## AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF AMERICA

To
The President of the United States, Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
NW Washington, DC 20500

Subject: Please let democratic and humanitarian aid go together, make VOA Abyssinia part of a solution and be the cause of Abyssinian revolution

Dear President,

First of all, in general, I am very happy with the response of my first open letter to you dated May 6, 2022, but when it comes to a particular, this concerns my request for extension your humanity towards Bethlehem Tesfaye (ቤተለህም ተስፋዬ) I have no news. As the appeal letter states, this poor Tigray girl, at the time of six years, who had lost both legs and her mother in the war had a problem that cannot be put into words.

Dear President, here is a new channel called "My Views on News - Patreon https: // www.patreon.com/ myviewsonnews", (sajid672000@gmail.com). The new channel provides Abyssinia with the best information, not partial, not one-sided, not subjective, ... that it has never heard of. Furthermore, the information is inspired by the rules of true democracy with which one can live peacefully. It seems to be a consoling daily bread for everyone at sea, the wounded and frightened spirit of the Abyssinians. I think a new era has just begun for the Abyssinians with such information that their homeland has never heard of before or after the birth of Christ.

Surprisingly, it seems very affordable compared to the cost of humanitarian aid. So please help "**My Views on the News**" by reducing the amount of humanitarian aid a little so that we Abyssinians can learn the rules of democracy that allow us to live and work together under the roof of democracy.

The channel is always with advance notice to ask for help. What a man like me can do is tell the world that a new organization, like this channel that makes the world safer, shouldn't be left to worry about little money. Indeed, the reporter "The Sajid, the analyst behind the channel - My Views on News" deserves to be praised and well known as a man of great honor.

What the Abyssinians know so far is that Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali, who on 11.11.2019 won the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize. And, after almost a year, he besieged Tigray on 3 November 2020. His strategy, which is still besieging millions of people, is still alive despite the deteriorating conditions of its victims day by day. I firmly believe that a man like Sajid, who sows peace, justice and hope not only in the troubled minds and hearts of the Abyssinians, but also in the people of the Horn of Africa, deserves an award for exemplary service to the community. This also applies to all humanitarian organizations that are struggling to keep human life in Tigray.

◆In Abyssinia, man does more harm than nature

"The Tigray War saw up to half a million deaths from violence and starvation" from 3 November 2020 to 14 March 2022. It also produced more than 40,000 refugees. When it comes to the deaths of this half a million people, it seems very difficult to know for a while who died as a result of war or the famine caused by it or the drought of nature. But as far as I know, the war alone, which has something to do with the deaths of half a million people, has forced these more than 40,000 Tigrayans to leave their homes and be refugees in Sudan. And I would like to add that they were farmers from the area well known for the fertility of the soil.

But is this crime new to the region? 'As of October 2020, Ethiopia hosted **approximately 149,000** registered **Eritrean refugees.'** 'Eastern Sudan hosts over **66,000** registered Eritrean refugees.' 'There are approximately **321,000** Eritrean refugees living in Europe.' The list could go on and on.

Even worse, 'By Katy Migiro, NAIROBI (AlertNet) - Eritrean refugees in Sudan are living in fear of further attacks after several were kidnapped last week from the Shagarab camp complex, 70km west of the Eritrean border, rights groups say. Since 2009, human traffickers have snatched thousands of Eritrean refugees from camps in eastern Sudan for ransom, sexual exploitation, forced marriage and bonded labour.' '16.07.2021. The UN refugee agency voiced alarm Thursday about the plight of Eritrean refugees caught up in the conflict in neighboring Ethiopia.' Here, too, the list could go on and on.

What the preceding paragraphs show is that Abyssinia has two deadly enemies. These are produced by the total absence of democracy, or by the lack of a rule of law, such as that of the Eritrean dictatorship and by a famine caused by the lack of crops, by the infestation of locusts. But the paragraphs do not mean that they narrate all the mortal enemies of Abyssinia. For example, they do not cover those that are harmful to health such as epidemics, cholera, etc.

When we try to talk about everything together, here in Abyssinia not only the root cause of any war, famine, ... but also their effects are not studied as they should due to lack of experts, justice, freedom, etc. Consequently, they have never been confronted with the right solution that wants to minimize or avoid them. It is true that many Western scholars, travelers, journalists, ... have shed some light on this, but this seems like advice to do more and get the job done.

I would like to take the mysterious Eritrean-Ethiopian border war that broke out in May 1998 and is still looming as an example. It is true that it has spoken and written a lot about it by foreign journalists, but no one is able to show a complete picture of cause and effect that is seems very difficult to be covered by an article. For example, the Eritreans do not yet know how much this violent war cost Eritrea.

What I can say about this war in short is that it has strengthened the dictatorship of Eritrea beyond how much you can imagine. And as a consequence, the request of the Eritrean people of a democratic government in Eritrea has fallen towards zero beyond what one might think. Hence, it goes without saying that such wars that Abyssinia used to see are only meant to strengthen Abyssinian rulers and weaken the oppressed people's demands for the rule of law.

• But the dictator has many ways that make him stay in power

It seems a grave mistake to say that the Eritrean dictator is in power thanks to the wars he wages. But perhaps his divide-and-rule policy plays the most important role in his stay in power. He has adopted this policy which makes him win from the start. How?

He is really a wonderful guy at recruiting spies from the Eritrean people and sending them against the Eritrean people. And get people to pay the bill. We're talking about the espionage work that began to take root in EPLE fighters while he was at the helm in the early 1970s. It is believed that there was one person working as a spy among 4-5 fighters. And it is believed that all the spies were members of the secret party he founded to prioritize his political interests within the front, the EPLF. So, it is not new to say that today there are spies sent among Eritreans at home and away from home who work on behalf of the dictator much like the era of the struggle for independence that brought him to where he is today. And this is one of the main reasons why the Eritrean diaspora is unable to lead a strong, mass democratic movement that defies the Eritrean dictatorship today.

## ◆Make VOA Abyssinia part of a solution

The channel that wakes Abyssinia with reliable information speaks in English. This testifies to the existence of a language barrier. How come? I dare say that Abyssinia is the least Anglophone country in the world due to its poor education. That is to say, poor students who have been learning English from unskilled teachers for years do not always manage to earn at least a third of their effort. This makes it very difficult to find a student who can write a 50-word letter in English to a close friend after 12-13 years of attendance. And the system has no signs of reforming it because it has another thing to do, which is "war". For example, Turkey's drone sales to **Ethiopia** ... \$95 million in the first 11 months of 2021.

The unskilled native English teacher is not only very weak in English but also in his mother tongue with which one becomes strong and able to learn another language but unfortunately not yet studied. For me the local Abyssinian languages even if they are in the human brain are not yet domestic, they are just like the wild animals that are in Abyssinia.

For example, due to the poor education that Abyssinia has, the following: 1. the sentence that has two infinitive verbs, 'to err' and 'to forgive'; 2. a modal verb 'can' before infinitive verbs, 'to rad', 'to write' and 'to speak'; 3. the verb \lambda \l

- 1. To **err** is human; to **forgive**, divine. **ሰሐተ** እዩ ሰብአዊ; **ምሐረ**, መለኮታዊ.
- 2. She **can** read, write and speak Tigriyna. ንስሳ **ትኸእአል** አንበበ, ጸሐፌ, እውን ተዛረበ ቲግሪይና or Can she read, write and speak Tigriyna? ትክ(ኸ)እእል ንስሳ አንበበ, ጸሐፌ እውን ተዛረበ ቲግሪይና?
- 3. I had a black dog when I was a child. አነ እልሱው ሐደ ጳልሊም ከልቢ መአስ አነ ነበርኩ ሕጻን.

This is also true with Amharic. To shorten the long history, Abyssinia is not present as a quality education. This may be one of the main reasons why the Abyssinian civil wars are always active. It seems obvious to say that quality education is the only redeemer of Abyssinia. So, Abyssinia is still waiting to see an army that knows at least eight parts of the speech and that can read and understand newspapers in its native language and does not make it cry by burning her dear citizen alive. Unfortunately, this cannot be done alone. The

help of Western scholars, of those who have studied the Semitic languages in general and Geez, Amharic, Tigre, Tigriyna, ... in particular seems crucial.

If the Abyssinian school does not know eight parts of Amharic, Tigrinya, ... it seems true without a doubt that all media, including VOA, ... which use these two languages do not know eight parts of the two languages, namely Amharic and Tigrinya.

Of all these let's focus on VOA. For example, let's translate the phrase "Voice of America Tigrinya" into Tigriyna according to the rule of a grammar. Hoping it will serve as a very small window to see the rest.



The literal translation of 'ድምጲ ኣመሪካ ቋንቋ ትግርኛ' is 'Sound America Language Tigriyna'. Here:

- 1) the first Tigrinya word 'ድምጲ/dmsi' is misused as an **adjective** when it is a **noun**, but the worst is that it is not the **right term** in this particular usage.
- 2) Tigriyna words add –ይና, to form an adjective or a noun or both not –ኛ as Amharic (e.g. ልጣደይና (ለመደ), ሐቅቀይና, ሱኞተይና (ሱኞበለ), በደለይና (በድደለ), ነውወረይና (ነውወረ), ጽጋበይና (ጸነበ), ፈረሰይና, ...). This shows that the name of the language is also misspelled. The correct spelling is ቲባሪይና not ትግርኛ.

So, the correct translation of the phrase "Voice of America Tigrinya" into Tigriyna is ድህይ (ኢድህዮ) ናይ አመሪካ ቲግሪይና = Voice of America Tigriyna. The radio has been without this since July 1996. I wonder why Voice of America (VOA or VoA), the international state radio broadcaster of the United States of America Abyssinia, that is, Amharic and Tigrina, does not know check and balance? My struggle for a grammar rule is not new. Please see my unanswered letter to Michael Pack dated 3/13/2021 below.

And we continue to know the meaning of the two words: 'ድምጲ/dmsi' and 'ድυይ/dhey'?

- 1) `ኡምጲ/dmsi' [the noun form for the verb 'ኡኡማጲ/edmese' `to sound', in Italian 'suonare'] means sound/suono. E.g., 1. they returned safe and sound ተመልሱ ድሑናት እውን ጥዑያት sono tornati sani e salvi. 2. to hear a **sound** ስምዕ ሐይ **ኡምጲ** udire un **suono** 3. sound-wave ኡምጵቲ (ኡድማጲ) ማዕበል onda sonora 4. We decide syllables by **sound**, not spelling. ንሕና ንውስስን እተን ሲልላበ/sillabe ብ **ኡምጲ**, አይኮንን ስፐልሊንግ/አንነጋግራ (ተናገረ).
- 2) `ድvይ/dhey' [the noun form for the verb 'አድvየ/edheye' means 'to call', in Italian 'chiamare'] means voice/voce. E.g., 1. **voice** inaudible ድvይ አይካትን ተስምጣዒት/**voce** non udibile 2. The **voice** of the conscience እታ ድvይ ናይ እታ ሕልሊና (ሐልለነ) La **voce** della coscienza

An "intellectual" whose mother tongue is Amharic or Tigrinya ... does not yet know the infinite verb of his mother tongue for a simple reason because they are languages waiting to be studied and known. And the worst is that unless Westerners get the job done, I don't think that he or she can do it because the ideal time has not yet come for them. What they have in hand is a poor education, a civil war and their effects.

• The outdated word order and alphabet change a step that leads to the adoption of the English language

Dear President, I would like to say this too. Abyssinia needs the help of the United States Peace Corps program of 1961 to start the process of:

- 1) word order change from the Turanian-based word order to the subject-verb-object order
- 2) alphabet transition or move from the Geez alphabet to the Latin alphabet and
- 3) starting to pave the way for English to become the primary Abyssinian language

When it comes to changing word order, that's nothing new because Geez's books have it. But the Geez alphabet we use today is completely obsolete and in need of a change. And when we think of the many local languages, such as Amharic, Tigrinya, ... they are not languages of writers. Their use shines only on the ancient way of farming and grazing. Of these two languages I studied Tigrinya and published a dictionary. There appear to be around **60,000** Tigrinya words. I believe Amharic has more. Despite this, Tigriyna is better for its proximity to Geez. But all together they are almost devoid of **technical**, **philosophical**, **scientific**, etc. terms. For this and for the other, it seems that Abyssinia should not be long in opening a new chapter that leads to another of development. And to be here, the role of the English language seems crucial.

I benefited, but not as it should be, from the basic word order (subject, verb, object) teaching that was introduced to my school by the 1961 Peace Corps program, when I was an eighth-grade student. I say this because that program had a big flaw because it had no idea that Abyssinians use Turanian-based word order and their church use SVO (subject, verb, object). Of this reality the Abyssinian school not only could not have known at that moment but even now it is as it was before. I am speaking here specifically of two languages, Amharic and Tgiryna, which have the ancient Turanian-based word for more than 800 years.

But now I don't think the terrible woes I've experienced will repeat themselves because my works are there. Of these, as mentioned above, three modern dictionaries in three languages Tigriyna, Italian and English have already been published years ago. And more are on the way. Among these is the 'Movement of the **Word Order Movement for a better understanding of Tigriyna** -small grammar book. This little grammar book has only two chapters: History of the Amharic and Tigrinya languages and Tigrinya grammar. In this new Tigriyna grammar SVO (subject/1902 + verb/19102 + order/164) is used. The text of the grammar is written in three languages: English (as main), Italian and Tigriyna. When it comes to the Italian language, it has more space in Eritrea than in English because of the history. Hence, it seems imperative that Eritreans study it as English to make them both official languages in the long run, to rid the country of the chronic language problem.

In conclusion, I hope that the United States will study the great problems of Abyssinia in depth in order to come up with a new strategy. Without this it seems to me that it is always the same old story. It hasn't worked until today and I don't think it will tomorrow. This is why it seems necessary to create a new one that gives priority to the majority of the oppressing Abyssinians, not to its ruling class. To do this, I think the United States has nothing to worry about or be afraid of. Also, it looks good for Abyssinia if the U.S. starts giving more scholarship opportunities and a round-trip visa to Abyssinians pursuing higher education and returning to serve their people who desperately need the their education for improvement.

Respectfully,

Eyob Ghebreziabhier Bein Mühlematt 6 6020 Emmenbrücke eyebright@bluewin.ch https://www.sewwit.org Switzerland

Date date 12.9-2022

Michael Pack Voice of America (Tigriyna) Washington, D.C., United States 330 Independence Ave SW · 20237 Washington

Dear Sir

I am an Eritrean refugee. I do research on history, customs, fairy tales, poems, ... in general but on the Tigrinya language in particular. Many of these have already been published according to the condition of a refugee. Of these modern Tigrinya dictionaries are highly prized.

In addition to this I also have a website, which has existed for many years but is not available now owing to a problem.

Like many political refugees, I am very fraught with problems. The biggest of all my problems is that I am unable to present the fruits of many years of my research to most of the Tigriyna speaking community.

So, I ask you if you could help me solve my problem by giving me a space, in your radio broadcasting, VOA Tigriyna, for the reformed basic Tigriyna language grammar lesson at least once a week for round half hour-long.

The goal is simple and clear, it is just to gradually start moving away from the era of speaking and writing Tigriyna without the grammar rule by learning its grammar rules. As we all know, in Eritrea there is not only the rule of law, but there is not even a grammatical rule.

The lesson will also be accompanied by the history of the language, its uses, how it is managed, what can and cannot be achieved with it, the advantage of reforming it, what can we say and write after the reform, is it enough? How can we be able to close our language problem in the long run? To be there when to start... etc. I do everything according to my study and its suggestions. With this, I will try to do a chain of interviews with influential people and with the new generations.

Indeed, if the VOA Tigriyna program includes the rudimentary teaching of Tigriyna grammar, of course like that of the developed language that makes sense, it could have a greater influence that moves the Tigriyna community into an era of speaking and writing by the rule of a grammar. This could have been a great historical gift to the culture of the Tigriyna community which is always under the shackles of war. But I don't mean that this goes smoothly in a community where someone buys the radio with great difficulty eventually without battery.

It goes without saying that I am a true creator of change, but not without difficulty.

Consequently, my works are being targeted by my regime that hates change and those who are affected by its propaganda.

Sad to say, there are also many who do not want to buy the Tigriyna reform plan but are very active in accepting, using and spreading the fake words of Tigriyna fabricated by the Dictatorship. This

phenomenon, as I believe, is a lack of a good background which is obtained from a quality school which is not there in Eritrea. All in all, the winds that sow change are not yet in action.

But, if my request is accepted, I believe that I can take action that brings change, of course, with help of VOA Tigriyna.

Last but not least, just to get some idea about the change I'm talking about, the letter is accompanied by a piece of my latest work.

Thank you very much Your faithfully

Eyob Ghebreziabhier Bein Mühlematt 6 6020 Emmenbrücke eyebright@bluewin.ch https://www.sewwit.org Switzerland 13.3.2021