

To what extent the Eritrean dictatorship and the Coronavirus differ

Summary ቀንጽል (ቁነጻለ)

1 An Open letter to ... ሐንቲ ክፍትቲ መልእክት ናብ ...

1.1. Can a dictatorship be a loyal ally to fight against ...?

1.2. the fight for justice in Eritrea gets tougher

1.3. But there is a solution

1.4. Coronavirus is lucky charm (ጸዋሪዕድድል ወይ portafortuna) for the Eritrean dictatorship

2 national desire ... ሀገራዊ ሀረርታ ...

2.1. The nine immediate desires of Eritrea እቶም ትሽዓትተ ዕጡቓት ሀረርታታት ናይ ኣርትራ

2.2. Does the Eritrean people deserve professional and quality of information?

2.3. The state of the young Eritrean generation is beyond slavery እቲ ሀለዋ ናይ እታ ጉብዝ ኣርትራዊ ትውልዲ ኢያ ኪነዋይ ናይ ባርነት

2.4. Asseb, into a depot for urgent humanitarian needs ... Eritrean and Ethiopian people

2.5. ... "ከናት ለቡዳ" means "war against coronavirus" ... who buy this rubbish?

2.6. The transformation of all dictatorial detention centres into hospitals and clinics is one of the wishes

2.7. 238,000 Eritrean students behind closed doors

2.8. If the wishes of Eritrean people are met, is time to make united front with ... against ...

To what extent the Eritrean dictatorship and the Coronavirus differ

An Open Letter to the Eritrean Dictator Isaias Afewerki

Are Eritrea and her Cold-blooded Dictator Really on the Same Page in Coronavirus Fighting?

From the voice of the struggle continues ካብ እታ ድሀይ ናይ እታ ቃልሲ ትቅጽጽል (ቀጽጸለ)

We all know that the undemocratic government that devastated Eritrea in terms of unity, prosperity, stability, peace, administration, etc., for many years is at the end of its road. That is, Eritrea is on the eve of seeing a government that not only produces and exports refugees. And we hope this happens immediately before the number of Eritrean refugees is **1,000,000** out of '3,535,883 as of Wednesday, April 15, 2020, ... of the latest United Nations data.'

To make matters worse, Eritrea is also with coronaviruses, locusts and, of course, famine. This makes it very difficult to imagine what less developed Eritrea, a country already destroyed from the established one-man rule, will do.

As there is no change in policy, things go from bad to worse. So, the nation can survive or not is the question that people are asking. This really is an alarm clock for all Eritreans who favor improvements.

Regarding this topic, there is only one magic word considered as a way out of the situation we find ourselves. This is "**reorganization**". With this, Eritrea will seek to promise to sweep not only the brutal regime of the dictator, but also to rise up against the epidemic of coronavirus, swarm of locusts and famines in a more organized way than before. But to be at that height there must be the following five pillars:

- 1) A goal in mind ሐደ አተንና አብ ቀልቢ
- 2) Great democratic leader or committee making the decision ዓቢይ ደመክራቲክ ሊደር ወይ ምክር ዝ ይወስድ እታ ውስሳኔ
- 3) Communication and members ኮምሙኒኬሽን እውን አካላት
- 4) To be resolute ነበረ ቁርራጽ
- 5) make aware the heart of going forward መለሰ ፍሉጥ እቲ ልብቢ ናይ ከደ ቅድሚያ

Does the stay-at-home order in Eritrea protect the health of the nation or dictatorship?

So many democratically elected governments, that many of them are at opening business now, have declared war on coronavirus, as the world faces in March 2020. The positioning of social distance, quarantine, isolation, masks, washing hands with soap, etc. are chosen as combat tools. The purpose of this first phase of the struggle is to slow down the spread of this contagious disease, the most serious for human health. In this war against an invisible enemy scientist are leading the charge.

Even the Eritrean dictatorship which has nothing to do with science and democracy has taken some steps which resemble the measures mentioned above. But for what reason? Nobody dares to say that these measures concern health provisions in the face of **the closure of over 20 health centers of the Catholic Church in Eritrea in early June 2019**. This proves that the measures taken by the dictator have only one purpose: to strengthen his regime. But they have the potential to create confusion because they are very attached to the interests of the nation. However, this confusion is not new for many because they are a continuation of old patterns of one-man rule.

Of this experience, it seems sufficient if we remember two things, the closure of the University of Asmara and 'scabby mouth/ዓባቕ አፍ' sheep that were all born in the same year of 2003. They are both dangers to public health. But the worst is the first one because the university was the only source of **scientific health**. And to add insult to injury, the dictator was also able to feed nearly 22,000 sick sheep to all Eritreans.

As we know, the Australian sheep were destined for Saudi Arabia, but were immediately rejected after their arrival in port in 2003 because they had the disease called 'scabby mouth/ዓባቕ አፍ'. The rejection was also followed by the whole Arab world. But it saw its solution when the Eritrean dictator agreed to **take money** and the 'scabby mouth/ዓባቕ አፍ' sheep.

So, with stay-at-home order the dictator proves more powerful than before. That is the **large prison gate** delimited by the neighboring countries and the Red Sea and supervised by the "shoot-kill" policy will have the strength that does not let even a rabbit out. And the plight of more than **70,000** Eritrean prisoners detained incommunicado will be worse than before.

As the proverb says "one man's meat is another man's poison", coronavirus became a great lucky charm (ጸዋሪዕድድል ወይ portafortuna) for the Eritrean dictatorship. The same drum that was beaten in the border war between Eritrea and Ethiopia (1998-2000) to extort money from the Eritrean community is in motion at a speed never seen before. It is the opinion of many Eritreans that the extorted money of 1998-2000 served the war machine. But today we have no idea what they are for. But hopefully the international community will help understand.

Furthermore, the interview of 8.2.2020, which is a jumble/አውስቆ of insignificant words, testifies that there is no plan in the direction of Eritrean interests. But it is clear that there is an intervention plan in neighbouring Ethiopia. Eritrea is not surprised by this plan because it is just like the other policies of the past that aimed to end the Eritrean desire for democratic government in Eritrea. But we hope that Ethiopia does not make the same mistake as that of the past.

Taking all this into account, the immediate wishes of the Eritrean people are:

- 1) let Eritrean medical professors guide, speak and write in Eritrea, but if the approach to the Tigriyna language is the same as that of the dictator, nothing is in favor of taxpayers. So, the healthcare community is called upon to speak according to their profession, it is nothing but the truth. We think that Eritrean people deserves professional and quality of information based on research.

Why does this information matter in such crucial times? As we all know, Eritrean expertise, such as health experts, financial experts, legal experts, language experts, etc., are suffocated by one-man rule. By doing this and others, the regime made itself the most-heard (or watched) news channel. This makes you understand since the birth of the dictatorship in Eritrea, the Eritrean people have never heard or read the correct information except disinformation.

Therefore, Eritrean medical professors, based in Eritrea and abroad, are asked to make the various health information clear/ጽኑይ and concise/አጲር. In building the Tigriyna phrase, the best thing is when we think in English and translate it into Tigriyna. The reason is that we have not yet studied eight parts of Tigriyna's speech. But we studied eight parts of the speech in English to some extent. This advice is that we are stronger with the language we have learned.

The first step in this mission would be to know how to spell and pronounce correctly the word health, "ጥዕንና (ጠዕን)" in Tigriyna. And the second step is to translate correctly the medical terms of English, Italian, etc. into Tigriyna and vice versa. For an example, "contagious disease = ለጋቢ ሕማም". ('contagious' and 'ለጋቢ' are adjectives and 'disease' and 'ሕማም' are nouns). This also applies to other Eritrean languages.

The dictator, the man who doesn't know eight parts of the Tigriyna speech, but he thinks that he is the king of Tigriyna grammar, said, "ለቡዳ". What does this word mean? "ለቡዳ (= to deforest = disboscare = ደምሰሰ (አጎቲ ዞና) ካብ ዱር ወይ አእዋም" is the verb for, "ለቡዳ". And it means, "deforestation = disboscamiento".

E.g. 1) Eritrea suffered from deforestation during the Italian colony አርትራ አልሎዋ ጭንካቾ ናይ ለበዳ አብ ኢታ ዘመን ናይ ኢታ ኢጣልያዊት ኮሎንያ L'Eritrea ha sofferto di deforestazione durante la colonia italiana 2) deforestation causes climate changes ኢታ ለበዳ ትትንኲይ ወይ ተልዕል ክላይመት ልውዋጠ la deforestazione provoca cambiamenti climatici

- 2) bring back the Eritrean wealth hidden offshore and distribute to all poor Eritreans
- 3) the closure of all military training centres, Sawa, Kiloma, etc. and the liberation all the people who are under the false and dangerous **compulsory national service**. And let them take ownership of the land of the regime that had been working by force as slaves for years and years. But this only looks at those are capable and hardly hit by the policy of the regime.



There is a general saying that says “young people are the leaders of tomorrow”. But the investments in their education, health, sports, music, politics, media, etc. made them to lead not tomorrow but today. But this does not apply to young Eritrean generations who are in a state beyond slavery. That is what this image of the document testifies.

- 4) the release all Eritrean prisoners and the transformation of all dictatorial detention centres into hospitals and clinics for the benefit of Eritrean health. But first the private clinics of citizens in general and Christians in particular must be free to provide services to needy Eritreans.
- 5) the hotels, pensions, etc. of the dictatorial regime provides food and lodging for those in need especially for released prisoners and victim of compulsory national services that they are without anything
- 6) And transform the military base of all foreign countries in Eritrea, such as that of the United Arab Emirates in Asseb, into a depot for urgent humanitarian needs in the service of the Eritrean and Ethiopian people, obviously, a forward measure against coronavirus.
- 7) Eritrea believes that the illegal party, The People's Front for Democracy and Justice, has accumulated enormous wealth. As the result, the ruling group are enjoying unprecedented wealth. This must stop right now. And with this must also stop taxing poor Eritreans. The party must declare it wealth (money, houses, vehicles, etc., etc.). And the small and large traders that are swallowed by the illegal party must be compensated. This also applies to many districts, villages that have lost their landscape and habitat for ever owing to the transported sands, stones, etc. by the illegal party for its business. The living example of this abuse is the so called 'Korean House'.
- 8) According to Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, there are nearly 238,000 students in the primary, middle, and secondary in Eritrea. This is 6.7% of the Eritrean population.

And Africa news says,“ ... the Government of Eritrea has been, and continues to take, several important measures to contain and fully stop the spread of the Coronavirus pandemic ...

1. All institutions of learning – from Kindergarten to Colleges – will be closed starting tomorrow, 27 March 2020.”

In addition to what was said, the message transmitted by Eri-TV relating to the coronavirus on April 18, 2020, did not say anything about the **238,000** students who ordered to remain closed in their homes. That is there is no homeschooling, no remote-Learning plan, no radio lesson, no classes via Google. What do they do at the poorhouses that are literally living from hand to mouth?



This testifies that the dictatorial regime is rotten to the **core** እዩ ምሽሙሽ ከላዕ ናብ እቲ **አንጉዕ**. Despite this, it is always there thanks to the divide and rule policy that has completely paralyzed the Eritrean unity industry.

9) A bit of comment on the short message, almost 4 minutes long, of the dictator of 28.4.2020. Instead of hours and hours, the speech lasted up to four minutes. It is a change to be appreciated. But it seems the worst of all his speeches because it is simply empty. This is very sad. He is the only person who has the right to freedom of opinion and expression in Eritrea. In addition, he commands the Eritrean mass media, etc. But so far, he is unable to construct a simple sentence composed of subject, verb and object in Tigriyna. It seems that his dictatorship will die without seeing this. But we must not be wrong. His fake and jumbled words (ጽይዩቻት እውን አውስዋስ ቃላት) are his tools with which he fools the people, crushes his rivals and remains in power.

The key words in his speech are, of course according to my spelling,

- 1) "ለበዳ" five times,
- 2) "ኩናት" three times
- 3) "መሽተ" five times and
- 4) "ልምዓት" more than seven times. All those errors, too numerous to mention. But we will take the phrase that says, 'ኩናት ለበዳ'.

We have already said that, 'ለበዳ' (noun) means, 'deforestation', but 'ኩናት' (concrete noun word) means, 'spear' (in English) and 'lancia' (in Italian).

አልላስ, ጭማራ, ስንግል and ጋዞ are synonyms of 'ኩናት'. They are all traditional weapons. Their difference is the width of the tip of the spear. To my knowledge 'ኩናት' has wider tip than 'ጭማራ'.



ኩናት/

spear (English)/

lancia (Italian)

e.g. **minute hand** ኩናት ናይ እቶም ደቂቻት lancetta dei minuti; to strike with a **spear** ወቕዕ ምስ ሓንቲ ኩናት colpire con una **lancia**

So, when the dictator says, "ኩናት ለበዳ" it means that, '**spear deforestation**'. Without a doubt this doesn't make sense. But who buys this? Well, this has never been an issue for the dictator. If we take, as an example, the fake word "ቅዋም" which has a large space in Eritrean politics, it also covers the whole Tigray. In addition to this, popular websites, like Wikipedia,

that presents an edited Tigriyna, 'The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) ([Tigrinya](#): ህዝባዊ ግንባር, ህግ, ...', instead of (ትግራይ/Tigriyna: ኢት ግምር (ግምር) ናይ ሐርንነት ናይ ኢት ሕዝቢ ኣርትራ (ገሐሐ), play in favor of the dictator. All of this testifies that Tigriyna language experts are yet to be born.

10) Last but not least, the Eritrean dictatorship's fulfillment of the aforementioned wishes of the Eritrean people means that there is no alliance between Isaias Afewerki and the coronavirus. This is a very laudable step. When we are at this point, Eritrea sees a united front between its people and the dictatorship against common enemies, the coronavirus, the swarm of locusts and the famine.

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