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Kunst und Tourismus

Handel mit illegal erworbenen Kunst- und Kulturgegenständen

Bernhard Schulte-Kemna

Die Schlagzeile „Ethiopian Heritages increasingly trafficked“ weiter hinten in dieser Ausgabe der „Informationsblätter“ verdient Beachtung!

Sie benennt ein Problem, dass es zwar schon immer latent gab, dass in Zeiten von Ebay und anderen Internet-Verkaufsplattformen aber Ausmaße annimmt, die nicht anders als mit **Plünderung der Kulturschätze** in vielen Regionen der Welt bezeichnet werden kann. Und das betrifft praktisch alle Regionen der Welt, wo es alte Kulturen gab, sei es in Mexiko, Peru, Italien, dem Irak, Ex-Jugoslawien oder eben auch Äthiopien.

Hintergrund ist, dass meist Menschen in den reichen Nationen den Besitz von Kultgegenständen anstreben, deren Bedeutung ihnen nichts sagt und die auch diese Kultur nicht wertschätzen. Sie wollen aus Sammlerleidenschaft oder vielleicht auch aus ästhetischen Gründen sich mit exotischen Gegenständen umgeben. In der Regel dürfte deren Motivation nicht darin liegen, Verbindung zu einer Kultur zu schaffen, sondern allenfalls darin, sich von der eigenen Kultur abzuheben oder abzugrenzen.

Hatte man in früheren Zeiten dafür bei einer Urlaubsreise das ein oder andere Erinnerungsstück im Gepäck mitgebracht, gibt es heute gut organisiert (über allgemeine Geschäftsbedingungen) und mit Zustellung frei Haus grenzenlose Auswahl zwischen Mali, Marokko, Tschad etc. und zwar immer mit dem Kick, das Ganze als „Schnäppchen“ erjagen zu können. Wo diese Teile herkommen, wie sie in den Handel kamen, wer dadurch geschädigt wurde, das alles interessiert diese Menschen nicht. Ihnen ist nur das „Haben“ wichtig – und zwar leider oft sogar ohne Sinn und Verstand. Schade!

In den allermeisten Fällen dürften es an irgendeiner Stelle kriminelle Machenschaften sein, die den Handel ermöglichen. Entweder sind es einfach alte, bedeutende Kulturgüter, deren Export verboten ist. In anderen Fällen sind es Raubgrabungen, Museumsplünderungen, Diebstähle oder illegale Verkäufe von Gemeinschaftseigentum, das nicht hätte verkauft werden dürfen.

Doch trotz des möglicherweise kriminellen Hintergrundes kommt man dieser Art von Handel nur ganz schlecht bei. Denn wenn die kriminelle Handlung im Herkunftsland passierte, dort aber nicht verfolgt werden konnte, in Deutschland hingegen alles nach den Gesetzen des Staates und der Kaufleute abläuft, ist es

fast aussichtslos, etwas dagegen zu unternehmen. Das gilt jedenfalls so lange, wie die betroffenen Länder nicht ihre Polizei- und Zollstellen damit betrauen, auch außer Landes gebrachten Kunstteilen nachzufahnden.

Ein möglicher Weg könnte nämlich sein: wenn in Deutschland eine Anzeige erstattet wird, dass ein alter oder bedeutender Kunstgegenstand z.B. aus Äthiopien in einer Galerie oder Internetversteigerung zu finden ist, kann die Polizei dieses Teil zeitweilig sicherstellen. Allerdings muss dann innerhalb von wenigen Wochen aus dem Herkunftsland glaubhaft gemacht werden, woher der sichergestellte Gegenstand stammt, und ob bzw. wie er kriminell abhandeln kam. Danach kann es dann zur Gerichtsverhandlung kommen. Die gängige Praxis ist leider noch so, dass bei den wenigen angezeigten Fällen und Nachfragen deutscher Polizeistellen in den Herkunftsländern überhaupt keine Antwort zurückkommt. In der Regel werden die Zuständigkeiten nicht geklärt sein und es wird keine Fachbehörden geben, wo derartige Vorgänge zusammenlaufen und weiter bearbeitet werden.

Aber auch für Deutschland ist die Rechtslage alles andere als eindeutig. Gilt normalerweise der Grundsatz gemäß BGB, dass man „kein Eigentum an gestohlenem Gut“ erwerben kann, so gibt es doch Ausnahmen. Dieser genannte Grundsatz kann z.B. durch Verjährung entfallen. Wer nachweisen kann, dass er vor 10 Jahren „im guten Glauben“ (d.h. ohne zu wissen, dass es gestohlen war) ein Teil erworben hat, dem ist das Eigentumsrecht nicht streitig zu machen. Ähnliches gilt auch in Versteigerungen mit einem amtlich bestellten Versteigerer. Wer einen Zuschlag von ihm erhält, ist neuer Eigentümer – ohne wenn und aber.

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Da sich die staatlichen Stellen in Deutschland dieses wachsenden illegalen Handels aber bewusst sind, wurde für Februar 2005 zu einer Konferenz nach Frankfurt eingeladen, bei der die verschiedenen, möglicherweise befassten Stellen auf den gleichen Wissensstand gebracht werden sollen, und wo Vorgehensweisen abgesprochen werden sollen.

Bei diesbezüglichen Fragen sind entweder die jeweiligen Landeskriminalämter oder größere Polizeidienststellen ansprechbar. In der Zwischenzeit kann man nur versuchen, mehr Öffentlichkeit für das Thema zu schaffen und man kann hoffen, dass die betroffenen Länder - wie z.B. auch Äthiopien - eigene Fachbehörden einrichten, um diesen Handel zu unterbinden. Denn wie so oft gilt: Computer und Internet beschleunigen die Prozesse kolossal. Und wenn erst mal der Markt „abgeräumt“ ist, gibt's auch nichts mehr zu schützen.

“Reading” Ethiopia Through Its Art

by Patricia L. DiRubbo

Visiting a foreign country where I can't read or speak the language, I found one option is to “read” the culture's art. On my recent trip to Ethiopia, where the *lingua franca* is Amharic, amidst more than eighty other distinct languages and two-hundred regional dialects, I explored a treasure trove of inscriptions and cultural forms that gave me an introduction to the country's history and its long and ancient tradition of two-dimensional art.

Ethiopia is one of the few countries in Africa with an established tradition of paintings; in fact, it's even hard to find masks, woodcarvings and other sculptural artifacts that we usually associate with African art.

The country's tradition of incorporating language into visual arts spans the centuries, from the religious and spiritual traditions that use literal texts to underscore

iconic images, to contemporary fine art in which language symbols become monumental images on canvas.

The Emergence of Ge'ez

Among the many countries of Africa, Ethiopia is unique as having the continent's only ancient written language system. More than twenty-five hundred years ago, the people of the Axumite Kingdom, in what today is the northern highlands of Tigray province, spoke a Semitic language called Ge'ez, read and written, like Western languages, from left to right.

Axum was a vital center in the ivory trade and at a crossroads of trade routes for merchants from Greece and Egypt in the Eastern Mediterranean; South Arabia and Yemen on the Red Sea; and Persia and India in the Near East.

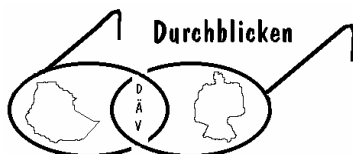
According to scholars, the Axumite Kingdom was established sometime between the seventh and third centuries BCE, as migrating Sabaeans, a people from South Arabia, crossed the Red Sea and settled around Axum. The Sabaeans, speaking a Semitic language related to Phoenician and Hebrew, with an alphabet almost devoid of vowels, found among the Axumites a local language with an organized written system. Over time, Axum's indigenous language absorbed elements of Sabeans and evolved into Ge'ez and the Ethiopic script, with a syllabary of 228 symbols. In addition to introducing a system of coinage, and later the symbols of the cross, Axum's greatest contribution to Ethiopia's cultures was an organized system of communication.

On the site of ancient Axum, archeologists have unearthed stone sculptures and remains of temples that skillfully blend words and images. These earliest sculptures and architectural fragments, estimated to be from the fifth to fourth centuries BCE, bear inscriptions in what is thought to be Sabeans. Several of these artifacts are now housed in the National Museum in Addis Ababa. Two particularly striking pieces are: a female statue, thought to be from a temple to a moon goddess; and an altarpiece, presumably from the same or a similar temple.

“Reading” the elongated, geometric inscriptions carved in stone, I detected tales of major migrations and the probable influence of Greek, Arabic, Hebrew, and Phoenician on Ge'ez and the Ethiopic script. Even with no literal understanding of the symbols, I appreciated the artistic interplay of word and image, and wondered about the intent of the sculptors and carvers. Why did they include words? Were they simply following tradition? Or, in their belief system, were words more than simply identifiers, naming objects? Were words, instead, imbued with magical powers? While we can only speculate on why they included texts on stone, I sensed that, for those early sculptors, language had both beauty and power. The inscriptions in stone, prominent on temples and worshipped deities, bore witness to the human lives that created them. They had language; they had power; and they left their “mark.”

Word and Image in Religious Art

The rise of Christianity in Ethiopia in the third to fourth centuries AD inspired what would become a long tradition of inscriptions on parchment. Coptic monks were masters of Ge'ez, translating Old and New Testaments, and laboriously inscribing Ge'ez texts into parchment books. Through contacts with Greek and Egyptian Orthodox Christian art, Ethiopian scribes and Church artists incorporated elements of Byzantine art and developed their own styles of icons and illuminated manuscripts. Typically, only monks read and wrote



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Ge'ez; the general populace was for the most part illiterate. Ge'ez is still referred to as the "Latin" of Ethiopia and, other than clerics, few Ethiopian today read or write the language.

The Amharic/Ethiopic script of today evolved out of Ge'ez in the Lasta-Lalibela and Gondar provinces in the north around the eleventh and twelfth centuries. At that time, influenced by Christian illuminated manuscripts, monks added significant rounded embellishments to the earlier, more geometric, language characters. The style of the script has changed over the centuries, from elongated geometric forms carved in stone to delicate rounded shapes in current Ethiopic fonts.

By the fifteenth century, Ethiopian religious icons had a well-developed style. Similar to those in Europe, they most often portrayed images of the Virgin and the Child, yet added new saints, such as St. George slaying the dragon. Ge'ez symbols appeared on parchment paintings, at times simply stating the name of Mary and the Child, St. George, and local saints, such as Tekle Haymanot and Abuna Gebre Menfes Qeddus. Later, wealthy citizens, the new patrons of the Church, commissioned paintings that included not only their names, but also texts describing their civic achievements and social status.

Few icons and manuscripts created prior to the fifteenth century remain; most were destroyed with the churches that housed them as a result of invasions and wars. However, several remarkable icon paintings from the fifteenth through eighteenth centuries are preserved in a number of sites, including the National Museum, the Institute for Ethiopian Studies of the Addis Ababa University in Sidist Kilo, and the rock hewn church of Lalibela and Tigray.

Ethiopian inscriptions in art span the sacred and profane, the ancient and modern and include pre-historic and historic inscribed stones at Axum and Tigray in the north; impressively carved and inscribed pre-historic stelae at Tiya, two hours south of Addis Ababa; religious icons and illuminated manuscripts in Ethiopia's famous rock hewn churches of Lalibela and Tigray; original talismanic and prayer scrolls painted in magical colors of red and black, and embellished with geometric images and faces of angels, as well as written prayers and invocations. Samples of original scrolls are preserved in museums, and good "knock-offs" can be found in souvenir shops in the Addis Mercato, one of Africa's largest outdoor markets.

Striking modern examples of word-image artifacts are the occasional clusters of Christian and Muslim grave monuments dotting the asphalted road to Awassa, several hours south of Addis. These local cemetery markers, constructed of layered and painted cement slabs, provide welcomed swatches of color on an otherwise dusty scrub and acacia landscape. The primitive images, drawn in bold primary colors, tell stories of important local personages, such as teachers, proudly sitting at their desks poring over books, or horsemen on their favorite stallion. A massive Zebu bull decorates another grave marker, symbolizing the life of the cattleman at eternal rest in the sand.

Language and Contemporary Art

In the contemporary paintings of the Ethiopian-born artist, Wosene Worke Kosrof, the word-image tradition is taken one step further: rather than striving for any literal meaning in his paintings, Wosene makes Amharic calligraphy the focus of his work – the language itself becomes the image. Like artists before him, this internationally recognized painter who now lives in

California, draws deeply on his heritage and at the same time elevates the language to an art form.

In his current series of paintings, entitled *The Color of Words*, Wosene, as the first Ethiopian painter to use Amharic calligraphy in contemporary art, focuses on the visual content of each syllable. By elongating, distorting, disassembling, and reshaping the symbols, he reveals to viewers the "visual voice" of syllables and words.

Rather than imitating pre-historic carvings, Coptic icons, or the crude, almost child-like grave marker drawings, Wosene – who received his artistic training at the Addis School of Fine Arts and his MFA at Howard University in Washington, DC – transforms language symbols into human forms, architectural shapes, and textile designs. In his works, full of colorful calligraphy, you can "read" visual stories of human relationships, community rituals, and activities in daily life. For Wosene, the language symbols become the monumental image, and his paintings offer us yet another visual doorway into the Ethiopian culture: the script itself as art.

Dr. Christa Clarke, curator of Wosene's recent exhibition at the Newark Museum in New Jersey (USA), explains that Wosene's symbols can be viewed as "bone fragments" of the culture, similar to those of "Lucy" (Dinqesh in Amharic), the 3.2 million-year-old pre-hominid found in Hadar and now preserved in the National Museum in Addis. His words too tell tales of a culture that is pre-historic, ancient, and unique in Africa. You might say Wosene has followed in the steps of his predecessors in the Amhara regions of Lalibela and Gondar, yet he has taken the language into a new aesthetic dimension. The international visual language of his art allows even non-Ethiopian speakers access to the history and cultures of Ethiopia through his contemporary art.

By learning to "read" – that is, to appreciate – visual forms of a language, my travels through Ethiopia transformed into a journey of discovery of *meaning in form*. Although I was unable to understand the literal sense of inscriptions, I recognized the power of centuries-old traditions of visual communication that integrate words and images. Asking myself: What inspires artists to link words with images?, I began to understand that this linkage engages both mind and spirit, thought and emotion, in apprehending visual messages that are spiritual, that can have healing power, and provide a doorway to "feel" a culture.

Rather than being limited by my language deficiency, and instead learning to "read" shapes and colors of the inscriptions, I experienced what the Columbia University educator, Maxine Greene, once wrote that, by engaging works of art, striving to "see for the first time," we exercise ourselves in the "art of being present." With my new visual language skills, I was able to "see for the first time" many aspects of Ethiopia's cultures and recognize they are not simply different than my own – and there are many differences! – but rather I found my curiosity engaged: in those difficult moment when I find myself in an unfamiliar culture, when I want to compare and judge differences- and even complain- I pause, sit back, and ask myself: "What else is here in this moment? What am I not yet seeing? What is there here to discover or to apprehend?"

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Ethiopian heritages increasingly trafficked

<http://www.theafricanmonitor.com/resources/33%20-English%20issue%20August%203.%202004.pdf>

ADDIS ABABA - Aug. 2004 - Authority for Research and Conversation of Cultural Heritage (ARCCH) said on Tuesday that there is a dire need to protect Ethiopian heritage from trafficking. The Authority called on the public to support the efforts being exerted to curb the illicit trafficking of heritages. The heritages are trafficked under the name of awards, prizes and trading goods by some individuals.

Kirs is widely defined as any thing that explains the ancient civilization that a country had and a creation of prominent Ethiopian people made from materials that can not be found in present time. In addition, *kirsis* are also said to represent the culture of certain nationalities in a unique way. Meanwhile, ARCCH is undertaking the construction of conservation laboratory with 29 million birr.

Contemporary Ethiopian Art and Globalization

<http://www.ethiopianart.org/articles/articles.php?id=36>

Esseye Medhin

June 1, 2004 - ..., Modern Ethiopian artists of the last century were educated in almost every major city of the world. For contemporary Ethiopian Art, global is a fait accompli. Globalization, however, is more a question of artistic and cultural survival and avoiding artistic isolation than it is an unrealistic fight or inclusion in a destabilizing, and menacing international art market and commerce environment. Now a days, when nations of the world are regrouping according to their spiritual and cultural strength, namely as Arabic speaking, Francophone, Latin speaking, Anglophone, etc., or with special ties to their ex-colonial rulers or religious affiliations, it is only her arts which can spiritually and culturally connect Ethiopia globally. Since currently globalization is associated with Americanization and since Ethiopian art has a long-standing history and interest in American art, it cannot afford to dissociate itself from the best of American Art. It can, however, dissociate itself from the heavily commercialized mainstream American art movement. ...

20th Century Ethiopian Art: An Introduction

Esseye Medhin

Debre Hayk Ethiopian Art Gallery, 1990

<http://www.the3rdman.com/ethiopianart/contents.html>

Christian Ethiopian painting flourished for hundreds of years, in the churches and monasteries of highland Abyssinia. But at the beginning of this century, it was giving way to a new kind of artistic representation. The forerunners for this new art were the church-trained dissident painters, and other self-taught artists who received some commissions for their work. These artists, along with those who got their art education in Ethiopia and Europe in 1920s and 1930s, brought about a new practice in the visual arts culture in modern Ethiopia. By the 1940s, this new class of painters were being hired by the government and recognized as professionals. And by the 1950s, the number of painters, those coming from

abroad with a new artistic style grew steadily. The graduates of the Addis Ababa Fine Art School followed this in the 1960s, resulting in three main artistic movements that remained popular until 1974 when the Ethiopian revolution broke out.

First is the realistic or naturalistic and "naïve" style used to represent Ethiopian passion and glamour. Like most

Ethiopian literature and the music of the time, the subject matter of the paintings was based on a new reality - Nationalism.

Second is abstractionism, Expressionism and Surrealism; the examination of spirituality in the style of the Western avant-garde movement, which, in most instances was an assertion of Ethiopian and African identity through the visual arts.

The Third is an impressionist, expressionist or social-realistic style. Intended to be sentimental and political in nature, it depicted the cluttered shabby streets of the cities, urban scenes and the downtrodden masses. ...

Ethiopia hosts its largest concert ever in honour of Bob Marley

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) 21.1.05 - India.Arie, Angelique Kidjo and the Marley family join a roster of international music stars here next month to celebrate the 60th birthday of late reggae legend Bob Marley - the first time the event has been held outside the singer's native Jamaica. Hundreds of thousands are expected to participate in a month of festivities starting Feb. 1 dubbed Africa Unite in tribute to one of Marley's many famous songs. The highlight is Ethiopia's largest ever concert on Marley's birthday, Feb. 6, in the capital, Addis Ababa. Marley's wife, Rita, together with the African Union and UN Children's Fund, is organizing the \$1-million US celebrations expected to be broadcast in Africa and beyond. Ethiopia was chosen as the venue because of the country's holy place in Marley's Rastafarian faith.

"The Blue Horse" Film screened at Hilton

<http://www.capitalethiopia.com/Artandculture.htm>

Selome Kifle

Capital, 28.12.2004 - The Blue Horse, a new film, written and directed by renowned TV and radio actor, Serawit Fikre, was launched at the Addis Ababa Hilton on Tuesday, December 21, in the presence of 2,000 invited guests. The film illustrates a scene of conspiracy to steal a confidential study purported to change the negative image of Ethiopia. The central character - engineer Eskinder - played by Serawit himself, is an Ethiopian engineer who has been making scientific surveys on the Blue Nile River for 14 years, during his stay in the United Kingdom, in an attempt to bring a dramatic change in his homeland. The engineer's plan is to generate rainfall from the Blue Nile River and other essential rivers through scientific studies with the aim of turning the country, Ethiopia, into a dreamland. But at that point, anomalous issues carried out by a group of individuals were created to steal his studies and transfer them to a third party. The Blue Horse is a two-hour movie full of adventure, drama, suspense and comedy that will entertain individuals from any age group.

One viewer told Capital that without the participation of prominent actors in town - Zinash Getachew, Kiros H/Selassie, Tesfaye G/Hanna, Shimeles Bekele and Solomon Bogale - the film would not have been such an interesting movie. "I believe that, together with Serawit,

they gave life to the film and I think Serawit had made a great choice in selecting the cast," said the viewer, adding, "Nowadays local film production is showing an improvement as different film techniques are being applied during production and shooting."

"When I first saw the script I thought I would finish it within two days but I finished it right away because I could not stop reading it," commented Zenashi. "Even without sound and light effects in making films, the script can be amazing even if it is published through books." Serawit has been in the entertainment profession for many years. He got his break in 1987, where he played Abiye Zergawu on a weekly radio drama titled "Abiye Zergawu" that lasted for 62 weeks. He has also written scripts and has directed more than 15 films. He directed, produced and played in different stage dramas including Kidankirawu Geribba, Firashi Medda, Yekrchilewu Zefagne and many others that has made him admired by his fans.

23 paintings on show

<http://www.capitalethiopia.com/Artandculture.htm>

Selome Kifle

Capital, 28.12.2004 - A collection of 23 paintings by Ethiopian painter, Adamseged Michael, done within four years, is on show for two days beginning Sunday, December 26, at Addis Ababa Hilton. In this exhibition titled "Spot", the painter employed two different techniques: realistic and semi-abstract to convey his thoughts and imagination. On one of his paintings titled "The two horses", Adamseged portrays a landscape background with sunset using colours appealing to the eye but almost using half of the canvas to paint figures depicting two horses- one in black and the other with cream grey colour. Adamseged told Capital that this exhibition is a collection of his works done within four years of which he experimented on different ideas and subject areas. "Currently I am working with oil colours and experimenting on realistic techniques," he said. On some of the painter's work, a stroke-like line running horizontally on the canvas can be noticed. "The stroke represents speed, especially to emphasize moments," said Adamseged. "It is about the last seven paintings I worked on while planning to hold this exhibition. With these lines I want to express how time or moments pass by so quickly." The painter added that though a lot of artists work representing these ideas, his paintings are done with realistic technique and have figurative forms or objects. "I believe that what makes my work different is that in having strokes I am expressing time," said the painter. Specialized in painting, Adamseged graduated from the Addis Ababa Fine Art & Design in 1988. He has in the past participated in a number of group and solo exhibitions at the UN Economic Commission for Africa, Alliance Gallery, Addis Ababa Hilton and the Italian Cultural Institute. He was a president and member of an artists association called "Haddis International Association", which existed only for four years. Currently Adamseged works as a freelance graphic designer on his own, and plans to open a design company in the near future.

Guramayle body decoration – exhibition

Selome Kifle

A two-week exhibition titled Guramayle by a group called Kitab is currently on show at Alem Gallery since Thursday, December 23, 2004. Guramayle is a type of decorative form of art (tattoo) used to beautify the upper

and lower parts of the gum with colour similar to black used mostly by young women and men in the countryside of Ethiopia. But what makes this type of decorative form of art popular is its nature in creating colors pleasing to the eye. The group, which was established seven months ago by six young artists - Nuru Abegaz, Zelalm Gizaw, Binyam Worku, Dereje Telahun, Dawit Telahun, Dawit Adnew and Michael Tesgaye - has displayed 48 of their work done with different techniques. Dawit Adnew, one of the group members, told Capital that they named the exhibition Guramayle because each of the group members have used different colour arrangements, structures, forms and techniques. Michael has displayed works done with oil colours and spray on paper of which various forms and structures can be seen. He told Capital that the forms and structures were done unconsciously, that they were created during the moment while working on the paintings as he was listening to classical music. That, he said, may have had an effect on his work in creating different tones. On Binyam's works, a line depicting a cracked object leaving a hole-like image in the middle can be observed, whereas Dawit's paintings were done with a semi-abstract technique. He said his work represents the Ethiopian tradition. "Tradition is the starting point to doing my paintings," said Dawit. Nuru, who has exhibited works done with different mixed media such as plaster added to his paintings on paper. One viewer commented that "the colour contrast (black and white) have a power to attract the eye and what makes this exhibition more attractive is the display of a canvas having two sides with two different paintings by Nuru," adding that he did this to show a painter can use the two sides of a canvas. All six members of the Kitab group graduated from the Addis Ababa Fine Art & Design. This is their first group exhibition after the establishment of Kitab seven months ago.

Dinkinesh Gallery inaugurated

Addis Ababa, 25.12.2004 - Dinkinesh fine arts and recreation gallery was inaugurated here at the Lafto Sub-City. The gallery is owned by a private citizen. The gallery displays the works of a number of painters and sculptors. The former residence of Bitwaddad Endalkachew Mekonnen houses the gallery after it was made to fit to serve a venue where local visitors and foreign tourists come and get entertained. The gallery would attract tourists as the city is a seat of a number of international organizations, Addis Ababa Tourism Commissioner Matias Gebremariam said on the occasion. Gallery owner Melaku Getachew on his part said 12 exhibitions would be hosted at the gallery annually. At the inaugural, seven artists displayed their workers.

Speaker calls for periodic organization of folk dance, music festival

Addis Ababa, December 07, 2004 (WIC) - The Speaker of House of Federation, Dr. Mulatu Teshome said that the folk music and dance festival of nations and nationalities that has been staged at a national level should be strengthened and organized periodically. Closing the four-day national festival at Addis Ababa stadium today, Dr. Mulatu said the organization of the festival helps strengthen integrated actions of nations, nationalities and peoples in building national peace, democratic and cultural issues. Such a festival should not be a one-time event, the speaker said, adding that governmental and non-governmental organizations

should consolidate it due to its national importance. He said the four-day festival played crucial role in introducing culture of nations and nationalities to the youth. Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, Teshome Toga said, on his part, that the festival created forum to introduce folk music and dance of nations and nationalities, which are reflections of their identities to the public, and get acquainted to one another. A festival focused on arts has much importance to strengthen unity among people, and also for economic and social development, Teshome said, adding that the festival, in this respect has played crucial role. The Minister, who said that arts and culture have their own roles in enabling the attainment of development goals, added that much is therefore expected from them. Representatives of nations and nationalities which presented their performances during the festival received certificates and trophy awards from Dr. Mulatu Teshome, Speaker of the House of the Federations at the closing ceremony. Senior Government officials, Ambassadors, tourists, and residents of Addis Ababa attended the closing ceremony.

Wasserhahn - Yäweha-bomba

Interkulturelles Projekt für Kinder und Jugendliche in zwei Phasen. Äthiopier gestaltet mit Kindern Wasser-Bilder

<http://www.werk-2.de/wasserhahn>

Leipziger Volkszeitung, 10.11.04 - Solomon Wija wuchs in Äthiopien auf und weiß daher genau, was Wassermangel bedeutet. Nicht jeder Mensch hat in dem afrikanischen Land Zugang zum fließenden Nass. Dieses Problem lässt den 45-Jährigen, der seit 20 Jahren in Leipzig lebt, bis heute nicht los. Deshalb gründete der gelernte Maler und Grafiker das Projekt "Wasserhahn". Seit März arbeitet er zusammen mit Kindern im Werk II und hilft den jungen Künstlern, ihre Gedanken kreativ auszudrücken. "Wasser ist überall auf der Welt ein Thema. Es ist auch für Kinder einfach zu verstehen. Dennoch herrschen in vielen Ländern unterschiedliche Vorstellungen darüber", erklärt Solomon Wija den Titel "Wasserhahn". Gefördert wird die Aktion durch den Fonds Soziokultur und dem Regierungspräsidium Leipzig. Über 150 Steppkes gestalteten bereits Plakate, Postkarten und Bücher. "Manchmal kommen über 20 Jugendliche hierher. Die verwendete Technik spielt keine Rolle. Linol- oder Holzschnitt, Radierung, Plastik oder Bleisatz sind möglich. Mitmachen kann jeder im Alter zwischen 8 und 16 Jahren", sagt der Afrikaner. Unterstützt werden die Kinder von Andreas Weißgerber. Der Werkstattleiter hilft bei den Druckverfahren, so dass zahlreiche Werke die Wände und Decken der Buchdruckerei schmücken.

"Die Motive aller Werke drucken wir gleichzeitig auf Postkarten", erzählt Solomon Wija. Die Karten nimmt der 45-Jährige diesen Monat mit auf seinen Flug nach Äthiopien. Leipziger Kinder haben ihre Adressen drauf geschrieben, so dass sogar Brieffreundschaften entstehen könnten. In einer Schule von Addis Abeba wird der Grafiker zusammen mit äthiopischen Kindern ebenfalls künstlerisch über Wasser sinnieren. "Die gesamten Kunststücke werden dann zu einem Buch zusammengefasst. Texte ggfl. übersetzt. Somit können die Menschen die unterschiedlichen Auffassungen von Wasser aus dem anderen Land kennen lernen", sagt der Wahlleipziger.

Veröffentlicht werden die Projekte während einer großen Ausstellung im Januar 2005.

Gebre Kristos Gallery inaugurated by Presidents Girma, Koehler

Addis Ababa, December 14, 2004 (ENA) - President Girma Wolde-Giorgis and His Excellency Prof. Dr. Horst Koehler President of the Federal Republic of Germany yesterday inaugurated the Gebre Kristos Gallery and the German Cultural Institute. It was formerly a historic Palace of Crown Prince Asfaw Wossen Haile-Silasie. Speaking on the occasion, President Koehler said that the centre would enable foster the bilateral relations of the two sisterly countries. The president also said that Ethiopia could be a good example for many other countries in the world in its experience of accommodating many nations and nationalities living in harmony. "Stability, harmony and coexistence are very essential for combating poverty and backwardness. We can fight poverty when people get the chance to help one another, Prof. Dr. Koehler added. According to the president, it was the wish of the late Gebre-Kristos Desta, a painter and a writer for his work to be returned home when peace, stability and democracy reign in the country. "It is time now, for his works to be returned in spite of the need for some improvements," he said.

"Ethiopia is in the right track in the fight against poverty and backwardness. It is also making a relentless effort for the better future of the country. In this regard, sharing the German experience would be of paramount importance. President of the Addis Ababa University (AAU) Andreas Eshete on his part said that the establishment of the cultural centre on campus enables ongoing and intimate interplay and solidarity between Ethiopia and Germany culture. "AAU's mission to embrace and enrich diversity will surely benefit from German Cultural presence in our midst. We are also happy to celebrate the return, at long last, of Gebre Kristos' trailblazing creative work to his beloved home, Ethiopia," He said. According to the president Gebre-Kristos is a pioneer of modern art in Ethiopia as well as a mentor and an inspiration to generations of Ethiopian artists " In his work, he casts us in an unusual heroic light," he said. The site for the commemoration of the centennial of the signing of the Ethio-Germany Friendship Treaty, would serve as Gebre-Kristos Desta's permanent exhibition. The centre would be inaugurated on 7 March 2005. Professor Dr. Horst Koehler has also attended a panel discussion on "The Academy and Development" held at the premises of Mekonnen Hall Palace of the AAU late in the afternoon. German and Ethiopian scholars have attended the panel discussion in which various issues were raised regarding technical utilization of scientific knowledge and other related matters.

Elderly say committed to uphold cultural values, fight poverty

Awassa, November 19, 2004 (WIC) - The elderly in Sidama Zone of the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples State (SNNPS) said they would exert utmost efforts in upholding their cultural values alongside the fight against poverty and backwardness. Recently celebrating the new year of the Sidama nationality in the State, over 10,000 elderly drawn from Hagereselam, Arbego and Guguma woredas of the zone said they are committed to carrying out development activities through the integration of resources and manpower in their respective localities. They said the various popular conferences conducted on development policies and strategies of the country in an open and transparent manner have created fertile ground in further pursuing

development activities in the State. They have also expressed on the occasion their readiness and commitment in ensuring gender equality and eradicating harmful traditional practices including abduction, rape and female genital mutilation together with the smooth transfer of cultural heritages and values from generation to generation. Public Mobilization and Social Affairs Coordination Office Head of the Hageresalam woreda, Teshale Shelemo said on his part that the public in the woreda have executed various development projects worth over 18 million birr during the past two years. Religious heads and the elderly have contributed a lot in advocating the local community in the implementation of the stated development activities, he added. The new year of the Sidama nationality is observed beginning from the middle of October up until the beginning of November with various events, including ceremonies organized to settle conflicts among the various clans and to discuss the social and economic issues of the locality.

Work of Art on Delicate Object

Muluneh Gebre

Addis Tribune, 5.11.2004 - Oftentimes painters do not give titles to their works of art. This is because they believe that it is up to the individual to interpret the art in a way that he or she perceives it. "Any work of art means different to different people and through it people gain knowledge, happiness, confidence, freedom and become familiar with the culture and places that they might not know before," says Zewdu Gebremichael, an artist who has been making a living out of painting for over 20 years now. Zewdu Gebremichael specializes in engraving images on glass, cups, vases, and plates. He started glass engraving while working for Ethiopia Reflection PLC, a shop that sells antiques and traditional jewellery. A graduate from the Addis Ababa University School of Fine Arts, he learned the skill from two foreigners and worked in the shop for three years as a senior painter, during which time he produced various images, including images of people wearing traditional Ethiopian garments, the Lion of Judah and endemic animals on glass sold mainly to tourists, NGOs and embassies. "I have always wanted to reflect Ethiopian culture in my engravings. For example, I engrave image of Ethiopian faces in the traditional style, adding some modern elements but I engrave according to the wishes of my customers. Some people want me to engrave their portrait using a photograph and other want me to engrave an image of people in traditional Ethiopian clothing," the painter says, adding, "The process of engraving begins with the artist drawing the desired image on a piece of paper.

This drawing is fixed on the glass and the engraving machine is then used to cut the lines on the glass. There are two kinds of glasses crystal glass and regular glass. Crystal is so fragile that it can be broken easily but I like to engrave on crystal glass as the image on it looks very beautiful." The artist makes two kinds of engravings, light engraving which is so thin and can not be felt with one's finger and deep engravings, which can be felt well. The price he sets for images engraved on glasses depends on the size of the engraving and the cost of the glass. Apart from engraving images, Zewdu also makes and sells sculptures and paintings and also works on traditional Ethiopian paintings of saints. "Training in graphics art gives one multiple skills because it includes painting, illustration poster art, wood art, silk screen out and computerized art," Zewdu says. Zewdu comes from an artistic family. Zewdu's father was a priest and was

also a painter. "My father painted saints on church walls in churches in the countryside, where he was living." From 1980 to 1983 Zewdu exhibited his painting individually and in group at different venues, including the Alliance Ethio-Franceaise, Juventus Club, Addis Ababa City Hall and Italian Cultural Institutes.

Begegnung mit der Filmemacherin Madji-da Abd aus Äthiopien

(im Jahr 2004 Jury Mitglied der BERLINALE)

<http://www.tvtv.de/cgi-bin/WebObjects/EPG.woa>

dctp - Kinomagazin, 22.10.04 - Sie leitet das panafrikanische Filmfest in Addis Abeba. Sie selbst hat den Film gemacht "Von der anderen Seite des Flusses". Der Film beschreibt in eindrucksvollen Bildern das Leben und Leiden von Frauen und Kindern im Grenzkrieg zwischen Äthiopien und Eritrea. Die Äthiopier, christliche Kopten, besitzen eine reiche und alte Kultur von Bild Darstellungen, die geschichtliche und religiöse Legenden beschreiben. Äthiopier waren nur schwer für die bewegten Bilder des Kinos zu gewinnen. Das Kino hieß lange Zeit für sie "das Haus des Teufels".

Collection of poems of veteran fighter inaugurated

Addis Ababa, September 08, 2004 (WIC) - "Soaring Spirits", a collection of poems in English written by Yemane Kidane, alias Jamaica, was officially inaugurated yesterday at a ceremony held at the Sheraton Addis. Yemane was among TPLF veteran guerrilla fighters engaged in armed rebellion against the Derg Regime and who then served his country in various capacities following the fall of the military regime until his recent retirement. Speaking at the launching ceremony, Information Minister Berket Simeon said that the poems would cast a glimpse of light on those events that moulded the politics of armed struggle against the military junta. He said Yemane's literary pieces could also have an important bearing in some way to the understanding of the course of the struggle together with the movement and the events that shaped it.

The minister appreciated Yemane to be the first of the surviving senior fighters and officials to share the long and eventful road of the struggle together with his personal views, while most of the survivors from the long guerrilla years are often unwilling to speak about themselves or the organization to which they devoted most of their adult lives. Author of the book, Yemane Kidane said on the occasion that the poems are products of his personal feelings, emotions and thoughts at a given particular time and place in which most of them were written in the 1980s when he was serving as a guerrilla fighter against Derg. Dr. Awol Endris, Assistant Professor in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature of the Addis Ababa University, also said that the poems dwell on the protest against a repressive system fought both internally and externally as well as the author's individual frustration of a retreat, elation of a victory and his bitter memories experienced during those battle days. "Soaring Sprits" has compiled in it about 57 poems.

HIV/AIDS awareness drama "Maleda" got underway here on Thursday

Addis Ababa, 11.6.2004 - ENA - Population Media Center-Ethiopia said HIV/AIDS prevention and control activities should be supported by study to be able to

achieve fruitful results, Center Representative said. Nigusie Tefera said prevention and control of the pandemic would help bring about behavioural change if supported by studies and researches. Dr. Nigusie made the remark while delivering a speech at a half-day workshop organized to evaluate the achievements gained through an HIV/AIDS awareness drama called "Maleda" that got underway here on Thursday. He said the series drama, which was produced based on an interview with commercial sex workers and long distance drivers working along the Ethio-Djibouti Railway, is supported by study and research. Dr. Nigusie said 7,000 copies of the Drama recorded in audiocassettes were distributed to bars, commercials sex workers, truck drivers, military camps and various sections of the society. The drama has got acclaim from the public, according to the representative. He said Maleda has enabled dozens of commercial sex workers and drivers to go for voluntary HIV/test. Several commercial sex workers have also been abandoning prostitution, Dr. Nigusie said. Artists and representatives of NGOs and governmental organizations attended the workshop organized by the center in collaboration with Save the Children USA and USAID.

New Ethiopian fiction film underway: "...and then the rains return"

<http://www.ethiopianfilms.com/frame2.html>

ethiopianfilms.com, a site that supports and promotes Ethiopian films, is pleased to announce its next major venture. Producer/director Yemane I. Demissie and writer Solomon Deressa have collaborated to produce a 100-minute fiction film entitled "...and then the rains return". Set in Ethiopia, and based on a true story, this dramatic film tells the story of how a small rural community battled against and survived the Spanish Influenza (Ye Hidar Beshita in Amharic), the worst epidemic in human history, killing nearly 40 million people worldwide. Yemane I. Demissie's works include the critically acclaimed film, Gir-Gir (Tumult), which he wrote, directed and produced, and which has won him numerous awards in the United States, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Burkina Faso, and France. Solomon Deressa is a poet and writer of international renown, whose most recent works include a collection of poems Zebet Elfitu, published in 1998. Together, they have embarked on the production of a compelling story celebrating Ethiopian courage, resilience and ingenuity.

Yaldereke Enba in cinemas

<http://www.theafricamonitor.com/artcorner/index.htm>

ADDIS ABABA (January 16,2005) - Addis film production, has released its debut film Yaldereke Enba recently at Alem Cinema. According to the owner of Addis Film production company Amelework Tadesse, "The film revolves around the times of Red Terror (during the Dergue regime). Lead actress, Helen Cherinet, who has lived most of her life abroad and whose father was killed during the Dergue regime and whose mother was raped during that time comes back to her homeland in pursuit of her identity." The movie was filmed in Gondar, Wonji and Addis Ababa. It took about a year to produce including the script writing and other aspects of making a movie. It has a crew of 60 and runs for one hour and a half. The movie being screened at Alem Cinema and Hager Fiker Theatre contains many amateur artists and veterans as well. "In producing the film we had gone through a lot of ups and downs. For

instance, the writer of the film died a month after we began shooting the movie. It took us about 300,000 birr just to make the movie. Following the success of this movie, we hope to make many more that could entertain and educate the people of Ethiopia," Amelework said. Yaldereke Enba was written by the late Habtamu Wubetu and was directed by Afework Mana.

Art Links

Addis Ababa University School of Fine Arts and Design.

<http://www.geocities.com/aaufineart/design.htm>
aaufineart@yahoo.com; sfad@telecom.net.et

The Source of Colours - Production Methods of Natural Colours in Ethiopian Traditional Art

Workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, December 7 – 12, 2003

By Annegret Marx

<http://www.dworschak-marx.de/Source%20of%20Colours%20WEB.pdf>

For (traditional) painters, teachers, art-students and conservators.

Ethiopian Artists - Who is Who

<http://www.the3rdman.com/ethiopianart/whoswho/a.htm>

Ethio-Sudanese Grooves & Images

Ein neues Kapitel der Fusion von afrikanischer Musik mit dem Jazz eröffnete der in Weltmusik erfahrene Kölner Musiker Felix Petry mit seiner Ethio-Jazz Suite. Die Ethio-Jazz Suite wurde unter großer Begeisterung des an sich ja eher zurückhaltenden äthiopischen Publikums im Frühjahr 2003 in Addis vorgestellt.

Die besten Musiker der Ethio-Pop-Szene (Gitarre: Girus Mezmur, Bass: Be'ale Merawie,

Schlagzeug: Ali Ashenafi, Congas: Yohannes 'Johnny' Welde

unterstützt von Felix Petry (Sax, Arr./Comp.), Inga Lühning (Gesang) und Markus Körner (Keyboard)

Einige Mitschnitte aus dem Konzert in "bootleg" Qualität unter:

http://www.felix-petry.de/alp/wedding_song

Das Abschlusslied des Abends, ein fröhlicher und mitreißender Schlusspunkt, den das Publikum noch lange im Ohr hat. Zwischenapplaus für große und kleine Gäste, die sich von der Spielfreude der Band mitreißen lassen und einfach auf die Bühne kommen, um mitzusingen und mitzutanzten.

[gash wella lomo](#)

Eigentlich ein Lied für Kinder, eine Volksweise über den "Gevatter" (Gash) Wella Lomo.

[sudanetio suite](#)

Der "Brot-und-Butter"-Rhythmus der Äthiopier: 12 Achtel, von Bass und Schlagzeug verwirrend gegeneinander gespielt, ein dichter Teppich von Energie

Kontakt: Markus Körner, Salzertstr. 24, 79540 Lörrach,
Tel. 07621 - 91 55 379; E-Mail: markus@koerner.org

A Tribute to Skunder

He was painting and design instructor at the Addis Ababa School of Fine Arts between 1966 and 1969.
<http://www.blenartshow.com/honorary.php>

Addis Art Presented the Paintings of Shiferaw Girma at the Del Mar Theater in Los Angeles
<http://addis-art.com/publicity/>

Julie Mehretu: Africa's Gift to the 21st century Art World

Recent Paintings by Wosene Worke Kosrof, Zerihun Yetmgeta, AFEWERK TEKLE - The Most Hon. Maitre Artiste World Laureate, Abdel Rahman M Sherif - Director of Addis Ababa School of Fine Arts and Secretary General of Ethiopian Artists' Association, KENFE MICHAEL BETHE SELASSIE - A Romantic Artist, Mezgebu Tessema - Paying homage to the World of the Ethiopian Peasant, etc.

<http://www.ethiopianart.org/articles/index.php>

Zerihun Yetmgeta - An Ethiopian Modernist

<http://www.h-net.msu.edu/~zerihun/esseye.html>

Addis Art Presented the Paintings of Shiferaw Girma at the Del Mar Theater in Los Angeles

<http://addis-art.com/publicity/>

Exhibitions, Music, Theatres, special Events, Galleries, Lectures, Films

<http://www.whatsupaddis.com/art & culture.htm>

Music, Film, Entertainment

<http://www.myethiopia.info/entertainment.asp>

Tourism News

Touristic situation in Ethiopia

Excerpts from:

http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/iteiia20042_en.pdf

Ethiopia has much to offer international tourists. It has a unique historical and cultural heritage, magnificent scenery, a surprisingly cool climate, rich flora and fauna, important archaeological sites and hospitable people.

The northern tourist circuit known as the "Historic Route" comprises the most important tourist sites in Ethiopia. The main attractions include: The ancient city of Axum, The medieval city of Lalibela, Al Negashi mosque at Wukro, The medieval city of Gonder, The island monasteries of Lake Tana. Other historical attraction areas include: The walled city of Harar.

Anthropological findings

The 3.5 million-year old skeleton of "Lucy" or Australopithecus at Hadar, the 4.4 million-year-old

remains of Australopithecus Ramides which is considered to be man's anthropoid ancestor, and the earliest hand tools of humans unearthed in the Omo valley appeal not only to specialists, but anyone interested in the early beginnings of human civilization.

Ethiopia is a mosaic of peoples and cultures

More than 80 languages are spoken and two of the world's major religions (Christianity and Islam) plus a number of less-known faiths are followed, resulting in great cultural diversity. Religious and other cultural festivals, with roots in the distant past, are very colourful and continue to form an important part of communal life.

The physical features of the country

include high plateaux, long mountain ranges, lofty peaks, deep gorges, the largest cave in Africa (Sof Omar), one of the lowest depressions on earth (Dallol), the Great Rift Valley, savannah land, tropical forests, deserts and lakes (including Lake Tana, the source of the Blue Nile), spectacular waterfalls and volcanic hot springs.

Though situated not far from the equator, much of the land has a climate tempered by its altitude,

with an idyllic spring-like climate in most regions of the country throughout the year. The Great Rift Valley, with its seven beautiful lakes, numerous hot springs and a variety of wildlife, offers great potential for the development of tourism.

Almost every kind of big game

can be found in Ethiopia in its natural state and habitat.

Out of the 845 species of birds and 260 species of mammals registered in Ethiopia, 49 are endemic. 10 national parks, 13 wildlife reserves and sanctuaries, and 18 controlled hunting areas have been established to protect these resources.

Eight national sites have been recognized by UNESCO as world heritage:

Axum's obelisks, the monolithic churches of Lalibela, Gonder's castles, the island monasteries on Lake Tana, Hadar (where Lucy was discovered), Tia's carved standing stones, the walls of Harar, and the Simian National Park.

The tourist attractions in these sites have been relatively well promoted since the 1960s, and many tour operators in Europe and North America have included them in their offers. Unfortunately, a shortage of adequate accommodation and related facilities for sports, recreation and entertainment has limited the growth of tourism in the area.

The **main tourist destination** at the moment is the historic route encompassing Bahir Dar, Gonder, Axum, Makalle, and Lalibela.

Addis Ababa, the principal gateway to Ethiopia and a business centre and conference venue, is itself a major destination.

Other destinations include the **wildlife centres** along the Great Rift Valley and the southwest, and the eastern historic area of Harar.

Ethiopia's wealth of attractions gives it great potential for cultural and educational tourism, photo safaris, hunting safaris, bird watching, water sports including river rafting, desert trekking, mountain camping and eco-tourism generally. Health tourism, on account of the cool climate and the numerous hot springs, is an additional type of tourism with great potential.

Conference tourism, long aided by the presence of a number of international organizations in Addis Ababa

including the African Union and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), is poised to gain greater significance as a consequence of the newly built facilities at the ECA and the Sheraton Addis.

Ethiopia's tourism sector is poised to benefit from a programme of upgrading, expansion and new construction of airports, road and communication networks, electric power generation and waterworks, the implementation of which is currently under way in various parts of the country.

Domestic air travel is provided by Ethiopian Airlines, using Boeing and Fokker jets as well as smaller aircrafts. Competition in domestic service has been ushered in recently with the commencement of operations by two private firms. Tour operators and travel agencies have shown considerable growth in recent years, with 65 firms in operation in 2001.

The stock of **hotel rooms** in the country has increased sharply over the last few years. While some tourist accommodation is already available at all the major attractions, improvement as well as new construction is taking place in accordance with a newly promulgated classification and standardization system. FDI is both needed and welcome to upgrade tourism infrastructure in Ethiopia.

Tourist Attractions in Somali Region

http://www.waltainfo.com/Regional_States/somali/Regional-info_SNRS/Tourism%20Attractions_Regional-info_SNRS.htm

In general, the region's landscape can be most important potential for tourism.

Hot springs of Erer, Arabi at Kit can be good tourist resort areas.

The culture of the Somali people (dresses, Music, Household utensils, Social activities, etc), still found in its traditional (original) form is sure to motivate the culture interested tourist to visit the area.

Wildlife potential, though not yet conserved, is an inevitable tourist resource of the region.

Particularly the following could be potential areas for tourist attractions.

- Unique nomadic cultures, Dressing, Housing, etc.
- Elephants and Baboon reserve between Babile and Bombass.
- Acacia- Commiphoras lowland/
- Riparian forests along Wabi Shabeelle River.
- Bird watching areas near Genaile, Wayb and Dawa Rivers.
- Hot springs at Arabi, Erer and Kit areas.
- Madheedhle area at Qoraheey Zone for big wild animals, especially endemic species (Like garanug).
- Bank Holaac area near Kalafo area and Eel-deer area near Godey are important wild animal attraction areas.

Tourist Attractions in Afar Region

http://www.waltainfo.com/Regional_States/Afar/Regional_Info/Regional_Info_afar.htm

Some of the Anthropological and Archaeological Tourist Attraction Sites:

- **Hadar:** 27 km South of Eliwoha on the Bank of the Awash River. The discovery of many important ancient fossils, the most famous of which was a partial skeletal fossil remains nicknamed "Lucy" by Donald Johanson in 1974.
- **Gana:** About 30 km from Eliwoha. Stone tools found at this site have an estimated age of 2.6 million years. Fossil vertebrates are abundantly available at this site which is the oldest place in the world with a record of human material culture.
- **Middle Awash:** Lies on both sides of the Awash River, North of Gewane and South of the Meesala River. This is the place where the oldest human ancestors came from the locality of Aramis. Rich in fossils including hominids with estimated ages of about 6 million years. Old types of artefacts from Early stone Age to Late Stone Age are available in the area. About 5 million years of human history has been documented so far in this place.
- **Melka Werer:** 4.7 km from the Gewane road. The fossil vertebrate fragments and the very rare middle Stone Age fossils discovery.
- **Kesem-Kebena:** Between the Kesem and the Kebena rivers. Abundant vertebrate fossils, Stone tools and Fauna fossils dating back to beyond 3 million years.
- **Meschelle:** Lying between Meschelle, the Awash River and the Adaituridge. The area is home to 3.4 million years vertebrate fossils, including a hominid mandible.
- **Ledi:** A western tributary of the Awash River, just east of the Gewane Mille road. Home for vertebrate fossils including elephants and hippopotamus, Artifacts-Choppers, flakes and bifaces.
- **Daralak:** 5 km South of Daralk, on the South of the Magenta ridge. Fossils include elephants, barids, suids, squids, and reptiles.
- **Tendaho:** 44 km from Logia, towards Mille. Artifacts, Fossils include crocodile, barids and hippopotamus, Hintime-Geta
- **Hida Ali:** 6 km from the junction of the Gewane and Bati-Mille road. Fossil vertebrates suggesting age of between 2 and 3 million years.
- **Det Bahri:** Close to the Tendaho plantation. Well mineralized fossils and Middle stone age tools are found.
- **Gallili:** The north East of Gedamytu. Fauna fossils which are suggested to have an age of at least 4 million years.
- **Segudo:** About 3.7 km from Bati and 1.5 km South of the Mille-Bati road. Small gas-trooped fossils; the fossil vertebrates suggested age between 3 to 3.4 million year.
- **Haouna:** 14.5 km South towards Adaytu from the Bati-Mille road junction and turning west. Fossils particularly the elephants and the pigs like an age about 3 million years.

*Siehe auch die ausführlichen Hinweisseiten der **Southern Region** und von **Addis Ababa**:*

http://www.waltainfo.com/Regional_States/SNNPR/Regional_Info_snnpr.htm

http://www.waltainfo.com/Regional_States/AddisAbaba/Tourism.htm

Alternativer Tourismus: Kaffee-Studienreisen nach Äthiopien

Die Route

Bei unseren Studienreisen dreht sich alles um die aufregende Welt des Kaffees im Heimatland des *coffea arabica*.

Von Addis Abeba aus, wo die lange Produktionskette von Rohkaffee endet, starten wir unsere Erkundungsreisen ins Landesinnere. Sie werden uns Schritt für Schritt mit allen Verarbeitungsstufen und -formen vertraut machen, die für die Erzeugung eines guten Kaffees notwendig sind. Unser Weg führt von Addis Abeba aus in alle wichtigen Anbau- und Wildkaffeegebiete, aus denen so hervorragende und berühmte Kaffees wie Yirga Cheffe, Limu, Jimma oder Harar kommen. Wir wandern durch beeindruckende Kaffeewälder und werden den unterschiedlichen Kaffee-Anbau in Gärten und auf Plantagen kennen lernen. Schließlich werden wir bei Besuchen von Wasch- und Trocknungsanlagen eingeweiht in die Kunst der verschiedenen Verarbeitungsformen von frisch geernteten Kaffeekirschen. Das Trinken all der verschiedenen Kaffees wird natürlich auf keinen Fall zu kurz kommen.

Da Ernte und Verarbeitung zu exportfähigem Kaffee in unterschiedlichen Monaten stattfinden, wird der Schwerpunkt bei der Okt.- und Nov.-Tour auf der Ernte sowie der direkten Verarbeitung der Kaffeekirschen auf den Waschanlagen liegen, bei der Feb.- und März-Tour auf der Verarbeitung der sonnengetrockneten Kirschen und der Weiterverarbeitung zu exportfähigem Kaffee.

Aufbereitung des Kaffees

Wer Äthiopien bisher nur also trockene Wüstenlandschaft kennt, der wird auf dieser Reise, die uns abseits aller bekannten Touristenwege führt, ein völlig anderes Gesicht dieses faszinierenden Landes kennen lernen:

dichte Wälder, fruchtbare Hochebenen und atemberaubende Gebirgslandschaften. Sie werden den unterschiedlichsten Menschen und Kulturen begegnen und mit einem reichen Wissen über den „buna“, wie die Äthiopier ihr Lieblingsgetränk nennen, zurückkehren.

Die 1. Studienreise in weitgehend touristisch "jungfräulichen" Gebieten wurde im Oktober 2004 durchgeführt; in Kürze werden auch Sonderreisen für Kleingruppen möglich sein.

Ab dem Jahr 2005 bieten wir in Kooperation mit Ikarus Tours, Königstein, und Lothar Kögel Studien- und Erlebnisreisen, Berlin, zwei unterschiedlich lange Reisen an: eine 15 Tage-Tour und eine 10 Tage-Tour.

Die 10-tägige Kurzreise ist weitgehend identisch mit der 15-tägigen Kaffee-Studienreise. Auch wenn bei dieser Kurzreise die Besuche der Plantagen und Wildkaffeegebiete im Süd-Westen um Jimma entfallen, so bekommen Sie dennoch vom Anbau bis zur Exportverarbeitung einen wunderbaren Einblick in die Vielfalt und Einzigartigkeit des äthiopischen Kaffees.

<http://www.maskal.de/reise/>

Maskal • Äthiopische Kaffeespezialitäten

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Bekämpfung der Armut durch touristische Erschließung im ländlichen Raum des Tana Sees, Äthiopien.

<http://www.world-habitat-society.org/ethiopia.htm>

Ein Schwerpunkt der Arbeit von World Habitat Society (WHS) ist die Region, die als die „Dritte Welt“ bezeichnet wird, wo in großen Teilen der Mangel an elementaren Existenzgrundlagen zu einem Leben in Unterversorgung und Armut führt. Diese stellen Rahmenbedingungen dar, die einen umweltverträglichen Umgang mit natürlichen Ressourcen zwanghaft ausschließen. Als ein Beispiel des Einsatzes von WHS sei hier ein Projekt vorgestellt, das einerseits für ein ländliches Gebiet im Hochland von Äthiopien in Ost-Afrika Entwicklungsimpulse darstellt, andererseits für viele andere afrikanische Regionen Modellcharakter hat. Die Verwirklichung dieses Vorhabens geschieht in enger Zusammenarbeit mit den Tourismusbehörden des Landes und der Region Bahir Dar, mit lokalen Behörden und den bereits vorhandenen Unterkunfts-Anbietern sowie mit der regionalen Bevölkerung.

Information zu GPS Ökotourismus Touren in Äthiopien

http://www.world-habitat-society.org/gps_ethiopia.pdf

Abschrift des WDR Hörfunkbeitrags vom 21.12.2004

http://www.world-habitat-society.org/whs_ethiopia_wdr2.pdf

Pressemitteilung zur Kooperation mit der Universität Bahir Dar

http://www.world-habitat-society.org/pr_whs_uni_bd_030105.pdf

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New cave found in Ethiopia's Keffa zone

ADDIS ABABA, November 12, 2004 (ENN) - Two American archaeologists said they have discovered an ancient cave in Tello woreda, Keffa zone of Ethiopia, Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) reported. The cave, found in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples State, is estimated to be 28-30 million years old. The researchers said the cave has two entrances. The width and length of the cave is 80 and over 100 meters respectively while the height is four meters, according to the report. The archaeologists, who are conducting a research in the woreda, said they have found ash and stone tools in the cave, indicating people used to live there. Ato Workagegnehu Kassa, head of the zonal Culture and Information Department said studies will continue in the woreda.

Seminar Promoting paleo-tourism kicks off

Addis Ababa, July 28, 2004 (WIC) - Though efforts have been exerted to promote paleo-tourism in Ethiopia, the country has not reaped the desired benefits from the sector, General Manager of the Authority for Research and Conservation of Cultural Heritages (ARCCH) said. Speaking at a seminar discussing the promotion and development of paleo-tourism in Ethiopia, which was opened today at the National Museum, Jara Hailemariam, General Manager of ARCCH, stated that

the country could not derive benefits from the sector due to the lack of awareness on the part of individual and institutional tour operators. The General Manager pointed out that the seminar organized at Blen Lodge, in cooperation with the Afar regional government and the pertinent governmental and non-governmental organizations, on paleo-tourism can be cited as a major step taken to gradually solve the problem in this regard. Vice Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture, Mohammed Ahmed, on his part, recalled that the concerned bodies had pledged to fulfil their responsibilities in realizing the benefits of the inhabitants and conduct training for tour operators at the nationwide Blen Lodge seminar. He said as the seminar has succeed in realizing the training of tour operators which is part and parcel of the agreement reached earlier, it would hopefully be the first step that makes possible the parallel execution of the conservation of paleanthropological heritages and museums and the economic advantages of paleo-tourism. He further stated that the seminar is a forum where supervisors and other responsible bodies can freely interact and create common understanding on the benefits to be derived by the peoples, integrating tourism with heritage protection and care.

Researcher with Middle Awash Project, Dr. Birhane Asfaw, on his part, noted that Ethiopia has ten major sites of paleo-tourism attraction dating back to 6 millions years in the evolution of humankind. The three-day seminar will reportedly provide tour guides with basic information on paleo-tourism and help them to have concise information on major sites. Some 40 tour operators are in attendance of the seminar.

Tourism Links

Ethiopian Tourism Commission, Tour and Travel Agencies, Health Requirements, etc.

<http://www.tourismethiopia.org/>

info@tourismethiopia.org

Touristic Attractions

<http://www.ethiopiafirst.com/tourism.html>

Eco-tourism in the Bale Mountains of Ethiopia:

<http://www2.gtz.de/tourismus/download/materialien/Amente.pdf>

A potential tool in improving livelihoods and promoting forest conservation

By Girma Amente, GTZ-IFMP Project Coordinator

Forests can only survive if they become as beneficial as farming or livestock keeping.

Klosterinseln Tana-See

http://reisebuch.de/zentralafrika_und_ostafrika/aethiopien-475_info_8.html

Völker des südlichen Äthopiens

<http://www.daniel-vanek.at/aethiop/sueden.htm>

Go-Ethio.com offers the potential international visitors a very good image of Ethiopia

<http://www.Go-Ethio.Com>

Bücher

“Völker des Morgens”

Vom Verschwinden der traditionellen Kulturen Afrikas

Giansanti, Gianni (Fotografien und Text), Novaresio, Paolo (Ethnografische Texte)

503 Seiten mit Hunderten von Fotos

Frederking und Thaler, München 2004

ISBN 3-89405-631-2, Preis: 39,90 Euro

Ich bekenne: ich bin ein „Omo – Junkie“! Das Tal des unteren Omo im äußersten Südwesten Äthiopiens hat mich immer magisch angezogen. 1982 war ich das erste Mal dort, danach immer wieder, das letzte Mal im Jahre 2002. Der besondere Reiz dieser Landschaft ist unbeschreiblich: viel abgelegener und ursprünglicher kann Afrika nicht sein. Das galt zumindest noch für die 80'iger Jahre. Natürlich hat die politische Entwicklung des modernen Äthiopiens auch am Omo ihre Spuren hinterlassen. 1984 war der äthiopische Staat am Omo permanent eigentlich nur durch die damalige „Wildlife Authority“ vertreten. Und die versuchte, die am und im Omo-Nationalpark lebenden Stämme vergeblich davon abzuhalten, im Park, ihrem traditionellen Jagdgebiet zu jagen oder zu wildern, je nach Sichtweise.

„We had an exchange of bullets with the Surma“ berichtete mir einmal ein Parkhüter, ein „exchange“, der einem der Ihren damals das Leben kostete. Die Gegend ist zwar immer noch abgelegen, aber inzwischen sind alle möglichen Hilfsorganisationen, obskure Missionsgesellschaften (vorwiegend aus den USA) und Tourismusunternehmen dort unterwegs.

Unvorstellbar: es gibt bei Turmi einen bewachten Campingplatz mit Dusche!

Die Menschen in der Region haben sich darauf eingestellt, vor allem auf die Touristen. Diese sind eine wichtige Einnahmequelle geworden, wahrscheinlich eher lästig, aber durchaus auch lukrativ. Wenn man auf ein Dorf trifft, wird man johlend und lärmend mit den Worten „kala“ und „lamar“ empfangen. Das bedeutet „eins“ bzw. „zwei“, gemeint ist der Preis (in Birr) für ein Foto, bei den Mursi kostet ein Bild bereits 5 Birr. Die ständigen lautstarken Verhandlungen um Geld bestimmen mittlerweile die Begegnung zwischen den beiden Gruppen. Das ist zwar verständlich und nachvollziehbar, aber es ist auch etwas verloren gegangen. Der Tourismus zerstört sich so eine Form von Unberührtheit, nach der er doch auch so sehr sucht. Soviel zur Vorgeschichte. An dieser Schwelle zu einer wohl unausweichlichen Veränderung ist das vorliegende Buch entstanden.

Es zeigt uns auf 503 Seiten auf Hunderten von schier unglaublichen und phantastischen Fotos die Menschen am Omo und seiner Umgebung, bevor das 21. Jahrhundert endgültig Einzug hält. Insofern ist das Buch ein wertvolles Dokument und nicht nur für „Omo-Süchtige“ das ultimative „Muss“!

Beschrieben werden die ethnischen Gruppen, die man von Konso aus nacheinander auf einer Rundreise durch

die Region antrifft. Das sind die Borana (diese leben abseits der Route östlich von Konso), die Konso, die Banna, die Mursi, die Surma (jenseits des Omo), die Karo, die Bume, die Galeba, die Hamar und die Erboere. Jede Gruppe wird separat behandelt mit einem kurzen und eher oberflächlichen ethnographischen Text, einer ebenso kurzen Reisebeschreibung des Fotografen und dem ausführlichen Bildteil. Die Bildunterschriften lassen gelegentlich zu wünschen übrig. Die Bilder selbst jedoch sind wahrhaft überwältigend, manchmal geradezu bestürzend wegen der Nähe, aus der viele aufgenommen wurden. Man blickt den Menschen sozusagen direkt in die Augen. Es eröffnet sich eine verunsichernde ganz fremdartige Welt. Beim Blick in manche der Gesichter hatte ich das Gefühl, ganz tief zurück in die Geschichte der Menschheit zu sehen. Gleichzeitig zeigen die Bilder aber auch, wie perfekt die Menschen dort an ihren Lebensraum angepasst sind, aber auch wie sie ihn selbst gefährden, z.B. durch den Besitz von modernen Schnellfeuergewehren. Es ist erschreckend, wie weit diese in der Region verbreitet sind, viele Bilder zeigen das sehr deutlich. Viele der Portraits strahlen aber auch – bei aller Fremdheit – Ruhe und Würde aus und eine Selbstverständlichkeit und Natürlichkeit, wie sie anderswo selten geworden ist.

Der Nachteil von Büchern dieser Art ist mir wohl bewusst, sie laden geradezu ein, dort hinzu fahren, um sich anzusehen, wonach beim Durchblättern eine Sehnsucht entstanden ist. Kann das gut gehen?

Eggert Göttisch

Eritrea - Kriegsdienstverweigerung und Desertion

Die Broschüre enthält nicht nur ausführliche Selbstzeugnisse von Deserteurlinnen und KriegsdienstverweigerInnen aus Eritrea, sondern auch eine umfassende Dokumentation zur Menschenrechtssituation in Eritrea und begleitende Artikel. Die Deserteurinnen und Deserteure aus Eritrea berichten über eine Vielzahl von Menschenrechtsverletzungen an Rekruten, über Razzien und Zwangsrekrutierungen sowie den Einsatz von Kindersoldaten. Vorgestellt wurde die Broschüre im Rahmen einer Pressekonferenz am 25. November 2004 in Frankfurt am Main, auf der sich junge Deserteurlinnen aus Eritrea - Männer und Frauen - öffentlich zu Wort meldeten, über ihr Schicksal berichteten und das Recht auf Kriegsdienstverweigerung in Eritrea sowie auf Asyl in Deutschland einforderten.

Auszüge der Broschüre finden Sie unter:
http://www.Connection-eV.de/Inhaltsverzeichnis/eritrea04_frm.html

Die Broschüre kann online bestellt werden unter
<http://www.Connection-eV.de/Materialien.html>

64 Seiten, Preis 5,00 Euro zzgl. Versandkosten, ab 5 Ex. je 4,00 Euro zzgl. Versandkosten.

Teret - Teret II - Märchen - Fabeln - Schwänke aus Äthiopien

Adelheid Zelleke

Schutzgebühr 3,00 Euro

Diese und andere Broschüren (Die goldene Legende Äthiopien - Der Besuch der Königin von Saba bei König

Salomo; Vom Raub der Bundeslade) sind erhältlich über:

Äthiopisches Zentrum Deutschland e.V., Forellstr. 34, 53123 Bonn, Tel. & Fax: 0228/649199 oder E-Mail: aetzd@t-online.de

Aktivitäten von Äthiopien-Initiativen

DON BOSCO MISSION und Don Bosco JUGEND DRITTE WELT

Berufsbildung und Jugendsozialarbeit - zur Gewaltprävention in Gambela / Äthiopien

Der grundsätzliche Schwerpunkt aller Aktivitäten der Salesianer Don Boscos weltweit ist die Erziehung und Ausbildung junger Menschen, da dies der Grundstein zu einer ökonomischen und sozialen Entwicklung jeder Gesellschaft ist. In Gambela in Äthiopien besteht ein besonderer Handlungsbedarf für Maßnahmen zur Konfliktbewältigung im Bereich der Sozialarbeit und Jugendhilfe. Zur Zielgruppe gehören insbesondere junge Menschen aus sozialen Randgruppen. Im Grenzgebiet zum Sudan besteht gerade für diese Jugendlichen ohne berufliche Perspektive eine besondere Gefährdung, in den Einflussbereich gewalttätiger oder terroristischer Vereinigungen zu gelangen. Andererseits steht in Gambela ein Potential an Arbeitsplätzen bereit, welches die Jugendlichen in der Zielgruppe jedoch aufgrund mangelnder Ausbildung nicht nutzen können.

Die Salesianer sind in Äthiopien bereits seit vielen Jahren in der Jugendsozialarbeit und im Bereich Bildung und Ausbildung tätig. In allen Zentren bildet das Jugendzentrum den Kernbereich und die Erstanlaufstelle für die Jugendlichen. Hier erhalten Sie persönliche Unterstützung, Beratung und Begleitung und die Möglichkeit einer sinnvollen Freizeitgestaltung. Im Rahmen dieser Erstbetreuung werden eine persönliche Beratung, medizinische und notwendigenfalls auch sozialpädagogische oder psychologische Hilfestellungen angeboten. Die offene Jugendsozialarbeit beinhaltet auch Maßnahmen zur Persönlichkeitsbildung wie z. B. Gruppenleiterausbildungen, Bewusstseinsbildung, Motivationskurse. In diesem Kontext werden weitere Maßnahmen im Bereich Bildung und Ausbildung gemeinsam mit den betreffenden Jugendlichen geplant. Dabei muss sowohl auf die Vorkenntnisse, Fähigkeiten und Talente der Jugendlichen, als auch auf die Arbeitsmarktsituation vor Ort und die zukünftigen Perspektiven der Auszubildenden geachtet werden.

Zielgruppe des Zentrums in Gambela sind gefährdete Mädchen und Jungen im Alter von 8 bis 21 Jahren. Das Grenzgebiet zum Sudan war in der Vergangenheit häufiger Ausgangspunkt terroristischer Aktivitäten mit Auswirkungen bis hin zu Anschlägen in Addis Abeba. Junge Menschen ohne Ausbildung und Arbeit, die an den sozialen Brennpunkten der Region leben, sind ohne ausreichende Zukunftsperspektiven besonders gefährdet, in den Einflusskreis gewalttätiger Vereinigungen zu geraten. Durch die im Jugend- und Sozialzentrum angebotenen Maßnahmen werden Jugendliche in ihrer Persönlichkeit gestärkt. Mittels beruflicher Ausbildungskurse auf unterschiedlichen Ebenen werden die Eigenständigkeit und Zukunftsperspektiven der Zielgruppe entscheidend verbessert. Das Angebot richtet sich an Jugendliche

aller in der Region lebenden Ethnien und Religionen (vorwiegend Islam und Christentum) und erreicht in allen seinen Bereichen insgesamt 1.550 junge Menschen pro Jahr.

Ziel des Projektes ist es, der Gefährdung junger Menschen durch radikale und gewalttätige Bewegungen entgegen zu wirken durch eine Erhöhung der sozialen Kompetenz junger Menschen durch Maßnahmen der Sozialarbeit und Jugendhilfe sowie eine Verbesserung der Lebensbedingungen durch eine angepasste nonformale berufliche Ausbildung mit Job – Placement. Die Region Gambela wird in ihrer gesamten Entwicklung durch ausgebildete Fachkräfte eine entscheidende Unterstützung erfahren.

In Gambela wird zu diesem Zweck ein Jugend- und Sozialzentrum mit beruflicher Ausbildung errichtet. Das Jugendzentrum ist bereits in Betrieb, die Ausbildungen wurden aufgenommen, ein Teil der Werkstätten muss noch fertig gestellt und ausgestattet werden. Mehr als 1.000 Jugendliche können im Rahmen des offenen Jugendprogramms betreut werden und durch entsprechende Führung mehr soziale und persönliche Kompetenz erwerben. Etwa 400 Mädchen und Jungen erhalten gezielten Förderunterricht, um dadurch die Zahl der vorzeitigen Schulabgänger, die ohne Aussicht auf dem Arbeitsmarkt sind, zu verringern. Nach Fertigstellung des Zentrums wird die berufliche Ausbildung auf zwei Ebenen angeboten: 90 Jugendliche (Mädchen und Jungen) sollen in non-formalen Kurzzeitkursen in Schreinerei, Installationsarbeiten, Hauselektrik, Bauarbeiten und EDV ausgebildet werden. Insgesamt 60 Jugendliche sollen eine Ausbildung im Bereich Schreinerei und Hausbau absolvieren, die aus einem einjährigen Grundkurs und einem zusätzlichen zweijährigen Aufbaukurs (Option) besteht. Ein Arbeitsvermittlungsprogramm und Unterstützung für Mikrounternehmen verbessert die Chancen auf dem Arbeitsmarkt. Im Laufe der nächsten 2 Jahre sollen auch Ausbildungsgänge für Kfz-Mechanik und für allgemeine Mechanik/Schlosserei eingerichtet werden.

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PRESSEMITTEILUNG, Silvia Cromm, Bonn, 9.
Dezember 2004

Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) - Activity Report 2003/2004 ETHIOPIA

Advancing treatment for deadly diseases

The past year has brought about important developments in treating people with malaria and AIDS in Ethiopia. One positive change has been the country's move towards a new, more effective protocol for treating malaria, which is endemic in the country. This policy shift came about after many months of advocacy work done by MSF and numerous national and international organizations in the midst of a severe malaria epidemic that started near the end of 2003.

In most of Africa, conventional malaria treatments such as chloroquine and sulf-adoxine-pyrimethamine (SP) are no longer effective in many patients due to the increased resistance of parasites to these drugs. To counter this problem, MSF has been promoting the use of artemisinin-based combination therapy (ACT) which is derived from a centuries-old Chinese herbal medicine.

The malaria epidemic of late 2003 affected the southern Ethiopian state of Oromiya and other parts of the country. When the World Health Organization (WHO) announced that an estimated 15 million Ethiopians were at risk of contracting the disease, MSF asked the government for permission to use ACT. MSF believed that this combination therapy was vital to stopping the further spread of the epidemic. However, the government refused. It said it wanted more scientific evidence before determining whether the national treatment protocol should be changed. As a consequence, health staff from some organizations were forced to treat thousands of sick patients in the epidemic area with largely ineffective medicines, and MSF was obliged to adapt to the situation by using quinine as first-line treatment. The death toll from this outbreak was substantially higher than it was from malaria in 2001 and 2002. According to government figures, approximately 3,500 people died of malaria during the outbreak.

In response to intensive advocacy conducted by MSF and others, the ministry of health announced in May 2004 that it would change the protocol by July. The government planned to introduce ACT in August as the country's standard malaria treatment. The episode also pushed major institutions, such as the WHO and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to strengthen their support for ACT. While implementation was still pending in September, the change in policy enabled MSF to bring ACT drugs into the country. MSF teams are now starting to implement the new treatment in MSF projects.

A resettlement nightmare

Tension also erupted between the Ethiopian government and MSF around the government's three-year-program to resettle approximately 2.2 million farmers from overcrowded, low-yield agricultural areas to underpopulated, more fertile land. The scheme is part of the government's plan to solve recurring hunger problems and increase agricultural production. However, in 2003, during the pilot phase of the program in which more than 150,000 people were moved, MSF discerned poor planning and insufficient monitoring in some settlements, leading to high levels of malnutrition and disease. In various locations there was also insufficient water to support the increased population. MSF made a decision to intervene in a number of emergency situations by providing urgently needed health care and food programs for thousands of sick and malnourished settlers in the Amhara region. It opened a therapeutic feeding center for children and adults, a supplementary feeding program and mobile "fever clinics" to detect and treat malaria as well as the disease kala azar (visceral leishmaniasis). Kala azar is a sandfly-borne disease that affects the immune system and, if left untreated, kills almost all who contract it.

In 2004, MSF urged Ethiopian authorities to evaluate the program's pilot phase to help avoid future problems. With the resettlement program continuing and thousands of new settlers arriving, MSF fears that new health emergencies will erupt again in the most vulnerable new settlements.

Treatment for AIDS

Early 2004 also saw the start of Ethiopia's first free AIDS-treatment-program using life-extending antiretroviral (AVR) medicines. In close cooperation with district health authorities and HIV/AIDS patient groups in the northern Tigray region, MSF began treating patients with ARVs in the district hospital in Humera. By mid-2004, 67 patients were receiving ARVs, and the

program aims to admit 15 new patients per month. As part of the project, the MSF team provides voluntary HIV counselling and testing to the wider Humera community. It also provides medical care to approximately 500 HIV-positive people and food for patients with HIV/AIDS, kala azar or tuberculosis who require it.

Other MSF activities in Ethiopia

MSF has helped control multiple meningitis outbreaks in the Gurarge and Haydia zones in the southern Oromia region and most recently in the Wag Hamra zone in the Amhara region. In Wag Hamra, MSF also provides community therapeutic feeding in an area where people experience frequent food shortages and cannot get quality health care. In June 2004, MSF opened a primary health clinic in the Somali region of south-eastern Ethiopia. Based in Cherati, the clinic covers about 75,000 people living in an area in which health facilities are scarce or not working. Finally, at the border with Sudan and Eritrea, MSF treats people with kala azar in three locations.

MSF has worked in Ethiopia since 1984. International staff 57, national staff 671.

Oxfam Deutschland e.V.

Trinkwasserversorgung und Hygieneerziehung in Äthiopien

Boloso Sorie Woreda liegt im Wolayita-Gebiet in Südäthiopien. Es ist eine der ärmsten und dichtest besiedelten Regionen im Land und ist daher auch als Region des „grünen Hungers“ bekannt.

Die geringen Regenfälle der Jahre 2002 und 2003 haben die prekäre Lage der Wasserversorgung weiter verschärft. Oxfam Deutschland unterstützte im Jahr 2004 deshalb ein Projekt der äthiopischen Organisation Acts of Compassion (AOC) zum Bau einer hygienisch sicheren und für alle zugänglichen Wasserversorgung. Insgesamt wurden drei Quellen für jeweils ca. 1.500 Menschen ausgebaut und gesichert, getrennte Speicherreservoirs für Menschen und Tiere und Regenwassersammelbecken in zwei Schulen für 2.000 Schüler gebaut. Zusätzlich bildete AOC Wasserkomitees in den Dörfern aus, die für den Unterhalt der Quellen verantwortlich sind und Basiswissen über verbesserte Hygiene verbreiten. 94% der Wassernutzer besitzen nun auch selbst gebaute Latrinen, vor Projektbeginn waren es gerade 3,2%. Insgesamt 8.500 Menschen profitieren von diesem Projekt, das im November 2004 abgeschlossen wurde. Für das Jahr 2005 ist eine weitere Zusammenarbeit zwischen Oxfam Deutschland und AOC geplant, um noch mehr Menschen in der Region mit sicherem Trinkwasser zu versorgen.

Adresse: Greifswalder Str. 33a - 10405 Berlin

<http://www.oxfam.de>

Äthiopischer Kalender 2005 der Selbsthilfe Äthiopien e.V. in Kooperation mit der Druckwerkstatt Kreuzberg – Museum

Die Linolschnitte des Kalenders sind ein Beitrag von 4 äthiopischen Studenten (Alemayehu Hailye, Eyob Abera, Sisay Ashagrea, Yohannes Fitsumebirhan) an der Addis Ababa University of Fine Arts and Design.

Der Erlös des Kalenders geht an das Schulprojekt in Burayu, 14 Kilometer westlich von Addis Ababa.

Die Schule wird von der Tsireha Tsion Association, einer christlichen Gemeinschaft unterhalten, die vor 12 Jahren gegründet wurde.

Außer der Schule unterstützen die 22 Familien der Gemeinschaft die Entwicklung der sie umgebenden Oromo-Region. Mittellose Kinder und alte Menschen erhalten u. a. Schuluniformen und tägliche Essensrationen. Zudem garantieren sie 21 Waisenkindern Unterkunft, Verpflegung und Ausbildung.

Links

History of Ethiopian Urbanization

<http://www.maclester.edu/courses/geog61/kshively/development>

Ethiopian Jews

<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/ejhst.html>

http://www.afrikanet.info/cont/popups/2004/afri_051901.html

Teff

<http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teff>

Eucalyptus Ethiopia

<http://www.ifpri.org/divs/eptd/dp/papers/eptdp65.pdf>

Orphans, Ethiopia's worsening tragedy, draw increasing numbers of adoptive parents

<http://crossword.uniontrib.com/news/world/20041224-0954-exportingorphans.html>

Teen brings gifts to kids in Ethiopia

<http://ww2.pstripes.osd.mil/article.asp?section=104&article=25113&archive=true>

Termine

Wir bemühen uns, die aktuellen Termine der nachfolgenden Veranstaltungen auf unserer Homepage

<http://www.deutsch-aethiopischer-verein.de/termine.htm>

zu veröffentlichen:

Excerpt of the Draft Programme of Events during the Year of the Centennial of Ethiopian-German Relations (2005)

Business and Trade: Launching the Ethiopian-German Business Council and holding its first meeting in 2005 (Joint Afrika Verein - Ethiopian Embassy Initiative)

January to July: Internet exhibition "Pioneers of Ethiopian-German Relations"

February: Symposium "Eco-Tourism in Ethiopia" Addis Ababa

25 Febr., 19.30 Uhr, Leipzig, Hochschule für Musik; 26.02., 19.30 Uhr Berlin; 27.02., 19.30 Uhr Jüterbog: Konzerte des Jugendsinfonieorchesters Leipzigs mit dem äthiopischen Pianisten Girma Yifrasheva

5 – 6 March: Development Cooperation - Workshop in Berlin on International Trade and the Protection of Natural Resources in Ethiopia, organised by the German Ethiopian Association. Dr. Tewoldeberhan Gebre Egziabher, winner of the alternative Nobel Prize and Head of the Ethiopian Environmental Authority will be among those addressing the two day meeting.

7 March: Anniversary of the signing of the Ethio-German Trade and Friendship Treaty - Ethiopia Day in Berlin:

Exhibition on Ethio-German Relations in the entrance hall of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Berlin

7 March: Inauguration of the Gebre-Kristos Desta's centre (permanent exhibition) – Addis Ababa

7 March Erfurt: ideas are being exchanged with the office of the Minister President of Thuringen and Erfurt University to mark the day in the city with statements, travel descriptions, a slide show, food and music offerings

9 – 12 March: Ethiopia Days will be marked in the University Mainz. This includes a small conference at which ongoing research projects of the Institute of Ethnology and African Studies will be presented.

26 March to 4 April: Visit of the Youth Symphony Orchestra of Leipzig, joint concert with Ethiopian pianist Girma Yifrahewa - Sheraton Hotel, National Theatre Addis Ababa

30 March: Concert of the Youth Symphonic Orchestra Leipzig - Addis Ababa

First week of April: Photo exhibition at the Braunschweig Cathedral with lectures, music and services

1 to 7 April: Week of Fairy Tales by the Grimm Brothers - German Cultural Institute Addis Ababa

April 6: Art between Magic and Literature in Ethiopia, Lecture at University Hamburg given by Gianfranco Fiaccadori, University of Milan

26 April to 20 May: Exhibition on Ethioist Enno Littmann - URANIA - Berlin

Spring: Symposium "Culture and Coffee" - Addis Ababa

May 26: Contribution of German Philologists to Ethiopian Studies. Lecture by Gianfrancesco Lusini at University of Hamburg

May / June: Symposium "The role of science in fostering economic development in Ethiopia" - Addis Ababa

May / June: Africa Festival in Würzburg, Ethiopia will probably be a focal country - Würzburg

June 15: Ethiopia in the year 2020 - Actors, Scenarios and Options. by Stefan Bruene, Institute for Overseas Research, Hamburg

24 - 26 June: 10th Scientific Conference of the Orbis Aethiopicus - Neues Rathaus Leipzig

June: Workshop on Johann Wolfgang von Goethe - German Cultural Institute Addis Ababa

Mid : Closing workshop for the research project "Conservation of the wild coffee population" - Addis Ababa

Summer: Exhibition on Ethioist Enno Littmann - Addis Ababa, possibly Mekelle and Axum

July 13: German Researcher Discovers Axum, Lecture by Volker Matthies, University of Hamburg

July 13: Centenary of the Recording of Ethiopian Music in Germany, by Wolfgang Bender, Main University

September: Exhibition "Pioneers of Ethio-German Relations" followed by a Symposium on that topic - Addis Ababa

September / October: Opening of the German House - Addis Ababa

Beginning of October: "Imagining Ethiopia", documentary film week - German Cultural Institute Addis Ababa

October: Symposium "Adult Education in Development" - Addis Ababa

End of 2005: Opening of the Exhibition "The Queen of Sheba" - Museum of Ethnology and Pre-History, Berlin

Date uncertain:

Symposium "Blindness prevention in Ethiopia and new developments in ophthalmology" (Prof. Breipohl, Prof. Klaus) - Addis Ababa

Course for junior scientists and clinical diagnosticians (Prof. Breipohl) - Gondar

7. März 2005: Äthiopientag an der Universität Hamburg mit Vorträgen, Theater, Kaffezeremonie, Film, Tanz- und Musikaufführungen

<http://www.uni-hamburg.de/Wiss/FB/10/AfrikaS/100Jahre/>

Die Abteilung für Afrikanistik und Äthiopistik des Asien-Afrika Instituts der Universität Hamburg wird das Jubiläum der 100 Jahre diplomatische Beziehungen Äthiopien - Deutschland durch zahlreiche Aktivitäten feierlich begehen.

Öffentliche Vorträge

06. April 2005, Gianfranco Fiaccadori, Universität Mailand, Italien.: The content and signification of Magic scrolls in Ethiopia.

26.Mai 2005, Gianfrancesco Lusini, Universität Neapel "L'Orientale", Italien: Contribution of German Philologists to the Ethiopian Studies.

15. Juni 2005, Stefan Brüne, Institut für Allgemeine Überseeforschung, Hamburg: Äthiopien im Jahr 2020. Akteure, Szenarien und Optionen.

13. Juli 2005, Volker Matthies, Universität Hamburg, Deutschland: Deutsche Forscher entdecken Aksum.

9. November 2005, Wolfgang Bender, Universität Mainz, Deutschland: Centenary of the recording of Ethiopian music in Germany: Tessema Eshete.

Alle Veranstaltungen finden in der Abteilung für Afrikanistik und Äthiopistik des Asien-Afrika Instituts der Universität Hamburg, Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1, Flügel Ost, 2. Stock, statt.

Ausstellung im Foyer des Asien-Afrika Instituts

7. März – 7. Mai 2005: 100 Jahre Deutsche in Äthiopien, Äthiopier in Deutschland

Öffentliche Führung durch die Bibliothek der Abteilung für Afrikanistik und Äthiopistik der Universität Hamburg.

Mittwoch, 13.7. und 19.10.2005

Das äthiopische Restaurant Ethio wird ein Jubiläumsmenü anbieten.

Ethio – Restaurant, Grindelallee 91, 20146 Hamburg, Tel. 040-4135 1437, www.ethio-restaurant.de

Veranstaltungen der Städtepartnerschaft Leipzig – Addis Abeba e.V.

info@leipzig-addis-abeba.de

<http://www.leipzig-addis-abeba.de>

13.02.05 - 14:30 Uhr

"Das Leben der Frauen und Kinder in Äthiopien und
Soziales Engagement am Beispiel von Menschen für
Menschen"

Frau Steffi Kraus, Gornau
Museum für Völkerkunde zu Leipzig
Interim, Mädlerpassage, Eingang B, über Auerbachs
Keller

11.04./18.04./25.04.05 - jeweils von 18:00 – 20:30 Uhr

Amharisch-Schnupperkurs

Frau Dr. R. Richter

Volkshochschule Leipzig

27.05.05

Chemie-Didaktik

Wie die Partnerschaft in Chemiedidaktik zwischen
Leipzig, Münster und Addis Abeba gedeiht

Äthiopien – Wiege der Menschheit

Dr. Zeresenay Alemseged

Vortrag und Führung im MPI

Deutscher Platz 6, Leipzig

13.07.05 - 18:00 Uhr

Äthiopische Kunst heute

Arbeiten eines äthiopischen Künstlers

vorgestellt von Manfred Metz,

Galerist in Berlin

Stadtbibliothek Leipzig, Saal, 4. Etage

EthnoFilmfest 2005 - Länderschwerpunkt Äthiopien

www.ethnofilmfest.de

Vom 19.05 bis 22.05 wird in Berlin das Ethno-Filmfest
2005 stattfinden.

Da Äthiopien 2005 offiziell die 100jährigen
diplomatischen Beziehungen mit Deutschland feiert, liegt
die besondere Aufmerksamkeit auf der äthiopischen
Gemeinde und den Äthiopeninteressierten.

Das Filmfest soll dabei auch die Möglichkeit der
Selbstdarstellung der eigenen Kultur bieten.
Insbesondere der Samstag (21.05.) soll dem
Länderschwerpunkt Äthiopien gelten. Neben
Filmvorführungen planen wir eine Ausstellung,
Informationsveranstaltungen, Tanz und eine
Kaffeeceremonie.

Unser Ziel ist es, mit dem Ethno-Filmfest dem Publikum
ein möglichst breites Spektrum an Filmen zu bieten und
darüber hinaus dem Begriff 'Ethnofilm' Raum zu geben,
sich neu zu definieren. Aus diesem Grund richten wir bei
der Filmauswahl unser Augenmerk nicht nur auf
Dokumentarfilme, sondern wollen auch andere
Kunstformen wie Spiel - und Experimentalfilme in unser
Programm aufnehmen. Die ausgewählten Filme werden
im Ethnologischen Museum Berlin gezeigt, einem der
größten Museen seiner Art in der Welt.

Lake Abaya Research Symposium LARS 2004

November 10 -12, 2004 - Addis Abeba

Exhibitions:

- GTZ Regional Office Addis Ababa: "Renewable
Energy Resources in Ethiopia"
- University Siegen - LARS 2004: "Water Research in
Ethiopia - Examples of Field Research"
- AdG (Africa Working Group of German
Geoscientists): "German Geoscientific Research in
Ethiopia"

<http://www.lars2004.de.be>

Verschiedenes

Äthiopischer Kaffee

Markus Körner

<http://www.abessinia.de>

Insgesamt sieben Jahre habe ich mit meiner Familie in
Äthiopien gelebt. Ich bin viel in diesem riesigen Land
herumgekommen, und habe dort Armut und sogar
Elend, aber auch Schaffenskraft, eine bescheidene
Normalität, und immer wieder Orte von beeindruckender
Schönheit kennen gelernt. Zusammen mit unseren
äthiopischen Freunden haben meine Schwester und ich
eine Firma in Äthiopien gegründet, die ABESSINIA
Kaffee herstellt und vertreibt. Durch die Verarbeitung in
Äthiopien bleibt zudem ein großer Teil des erzielten
Einkommens im Lande. Das ist einzigartig, und stellt
unseren kleinen Beitrag zu einer dauerhaften
Entwicklung dar.

Äthiopien ist das Herkunftsland des Kaffees - jede
einzelne Kaffeepflanze kann heute noch auf ihren
Ursprung in den Bergen Südwestäthiopiens
zurückgeführt werden. In diesen idealen Bedingungen
gedeihen einige der besten Kaffees der Welt. Meist
werden sie nur zur Veredelung der gängigen
Kaffeemischungen eingesetzt. Aber am besten sollten
diese Spitzenerzeugnisse unverfälscht genossen
werden. Dies ist der Leitgedanke von ABESSINIA. Die
Äthiopen sind Kaffeekenner - ihr Land ist das einzige
große Erzeugerland, in dem mehr Kaffee getrunken als
von dort exportiert wird. Mit Hilfe unserer äthiopischen
Freunde haben wir die edelsten und die urwüchsigsten
Kaffeessorten ausfindig gemacht und verarbeiten diese
zu hochwertigen Spezialitätenkaffees. Wir machen alles
'aus einer Hand' und schaffen so eine einzigartige
Verbindung zwischen Kaffeebauern in Äthiopien und
Kaffeegenießern in Europa. Kaffee wird in Äthiopien fast
immer als Gartenkaffee auf winzigen Flächen von
Kleinbauern angepflanzt - ohne Zusatz von Chemie und
in intensiver Handarbeit. Mit den Bauern zusammen
verbessern wir den Anbau und die Verarbeitung, um das
große Aroma dieser Kaffees am besten zur Entfaltung
zu bringen. Die Kaffeekirschen werden sofort nach der
Ernte noch in der Kooperative gewaschen und unter
unseren Augen ausgelesen. Die Anlage zum Rösten und
Verpacken haben wir aus Deutschland mitgebracht. Wir
prüfen, sortieren, rösten und verpacken den Kaffee vor
Ort selbst - so können wir Sortenreinheit und beste
Qualität jeder einzelnen Packung unseres ABESSINIA-
Kaffees garantieren. Wir verkaufen ihn nur als ganze
Bohne, damit Aroma und Charakter erhalten bleiben.

Rasta Roast ist der energispendende Kaffeegenuss für jeden Tag.

Dominierend ist die Sorte Yirga Cheffe aus dem Süden Äthiopiens, die wegen ihres milden und starken Ausdrucks sowie ihres vollen Körpers begehrt ist. Ein hervorragender Kaffee für jede Tageszeit aus der spirituellen Heimat der Rastafaris.

Forest Fantasy

ist der einzigartig mild-würzige, 100%ige Wildkaffee aus den naturbelassenen Bergwäldern des Bench. Jede Tasse ist ein Beitrag zum Erhalt dieses unersetzlichen Biotops. Wir sind die Partner der Bauernfamilien, die ihn sammeln und zum Erhalt seines besonderen Aromas sorgsam verarbeiten.

Ceremonial Choice

hat den großen Körper und den vollen Geschmack des Kaffees der Limu-Region. Besonders schonend auf große Verträglichkeit geröstet entwickelt er den typischen Charakter des Mokka. In Äthiopien ist er die erste Wahl für die traditionelle Kaffezeremonie. Ein Kaffee zum ruhigen Genießen, auch mit Süßem und für die späteren Stunden des Tages.

Espresso Dorato

ist bekömmlich anregend, ein Aroma-Erlebnis erster Klasse. Seine feine und edle Würze kommt auch als 'Langer Kaffee', mit der doppelten Menge Wasser, hervorragend zur Geltung. Unsere ABESSINIA ESPRESSOs bestehen zu 100% aus hochwertigen Arabica-Bohnen aus Höhenlagen ab 1500 m. Deshalb sind sie so mild und so aromatisch.

Espresso Nero

ist vollmundig mit einer typischen Mokka-Note. Er ist für anhaltenden Geschmack besonders langsam geröstet und zeigt seine Tiefe gerade auch als ‚Latte Macchiato‘ mit Milch. Unsere ABESSINIA ESPRESSOs bestehen zu 100% aus hochwertigen Arabica-Bohnen aus Höhenlagen ab 1500 m. Deshalb sind sie so mild und so aromatisch.

KOERNERS GmbH, Salzertstrasse 24, D-79540 Lörrach; Fon +49 (7621) 915 5378; Fax +49 (7621) 915 5379; [E-Mail: info@abessinia.de](mailto:info@abessinia.de)

Weiterführende Untersuchungen zur Verwendung von *Moringa stenopetala* als Wasserreinigungsmittel

KURZBERICHT DER DIPLOMARBEIT von Dipl.-Ing. (FH) Jens Urbaschok – FB Chemie- und Umweltingenieurwesen

E-Mail an: JensUrbaschok@yahoo.de

Betreuer:

Frau Prof. Dr. R. Walter – Hochschule Merseburg (FH)
Frau Dr. I. Hartmann – Deutsch-Äthiopischer Verein e.V.
Herr Prof. Dr. P. Ndalut – MOI Universität Kenia

Einleitung

Der Verschmutzungsgrad des Oberflächenwassers in Kenia und Äthiopien mit tonmineralischen Schwebstoffen sowie pathogenen Keimen kann enorm hoch sein. Ein großer Teil der ländlichen Bevölkerung ist auf dieses „Schmutzwasser“ als Trinkwasser angewiesen. Die Folgen davon sind schwere und sogar tödliche Erkrankungen, ausgelöst u. a. von coliformen Keimen.

Der Samen des auf dem Horn von Afrika heimischen *Moringa stenopetala*-Baumes enthält hochwirksame flockungsaktive Agenzien, welche trübstoffreiches Wasser von Schwebstoffen und Keimen zum Großteil befreien können. Die entkeimende Wirkung des *Moringa sten.* - Samenextraktes (kurz: M. s.) ist Gegenstand der Untersuchungen innerhalb dieser Diplomarbeit. In diesem Zusammenhang wurden Untersuchungen zur Keimentwicklung nach erfolgter *Moringa* - Behandlung im Zeitverlauf sowie Biotoxizitätstests durchgeführt.

2. Durchführung

2.1 Das Modellwasser

Das Modellwasser genügte mehreren Ansprüchen: Es enthielt hohe Anteile von fein suspendierten tonmineralischen Schwebstoffen sowie an bakteriellen Keimen, ähnlich dem Oberflächenwasser auf dem Horn von Afrika. Zudem war die Reproduzierbarkeit über den gesamten Versuchszeitraum gewährleistet.

2.2 Einsatzmengenoptimierung

Zur Bestimmung der optimalen Einsatzmengen in Abhängigkeit von der Schmutzlast wurde eigens ein Fotometer zur Trübstoffgehaltsmessung konstruiert. Mit Hilfe dieses einfachen Turbimeters, welches leicht und kostengünstig nachgebaut werden kann, waren sehr präzise und reproduzierbare Messungen im Bereich von 0,5 bis 10 g/L Tongehalt in Echtzeit möglich.

2.3 Gesamtkeimzahlentwicklung

Es wurden parallele Flockungsversuche anhand von definiertem Modellwasser mit und ohne M. s. durchgeführt. Anschließend erfolgten die Gesamtkeimzahlbestimmungen (die Zahl der Kolonie bildenden Einheiten = KBE) nach dem Spatelverfahren auf Standard 1A Nähragarplatten im Zeitverlauf bis zu acht Tagen. Zusätzlich wurden Keimzahlen von Blindproben, welche Samenextrakte in sterilem isotonischem Wasser enthielten, hergestellt.

2.4 Biotoxizitätsuntersuchung anhand von Leuchtbakterien

Auf Grundlage der Norm DIN EN ISO 11348-3 wurden anhand von frischem, gealtertem und sterilisiertem M. s.-Samenpulver Biotoxizitätstests durchgeführt, um die inhibierenden bzw. toxischen Wirkungen näher zu untersuchen. Dabei wurde das natürliche schwache Leuchten (die Bio-Lumineszenz) der Meeresbakterien *Vibrio fischeri* zur Quantifizierung der möglichen bioziden Wirkungen der M. s. - Extrakte genutzt.

3. Ergebnisse und Diskussion

3.1 Die Besonderheit des Modellwassers

Die besondere Eigenschaft der Modellsuspension bestand darin, dass die Flockenbildung bereits durch den im keimhaltigen Wasserkörper enthaltenen gelösten Ionen und organischen Stoffen hervorgerufen wurde. Diese Eigenschaft ist auf die spezielle Korngrößenverteilung der Schwebstoffpartikel zurück zu führen. Suspendiert in ionenfreiem Wasser blieben die Trübstoffe hingegen wochenlang stabil in der Schwebe. Das Modellwasser flockte selbstständig, also auch ohne M. s. - Zugabe aus und war damit zur vergleichenden Untersuchung der rein bioziden Wirkung des M. s. - Samenmaterials prädestiniert.

3.2 Die optimalen Einsatzmengen an M. s. - Samen

Die Einsatzmengenoptimierung in Abhängigkeit von der Schmutzlast ergab einen relativ großen Bereich von 300 bis 750 mg Samen pro Liter Modellsuspension bei einer hohen Schmutzlast von 5 g/L Ton. Das nahezu

vollständige Absetzen der gebildeten Schwebstoffflocken erfolgte innerhalb von weniger als 5 Minuten.

Bei einem Schmutzanteil von 1 g/L ist die optimale Reinigungswirkung deutlich schwieriger einzustellen. Dabei sind etwa 100 mg/L M. s. als ideal zu betrachten. Zugabemengen oberhalb von ca. 300 mg/L M. s. wirkten sich stabilisierend auf die Schwebstoffteilchen aus, wodurch ein Absetzen zusätzlich erschwert wurde.

3.3 Die Entwicklung der Keimzahlen nach der M. s. - Behandlung

Die Keimzahlen der im Parallelversuchen durchgeführten Flockungen mit und ohne M. s. ergaben nach 30 Minuten Einwirkzeit eine nahezu gleich gute Keimminderung. Dabei wurden bei 5 g/L Schmutzlast und 600 mg/L M. s. durchschnittlich 98 % der im Wasserkörper enthaltenen Keime entfernt.

Die Flockung ohne M. s. erbrachte eine Keimminderung um 94 %. Somit ist die zunächst sehr gute Reinigungswirkung kurz nach der Flockung auf das Absetzen der Keime zusammen mit den Flocken und nicht auf eine biozide Wirkung des M. s. - Samens zurück zu führen.

Im weiteren Verlauf ergeben sich ganz klare Unterschiede der Keimentwicklungen im gereinigten Überstandswasser. Während die Keimzahlen des nicht mit M. s. - behandeltem Modellwassers im gesamten Zeitraum von acht Tagen konstant niedrig blieben, vermehrten sich die Keime schon drei Stunden nach der Behandlung mit M. s. rapide. Bereits nach ca. fünf Stunden Standzeit erreichte die Gesamtkeimzahl den gleichen Wert wie vor der Reinigung. Das Wachstum nach M. s. - Behandlung erreichte nach ein bis zwei Tagen ihr Maximum mit fünf bis sechs Potenzen über den Ursprungswert und war somit als sehr stark verkeimt zu bezeichnen.

Biozide Wirkungen des M. s. - Samens, auch selektiver Natur, konnten unter den gewählten Bedingungen nicht nachgewiesen werden.

3.4 Die leuchtkrafthemmende Wirkung des M. s. - Samens

Die Lagerung des Samenpulvers im Zeitraum von drei Monaten unter trockenen Bedingungen erbrachte keine Minderung der leuchtkrafthemmenden Wirkung des M. s. - Samens. Das sterilisierte Samenmaterial hingegen hatte nahezu keine Wirkung auf die Leuchtkraft der *Vibrio fischeri* - Bakterien. Folglich ist die Minderung der Bio-Lumineszens vermutlich nicht auf toxische Effekte, sondern auf ein Konkurrenzverhalten der vom Samenmaterial selbst eingeschleppten "Moringa" - Bakterien zurück zu führen. Diese "Moringa" - Bakterien wurden in den isotonischen M.s. - Leerproben bei der Gesamtkeimzahlbestimmung eindeutig nachgewiesen. Das ist ein weiterer Hinweis auf die Ungiftigkeit des M. s. - Samens bei der verwendeten Konzentration von 600 mg/L an M. s..

4. Empfehlungen zum Einsatz des M. s. - Samens bei der Trinkwasserbereitung

Wie gezeigt werden konnte, ist ein Wiederverkeimen des gereinigten Wasserkörpers nach wenigen Stunden zu erwarten. Deshalb sollte das Wasser nach Möglichkeit sofort nach der Moringa - Reinigung genossen werden. Ansonsten ist das baldige Abkochen des gereinigten Wasser anzuraten.

Um den Eintrag unnötig großer Mengen an organischem Moringa - Samenmaterial zu vermeiden, sollte die Klärung mit dem wässrigen Extrakt des Samenpulvers

durchgeführt werden. Auf diese Weise läuft die Wiederverkeimung langsamer ab.

Die Voraussetzung einer erfolgreichen Wasserentkeimung ist das Vorhandensein von flockbaren Trübstoffen. Ein Wasser mit sehr niedrigem Trübstoffgehalt kann mit der Moringa - Methode nicht entkeimt werden. Da sich die Keime im Bodensatz (Schlamm) konzentriert ansammeln, ist zusätzliche hygienische Sorgfalt geboten.

5. Resümee

Das Wasser wurde bei der Moringa - Behandlung zunächst zu 98 % entkeimt, aber leider nicht dauerhaft. Der Nährstoffeintrag durch den Samenextrakt begünstigte das Keimwachstum enorm, so dass das gereinigte Wasser innerhalb von wenigen Stunden wieder verkeimte. Toxische oder selektive Effekte konnten anhand der Keimzahluntersuchung nicht nachgewiesen werden. Die im Wasser enthaltenen Keime setzten sich lediglich zusammen mit den Schwebstoffflocken am Boden ab. Auch in diesem Bodensatz kam es zu einem extremen Anstieg der Keimzahlen innerhalb von wenigen Stunden.

Nachrichten

Auszüge aus ETHIOPIA Seven Days Update ¹,

zusammengestellt von
Harmen Storck

Conflict with Eritrea

UNMEE:

Following the decision made by the UN Security Council to downsize UNMEE's troops, the mission's annual budget has been reduced by 16m USD to about 186m USD. Ambassador Legwaila Joseph Legwaila, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General, said that UNMEE had deployed 4,200 troops in Ethiopia and Eritrea but was now reducing one battalion (550 troops) from the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ). Mr. Legwaila added there should be a corresponding reduction in the civilian component. Accordingly, UNMEE is going to reduce its civilian staff by 10% (*The Reporter*, Dec. 22).

The United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) opened its fifth outreach center in Adigrat on Oct. 29. The Secretary General and Head of UNMEE, Ambassador Legwaila Joseph Legwaila, said that the center would be of greater use in providing information on the activities of the Mission in particular and that of the UN in general. Ambassador Legwaila also indicated that UNMEE would use the center as a channel to pass on its message of peace to the residents of the town and its environs who visit the center and through its staff who make similar visits to the area. In addition, the opening of the center will create conditions conducive to the final stage of the peace process - border demarcation, Ambassador Legwaila said (*State media*, Oct. 30).

Peace Process:

The cabinet of the Eritrean government has categorically rejected Ethiopia's five-point peace initiative. The cabinet described the initiative as a mockery and a deceitful act. The government should not waste time by looking into Ethiopia's new peace initiative, the

cabinet said. It also declared that it would not accept any negotiation before the border demarcation (*Hizbawi, Jan. 1*).

The UN Security Council has welcomed Ethiopia's new peace initiative to resolve the Ethio-Eritrea border dispute, the Ministry of Information disclosed. According to the current Council President, Abdella Baali of Algeria, the Security Council accepted the five-point peace proposal adopted by the House of Peoples' Representatives on Nov. 25, 2004, the ministry said. The Security Council noted that the two countries need to promote good neighborliness and peaceful co-existence by ending the dispute (*State media, Dec. 22*).

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has accepted Ethiopia's five-point peace initiative. Mr. Annan said the initiative would help bring peace between the two countries and implement fully the Algiers Agreement. The European Union, Russia, Japan, and China have also declared their support for the peace initiative. However, the U.S. has chosen silence. Sources said this has created concern among officials of the Ethiopian government (*Addis Admas, Dec. 11*).

The House of Peoples' Representatives on Nov. 25 approved a new five-point peace initiative designed by the government to address the Ethio-Eritrean border dispute peacefully. At its 7th regular session, the House endorsed the peace proposal presented by Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, which, among others, includes Ethiopia's consent to accept, in principle, the decision of the Ethiopia-Eritrea Boundary Commission (EEBC). The House endorsed the plan by overwhelming majority. Following is the five-point peace proposal.

1. Resolve the dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea only and only through peaceful means.
2. Resolve the root causes of the conflict through dialogue with a view to normalizing relations between the two countries.
3. Ethiopia accepts, in principle, the decision of the Ethiopia-Eritrea Boundary Commission.
4. Ethiopia agrees to pay its dues to the Ethiopia-Eritrea Boundary Commission and to appoint field liaison officers.
5. Start dialogue immediately in order to implement the Ethiopia-Eritrea Boundary Commission's decision in a manner consistent with the promotion of sustainable peace and brotherly ties between the two peoples (*State media, Nov. 25*).

Continuing Hostilities:

According to *Sudan Tribune*, the chairman of the Eritrean Democratic Party (EDP), Ato Mesfin Hagos, had clearly told Ato Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister, that if the dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea could not be resolved peacefully and if war breaks out, EDP would fight against Ethiopia to protect the sovereignty of Eritrea. EDP is fighting to remove from power the government of Ato Issayas Afeworki in Eritrea. The two men met on Dec. 26 and 27 in Khartoum. Ato Mesfin Hagos also demanded that Ethiopian forces leave the Eritrean territories they have occupied, *Sudan Tribune* reported (*Lissane Hizb, Jan. 14*).

Ethiopia's armed forces have moved to different fronts, including to the Assab front. According to sources, the command quarter of the Ethiopian army stationed in Bati, Wollo, has also moved to Adigrat. In addition, the 14th army division has moved to the region from East Ethiopia. Sources said the army stationed in Adwa is moving to the Humera side of the border with Eritrea. Similarly, Eritrea moved its troops from Adi-Quala to a camp 22 km from Tigray (Mereb River). Some residents of Tigray have expressed their concern on the possibility of war between the two neighboring countries, and tension is high in the region (*Asqual, Jan. 11*).

United Nations officials said that they have undertaken a joint verification with Ethiopian government regarding the recent troops movement observed over the week around the mission area. Sisskel Ekass, Deputy Special Representative of UNMEE, told journalists at a press conference held between Addis Ababa and Asmara that there have been a lot of accusations about military build-ups by the two sides over the last few days. Ekaas told journalists that there has been a bit of repositioning of troops on the Ethiopian side. She, however, said that the troop movement was in depth in the Ethiopian

territory and does not create great concern to the mission in the area (*Daily Monitor, Jan. 7-9*).

Eritrean government soldiers are said to have attacked Hadish Adi, near the disputed town of Badme, and killed and wounded an unspecified number of people. The sources also said that Prime Minister Meles Zenawi had ordered the Ethiopian Armed Forces to be on full alert to defend and safeguard the country against any Eritrean aggression. This was indicated in a press statement of the Chief of Staff of the Ethiopian Armed Forces. According to sources, even though there are provocation by both sides at the border, neither country has yet given any official statement on the provocation (*The Monitor, Dec. 24*).

The Dutch Aviation Society has reported that Eritrea had recently purchased six SU-25 fighters. Sources said these fighters are capable of attacking Addis Ababa. According to the society, the Eritrean government purchased 10 Mig-29 fighters because of the Ethiopian government's purchase of SU-27 fighters, the society added. Eritrean, Russian and Ukrainian pilots fly the fighters, it stated. In 2000, the Eritrean government bought eight SU-25 fighters and six Mig-29 fighters. Eritrea lost two Mig-29 fighters during the war. The Dutch Aviation Society also said that the Eritrean Air Force has airfields in Barentu, Massawa and Assab (*Asqual, Dec. 14*).

Land Mines

The Nairobi Summit on a Mine-Free World, held from Nov. 29 to Dec. 3, 2004, opened with news that Ethiopia had become the 144th state to ratify the Ottawa Convention that bans the production, stockpiling, use and transfer of landmines. Thousands of landmines are believed to have been laid when Ethiopia and Eritrea fought over disputed territory in the 1990s. The signing by Ethiopia leaves Somalia as the only state in Sub-Saharan Africa that has not accepted the Ottawa Convention. The Nairobi Summit is the first five-year Review Conference of the 1997 Ottawa Convention (*Catholic Information Service for Africa, Nov. 30*).

A recently completed two-year Ethiopian Landmine Impact Survey said the weapons blight the lives of two million people in the country. Norwegian People's Aid, who carried out the survey, said 16,000 people have been victims of blasts – with 1,295 killed or injured in the last two years (*IRIN, Nov. 24*).

Economics, Finance, Commerce

State Revenues, Budget, Economic Growth:

Due to lack of structural change, the Ethiopian economy suffers from sharp and frequent fluctuations, according to the third annual report on the Ethiopian Economy in 2002/03 published by the Ethiopian Economic Association and launched on Nov. 8. "The Ethiopian economy has not changed much despite all kinds of interventions from policymakers. Because of the persistent dominance of rain-fed traditional agriculture, the economy is prone to sharp and frequent fluctuations due to changes in weather conditions. So, the most crucial issue facing the Ethiopian economy is lack of structural change," the report added. - The theme of the annual report, according to the Ethiopian Economic Policy Research Institute, is industrialization and industrial policy in Ethiopia. According to the report, the sector only generates a gross value of about 950m USD, implying a per capita production of less than 15 \$ per year. Not only has manufacturing growth been limited, on average to 1.8% annually since the mid 90s, it had been also marked by cyclical variations. The report disclosed that despite the problems and constraints that manufacturing sector had encountered for decades, there was not a comprehensive industrial policy to date to guide the industrial program of the country. And the report also tried to draw an industrial policy framework considered helpful to promote the pace of industrialization (*Reporter, Nov. 10*).

Debts, Grants, Loans and Credits:

The governments of Ethiopia and Italy signed an agreement of 3.1 billion birr debt cancellation. The Ethiopian government will use the cancelled debt money to finance its poverty reduction program. The Italian government has written off 100% of Ethiopia's debt which is more by 10% than the 90% agreement Ethiopia signed with the Paris Club creditors upon reaching the Completion Point and as per the Enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative in April 2004 (*ETV, Jan. 3*).

The Governments of Ethiopia and the U.S. have signed an agreement providing for the cancellation of Ethiopia's 628m birr debt. The debt was cancelled to enable Ethiopia utilize the money that would have gone to debt servicing for the implementation of poverty reduction programs. The U.S. Government has written off 100% of Ethiopia's debt surpassing the 90% agreement Ethiopia signed with the Paris Club creditors (*ETV, Dec. 30*).

The African Development Bank (ADB) Group had approved and implemented six developmental operations in Ethiopia worth 137m USD during the 2004 final year of the ADF-IX. Dr. P.T. Seya, Resident Representative of Ethiopian Country Office, said that the operations included the agricultural sector, transport and public utilities (concentrating on rural electrification, water supply and sanitation) (*Daily Monitor, Dec. 30*).

The French Government has written off Ethiopia's 5.5m euro debt. The French Government agreed to cancel Ethiopia's debt at the Paris Club meeting held in May 2004. The present debt cancellation is part of the bilateral debt cancellation accord (*ENA, Dec. 24*).

The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors on Tuesday approved an International Development Association (IDA) credit of 19m USD and a grant of 5m USD to stimulate private sector participation in the Ethiopian economy. The Private Sector Development Capacity Building Project will support capacity building for firms through a matching grant fund, catalyzing innovation and entrepreneurship through a business plan competition and assisting business schools to better train managers. The release added that the project would also support poverty reduction strategy dialogue and implementation of policy measures agreed in the framework of the poverty reduction support credit (*ENA, Dec. 23*).

The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved a US\$ 130m credit to the Government of Ethiopia to support the implementation of its second poverty reduction support strategy in 2004/05. The credit seeks to promote growth and employment creation, human resource development and good governance by supporting the government in improving planning and budgeting. It will also support the decentralization process in Ethiopia by adding to the pool of funds available for timely and predictable fiscal support to local governments. About 70% of regional budgets are financed by the federal government via transfers, which are determined according to each region's population, development status, and own-revenue effort (*State media, Dec. 2*).

Awash International Bank (AIB) has become the second bank in Ethiopia to enjoy the U.S. government's guarantee scheme which is provided for loans extended to cooperatives operating in the country's agricultural sector. Through its aid arm, USAID, the U.S. government has already started to provide collateral to small and medium sized businesses, organized in cooperatives, to take loans from the Bank of Abyssinia. The Bank entered into this first deal in 2000 with USAID for guarantees worth 22m birr. - Both parties have agreed that the U.S. government would provide the bank half of what borrowers have defaulted. USAID Country Director to Ethiopia, William Hammink, told *Fortune* that the program has been successful as the Bank of Abyssinia never came back claiming to be paid for defaulted borrowers. The bank has advanced 29 credit facilities in five regional states, half of which were in cooperatives that grow grain and coffee (*Fortune, Nov. 7*).

Foreign Trade:

Coffee production in Ethiopia is mostly concentrated in the Oromia and southern regions. The area under coffee production has shown much growth from 350,000 ha in the late 1980s to around 450,000 ha in the late 1990s. Coffee is Ethiopia's largest foreign currency earner next to hides and skins, accounting for more than 60% in recent times, its contribution to the GDP has fallen from 70% to 35%, amounting to 830m USD in lost exports (*Sub-Saharan Informer, Dec. 24*).

Oxfam this week opens what it hopes will be the first in a chain of fair trade coffee shops, under the banner Progreso. The move is the result of collaboration between the charity and coffee cooperatives in Ethiopia, Honduras and Indonesia. Despite a boom in coffee consumption, coffee growers have seen prices slump by 70% since 1997. The Oxfam-backed venture aims to redress the balance by giving the three cooperatives 25% which will be held in trust for projects involving other coffee growers. The first café will open in London's Covent Garden (*Daily Monitor, Nov. 2*).

Investment and Investment Policy:

Italy has granted a 220m Euro loan to the Ethiopian government for the construction of the Gilgel Gibe II project, the Italian Development Cooperation disclosed. This loan is reported to be the highest for the energy sector since the official bilateral relations of the two countries came into effect. The Ethiopian Electric Power Corporation (EEPCo) expects to have phase II of the Gilgel Gibe hydroelectric facility project online soon. Gilgel Gibe II, located on the Omo River in southwestern Ethiopia, has a generating capacity of 450 MW, and it will take 44 months for its completion. Upon completion of the second phase of the project, 73% of the towns across the country will have access to electricity (*Capital, Dec. 5*).

Ethiopia has been categorized as one of the developing countries that registered the least inflow in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). According to an UNCTAD report, Ethiopia has been categorized as one of the 25 poor African countries that have shared less than 0.1 billion FDI flows to the region (*Daily Monitor, Nov. 24*).

The Ethiopian Investment Commission has issued licenses to 284 investors with a combined capital of 2.52 billion birr during the first quarter of the year. 151 of the investors are foreigners. The investors are carrying out projects in agriculture, industry, education, health, construction, hotels and tourism as well as trade. Upon completion, the projects are expected to open job opportunities for over 13,000 people (*Radio Ethiopia, Nov. 21*).

Tourism:

Ato Yusuf Abdulahi Sukar, Ethiopia's Tourism Commissioner, has said that except for Sheraton Addis and the Addis Ababa Hilton, all the other hotels do not charge clients in par with the service they render. Commenting on Ato Yusuf's remarks, Ato Tsegaye Asfaw, president of hotels and restaurants employers association, said the Ethiopia Tourism Commission has not given support nor encouragement and consultancy services to this sector. There are 334 hotels with international standard, two five-star, five four-star, 18 three-star and 16 two-star and 13 one-star hotels in the country (*Reporter, Jan. 2*).

With its wide variety of tourism sites and historical places, the world Tourism Organization (WTO) has chosen Ethiopia to be part of the WTO's Sustainable Tourism and Elimination of Poverty (STEP) Initiative, it was stated. Mr. Francesco Frangialli, WTO Secretary General said that the organization is ready to support Ethiopia in its endeavors to promote tourism in the country. Frangialli said that the initiative would help Ethiopia get commendable assistance in capacity building, planning and management of tourism sectors (*The Daily Monitor, Nov. 17*).

Transport and Communication:

The Ethiopian Telecommunications Corporation (ETC) had signed a mobile telephone expansion project agreement with Eriksson and Nokia that will make 650,000 customers' beneficiaries. Ericsson agreed to accomplish the mobile network expansion project with a total of 47.4m USD. The project will serve 425,000 customers out of which 250,000 mobile lines are for service seekers from Addis Ababa; the rest will be allocated to customers in regions. The expansion project in Addis Ababa will be finished within four months while it will take six months in regions (*Daily Monitor, Jan. 21*).

The radio station of the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' State will start test transmissions after a month. The radio station will broadcast for three hours daily (*ENA, Jan. 12*).

The African Development Fund (ADF) has approved a loan agreement of 51.6m USD to finance the Mombassa-Nairobi-Addis Ababa Road Corridor Development Project. The project is an important section of the Trans-African Highway Corridor from Cairo to Cape Town. The road carries a considerable volume of heavy traffic and its standard is inadequate compared to its designation as not only the main international road connecting Kenya and Ethiopia but also as a Trans-African Highway (*State media, Dec. 14*).

Ato Tafari Wossen, owner of private media in Addis Ababa, has disclosed plans to start a community radio station in Ethiopia. Ato Tafari said community radio came to be known in Ethiopia only in 2002. He said there has been no mention of community radio before that either in the press law or in the national constitution. Community radio was first mentioned in the new draft press law. Even there, it is not exhaustively defined, he said, but was casually mentioned with a promise that details would be given in a subsequent law (*VOA, Dec. 9*).

The Ethiopian Telecommunications Corporation (ETC) had signed a project agreement with China's International Telecommunication Construction Corporation (CITCC) providing for the installation of fiber network in two directions in western Ethiopia. The agreement is one of the three projects ETC designed to install optical fiber cable network as part of its plan to undertake nationwide installation of a 4,000-km optical fiber cable backbone transmission system network in eight major directions. It covers Addis Ababa-Jimma and Addis Ababa-Nekempte 670-km and traverses 20 big towns. The project cost stands at 66.6m birr (*ENA, Nov. 28*).

Ethiopia-Siemens has signed a 145m birr worth contract with the ETC for the procurement of optical fiber cable installation project. The project will cover two routes - Addis Ababa-Debre Markos-Bahirdar-Gondar and another route Addis Ababa Microwave-Sululta Barth Station. According to Samuel Georges, General Manager for Siemens Ethiopia, the project would mobilize some 20,000 people (*Sub-Saharan International, Nov. 26*).

Agriculture, Food Aid, Drought

Agricultural Input and Output:

Ten million farmers will receive certificates guaranteeing land rights, deflecting criticism over Ethiopia's controversial tenure system, officials said. The certificates also allow farmers to sell the use right of the land to banks to raise collateral, although they cannot sell the land itself as it still remains under state ownership. Farmers can also transfer use rights to their children although the minimum plot size when divided up among families is half a hectare. However, analysts expressed caution over the three-year timeframe and argued that by falling short of ownership, farmers will still be reluctant to invest in their land (*IRIN, Jan. 11*).

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has announced that 10 million farmers will be issued with certificates that guarantee their right to land use within three years. The ministry's head of information and public relations, Mulugeta Debalqew, told that the issuance that began last Ethiopian calendar year would be concluded

after three years. The issuance of the certificates will help create a land management system for rapid and sustained development, he added. The land plots of 2.3 million farmers have been measured in Tigray, Amhara, Oromia and Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' State as a requisite for issuing the certificates, he said, adding that 1.5 million farmers had already received certificates. 3,000 farmers will receive the certificates this year, Mulugeta said (*Radio Ethiopia, Jan. 5*).

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has said that 480,000 MT of fertilizer is required nationwide for the 1997/98 crop seasons. For the coming belg crop season, over 107,000 metric tons is available locally, it said. According to Mulugeta, the head of the ministry's information and public relations bureau, a bid has been issued to buy 200,000 MT of fertilizer. So far, 50,000 metric tons has been imported, and 57,669 metric tons of UREA and DAP is in store, Mulugeta said (*ENA, Nov. 27*).

Drought, Flood, Famine and Food Aid:

Herds of livestock in Afar State have destroyed cotton on 430 ha in Tendaho plantation in Afar State. Residents of the area led their livestock to the plantation because of acute problems of grazing land for the animals as a result of drought. The cattle have been in the plantation starting Dec. 28. The chief administrator of the state and officials from the Federal Government were in the area to find a solution to the crisis (*Reporter, Jan. 16*).

Concern is mounting over the likely long-term impact of poor rains in Ethiopia's remote Afar region, humanitarian sources in the area said. Valerie Browning, of the Afar Pastoralists Development Association, warned that critical water and food shortages were threatening both people and their livestock. Browning said she had witnessed massive livestock deaths - up to 85% of animals in one village - and malnutrition particularly in children under two and pregnant mothers. About 1.2 million people live in Afar, a lowland region bordering Djibouti and Eritrea, covering 270,000 sq. km. The region, whose pastoral population are mainly nomadic herders living off their livestock, receives less than 200 mm of rain a year, according to government statistics. The UN World Food Program said its assessments had revealed dwindling pasture, causing abnormal migration of herders into neighboring areas (*IRIN, Jan. 12*).

Ethiopia, the UN and other humanitarian partners have appealed for 387,482 tons of food, approximately worth 159m USD, for the estimated 2.2 million needy people. They have also asked for 112.74m USD of non-food assistance to meet emergency humanitarian needs in 2005. Launching the 2005 humanitarian appeal for Ethiopia on Thursday, Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commissioner Simon Mechale said that efforts have been made to address separately the chronic and acute caseloads for the first time in the history of appeals in Ethiopia. Accordingly, the 2005 humanitarian appeal is due to attend to the acute needs of the unpredictable caseload while the Productive Safety-net Program would tackle longer term food security needs (*ETV, Dec. 23*).

Ethiopia requires urgent assistance to feed over 12 million people facing food shortages next year after rains failed in the last two seasons, a US famine warning unit said. Eastern and Southern Ethiopia were hit especially hard by a drought, which resulted in loss of pastoral land and water availability critical to the survival of humans and livestock. The report said the available food in the country would last until the end of this month and about 1.2 million tons of food was needed to avert the shortage. - The areas requiring immediate help are southern and eastern Tigray and the lowlands of Oromia region (*Reuters, Nov. 4*).

Food Security:

German Agro Action (GAA) Ethiopia, an international NGO working mainly on food security and emergency aid on Nov. 15 announced that it was enterprising various development projects with a total budget of 7.5 m Euro. Mr. Bernard Meier, GAA regional representative to Ethiopia told that the NGO has currently

implemented 11 development and relief projects through 10 local NGOs in Oromia, Amhara, SNNPR and Afar States. Food security and emergency aid for drought victims, development of agricultural irrigation and erosion prevention as well as drinking water supply and hygiene counseling are the development activities being undertaken by GAA in Ethiopia. Meier indicated that since GAA started its operation in Ethiopia 30 years ago, 60m Euro has been spent on various development projects through the country. Around 500,000 people are currently being beneficiaries from the development project being undertaken by GAA in the county, it was learnt. Meier also indicated that GAA has allocated a 6m Euro running budget to undertake development activities in the year 2005 (*Radio Ethiopia*, Nov. 14).

Environment:

International Refugees, an NGO based in the U.S., has strongly opposed the eviction of 10,000 people living near Nech Sar Park without any compensation. The NGO said it should not be necessary to harm people for the sake of dollars. The Nech Sar Project aims at giving priority to companies and wild animals and not to human beings, the NGO said. African Parks Foundation, a Dutch company, signed an agreement with the government to develop Nech Sar Park. The government will hand over the park to the Dutch company in Feb. Nech Sar Park is in Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' State. The park has an area of 514 sq. km and was established 32 years ago (*Hizbawi*, Jan. 1).

The natural resources, environment and rural infrastructure case study has disclosed that in present-day Ethiopia degradation of natural resources is the major environmental problem affecting the natural resources base and biodiversity, which are the basis for achieving accelerated agricultural development and for meeting food security and other basic necessities. Some recent surveys indicated that the main causes of land degradation are cultivation of steep lands without applying conservation practice, poor farming practices and continuous cropping without nutrient recycling, overgrazing and the improper land use practices that cause accelerated soil erosion amounting to over 1.5 million tons per year and ecological degradation. - Other studies made in the recent past also indicated that 28% of the highlands of Ethiopia is severely degraded land, while another 24% of it is moderately degraded land. In Ethiopia, estimates of deforestation vary from 150,000 to 200,000 hectares per annum. The burning of dung as fuel instead of using it as a soil conditioner is estimated to cause a reduction in grain production by some 500,000 tons annually. According to the study, close observation shows that the effects of land degradation, such as sedimentation, flooding, deterioration of fresh water supply from springs, stream and lakes, and losses of other environmental benefits, are becoming more clear and obvious in the country. The loss of Lake Alemaya is a clear evidence for the deterioration of fresh water supply (*Hizbawi*, Jan. 1).

A research made in Oct. 2004 by the Ethiopian Fox Conservation Program stated that currently an estimated 600 foxes exist in seven areas in Ethiopia. Dr. Zelalem Tefera, a researcher, project director and acting coordinator of the Ethiopian Fox Conservation Program said, that a total of 294 foxes in 44 packs are being intensively monitored in the Bale Mountains, and an estimated 222 foxes in 36 packs in five other areas of Ethiopia. A few years ago, there were only 450 adult foxes found in eleven isolated mountain locations in Ethiopia. They were threatened by habitat loss, persecution, disease and hybridization with domestic dogs. This endemic animal is found in the Semien massif, Mount Guna, North and South Wollo highlands, Gosh Meda Range, Menz Range, Arsi Mountain, and Bale Mountains. The number of foxes living around the Bale Mountain area has more than doubled since the 1991-92 outbreak of rabies, canine distemper and political upheaval. The 2003-04 outbreak had killed an estimated 75-81 % of foxes in the densely populated area (*Daily Monitor*, Nov. 21).

The Gash Abera Molla project has won the International Green Apple Award for Environmental Best Practice for 2004, the Amharic weekly

Nation reported on Saturday. Artist Sileshi Demisse, known by the name "Gash Abera", said the award was given by the House of Commons for organizations or individuals who are making an effort to preserve and protect the environment. The Gash Abera Molla project works on getting and keeping Ethiopia clean, green and healthy. It also tries to change the attitude of the society towards keeping their surroundings clean. Ethiopian Environmental Authority came 2nd among 1,000 candidates from all over the world. Sileshi, who is general manager and founder of the project, said countries like Bangladesh, Mexico and Kenya have launched similar projects, the newspaper reported (*ENA*, Nov. 14, 2004).

Social, Cultural and Political Aspects

Elections:

The House of Peoples' Representatives on Tuesday approved a bill amending the electoral law with two objections and seven abstentions. The bill was amended to make it comply with the Federal Constitution, it said. The amended proclamation ensures the rights of voting and getting elected, it was said. The bill was endorsed after some amendments (*State media*, Jan. 18). - The National Electoral Board (NEB) had said the registration of voters and candidates would be carried out based on the amended electoral law. According to the old electoral law, a voter is required to reside for a minimum of two consecutive years in a specific kebele to be registered as an eligible voter but the period has been minimized to six months in the new electoral law (*Radio Ethiopia*, Jan. 20).

The Carter Center has announced plans to assign short- and long-term observers in the national elections in Ethiopia scheduled for next May. The Preliminary Election Assessment Team of the Center expressed its belief that former American President Jimmy Carter is expected to serve as a short-term election observer during the elections (*Radio Ethiopia*, Jan. 12).

Accredited opposition parties have the right to call meetings to introduce their programs anywhere in the country, and anybody acting against this will be taken to court, the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEB) announced. The board approved the decision made by the Oromia State Government against administrative officials who interrupted the meeting of the Rainbow Ethiopia – Movement for Democracy and Social Justice, one of the national opposition parties, just before it convened in Debre Zeit. Licensed political parties have the right to open branch offices, introduce their programs and confer with members in any part of the country as per the Proclamation Number 46/85, the officials said (*ENA*, Jan. 11).

The Ethiopian government has invited international organizations to observe the upcoming national and regional elections to be held in May 2005, the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry said. The Ethiopian government has made necessary preparations to see to it that the national elections be conducted in a free and democratic manner, noted the Ministry. The invited international organizations include United Nations, African Union, European Union, Pan African Parliament, and the Arab League. The government also invited the United States, Canada, Israel, India, China, Japan, Russia and Turkey to send their observers (*Xinhuanet*, Dec. 6).

Internal Conflicts:

Representatives of Somali State in the House of Federation have rejected the outcome of the recent referendum carried out in disputed areas in Somali and Oromia states. The House of Federation, however, went ahead and endorsed the results of the referendum. According to the referendum, 323 kebeles voted to be under Oromia State while 99 kebeles voted for Somali State. The Somali state administration alleged that people who were not residents in several kebeles in Oromia State had registered for the referendum. It also alleged that observers were banned and that the voting had been rigged. Oromia State has also registered one complaint with the

National Electoral Board (NEB). NEB asked the House to endorse the results of the referendum in which over 320,000 people participated (*Addis Admas*, Nov. 20).

Sudan Tribune has reported that information obtained from Mede Welabu District in Bale Zone, in southern Ethiopia, indicates that scores of people were killed and several houses torched when violent clashes erupted after people were denied their rights to vote in the referendum held on 24 Oct. on border dispute between the Oromiya and Somalia regional states. Sources in the area said violent clashes erupted between ethnic Oromos and Somalis when about 100 ethnic Oromos were denied the right to cast their votes on the pretext that voting time was over. The sources said more than 10 people were feared dead and several houses were torched in the grisly and deplorable clashes (*Daily Monitor*, Nov. 2).

Political Parties:

The Coalition for Unity and Democracy (CUD) and the United Ethiopian Democratic Forces (UEDF), the two alliances of opposition parties, plan to jointly hold a demonstration against Meles's peace proposal for the border conflict with Eritrea. CUD's public relations officer, Lidetu Ayalew, called residents of Addis Ababa to attend the rally on Sunday, Jan. 2, at Meskel Square. He also said that CUD plans to organize a peaceful demonstration in Mekele and other major cities. Observers said this initiative would encourage opposition groups to work together in the upcoming election (*Asqal*, Dec. 28).

The EPRDF and the United Ethiopian Democratic Forces (UEDF) held the first of a series of joint meetings on Tuesday. In a joint statement the parties issued at the end of the session, the two parties said they had held discussions on a wide range of issues regarding the upcoming elections. The ruling party, EPRDF, confirmed that it could accept, in principle, most of the points of amendment of the national electoral law proposed by UEDF along with other parties. The points EPRDF declined to accept were the proposed changes in the system of winning by majority vote and the liquidation of the National Electoral Board and its replacement by a board composed of members presented by political parties (*ETV*, Nov. 2).

News about Culture and History:

New ancestral hominid fossils dated between 4.51-4.32 million years ago have been discovered at an area locally known as Duma in Gona Western Margin in Afar State. Assigned to "Ardipithecus ramidus", the hominid specimens were discovered at the Gona Palaeoanthropological Research Project site, the Authority for Research and Conservation of Heritage (ARCCH) told *ENA*. The Gona team has also discovered numerous new hominid fossils from several key evolutionary periods, including hominid fossils that are estimated to be around 5.5 million years, and skulls belonging to the earliest representative of genus Homo, which are still under study. Gona preserves a continuous archeological record on the stone tool making and use behaviors of the modern man ancestors from the earliest dated to 2.6 million years to younger age stone tools estimated to be half-a-million years (*ETV*, Jan. 19).

Canada's top storm chaser George Kourounis will be using Iridium satellite services on his upcoming two-week visit to the Erta Ale volcano in Ethiopia. Mr. Kourounis will be doing the filming for the Swiss-led expedition that will take him to one of the most remote and hostile environments in the world. The rarely visited Erta Ale volcano is located in the Danakil Desert in Ethiopia, one of the hottest, driest, most inhospitable places on earth. It is Ethiopia's most active volcano and has been in a state of continuous eruption since 1967. It has the highest mean average temperature of any location in the world, with daytime temperatures reaching above 40°C in the winter season. The expedition will begin on Jan. 14 and footage will be aired on Discovery Channel Canada and on the Web (*Daily Monitor*, Jan. 7-9).

The Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture had said that an American company would provide an aircraft that can transport the Axum Obelisk from Italy to Ethiopia. Ambassador Teshome Toga said the National Committee for the Return of the Axum Obelisk had finalized preparations that would enable it return the obelisk between Jan. and April 2005. The committee has endorsed plans formulated by the Event Facilitation, Income-Generating, Public Relations and Technical Sub-Committees set to facilitate the event marking the return of the obelisk (*ETV*, Dec. 29).

A photographic exhibition depicting the centenary of the founding of the diplomatic relationship of Ethiopia and United States of America was opened to the public in the Arthur Rimbaud Cultural Center in Harrar town. The Harrari State Youth, Sports and Culture Sector organized the photograph exhibition in collaboration with the US Embassy. Public Relations Director, Sam Westgate, said on the occasion that the exhibition would portray the diplomatic and people-to-people relations as well as the long standing friendship of the two countries over the past 100 years. Harrari State Chief, Fouad Ibrahim, expressed his gratitude for the staging of the exhibition, which will remain open to the public for three days (*WIC*, Dec. 8).

Professor Richard Pankhurst, internationally renowned historian and Ethiopist, was honored with the Order of the British Empire (OBE) at a ceremony held at the British Embassy. Prof. Pankhurst said that the honor is not for him personally but rather a recognition of the importance of Ethiopian Studies which in the past, he said, had been insufficiently regarded. Prof. Pankhurst added that the institute is committed to building a fully digitized modern library in the former palace compound thus freeing space for dramatic expansion of the Museum (*Fortune*, Nov. 7). - Professor Richard Pankhurst has lived in Ethiopia since 1956. He told that with the help of the British embassy and the British Council, the Institute of Ethiopian Studies was undertaking a 5m USD expansion project (*Daily Monitor*, Nov. 11).

A cave which is about 28-30 million years old has reportedly been discovered in Tello District, Kaffa Zone of the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples State. The cave, which is 80 m wide and 100 m long, has two entrances, two American archaeologists conducting research in the district disclosed recently. The archaeologists said that they had found ash and stone tools inside the cave. The head of the zonal culture and information department said there are many caves in the area (*ENA*, Nov. 11).

Sports:

Ethiopia repeated history after clinching the CECFAFA Cup (for East and Central Africa) with a 3-0 thumping of Burundi in the final on Dec. 25 at the Addis Ababa Stadium in front of a capacity crowd. Ethiopia's national team received 35,000 \$ while Burundi collected 20,000 \$ for second place, and Sudan, which stood third, took home 10,000 \$. The sponsor of the tournament, Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Al-Amoudi, gave each Ethiopian player a gift of 50,000 birr for keeping the trophy, named the Al-Amoudi Senior Challenge Cup, at home and making his dream come home (*Capital*, Dec. 26).

The 4th Great Ethiopian Run was held in Addis Ababa on Nov. 28 with the participation of over 20,000 runners. The biggest in Africa, the Great Run is getting very popular with each passing year. The event was declared open by Prime Minister Meles Zenawi. Ministers, diplomats, the handicapped, men, women, HIV/AIDS carriers, etc. took part in the race. The theme of the Great Run, which started and ended at Meskel Square, was "Give Value to Your Life". The winner was Abebe Dinkese of the Addis Ababa Prison who finished the race in 29 min. and 56.01 sec (*VOA*, Nov. 28).

Poverty, Poverty Reduction:

Wealthy nations must quadruple aid to Ethiopia if it is to escape the mire of poverty and meet the 2015 international goals, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi said. Meles also called for debt cancellation and fair trade if the country - one of the poorest nations on earth - is to overcome massive and entrenched poverty. Ethiopia, he added,

receives around US \$13 per capita in foreign aid compared to other African countries that receive around \$30. His comments come after the UN released its Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) report on Jan. 17. The project estimates that aid must increase from current levels of around \$50 billion a year to \$195 billion by 2015 to achieve the MDGs (*IRIN, Jan. 18*).

Ethiopia requires as much as US\$ 122 billion over the next decade if it is to wipe out poverty and hunger, according to government figures. The government said the funding was needed to meet the eight UN Millennium Development Goals that call for cutting world poverty in half and encouraging development by 2015. - The government estimates that \$33 billion is needed for rural development, \$19 billion to combat HIV/AIDS and \$13 billion to overhaul the education sector. Some \$27 billion is needed to build new roads in the country while the health sector requires an additional \$13 billion. The government is expected to provide around 40% of the overall amount in trying to meet the MDGs, while the international community will pick up the balance (*IRIN, Dec. 1*).

Other Social and Political Issues:

The National Association for the Eradication of Harmful Traditional Practices said that it would set up cultural centers in 50 rural kebeles of the country to conduct open discussions among the society on harmful traditional practices and to seek possible solutions. The cultural centers will be established across the country in cooperation with UNICEF, Women's Affairs Office in the Office of the Prime Minister and the Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA). The establishment of the centers is expected to be instrumental in raising public awareness on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), early marriage, abduction and pre- and post-birth health complications. A committee comprising justice bodies, religious leaders, and gender experts will facilitate the open discussion forums. A budget of 1.6m birr has been allocated to build the cultural centers in a year (*Radio Ethiopia, Jan. 15*).

A study presented at a discussion of the Association of Ethiopian Scholars in Canada had revealed that 75% of Ethiopia's trained and skilled manpower live in the Diaspora. Over 898 lecturers at Addis Ababa University (AAU) who went abroad at different times for training did not return to Ethiopia. One third of Ethiopia's medical doctors also live in the Diaspora (*Reporter, Jan. 19*).

Ethiopians living in different parts of the world have expressed their willingness and commitment to back development endeavors in their home country. At a conference organized by Forum International for Ethiopians Living in the Diaspora (FIELD) and Lem Ethiopia, Ethiopians drawn from Europe, the U.S. and Canada, among whom 20 are famous scientists, pledged to assist their country financially and technically. Opening the one-day conference, H.E. President Girma Wolde Giorgis called on Ethiopians living in the Diaspora to help their country by generating viable solutions, engaging in capacity building and developing investment and entrepreneurship to alleviate extreme poverty in the country (*State media, Jan. 14*).

Orphans in Ethiopia account for 11% of all the children living in the country, a report said. The report presented at the launching of the National Plan of Action for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) in Ethiopia revealed that there were an estimated 4.6 million orphans in the country in 2003. According to a 2004 report by the Ministry of Health (MoH), close to 500,000 children have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS. "The vulnerability of the orphans shows that the school attendance rate for those 10 to 14 years of age is only 34% for single orphans, 26% for double orphans as compared to 43% for non-orphans," the report said (*Daily Monitor, Dec. 15*).

The Addis Ababa City Administration and Leipzig City in Germany have entered into a partnership agreement to foster socio-economic relations. The twin cities reached agreement to support each other to accelerate progress, Mayor Arkebe Equbai said while signing the agreement with the Mayor of Leipzig City Council, Wolfgang Tiefensee (*Radio Ethiopia (Dec. 11)*).

A survey conducted by the National Committee on Traditional Practices of Ethiopia (NCTPE), the prevalence of marriage by

abduction is 80% in the country's largest region of Oromia. The region has a population of nearly 20 million. Marriage by abduction is as high as 92% in the neighboring but lesser populated Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR). Surveys by NCTPE indicate a national average of 69%. Those who have been victims of marriage by abduction are termed "gusumeti", and derided as non-virgins by the local community. Girls who reject their attackers and return to their villages are shunned, as are their families. The immense pressure for the affected girls to accept their fate is very perceptible (*The Daily Monitor, Nov. 16*).

A youth center named DSW/Bonita Youth Development Training Center constructed at a cost of over 5m birr was inaugurated. The fund for the construction of the center was provided by Bonita, a private German company engaged in the garment industry. Ambassador Dr. Helga Graffin Strachwitz said that the center would offer not only reproductive health training but also all round education on other issues. Wro. Mekdes Alemu, Country Director of DSW, said that youth organizations are becoming a major force in tackling the immense challenges of young people in relation to unemployment and reproductive health issues, such as HIV/AIDS and unwanted pregnancies. The five-block center has facilities for training, boarding and dining as well as a multipurpose hall for conferences (*ETV, Nov. 10*).

The Security, Immigration and Refugee Affairs Authority has said 69,903 Ethiopians had traveled to foreign countries during the last fiscal year. The purposes of their visits were education, business, pilgrimage, medical treatment and to live abroad. It was also reported that 142,373 Ethiopians had returned to the country from the Diaspora. The authority said 207,061 foreigners entered the country from abroad during the same period (*Reporter, Oct. 31*).

Foreign Relations:

Prime Minister Meles arrived in Khartoum to attend the summit meeting of Sana'a Cooperation Grouping of Dec. 27-28. Meles pointed in a press statement that the summit would review cooperation between the three member states, besides the recommendations of the previous summit, which was held in Addis Ababa. He lauded the level of relations between Ethiopia and Sudan, pointing out that there is great understanding between the two countries on issues of common concern (*Sudan Tribune, Dec. 26*). - The Ethio-Sudanese-Yemeni tripartite summit in Khartoum focused mainly on Ethio-Eritrean affairs. Even though Yemeni President Abdallah Salih, asked Djibouti, Somalia and Eritrea to join the tripartite Sana'a Forum, only Somalia responded positively. According to *AFP*, the Yemeni President called on the three countries to join the forum declaring an alliance of Red Sea and Horn of African countries that would contribute to peace in the region (*Reporter, Dec. 29*).

H.E. Professor Dr. Horst Köhler, President of the Federal Republic of Germany, was to arrive in Addis Ababa on Sunday for a five-day official visit to Ethiopia. During his stay, Dr. Köhler held talks with President Girma Wolde Giorgis, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, other senior government officials as well as representatives of various non-government organizations. He is also to meet the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union (AU), Prof. Alpha Oumar Konare, and other AU officials. Köhler, 61, is married and has a daughter and a son (*State media, Dec. 11*).

On Monday, the Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, Kerstin Müller, and the Ethiopian State Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Dr. Mulu Ketsela, signed a debt cancellation agreement for a total of around 67m euro. The ceremony took place in the presence of President Girma Wolde Giorgis and Germany's President Horst Köhler (*Daily Monitor, Dec. 14*).

President Girma Wolde Giorgis and Prof. Dr. Horst Köhler on Monday inaugurated the Gebre Kristos Gallery and the German Cultural Institute located at the former Palace of Crown Prince Asfaw Wossen Haile Selassie. - The president of Addis Ababa University (AAU), Prof. Andreas Eshete, said that the establishment

of the cultural center on campus would bring about an ongoing and intimate interplay and solidarity between Ethiopian and German culture. He said Gebre Kristos is a pioneer of modern art in Ethiopia as well as a mentor and an inspiration to generations of Ethiopian artists. The site for the commemoration of the centennial of the signing of the Ethio-German Friendship Treaty will serve as Gebre Kristos Desta's permanent exhibition (*state media, Dec. 13*).

The German embassy will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Ethio-German relations on March 7, 2005. On the anniversary, paintings by the famous Gebre Kristos Desta, will be exhibited at the main campus of Addis Ababa University. Gebre Kristos Desta was born in Harar, Ethiopia, in 1932 and studied painting in Cologne, Germany, from 1975 to 1962. He died in 1981 in Lawton, United States. Since 1988, 35 of his paintings have been stored in the Staatliches Museum für Völkerkunde in Munich. The artist had wished that his German paintings be transferred to Ethiopia (*Capital, Dec. 12*).

President Horst Köhler and his wife, Eva Louise Köhler, on Tuesday visited different institutions in Harerge Zone of Oromia State. Köhler donated a bus costing 800,000 birr to the agricultural and technical training college founded by the German philanthropist and director of the NGO Menchen für Menchen, Karl Heinz Boehm, on behalf of a German bank for the transportation of college students. - Köhler and his wife also visited Bisidimo town. The President inspected a horticultural farm run by women who are organized into cooperatives and the Bisidimo Leprosy Hospital established by the German Government. The German Leprosy Relief Association (GLRA), established 46 years ago, has so far cured 12,000 people suffering from leprosy. GLRA is also engaged in TB prevention activities. President Köhler also visited the Harari Peoples' Museum and the Harar Brewery.

Sudanese Ambassador to Ethiopia Usman Al-Sayid Fadel Al-Sid, said both Ethiopia and Sudan have agreed to demarcate their borders and are awaiting for international financial assistance to make the agreement practical. According to Sudanese Ambassador, Ethiopia and Sudan established three committees to undertake the task. Since border maps presented by both countries are similar, there would not be problems with regard to border demarcation, he added. The Sudanese Ambassador, however, noted that some farmers in border regions of both countries have been creating problems. The Foreign Ministers of both countries have asked the international community for financial assistance to demarcate the 1,600 km border. The Sudanese Ambassador also denied reports that Humera was handed over to the Sudan (*Reporter, Nov. 14*).

The leaders of Ethiopia and Germany expressed their readiness to consolidate their century-old relations, and promote bilateral cooperation for the mutual benefit of their respective peoples. Prime Minister Meles and Chancellor Gerhard Schroder said Wednesday that relations between the two countries were on a firm ground. Briefing reporters following talks with Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, the German Chancellor said that Ethiopia has been playing a leading role in ensuring peace and stability in the Horn of Africa with especial emphasis on Somalia and the Sudan. Schroder said Germany would train Ethiopian construction professionals, and that the training program would begin as soon as possible. The visit of Prime Minister Meles to Germany will further consolidate the relations and give an impetus to the bilateral cooperation between the two countries, he said (*State media, Nov. 11*).

An Ethiopian government delegation led by Prime Minister Meles Zenawi had left last week on official visit to China. This is the second time the Prime Minister is paying an official visit to China. He went to China nine years ago as a result of which China extended an interest-free loan to Ethiopia (*State media, Oct. 31*). - Prime Minister Meles Zenawi returned to Addis Ababa from his visit to China. According to an agreement reached between the two countries, 40 Ethiopians would pursue their education in higher education institutions in China. China will also provide a 7m birr support to Ethiopia. Ethiopia will also be allowed to export certain commodities to China free of quota and tariff (*state media, Nov. 6*).

Prime Minister Meles Zenawi will lead a high-level delegation to Germany and Austria starting Nov. 10. reported The Prime Minister is scheduled to hold talks with senior authorities in the two countries on

bilateral and other issues of common interest, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said. The high-level Ethiopian delegation is also scheduled to meet business representatives in the two countries. (*State media, Nov. 2*).

Education

The Government of Ethiopia has signed two loan agreements amounting to 65m USD with the WB. According to the agreement, 40m USD will be used to expand quality, well-managed post secondary education in Ethiopia. The balance will be spent on financing the formulation and implementation of policy and institutional reforms in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) (*Radio Ethiopia, Jan. 4*).

The licenses of six colleges in Amhara State have been revoked fully or partially due to the poor quality of technical and vocational training, the State Technical and Vocational Training Commission announced. The commission has cancelled the pre-accreditation and accreditation of the colleges operating in various towns because of the low standard of training, the public relations officer of the commission, Yimam Mohammed, told. The commission has also given a final warning to ten other colleges which are offering poor quality training, the officer said. (*Radio Ethiopia, Jan. 7*)

Addis Ababa University (AAU) will admit an additional 3,617 students in Feb. 2005 for its graduate programs. The university had accepted 1,662 students in 112 graduate programs in Oct. 2004. The additional intake of 3,617 students will be accepted in the 123 existing and 14 new graduate programs. The programs include accepting students up to PhD on demand basis. The president also indicated that the expansion of the graduate program of study at the AAU is intended to meet the need for highly trained professionals in all public and private sectors, with particular emphasis on the education sector (*ETV, Dec. 14*).

The Ministry of Education has said that student enrolment in government higher learning institutions would reach over 110,000 for first degree and 25,000 for postgraduate levels after five years. Dr. Teshome Yizengaw, Vice Minister of Education, said that universities would be established in Nekempte, Assela, Sodo, Dilla, Dire Dawa, Jijiga, Dessie, Debre Markos, Woldia, Axum, Mizan and Semera until 2002 E.C. Currently, over 172,000 students are attending higher learning institutions (*Radio Ethiopia, Dec. 9*).

Although the Ethiopian gross national enrollment has reached 64% in 2002-03, there are still millions of children left out of school where more than five million school aged children do not have access to any sort of education with the majority of them being girls, it was learnt. The Royal Netherlands Embassy and Save the Children Denmark together with the Education Bureau of Oromia National Regional State also announced that they have designed a basic education project to be implemented in Oromia region. The Country Representative of Save the Children Denmark said that the project to be implemented in seven districts of North Shoa Zone and Oromia region, is a three year project (2005-2007) that costs a total of 11.6m birr (*The Daily Monitor, Dec. 11-12*).

The students' council of Mekele University has said that students of the university had left the campus on Nov. 26 after Ato Abadi Zemu, deputy chief administrator of Tigray State, failed to comply with students' demands to suspend university officials suspected of corruption. Ato Abadi asked the students to resume classes before complying with the students' demands, the council said. The council also said Ato Abadi had told the students to leave the campus if they do not resume classes. Ato Abadi Zemu is also board chairman of the university. According to members of the students' council, the students had boycotted classes after 500 students fell ill from food poisoning (*Addis Admas, Nov. 27*).

Students of Gondar University's social science faculty have left the campus following protest against food poisoning and disruption of water supply. They left their campus on Nov. 28. They were ordered to leave the campus after a hunger strike. Sources said police forced the students to leave the campus after they broke the windows of the faculty buildings (*Tomar, Dec. 1*).

Health

At least 70 babies are born HIV positive per day in Ethiopia, a UN report revealed. The joint report said that Ethiopia had the highest rate of HIV infected children in the world, and that the number is still growing. The report said that MTCT of HIV/AIDS is becoming a serious and growing problem in Ethiopia compared to other African countries that have a high prevalence rate (*Daily Monitor, Dec. 22*).

The United States government announced its plan to give free Antiretroviral treatment (ARTs) to 210,000 AIDS patients in Ethiopia over the next five years following the provision of free ARTs for 15,000 patients in 20 hospitals all over the country by the end of March 2005. Dr. Mark Dybul, Assistant US Global AIDS Coordinator, said that the budget for implementing the fight against AIDS in 2005 is expected to exceed 60m USD, following the 43m USD that was given in 2004 in Ethiopia (*Daily Monitor, Dec. 10*).

The Ministry of health presented a five-year (2005-2009) program to accelerate the expansion of primary health care coverage in the country with a total investment of 1.68 billion \$. Dr Kebede Tadesse, Minister of Health, said the program was aimed at addressing the service coverage problem of the health care system through an accelerated expansion and strengthening of primary health care services. The new program requires the construction and equipping of 563 new health centers and upgrading the existing 2,167 health stations to health centers. The ambitious program proposes to have a total of 3,153 health centers each of which will provide services to 25,000 people by 2009. The required number of health posts is 13,635 and each will provide services to 5,000 people in rural areas. Currently, there are 1,385 health posts (*The Reporter, Dec. 1*).

Human Rights

Freedom of Press:

Reporters Without Borders condemned the continuing judicial harassment of the independent Amharic-language publication, *Ethop*, whose editor, Wossenseged Gebre Kidan, has just spent a week in prison because he was unable to pay the bail set by the Federal High Court in a libel action. Wossenseged, who used to be *Ethop*'s managing editor, was finally released after the bail was paid with the help of the Ethiopian Free Press Journalists' Association (EFJA) and international NGOs (*Jan. 3*).

The executive committee of the banned Ethiopian Free Press Journalists' Association (EFPJA) disclosed that it had won the court case it had filed against the Ministry of Justice. Ato Deribew Temesgen, EFJA's lawyer told that the court had decided that the ban put on the association be lifted. The Ministry of Justice had banned the association just over a year ago for failing to meet legal requirements. The Ministry has, since then, disclosed the formation of a new association to replace the banned one led by Ato Kifle Mulat. Ato Deribew said the next task would be to take the court's decision to concerned bodies to allow the banned association to resume its operation and to ban the other one which will now be considered illegal (*VOA, Dec. 25*). - However, *ETV* has announced that the ruling passed by the court in which EFJA had won the court case against the Ministry of Justice had been suspended (*VOA, Dec. 29*).

The Country Representative of Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Mr. Hermut Hess, has warned that if the draft press law is endorsed, it would destroy what has so far been accomplished with regard to press freedom. Press freedom in Ethiopia is at its initial stage, he added. On the other hand, the general manager of the Ethiopian Broadcasting Agency, Shimelis Kemal, has said the draft press law was necessary. Mr. Hess also stated the draft press law, if endorsed in its present form, would endanger press freedom. He argued that there is no use, for instance, for registration in order to engage in press activities. It will be useful if the press law is concise and short, he said. He added that the government should not endorse such a restrictive law (*Reporter, Nov. 7*).

Ato Bereket Simon, Minister of Information, said he is sure that the House of Peoples' Representatives would endorse the draft press law, which, he said, protects peoples' rights and stands for law and order. Ato Bereket also said there would not be any further discussions on the draft law, which, he said, would be sent to the Council of Ministers. He also said that understanding was reached during the recent discussions with international press institutions. They have accepted the Ministry's ideas, he added. Sources have, however, said this was contradictory to what the international press institutions had said. Ato Bereket also said 98% of the private press in Ethiopia opposes the government, and that the papers do not want to improve their profession (*Reporter, Oct. 31*).

Other Issues:

In its 2005 report, Human Rights Watch (HRW) said recently that resettlement programs in some areas in Ethiopia had created a human crisis. The government had resettled 2.2 million people in more fertile regions in the county, Human Rights Watch noted. However, it said, over 350 thousand people are facing worse conditions. These resettlers are facing problems of potable water and food, it noted. The resettlers have been exposed to diseases and high child mortality rates because of shortage of food. The report also said that the government had continued to deny the basic rights of the people. Ethiopian government security forces have committed crimes through brutal beatings, arrests and killings. The government has continued restrictions on the freedom of the press, arrests of journalists and imposing high penalties on journalists, the report said (*Reporter, Jan. 19*).

The European Commission (EC) has launched the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) in Ethiopia., Ambassador Timothy Clark told recently that the initiative is aimed at enhancing the capacity of civic societies and indigenous non-governmental organizations involved in human rights and democracy. He said the program, which is the first of its kind in Ethiopia, would mainly focus on training and capacity building in the media sector, legal training and capacity building in areas of democracy and human rights, and support efforts in the protection of minorities. Clarke added that Ethiopia is one of the priority countries in the multifaceted support of the Commission as it is taking good steps in terms of scaling up democratic culture and human rights among the public (*Radio Ethiopia, Nov. 20*).

¹ *Waag Communications News Digest Service, Addis Ababa*

Der DÄV lädt ein zur Äthiopien-Konferenz am 5. und 6. März 2005 in Berlin

“International Trade and the Protection of Natural Resources in Ethiopia”

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Aus Anlass des 100-jährigen Jubiläums der Aufnahme der diplomatischen Beziehungen zwischen Deutschland und Äthiopien und des 10-jährigen Jubiläums des "Deutsch-Äthiopischen Vereins e.V." im Jahre 2005 möchten wir einladen zu einer Äthiopien-Konferenz mit 10 äthiopischen und deutschen ReferentInnen aus Politik, Wissenschaft und Praxis.

Wir sehen die aktuelle Notwendigkeit, den Themenkomplex „Internationaler Handel und Ressourcenschutz in Äthiopien“ mit den Gesichtspunkten Ethik, Nachhaltigkeit, Umweltschutz und soziale Gerechtigkeit sowohl aus deutscher wie auch aus äthiopischer Sicht näher zu beleuchten und möchten die Erfahrungen, Ansätze und Visionen der ReferentInnen dem zweifellos sachkundigen Publikum vor- und zur Diskussion stellen.

Saturday, 5.3.2005

- 9.00 H.E. Ato Hiruy Amanuel, Ethiopian Ambassador in Berlin:
Greetings and Introduction
- 9.15 Tewelde Berhan Gebre Egziabher, EPA: (altern. Nobelpreis-Träger; Leiter des äthiopischen Umweltamtes):
Ethiopia, the CBD and the Biosafety Protocol: It's impact on small-scale farmers
- 10.00 Christine v. Weizsäcker, Vereinigung Dt. Wissenschaftler:
The Convention on Biological Diversity and the Biosafety Protocol: Innovative Cooperation versus Old Conflicts
- 10.45 **Coffee Break**
- 11.15 Hartmut Meyer, GTZ:
German Policies on Biosafety in Regard to the African Union
- 12.00 **General Discussion**
- 12.45 **Lunch**
- 14.00 Sue Edwards, ISD (Institute for Sustainable Development, Addis Ababa; NGO):
ISD projects on composting, afforestation and biodiversity conservation

- 14.45 Johannes Weitekämper, Brot für die Welt
Projects of Bread for the World in Ethiopia
- 15.30 **Coffee Break**
- 15.45 Aregash Asfaw, GTZ:
Public Private Partnership projects of the GTZ in Ethiopia
- 16.30 Kurt Peters, Humboldt University Berlin:
Scientific Collaboration with Ethiopia
- 17.15 **Discussion**
- 19.00 **Ethiopian Dinner**
- 20.00 Bossena Negussie:
Music, Ethiopian-Dance-Course, Cultural Events

Sunday, 6.3.2005

- 9.30 Tewelde Berhan Gebre Egziabher:
The Impact of Ethiopian Membership at the WTO on local people
- 10.15 Fekadu Bekele, Economist, Berlin:
The Impact of Current Trade Relationships and Strategies for Improvement
- 11.00 **Coffee Break**
- 11.30 Ernst-Ulrich v. Weizsäcker, MdB, Vors. des Umweltausschusses:
Possibilities and Chances for Enhancing Sustainability
- 12.15 **Lunch Break**
- 13.45 Rudolf Buntzel-Cano, eed:
Discussion with all referee persons: How to proceed?
- 15.45 **Ethiopian Coffee Ceremony and Lecture:**
Brigitte Beil - "Maskal oder Das Ende der Regenzeit" A German Ethiopian Lovestory

Open End

An **exposition** to be shown throughout the conference is planned:

- Photo-Dokumentation about Ethiopian native people
- new / special books about Ethiopia

Information: daev_conference_2005@yahoo.com
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