems and biodiversity.

The world heritage sites mentioned above share common features with Eritrea's rich marine environment including: islands -- a diverse range of coral atolls and rocky outcrops; coral reefs -- vibrant ecosystems supporting an incredible array of marine life; shallow bodies of water -- clear and calm waters that provide habitat for a wide variety of marine species; sandy beaches -- pristine and unspoiled shorelines perfect for recreation and wildlife observation; coastal dunes -- dynamic and ever-changing landscapes shaped by waves and



this, Eritrea's Ministry of Marine Resources is implementing policies and regulations to manage marine resources sustainably and effectively, allocating them fairly and equitably to the public, ensuring the long-term health of Eritrea's marine resources, and generating economic benefits for the communities that depend on them.

One striking example of the devastating impact of unchecked natural resource exploitation is Zanzibar, an African island state struggling to preserve its delicate ecosystem, as unregulated tourism and fishing practices compound the consequences and the alarming threat of sea-level rise from climate change.

To ensure the long-term

tides; and abundance of migratory birds and marine life -- a constant display of beauty with many species visiting the area to feed, breed, and nest.

These iconic features demonstrate Eritrea's remarkable natural beauty and the potential for similar sites to be recognized as a World Heritage destination. By inscribing their marine ecosystems on the World Heritage List, countries gain international recognition and support for conservation efforts.

Seychelles, a small island nation off the coast of East Africa, is a remarkable example of the power of effective conservation in protecting its incredible marine biodiversity.

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SpotLight

A Strategic Dialogue: Understanding the UN Pillars through Eritrea's National Perspective

Mussie Efriem

On January 28th, the National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students (NUEYS) hosted a high-level panel discussion at its Central Office/Junior Club hall. The event, titled "Understanding the United Nations: Development, Peace, and Eritrea's Global Voice," featured Ambassador Sophia Tesfamariam, Eritrea's Permanent Representative to the UN, and Nahla Valji, the UN Resident Coordinator in Eritrea. The session was attended by UN officials and a diverse

of the United Nations, a coalition dedicated to upholding the core principles of national sovereignty and non-interference. Eritrea also served on the UNICEF Executive Board, as Vice President in 2025, and has been reelected to serve in 2026. Eritrea also serves on the Governing Council of the UN Technology Bank for LDCs.

The country also takes a decisive stance on global justice issues, evidenced by its co-sponsorship of landmark resolutions, including the establishment of the International

in Security Council deliberations, illustrating how the nation works within these formal structures to represent its interests and contribute to global stability.

Ms. Nahla Valji, on her part, provided insights into the Strategic Partnership Cooperation Framework (SPCF), which is specifically evolving into the Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2022–2026). She explained how this framework ensures that UN activities are strictly aligned

technical expertise and backing these developmental programs, the UN aims to help Eritrea achieve its long-term goals of self-reliance and sustainable social progress.

By facilitating direct dialogue, this initiative seeks to demystify institutional processes and clarify how Eritrea's unique developmental path aligns with the UN's global mandates. The primary goal is to foster a shared understanding that transcends theory, ensuring that the perspectives and aspirations of Eritrean youth are effectively integrated into collaborative efforts toward sustainable development and cooperation.

The primary objectives of the panel discussion were to clarify the United Nations' complex structure and to reinforce the importance of national ownership in development. By highlighting Eritrea's sovereign voice and its active participation within the UN system, the session aimed to show how the country maintains its agency while engaging in global diplomacy. It also sought to strengthen youth understanding by addressing common misconceptions regarding the distinct roles of the UN, non-governmental



Ambassador Sophia Tesfamariam

these differences, the panel empowered participants to better navigate the international landscape and recognize how Eritrea's specific policies and the UN's global mandates can effectively complement one another.

The panel included a wide range of Eritrean youth, from high school and college students to members of the National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students (NUEYS). The audience also included youth leaders from various community groups and young professionals involved in national civic and development initiatives. This diverse group engaged in a Q&A session, raising questions about current regional challenges and broader global affairs. A major focus of the discussion was the importance of increasing exposure for young people in international systems, with particular emphasis on empowering women to assume leadership roles. Participants explored how young Eritreans, in general and women in particular, can become active contributors to both national development and the work of the United Nations, ensuring that the next generation is prepared to represent Eritrea's interests with a strong, informed, and capable voice.



cross-section of Eritrean youth, including academic students, professionals, and institutional representatives. The panel focused on the operational mechanics of the UN and on the strategic ways in which Eritrea participates in global affairs. By convening at the NUEYS center, the presenters engaged directly with young citizens to discuss the vital nexus between national development priorities and international diplomatic cooperation.

Eritrea maintains an active and increasingly prominent role within the multilateral system, consistently advocating for a global order founded on mutual respect and international law. The nation participates extensively in primary intergovernmental forums to ensure its national perspective is integrated into global policy-making. A significant example of this diplomatic engagement is Eritrea's recent two-term membership in the United Nations Human Rights Council, where it contributes to vital dialogues regarding international standards and constructive cooperation. Furthermore, Eritrea is a proactive member of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter

Day against Unilateral Coercive Measures. These examples highlight how Eritrea contributes to shaping global debates regarding fairness, the protection of national sovereignty, and the future of multilateralism. These actions underscore Eritrea's commitment to ensuring that the international system remains equitable, balanced, and responsive to the specific needs of all sovereign member states.

The discussion opened with an overview of the four primary pillars of the United Nations: development, humanitarian assistance, human rights, and peace and security. To clarify how these objectives are pursued, Ambassador Sophia Tesfamariam explained the essential distinction between intergovernmental bodies—comprising member states that set policy—and UN agencies, which focus on technical and operational implementation. She further detailed Eritrea's active involvement in the international arena, providing specific insights into the country's participation in the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and the Human Rights Council. Additionally, she discussed Eritrea's engagement

with Eritrea's national priorities. The cooperation focuses on key areas such as human capital development, health, resilience, and livelihoods, while also emphasizing gender equality and institutional strengthening. Ms. Nahla clarified that UN agencies act as partners that support programs identified by the Eritrean government. This collaborative approach covers a wide range of sectors, from improving basic social services and food security to enhancing climate resilience. By providing



Ms. Nahla Valji

organizations (NGOs), and other international actors. By clarifying





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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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

Isolation Officer
Number required – (04)
Type of contract – Indefinite

Major Duties and responsibilities

- Supports the Senior Electrician in maintaining a safe and reliable fixed plant environment by leading and executing the isolation and lockout of electrical, pneumatic, gravitational, and mechanical energy sources. This role also assists with electrical tasks, including installation, troubleshooting, and maintenance of equipment to ensure optimal performance and safety.
- Reports directly to the Senior Electrician and actively contributes to daily plant maintenance, operational support, team development, and continuous improvement initiatives—ensuring all activities align with and support the achievement of production, safety, and maintenance KPIs.

TASK DESCRIPTION EXPANDED TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREA

- Interpret electrical schematics, control narratives, and piping & instrumentation diagrams (P&IDs) to accurately identify equipment and perform effective isolation and lockout procedures.
- Conduct audits on all equipment to identify issues within lockout systems, perform necessary repairs, and escalate unresolved problems for further action.
- Perform preventive and corrective maintenance on electrical systems and equipment, including MV/LV motors, VFDs, MCCs, transformers, switchgear, lighting systems, UPS units, and backup generators.
- Respond promptly and professionally to emergency breakdowns and after-hours maintenance calls, ensuring rapid restoration of equipment.
- Understand plant interlocks and automatic start-up sequences to ensure complete isolation of upstream and downstream equipment.
- Perform equipment isolation in full compliance with site isolation and lockout procedures, ensuring strict adherence to all safety standards.
- Collaborate with other departments (e.g., mechanical, instrumentation, operations) to coordinate cross-functional maintenance efforts.
- Maintain accurate records of isolation activities and ensure proper documentation for compliance and reporting.
- Manage the issuance of lockout keys and tags, conduct regular audits, and maintain an up-to-date register of all keys issued on site.
- Promote safe work practices and adherence to isolation standards within the team.
- Assist in electrical work, including installation, troubleshooting, and maintenance of equipment to ensure safe and reliable operations.
- Ensure proper use of PPE and compliance with all site safety procedures, hazard identification, and risk mitigation measures.

Profile: Qualifications and Experience

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalents	• Grade 12 • Technical College Electrical Engineering Diploma/certificate
Working Experience – Nature & Length	• 5 years’ experience as an Electrician • Familiarity with relevant health and safety standards and regulations. • In-depth knowledge of different Electrical Fixed Plant Equipment, i.e. Crusher, Mills, Conveyor belt, Pumps etc. • Comply with all HS&E policies, procedures and instructions.

Technical Skills	• Experience in Slurry Pumps, Crusher, Mills, Conveyor belt and Floatation Cells • Analytical skills & Decision-making skills • Basic knowledge of CMMS systems & Proficient Microsoft skills • Valid Driver’s License
Behavioral Skills	• Good Interpersonal skills • Demonstrated team building and mentoring skills • Strong interpersonal relationship-building skills and adaptability to work with people of different cultures.

General Information and other requirements:

- **Place of Work:** AMSC Sites
- **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 a3s 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,
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- **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

... Eritrea’s Ethnic and Religious Unity

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Eritrea’s model did not formalize ethnic categories in its political structure. Instead, it emphasized national citizenship as the primary organizing identity. While this approach limits formal ethnic and region-based political pluralism, it also avoids the pitfalls of identity-based territorial politics and prevents the institutionalization of competing sovereign claims within a single state.

Eritrea views autonomous organizations, whether religious, social, or political, not as potential threats to unity in a societally diverse and vulnerable nation, but as spices towards unity. Unlike systems that codify ethnic divisions into governance, Eritrea’s emphasis on a common national identity has, in fact, mitigated centrifugal pressures that have destabilized other countries in the region. For Eritreans, unity is not an abstraction imposed from above; it is the continuing embodiment of their shared history and security.

Eritrea’s journey from imposed federation and annexation to sovereign statehood was forged through prolonged struggle, and that experience decisively shaped its political culture and national identity. Eritrean unity is not a rhetorical façade masking internal fracture, but a historically grounded outcome

of shared sacrifice, strategic calculation, and leadership shaped by the imperative of survival in a hostile regional environment. The state’s centralized posture reflects these conditions and security realities.

While this model is neither flawless nor beyond criticism, it can only be evaluated meaningfully within the context in which it was produced. Eritrea rejected the institutionalization of identity not to deny diversity, but to avoid its transformation into a permanent axis of political competition and violence.

In the volatile landscape of the Horn of Africa, where states have repeatedly fractured under the weight of identity-based politics, Eritrea represents a distinct path to nation-building—one that prioritizes sovereignty, shared citizenship, and resilience.

Eritrean unity was forged long before it became a governing principle; it was further consolidated as a reality and a parameter of survival during a liberation struggle that cut across regions, religions, and ethnicities. That legacy endures. In Eritrea, unity is not a myth invented to conceal division, nor an obstacle to freedom. It is a historical achievement, a strategic necessity, and a lived reality that continues to anchor stability in one of the world’s most fragile regions.



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.

Materials Coordinator Fixed plant and Power station
Number required – (02)
Type of contract – Indefinite

Major Duties and responsibilities

- The role of the materials coordinator is to improve workforce productivity and work quality by anticipating and eliminating potential delays through planning and coordination of labor, parts and materials, and equipment access.
- Create and assign spare parts for maintenance tasks and ensure the right resources are available (eg parts and inventory).
- Contribute to the operations by ensuring that all maintenance activities are planned, scheduled and completed in a cost-effective manner with minimal disruption to ore processing and mining activities, Maintains a weekly schedule and general maintenance planning activities either for the HME or fixed plant.
- The materials coordinator will ensure that all preventive, spare parts management is updated in a timely and cost-effective manner and maintains the asset register and all associated tasks.

TASK DESCRIPTION EXPANDED TO CORE PERFORMANCE AREA

- Ensure maintenance technicians have the tools and parts they need to complete work orders
- Expected to schedule spare parts in a way that minimizes equipment downtime and impact on production.
- Manage the maintenance spare part planning function to ensure that the work scheduling process is being performed effectively and meeting targeted KPIs
- Prepare weekly maintenance spare part schedules and plans
- Continually review the work order history to optimize maintenance scheduling and eliminate recurring defects and spare parts
- Ensure that all work assigned is completed in an efficient and timely manner.
- Keep all plant records up to date and maintain the spare parts asset register.
- Monitor, check and liaise with workshop personnel (both in-

house and contractor workshop) to ensure that all spare parts as planned and scheduled are available.

- Continuously update and correct the spare parts management, ensuring all descriptions and data is up to date and correct.

Profile: Qualifications and Experience

Formal Education, Certifications or Equivalents	• Trade qualifications as a diesel Mechanic, plant fitter/electrician • Additional qualifications in planned maintenance desired, or Eritrean equivalent.
Working Experience – Nature & Length	• 5 years’ experience in large scale open pit/process plant mines in maintenance planning
Technical Skills	• Organize, plan and execution skills • Excellent communication skills • Possess understanding of preventive maintenance techniques • Analytical skills and attention to details • Project management skills • Report writing skills • Report writing skills • Decision making skills and problem-solving skills • Valid drivers license
Behavioral Skills	• Good interpersonal skill • Ability to work under pressure with challenging targets • High level of initiative • Strong interpersonal relationship building skills and adaptability to work with people of different cultures.

General Information and other requirements:

- **Place of Work:** AMSC Sites
- **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

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public that “ **Tianjin Situ Intelligence Drilling Co. Ltd.**” has opened a branch office in Asmara City, State of Eritrea.

Determined to establish a branch of the company in Asmara, the capital of Eritrea, and the proposed name of the branch is **Tianjin Situ Eritrea Branch.**

All shareholders unanimously agreed to appoint **Mr. Filmon Gebremeskel** (passport No. K0544824) as the general manager of the Company’s branch in Asmara, Eritrea.

All shareholders unanimously agreed to allocate 10% shares of the branch in Asmara, Eritrea to Mr. Filmon Gebremeskel.

Tianjin Situ Intelligence Drilling Co. Ltd.



Kidane Shimendi

Ms. Francesca, could you begin by introducing yourself?

My name is Francesca Custodi, and I am from Domodossola, a small town in northern Italy. I am a Ph.D. candidate in Contemporary History at the University of Pisa. My current research focuses on the various forms of Eritrean colonial opposition during the early period of Italian colonization. I am pleased to say that everything is progressing very well so far.



Ms. Francesca Custodi

What are your reflections on Eritrea and its people?

Since July 2024, I have made three memorable visits. Before arriving, my knowledge was largely limited to the early period of Italian colonial history. However, from the moment I set foot here, I was constantly surprised. I am captivated by the diverse culture, the flavorful modern and traditional dishes, the beautiful landscapes, and the historic architecture.

Yet, above all these beauties, the people's hospitality is this country's most precious asset. Everyone I meet is welcoming, kind, open-minded, and resilient. Whenever I walk through the streets, I learn more about the nation's traditions. This vibrant culture is what attracted me most and motivates me to conduct my research with joy. I have attended marriage ceremonies and community festivals called Ngdet, where I sensed a profound level of love, unity, and respect. It truly feels like a "home away from home."

As you spend most of your time in Asmara, how would you explain its beauty?

Asmara is like a living museum. From the history behind its name

Eritrea's rich historical and cultural heritage continues to attract tourists and academic researchers from around the world, captivated by its diverse national culture, breathtaking landscapes, and profound history. Among them is Ms. Francesca Custodi, an Italian academic researcher currently in Eritrea studying Eritrean forms of resistance to Italian colonization. Eritrea Profile invited her to reflect on her research and her experiences in the country.

to its streets and architectural landmarks, the city reflects the valuable norms that constitute Eritrea's national identity. As a UNESCO World Heritage site, Asmara is simply magnificent—a place where history and nature exist in harmony.

How would you define history and its significance for a nation?

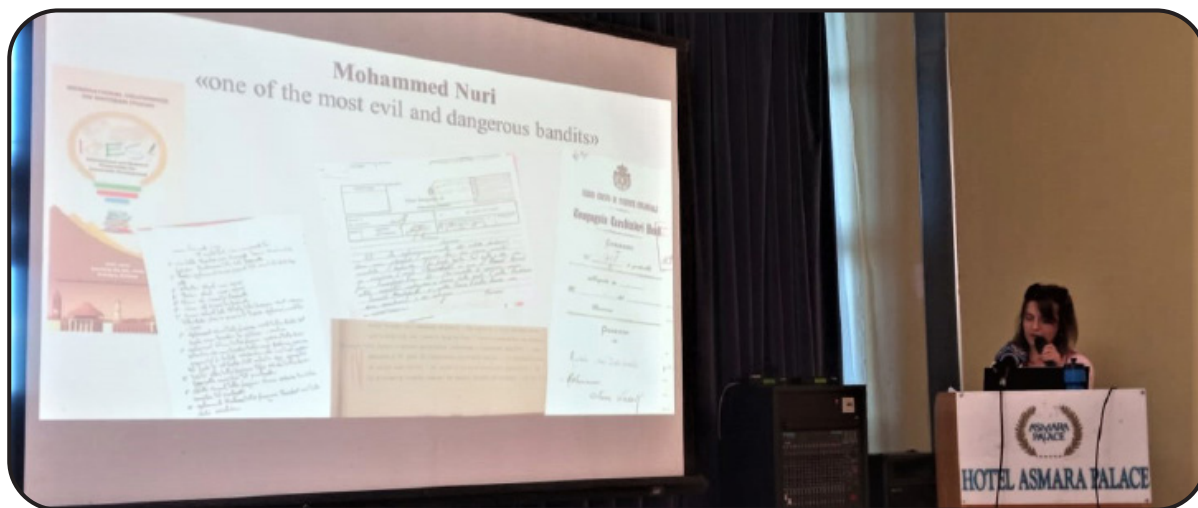
History is like a double-edged sword that determines a people's progress or decline. It aids us in comprehending our current situation and directing our future course. It allows a people to understand and take pride in their identity, develop a clear vision, and avoid repeating past mistakes. Ultimately, history safeguards a nation's collective identity and destiny. Therefore, a careful record of history is significant for any nation to achieve progress; otherwise, the consequences could be disastrous.

Let's talk about your research. What is the theme of your thesis?

My Ph.D. research examines the diverse nature of Eritrean resistance against Italian colonialism from 1890—the establishment of the colony—until 1907, the end of Ferdinando Martini's governorship. I am working to uncover "hidden" expressions of dissent, such as speeches, letters, and specific policy oppositions, alongside the well-known resistance led by figures like Dejazmach Bahta Hagos, and others.



Ms. Francesca Custodi during a Conference



Ms. Francesca Custodi in the ICES Conference

What motivated you to study this specific topic?

Many Italians are not very knowledgeable about Italian colonialism in Africa, including in Eritrea. There is a significant research gap on this topic in our academic circles. Filling this gap is vital for both Italian and African historiography.

Last year, you presented an abstract at the International Conference on Eritrean Studies. What is the significance of such conferences?

Organizing such conferences has many impacts: it awakens research interest among citizens, attracts global scholars, enriches national knowledge, and expands the audience for Eritrean history. For me, it was an amazing experience. Presenting my work alongside both Eritrean and foreign scholars allowed me to receive constructive feedback and questions that have

been incredibly helpful to my research.

What message would you like to deliver to foreign tourists or researchers who wish to visit Eritrea?

I can witness to the fact that Eritrea is a country with a rich history and culture worth exploring. The enchanting landscapes, conducive climate, and magnificent coastline with its beautiful islands will captivate any visitor. Most importantly, you will feel at home due to the kindness of the people. It is a "peace island" with abundant

treasures waiting to be discovered.

Do you have any final messages?

I want to express my deepest gratitude to the Eritrean people for their hospitality. I also want to thank Azieb Tewolde and the Research and Documentation Center (RDC) for their invaluable support, as well as my research advisor, Professor Massimo Zaccaria, a specialist in African history at the University of Pavia.

Ms. Francesca, thank you for your time, and we wish you great success in your research.

...Marine Wonders of Eritrea

Continued from page 4

Its vast array of recreational infrastructure, including stunning beaches, luxury resorts, and a picturesque archipelago of islands, has made it an ideal destination for beach enthusiasts. The country has also proven itself to be a hub for international sports, hosting the African Beach Soccer Championship in 2015 and the first-ever FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup in 2025.

Eritrea can also capitalize on the growing trend toward eco-friendly tourism by investing in sustainable infrastructure and promoting eco-tourism activities such as snorkeling, diving, and sailing.

One final thought: The growing interest in the Blue Economy concept is also gaining momentum in Africa. As a result, Eritrea can harness this trend to drive economic growth and unlock the sector's tremendous development potential.

Eritrea's marine development strategy is rooted in a comprehensive approach to the blue economy, built on the principles of sustainable use of aquatic ecosystems and alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, specifically Goal 6 on water and sanitation and Goal 14 on the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas, and marine resources.

Ultimately, Eritrea's forward-looking approach to eco-tourism and sustainable development offers a compelling opportunity for growth, with the country prioritizing the protection of its marine and coastal ecosystems. By safeguarding these vital habitats, Eritrea can unlock a thriving and environmentally conscious tourism industry, attracting visitors and investors from around the world while protecting the region's natural heritage and ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come.