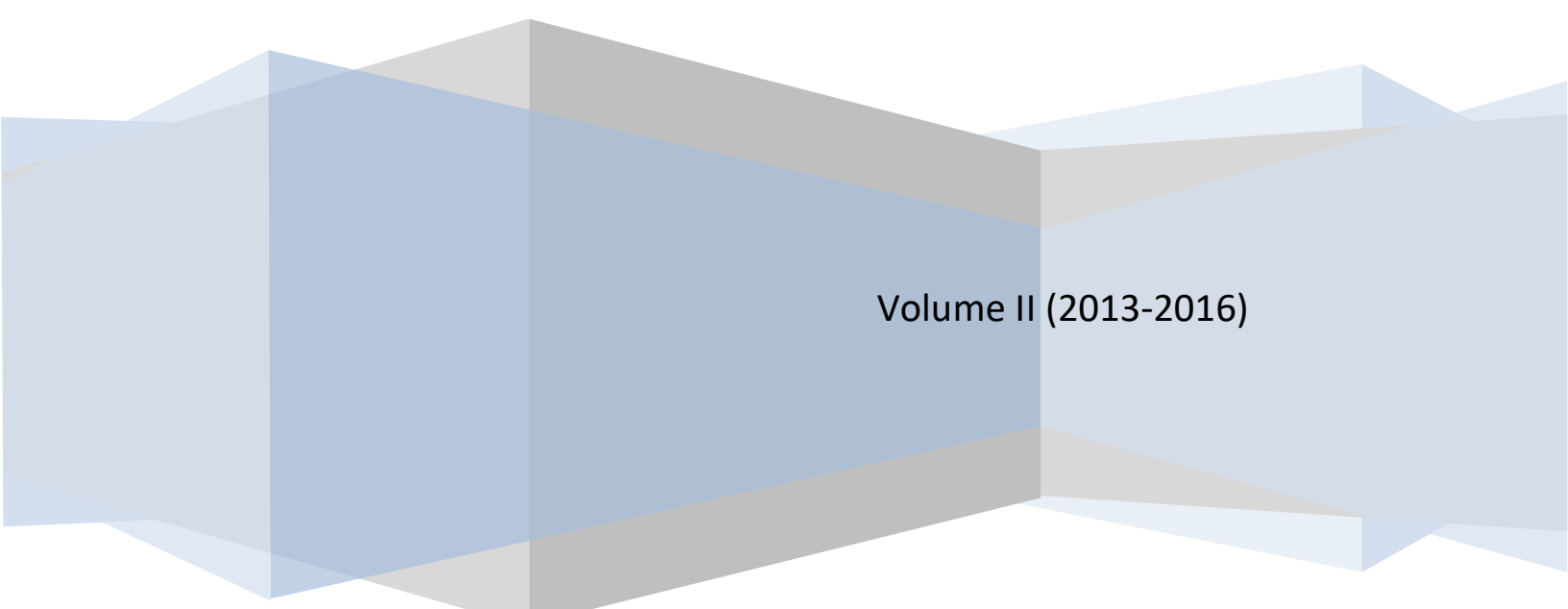


adarash.net

Blog Posts

Dedicated to all adarashians

Akiye's Blog



Volume II (2013-2016)

Table of Contents

2006	4
Walya Antelopes.....	6
Sounders	7
Good Job!.....	8
Great Generation.....	9
Dominance.....	10
Framing Tomorrow	11
ፀፀት	12
Necessity.....	14
Monthful of Fun.....	15
Worth a Repeat	17
Exemplary	18
2007	19
Strikes a Chord.....	20
Metaholidays	21
Miraculous.....	23
Valor	24
Super Bowl XLIX.....	26
Crystal Ball	28
Easter ፋሲካ.....	29
Saved for another Day	30
Disruptive Innovation	31
Oh, Boy!.....	34
Connection.....	36
2008	38
Sociusquake	40
Quandary-ish in Democracy	42
Repetitiveness	45
Ending a Year with a Good Spirit	46
እድሜ ደገ	49

Deer and Rabbits on my Hill	52
A Chat with MyInstinct: Session One.....	56
Good Reasons	62
Tiny Creatures.....	65
Instances.....	70
Passion.....	73
እንቁጣጣሽ.....	76
Museum.....	78
ጊዜ መንገደኛው	80
የኅሊና ጉራማይሌ.....	84

2006

Dear 90,000,000 strong people, in the eastern part of Africa, the present day Ethiopia will soon close the last chapter on the year 2005, and begin a new chapter, a new year -- 2006. Yes, on Wednesday September 11, 2013 Gregorian calendar, it will be September 1, 2006 in Ethiopia.

Knowing that I am well deep into middle age, I find myself increasingly wanting to appreciate and enjoy the days, months, and years I have. However, for now leaving the happiest moments in life to run in the background, in this September's adarash blog, as Ethiopia's year 2005 ends, I wanted to say a word or two on the other side of moments in life, as it pertains to Ethiopia and Ethiopians.

Just to make one thing clearer from the outset, the reason why I disproportionately focus on unmet needs and unpromising journeys is a reflection of my genuine dreams to see Ethiopia and Ethiopians on a much better place, before my time is up. The focus on democracy, education, health, innovation, justice, and economy is because those issues need to be handled in such a way that underscores the utmost sense of urgency! On that line, it is never enough to put two things up front. First, the crucial need for a decent, civilized democratic government, elected by the people and for the people, through a transparent process. Second, in order to fulfill that crucial need, it is equally necessary that genuine political organizations with alternative voices that uncompromisingly believe in the country Ethiopia to function on the ground, domestically, in unison. If these two points are put in place, the remaining issues will become true seamlessly. As far as I am concerned, there is no other way out!

To travel through the other side of moments in life, a little further, and with intent to make an endless journey, a little shorter -- there are two major bottlenecks that need immediate corrections, and therefore would like to say something on them: a) lack of focus and b) disintegration.

With regard to lack of focus, political organizations with alternative voices need to know or remember that at this point in the struggle there are more than enough already registered justifications for new democratic governance in Ethiopia. Sitting in the Diaspora, and keeping tab on what the current government [is doing or not doing] day-in day-out, to say the least, has past its relevance, prohibitively turned to become just a noise. The necessary conversation, focusing on the main signals, as to what needs to be done to bring about the crucially needed change is rendered lost in that noise. Apparently, political organizations with alternative voices are flooded with their own websites, radio and television stations, Newspaper, and Pal-talk forums. They regularly stream news, interviews, and gatherings that neither are synchronized to a tune of a unified purpose, nor are coherent necessary conversations around issues to bring about the needed change. In reality, the present day political organizations with alternative voices are too lackadaisical to function as an organization that is set out to win. They instead are functioning as if they already are in power, as if they are the government!

When it comes to disintegration, a lot of -- a lot could be said, but I will focus on high-level reflections only. As if, it is an imposed karma, a constant; disintegration, both from without and from within have been the prototype manifestations of Ethiopian political organizations, especially during the past twenty-two years.

Disintegration from without: Attempts to create a unified force that consists of the numerous Ethiopian political organizations have failed, not once, not twice, but multiple times. Irrespective of what the reasons or rumors might have been at the time, the end results, therefore the failures to be united inarguably caused a deep hurt to Ethiopia and Ethiopians. Mind you, no one is expecting all political organizations to be one. That is likely impossibility and might not be a healthy idea either. What is possible and healthy is to aggregate in to two or three unified groups, so that you will in turn become a victorious force. The fact that you were not able to have done that fifteen, ten years ago or even yesterday, is a reflection of a persistent withdrawal or resignation.

Disintegration from within: This is a repetitive phenomenon, observed in almost all of the Ethiopian political organizations, and like its counterpart disintegration from without, also disintegration from within inarguably caused a deep hurt to Ethiopia and Ethiopians. True, disintegration from within is not something unimaginable. However, while once or twice might have been unavoidable, and that is even me trying not to be judgmental, we are witnessing disintegrations from within ad nauseam, and appears to have come every year, as a New Years present to Ethiopia and Ethiopians from political organizations including from those well regarded political organizations with alternative voices. That remains mind-boggling!

In the spirit of a New Year, all Ethiopian political organizations need to accept that you all have a serious soul searching to do. Show Ethiopia and Ethiopians your political experience and wisdom. Re-unite with your former "*ye-tigel agaroch*", and that is not a task to sleep on. You must do this NOW to re-affirm that you are still struggling truly and genuinely for the betterment of Ethiopia and Ethiopians. Subsequently, you need to somehow figure out how to function with other political organizations. Creating two or three united forces is one way to go. When it comes to hurting Ethiopia and Ethiopians, it doesn't really matter whether it is the sitting government or the political organizations with alternative voices that causes the hurt. What Ethiopia and Ethiopians demanding for decades is that the hurt must end! Listen to them.

If you have any other better alternatives, just show it to Ethiopia and Ethiopians by doing nothing but winning!

Happy New Year!

Akiye, September 1, 2013 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Walya Antelopes

Going back on memory lane, it was very refreshing to reminisce the thrills I had with one of my favorite childhood sports -- football! Football for most boys is something like the irreplaceable childhood companion, and back then, when we were little children, wearing a football uniform and playing on a team with the neighborhood kids -- was just precious. The training sessions, the planning meetings, the tactics on how to beat the other team -- were all like the microcosm of a critical thinker, I found myself to be countless numbers of decades later. Nothing but -- heavenly awesome!

Obviously, we were raising ourselves learning how best to play together, to win a match. The bad feelings we had when we lose -- the arguments, the grabbing and releasing of ideas to explain and justify why we lost, in a kindred way, until we are tired, it gets dark, or have to heed that we have to be home. On the days we won - elation, combing through the neighborhood streets, singing winners songs, declaring to everyone that we are the best. Hmmmmm...those were the unwritten childhood post game celebratory etiquettes.

I had a few of such experience in high school, but shhhhhh..., between you and me, after high school, I did not play football on a team. Nonetheless, my love to football, still remains with me. Whenever an opportunity comes to watch a football match, it puts me in a well-rested comfortable position.

As you might have guessed by now, all that blabber was for me to zoom in to a conversation regarding the 20th World Cup match, in Brazil that will begin on Thursday, the 12th day of June 2014. For a little trivia, the first FIFA World Cup was held in Uruguay, in 1930. Uruguay and Argentina reached for the final, and the host nation Uruguay won the first World Cup championship. Except between 1938 and 1950, where competitions were interrupted for 12 years, due to the Second World War, FIFA World Cup competitions are being held every four years. In 2010, the 19th FIFA World Cup competitions were held for the first time in the African continent, South Africa. To date, the winners' record indicates that Brazil won 5, Italy 4, Germany 3, Argentina 2, Uruguay 2, France 1, England 1, and Spain 1 of the past 19 World Cup competitions.

A little bird, from a continent across Atlantic, tweets on what the plan is for Africa to select the five national teams which will fly to Brazil next June. The two leg playoff games will be held between October 11, 2013 and November 19, 2013 -- Cote d'Ivoire versus Senegal | Ethiopia versus Nigeria | Tunisia versus Cameroon | Ghana versus Egypt | Burkina Faso versus Algeria.

The Walya Antelopes of Ethiopia will host Nigeria's Super Eagles in the first leg of the playoffs on Sunday October 13, 2013. The return leg will be played in Calabar a month later....., the news I read said.

Goooooo Walya!!!

Akiye, October 1, 2013 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Sounders

About a week ago, on October 27th, 2013..... I had the opportunity to visit friends who live in the Pacific Northwest; Washington State to be precise. Beautifully located on the map of the United States - Washington State shares sides with Oregon, Idaho, British Columbia, and the Pacific Ocean. Currently, a little short of 7 million people live in Washington, more around the Puget Sound region and along the eastern border.

Washingtonians are health and environment conscious. I observed plenty of them biking. My friend was mentioning how he increasingly is bonding with hiking. Driving around, you cannot help but notice the breath taking greenery. I heard recycling is big in Washington. There is no shortage of coffee shops in Washington, and if you want to, you can enjoy sipping a Latte on this -- or -- on that side of any streets ;-). Reading seems to be a blanket order, and a tablet or the traditional hard copy appeared to be loyal companions. Leaning more towards liberal ideas, Washingtonians are very pleasant and knowledgeable people to be with. When you meet with a Washingtonian, there is that cordial gesture -- screaming, "Don't mess with Washingtonians - We know Stuff!" message. It forces you to mumble ... *quietly that is* ... "this is how people of the future might look like ;-)" Yes, for Washingtonians, the future is already here and they are nurturing it responsibly.

Anyways.... my friends took me to Seattle, the metropolitan city in Washington State, to watch a Soccer game between the Seattle Sounders and Los Angeles Galaxy at the Century Link Field. We deliberately arrived early, had dinner and went to join the March to the Match event - a tradition that begins about 60 minutes prior to the kickoff. Lead by the Sounders FC official band, we marched the three blocks distance, fans - camouflaged with the Sounders FC favorite colors (blue and green) singing and chanting the home team's fight songs. The celebratory mood certainly raises such events to a much higher level than just any soccer game. It was like a community outing, nurturing genuine belongingness. The stadium, with a capacity of 67, 000 people, was full to its limits. The game was good, and when we heard the final whistle, the scoreboard was displaying 1 for Sounders, and 1 for Galaxy.

The contents of life sometimes block our site around. It is important to shake our heads and do something a little different now and then. Invent our own enlightening experience. When you get the very little opportunity, do not hesitate to visit Washington State. I guaranty you, you would be glad you did!

Akiye, November 2, 2013 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Good Job!

Gosh!hardly believable that we are already in the month of December. Well, we have no choice! --as we know it, 2013 is winding down fast. In a very short 31 days, the year 2014 will take over the governance of the time machine like the years that came and went before it. I am very thankful to witness that!

This time of the year, while coping with the challenges of the holiday season, reflecting on the past 12 months is something that we all can and should do. So, here goes for adarash. In Akiye's June 2013 blog, I shared with you my plan to give adarash a makeover. You may have already noticed, adarash is currently testing its draft version of a new look, its "responsive" design. According to written descriptions by folks who know computer stuff, the intent of a responsive web design is to provide an optimal viewing experience ---- easy reading and navigation with a minimum of resizing, panning, and scrolling ---across a wide range of devices (from smart phones, to tablets, to different sizes of laptops and desktop computer monitors). The new adarash accomplishes just that. I like that futuristic sense of style in a responsive web design ;-). Try it on your smart phone, for instance. You will love it. By the way, as I mentioned several times, adarash is equally yours. Continue sending comments and ideas for improvement. If you have something to share ---- something you have written and would like to see it posted on adarash, do not hesitate to drop adarash a line or two. That is part of the purpose of adarash's existence.

While I am in the mood of telling good news ---let me share with you selected refreshingly good news that is blossoming in the African continent. It is about major developmental activities reported in many media outlets this year.

The news about Ethiopia unveiling the first phase of a space exploration program, which includes East Africa's largest observatory designed to promote astronomy and astrophysics observation research in the region. The Ethiopia-Djibouti railway project; the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam that sits on the "wise and gentle" Blue Nile River; and Ethiopia's largest source of a renewable energy---the "Ashegoda wind farm." In addition, Kenya's Mombasa -- Kampala -- Kigali railway project that will connect three East African countries, and Kenya's Konza City "African Silicon Savannah" -- a technology and financial metropolis project. The Democratic Republic of the Congo's potentially world's largest hydroelectric dam---the Great Inga Dam, a project to tame the mighty Congo River. South Africa's Jasper Power Project -- one of the biggest solar installations in the continent. And Nigeria's Lagos Metro Blue Line, a major cosmopolitan transport project.

Those were some of the grand projects when I had very strange feelings, reading them. Those feelings were like unwrapped happiness -- a muffled joy, a flicker of positive steps --steps, which parallel good jobs to trade hopelessness for a futuristic hopefulness. This is good! Africa needs to replicate those and many more other kinds of grand projects throughout the continent. Just make sure, planning processes

are transparent, accommodate peoples' choices, and protect the environment. Make sure funds utilized for what they are intended. Make sure grand projects synchronized to support Africa's best future.

Good job!

I shall see you next year.

Akiye, December 1, 2013 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Great Generation

To forget is one of the inherent characteristics of a human brain, and ingenuity is its savior. Honoring the contribution of books to civilization -- thanks for the images, symbols, or alpha-numerals, engraved and scripted on different mediums -- from the ancient tablets to a modern paper -- to the present day digital surface -- we are where we are. In their absence, the narration of our existence, communication, the generation and transfer of knowledge of all kinds, from time zero to time the present would have been short lived and discontinuous. Yes, it is possible that humans will have reached to the level of the present civilization, in unimaginable different path. However, as we know it, the contributions of books to our civilization and the continuity of human existence are comparable to none.

There is no doubt that books of different kinds and calibers have helped to sustain our existence. Books on curiosity, adventure, love, peace, war, philosophy, literature, history, art, science, and many more disciplines, serve as remedy to the inherent forgetfulness of our mind, put a subject in an organized and instructive manner, and nurture life. It is only appropriate to appreciate the experience, exposure, courage, effort, time and other resources put into writing a book. More often than not, books (great books, if you will) are results of contributions of multiple individuals. More often than not, great books are collections of several books written by different individuals. More often than not, a group of individuals who are interested and knowledgeable on a common subject matter writes great books.

While welcoming the year 2014, I spent some time mesmerized by the flurry of books published on Ethiopia in the past two decades. The trend appears that the number of writers who are interested in documenting, informing, and instructing on an important time in Ethiopia's political past and political present is on the rise. Provocative and controversial, harboring their respective highs and lows, the fact that there are so many capable writers with the knowledge, experience, exposure, and courage to give us the greatest gift -- books -- on the history of politics and Ethiopia is excellent.

Speaking of books -- just recently, I read a document, close to 100 pages in size, scripted using a typewriter of the time, in Amharic. Apparently, the document is out of the ordinary. It is a copy of the deposition given by a prime political figure of the time, to the then officials of the government of Ethiopia, four decades ago. An impressive, detailed, analytical narration, worthy of a motion picture -- I

said when turning over the last leaf. It is an important element/segment of Ethiopia's greatest political past.

The history of the greatest generation of Ethiopia's recent half century is yet to be written for public consumption - a task that would need huge effort and resources. It may even require the creation of an institute of some sort to accomplish that task. It for sure needs to be done while some of the actual players are still alive. A responsible task to write that great book, from scratch or a beefed up synthesis of the already published documents and books – pulling the truth and only the truth to the surface -- and preserving relative realities in a respectful and dignifying manner for tomorrow – a quest to write a great book on a great generation!

Happy 2014

Akiye, January 4, 2014 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Dominance

I gave January of 2014 an A-plus for being just a pleasant and cheerful month. Right about the time when I expect to see the level of endorphins in my system (remnants of Christmas and New Years) tapering off, a booster dose of NFL playoffs came to the rescue, and before I know it, there was another crescendo of a beautiful feeling.

January 11 and 12 helped the line-up to be much shorter, leaving the final four teams to test their mighty for candidacy and fight for the Vince Lombardi Trophy. It is probably a season-long processing for true fans, but easy for some of us who are "tourist fans" of football, including yours truly -- January 19 puts the seal on the biceps-deltoid-trapezius of two talented teams. I heard a lot of good stuff about the two teams. One of the teams known for its offense, and the other for its defense. A recipe for a great match! During the week, there were even lighter moments of conversations here and there. Someone said on television that the coin toss will be at "four twenty" Colorado time. Was that a coincidence ...wink wink :-)? And of course, this years' conversation about football will not be complete without mentioning the Seahawks fans - The 12th Man - with a reputation of making the loudest noise – at a pitch where a Decibel makes Richter scale jealous. No doubt, Seahawks fans were determined to bring the Trophy home!

On February the 2nd, the game between the Broncos of Denver, and the Seahawks of Seattle was held in the MetLife Stadium in New Jersey. The 82,000-capacity magnificent arena was filled to its forehead. Off course, it is the Super Bowl! The weather, to every ones pleasure and a little surprise was seasonally perfect for the match. As I said earlier, it is very customary for me to join the football fan club right

around the playoffs, and let me tell you - I was overwhelmed by the excitement looking that it is already half-time and the points were 22 Seahawks -- Zero Broncos. Unbelievable!

Going to the fourth quarter, it began to look like a competition with the Broncos scoring some points. Bad for Broncos, they did not go far. Apparently, this years' Super Bowl match was a show of pure Dominance! The Seattle Seahawks marked their territory of smart, power, and determination at a comfortable distance afar -- not only for 2014, but also for many more years to come.

Congrats Hawks!

Akiye, February 3, 2014 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Framing Tomorrow

During the month of February, I effortlessly learned about a city, which I never heard of before, its name and where it is located. I even followed some of the hot events that the city has hosted for 17 days. Sochi, Russia the city it is. Thanks to the International Olympic Committee (IOC), February 2014 -- glamorized with nothing less than a futuristic spectacular winter Olympics games, was unique in many ways. The UN Secretary General made a speech for the first time in IOC's history, there were more participant nations and games to compete with, and the opening and closing ceremonies made Sochi unforgettable. That said however, the number of participating nations was less than half of the nations on the planet, (44% depending on whom you are listening to.) Apparently, Africa was visibly absent. By the way, was the "mishap" at the opening ceremony a malfunction or a metaphorical reflection of a continent, persistently absent in Winter Olympics? Hmm...any ways, am glad there was an effort, compensating the incident with a humorous inclusiveness, at the closing ceremony. When all is said and done - at the end of the 17 days competitions, team USA was one of the top five countries winning most of the awarded medals. Congratulation is in order! International sport events like the IOC's winter Olympics, and FIFA's World Cup (watch out -- June is approaching fast) are more than just games. Those events are about building friendships, promoting oneness, creating a stage that cultivates international peace and celebrating humanity. In framing tomorrow, the IOC should proactively intervene and strive to become more inclusive -- aiming at a participation of hundred percent of nations. It is doable!

Changing gears to a different notch, it is increasingly becoming more convincing that tomorrow is uniquely pleasing and exciting to look forward than ever before in human history -- off course, a skewed statement, which hopefully you would not be bothered to see beyond its face value. May be, a big may be, reading the news, this past couple of weeks, about a patient with partial hip replacement -- the new pelvis created using a hot 3-D printer, pinched your thought process a little, and helped you to look tomorrow in a better lens. No doubt, tomorrow is when functional organs could be harvested from a 3-D copy room next door ;-). A very complicated but still exciting stuff. Put yourself for a moment in a conference room set to discuss 3-D printing and Medicine, where the panelists are a physician, engineer,

religious leader, politician, economist, Bart and Lisa Simpson (as in Homer's kids) and imagine the argument that will never ever ends but would not hinder advancement to turn tomorrow to a much better day than yesterday.

If that does not make you run to the kitchen and pour a second cup of coffee, you likely are not ready for the next news, something interesting that I read in my favorite magazine, about uncovering the advances in the field of the digital revolution. About re-engineering the computer genome, so to infer -- from the kind that processes data in the form of bits (0 or 1) to a computer genome of quantum computing that processes data in the form of qbits (0 and 1). An idea, which conceptualizes the concurrent existence of two negating states, performing two tasks simultaneously, with a provision of humongous horsepower that enables a truck load of yottabyte of data -- big data processed in a couple or triple blinks of an eyelid and helps to explore the universe of tomorrow with no limits.

Framing tomorrow is not a trivial task. While we tend to take it for granted, a better tomorrow (in all fields -- including science, politics etc...) comes from a nonstop education, inquisitiveness, repetitive adjustments, hard and collaborative work. A better tomorrow requires the brilliance of humans' utilized positivity and making sure that known and unknown questions, not only asked, but also are answered. The endless curiosities quenched. Framing a better tomorrow costs time and other resources, and despite the inevitable inconvenience, backpedaling, disappointments and shattered hopes, tomorrow will be much better than yesterday. That is the way it was, that is the way it is, and that is the way it will be. If you could, join with those who tirelessly strive to make tomorrow a better day. If not, make sure that you are not needlessly standing on their ways.

Happy springtime ahead!

Akiye, March 1, 2014 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

ፀፀት

እረፊ ያላላት ሃገር
ዝንታለም ስትባዝን በችግር
ልጅ ወልዳ እንዳላሳደገች
ደራሽ አጥታ ታነባለች።

አይ ኢትዮጵያ
ስትኮራ በሞከሩት - ሳይሳካላቸው በቀሩት
አዋቂ ልጆች እንደሌሊት - ቅስጫ ተሰብሮ በተተኩት
ፈዛ ቀርታለች ግራ ገብቷት።

ከፋም ለማም
ልጆቿ -- ካብራኳ የወጣን
ካለንበት ያደረሰን - የተራራ ጫፍ ያሳየን
ያገራችን ቸርነት
የወገናችን የዋህነት

ሳይከፈል የቀረ ዕዳ ነው - ፀፀቱ የሚያበግነን።

ታዲያ -- ገብዝ
ድረሱልኝ የሚል ወገን - መግቢያ መውጫው ጠፍቶበት ሲሆዝን
ኸረ እንደምን አስቻለን - ዝም ማለቱ በረታብን?

የከፋብን ነገር -- ገብዝ
መደንዘዙ መጓተቱ - ቸልተኛነቱ
ያካል መራቅ አይደል ችግሩ
የልብ እንጂ -- መደንደኑ ማንገራገሩ።

ኢትዮጵያ
ችግሯ ስር የሰደደ በመሆኑም
እስካሁን -- ምንም ሰራን -- ምንም
አንጀቷ ላይ ጠብ አላለም።

አዎ! ያች ሀገር
እየሞከርንም ቢሆን በተናጠል
እጇን ይዘን ለማወጣት -- ከገባችበት ጥልቅ ገደል
ማበር መተባበርን -- ወህደትን -- የግድ ይላል።

በእንዲህ እንዳለ ይሁን ካልን - የህሊና ፀፀት ካልተሰማን
አንድያውን ሸፍጠን - የሌላ ሰው መሆን ይበጀን !

አልያ - አልያማ
ኢትዮጵያ - ሃገሬ ያልን
"ያለኔ ላሳር" የሚሉትን አጉል ፈሊጥ - ወዲያ ትተን
ዶሮ ሳይጮህ - አንድ እንሁን።
እና -- እናማ
የምክንያት ብዛት ሳይጫነን
ከተኛንበት ነቅተን -- የዝግመት መንገድን ትተን
አስችኳይ ድንገተኛ - እንደሆነ አምነን
ለተዳከመቸው ለኢትዮጵያ - ለወደቁላት ልጆቿ ስንል
አብረን ተባብረን - ተሞህደን
ቢያንስ ዕሩቡን - ወይ ሲሰዉን
ሳይከፈል የቀረውን ዕዳችን
ለመቅረፍ ቃል እንግባ ከልባችን።

አክዬ, ሚያዝያ 2006 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Necessity

Sprinting towards the finishing line of the 4th year presence of adarash on the web, and sort of marking the event, it somehow becomes a tradition to revisit a topic area that puts Ethiopia front and center. That in fact is the primary purpose of the existence of adarash. This time however, not only by principle, but also by necessity, I will briefly vent on three critical elements - that are the backbones of the present-day politics in Ethiopia. Moreover, the increasingly worsening worrisome situations heard loud and clear this past week from Ethiopia dictates doing nothing but just that. I know, it has been ignored for eternity, at least that is how long it feels, but who knows, there might be someone out there who listens this time around, for a change. After all, the spirit of “May Day” always lends the most needed strength and shades light on a rode to victory – in Ethiopia’s case, the creation of a sensible, democratic, and law-abiding peoples’ governance that is way long overdue!

The three critical elements that I will be mentioning here very briefly are [power, party, and people.] You may call them the triple-P factors. In a struggle for freedom, a winning strategy requires thoughtfully balanced mix of the triple-P factors. A strategy that disproportionately gravitates towards the critical element “power,” is off course likely to achieve the desired goal, but most often than not, it ends up instituting ruthless dictatorships. A struggle for freedom with a strategy that gives a disproportionate weight to the critical element “party,” not only is less likely to lead to a desired goal, it even may end up turning the struggle for freedom on to a protest entity. On the other hand, as history has it, a struggle for freedom with a strategy that gives more weight to the critical element the “people,” will most likely to result in the creation of a sensible, democratic, and law-abiding peoples’ governance. It is only a matter of time.

So, what are the realities in Ethiopia?

Critical element number one – Power: This element is seen ultra concentrated within the current ruling front. Apparently, the ruling front does not even care about being a “party,” as it gathers purposeless entities to create a deceiving pseudo organizational structure, just to be able to cling to “power.” Obviously, the ruling front does not care about the “people,” as it persistently engages itself in illegitimate decisions on the people’s land, civil right violations, and fearless corruptions, kicking downhill the exponentially deteriorating social fabric, ignoring the peoples’ cry for democracy and the rule of law, which are all documented characteristics of the practices of the ruling front. That is a dictatorship!

Critical element number two – Party: Unfortunately, the tendency of disproportionately gravitating towards the mere idea of a “party,” is in supper abundance among political organizations with alternative voices. It despicably appears that the primary focus of these groups is the “purity” of their respective parties, on their own terms. Undeniably, this quest for purity rendered them useless to the extent that they practically became just protest entities. Instead of turning their focus on to the

“people,” and unite themselves to become a capable competitive force, they always resort to taking their own ways and disintegrate. That still remains mindboggling!

Critical element number three – People: Speaking of “May Day” earlier, it is important to remember that the achievements of the workers movement are the results of dear sacrifices paid by the workers themselves, their families, and anyone else with a sense of humanity. Because the primary focus of the workers movement was always – the people – the working people, they were capable of building an uncompromised solidarity under the principle that each should look out for the interest of all. Back then, the critical elements “party” and “power” not forgotten, but were handled in a rightly measured mix. That wisdom helped the workers movement to create a winning force that ultimately secured all the benefits the present-day workers tend to take them for granted. That wisdom is what is needed today!

In closing, differing (conservative, moderate, and liberal) perspectives or taking differing stands on various political, social, and economic issues is not unique to Ethiopian politics. What is unique to Ethiopian politics is the lack of courage to unite and manage those differing perspectives under a single organization whose primary purpose is saving Ethiopia and Ethiopians. In Ethiopian politics, the unique choice happened to be creating two conservative, two moderate and two liberal parties, instead. It is not that difficult to witness, three or four relevant parties functioning separately, knowing that it is making them weaker, when they can and should unite and become a viable competitor against the (like it or not) strong ruling front. Of course, it is true that political organizations with alternative voices are disproportionately gravitating towards the purity of their respective “parties,” as opposed to focusing on the cry of the “people,” as they must. I hope that changes. It is an absolute necessity that political organizations with alternative voices that uncompromisingly believe in a stronger Ethiopia to stand and propel the struggle as a unitary power.

You must do this for the people!

Akiye, May 4, 2014 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Monthful of Fun

The long awaited time has come. Yes, on Thursday, the 12th day of June 2014, the world will sit-stand with excitement, waits for the whistle that actually declares the beginning of the 2014 World Cup matches, in Brazil. It marks the beginning of a month long fun planned to end on July 13, 2014. Lucky for Brazil, this will be for the second time (1950 and 2014) when "the Nation of Football" gets to host the World Cup. Congratulations!

In preparation, for a grilling two and half years (from June 2011 to November 2013,) a total of 239 teams competed in an aggregate 820 matches. The 31 teams selected through qualification competitions will

join Brazil as the host nation for a total of 32 teams digging their heels for a fight :-; Africa has five - Asia four - Europe 13 - North, Central America and Caribbean four - Oceania None - and South America six national teams. As a side note here, and as any free thinkers out there, I have a chest drawer where I keep a list of concepts/principles that I consider defy logic. A list of concepts/principles that are accepted as "true" or "right" without the necessary debates taken place in the minds of the learned. Hmmm...isn't that interesting, by reading this blog, you instantly became my secret buddy? Any ways.....Please convince me why Africa gets five and Europe gets 13.

Back to the primary point, and thanks to the Internet; we have been regularly updated on the status of the eagerly awaited, 2014 World Cup. Absolutely not a surprise that Brazil kept herself very busy rejuvenating the twelve host cities, creating a unique World Cup atmosphere. I would not expect any less! When all things that matter to football are said and done, 32 football teams would have played 64 World Cup matches, and one team will be declared as the winner. That decision is made, not on the basis of like or dislike, bribe, or fawning over -- but with a sabotage free, transparent professional competition, mano-a-mano, or should I say piede-a-piede battle!

Rest assured, not only those who made it to Brazil, but also football fans around the globe will be presented with all of the matches broadcasted live on ABC and ESPN/ESPN2 starting with the opener on June 12, featuring Brazil against Croatia in Sao Paulo. On the side, Brazil has a plan to entertain football lovers with an abundance of events, including the official song for the 2014 World Cup... "We are one."

History tells football fans as well as bystanders that the first FIFA World Cup was held in Uruguay, in 1930. Uruguay and Argentina reached for the final, and the host nation Uruguay won the first World Cup championship. Except between 1938 and 1950, where competitions were interrupted for 12 years, due to the Second World War, FIFA World Cup competitions are being held every four years. In 2010, the 19th FIFA World Cup competitions were held for the first time in the African continent, South Africa. To date, the winners' record indicates that Brazil won 5, Italy 4, Germany 3, Argentina 2, Uruguay 2, France 1, England 1, and Spain 1 of the past 19 World Cup competitions. Worth a repeat!

So, which team will be the addition to the list, as the 20th World Cup matches winner?

Enjoy the matches!

Akiye, June 1, 2014 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Worth a Repeat

Pheeeeew. July 13 -- already? What a thrilling month it was. As you know, the 2014 World Cup started a month ago in Brazil, with a breath taking opening ceremony displaying, the Amazonian Brazil, diversity, folk music, a reflection of unconditional love to football – "when your brain talks to your feet", nationalism, and of course the official song of the 2014 World Cup "We are One." Just tasteful! Brazil treated fans and sympathizers alike, all over the world, with games filled with surprises from start to finish. Thank you!

Just to highlight selected memorable moments, remember?...when the much more anticipated team trapped into confusion and disbelief, as result of a self-harm score, moments right after the unleashing whistle? Did you notice, in a couple of the game days, there was the inevitable conscious response of humans to extreme temperatures? Could it be related to.....? Never mind ;-). Any ways, remember?... when an official "Cooling Break" was instituted for the first time in the history of World Cup, as part of the regulations governing the games. Cooling Breaks, 3 minutes in duration, around 30 minutes into the game in both halves. Those three minutes were then added to the stoppage time at the end of each half. Just imagine the seamlessly palpable pressures that players have to endure, overcome, and quench their fans expectations --- The genuine heartbreaks of the players and fans alike that were visible to the naked eyes, when teams lose and sent back home. My friends, as it was true for some of the wins to be very resolute, some of the loses were also utterly humiliating. Who wouldn't notice the spectrum of emotions throughout the games, from spontaneous joyous eruptions -- to -- an overflow of tears coming from disappointed elders, adult men and women, and even little kids? Powerful moments! Well, all things that matter to football considered, we have seen marvelous and fulfilling games, particularly during the quarter and semi finals. The final games were not bad either, to be honest. The players gave all what they have -- and much more, playing with their toenails.

Events, particularly sport events of such a global magnitude, are like seasonally applied fertilizers to society, with a power of nurturing healthy life style, getting the human race together, and advocating oneness. That said however, inside the games, some inconsistencies were inevitable here and there, with teams venting their frustrations open air. Those inconsistencies need correction in the future. Controversies with regard to such an "extravaganza", referring to the money spent on the preparation for the 2014 World Cup, deserve very close attention. The solution might not need to take anything away from similar preparations to the World Cup. It for sure needs to be proactive, to find and allocate enough resources towards making the lives of the poor and the middle class a little better. When there is a will, there is a way. It is possible to do two things at the exact same time.

After a true 32 days battle, today July 13, 2014, two deserving teams, Germany and Argentina played for the final. Both teams played a good game, and Germany scored the sole goal at the 113th minutes into the match, and became the winner of the 20th World Cup. Germany's fourth time win of the World

Cup. Worth a repeat! At the closing ceremony, the players of team Germany received medals and a genuine hug from their nation's leader.

Team Germany, Congratulations!

Akiye, July 13, 2014 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Exemplary

Seven billion and counting, planet earth is hosting a fast increasing human population. In a little over half a century, I have seen my country of birth quadrupled its population count, from about 25,000,000 to over 94,000,000 at the present. I wonder, if it were possible to fit us all, (I meant the seven billion of us) on an iPod screen, and tasked to submit a pager, describing a profile of the world population. Where would you begin? What topic area would you consider most relevant? Where would you end? Or would you ever want to end? because it gets endlessly interesting.

Agreed. It would be hard, to pick a topic. For this morning though, I forced myself to be governed by time and circumstances, and decided to say a word or two on exemplary people. People, anyone may call a role model, or a hero. First and foremost, the day to day average people all over the planet, whom are working hard to make means meet ends; shoulder, fight and survive oppression and discrimination; and still have little leftover energy to be hopeful. Those are whom I primarily consider exemplary, a hero.

Zooming-in to an individual level, as I hinted in one of my previous blogs, there are two individuals I consider exemplary, a hero - Nelson Mandela and Bill Gates. The greatness about Nelson Mandela is not only the dear sacrifice he paid fighting apartheid. The greatness about Nelson Mandela is also his wisdom, ingenuity - against all odds, making forgiveness and reconciliation his guiding principle. Likewise, the greatness about Bill Gates is not only his genius. The greatness about Bill Gates is also his kindness to humans and his global quest, nurturing social responsibility.

A little over a week ago from today, Bill Gates received honorary Doctorate degree from Ethiopia's Addis Ababa University (AAU). My Alma Mater. Congratulations! According to the information I read on the Internet, Bill Gates has in the past received honorary degrees from the University of Washington, Harvard University, Cambridge University, and China's Tsinghua University. You can see, he deservingly has bunch of them. While that is the case, Bill Gates was genuinely grateful for the honorary degree he received from AAU; the first African University to award honorary degree to Bill Gates.

In his speech to the graduating class; while underscoring the importance of focusing on health and agricultural productivity, Bill Gates said, "I fully realize that health and agricultural productivity are far

from the only factors in economic growth. There are plenty of others – education, good governance, a sound physical infrastructure, to name just a few.” Bill Gates added, “If you learn from each other, then all countries in Africa should be able to do as well as the highest performing countries. That would be a stunning transformation.”

I, your humble blogger, couldn't agree more!

Akiye, August 2, 2014 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

2007

As you may have noticed, four years and counting, Akiye's blog is coming to you once a month. It essentially is a short, informal, spontaneous, and mostly conversational in presentation --- raising seemingly simple but important issues, (focused by far on Ethiopia,) with intent to provoke “Hhhmmmmmm.....moments.” I sincerely thank you all for visiting adarash and reading my blog.

It is that time of the year, when in about 10 days, Ethiopians will usher in a New Year --- closing 2006 and opening 2007, that is. Just tinkering with it, one side of me is saying that the technical aspect of a New Year, therefore, adding “one” to a calendar year, every how many measurement scale of time you choose to use, is just *ennuyeux* – excuse my French. Come on now – is it not just another day? Then again, in defense of the notion of all the excitement around a New Year, -- keeping the traditional Spring festivals as is -- the other side of me is saying, what makes a New Year interesting or exciting is --- that plus-one manmade sense, a New Year brings “another second chance” for us to get “it” right -- whatever “it” is to each one of us -- in person or as a society.

Just in case you would like an example, take for instance an honorable quest, like that of creating law abiding democratic governance. I assume you would agree that it is forever a noble stand not to give-up, right? It therefore should be ok if anyone wants to mark New Year symbolic, as a day to renew that noble resolution and celebrate. I also assume that you would agree, endless renewal of resolution tends to become just a futile exercise. If you want to shorten a frustratingly repetitive renewal of whatever noble your resolution might have been, as that of creating law abiding democratic governance in Ethiopia (highlighted for a reason), all stakeholders --- the ruling front and alternative voices --- must be cognizant of and act responsibly upon certain crucial points.

1. Respect civil rights and the rule of law: A necessary gesture would be a) an immediate release of ALL Ethiopian political prisoners and b) a removal of the labeling of “illegal” status of any Ethiopian political organizations with alternative voices – domestic and Diaspora alike. It is the ruling front's obligation to do so.

2. Stop marginalizing any ethnic-tribe-clan groups. Marginalizing any ethnic-tribe-clan groups will never help any cause, Ethiopian. This is the obligation of both the ruling front and Ethiopian political organizations with alternative voices - domestic and Diaspora alike, to mend. The ultimate goal is living together. Else, why bother?
3. Stop sabotaging major developmental efforts. Sabotaging major developmental efforts will never help any cause, Ethiopian. And this is the obligation of Ethiopian political organizations with alternative voices - domestic and Diaspora alike, to fix. The failure of the GERD for instance, will not make the ruling front pack and go.
4. National forgiveness and reconciliation: Forgiveness and reconciliation is the utmost crucial task that always needs to be on the table, and for sure is another mutual obligation of both the ruling front and Ethiopian political organizations with alternative voices - domestic and Diaspora alike. Start with accepting the fact that it is important for all Ethiopian political organizations with alternative voices to give the due professional respect to the ruling front. It is also equally important for the ruling front to stop criminalizing, humiliating, or discrediting any of the Ethiopian political organizations with alternative voices – domestic and Diaspora alike. Let the one superior with ideas take the lead, and allow the people to be the judge of that!

Genuine and sensibly orchestrated measures on those four points appear to be the only reasonable actions forward, to greatly improve the likelihood for success --- in building a stronger, peaceful, and prosperous Ethiopia of the future. With that at heart and in mind, may you all celebrate a joyous Ethiopian New Year --- and renew your resolution again, again, and again--- until you get it right.

Happy New Year!

Akiye, September 1, 2014 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Strikes a Chord

Today is October 5, 2014. I woke up well rested, bright, and shiny – though a little, unusually too early, for a Sunday. Opened the front door and stepped out, to bring in the mail I left in the car, yesterday evening. Was greeted outside by a pleasant, fresh, but coldish weather to my nose. Mumbled quietly, I said -- Hhhmmmm autumn is sneaking in the city! Apparently, it is already the season when daytime will get shorter and shorter, darkness will set in earlier and earlier, the temperature will fall lower and lower, and rain and snow will be here more often.

Well, returned back inside, did the routines, and made a cup of coffee. Three, four sips latter, I was already in the midst of browsing the Interwebs. Reminiscing about relevant events during the month of

September 2014, the Scottish independence referendum won my attention. For nearly a year, since November 2013, a number of issues were intensely debated, primarily in Scotland, to answer the question on whether or not Scotland should become an independent country. On September 18, the people of Scotland voted to remain part of the United Kingdom, along with England, Wales, and North Ireland. The young and first time voters, women, and the elderly were more on the side of those who said NO to separation. That strikes a chord in all East Africans touched by the separation of Eritrea and South Sudan, from their respective mother countries.

No, not at all. I am not that naïve to make direct comparisons between countries that are 4000 miles apart and different in so many ways. However, in principle, I subscribe to the idea that asserts – a country, a society, a family, what have you - that is big - always stands out. Fragmentation, disintegration, and separation, by far embody the contrary. Of course, there is nothing dignifying and precious like fighting for your freedom and winning it. However, I am also rightly reminded to what has happened two decades ago in my birth country Ethiopia, and just recently in Ethiopia's neighboring country - the Sudan. The separation of Eritrea or South Sudan did not bring any solutions to the complex problems that the people of Eritrea and the people of South Sudan were experiencing.

Let the results of the referendum in Scotland, in 1995 in Canada, 1993 in Ethiopia, and 2011 in the Sudan -- be lessons to those groups that are still ruminating the idea of separation from Ethiopia, or anywhere else for that matter. Although freedom is a natural right, separation is not necessarily the only remedy, the only righteous route, or by no means a smart way of securing freedom. Especially for people where a sense of oneness is embedded in their souls. Separation is rather a reflection of failed governance, unwiseness, and always comes back to haunt the people caught in the middle. That is exactly what is happening today in East Africa.

It helps to remember that there are always superior and smarter ways of solving problems in society, without adding the option of separation in the mix!

Akiye, October 5, 2014 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Metaholidays

In a time when 140 characters are the hallmark of trendy communications, writing four or five paragraphs blog is being generous, to those who enjoy continuously shuffling thoughts and entertaining mind-bending challenges. Even nonverbal communications (gesturations - as I like to call it,) is equally strong as our words, and no matter how short -- tweets undeniably have important place in communications. The only thing those few characters will fall short of near perfection are on providing a little context, on what has been written. That is where writing a blog becomes attractive. By the way, some individuals are perfect than others, in deciphering gesturations. It helps to be cognizant of that,

when present in public spaces. Anyways, warm greetings to you adarashians out there. This is Akiye's November 2014 blog.

Well, here at home in the United States, we are about to begin the holidays season. In fact, yesterday was Halloween, when you get to see treat-or-tricking, and ghost tours just to mention as an example. While kids are enjoying the treats, (hopefully, treats are becoming more-healthier from year to year,) and touring the neighborhoods -- adults too, seem not to shy away from using Halloween as an excuse to express themselves. Clothes running from those meant to scare -- to glamorizing sexiness -- to the prototype Witch costumes, and those creative ones, trying to communicate something -- a take on to make Halloween both entertaining and educational. Moving forward, it is that time again to indulge ourselves with some unsuspected Turkeys and family gatherings on Thanksgiving. Christmas is also around the corner. And there is that time of the year, when we will be left with little energy - just enough - to count from ten down to yelling "Happy New Year", and a kiss or two -- as a sign and seal of the end of the holidays season.

Overall, holidays are positive ways of reflecting our existence and celebrating humanity. Holidays are filled with happiness. Happiness feeds a healthy mind. A healthy mind feeds a healthy body. Taken all together, holidays nurture the whole person, family, and society -- in a good way. It is with that context, I strongly suggest adding one more holiday to the season. Metaholidays, I would name it ☺. It would be a holiday about holidays. Yes, Metaholidays would be a mid-week day -- or -- even a weekend when all holidays will display a showcase. Planned line of booths, with displays telling a story about specific holidays, only miniaturized for time and space. It would be like an outdoor museum of holidays, attracting community outing, where kids and adults alike, visit -- ponder -- ask - and learn. Metaholidays would be a mid-week day or a weekend of celebration of diversity of perspectives on life itself. Metaholidays would be a mid-week day or a weekend to share what is ours, with others. Metaholidays would be a mid-week day or a weekend to be aware of holidays a next-door neighbor or friends in a distant far celebrate. Metaholidays would be a mid-week day or a weekend to learn about others who have approaches of expressing the existence of humanity, and the universe, in a humanly way -- only different from ours.

My friends, on top of the holidays mentioned above -- add birthdays, anniversaries, other low-key holidays that have an overlapping time frame, and the hard to ignore seasonal weather -- we have a perfect justification if we sometimes forget how extra busy and restless we can be. It is easy to be mired in the flow and forget ourselves, until we run out of ATP and reach a total burnout. The stress index understandably will add up a notch or two, and may even push some of us off the edge, health wise. Remember to take a break, get enough sleep, and watch the little ones and the elderly, carefully.

Happy holidays!

Akiye, November 1, 2014 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Miraculous

I migrated to the United States in the mid 1990s. As any immigrants, I had to go through the various lawful steps, until I finally became a citizen. I was fortunate and am grateful, the steps for me were congenial, --- a memorable journey that took a little over nine years. In preparation for the in-person oral exam for citizenship, at the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, I did a quick reading on civics and the constitution. It did not take me long to grasp important differences between the United States and my birth country Ethiopia, about government, the values of citizenship, civil rights, country, and humanity. To come to terms with the idea “to be or not to be” a citizen, was by no means trivial.

One of the impressive elements I read at the time was the first amendment to the United States constitution that was adopted on December 15, 1791 as one of the ten amendments that constitute the Bill of Rights. A snippet from a posting on the Internet explains the first amendment as follows. “The First Amendment (Amendment I) to the United States Constitution prohibits the making of any law respecting an establishment of religion, impeding the free exercise of religion, abridging the freedom of speech, infringing on the freedom of the press, interfering with the right to peaceably assemble or prohibiting the petitioning for a governmental redress of grievances.” Continues to explain, “The free press clause protects the right of individuals to express themselves through publication and dissemination of information, ideas, and opinions without interference, constraint, or prosecution by the government.” As you can see, the first amendment is fundamental to civilized democracy and freedom. Speaking of civilized democracy and freedom, here at home in the United States, we had a midterm election, held on November 4, 2014. We voted, and the results were astounding -- creating the “largest Republican majority in the entire country,” said a posting on the web. The Republican Party gained the Senate, and increased the majority in the House. Yes, in a civilized democracy and freedom, vote matters. Vote is that powerful.

That brings me into tinkering about elections and voting in Ethiopia. Under the current Ethiopian constitution, there were four general elections, in 1987, 1992, 1997, and 2002 Ethiopic calendar. In about six months from now, in May of 2007 Ethiopic calendar (May of 2015 Gregorian calendar,) Ethiopia will hold her general election for the fifth time. The present-day Ethiopia is a one-front rule state, where the ruling front monopolizes politics, and systematically controls any elections to guarantee its own victory. The ruling front appoints officials that run the National Election Board. Alternative voices are “allowed” to take part in the election. However, in reality -- organizing and engaging in any forms of peaceful political movement result in torture, imprisonment, and loss of life. Even, when there is a vote, -- by using the military, police, the peoples’ money, and the government

media, -- the ruling front always manages to falsify the results and puts itself the first in line on the winners list, with improbably wide and large majority.

The people of Ethiopia, time and time again have demanded a free, fair, and transparent election to choose a party that persistently demonstrated its uncompromising reverence to the country Ethiopia and the Ethiopian people. That never happened. One despicable justification that the ruling front brings to western critics and human rights organizations, to justify its dictatorship rule is “due to differences in social, cultural, economic, and political maturity of citizens in developing nations, it is impossible to institute a democracy as it exists in developed nations.” Contrary to this deceiving theory of the ruling front, the dear sacrifice that is being paid for decades by the Ethiopian people, the maturity of political organizations with alternative voices and the people’s press are nothing but world class and phenomenal. After all, as some social scientists put it – developed and developing nations alike -- citizens use heuristics to substitute for detailed knowledge, citizens are not too ignorant to maintain a functioning democracy, and institutions such as political parties or the media can substitute for citizens’ knowledge.

Unfortunately, the endless grim reality is – Ethiopian political organizations with alternative voices and the people's presses are tied-up arm and leg, duck taped and blindfolded by the ruling front -- literally and metaphorically. The pillars of the First Amendment are either nonexistent or fearlessly violated by the ruling front. Civilized democracy and freedom -- Alas, not in Ethiopia! There is no doubt, what Ethiopia will be seeing for the next six months is a fake, and dictatorial election processes. Consequently, results of the election come May 2007 Ethiopic calendar are utterly predictable. Unless, of course -- the people of Ethiopia and Ethiopian political organizations with alternative voices that are set to build a stronger Ethiopia of the future are already prepared to do something -- miraculous!

It helps to remember -- Elections are not about individuals. Elections are not even about political parties. Elections are about the people, peoples’ choices, and the country’s best future.

I shall see you next year ... I mean, in a month ;-)

Akiye, December 1, 2014 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Valor

Greetings, dear readers – as you know, nature dictates, for planet earth to complete a rotation around the sun, once a day. With little variation in practice, nations use time, to measure, record, and describe the universe and events as realized by humans. Here on earth, roughly 365 days make a year. It is a tradition, to mark and celebrate a point when a measure of one - year - time ends and an incremental measure of another year begins. That is what has happened at a stroke of midnight yesterday, around

the world, ringing out the year 2014 based on the Gregorian calendar. Yes, Happy New Year to all ...this is Akiye's blog, January 2015.

Towards the end of December, thinking of the holiday's season, I took a break for some days. One of the stuff I got a chance to do is defragging my brain, to prepare myself for the New Year with a rejuvenated mind-set. In doing so, I spent a great amount of time on thinking about major events that occurred during the year 2014. One major event -- of course according to yours truly ;-)) that out ways them of all, is the mid December surprise announcement of the beginning of the process of normalizing relations between Cuba and the United States, putting an end to a strained relationship of two nations for a little over half a century. For those who paid attention, leaving the complexities to hands-on professionals, for the rest of us, the take home message from this major change of minds and change of hearts is -- if and when a principle based position becomes a futile exercise, it ought to change.

We humans have created a society that is too complicated to the extent that some of our problems get out of hand and put our existence in danger. The excuses always come wrapped with a fabric of some sort of principle -- a principle that instantly raises itself to the extent of becoming a dogma. Whether it is on a personal, group, organization, or national level -- once a position is processed as a matter of that unique principle, it becomes 360 degrees iron-fenced and iron-gate locked, guarded by the ever-impervious human factors, against any ideas that suggest change. In those circumstances, bringing a change is never trivial. Therefore, in those unique circumstances when you see a change happening -- it is near a miracle. It for sure takes that very rare element - valor. And, certainly yes, when you see that unique change happening, it deserves a special appreciation and recognition.

If you are a resident of adarash land, and read Akiye's blog now and then, you know where I am heading with this. Yes, I am trans tinkering across Atlantic and primarily on to the other side of the continent of Africa -- East Africa, the horn of Africa -- the cradle of the human race, if you will. Yea -- how couldn't I think of that? Unfortunately, that part of planet earth is plagued with conflicts both within the countries, and between neighboring nations. And, you guessed it right -- all those conflicts have their respective reasons that they believe are based on their own unique "principles" -- principles that enveloped all stakeholders in the conflicts in their own imaginary bubbles. Imaginary bubbles that are 360 degrees iron-fenced and iron-gate locked, guarded by the ever-impervious human factors, against any ideas that suggest change. They even care less when they rendered themselves incapable of coming out of their bubbles to weed their fears, stubbornness, selfishness, and ignorance that overwhelmed their backyards. I hope all those concerned take the surprise announcement of the beginning of the process of normalizing relations between Cuba and the United States, as a model -- a good example -- a smarter way of solving major problems -- first and foremost, by giving peace a chance. Especially, when you are in the midst of realizing those positions of yours that are based on your unique principles, have already been tested and proven futile exercises, for several decades.

Well then, may the New Year opens your minds -- your hearts -- your eyes, and stretches your arms so that you come out of your bubbles and give peace a chance. It is a smarter, futuristic way of solving problems.

Akiye, January 1, 2015 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Super Bowl XLIX

Can you believe it is already February? Hmmmmm....I am right now unsure, if it is because I am getting into that stage, when I am expected to begin witnessing the saying “life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes,” to be true, or am just busy. Anyways – now is the moment that marks the end of the 2014-2015 National Football League (NFL) season. Greetings my dear readers,.....this is Akiye’s blog, and I am here because....I won’t miss the opportunity to share briefly with you, my take on football -- the game; and Super Bowl -- celebrating and honoring of it.

During the second half of last year, I did some reading on football, and in all honesty, not only it made me closer to it, but also feel some “football fever” in me, unusually early in the season. No more like it used to be in the far back old days, but showing traces of rudimentary old-world football, rugby, and soccer on it -- the modern day football, as we know it, is a physical, dangerous, manly, macho, complex, obsessive, addictive, captivating, entertaining, passionate, intense, fierce, tough, and rough sport. It was enlightening to learn that football – the game, is full of intriguing rules and regulations that span from timing, pass, tackle, scoring, and everything imaginable in between. Framed inside a 100 by 53 yards field, and the extra 10 yards end zones on each end of the field, two teams prepared with high caliber sportsmanship, test their mighty with 11 players each, switching roles posing as offensive and defensive.

As the most majority of sports, reserving their respective variations, the center of attention of the game football is a prolate spheroid shaped ball, made of inflated rubber bladder, enclosed in a pebble-grained leather cover or cowhide with laces sewn on its surface, so I learned. Essentially, the team with the possession drives the ball with a determination to pass, kick, or run with the ball past the other team’s goal line, to score points. The task of the team on the defensive is to prevent that from happening by any means necessary. The game runs for four 15-minutes quarters, and a 12-minute break at half time. Obviously, football has traveled long way through time, and built a unique reputation for itself with features rich in stories like sportsmanship, fanship, love, battle, business, and a long list of improvisations. It is however not until two decades into the 1900s, when the now known NFL came to being, faced its rival --the American Football League (AFL) in 1960, and to make a long story short, the two leagues end up officially merged in 1970 when the present-day football, and its – season closing tradition -- the Super Bowl were born! The official use of the name "Super Bowl" retroactively included the AFL-NFL World Championship Games beginning 1967 as Super Bowl I.

It feels good to be able to give a learned attestation on the games (during the regular season, the wild-card rounds, the divisional rounds, and of course the two conferences, AFC and NFC championship games) which I was able to watch were all nothing but extra memorable! Who would forget -- that the Patriots made winning the AFC championship -- a walk in the park, and Seahawks' NFC championship win was for all intensive purposes -- miraculous. Post championship games reflections were also full of instant overflow of emotions on one hand, and the lingering deflation gate on the other. As far as the latter goes, short term -- I hesitantly think deflation gate was a mere spoiler, as not anything that comes out of it will change the result of that particular match. Long-term and moving forward -- proactively improvising and fixing any allegedly caught, caught, and yet to be caught inconsistencies need to be part of the primary duties of the league. By the way, that should include certain aspects of "Media Tuesday," as well. At any rate, on January 18, 2015 the best team from NFC and the best team from AFC made themselves candidates for Super Bowl XLIX -- Seahawks of Seattle, and Patriots of New England.

Early on, during the preparatory phases, the league selected the University of Phoenix Stadium, in Glendale Arizona as the arena where Super Bowl XLIX will take place. While the city of Glendale enjoys the opportunity to put its face in front of a worldwide audience, downtown Phoenix remained sleeveless to make sure that all the Super Bowl related activities, registered in history, as memorable. All that led tens of thousands of football fans, from around the country, flock to west of Phoenix to show their loyalty to their respective teams, and quench their thirst for football. Today, February 1, 2015, on Super Bowl Sunday, the singular day in football, 114.4 millions more of us, warmed-up our backyards, living rooms, and the neighborhoods' sport bars --- get together with friends and families, built instant friendships with what we otherwise call "strangers," and enjoyed the one-time (right?) guilt free indulgence in our vices of eats and drinks, while watching the game with fervor. As always, I am a strong believer in sport's powerful therapeutic purposes, from promoting physical activity and all its fringe benefits, to aerating people's togetherness, to nurturing love, friendships, and belongingness. Those attributes will remain important irrespective of the results of any matches.

In Glendale Arizona, the dome shaped spacious stadium, opened in 2006 and is home to the NFL's Arizona Cardinals, has a capacity ranging from 63400 -- with a room to expand -- up to about 72000 spectators. As always, upbeat football fans took their sits, shoulder to shoulder, sharing pulse with fans next to each other, tightly laminating the luminal surface of the stadium all round. At 4:30 pm Arizona time, the umpire's instructional whistle unlocked the invisible gate between the two teams, releasing the 22 gentlemen on the field, to start their engines, so to infer.

The first half was a balanced play, and both teams left for the half time with equal points scored. After a near four Million dollars a blink of an eyelid, nonetheless breathtaking commercials, and the half time music special, the second half started, with both teams appearing hopeful to play better. While the second half play was not bad, Seahawks players -- despite great games all season, were not able to retain their championship status for a second time in a row. Rather the Patriots turn the clock back and became the Super Bowl XLIX champions.

Congratulations Patriots!

Akiye, February 1, 2015 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Crystal Ball

In scientific research undertakings or any well-designed projects for that matter, mid-way assessment of ongoing events at one or more segments of time specified a priori is a standard practice. The findings from the mid-way assessment are then shared with all stakeholders before the end of the project. Whether the results from the mid-way assessment are overwhelmingly good or overwhelmingly bad, it is relevant to learn about the facts as they emerge. That will avoid the risk of landing on a very little opportunity to absorb the facts by waiting until the end. The purpose of doing all that is to be able to make evidence based decisions, not exclusively, but including the discontinuation of an ongoing project when and if indicated.

Greetings folks -- today, I feel like reflecting on what is happening in Ethiopia regarding the general election that is set for Ginbot 2007 (May 2015). Neither I have a crystal ball, nor I believe in it, but based on a 20 something years of concerned observation, I hinted on my December 2014 blog, Miraculous -- the process of the planned general election in Ethiopia would only be brutal, with a pinch of hopefulness left in me just in case there is something I didn't know. Hmmm, not that it is obvious for most, anyways.

Now is the time to do that informal mid-way assessment of the status of the election process on the ground. Realities: 1) The National Election Board, the de facto power tool for the ruling front, turned out to be a monster, high on stimulants, marching across the nation, crushing any and all of the peoples' movements on its way. 2) The National Election Board is fearlessly practicing humanly unbearable "rules and regulations" that resulted the disintegration of two of the popular parties with alternative voices and severely damaging the third, rendering the peoples' corner irrecoverably out of the picture. To borrow a legal term as a metaphor, it essentially is like a "constructive eviction," illegal in every sense of responsible governance. 3) Au contraire, the ruling front appears to be bride and groom, well resting, ready for a honeymoon.

No further teachable moment necessary, for alternative voices to take it to heart their naiveté is hurting the people's quest for freedom. As far as the general election goes, it is finished -- fini! Now what? That is the question. I am aware that it perpetually is ignored, but remains an uncompromisingly crucial element to victory. Yes, "unity" -- that word alternative voices hate or fake for eternal. Mind you all, the control over the nations' machineries of power is not the only factor that gives the ruling front strength (like it or not), but also for better or for worse, the ruling front has a united political party. It is not a choice for the alternative voices to unite. Alternative voices need to wake-up and breath-in that heavenly aroma of Ethiopian coffee -- three, four times, and re-realize that struggle for freedom is not a

fashion show. It does not need 5, 15, 50 parties. It only needs one or two, and by now, you should have learned that the hard way.

At any rate, I never lose hope on the bravery of the Ethiopian people. It is in their genome of those east Africans. Just remember not to be side tracked by transient hiccups. Get yourselves together and create a mighty alternative voice, trusting on yourselves. It either will give you the power to replace the ruling front, or to bring the ruling front to a negotiating table by any means necessary. Both ways can take you, to where you need to go. The choice is yours.

With reverence!

Akiye, March 1, 2015 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Easter | ፋሲካ

Living and nonliving, as in – animal and plant kingdoms, and their near and time and space unimaginable surrounding universe harbor an important likeness – variability and heterogeneity. Take a brief look around you -- the proof is right there. Since traceable far back in time, when intellectual results describe the true nature of humankind, we know that humans are not the exception to that important likeness. Those features of variability and heterogeneity are the beauty of our existence. Curiosity in explaining the beautiful existence of the universe, led humans create an accepted second nature of thought. One perspective of that second nature of thought prescribes to various religions and practices of religious traditions.

Speaking of religions and practices of religious traditions, today April 5, 2015 here at home in the United States and other countries that follow the Gregorian calendar, believers of Christianity are celebrating one of the religious traditions – Easter. A week from now, on April 12, 2015 in Ethiopia and all over the world, followers of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church will celebrate Easter.

The essence of Easter is a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Bing, Google, what have you, allow us all to visit pages of descriptions for Easter. The festive spirit of Easter is widely prevalent months before the day arrives, with malls, shopping complexes, houses and churches involved in preparation for the event. Colorful eggs to Easter bunny cakes, Eastertide engulfs the world in various ways. Special services are held in churches on Easter Sunday to celebrate Jesus Christ's resurrection. Eggs, rabbits, hares, and young animals form the major symbols of Easter as they represent rebirth and return to fertility of nature in the spring.

Likewise, among followers of the Ethiopian Orthodox church in Ethiopia and these days all over the world, the preparation for Easter begins months before the day arrives. Forty days of fasting is at the

core of the tradition in preparation for Easter. During the forty days fasting, followers will not consume foods of animal origin. Skipping breakfast is common. During my youth (during the time of King Haile Silasie,) the national radio broadcast used to halt all songs, but those religious or spiritual in lyrics and tone. Families prepare plant and vegetable food items months before the forty fasting days begin. On the eve of Easter Sunday, churches have special services that extend until the early morning of Easter Sunday. Families returning from church will be served with a special meal (injera, doro-wot, ayib, bread, homemade drink (tela), etc.) prepared for the occasion to break the fast.

I believe, for Adarashians, it is not a surprise to see my blog inserting a mirror mapping of any conversation to what may be same or different when compared and contrasted with what is applicable to Ethiopia and Ethiopians. Irrespective of the varieties, practicing religious traditions including prayer and fasting are important parts of believing and understanding the scripture. When frequented, practicing religious traditions help believers to be in a special frame of mind, and ultimately benefit from many advantages.

Happy Easter | መልካም ፋሲካ

Akiye | April 5, 2015 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Saved for another Day

I always have some explanation, and most often than not, hold a clear position on any aspects of thought processes, pertaining to our universe. No, I am not saying I know everything or am always right. After all, who knows everything or who is always right? For heaven's sake. What I meant was -- I speak my mind, and certainly know what I do know, and certainly know what I do not know. Yesterday night, on May 1, 2015 it was however a different story.

Around 10:00 O'clock, I hesitantly made time to sit at my reading desk and opened a blank word document, to write my blog for the month of May. After a little over an hour, when I finally came back to my conscious self - I noticed that not a single word was typed on the opened page. In all honesty, it was not that I ran out of ideas, but remained unable to make up my mind on single theme and run with it. It felt like my brain was clogged with bolus of ideas that were incapable of going in or out of my thought processes. Unable to decide on one topic area, I was forced to click on the ball at the upper left corner of the opened word document, hover-pressed to the [save as] command, and typed "saved for another day," as a file name, and went to bed.

Today, May 2, 2015 at 4:30 pm, I returned to my desk and opened the document that I left yesterday, untouched. This time however is very different -- I guess, by sleeping on it, I made the thought processes

easier for myself. I also decided to leave out the details, omit the complexities, and share with you the outline, and only the outline.

Here it goes. Yesterday was the first day of May, and the topic that came first to mind was “May Day,” tinkering writing about the International Workers Day. You know, the history of the workers movement that were visible since the late 1800’s, the triumphs, tribulations, and a long list of benefits that the present day workers, not only should remember, but also make time to thank the pioneers of the workers movements of the past and the present. Then again, I was repeatedly interrupted by the images of human sufferings from the war trodden Middle East -- injustice and brutality from Ethiopia and Yemen -- unimaginable cruelty from Kenya, South Africa, and Libya -- an over flow of anger from Maryland -- heart breaking news of a natural disaster from Nepal, and unpleasant phenotypes of global social inequalities. It was like multiple negative images of human sufferings, rotating inside my head, vividly visible to my wide-shut eyes. I was completely in a perplexed state of mind.

Feeeeww...all those are reflections of the broadness, intensity, and complexity of the mess that the present day society is immersed. Despair not. The ingenuity of humans, not only describing both natural and manmade disasters but also in solving them, is limitless without a doubt. Why then all those problems perpetually mired in our lives and threaten our own existence, you ask? There are certain “human factors” that are strong enough to cancel out humans’ ingenuity. Those human factors certainly need to be addressed, in a humanly and civilized manner.

Let us all come back to our genuine senses!

Akiye | May 2, 2015 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Disruptive Innovation

Dear readers, this is Akiye’s blog coming to you, once a month, since June 2010. During the past five years, the experience undeniably has been rewarding for me. I sincerely thank you all for visiting adarash regularly, and providing heartily feedback. I heard from the horses’ mouth that adarash is in the making of a big transformation. While that happens, I plan making some quick changes here and there, including making Akiye’s blog more structured and more integrated with the community blog that exists on the “Discuss” menu. The unique characteristics of Akiye’s blog, i.e., being spontaneous, informal, conversational, guided by relevant events during the respective past months remain in place.

Accordingly, the highlights of the top two events during the last 10 days in May 2015 were the following:

Here at home in the United States we observe a holiday on the last Monday of May remembering the people who died while serving the nations' armed forces fighting for liberty and justice for all. Observing the day, there are various events of traditional observance, and cities and noticeable places are decorated with the national flag, nurturing a deep integration of the community into a genuine sense of nationalism. On Memorial Day, adarash honors who serve and those we lost!

Ethiopia had her national and regional elections to fill up 547("550") seats for peoples representatives and (117) for the federal parliament. Formal results are not announced, not yet. We may hear those sometime at the end of June. Even then, I will not be asking you to guess the obvious. What I will be asking instead is to guess by how much will the party representing the ruling front win?, and what are the relevant implications of this election to the future of the Ethiopian people and the country Ethiopia?

Speaking of liberty, justice, and sense of nationalism, the second point above is obviously tempting to continue on discussing, as there is lots of talking on this election in Ethiopia. The Ethiopian people, various parties of alternative voices on the ground, the ruling front, and alternative voices in the Diaspora are currently venting different perspectives.

The Ethiopian people, as always, have been actively engaged in, eager, and determined to bring about desired changes. Simply put, life is unbearable in Ethiopia. Persistent poverty, injustice, brutality, threatened nationalism and national pride, and civil right violations have percolated into the lives of each citizen, endangering the existence of the Ethiopian people and the country Ethiopia. Apparently, exerted eagerness and determination alone to bring about the desired change were not up to par with the ruthless barricade of the ruling front – thus the obvious disappointment on the outcome of this election. Right now, all things that matter standing between helplessness and hopelessness, there is a subdued mood throughout.

Parties with alternative voices (those whose mission is building a stronger, one Ethiopia, with liberty and justice for all,) and functioning inside the country, have done their best in building a peaceful resistance movement throughout the nation. These parties faced brutal challenges long before and during this election. Even in the presence of those brutal challenges, if the election processes were transparent and fair -- the people would have gotten what they were aspiring to. The interesting thing is, those parties certainly are aware that circumstances on the ground will never allow transparent and fair election in Ethiopia. Why on earth, they chose to participate in such an election remains mindboggling! Well then, repeating the same excuses and rationalizations will never do any good. Alternative voices must become differently organized, unite, and devise a better strategy.

The ruling front, hiding behind a deceiving idea of a "growing democracy," accusing alternative voices for failing to abide by the rules of law, and implementing a plethora of rogue and brutal election processes have secured its sham victory. Everything, from destroying political parties with alternative voices -- to imprisoning any one with dissent, including the free press -- to failing to uphold its own rules

of law -- to mishandling the voting processes, and overall brutal practices of governing the nation, are all the tools that the ruling front used to win big time. Rumors have it the ruling front might have won by about 80 percent. That means the ruling front may give away a little over 100 seats to "others." Out of the 547 seats that is. No doubt, the ruling front will use this increase from a single seat from the previous election, to a little over 100 seats now, to garner some political advantage. In reality, as far as its practical relevance goes, a single seat or 100 seats will make no difference. As far as considering this a progress, here on adarash, we have a saying "When measuring progress, zero is not necessarily the baseline." Any ways, now the election is history, the ruling front must show a little humility, release all political prisoners, respect civil rights and the rules of law, create enough jobs throughout the country (not only in big cities,) and pay competitive salary to workers.

As in the previous times, alternative voices in the Diaspora reaffirmed, collaborating with the people of Ethiopia and alternative voices on the ground is doable. Alternative voices in the Diaspora are also becoming better in exposing the ruling front as to its ruthless dictatorship -- opposing categorically the ruling front policies that are based on race/ethnicity/clan, and bitterly reflecting their anger against what they say the ruling front is endangering the existence of the country Ethiopia. That said however, with all due respect, those in the Diaspora are light years behind the stature they need to forge, to make themselves relevant in the struggle. Similar to the alternative voices that are functioning in Ethiopia, alternative voices in the Diaspora must become organized differently, unite, and devise a better strategy.

Moving forward, it helps to re-realize that in Ethiopia's present day political movement, a) there exists a serious structural/organizational problem, b) every so called "party" in Ethiopia and the Diaspora alike, wanders off on its "unique" ways of solving that serious structural/organizational problem, and c) none of those ways taken by the 50-100 parties, overlap. That in essence is a three dimensional skeletal depiction of the complexities of the dire realities in Ethiopia's politics, today.

Now what? As long as persistent poverty, injustice, brutality, threatened nationalism and national pride, and civil right violations continue, there definitely will be opposition and people's movement, until the motto "power to the people," becomes a reality -- no doubt about it. The thing is, that will not be a walk in the park. It requires different organizational structure -- it requires the "U" word in Ethiopia's politics (unity) -- it requires the creation of a stronger and better strategy.

I hope this will not be seen as being disrespectful to the esteemed politicians out there, but it is out of a genuine frustration that I decided to give a reading assignment to all interested. It is an article on [Meeting the Challenge of Disruptive Change, by Clayton M. Christensen and Michael Overdorf. Harvard Business Review, March-April 2000.] I also hope the authors would not mind me trying to take advantage of their work. The article in fact is not at all about politics. It rather is about setting a structured framework by which business-oriented organizations innovate successfully, when need arises. That is what Ethiopian alternative voices exactly need to do. Disruptive innovation, disruptive

change. Reading the article (more than once as you can imagine,) I could not help but make analogies between the approaches outlined to implement successfully, the principles of disruptive innovation in business-oriented organizations and implementing those same principles (with adaptations and improvisations, of course,) in Ethiopia's present day political scenarios. I know, I said too much today, but I will try to finish shortly after sharing with you what I thought, reading the article, would squeeze out of you, as it did out of me. Here it goes..., a hint of my analogy.

It starts out by asking the right question. Why is that none of the alternative voices in Ethiopia or the Diaspora is changed to turn into a winner. It elaborates the question by giving examples from the history of the 50 to 100 alternative voices. All shelved and labeled -- "Failed." It goes on underscoring the problem, by highlighting the strengths of some of the alternative voices, how they should have been winners given their righteousness, dedication, strong political organization, and massive support from the Ethiopian people. It continues by venting its frustrations, singling out what used to happen whenever those political organizations were facing new and newer challenges. How those political organizations were attempting to deal with the new and newer challenges using the same political organizational structures designed to overcome old challenges and not that the new and newer undertakings are facing.

The article goes on giving advice on how to avoid that kind of mistake. It essentially says, ask the following questions, and find elaborative and systematic answers to all. 1) Does my political party have the right resources to support the needed innovation? 2) Does my political party have the right processes to innovate? 3) Does my political party have the right values to innovate? 4) What kind of organizational structure will best support the needed innovation effort?

My overall take is, by meticulously travelling through the exercise, selecting appropriate team and organizational structure, and saturating it with the right resources, processes, and values – alternative voices will greatly enhance their chances of turning themselves into a winner.

Until next month,

Akiye | June 1, 2015 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Oh, Boy!

A month ago, I shared with my readers, the planned date for the official release of the Ethiopia's 2015 general election results. As in any election events, predictions of the results began to surface on the news landscape, before and continued to do so during and after the election. Those predictions generally fall under three tiles. Tile one: The ruling front will win it all. Tile two: Alternative voices might

win. Tile three: The ruling front will win the “war,” and alternative voices will win the “battle,” metaphorically that is.

Interestingly, the results of this year’s general election were released in chunks. The first chunk reported about 80 percent of the 547 seats – where the ruling front won all of them. Following to that report, some folks, including your humble blogger, entertained the idea the remaining 20 percent of the seats, alternative voices could possibly be winning. Oh, boy! Was I so presumptuous? Well..., proven wrong, results released on Monday June 22, 2015 showed the ruling front and its buddy parties, won all the 546 seats. When I was drafting this blog, there was still one sit visibly suspended in the air, but likely morphing to follow suite and go for the ruling front. That will make Ethiopia’s fifth general election completed by the ruling front winning 100 percent of the seats.

Wrapping up, we finally are certain about the status of two of those three predictions --- The ruling front won, and alternative voices did not. The third prediction “winning the battle,” which was more of a premise for participation, than a prediction, remains unexplainable.

Moving forward, transitioning from June to July, what it means for most is that it is summertime – the season of outdoors! Among the many on the list, for this time of the year, two events worthy of saying a sentence or two are Independence Day, and ESFNA’s annual sports and cultural event.

As you all know, here in the United States, July is welcoming all of us with a celebratory mood to one of the priceless day of remembrance for Independence. Come July 4th, we will get together to honor the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, pronouncing independence from the Kingdom of Great Britain, 239 years ago. We will have festivities, including ground shaking - chest knocking - endorphin flushing fireworks. While getting ready to celebrate the occasion, please disallow familiarity with any of fireworks make you careless. Remember, a nanosecond of carelessness can result extensive injuries and even loss of lives. Careful out there and happy 4th to you all.

The transition of June to July is also a special yearly moment to Ethiopians living primarily in the United States, but also for those who would like to use the opportunity for a short visit. Yes, it is time for the 32nd Annual Sports and Cultural Event organized by the Ethiopian Sports Federation in North America (ESFNA). This year’s event will be held in D.C – Maryland – Virginia area, June 28 to July 4, 2015. Besides the weeklong soccer tournament, the organizers dedicated their time, all year, to bring several sports and cultural events, to tens of thousands of Ethiopians who eagerly flock from all over the United States and abroad. I had a chance to attend several of these annual events and am proud to say that ESFNA is one of the best, if not the only Ethiopian organization ever existed in the Diaspora. Go out there and enjoy!

Well, well, well – it is true, summer is here ;-) a season full of warmth, positivity, and happiness. It is the rule than the exception that outdoor activities considered more of a blanket prescription with public’s

compliance in abundance. Even the aggregate increase of our individual carbon footprints, during summer, appears a seasonally adjusted acceptable norm, pun intended ;-). While enjoying the beautiful weather, it is important to remember that the heat and increased activity will complement one another to boost the risk of dehydration. Professionals teach us all, dehydration occurs when there is an imbalance between the amount of fluid lost and the amount of fluid replaced throughout the day. Children, the elderly, and those who are ill are more susceptible and more vulnerable to the consequences of dehydration. The signals and complications of being dehydrated span from simple thirst, to light-headedness, to low blood pressure, to failure of multiple organ systems, and even coma and death when severe. As it is true for most environmental risk factors, prevention is the best approach to avoid becoming dehydrated in the first place. Pay attention to your fluid loss during hot weather. Keep an eye on the little ones and those who may use your help. Usually, drinking fluids that are more proper would be enough, to compensate what is lost -- water and electrolytes. If for some reason severe dehydration happens, do not hesitate to consult with your health care provider.

Be safe, and I shall see you in August.

Akiye | July 1, 2015 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Connection

Occasionally, for whatever reasons, you might have experienced a situation, which feels like a fight against your nocturnal clock – turn, twist, curl-up, toss around or stretch. As if it is an innate syntax to log off normally or just force a closure -- turn off the power or pull the plug, on one of the critical organs in the human body. Between you and me, when I sometimes am in that kind of a situation, “bring it on” is the attitude I pull out of my pillowcase, flip on to my back one more time, and begin reflecting on life.

Yesterday was one of those days. Nothing out of the ordinary --- it was just hot, hot, and hot. Reflecting on life, I remember dissecting the power of communication, the power of words in particular-- spoken or written, in which every languages and alphabets possible. At one point, what I was reflecting on happened to be the word “connection.” Hmmm, it seems straightforward.....right? Interestingly, the meaning of the word connection could span --- from a chemical or physical touch or an overlap of two or more entities – to reciprocal relationships between and among individuals, communities, organizations, countries, or continents-- to a common presence of anything imaginable to humans at a space in time -- to a metaphysical relatedness with our thought processes.

Connection is a word that we tend to use when referring to attributes that are simple, complex, complicated, and important -- all at the same time. Connection is a powerful word that represents the ways in which life and the universe function. For a simple instance, think of a breast-fed newborn, a

child raised in a tight family unit, a teenager with a strong bond with peers and the community, a fresh college graduate or a young professional with the right mentor or networking. Those individuals, rich in connection, are likely equipped with the resources that life requires, prepared better for what is at stake in the universe, and more importantly – ready to skip over seamlessly, needless challenges in life that could be brutal. I have no doubt, you can come up with better scenarios focusing on communities, organizations, countries, or continents to help us explore and understand the relevance of those seemingly simple but crucial attributes we humans express using a single word, “connection.”

Well, as you might imagine, I did not pull the word “connection,” out of yesterday's thin hot air. It rather has connection, with a historic event that occurred during the fourth week of July 2015. See what I mean.....connection! Here is the story. It was a little after six O'clock local time in Ethiopia, on a cloudy winter evening, with a hint of a drizzle in the area, on Sunday July 26, 2015 when President Barack Obama arrived at Bole International Airport, in the political capital of Africa, Addis Ababa, for a two-days official visit. Nine years after visiting Ethiopia as a Senator, President Barack Obama returned this past week, only this time as the first President of the United States of America to visit Ethiopia while in office. That is during a total of (one century + one decade + two years) of diplomatic relations ... a historic event, indeed.

If you are like me, you will not miss the conversations that went on amongst alternative voices, international civil right organizations, and hardcore politicians on this historic event. The cruxes of the conversations were that such a visit would embolden the governance in Ethiopia, which [they] consider a dictatorship – referring to the persistent civil right violations, brutal treatments of any dissent, and the recent sham general election that resulted in the ruling front's wining of 100 percent of available parliamentary seats.

While the concern is genuine and valid -- alternative voices, international civil right organizations, and hardcore politicians spoke tongue in chick, telling us -- their intent was by far to weigh-in, more as an academic exercise, as opposed to making any dent on the planned visit. Beyond may be shaping up meeting agenda items and tangential statements, to some extent. An opportunity that made us all explore the simplicity, complexity, and relevance of connection -- a connection between two countries and beyond. Very true, such an event falls on the edges of the complexities of the attribute that we attempt to address using the word "connection." Nonetheless, when it comes to building a better future, alienation is never a smart path to follow. In fact, alienation is repeatedly proven a futile exercise. Instead, engagement and connection are more relevant and powerful constructive paths, to bring people and nations together for a better future. All things that matter to the Ethiopian people and Ethiopia are considered --- the weights of the likely short-term and long-term positive outcomes of this connection, this historic visit, are extremely greater than most of the things otherwise.

Let us all hope to see measurable changes of substance, towards the betterment of the lives of the Ethiopian people, and the country Ethiopia, as result.

Until next time,

Akiye | August 1, 2015 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

2008

Since I was a little kid, since I remember having my first structured vision anyways, I always put first, professional success, as opposed to becoming materially rich. I still preserve that principle, and I am.....*never mind* ☺. Now and then however, I did not mind entertaining, essentially as a healthy fantasy, the idea of becoming rich. Would you like to know what I fantasize, this time of the year? Well,.....wake up in the morning of September 11, 2015, hop on to my futuristic supersonic private jet, instruct አዛላች, my “Cortana” to start the engine, head east, fly for a little over 8000 miles, crossing over the Aethiopian Ocean, and land in the eastern part of Africa, Ethiopia. That will be for New Year’s Day celebrations on September 12, 2015.....make that September 1, 2008 Ethiopic calendar. Then, of course fly back home the next day or two. Gosh, that would have been heavenly awesome!

Yes, Ethiopia will usher in the New Year in eleven days from today. Home to about 80 percent of Africa’s tallest mountains and highlands – anchor-pillared with breathtaking valleys, gorges, and edgeless plain fields, Ethiopia is a beautiful country, convincingly known as the cradle of humanity. The numerous majestic rivers, crisscrossing the nation – ጥቁር አባይ፣አዋሽ፣ተከሜ፣ሙገር፣ሸበሌ፣ገናሌ፣ዲዴሳ፣ጊቤ፣አሞ እንዲሁም ሌሎች; the breathtaking and mesmerizing lakes -- ጣና፣ላንጋኖ፣አዋሳ የመሳሰሉት ሁሉ; and a wide spectrum of flora and fauna – unique and indigenous, give Ethiopia an instantaneously loveable attribute that remains with you, forever.

The climate in Ethiopia sways along with the beautiful curvatures of its topography and of course time of the year. In general, the mountainous and highland areas of central, eastern, northern, south, and western Ethiopia enjoy a moderate climate that can get seasonally chilly, especially at night. Closer to Ethiopia’s neighbors, the temperatures can get in to the higher zone and the extremes. The rainy season, depending on the locality, starts roughly from the month of April (ሚያዝያ) and ends sometime in September (መስከረም). The distinct period of the rainy season runs for the most part in June (ሰኔ), July (ሃምሌ) and August (ንሃሴ). Even schools nationwide are closed for those three months. If you are an adventurer and a risk taker, make sure the Danakil depression in the Afar region, which is one of the hottest and lowest places on planet earth, is on your itinerary, next time you visit Ethiopia.

Ethiopia today, is a nation of 100,000,000 highly diverse populations -- different ethnic groups, and more than 90 or 100 languages, depending on which book you are referring to. Both Christianity and Islam were introduced to Ethiopia in the first four to seven centuries. Children’s of all tribes and religions are tightly connected and bonded as one family, with the inherent identity of being an Ethiopian. Ethiopians symbolize the country Ethiopia as a young colorful mother, a mother to all of her diverse

tribes, and traditions. All her children share Ethiopia's identical "mitochondrial DNA." As result -- bravery, honesty, innocence, unadulterated love to one another, kindness, warmth, generosity, and the no strings attached welcoming postures, are common divine attributes to all, east- west and north - south, visible to the naked eyes. It is a longstanding tradition that major holydays for both the Christian and Islam faith followers are formally and equally observed, nationally -- another reflection of that uniqueness of Ethiopia, a manifesto of genuine oneness with equality and love among all her diverse populations. Ethiopia is also a proud nation of her own alphabets and numeral scripts. I shall stop here; I could easily be carried away with this. Nevertheless, no kidding, for a country and people like that, a fantasy to be with them on New Year's Day is the least I can do.

By the way, when it is the time for the month of September (መስከረም) to arrive, the long rainy season is eventually tapering off; the sun is out enough, the vegetation turns into tropical greenery, with yellow flowers of the season generously carpeting the beautiful landscape. The New Year's Day celebrations start with traditional fireworks the evening of the New Year's Eve. Modern day fireworks and parties are seamlessly blended, at least within the urban populations. New Year's Day is full of festivities -- holiday meals, music, and new cloths for children. Early in the morning, teenage girls in sets, dressed for the occasion, deep into a celebratory mood, singing the traditional song of the day, አበባሆሽ or its versions, depending on the languages spoken in the area -- pay a door-to-door visit, sending out heartily best wishes to the neighborhood. That makes the New Year's Day one of the memorable days of the year, to all. Whether you are a kid, a teenage, an adult, or the elderly --- whether you belong to the haves or to the have-nots; there is something for everybody to cherish.

Of course not -- How could I.....how could anybody be oblivious. It is however despite all the challenges, that I prescribe to all, to be cognizant of the importance of remaining hopeful, and making time to rejuvenate your diligence. It does not have to cost anything. Most definitely, it does not require a material wealth. Just revitalize the brilliant, heroic, proud, and humble lives of your ancestors. After all, the intent of holidays is to create opportunities, as good and pleasant ways of reflecting our mere existence and celebrating humanity, as is. Life, including holidays should be filled with happiness. There is no doubt happiness feeds a healthy mind, and a healthy mind feeds a healthy body. Taken all together, events that are meant to not only celebrate holidays, but also pamper life in general, nurture the whole person, family, and society in a very good way. Get together with family, friends, and have fun. You certainly deserve to be happy, Period

መልካም አዲስ አመት -- ኢትዮጵያ! | Happy New Year, Ethiopia!

Akiye | September 1, 2015 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Sociusquake

Greetings to you all out there, this is Akiye's blog for this month of October 2015. This evening, I will take a stab at a topic that partially sees through the fabric of society by way of universal reflections. In order to accomplish that, I synthesized the word "Sociusquake," as a descriptor for the troubled social edifice, highly vulnerable to a perpetual shakeup and crackdown, with a self-destructive potential.

As if shouldering your normal straightforward responsibilities to your best abilities is not exhaustive enough, fighting for your rights and straitening wrong doers keep dragging you backwards and draining your precious soles, every bit of it, on a daily basis. I spent a considerable amount of time tinkering about the mere nature of living things -- asking myself the likely explanations for Sociusquake, and what might inherently be wrong with humans. Correct me if I am wrong, but it appears to me that living things -- as in, animal and plant kingdoms harbor a common detrimental characteristic/similarity, particularly that exclusive concern on one's own advantage, pleasure, or well-being without regard for others, aka selfishness.

Plants, with deep and spreading roots or tall stature and broad leaves, take sunshine from the sky, water and nutrients from deep into the earth's surface, apparently more than their share as an individual -- a kind of inherent selfishness. The damaging consequence is depriving those around, but not as tall or not as deep-rooted or not with broader leaves. Likewise, while humans generally are perceived as social animals---therefore, individual persons can only find their full good in and through pursuing the good of their community---humans too, like plants, harbor that inherent selfishness, only different from plants in complexity. Be it in physical stature, materialism, status in society or just coincidence and sheer luck, there are those individuals determined to make needing everything to belong to them, eventually depriving the rights of those around. The rights that come naturally. That inherent selfishness as the core trigger, reinforced by attributes of dislike, prejudice, greed, pseudo-entitlement, power, and the unquenchable thirst to an absolute control over creates a dangerous cocktail, which is responsible for Sociusquake.

One of the prominent visible manifestations of drunkenness with that dangerous cocktail is bullying. Yes, you read it right, bullying. Doing Bing or Google or whatever search engines of your like; you will come across a summary definition for bullying -- the habitual use of force, threat, or coercion to abuse, subtly intimidate, or aggressively dominate others. Ranging from simple one-on-one bullying to more complex bullying in which bullies have multiple well connected and organized lieutenants who are more than willing to assist the primary bully. Equally hurtful are clappers and indifferent bystanders. The destructive violence through an act of bullying includes verbal, nonverbal, psychological, and physical humiliations. As you all know, bullying happens everywhere -- in schools, neighborhoods, the workplace, and the cyberspace. Bullying often operates within the established rules and policies of a long list of platforms in society -- including the different forms of structured organizations/institutions. Bullying is a

menace to society, with a potential to damaging private lives, individual performances, productivity, health, civil rights, social functionality, and lives.

Bullying saddles itself on a multitude of constructs. The most commonly cited constructs are discriminations based on religion, gender, and race/country of origin.

Construct 1: Curiosity and an attempt to explain the mere existence of the universe led humans to the creation of an acceptable second nature of thought, prescribing to religiosity and practicing religious traditions. While all perspectives considered equal and innocuous, it is not a secret that the existence of bullying based on differences in religious affiliations is a reality. It is even more complex than that. Discrimination based on religious affiliations is not only about religion per se, but also about drunkenness with that dangerous cocktail of selfishness, dislike, prejudice, greed, pseudo-entitlement, power, and unquenchable need to control over – the reasons for why such conflicts are not only seen between two categorically different religions, but among different sects within the same religion as well.

Construct 2: Discrimination based on gender (~ sexual harassment) is another construct how bullying manifests itself. Any harm to individuals or society through discrimination based on one's gender over the other is a cancer to society. Gender discrimination works its way in various ways. Primary gender discrimination -- when the bully is directly involved with the victim, and secondary gender discrimination -- when the bully is functioning on behalf of a benefactor. In either way retaliations in the form of disrespectfulness, social isolation, giving a failing grade on exams, sabotages in the workplace, denying hiring and promotional opportunities are all obvious, prevalent, and violent practices. You may be surprised with this. Most dominantly, discrimination based on gender is occurring as a -- male against female -- act. However, identical serious discriminatory actions on reverse i.e., -- female against male -- are also undeniable realities. What makes gender discrimination more complex is that gender discrimination is not only about sex, it is also about selfishness, jealousy, dislike, prejudice, greed, pseudo-entitlement, power, and unquenchable need to control-over. Gender discrimination at this day and age, is nothing but dehumanizing.

Construct 3: Yet another and extremely serious form of bullying is the one that takes place in the form of racism, discrimination based on race/country of origin. I have to say this: It is unthinkable, just unthinkable, to address the gravity and inhuman nature of racism in a blog. Not even a chance. I will here mention it anyways from the perspective of bullying. Bullying and discriminations based on racism use race, the color of skin or country of origin to hurt and destroy fellow human beings. Listen to this: If you think racism is only about and between individuals of two categorically different colors of skin --- you will definitely be disappointed. Racism is not only about the color of skin, it primarily is about race and the country of origin -- compounded by selfishness, jealousy, dislike, prejudice, greed, pseudo-entitlement, power, and unquenchable need to control-over. Racism is evil and detrimental to the mere existence of humanity.

Except for some radical countries, modern day nations have laws in their respective constitutions that clearly state that discriminations based on religion, gender, race/country of origin are crimes. I remember reading something on racism earlier this year, on the opinion pages of one of my favorite newspapers. The title reads "Discrimination With a Smile" attempting to explain the challenges regarding the identification and correction of racism. If you ask me, I will tell you that regardless of a biased intent, biased effect should always be scrutinized and corrected - a zero tolerance policy. It is so unfortunate, despite the existence of laws clearly depicting the criminality of discriminations, and the dear sacrifice paid to make those rules, regulations and articles the law of the land, discriminatory practices are still intractable and pervasive in our society. Discriminations based on religion, gender, and race/country of origin is the major reasons for the Sociusquake that is ever chewing the social fabric and ultimately endangering the mere existence of humanity.

Now what? Is the question that has been asked for eternity, but never answered the right way, meaningfully or in full, to date? It is worth repeating. Yes, there are rules, regulations, and articles that clearly state discriminations based on religion, gender, race or country of origin are crimes. The saddest thing is, there for sure is a visible absence of tangible tools, ways, means, sufficient resources, and mechanisms to fully guarantee the righteous implementations of the laws that already are in existence.

In closing, condolence speeches, lectures, workshops, and sympathy cards are hardly relevant. Make the already existing laws do what they are "supposed" to do. Meaningfully stand for the rights of individuals and minorities. Don't be surprised -- discriminations were never about the majority. Discriminations are inherently about individuals and minorities. Take off the burden of proof from the victims shoulder and load it on the perpetrators. They will begin thinking four times before doing any discriminatory act ever again.

See you next time.

Akiye | October 1, 2015 | aku_63411@yahoo.com

Quandary-ish in Democracy

As you all know, yester evening was Halloween -- a special time when family units or group of friends dress to surprise and impress, expecting a trick or treat in return. I am not sure about tricks, never tried it -- how do you sensibly trick a tiny kid anyways? Nonetheless, a day before, I cheerfully bring candy home for the occasion. Picking a healthy one is not easy -- all of them are loaded with calories. My excuse is, unless it is medically advised not to, cancelling logic for an occasion that comes once a year should humanly be ok. Just do not make it a habit. Knowing when the trick or treat begins and ends is also something I am still not sure. This is not an event I grew up doing, so it adds an element of suspense to the evening. In my book, it begins at 5:00 and ends at 8:00 when the veranda light is turned off.

Between those hours, I anticipate the neighborhood to stand in motion, the main event being family units or group of friends paying door-to-door visits. Rest assured, the little ones are making certain that they are front and center, leading the march. That is a tradition, and I like it.

Well then -- that was not what I had in mind to write this morning, but I am glad I did. What I had in mind instead was to jot down few paragraphs on democracy, so the title "Quandary-ish in Democracy." Greetings dear readers -- this is Akiye's blog for the month of November 2015, here it goes:

Once upon a pleasant time, several friends and I sat in a comfortable informal atmosphere, chatting random subject matters, but with intentional show-off learned fervor. At one point during the conversation --- "what are the most significant achievements of humankind anyways?" asked one of us with a curiosity-pandered gesture. Hmmm, good question...a lot, hmmm where to begin.....all of us mumbled simultaneously. I remember uttering effortlessly without even waiting one another. Out of love, that was!

Collectively, we came up with an adult arm length list of achievements, covering broad areas: art, the different fields of sciences, engineering, you name it. Now retracing that conversation, there was one achievement mentioned by none of us. If you wander a little or even more and guess "Democracy," it would be a miracle. Certainly, no blame on any of us, as we were select group, from where true democracy is yet to be interwoven into the social fabric.

Not only for my friends and for me, but also for anyone from anywhere -- yes, democracy deserves a mention as one of the significant achievements of humankind. It is however true, democracy in and of itself is not an ideal solution to every counts of socio-economic-political problems on earth. Nevertheless, it is undeniable, democracy (when implemented in its genuine sense -- that is) gives everyone the right to engage in how he or she chooses to be governed. Democracy with its universal and core principle -- "Government of the people, by the people and for the people," has excised absolute power from tyrants, oligarchs, and dictators.

If you take, a very close look, at the heart of democracy, sits election as part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights ---- "the will of the people, as expressed through periodic and genuine elections shall be the basis of government authority." Looking even deeper, as election sits at the heart of democracy, it becomes evident that voting sits at the heart of election. In a genuine democracy, the right to vote is fundamental to the democratic structure of nations, and as they say, voting is the conventional method of influencing government. When all those make sense (be it common or uncommon) a serious sacrifice was and still is being paid to ensure citizens' voting rights -- and on the other hand, for some -- voting rights and voting are considered trivial matters.

As you may imagine -- plain partisan politics, issue(s) specific principle(s), peer pressure, the media, supporters' campaigns, advocates, impulse et cetera influence folks' votes. Irrespective of the reason(s)

that sway voters towards a particular person, there is a unique challenge that remains not only true but also common to every voter. That common challenge is “uncertainty.” Uncertainty as result of a) lack of awareness on the qualities of candidates that voters have choice to give his or her votes of confidence, and b) lack of control on postelection times and social-economic-political milieu.

In all honesty, expecting an ideal scenario is foolishness. Is it not? Humans, inherently and especially when it comes to politics are far away from perfection. There is also the fact that a voter has no way to know everything he or she needs to know about candidates (of all levels of elected offices,) forget trying to predict meaningfully what the candidates’ level of functionality would be post election, which does not budge to voting alone anyways. Well, no doubt, having your voting right respected is priceless. However, the impossibility to know all candidates, the uncertainty on if a voter would be served to his or her principles by the person(s) he or she has given his or her votes of confidence -- even worse, the possibility a voter could possibly be let down by the same person(s) he or she voted for -- lies the quandary in democracy. Didn’t you sometimes wonder what good “voting” does?

At this juncture, avid politicians might say -- if folks pay attention, listen to the debates, be active in their communities, participate in town hall meetings, read newsletters, et cetera, et cetera. Really? Not sure if I am the only one, yea but what percent of voters do meaningfully accommodate all those in their busy lives and make themselves knowledgeable on who is who among all candidates. In addition, what percent of voters could understand the complexities of each of the issues debated and initiative measures presented to them? The good news is, in a civilized democracy, at least for high-level elected offices, at local, state, and federal levels, there is an excellent deal of awareness and educational endeavors to augment voters informed confidence, prior to Election Day. That way, voters have the opportunity to not only actively pay attention, but also passively enhance their informed confidence on candidates throughout the process.

To wrap up, here at home in the United States, exactly one year from this month, we will be electing a new person for The Oval Office. The runner-ups for the two major parties are already in and as you know, some already are out of the race. Given the remaining twelve months to Election Day, it may appear overwhelming, but in the face of the quandary most of us could get into, the process, no matter how long it takes, makes voters relatively aware and knowledgeable when marking his or her ballots come November 2016. One advice from your humble blogger: Know yourself, your principles in life and vote for you.

Until next year....I mean on this topic ☺

Akiye, November 2015 | ahget2015@gmail.com

Repetitiveness

Greetings everyone - this is Akiye, sitting at my study desk, my eyes targeting at my dual monitors, inundating with ideas -- to pick a blog topic for this month and year -- December 2015 that is. After a little wandering, I finally decided to jot down few paragraphs on “Repetitiveness,” and allowed my fingers to do their part.

Let us do this together -- think for a moment about “normal” repetitive instances in life. As I do so, the numbers and extents were overwhelming – and that was thinking just those repetitive instances that came to my mind right now. If I work on it a little more, the list potentially could increase exponentially. While that is the case for all of us (I hope that is not me being presumptuous,) it is true that we do not seem burdened by that. A reason might be, we are likely conditioned, and those repetitive instances became second nature -- our mind prefers, easily manages, and makes better sense of what is going on around us, when instances organized in a repetitive manner.

Take time for example. It is a continuous variable, with unimaginable beginning and unimaginable end. There is no repetitiveness in time; it just transitions forward anew -- to the future. We on the other hand (at least here on planet earth) see certain instances in time as occurring in a repetitive pattern. To follow suit with our minds’ comfort, we routinely recode and reformat attributes to a manageable extent, so they make sense to humans. That is what we exactly do with time. Handling time as a continuous variable and arranging all instances as such is not “manageable” to humans, thus we resorted to recoding and reformatting time: nanoseconds, seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years, decades so-and-so on. The thing is, by recoding and reformatting time, we not only create an illusion – perceiving time as if it is repetitive -- we also lose the power to an unknown degree of inferiority in explaining the universe. I can only imagine if we use time always preserving its inherent characteristics -- in which time only moves forward to the future and no repetitions, who knows we could have achieved a greater existence.

Since the reality at hand is different, I am forced to wrap up this month’s blog, reducing the conversation to a manageable extent, and talk about one of the repetitive instances in life -- the twelve months in a year. The date this evening also makes it proper to pinpoint on one of the twelve months, December. As you can imagine, December is one of those regularly repetitive instances of segments in time, as we choose to see it here on planet earth. There were so many Decembers since we could figure out how to make time manageable, and many more Decembers will come every year until something unimaginable happens. So, what is special about December anyways?

December, which was originally the tenth, ending to be the twelfth month of the year in the Gregorian calendar, and the first month of winter in the northern hemisphere, is the prime festive and groovy

month of all. It may not be easy to win a contest - 'my month is better than your month', but anyways December is the month I always am fascinated by and would like to see it come more often.

Yea, the weather for sure will force us to dress in layers, move awake, and test our ability to learn from repetitive instances and coping with seasonal challenges. Not a surprise, I already felt the chill driving back home this evening. May be some of you have felt that too. Even then, we concentrate more on and love to cherish the revamped intimacy, the keen visits to family and friends, the celebratory mindset – decorations – food - drink, and all those moments when societal vice reaches at a peak. December is also the end of the year, a time to look back, and plan. Thanks for being type upper case A, I already am done with that. Would you like to know what it is? Well, why not for my readers. Looking back, I was not happy with my exercise routine in 2015. Planning forward, I have decided to exercise more in 2016. To be enabling yours truly accomplish the plan – I went out this Saturday for shopping and got myself a stationary bike. There will be no excuse, and when December repeats itself next New Year time, I will report the changes in my exercise routine, if any. We shall see.

Where were we? Oh, yea -- how could I forget -- in December, most folks also appear; at least pretend to be visibly joyous. Go ahead, your turn - what say you? What are some of the instances that make December special? Any who, in December all those and more come in double-bundle; a semi epitome of life – and that is what is special about December.

I shall see you next year!

Akiye, December 1, 2015 | ahget2015@gmail.com

Ending a Year with a Good Spirit

One of the roles of the brain is to grade information received through varies sources, on real time basis – qualitatively, some as useful, some not useful, and the rest between. Depending on the grade, information's half-life could measure negligible to long-standing. The more useful information is according to judgment of a healthy brain, the long-standing will its half-life be, and the more humans would like to hear and talk about it for a long-time. Taking comfort behind this argument, I decided to write some paragraphs on information items that were right out of hot oven several weeks ago. Of course information items that undoubtedly have long-standing half-life -- climate change and space expedition, what else! Greetings to you all out there, this is Akiye's blog, January 2016. Happy New Year!

If you were fully awake from November 30 to December 21, 2015 -- you would not miss the events on climate change and the successful mission, sending the Falcon 9 rocket to orbit. Here is my take on both, as I learned those from reading reports, watching television broadcasts, and u-tube videos. Let us begin with the first event -- the 2015 United Nation's Climate Change Conference, COP21/CMP11 held in Paris.

In fact, I would like to ponder more on that subject, if you do not mind. By the way, while acronyms or initials have special places in learning, documentation, and communication, I just wonder how some acronyms or initials have to be the preferred ones. Take for instance COP21, where COP stands for “Conference of the Parties.” Conference refers to the conference on climate change. Parties refer to the representatives of the one hundred ninety something attendant parties (stakeholders). Twenty-one tells that it is the 21st session on the subject, which occurs yearly. You get it, right? On the other hand, CMP11 purports to be an acronym or initials for the “11th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol” – go figure!

Let us come back to the relevant issues, shall we? First question – Is the heightened concern on climate change necessary? Yes, for the existence of nature, life inclusive, as we “know” it, depends on it. The evidence presented by scientists in the field points out, our climate is showing a trend of alarmingly rising global temperature. The effects of such a trend on nature and life, the scientists imply, could be a disaster of biblical proportion.

The frequently cited consequences of climate change include: melting polar ice caps and mountain glaciers, warming of water bodies, changes in migration patterns of animals, changes in the lifecycle of plants, profound disturbance of the Earth’s ecosystem, rising of sea levels, ocean acidification, losing a strong grip on public health, disturbances in agricultural systems, loss of food security, and political instability. Scientists in the field have been advising us for several decades to give the increasingly warming pattern of our climate a priority and push the world community to act, and act responsibly. Unfortunately, their message, their warning, kept falling as the saying goes, “on Elephants’ ears,” metaphorically that is. My apologies for the Elephantidae family ☺

Second question – why the inaction? Well, some chose to use differences in interpretations of the data on climate, as the reason or justification for their inaction or inadequate action. Some argued that humans have nothing to do with it. The reality is -- differences in interpretations of the data on climate, any data for that matter, are inherent characteristics of scientific reasoning. At any cross-section, the weight of the evidence deciphered from available data, governs applicable and responsible decisions -- adequate actions. Yes, there are differences, but the weight of the evidence supports the positions taken by concerned scientists, referring to proponents of satisfactory actions. In all honesty, the positions taken by skeptics are not related to differences in the interpretations of the data at hand. That is just a noise, red herring. Developed nations were hesitating to accept responsibility for the contributions of industrialization (that put humans on the spot,) to the increasing greenhouse gases emission, essentially for economic and political reasons. Developing nations on the other hand were under the delusion, the effects of climate change will not affect them and some consider proposed measures are just to halt their momentum towards becoming economically competitive.

Despite the positions taken by skeptics, the fruits from decades of efforts by concerned scientists and tireless advocates, nurtured a healthy mindset to bring the world together for a change. The persistent

awareness campaigns to the public were relevant. Not only carbon dioxide (CO₂), but also (leaving out a couple of names here and there), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆) became household vocabularies, collectively referred as “greenhouse gases.” Knowing and accepting the existence of a problem takes a huge effort and character. The need and consideration of proper response to solve the problem a responsible duty should have been a no brainer, ideally! It however was and still is a challenge. You know what? Sometimes -- it is easier to just quote Einstein to make your point. “No problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it.” Its translation - referring to the journey that paved the way to December 2015, sums it up.

On that line, there are a few milestones that all of us should at least be aware. One of those milestones is of course the “Kyoto Protocol.” The Kyoto Protocol was a success given its role in speeding up the impetus furthering the cause for climate change – a dedication to a global emission reduction of greenhouse gases. What we watched in Paris is an objective testimony to that. One hundred ninety-five parties reached on a legally binding agreement on December 11/12 2015. The goal is to limit the global temperature rise to below 2 degrees centigrade (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) above preindustrial levels. In contrast to the strategy used in 1997, the present agreement appears to be a result of a bottom-up strategy. To that effect, important work was already done at the grass roots level. The work at the grass roots level reinforcing the credibility of expected holistic performance measures, obviously becomes helpful to garner the genuine adoption of the agreement by all nations. That is important for its implementation and success. Sprinting forward, identified enablers -- the transparency framework, monitoring progress every five years, and assisting meaningful causes, will undoubtedly play a role.

About the event itself, it all started during the fourth week of November 2015. The world was packing; willingly packing that is, to get together at one of the beautiful cities on the planet, Paris. If the counts I read on the web are true, there were a little over 20,000 participants, including leaders of nations, representatives of government and nongovernment organizations, and civil societies. Forget science for a moment and imagine the time, other resources, and complexities that go into organizing a conference that manages 20,000 participants. Amazing!

Anyways, despite the foot-dragging by the world community, on issues related to climate change – years of perseverance on the side of concerned stakeholders, and eleven to twelve days of sleepless conferencing paid off. The epic expectation, earning the unavoidable impetus towards a universal genuine commitment by all nations around the world becomes a reality. That is, developed and developing nations alike, on doing something about the rising global temperature. Even those who stood on the streets of Paris, to voice their dissatisfaction – were not in opposition to the agreement, they were there reminding all, there is still a need to do a lot more. Yes, they might have a point. However, looking at the extreme complexities of issues surrounding climate change, this success is the result of a tedious and protracted journey -- a commitment at last for a cleaner future. A celebration is in order!

As you might imagine, on December 12, 2015 when the “ambitious” agreement announced, a mood never seen ever before (referring to conferences organized by the United Nations – pun intended), and only the phrase - genuine elation - may describe, reportedly filled the meeting room. Sparkling lights on Eiffel Tower concurrently reflected the genuine elation in the room to the crowd gathered on the streets of Paris, and to anyone, including yours truly, following the news on television. It was a historic moment indeed!

Enough about climate change for now. But, while I am on talking about good stuff, allow me to add a couple of sentences on another historic moment that took place on December 21, 2015 8:29 PM Eastern Standard Time. Yep, SpaceX has successfully launched its Falcon 9, a two-stage rocket, shouldering 11 ORBCOMM second-generation satellites to orbit. The moments -- at time zero, when stage-one separates from the rest of the rocket, during the nominal progress of stage-two, the smooth prime vertical landing of stage-one, and watching the budding off of 11 satellites in sequence, were accompanied by huge eruptions of happiness and cheerfulness from folks gathered at the launch site. If you have not done before, make some leisure time and read about the functions of satellites -- you will be mesmerized. You may even feel butterflies in your stomach, just watching the forty something minutes of a live webcast video, sharing the launch of the Falcon 9 rocket on December 21, bit by bit. Yes, it was another historic moment indeed!

Well, what can I say -- ending a year with two [climate and space] priceless historic moments occurring in proximity, is truly ending a year with a good spirit, for a change! These types of achievements are never a walk in the park. The visions, the scientific complexities, the crafting of methodologies, defining outcomes, designing the critical performance measures, earning the political will, the public relations and advocacy, and winning genuine hearts and minds for nature, humanity, and life -- all come from lifetime responsible preparation, commitment, perseverance, and sacrifice, which are the most vital building blocks of cutting-edge professionalism.

To all involved -- thank you and congratulations!

Akiye | January 1, 2016 | ahget2015@gmail.com

እድሜ ደገ

ላንባቢዎቼ ሁሉ -- የከበረ ሰላምታየ በያላችሁበት ይድረሳችሁ!

እንዲያው ባለፉት በዛ ያሉ ሳምንታት ፤ የዜና ማሰራጨያ ሞገዶችን -- በድምጽ በሚተላለፉ ፤ ለንባብ በተዘጋጁ ፤ እንዲሁም ለእይታ በተቀነባበሩ ዜናዎች ፤ እስተ አፍ ጢማቸው -- የኢትዮጵያን ሰላም ማጣትና ፤ ህልውናዋ አደጋ ላይ እንድሆነችም በሚያስተጋባ መልዕክት ተሞልተው በመከራረማቸው -- እስቲ እኔም የሚሰማኝን ልተንፍስ ብየ የዚህን የፈረንጆቹን የ ፌብሩዋሪ 2016 ፤ በሃገሬ ሰው አቆጣጠር ደግሞ የ የካቲት 2008 ጦማሬን -- እድሜ ደገ ብየ በጠራሁት ኩርቻ -- የምሬት ፈረሴ ላይ ተደላድዬ ለመጋለብ ወሰንኩ። የሁኔታዎችንም አንገብጋቢነት በማመዛዘን ፤ ተተለምዶ ወጣ በማለት ፤ ለንባብ እንዲበቃ በማለትም በጣም ቀደም ብየ ለጥፌዋለሁ።

ስለ ኢትዮጵያ ሲነሳ --- አይደለም በቅንነት የሚዘክሯት ልጆቿ ፤ አንዳንድ ሊከፈሉት በከንቱ የሚባዝኑት እና ምኞታቸው የወሃ ሽታ ሆኖ የቀሩት ባዕዳን እንኳ ሳይቀሩ -- ወደ ጤናማ ህሊናቸው በተመለሱ ቁጥር ፤ ከልባቸው የሚያፈቅሩዋትና የሚሳሰሉት ሃገር እንደሆነች ፤ የማይከዱት ጉዳይ መሆኑ አሌ የማይባል ሃቅ ነው። ኢትዮጵያን ያየ ፣ የህዝቦቿን መለኮታዊ ርዕሰ-ሀኪም የተገነዘበ ፣ የልጆቿን የታመቀ ብሩህነትና ጥንካሬ ለሚረዳ ፤ ይህ ያስገርመዋል የሚል ብዥታ የለብኝም። አለመታደል ሆነና -- ለዘመናት ሰላም አጥታ ፤ ልጆቿ መተንፈሽያ አጥተው -- ቅድመ አባቶቻችን እና እናቶቻችን በደም ባጥንታቸው አንድ አድርገው ያቆዩልንን ሀገር ፤ ታሪክ እና ቅርስ ለማፈራረስ እና ደብዛዉ እንዲጠፋ ለማድረግ ፤ ሌት ተቀን የሚንደፋደፉት ወገኖቻችን እንደፈለጉትም ባይሆን እየተሳካላቸው መምጣቱ -- ህዝቡን የምሬት ቁጭት ወስጥ ዘፍቆታል። ከፋ ሲልም -- የምሬት ቁጭት ወስጥ የሚከት ጉዳይ መሆኑን በማመን ብቻ የሚታለፍ ሊሆን የማይችል ከመሆኑም ባሻገር ፤ በአንድነት እንታደጋት የሚሉት ወገኖች በበቂ ሁኔታ ተዘጋጅተው ያለመገኘታቸው ሲጨመር፤ የምሬት ቁጭቱን እጥፍ ድርብ ያደርገዋል። አሁን አሁንም --- ከጊዜ ወደጊዜ ነገሮች እየተባባሱ በመጡ ቁጥር ፤ መቸም ጀር አይሰማ የለ -- አንድ ትወልድ በአረመኔነት የጨፈጨፈውን ፋሺስታዊ ወታደራዊ አገዛዝ ፤ ከአሁኑ ይሻላል የሚል መደምደሚያ ላይ መደረሱ ፤ ኢትዮጵያ ምን ያህል የከፋ አደጋ ላይ እንዳለች በግልጽ የሚያስገነዝብን ሃቅ መሆኑን - ሃገሬ የሚል ሁሉ በአንክሮ ሊረዳው ይገባል። አዎ -- እድሜ ደጉ ስንቱን አሳየን!

እዚህ ላይ መጫጫሬን ቆም አድርጌ ፣ ምን ምን ነገሮችን ላስፍር እያልኩኝ እራሴን ከራሴ ጋር ለማስማማት ስምክር ፤ አንድ ጉኔ --- እንዲያው ቢያንስ ቢያንስ በዚህ በሃያ ምናምን አመታት ወስጥ አይኔም ጀርዮም አይሰሩም ነበር ካላልን በስተቀረ ፤ በኢትዮጵያ ላይ የሚያንገሩበባቸውን አደጋ እወኑትናት ለማስረገጥ እስጥ አገባ ወስጥ መንበጫረቁ ፤ የሌለንን ጊዜ ማባከን ነው ብየ እንዳልፈው ጎሽም ሲያደርገንኝ ፤ ሌላኛው ጉኔ ደግሞ --- የለም መሰረታዊ ጉዳዮችን ስለሆነ ብንደግመው ፣ የህልውና እና የማንነት ጉዳዮችንም ስለሆነ ብንደጋግመው ፤ ይበል የሚያስኝ ነው በሚል ይመስላል ፤ ከዚህ ቀጥቶ የምላቸውን ነገሮች እንድል ጎሽም ጎሽም በማድረግ ወደፊት ገፋፋኝ።

ታዲያ እኔ ወገናችሁ --- አግባብነት የሌለው ግትርነት ለሃገር አይበጅም ባይ ስለሆንኩ ፤ ወደ “ብንደጋግመው ተገቢ ነው” ወደሚለው ጉኔ አደላሁና የሚከተለውን ለማለት ወሰንኩ። ሆኖም ቅሉ -- ተጊዜ አኳያ ፣ እስቲ በዚህ በቅርቡ ሶስት አስርተ ዓመታት ያህል ያየናቸውን ነባራዊ ሁኔታዎችን በተመለከተ አንኳር አንኳር ነጥቦችን ላስቀምጥና ፣ ለመደምደሚያ ያህልም ወደኋላ አንዳንድ ነገሮችን እጨማምራለሁ።

ከኔ ጋር አንድነትቆዩም እጋብዛለሁ!

በዋናነት -- ገዥው ግንባር ስልጣን በያዘ ማግስት ፤ ህዝብን ሳያማክርና ህጋዊ ህዝብ ውሳኔ የሚሰጥበትን ሁኔታዎች ሳያመቻች ፤ በማናለብኝነት ኤርትራያ ከናት ሃገሯ እንድትገነጠል በማድረግ ፤ ለማመን የሚያስቸግር ወንጀል ተፈጽሟል። በተጓዳኝ -- የተቀረጸ የኢትዮጵያ ምድር የባህር ወደብ የለሽ እንዲሆንም ተደርጓል። ይህንን ህገወጥ ስራ በጊዜው የተቃወሙትን ሃቅኛ ዜጎች አደጋ ላይ እንዲወድቁም ተደርጓል። ከዚህ ጊዜ ጀምሮ ነው -- ህዝቡ አህ! ሽረ እንዳሰብናቸው አይደሉምና - ሌላ ተልዕኮ ነው ለካ ይዘው የመጡት ማለት የጀመረው -- ነጥብ አንድ።

በቋንቋ እና በዘር ላይ የተመሰረተ ሽንሽናን በህግ ተብየው በመደንገግ ፤ በሰላም ለዘመናት ተጋብቶ ተዋልዶ የኖረውን ህዝብ እርስበርሱ እንዲናቆር በማድረግ ፤ ቁጥር ስፍር የሌለውን ህዝብ ኑሮ ትዳር ቅርሱን ትቶ እንዲሰደድና ፤ ለጀሮ የሚዘገንን ቁጥር ያለውንም የዋህ ህዝብ ህይወቱ አደጋ ላይ እንዲወድቅ ተዳርጓል። ተዚህ ጋር በተያያዘም -- ሃገሪቷ አንድ የሚወክላት ቋንቋ እንዳይኖራት ተደርጎ ፤ ኢትዮጵያዊ የሆነውን ፊደል በመጠቀም ፈንታ ፤ ለፖለቲካ ፍጆታ ሲባል እና የመገንጠል አባዜ ያልለቀቃቸው ቡድኖችን ለማስደሰት ፤ የራስን እድል በራስ መወሰን እስከመገንጠል መብትን በህግ ተብየው በመደንገግ እና የላቲን ፊደላት ጥቅም ላይ እንዲውሉ በማድረግ ፤ ህዝቡን በስነልቦናዊ ሽኩቻ ውስጥ እንዲሰምጥ እና አንድነቱ እየተሸረሸረ እንዲሄድ ተደርጓል። ሰሞኑን የምናየው ጎጥ ላይ ያተኮረ የሚመስለው -- ቶሎ ኢትዮጵያዊ መስመር እንዲይዝ ካልተደረገም -- ሃገሪቷን የበለጠ የማፈረካከስ አደጋ ላይ ሊጥል የሚችል የህዝብ ብሶት መገንፈል ፤ በቋንቋ እና በዘር ላይ የተመሰረቱት የአሁኑ ጊዜ መመሪያዎች ያስከተሉት ጠንቅ መሆኑን ለማረጋገጥ --- ሌላ ጥናትና ምርምር እስኪደረግ መጠበቅ ያለበት ጉዳይ አይደለም። በብሩህ ዐእምሮ ለተከታተለው ፤ የዕለት ተዕለት ኑሮ በራሱ ተወዳዳሪ የሌለው ትልቅ ጥናትና ምርምር ነውና! -- ነጥብ ሁለት።

ግራ በሚያጋባ ሁኔታ -- ህግ ተብየውንም በማያገናዝብ መልኩ ፤ ያንዱን ክልል ድንበር አፈራርሶ ወደሚፈልጉት በመለጠፍ ፤ ኑዋሪውን እረፍትና ሰላም እንዲያባ ተደርጎ --- አልፎ ተርፎም ትንሽ እንኳን ህሊና ላለው ሰው ጉድ ጉድ በሚያሰኝ መልኩ -- አሁንም በድጋሜ

ከሚመለከተው የኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ ጀርባ በመደለት -- የሃገሪቷን ድንበር ለጎረቤት ሃገር በችሮታ መሰጠቱ ፤ ሌላው ተወዳዳሪ የማይገኝለት ድጋሚ የሃገር ከህደት ስራ እየተሰራ እንደሆነ ኢትዮጵያዊ የሆነ ሁሉ ልብ ሊለው ይገባል -- ነጥብ ሶስት።

የመናገር የመጻፍ የመሰብሰብ የመደራጀት ፤ ህዝቡ መሪዎቹን በነጻ የመምረጥ መብት ሁሉ የተገፈፉበት ስርዓት እንዲሰጥንም ተደርጓል። ከዚህ ሁኔታ ጋር በተያያዘም -- ህይወታቸው ያለፈ ፤ በእስር የሚሰቃዩ ፤ እንዲሁም ያለፈቃዳቸው ለስደት የተዳረጉት ኢትዮጵያዊያንን ብዛት ፤ ቤቱ ይቆጠረው ማለቱ ነው የሚሻለው! መቶ በመቶ በሆነ ድምጽ በህዝብ ተመርጠናል በተባለ ማግስት ፤ ሃገሪቷን ያጥለቀለቀ ተቃዋሚ መነሳቱስ ከቶ ምን ሊባል ይሆን? -- ነጥብ አራት።

የፋሺስቱ ወታደራዊ አገዛዝ ጭፍጨፋና አረመኔያዊ በደል ያንገፈገፈው ኢትዮጵያዊ ሁሉ ፤ አዲስ መንግስት ሊተካው ነው ሲባል ፤ አሁን በስልጣን ላይ ያለውን ገዢ ግንባር ምንነቱንም ሆነ ማንነቱን ለመረዳት በቂ ዝገጅት ስላልነበረውና ፤ ከፋሺስቱስ የባለ አይመጣም በሚል አንጻራዊ የዋህነት -- ህዝቡ የአሁኑን ገዢ ግንባር በሰላምና በተስፋ ነበር “የተቀበለው”። አንዱም ሃቀኛ ኢትዮጵያዊያንን የሚያንገበግበው ነገር ይህ ነው። እንዲያ አምነናቸው ፤ እንዲያ በተስፋ ተቀብለናቸው ፤ እንዴት እንዳይሆን እንዳይሆን ያደርጉናል ፤ እንዴት በሰላም ለዘመናት በፍቅር የኖረውን ህዝብ - እርስበርስ ያናቁሩታል -- እንዴትስ ሃገራችንን ይበታትኗታል፤ ለባእድስ እንዴት አሳልፈው ይሰጧታል በሚል -- በተጨማሪም መረጃዎች ላይ የተመሰረተ ፤ እውነተኛነቱ እና ተገቢነቱ የማያጠያይቅ ምሬታ እንዲሁም ሃዘን ውስጥ እየባዘነ እንዲኖር ተደርጓል -- ነጥብ አምስት።

እስቲ ነጥብ ስድስትን አስቀምጬ ፤ መደምደሚያ እንዲሆኑኝ ወዳሰብኳቸው ጉዳዮች ልሸጋገር። ስንቱ ተነግሮ ያልቃል ብላችሁ ነው! ኢትዮጵያ -- ምንም ሳታጣ -- በደሃነት ለዘመናት እየተፈረጀች ያለች ሃገር ናት። ይህ እንዲሆን የቻለበት ምክንያትም ፤ ለሃገርና ለህዝብ ተቆርቋሪ የሆነ መንግስት ባለማግኘቷ ፤ ያላትን ሃብትና ንብረት ለእድገት እና ለብልጽግና እንዲሆን በመጠቀም ፈንታ ፤ ለግለሰቦች መበልጸጊያና ለባህር ማዶ ባንኮች ማዳበሪያ እንዲሆን መደርጉ -- ከብዙ በጥቂቱ ሊጠቀሱ የሚገባቸው ምክንያቶች ናቸው። አንድ መንግስት የሚያስተዳድረውን ህዝብ በረሃብ እንዳይቀጣ የማድረግ ሃላፊነት ብቻ ሳይሆን ፤ ግዴታም አለበት። ምንም እንኳ -- የአየር ሁኔታዎች መዛባት ከጊዜ ወደ ጊዜ ሊከሰት የሚችል አጋጣሚ ቢሆንም ፤ በተፈጥሮ የአየር ሁኔታዎች መዛባት ሳቢያ የሚከሰትን ድርቅ ተከትሎ ፤ በረሃብ የሰው እና የእንስሳት ህይወት እንዳይጠፋ ቅድሚያ ዝግጅት ሊደረግበት ይገባ ነበር። ያ ሆኖ አለመገኘቱ -- የአስተዳደር ድክመት እና የአስተዳደር ብልሹነት መኖሩን ፤ ያለማወላዳት የሚያስገነዝብ ነው።

እህምም.....ከምር እኮ ነው ፤ እድሜ ደጉ ስንቱን አሳየን! እነዚህ ከብዙ በጥቂቱ ከላይ የጠቀስኳቸው አንኳር አንኳር ነጥቦች እንግዲህ ፤ ለእናንተ ለአንባቢዎቼ የተሰጡ ነገሮች ናቸው ብዬ አይደለም። በፖለቲካው ብዙ ተመክሮ ያላቸው ኢትዮጵያዊያንም እኔ ካልኩት በበለጠ አበክረው እየነገሩንም እንደሆነና ፤ ሊነግሩን እንደሚችሉም ምንም ጥርጥር የለኝም። ባይገርማችሁ -- ሃገር ቤት እና ተባህር ማዶ ያለው ሃቀኛ ኢትዮጵያዊ ብቻ ሳይሆን ፤ አንዳንድ ጥሩ የሆኑ እገዢው ግንባር ውስጥ ያሉ ሰዎች እንኳን ሳይቀሩ -- ምን ሊያደርጉ እንደሚችሉ ግራ ተጋብተው እንጂ -- ከላይ የተዘረዘሩት አንኳር አንኳር ነጥቦች ሁሉ እና ፤ ሌሎች ሌሎች በውስጥ አዋቂነት የሚያውቋቸው አያሌ ጉዳዮች ጭምር እንዳሉ ፤ ሳያወላዱ በመመስከር ላይ እንደሆኑ በተደጋጋሚ ያየነው ጉዳይ ነው። ያም ቢሆንም ታዲያ ፤ ገዢው ግንባር -- ኢትዮጵያን ማስተዳደር ያልቻለ መሆኑን ብቻ ሳይሆን ፤ በቅንነት ኢትዮጵያን ለማስተዳደር ተጅምሩም ፍላጎቱ ያልነበረው ፤ አላማውም ያልነበረ መሆኑን እና እድሉም ሊሰጠው የሚገባ እንዳልነበረ ፤ ከበቂ በላይ አስረጂ ሆነው ሊቀርቡ ፤ በተደጋጋሚ ሊጠቀሱም የሚገባቸው መሰረታዊ ጉዳዮች ናቸው የሚለውን በድርብ የህሊና መስመር አጽንኦት በመስጠት ፤ የአንባቢዎቼን ትኩረት እንዲሰቡ ለማድረግ ፈልጌ ነው።

እንግዲህ ያ ሁሉ ከተባለ በኋላ -- ከባዱ ጥያቄ ፤ ታዲያ መፍትሄው ምንደነው? የሚለው ነው። ለነገሩም -- መፍትሄው ምን እንደሆነ ማወቁ በራሱ ከባድ ነገር ሆኖ አይደለም። በህዝብ ለህዝብ ፤ ግልጽና ፍትሃዊ በሆነ መልኩ የተመረጠ ፤ የኢትዮጵያን ሉዐላዊነትና የህዝባቸውን በእኩልነት አብሮ መኖርን ፤ ከሁሉም እና ከምንም በላይ የቅድሚያ ግዴታው የሚያደርግ -- ህዝባዊ መንግስት መመስረት ነው። ከባዱ ጥያቄ የሚሆነው እንግዲህ -- ይህንን ተኪ የሌለው መፍትሄ እንዴት እውን ማድረግ ይቻላል? የሚለው ሊሆን ነው። እንደኔ እንደኔ -- አንባቢዎቼም እንደምትጋሩኝ የማልጠራጠረው ፤ የህዝቡ ምሬት ከምንጊዜውም በበለጠ ፤ መሪ ድርጅት በመፈለግ ላይ እንዳለ መሆኑን ነው። ህዝቡ -- ኢትዮጵያዊ የሆኑ ድርጅቶችን ፤ በተደጋጋሚ እየፈተኛቸው ያለም ነው የሚመስለው። የኢትዮጵያን ሉዐላዊነትና የህዝባቸውን በእኩልነት አብሮ መኖርን መሰረታዊ መመሪያቸው ያደረጉ ፤ በአፈጣጠራቸውና በታሪካቸው በማያሻማ ሁኔታ ኢትዮጵያዊ የሆኑ ፤ የአማራጭ ድምጽ በመሆን የሚንቀሳቀሱ የፖለቲካ ድርጅቶች ሁሉ -- ከግብብነት ባለው መልኩ አንድ በመሆን ፤ ትግሉን ኢትዮጵያዊ መስመር በማስያዝ ፤ ለውጤት እንዲበቃ የማድረግ ታሪካዊ ሃላፊነቱን መውሰድ ይኖርባቸዋል። በቁርጥ መንቀሳቀስ እና ለህዝቡ የማያወላዳ መልስ መስጠትም ይጠበቅባቸዋል። እንዲያው በእኔ እና በእናንተ በአንባቢዎቼ መሃል ይጠበቅና ፤

እኔ -- “አያውቁንም ለካ አያውቁንም.... ላላውቁን ኢትዮጵያዊ ነን” የሚለውን ዘፈን ፤ በጣም ደስ እያለኝ ነው የማዳምጠው። ታዲያ እንግዲህ ፤ የኢትዮጵያን ሉዐላዊነትና የህዝቦቿን በእኩልነት አብሮ መኖርን ለማስፈን መታገሉ ፤ የድርጅት ተልዕኮ የው የሚል ሁሉ - ህዝቡ በሚገባ እንዲያውቀው ለማድረግ -- ከምን ጊዜውም በበለጠ ጠንክሮ መስራት ሊኖርበት ነው - ማለት ነው።

የፈረሴን ሉጋም አጠር አጠር ፣ ሳብ ሳብ አድርጌ ፤ የዛሬውን ግልበያየን ከማሳረጌ በፊት ፤ አንድ አንድ ነገሮች እንድንጨምር ይፈቀድልኝ። ያኔ --- የዛሬ ሃያ ምናምን አመት ፤ በስልጣን ላይ ያለው ገዥ ግንባር ወደ አራት ኪሎ ሲገባ ፤ ህዝቡ የገዥውን ግንባር ምንነቱን እና ማንነቱን በቅጡ ለመረዳት ጊዜውም እድሉም እንዳልነበረው ሁሉ ፤ የሰሞኑም ነባራዊ ሁኔታዎች የሚያሳዩት ነገር ቢኖር - ህዝቡ አሁንም -- ያሉትን የፖለቲካ ድርጅቶች በቅጡ የሚያውቃቸው ያለመሆኑን ነው። ምን ያድርግ -- የሃሳባቸው መዘበራረቅ ብቻ ሳይሆን ፤ የቁጥራቸው መብዛት ጭምር ጭንቅላት የሚያዘር እኮ ነው! የዚህ እውነታ አደገኛነቱ ምን መሰላችሁ ታዲያ --- ምናልባት በባዕዳንም ሆነ በሌላ ድጋፍ ሃገሪቷን የመከፋፈል ምኞት ያላቸው ድርጅቶች የሃይል ሚዛኑ ወደእነሱ እንዲያጋድል አጋጣሚው ሊፈጠርላቸው ቢችል ፤ አሁንም እንደያዘው የህዝቡ አንጻራዊ የሞህነት አግዟቸው -- ኢትዮጵያን ወደባስ ሁኔታ ሊከታት ወደኋላ እንደማይሉ ነው። ይህንንም ሁኔታ (ሃገሪቷን የመከፋፈል ምኞት ያላቸው ድርጅቶች የሃይል ሚዛኑ ወደ እንሱ እንዲያጋድል) አጋጣሚውን ለማመቻቸት በሚመስል የብልጣብልጥነት ሃሳብ ፤ የመገንጠልን አጀንዳ ይዘው ሲጓዙ የነበሩና ፤ ዘግኝኝ የስነልቦናዊ መሽርሽርን በህዝቡ ውስጥ ያለማሳለስ ሲያስፋፉ የኖሩ ድርጅቶች ፤ አሁን አሁን ሃሳባቸውን የቀየሩ መስለው እና በአዲስ ድርጅት ለምድ ተሸፍነው ፤ እስካሁን ያልተጓዙበትን ጎዳና ተከትለው ለመንገድ ዝግጅታቸውን የጨረሱም የመስላል። በባዕድ ሃገር ጉርሻ የሚሸከረከሩ የራዲዎ ጣቢያዎችም -- የኢትዮጵያን ሉዐላዊነት አደጋ ላይ የጣሉ ስራዎች ሲሰሩ -- አንዲትም ቃል ያልተነፈሱ ፤ የሰሞኑን ግርግር ለኢትዮጵያ በማይበጅ መልኩ -- ቀን ተቀን በመቀጠል ላይ መሆናቸው ፤ አንድ ነገር ሹክ የተባላቸው ነው የሚመስለው።

ያ ሁሉ ተደማምሮ ነው እንግዲህ -- የእናቱ መቀነት አደናቀፈኝ የሚል ነገር ዳግም ህዝቡ እንዳይሰማ ፤ ታሪክም ትውልዳችንን በክፉ እንዳይፋረድ ለማድረግ -- በኢትዮጵያ አንድነት እና በህዝቦቿ እኩልነት የሚያምን ሁሉ ፤ ሳይውል ሳያድር አስፈላጊ እና ተገቢ የሆኑትን ነገሮች በማመቻቸት ፤ ትግሉን ኢትዮጵያዊ ፈር ማስያዝ ቀዳሚ ታሪካዊ ገዴታው ሊሆን ይገባል የሚባለው። ኢትዮጵያዊ ፈር ማስያዝ ማለት --- የኢትዮጵያን ሉዐላዊነት ጠብቆ ፤ የህዝቦቿን በእኩልነት አብሮ መኖርን በማያወላዳ መልኩ የትግሉ መሰረታዊ መርህ እንዲሆን አድርጎ ፤ አረንጓዴ ቢጫ ቀይ ሰንደቅ አላማንን በኩራት ከፍ አድርጎ በማውለብለብ መታገል ማለት ነው። ይህ አልገባኝም ለሚል "አውቆ የተኛን ቢቀሰቅሱት አይሰማም" እንዲሉ ነውና -- ቀዝቃዛ ውሃ ፊቱ ላይ መርጨት ነው ፤ ጊዜ ሳያባክን እንዲነቃ። ለዛሬ ጨርሻለሁ።

ከልብ አመሰግናለሁ!

አኪዬ | የካቲት 2008 | ahget2015@gmail.com

Deer and Rabbits on my Hill

Greetings to you all out there, this is Akiye’s monthly blog.

Right now, it is February 28, 2016, Sunday morning. Good day and time for me to sit and prepare my blog for the next month, March that is. Speaking of next month, for the past three years, February had 28 days – and when I woke up the next day, it was already March 1st. Not this time! When I wake up tomorrow, February will still be around, except it is the 29th day of February. This is because, nearly every four years is a leap year which has 366 days, instead of the usual 365, in the Gregorian calendar. That is to align with the earth’s revolution with respect to the sun. Accordingly, the next leap day and year will be on February 29, 2020 Gregorian calendar.

To mirror converse what I just said; I am obliged to say a word or two on the Ethiopian calendar. You know, I have to do this ;-). The Ethiopian calendar has 12 months of 30 days and five or six days in Pagumen, the 13th month in an Ethiopian year. If you ever wonder why, the name Ethiopia is occasionally accompanied by the phrase “13 months of sunshine,” usually in the field of tourism, now you have an idea. Like February in Gregorian calendar, the Ethiopian calendar 13th month of the year – Pagumen usually has five days, except every four years, when Pagumen will have six days – on Ethiopia’s leap years. Essentially, meant for the same reason, i.e. to align with the earth’s revolution with respect to the sun, and an influence from the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church. The last Ethiopian leap day and year was on Pagumen 6, 2007 Ethiopian calendar – last year. Accordingly, the next Ethiopian leap day and year will be on Pagumen 6, 2011 Ethiopian calendar – today is the 20th day of Yekatit 2008.

So much for a little trivia on leap days and leap years.

This morning, I intend to share with you, a brief reminiscence of mine, which I sketch-logged on the back of a scratch paper, on the morning of this past Presidents’ Day. I returned to it this morning, opened a word document, and converted the hard copy sketch, systematically grouped words and phrases, to an electronic copy and breathe upon it twice, to tell a story. I then played around with it a little bit, to make it presentable to you, my readers. It is about yours truly, a brief reflection on my surrounding, and a statement of encouragement to those whom are not only capable but also comfortable making meaningful decisions, on safeguarding the ecosystem of the present for the future.

Here it goes.

Waking up early in the morning could be a duel at times, particularly in week days. I tend to pull the comforter higher up, toss and turn once or twice and make myself warm and comfy, even if it is for another couple of minutes. The day I sketch-logged my activities, in preparation for this blog, was however filled with a different story. I woke up very early, with an immense energy and drive to do something. Nothing in particular, just a pure impulse, to tighten up my t-shirt and do some stuff. The interesting thing is the day wasn’t even a “working” day, for me. As I said, it was in fact Presidents’ Day, so I could stay in bed for a while – if I chose to. Nope, instead I was there, eyelids wide open, stretching my arms right and left, stepping one foot in front of the other, shifting from one side to the other of my bedroom. In few seconds, I jumped into my workout cloth and hopped up on to my stationary bike. By the way, my avid readers remember, in December of last year, I shared with you, my plan to kick a notch up on my exercise routine. Well, as a progress note – with the help of enablers and incentives, I think I have finally got the hang of exercising somewhere between 3 and 5 days per week. Way to go!See, self soft rub on my shoulder is not a bad idea either, for incentive ;-).

Where was I? - Yea, when I finished my exercise routine, squinted through the louvers with intent to clearly look at the outside. There was a wispy overcast in the neighborhood, with a drizzle – nothing heavy, but just enough to wet roofs and driveways – the droplets look like, trying to be gentle to the

surfaces they touch, falling down. What an inanimate kindness! Turned myself around, went to the kitchen and started making a cup of coffee, for an extra vigilance. I poured water in to a kettle, placed it on a stove and turned on the fire. While waiting for the water to reach to its boiling point, I press woke up my tablet, and began eye balling my e-mails which are still in bold font face. One thing I learned this past couple of decades is that I recognize an e-mail, if I need to open and read it or not, within a split of a second. So the first thing I did was sliding those e-mails not up to par with my anticipation, using my right thumb, to delete. Before opening the first e-mail left for me to read, I was reminded by a whistling kettle. The boiling water I needed to mix with a tablespoon of instant coffee was the one that makes my kettle scream. Between you and me, as I get older, I started frequenting instant coffee – a tablespoon in a cup and just hot water. It will do the job, perfectly. That will help my circulatory system get a little break. I mean, instead of gulping a triple or quad tall latte, which I used to enjoy.

Well, a tablet on one hand and my cup of coffee on the other, I took a sit on a bar stool and begun reading my e-mails, the chosen ones. After I was done with the e-mails, still sipping my coffee – I somehow shifted my thought process into a fourth dimension reminiscing the duration of the time I lived in my current city. After I started my professional life at a very young age, which became my second religion and one of the primary purposes of my life, over the past several decades – now is the first time for me to remain in one city for so many years, nearing a decade and half. Wow! I said. Interestingly, not only I lived in the same city for so long – I actually lived in a very close proximity for that long, moving only a couple of times within a walking distance. I shouldn't really call that moving, except I had movers helping me to take my stuff to the new places. So technically, it was a move. And, all those years, on a daily basis, for one reason or another, I have been driving up and down on a small hill, [I call it 'my hill' out of affection] which is indistinctly located at the border of an adjacent city.

When I first came to the area, my hill was covered, for the most part, with beautiful vegetation and green dense trees. Yes, there were and still are residential places, an office block, school for little kids, and an extremely tall water tanker decorated with what looks like a painting of images of a pine tree. Together with a spiral ladder attached to it on its exterior – all the way to top, the water tanker forms a very elegant and beautiful art on its own. Driving up and down my hill was and still is very enjoyable and refreshing. Most of the times, the street was and still is less crowded. I nonetheless used to cross path with very curious deer, sometimes in pairs, a pair and half on other times – standing on the sideline, or in the middle of the street, weighing their options 'to cross or not to cross,' to the other side. That was my take on what the deer might have been thinking at that point. HHHhmmmm...did you notice that I, without a hesitation, used the 'T' word in reference to a deer, an animal - I mean...a non-human animal? Yes - that is because I share the point of experts in the field, whom support the theory that some animals have the brain power to understand new situations, make decisions, and plan ahead. Hey, good enough for me to believe that some animals, including deer do think. Deer thinks like a deer, not necessarily like a human. Even humans differ in what we think about stuff. What was he/she thinking, is what we say, right?

Anyways, as I noticed, most of the time, deer appear to be very careful and attentive. They try their best to avoid any adverse outcomes. For what? Just for heading to visit a friend deer on the other side of the street, which may be waiting with anticipation? Getting hurt for that would be a shameful story among the deer's family ;-). For that reason or another [I think,] I never saw or heard of an instance where a deer hits a moving or a non-moving car. It is always humans the perpetrators. True, you might find a deer standing in the middle of the street, caught off guard, staring at your headlights. Deer don't have deer-made rules and regulations of the road that align with man-made rules and regulation of the road. The deer at that instance is just 'thinking' on what to do, in response. Speaking of pleasant sight driving up and down my hill, particularly on days that I was or am lucky, I also get surprised by seasonal tiny bunnies, munching whatever is in their mouth, on the side of the street, jumping and running around like cheerful little kids having fun out on a field.

Those were seemingly simple, but breathtaking memories of mine, when I think of my hill, as I knew it from a decade and half ago. Alas, as time goes by, more and more trees have been cut, more and more houses have been built, tall communication signal receivers erected, and the ecosystem disturbed – as result. Those curious deer I told you about earlier, I don't see them as frequent as I used to. When I get to see one, very rarely, it makes me feel repentant for things are no more the same – for the deer, for the rabbits, for me, and for the future. I wish I could decipher what the deer's and the rabbit's perspectives were or are with regard to all those changes. Obviously, no chance of that happening. I therefore have convinced myself – not only I, but the deer, and even the rabbits as well couldn't be happy either, with the extent of changes which took place over the years. That must be the reason for why I don't get to see them in abundance – anymore.

I still drive up and down my hill. I have to. My gaze however is no more captured by the natural beauty that my hill was blessed in plenty. That natural beauty is now replaced with houses and several exists which lead residents in and out of their living corners. I still have to be careful driving, not primarily for the anticipation of crossing deer or hopping rabbits, but for drivers frequently and sharply turning in and pulling out without signaling. To the detriment of the future, I also see some new signs on one side of the street, where some trees are still in existence. Hinting a new construction might be here soon. I am now left with no choice, but imagine, the remaining trees will be cleared and replaced by houses – survivor dear and the rabbits will be forced to disappear – very, very shortly.

Along with increasing population size, growth of cities in response is a no brainer. As result, degradation of the natural ecosystem becomes inevitable – the landscape, the dense vegetation, the deer and the rabbits in it, will eventually disappear. That is just referring to my hill. I know there is an infinite mesmerizing ecosystem everywhere. An ecosystem deserving to be preserved for the environment would remain vibrant, for generations yet to come. On my hill however, it appears a little too late. Nonetheless, I still hope the ecosystem on my hill have someone to look upon as a natural resource to be preserved. Apparently, it may only get worse – that is what it looks like, given the popping up signs, I mentioned earlier. One of those signs reads "for sale by owner". I wholeheartedly encourage – those

capable and comfortable decision makers – to revamp the environmentally friendly side of every one, lift a strong proactive interest, in preserving the natural landscape, the vegetation, and the animals living in it, as part of the future green ecosystem of my hill, my city, and for that matter -- any other aspects of my universe.

Before closing for today, allow me to say one more thing. As you read it earlier, me saying my hill, my city, my universe – I truly did not imply in any intent, to take anything away from anyone. How could I? I don't own those. The ideality is; no one does, and in principle, we all are transient occupants. In fact, it is my unflinching position that my hill, my city, and my universe are equally your hill, equally your city, and equally your universe. Let's all act responsibly and keep our ecosystem livable. The future will be equally grateful to all of us.

Well then, that was a quick rundown of what I was soaked, delving into my memories, on the morning of this past Presidents' Day.

Thank you for reading and until next time, cheers!

Akiye | March 1, 2016 | ahget2015@gmail.com

A Chat with MyInstinct: Session One

A Chat with MyInstinct: Session One
Akiye | April 1, 2016 | ahget2015@gmail.com

Greetings!this is Akiye's monthly weblog.

Spring is here my friends; it feels like I came back to my vibrant self after hibernating for a season or two. No wonder, those skilled novelists and writers qualify spring with colorful vocabularies – rebirth, rejuvenation, renewal, resurrection, re-growth, and the likes. This evening however, (today is March 29, 2016) I was just happy for daylight was still around when I returned home, in the evening.

After finishing my evening chores, I found myself sitting on my study desk, making the last touches, on a thought conversation I drafted this past weekend.

It all began on Saturday afternoon March 26, 2016. I was there, curling up on my couch, with a hardcopy notebook and a pencil, staring at the ceiling, trying to exhume a topic for my coming, April that is, monthly weblog. Somehow, it wasn't straightforward that afternoon. Nevertheless, after a little more blinks and squints, I ended up resting on the idea of chatting with myself (MyInstinct,) and decided to

share it with you all – my readers. It is just something, a way of yours truly, testing a different format for Akiye’s weblog. We shall see!

Below is the transcript.

Akiye: I have been trying for many years to get you on the set, to chat. I am a reverent admirer of you as a genuine human being, and it is a super pleasure to have you here with me, this afternoon. Welcome to adarash, Sir.

MyInstinct: Thank you for the invite! Just call me Instinct, you and I are indistinguishable. (Laughter.)

Akiye: Thank you MyInstinct! As you very well know, I am neither a journalist nor a writer. So – this will be a very informal conversation between you, MyInstinct and me. As you can notice, we are not even in a fancy studio – instead, we are sitting on a couch, paper and pencil on the side, close by a coffee table, inside a meek family room. Please, make yourself comfortable, MyInstinct.

MyInstinct: Thank you....thanks; it is very kind of you, Akiye!

Akiye: My starting point, about you, as it is evident - you are utilizing the Internet as a tool to share your thoughts on subject matters, which you believe are important to society in general and Ethiopia in particular. I see no self promotions. It is a unique approach and I like that. Just to help us serve as an expert power in the background, on what you and I will be chatting this afternoon, please tell my readers a little more about you.

MyInstinct: I was born and raised in Ethiopia, and currently reside in the United States of America. I spent most of my life, in a non-stop schooling and practicing my profession, in several capacities. I am dearly reverent to one of the essences of the Hippocratic corpus, “first do no harm,” and I practice it in all aspects of my life. That however doesn’t mean I cozy myself with inanity. I am a simple person – advances in science and technology fascinate me. I feel a deep sense of urgency on a multitude of subject matters in society. Health, education, justice, equality, oneness, and world peace, are my passions. I believe, advances in science and technology are instrumental, not only in finding instantaneous solutions for those and many more multitude of issues in society; but also nurturing a potential, a livable environment, for generations yet to come.

Akiye: Despite your great accomplishments in life, as an individual, you tend to lead a very reserved (low key,) life. Why the humbleness?

MyInstinct: Well, if humbleness reflects who I am, I must have genuinely practiced the good things I value most. I am not sure if I did, to the extent of my likes. But, thank you! It is true; you won’t see me wasting my time trying to impress. I know what matters and what doesn’t. I persistently nurture a deep

base of teachability inside me. I pretty much feel fulfilled on a regular basis, and guide my routines through a proper assessment of realities in life.

Akiye: You mentioned health, education, justice, equality, oneness, and world peace as subject matters in society that you are passionate about. If asked to pick one specific topic area for our chat this afternoon, what would that be?

MyInstinct: Not easy, Akiye. Not easy to pick one, as those subject matters are tightly interrelated. Our failures as a society are by far results of seeing and tackling those subject matters as separate and distinct, when they are not. If we plan to do better, to be successful as a society, (I believe that is a given for any healthy thought processes,) it takes a holistic approach to clearly understand and meaningfully manage any one of those subject matters. But, I understand your intent. So – in the interest of time, let's chat about health, specifically as it relates to the lent season.

Akiye: Wow, just like that! What was the driving force behind that pinpointed choice?

MyInstinct: Today is March 26, 2016 GC, right? ... (Nodding in confirmation), and as you are well aware, tomorrow is Easter, according to Western Christianity. On the other hand, Eastern Christianity, (I am specifically referring to the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahdo Church,) observes Easter in about 35 days from today, on May 1, 2016 GC to be exact. Interestingly, the duration of the lent season and by extension Easter day, follow a moving calendar, thus Easter day in Ethiopia doesn't always coincide with Easter day in the United States, for instance.

Anyways, referring to the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahdo Church, for convenience – religious observances during the lent season involve: a) dietary ((fasting, as in skipping meals) + (refraining from any and all food items made of animal products)), and b) spiritual ((rigorous prayer) + (good manners)), the two elements capable of influencing our health, in a big way. So, why not – you and your readers might be interested after all.

By the way, I should mention that people do practice a restricted dietary lifestyle, fasting and avoiding animal products, and of course good manners inclusive (Laughter,) for religious or non religious reasons – religious, both in Christianity and Islam; and non religious, as a principle in life, nurturing healthiness.

Akiye: Absolutely! Referring to the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahdo Church, tell a little more on specifics, I mean..... Religious practices during the lent season, for instance.

MyInstinct: For your readers whom may want to have more understanding on this subject, I suggest to them to refer to both Testaments and writings of the Church. If my recollections serve me correctly, overall and year round, there are seven fasting periods, with 250 fasting days combined. Those 250 fasting days are observed by monks, nuns, priests and very strict followers of the Church. Of those 250

fasting days, 72 percent are obligatory for all followers – 13 years old and above. However, the sick, travelers, and the weak may be exempt from or reduce the fasting periods. The lent season, “Abiy Tsome,” preceding Easter, is the longest of the seven fasting periods, with 55 days in observances.

Akiye: I thought lent was only for 40 days? Sorry for interrupting!

MyInstinct: Sure, I was never asked this before. Coincidentally – just recently, my eyes cross path with a writing on the subject, which made me re-realize the case. The explanation I read states that the “Abiy Tsome,” the fasting season prior to Easter, is divided in to three consecutive segments. “Tsome Hirkan” for a total of eight days, “Tsome Arba” for a total of 40 days, and “Tsome Himamamt” for a total of seven days. Do the math.

Akiye: Interesting, thank you for straightening that up!

MyInstinct: Yea, I assume Akiye; you have been accumulating more credits than you thought, (Laughter.) So – to finish my thoughts on specific religious practices, in those 55 days of lent, no food items of animal products are consumed. The meals during lent or any other fasting days for that matter; essentially constitute vegan diet: edible plants, cereals, legumes, fruits and vegetables will take over the kitchen with no resistance. I still have to figure out why fish is allowed in some circles, though. But, anyways, during the lent season, (and on any other days of fasting,) the first and probably only meal of the day is consumed at about three hours after noon. Therefore, skipping a meal or two is part of the practice, except on weekends, when breakfast is okay. In addition to the dietary restrictions, followers of the Church are also expected to pray more rigorously, and show extra goodness, manner wise.

Akiye: Tell us more about the relevance and connectedness of dietary practices (including fasting and restrictions against animal products, in the context of spirituality or otherwise,) and health.

MyInstinct: I will try. This is a huge topic – one can make a profession out of it, or even could open a university just on this topic, to be honest. The food we (I am referring to humans here) – the food we eat, has a pivotal effect on the wellbeing of the body as well as mind. A healthy diet consists of the right elements (proteins, carbohydrates, fats, minerals, vitamins, water etc.,) that survival and wellbeing depend starting from pre conception to that final inevitable day. A healthy diet is a requirement to provide needed energy, promote healthy growth, and sustain healthier life.

Instinctively, as humans, we have been gathering the foods we consume from plant and animal sources. As much as nourishments are a necessity, and healthier nourishments are certainly a requirement, the foods we consume are always on the verge of being implicated as culprits for a long list of illnesses – when and if we fail to focus on their healthiness, quality and quantity wise. That thin red risk-line involves issues from production, processing, storage, distribution, preparation, and balanced consumption. I am telling you my friend, it is an issue that is as complicated and confusing as it gets.

Speaking of dietary practices (within the context of spirituality or otherwise) and health; allow me to excavate a triad while talking:

First – fasting, as in skipping meals – in theory, is helpful in burning more body fat, improving that excess body weight, dissolving and removing toxins stored in body fat, improving metabolic and immune functions, reducing levels of some oxidative stress or disease markers, and nurturing a healthier body – well armored to protect and fight against illnesses. I should mention that even among the scientific communities, those alleged benefits of skipping meals, are all by far waiting games – at a stage of rooting for confirmatory studies.

Second – fasting, as in religion based restrictions against anything and everything that are of animal products, have additional benefits. That means the intake of animal proteins, animal fats, saturated fats, and Trans fatty acids are not only reduced, but also reduced big-time – as in super relevant to health. I have no doubt that you know this very well; I mean... the existence of causal associations between unhealthy consumption of food items, particularly food items that are based on animal products and a long list of acute and chronic illnesses. So, I won't go there, this afternoon.

This second component of the triad is a little bit bulky. So – allow me to say a little more on it. Restrictions from food items of animal origin; proportionally increase ((you got to eat in order to stimulate your satiety center, right? (Nodding and Laughter,)) restrictions from food items of animal origin; proportionally increase the consumption of food items that are based on edible plants, cereals, legumes, fruits and vegetables – food items that are rich in plants based proteins, plant based fats, plant based carbohydrates, vitamins, provitamines, dietary minerals, antioxidants, phytochemicals, flavinoids, phenols, carotinoids, saponins, isothiocyanates, soluble and insoluble fibers, etc. etc. The good stuff that healthy nourishment should constitute, really! Also, by virtue of their constituents, fruits and vegetables for instance benefit the human body by alleviating oxidative damage to cells, protecting the body from attacks by different forms of pathogens, preventing cells from carcinogenic transformations, and preventing genes from damages that are implicated in some forms of birth defects.

Folks, practicing a restricted dietary lifestyle for reasons other than religion are either reducing their intakes of animal products or eliminating animal products from their diet all in all. Vegans, fall under the latter. Lacto-ovo vegetarians, on the other hand do not consume any animal products, but milk and eggs. Other folks consume everything, focusing on the foods' healthiness, both in quality and quantity. Of course, any plants based food items, cereals, legumes, or fruits and vegetables themselves need to be free from contamination with pathogens, toxic chemicals, or any altered and harmful genetic materials. Likewise, food items that come from animal sources – flesh, milk and milk products, and eggs as well need to be free from contamination with pathogens, artificially introduced hormones, any altered and harmful genetic materials, and toxic chemicals.

Third – mind you, this is the third component of the triad, and it is spirituality. Spirituality, as in practicing religious traditions, irrespective of the varieties, consists of faith in its nucleus. When frequented, practicing those religious traditions help believers to be in a special frame of mind and ultimately benefit from many dimensions. As spirituality embodies faith – faith as in the super most enabler of compliance, and compliance with skipping meals and refraining from animal products, come very handy in promoting good health, healing, sense of wellbeing, fitness to fighting against illnesses, and providing generous fringe opportunities nurturing self management skills through prayers and the unique social support – explain how spirituality could have special place in health. On top of that all, smoking and alcohol (correct me if I m wrong,) are a NO-NO during fasting days and fasting seasons. Smoking and excess alcohol consumptions are the two most frequently cited culprits for a long list of acute and chronic illnesses, and the resulting deaths.

To make a very long - long story short, (I know, I already said too much on this, (Laughter,)) nonetheless, when you have a good grasp of the triad – first, skipping meals; second, refraining from food items of animal sources; third, spirituality – it starts to make a sensible picture, an abstract picture, of that complex relevance and connectedness of healthy dietary practices and health, within the context of spirituality or otherwise.

Akiye: It is worth taking the time to sit on that bench, and strive making sense of that abstract picture, so to infer, hanging on a wall, decorated and sheltered only with complex and complicated information. Now, speaking of that thin red risk-line, are there any concerns with regard to restrictive dietary practices, particularly fasting?

MyInstinct: As I mentioned earlier – writings of the Church teach us all, the sick, travelers, and the weak are “exempted” from, or “allowed” to reduce religion based fasting periods. Those whom are fasting for health reasons are assumingly in full control of their decisions. Of course, my concerns are the unintended consequences of fasting, fasting – as in skipping meals, on health. It is also fair and worth repeating here – the support on the benefits of fasting – as in skipping meals, to physical health, coming even from the scientific communities are still for the most part, waiting games – rooting for solid confirmatory studies.

That said – it is very crucial to pay attention to a proper compliance on all medications prescribed by health care providers. Proper compliance means, strict adherence to the dose, times of the day to take, and any other precautions advised in person by a Doctor. There are also certain health conditions that require regular intakes of food throughout the day. I should mention here Diabetes Mellitus, where proper control of sugar levels throughout the day is lifesaving – that means maintaining regular individualized schedules on meals. Moreover, anyone with any ongoing illnesses – not only Diabetes, but any compromised metabolic or organ functions, should talk to their Doctors and consult with their church whenever they are contemplating drastic changes in their dietary/lifestyle practices.

Mind you and your readers, one of the unintended consequences of skipping meals particularly on susceptible individuals – I repeat, particularly on susceptible individuals, could include a dangerously low level of “sugar” in the circulating blood. The symptoms of a low level of sugar in the circulating blood differ from person to person. In general however, the symptoms may include dizziness, weakness, shakiness, sweating, confusion and unconsciousness, failure to be alert on what is going on in the surrounding – potentially hinting a serious illness or could become reasons for irreversible damages, including accidents for instance, involving drivers and pedestrians, alike.

Akiye: That is truly important! As you said, MyInstinct, this is a very vast topic area. We could chat eternally on this subject. But, the time allocated for this program is finite – so, how about closing thoughts, remarks?

MyInstinct: I would only underscore with double lines that our chat equates to a tiny drop, compared to an infinite universe of subject matters, on diet, spirituality and health. Fortunately, time has changed from when you and I were in formal structured schooling, and anyone interested in knowing more, there are plenty of resources out there at their finger tips. It is also worth highlighting – what you and I mentioned this afternoon are just for thought provocation and by no means should be taken as prescriptions to anyone. Each individual ought to consult with his or her health care provider before making drastic changes to their lifestyle, dietary or otherwise. I thank you again for the opportunity, and happy Easter to your readers, to whom are followers of Western Christianity.

Akiye: Well said, MyInstinct. Thank you, thank you indeed! Would you please come again, may be sometime in summer, for a similar chat on another topic – on one of those passions of yours?

MyInstinct: Certainly, the pleasure would be mine. Take care of yourself, Akiye!

----- Until next time! -----

Good Reasons

Akiye | May 1, 2016 | ahget2015@gmail.com

To forget is an inherent characteristic of a living brain. Something that happens with in -- is a natural way of defragmentation, when stuff we pick up in short and long-term exposures and efforts are organized and placed in naturally preferable areas. While the inherent defragmentation makes stuff that we rehearse or use more repeatedly upfront and easily accessible; some may however pass through an auto encryption state, needing extra effort to find and make use of them. That is true for almost all under the curve, leaving out on both ends of the distribution; very-very few under the left tail, just cannot remember anything, and very-very few with unbelievable power of remembering almost every bit of exposures in their lives, under the right tail.

Speaking of remembering stuff, in recent years, I keep not remembering the solid waste disposal calendar—for garbage, recycling, and organic collection services for my zone. Taking out the garbage bin is something I have to do every week, so - no problem there. On the other hand the schedule for the recycling bin is every other week, and for the glass basket -- once or twice a month. Trying to remember those days is becoming a challenge. Taking the recycling bin or the glass basket on a wrong day didn't occur to me yet. Missing the right date however had me to find places for overflow cardboards for the next two weeks, and glasses for the next month, and between you and I, it really could get unsightly at times. The more I forget this stuff; I resorted to doing what most of you might have not even thought about it before. I search for it and added my County's Public Works website to the home screen of my tablet. Oh, boy! What a difference it made. Once a week, when I take out the garbage bin, I check the calendar, to look and see if it is also the day for taking out the recycling bin or the glass basket.

Greetings folks, this is Akiye's blog for May, 2016. Yep, it is already May, you all. Speaking of calendar earlier -- the month of May comes loaded with good reasons for celebrations. Pinned on the calendar, the calendar that I still very well remember are Easter Day for followers of Eastern Christianity in general and the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahdo Church in particular; "May Day" or the "International Workers Day" for all workers all over the planet, as such both occur together on this first day of May -- for this year anyways. Mother's Day is approaching fast, on May 8, to be exact. Here at home in the United States we are also set to observe Memorial Day on the last Monday of May. Well, those are selected good reasons for intentionally cancelling seriousness for a day or two, kickback, loosen-up, and celebrate.

Did someone say Easter Day? Again? Yes, on Easter Day, on May 1, 2016 -- while followers of Eastern Christianity remember and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, it is also accompanied with the end of the longest fasting season. Translation -- items on the menu will visibly change and food items that are based on animal products show a comeback, big time! As such, I very well know what is going on out there, but I also have no doubt; all my folks are cognizant of the word/term "moderation" and the importance of taking it easy on meals that are loaded with fat and butter. Going back to a more-healthy menu items ASAP will kick your wiseness-o-meter a couple of notches up. Other than that, from your humble blogger to you and yours, happy Easter! Enjoy the day.

As I mentioned earlier, today is also "May Day" or the "International Workers Day," for all workers and anyone else with a healthy conscience on planet Earth. More visibly, in about 40 percent of all nations worldwide, May Day is celebrated as a national holiday. May Day is a day of reflection of a commitment, not only to remember and honor, but also reinforce and continue the essence of the old world revolutionary movements that begun in the 1800s -- a struggle for workers right, equality, and universal peace. Eight hours work day, overtime pays, paid holidays, paid sick leaves, keeping an eye on workplace discrimination, fighting workplace abuse, and bargaining power that all workers and their families at the present day are enjoying; did not come overnight or without any sacrifice. The sacrifice dearly paid by the predecessors in the labor movement was the cause for the achieved victories in the work place that

we tend to take them for granted. In remembering May Day, this generation of workers and would be workers of generations yet to come, owe two things to the heroes and heroines of workers movement of the past. First, recognize their sacrifices and say thank you. Second, revive their quest to justice and equality by carrying the torch of struggle and freedom with the at most respect and convictions and hand it over to the next generation. Time has changed a lot, but still workers questions remain unanswered, worldwide.

Now -- on the second Sunday of May, here in the United States and many other places around the world, it will be Mother's Day. Yes on May 8, 2016, it is a day to observe and celebrate Mother's Day -- a day to honor mothers, motherhood and mothers' role in society. Honoring and celebrating the immortal love that we all get from mothers is as such a deserving purely natural holiday, honoring the mere existence of humanity. Taking this opportunity -- to the strong, to the powerless, to the voiceless, to you all genuinely good mothers on planet earth, happy Mother's Day!

Last but not least, on the last Monday of May here at home in the United States; we observe a holiday remembering the people who died while serving the nations' armed forces fighting for liberty and justice for all. Varies events of traditional observance, including cities throughout the nation proudly decorated with the National Flag, nurture a deep integration of diverse communities into a genuine sense of gratefulness and nationalism. Happy Memorial Day!

This may be a perfect juncture to attempt pulling the attention of my fellow Ethiopians. As you know, all 50 states in the United States have their respective State Flags. However, on all eye catching events and occasions, be it concerts – sports – politics (oppositions and supporters of the government alike) – nationally celebrated holidays, inter alia, --- buildings, cities, arenas, parks, monuments, children and adults, you name it -- are decorated with nothing but the National Flag. Take that to heart, and respect the Green-Yellow-Red National Flag of Ethiopia. Especially, those of you whom are regurgitating your nonsense secessionist agenda. Respecting the Ethiopian National Flag is a way of honoring the great ancestors of Ethiopia, dignifying yourself, and teaching your children to be proud of whom they are.

In closing, if you read a previous blog of mine "Metaholidays," you likely noticed that I love holidays. Oh, boy --- you should have seen me when I was in my youth. You know...those days, when I still have had invincibility in my back pocket! I was all consciously in the moments, to put it lightly. Who can blame me.... it was way before when humans officially begun to be jealous of robots and behave as such. Now, I am a little settled in the ways I celebrate holidays. I tend to ponder a little more on their significance, the significance of holidays to individuals, families and the society. As far as yours truly is concerned, holidays are positive ways of reflecting our existence and celebrating humanity in which every traditional ways at our conscious disposal. Almost all holidays are filled, (are meant to be filled,) with events that bring happiness to us. Happiness surely feeds a healthy mind, and healthy mind in turn feeds a healthy body. That way, the cycle continues until the inevitable moment in life. Taken all together, holidays nurture the whole person, family and society -- in a very good way.

What can I say – – Very happy holidays!

I thank you for reading.

Tiny Creatures

Akiye | June 1, 2016 | ahget2015@gmail.com

– Honoring the past – Nurturing the present – Crafting the future
Anniversary Edition | adarash.net | Since June 2010

Greetings, to you all out there – This is Akiye’s blog for the month of June 2016. My website, adarash.net joined the worldwide, now close to one billion websites, in June of 2010. That makes this month, [adarash](http://adarash.net)’s sixth anniversary. Starting [adarash](http://adarash.net) has been an excellent experience to me. I sharpened my familiarity with the concept and application of a website, including its ever mesmerizing utilities. In preparation for Akiye’s monthly blog and Healthy Précis Quarterly – I have since; voluntarily and consistently, been opening myself for regular leisure time readings, on top of what I used to do before. Even the News Desk has been instrumental in keeping me up-to-date, on selected stuff. I might not have had those extra, extra fringe perks in life; if it were not for starting [adarash](http://adarash.net). This anniversary, as the ones prior, is just a passive accolade. Except, this time – I composed a poem, having fun with mosquitoes – primarily, as it pleases me – as a way of yours truly saying thanks, to my dearest readers. Here it goes.

Tiny Creatures

Purposefully, voluntarily, entertaining life science;
Dusting off a memory, shelved out of place,
Decided to explore, our own existence,
And re-conceptualizing, the departure of the Dinos.

Mountain lions or the jungle cats;
Could it be the crocodiles or collisions with asteroids,
How about ancient floods, ancient fires;
The ever dangerous – eruptions of the volcanoes,
Or extremes of primitive, climate changes;
Calamities, like earthquakes of biblical proportions.

Oh, Dinosaurs – you helpless giants;
Hope you get it – you left us without a choice,
But conversing with your fossils,
Just by virtue of your absolute – disappearance.
I know those are, your distant remnants;

Nonetheless, in case it helps – please, share the truth with us,
Was it those tiny bites – that led to your demise?

This very mystery; is for sure not well addressed;
But, wittingly chose to acquiesce, and opted to move forward,
Just for the heck of it – am determined – to uncover and unload.

Nnumero uno, killers of us;
Yes, they were a little bigger, in their sizes,
Ancestors of the tiny creatures – of our times,
Also known as mosquitoes – are possibly the ones.

At least the very top on the list, amongst the other culprits;
That put the seal, on millions, and millions of miraculous lives,
Including the Dinos of ancient times,
And remain devastating, unabated ever since.

Speaking of their natures,
Ubiquitous worriers – capable of flying – somewhat like a helicopter;
They even have a unique feeding manner,
While the males are done comfy sipping – sugar loaded juice and nectar,
Oh, no – for the female mosquitoes, that was just an appetizer.
They need to gulp, even more and even more;
So they hover, for the main course, there they took off – to meander.

It for me is so interesting, those tiny creatures, even do orchestrate;
By way of their wings shiver-ish beat,
Resembling a Broadway show; of a lover's duet.
Yes, they also possess a sentiment,
And even sort of, a pumping heart.

But anyways,

It is their cruelty; we already reached to a point –
'Them or us', instead of equally sharing, this beautiful planet,
After all, they for the most part, are utterly irrelevant;
The ecosystem's steadiness, wouldn't even notice it.

Yes, of course that was, a human's perspective and sentiment;
What they do is only buzzing – indecipherable – their counter argument.

Those tiny creatures – are not just a buzzing nuisance;
They are like well programmed, GPS enabled, miniaturized drones.
Hiding under the desks, or attached flat on erected walls,

Waiting for carelessness, if not until – the mighty sun, sets.

Amazing! They even have patience;
Till we turn down the wick, and blow out kerosene lamps,
Or using just a single finger, tapping on those switches,
To turn off whatever we have, as a source of brightness.

Those tiny creatures,

With intent to dine on our bodies;
Shamelessly inviting themselves,
Who knows, maybe even their buddies;
They all give us itchy bumps,
And quietly inject a number of nasty bugs.

Those pesky mosquitoes, of numerous species;
They aggregate, take turns, and conspire in their terms.
They shuttle back and forth, dedicated to their missions,
Thirst for blood, and only blood; pretty much quenchless.

Hmmmm...they also take a 'conscious' shelter;
To protect themselves from danger,
Using their Illusiveness, to congregate and muster.

Our breath, the scent of us, continually released;
Will lead them, unsolicited – on to which way – to head ahead,
Easing their search for a target, for a surgical – laser sharp raid.

Leaping at the innocents, to replenish their tiny guts;
Here they arrive for digging, piercing the outer surface,
They propel their sharp snout, far past the epidermis.
From within the capillaries;
They suck blood, for nutrients, allegedly for their eggs.

And while inside, underneath the integument;
Guiding their sharp, flexible snout,
They wouldn't let go, until they accomplish – their intent.
Primarily filling their abdomens – and on the way, releasing – those deadly bugs;
Which unfortunately are harmless – to those tiny mosquitoes.

I only guess – it must be, their way of gratefulness;
How....how....how, selfish and pitiless!

About the male mosquito, you ask?

Yes, when it comes to the male ones – Oh, no, no! Don't even think –
Never assume; the male is never – is never at all – off the hook.
It was not even a secret – if it weren't for the male's schmoozing;
Dancing around, and luring – for a successful, fertile mating,
The female may not even develop – the appetite, for a blood meal,
So – the male is viewed as the trigger – accomplice and pal,
Thus, equally and seriously, is targeted in the furious – brutal battle.

Nevertheless, the fact remains,

Mano a mano – leveled ring, combat with us;
Mosquitoes can't stand, for a couple of nanoseconds.
To their advantages, they know they are the weakest links;
Enjoying all the support, from the apparent – surrounding elements,
Comfortably stationed, set for the bizarre, buzzing vengeance.

It is one of my wishes, that they come back, re-created snout-less;
Or at least appendage-less, wingless,
Like some of those – relatively risk-free – well behaving creatures.

Since unlikely that to happen, it for now is a matter of – 'them or us';
Anchored on principles, nurturing righteousness,
We are humanly obliged – to recalibrate the measures,
In order, to ensure – the continuation of our presence;
Avoiding the colossal tragedy, that wiped out the Dinos.

For all of us, contemplating on acting – marshlands may be calling;
All little ponds need drying – as those are good places – for breeding.

And a little – on about us,

When it comes to humans and other animals;
To them, to the female ones,
We are the vulnerable – easy, and tasty desires.
So, cover up, use repellants, get vaccinated, prophylaxis;
Tell to friends, and families – venturing – in endemic, areas.

As for the settlers, in high risk locations – all around, globally;
Muscle-up, never rest, before getting rid of them – successfully,
Till those nasty diseases, are rendered – and remain history.

Trap them, spread them with insecticides;
Shielding the environment, avoiding collaterals,
Consciously, protecting – all precious living things.

For the ones, out on the woods;
The world-wide fields,
Release those altered mosquitoes,
And make them edibles to their sorts;
Just don't forget to collaborate – to follow and study what happens.

I say to you folks,

Stay on pins and needles – in the mean time;
Till the sciences, get the chance to chime,
As the damages and dangers are still;
Ridiculously – sizeable.

The itchy welt, white-red, brownish bumps;
Those are really, the last – of your worries.
Instead; crucial are those – half a dozen diseases;
Transmitted by those – tiny creatures,
Debilitate and kill – in millions, and millions,
Not even sparing; fetuses, and the little – helpless kids.

Mosquitoes careless – if we belong to the youth, or to mature adults;
If we are male or female, or belong to varies races,
They come for the kill – year after year – on a continual basis.

The varies mosquito types – and the rest – gang of vectors;
Those tiny creatures, living amongst us,
Certainly are harmful, and surely are ruthless.

So, my friends,

By day... when indoors or outdoors – do be watchful;
When in bed at night – do be careful,
Disallow their benign appearances – from bamboozling us all.

Other than that,

I hope you are enjoying – the beautiful, sunny days;
May you remain, free of mosquito bites,
To you all – adarashians – the very bests,
And for reading – my sincere, earnest thanks!

-----Until next time -----

Instances

Akiye | July 1, 2016 | ahget2015@gmail.com

This email address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to v

Greetings to you all out there! This is Akiye's monthly blog. As always, a lot of stuff happened in the month of June, prompting me to write on selected instances from around the globe, and share it with you, my readers. Enjoy!

It was 4:55 in the morning, on June 21, 2016 – the door bell rung. I had a planned travel, so was already up and ready; opened the door, grabbed my luggage, and locked myself away. Greeted by the shuttle driver, I was the first of five travelers who booked that particular shuttle at a similar time frame. The driver had to pick the remaining four folks, in three stops. At the airport, I went to the ticket machine, printed mine, and headed for screening, which apparently was smooth and fast. Latter in the day, after a long, nonetheless pleasant flight; I reached to my destination, and checked in at my place to stay. Early next morning; I taxied to the conference venue, the reason for my travel, received my name-tag from the registration desk, and headed to the ballroom to listen to the plenary session. The Ballroom was full to its limits, and up-front you see a podium and two big screens, right and left – the conference emblem displayed on them. Before inviting the plenary speakers to the podium, at their respective turns; the moderator officially welcomed attendees, and set the stage for the planned sessions. In doing so, the moderator put on view, one particular slide, on the big screens. It depicts the names of the 49 innocent people. Folks whose lives cut short; for doing nothing, but having fun, loving one another, and be themselves, in an LGBTQ nightclub in Orlando Florida, on June 12, 2016. The moderator talked briefly on the extent and senseless nature of the tragedy. The moderator mentioned the factors that potentially are involved, and how it should be dealt with – to prevent future instances of such a tragedy – and invited us all, for a moment of silence.

At that instance, at that moment of silence, that is – my mind was crunching a thought, trying to make sense of what was going on. The hateful, by no means accidental, murderous attack inside an LGBTQ nightclub was the tip, but a big tip of the “iceberg,” of a Sociusquake. Sociusquake, as in a noun or an adjective for a troubled social edifice, highly vulnerable to a perpetual shakeup and crackdown, with a self-destructive potential. Tragedies in Sandy Hook Elementary School; at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, S.C; Kenya, Paris; San Bernardino County, Orlando Florida, the middle east, and Dhaka Bangladesh are just few of the-never-ending tragedies in recent memory. Those individual perpetrators, organized groups, sympathizers, whatever their fictitious or real intents – they inarguably are drunk with the cocktail made from the innate selfishness of humans – as the core trigger, reinforced by attributes of dislike, prejudice, greed, pseudo-entitlement, and the unquenchable thirst to an absolute control over. Essentially turn themselves in to monstrous bully or bullies, saddle themselves on gender, religion, race

or country of origin, and sexual orientation, to do atrocious crimes. My prayers are with those who lost their lives or injured; their families and friends.

Now, whenever a tragedy happens, a moment of silence, is humanly and noble to do. However, for nonrandom tragedies, meaning – tragedies that are systematic, have known and predictable factors involved and are likely preventable – we, as a civilized society, have a duty to do much more than just a reactive moment of silence. To make a long narrative ultra-short and go direct to the likely solution – all nations around the world should implement strict firearms control. It is a tested intervention, proven effective, in case of Australia for instance. You might argue on how much of causality there might be between the National Firearms Agreement (NFA) and firearms deaths in Australia – the reality is that firearms homicide rate in that country has decreased substantially since 1997. Try to use our healthy conscious for a moment; one hundred percent of the times, firearms of some sort, are involved in those tragedies – tragedies that we have come to learn, and in many other untold tragedies, which we are closing our ears and eyes, as result of the sadly primitive disparate values we have for human lives. It is not politics, it is an unfortunate reality – there must be strict firearms control, to make a difference.

Allow me to add a point on firearms violence. To the dismay of my conscious, I hear mental illness mentioned ad nauseam, whenever there is a debate on what factors might have played in any of the repeated tragedies involving firearms. That is not only being disingenuous, but also a designed diversion from the real dominant factors that contribute to such atrocious crimes – as persistent and serious threats to the mere existence of civilization and humanity. Of course mental illness is a priority public health problem – associated with firearms violence or not – and as such, it should be addressed similar to any other priority public health problems; be it cancer, cardiovascular diseases, malaria, or whatever priorities a particular nation has on record. It is worth repeating the gruesome reality – firearms are the ones always in the picture in any instances of those tragedies. Taking firearms out of the picture, through a strict firearms control is a no brainer. Strict firearms control is a smart and humanly intervention that should have been imposed, yesterday. Resistant policies, resistant laws, what have you – need to be taken out of the ways of a civilized path of life, right now. The hurt must end!

HHhhmmmm... Thinking about firearms violence – if it weren't for the infinite good instances around us, who is to blame, but ourselves, if someone is disgruntled about the society we live in. Seriously! Thanks to the month long football or soccer tournament, hosted here in the United States this past month, creating the opportunity for our mind to take a sanctuary, for a change. Yep, you guessed it right - Copa America Centenario, the 100th football tournament gave football or soccer fans the opportunity to see their favorite teams playing with the 'famous ball' – a mosaic of hexagons, stitched and all wrapped around a sphere, tightly filled with air. Copa America Centenario started with 16 teams, and it was a breath of fresh air to watch talent, skill, dedication, and appreciation to the game. On the 26th of June, Argentina and Chile played for the final, at the magnificent MetLife stadium that was filled to its upper rim, with a little over 82, 000 football or soccer fans. After 120 minutes and free shootout, team Chile won the championship. Team Chile, Congratulations! By the way, for my friends, in a "Messi" love –

rumors have it; he might be retiring from international duties. Speaking of football or soccer - four of the 'seven' continents on planet earth were busy with roaring tournaments. Africa -- trimming qualifiers for the 2017 Africa Cup of Nations, South and North America – Copa America Centenario, and Europe – Euro 2016. The Africa Cup of Nations was started in 1957 with only four nations: Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia and South Africa as founding members, and has been held every two years, since. The Apartheid South Africa was however excluded from the tournaments. Heading north, the 2016 UEFA European Championship is being held in Paris. July 6th and 7th are the semifinals; and Sunday July 10, 2016 is the final match. Your favorite tier-one teams are playing. Don't miss it!

Please stay with me for a few seconds, I will add a couple of paragraphs and call it a month. This one is too interesting to ignore – it is on a political instance in Europe. Yes, it is about Brexit. On the 23rd of June, the British people have voted to leave the European Union, in a historic referendum. If you are interested in politics (a complex one, I might add), pay attention to the processes, expected to take a couple of years, to wrap up the departure of the UK from the European Union. Reactions were mixed to say the least. In principle, I am not in favor of separation, but who am I to say. The people of the United Kingdom spoke – that is priceless! That is what matters! That said however, some reactions were quick, shaky and visible. As usual, when the political machinery sneezes – the elite economic models get admitted to hospital, with fulminant pneumonia, metaphorically that is! That was what has happened after the results from the referendum announced. Scotland appears to sit on a different corner, contemplating on what steps to take, in order to remain in the European Union. Self-governance, identity, the economy, free flow of people, immigration, were issues factored in the referendum, and will remain contentious even during the finalization processes, and beyond. No doubt, the coming two years will be a very unique and politically enlightening years of modern times. Worth to stay tuned!

As promised this will be the last but not least paragraph. Here at home in the United States, July is welcoming all of us, with a celebratory mood to one of the priceless day of remembrance for Independence Day. Come July 4th, the Nation will get together to honor the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, pronouncing independence from the Kingdom of Great Britain. Independence Day is celebrated with a plethora of festivities, including extravaganza of fireworks. While getting ready to celebrate, please disallow familiarity with any aspects of fireworks from making any one of us careless. Any fireworks, that take place in uncontrolled environment, including those in residential blocks and driveways, could potentially be dangerous. Remember, a nanosecond of carelessness can result extensive injuries and even loss of lives. That said, using this opportunity, your humble blogger wishes you all, a joyous Independence Day!

-----Until next time-----

Passion

Akiye | August 1, 2016 | ahget2015@gmail.com

Greetings to you all out there – this is Akiye’s weblog for August 2016. As always, I come to you with synoptic perspectives on selected; eye-catching, attention grabbing, deeply puzzling, mindboggling events that recently took much of the info-media. This time, I am talking about events that are filled with zeal and energy, which met everywhere; almost everywhere, with active involvement and proactive engagement of the populace. Here I go.

Here at home in the United States, we just completed a section in a book of 2016 politicking. The presidential primary and caucus election season has ended and the general election season is already upon us – the former was understandably long and protracted, the latter will only be one-hundred and something days. For all intensive political purposes, the two major political parties made their cases in front of voters – with full steamed passion, with no regrets, so I think. Anyways, there are some expected attributes, but visibly absent (on both sides) during the primary-caucus election season. Namely, relevant and meaningful debates on major policy issues – objectively delineating the steps they will follow, to translate what they are claiming now during the election season, into needed real changes while in office, to make voters life meaningfully and measurably better. That commonality aside, and lending a lighter gaze, with regard to trimming down runner-ups and electing the respective candidates – while the team from one side of the traditional aisle had a long-long list of wishful go-getters, the team from the second side of the traditional aisle appeared quietly pondering on posting a job announcement on the web – assuming that was a random encounter, of course.

As fuzzy as they may appear, crucial policy issues remain as distinctly categorical as ever, spanning from ‘tomeeto – tomaato’ to ‘utopia – dystopia’ features of subject matters – climate change, college education, economy, firearms violence, foreign relations, healthcare, immigration, national security, racism, and same sex marriage. Sadly, one of the single most crucial policy issues – Racism, is being kept kicked aside and chronically ignored, out of sight behind a dense cloud of insincerity, essentially on both sides of the aisle. Raising the issue of racism and fighting for racial justice is purportedly considered and communicated to voters as divisive. Au contraire, kicking the issue of racism aside and ignoring the fact that racism is still a pervasive problem in our society, is in fact, what divisive is. Make no mistake, (I know the comfortables do not like to hear this) – reality dictates it impossible and unthinkable, to preach on how we could live a righteous present or preach on how to craft a righteous future, when clinching tight on to a mindset, proven to be the root cause of racism in our society, in the first place.

Coming back to the election process itself, when all said and done, the respective national committees from both sides of the aisle, ultimately zeroed in on two nominees – two very interesting nominees in their own ways – an outsider to DC versus insider to DC, from the field of business versus from the field

of public service, a stranger even to the party versus a long-timer, and shattering the gender barrier. We also had a unique opportunity to witness, how in modern politics, a compromise between two runner-ups from the same party could be crafted. I truly like that! After all, as I always say, elections are not about individuals, elections are not even about political parties; elections are about the people, people's choices and the country's best future. Let us hope, during the general election season, candidates will genuinely and seriously value their nominations, make certain and enlighten voters, on what the micro-blocks of their respective policy platforms are all about. Not only that, convince voters on how their policy visions will be translated into actual intended results, and what the specific performance measures are – plus, how they will voluntarily present themselves to be accountable, when things go otherwise. People's votes should not be taken for granted.

Let us move on to a different topic, shall we? While I am on politics, allow me to say a little on Ethiopia. You know, I have to say this. Ethiopia has been flooded with inhuman political mess for the last four decades. As I hope you all would agree – the League of Nations/United Nations, the international community, including the elite media, remain pathetically evading, the repeated attacks against Ethiopia by outsiders and domestic dictatorial regimes. In case you wonder, the only element which keeps that country for centuries, on her feet; no matter how battered, is the brave ancestor's and children's unflinching stand, courage, determination, and dear sacrifice toward brilliantly crafting Ethiopia as one nation, and tirelessly and genuinely nurturing a unique oneness and love among her beautifully diverse people – against all imaginable and unimaginable extreme odds.

Unfortunately, the persistent struggle for: civil rights, all rounded democracy, economic and developmental vitality, justice, and the right to a free and transparent election of the leaders of the country – remain futile, for long. That is despite the unabated dear sacrifice being paid by the brave ancestors and subsequent generations to date – the recent uprisings (in 2016), in the different (north, east, central, west, south) regions, throughout the nation, is a testament, in truth! I know it goes without saying, but worth repeating anyways – the apparent lack of unity among alternative voices, is for the most part, the reason for the chronic failure of the peoples' struggle for change. I am referring to alternative voices that are determined to create a stronger and better one Ethiopia, based on an absolute equality of her children. In all honesty, alternative voices are still trapped in a bubble of loyalty to their respective political organizations, as opposed to being loyal to the betterment of that country, as they should. Remember what I said in one of the above paragraphs – when reality dictates for a compromise, a unity of ideas, a unity of policies, and a creation of a competitor that is likely to be a winner, for the betterment of the people and the country you are envisioning to serve – that is what you must do! Sporadic and reactive demonstration of passion, the interrupted waves of enthusiasm, and endless news releases, will never bring about the desired change. Two things are for sure; one – I have no doubt; you know exactly what to do and what it takes, and two – no matter genuine and 100 percent good visions you have in mind, it remains undone, until it's done! Then, again, I keep wondering, why bother!

Well, well, well – that was an intentional digress, indeed. As the picture logo colors on top of the narrative of this blog might have hinted your imagination, I was actually going to write on the 2016 Summer Olympics. You know what, I in fact started using the official Olympic symbols, but wasn't sure if there is a copyright issue attached to it. So, I created my own, they couldn't have a copyright on colors, do they? Anyways, the blue, yellow, black, green, and red colors are meant to fully glamorize the Olympics, with an accent of a shadow of transparency, which actually is meant to be a request! The 2016 summer Olympics is going to be held from August 5 to August 21 in Brazil. You might even be able to catch a couple of competitions from now on. I mean, before August 5th.

Just between you and I, when I think of Brazil, the first thing that comes to my mind is football. Well, this time, Brazil will be hosting sport events of all sorts – not only football, but about 40 different sport events. Two hundred and seven nations will take part in this year's competitions – that way, Summer Olympics is measurably and meaningfully inclusive, than its twin, the Winter Olympics. It used to be the case that the Olympic Games were held every four years. It morphed itself to be two events, summer and Winter Olympics that became scheduled to take place every two years. You remember, in the recent past, London, hosted the 2012 Summer Olympics (they took advantage of that occasion to showcase their national health care system), and Sochi the 2014 Winter Olympics. Now, if the figures I was able to see on the web are right, close to 11,000 athletes are already in Brazil – the US will send 555 and Ethiopia 33 athletes to the 2016 Summer Olympics. About 500,000 tourists are also expected to flock to Brazil for the events. Compared to the six million tourists that flooded Brazil, for the 2014 World Cup, half a million would be pretty manageable.

The motto for the 2016 Summer Olympics is "Live Your Passion." I take that with a pinch of a relaxed definition of 'passion,' just in case they were referring only to sport, contextually. Of course you can build up a passion on to any of your favorite sport; you can also find a passion in you, in politics/public service, in painting, travelling, space exploration, in sacrificing the time you don't have to write and post a monthly blog – you get the point. So, I think, living your passion is making sure you are conscious and aware of the important thing or things, you already are doing, already are living. That said; the other side of the story tells us that the preparation for the 2016 Summer Olympics was marred by two major issues – the use of performance enhancing drugs and the fear of Zika.

The intensity of the problem regarding the use of performance enhancing drugs, spans allegedly, from State sponsored cheating to athletes taking performance enhancing drugs not even knowing what they actually are for. In any which every ways, (not that this is the first time we heard it either) it is very disappointing and disgraceful – not only to the athletes, but also to the institution of sport, and most importantly to sport fans expecting to see honest and genuine competitions. Being honest and genuine are supposedly the hallmarks, which differentiate sport competitions from anything else in life!

When it comes to the risk of Zika, to travelers wanting to attend the Olympics in Rio – in general, whether it is to the Olympics or for any other reasons, travel to anywhere comes with a spectrum of risk

to health and safety. It is primarily up to the traveler to make sure that he/she is well informed beforehand. I know, now is probably too late, but if you are that person, still questioning, you should read on the subject. Websites from institutions like the NIH or the CDC and may be your State and local health departments, will have helpful resources. Talk to your healthcare provider and to folks in your State and local health departments. It shouldn't be hard to make up your mind and find answer, for the question – to-go or not to-go, to the 2016 Summer Olympics. Best wishes to all.

As always, thank you for reading!

-----Until next time-----

እንቁጣጣሽ

አኪዬ | መስከረም 1, 2009 | ahget2015@gmail.com

ይድረስ ለወድ የኢትዮጵያ ልጆች ፣ የኢትዮጵያ ቅን አጋሮች፣ ለጓደኞቼ እና ለዘመድ አዝማድ በሙሉ – እንኳን ከዘመን ወደ ዘመን አሽጋገራችሁ። እንቁጣጣሽ!

እዚያው መጥቼ በአካል ብንጨዋወት በመረጥኩ ነበር። ያ – ሳይሆን ሲቀር ታዲያ የተገኘውን አጋጣሚ በመጠቀም እንዴት ናችሁ፣ ሸረ እንዴት ከረማችሁ መባባሉ መልካም ነው። ባይገርማችሁ – የእኔ አጠር መጠን ያለች ጦማር – በአመዛኙ እንደ ፈርንጆቹ አቆጣጠር በየወሩ መጀመሪያ ቀን አካባቢ ስለምትለጠፍ፤ ለኢትዮጵያውያን ዘመን መለወጫ እንኳን አደረሳችሁ ለማለት፤ ትንሽ የቸከልኩ ያስመስለኝ ይሆን? ብዬ ሳስብ፤ ህሊናዬ በበኩሉ፤ የለም የለም – አንተ ለኢትዮጵያ ዓመቱን ሙሉ እንቁጣጣሽ ቢሆንላት የምንጊዜም ምኞትህ መሆኑን አንባቢዎችህ ሰለሚያውቁ፤ በደስታ ነው የሚቀበሉት የሚል መልስ በመስጠት እንድረጋጋ አደረገኝ። እኔም – እራሴን በራሴ በማንቀለጳጳሴ እንደመገረም ብዬ – ከዚህ በታች የምለውን መጫጫር ቀጠልኩ።

አብረን እንቆይ!

በቅድሚያ – ሳልረሳው ብዬ ነው፤ ከላይ የተጠቀምኩት የአደይ አበባ ፎቶግራፍ፤ አድራሻውን ሳልመዘገመው ቀርቼ ነው እንጂ፤ ከ አንድ ድህረ ገጽ ተወሺ ስለሆነ፤ ባለንብረቶቹን ላመሰግን እወዳለሁ።

ወደዛሬው ዋና ጉዳይ ለመንደርደር ያህል አንድ ነገር ልበል፤ እንደምታውቁት – የሰው ልጅ በተፈጥሮው ጠንካራ ነው። በመስክ የተለያዩ በዛ ያሉ ጉዳዮች በአንድ ላይ ሲገጥሙት፤ አራት አምስቱን አንድ ላይ በመጥመድ፤ እንዳስፈላጊነቱም ፈር ፈር በማሰያዝ፤ በተሳካ ሁኔታ ፍጻሜ ላይ እንዲደርሱ ያበቃቸዋል። ይህንን ለማለት የፈለግሁት – የሰነበትንበትን፣ የከራረምንበትን እያወቅህ፤ ምነዋ የተመቸው ህዝብ ያገኘህ ይመስል፤ በዓል አንተርሰህ የ – እንኳን ደስ ያላችሁ መልዕክት ቢጤ መለጠፍህ እንዳትሉኝ ብዬ ነው። ስለ ሰው ልጅ ጠንካራነት ሳስብ፤ የኢትዮጵያን ህዝብ የሚስተካከለው እንደሌለ ጽኑ እምነቴ በመሆኑና፤ ሁሉም ነገር – አለመታደሉም ጭምር ማለቴ ነው – እንደተጠበቀ ሆኖ፤ በበዓል አመካኝቶ አረፍ ማለቱም – ለኢትዮጵያ ሲያንሳት ነው በሚል እንጂ፤ እኔም ብሆን ሳይከፋኝ ቀርቶ እንዳይመስላችሁ።

በዚህ ባሳለፍነው ዓመት – በ 2008 እንደ ኢትዮጵያውያን አቆጣጠር ማለቴ ነው – ሁለት ጎላጎላ ያሉ ክስተቶች ተስተዉለዋል። አንደኛው – አሁን በስልጣን ላይ ያለው ገዢው ግንባር መቶ በመቶ በሆነ የምርጫ ስሌት አሸንፎአለሁ ማለቱን ተከትሎ፤ በአጥቢያው የመጣ ዘመን መሆኑ ሲሆን፤ ሁለተኛው – የኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ በበኩሉ፤ የለም – የለም፣ ያ-ማ ፀሃይ የሞቀው ፣ ዓለም ያወቀው ቅጥፈት ነው። የኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ እያለ ያለው – አሁን በስልጣን ላይ ያለው አምባገነናዊ ገዢው ግንባር ህዝብንና ሃገርን በቀና ልብ ለማስተዳደር ችሎታውም ፍላጎቱም ስላልነበረው እና ስለሌለው፤ ዛሬዉኑ ከስልጣን ይወረድ! ጊዜያዊ ሕዝባዊ መንግስት ይቋቋም! በሚል ያላሰለሰ

ትግል እያደረገ መሆኑ ነው። ተዚያም አልፎ፤ ኢትዮጵያዊነት ለዘላለም ያብባል የሚለውን ድምጹን፤ በ - አረንጓዴ ቢጫ ቀይ ሰንደቅ አላማዋ በኩራት አጅቦ፤ የኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ የሚፈልገው - ኢትዮጵያ ሉሉላዊነቷን ጠብቃ፤ ህዝቧን ማንንም ከማን ሳትለይ፤ በማያወላዳ እኩልነት በአንድነት አቅፋ ደግፋ እንድትኖር ብቻ ነው፤ የሚለውን ፍንክኛ የማይለውን አቋሙን፤ እንዲሁም - ልብ በሉ ጉብዝ - እንደፈለግ ሊቆጠር እና ሌሎች ክፍለሃገራትም ሊከተሉት የሚገባ የበሰለ ፖለቲካዊ እምቢተኝነቱን፤ ህይወቱን እየከፈለ - ለዓለም ህዝብ በማረጋገጥ ላይ መሆኑ ነው።

አንድ እውነታ አለ - ህዝብ ሲበደል እና ሲከፋው - ጊዜ ይውሰድ እንጂ አምርር መነሳቱ አይቀሬ ነው። አሁን በመላው ኢትዮጵያ እየታየ ያለውም ይኸው ነው። ከምንጊዜውም በላይ ትኩረት ሊሰጠው የሚገባው ቁም ነገር - ይህ በፍጥነት ፈር በቅጡ እንዲይዝ የሚጠበቅበት የፖለቲካ እምቢተኝነት፤ የሰላና የጠነከረ ጥረትና ጥንቃቄ እንዲደረግለት በጣም አስፈላጊ መሆኑን ነው። የረዥም ጊዜ የትግል ተመክሮ ያላቸው፤ ኢትዮጵያን የሚሉ ድርጅቶችም - ተገቢውን አቅጣጫ በመቀየስ፤ የህዝቡን የትግል ውጤት ኢትዮጵያን ሊያፈርሱ በሚፈልጉ መሰሪዎች እንዳይነጠቅ ዘብ ሊቆሙ ይጠበቅባቸዋል። አያይዘንም - ገዢው ግንባር - እያስተዳደርኩት ነው የሚለውን፤ የንጹሃን ህዝብ ህይወት ማጥፋቱን ዛሬዉኑ እንዲያቆም፤ የታሰሩት በሙሉ እንዲፈቱ፤ እንዲሁም ህዝብ ላቀረባቸው ጥያቄዎች የማያወላዳ መልስ የሚያገኝበትን ሁኔታዎች እንዲያመቻች በአንክሮ አሳስባለሁ። መሰረታዊው ጉዳይ - ብዙ የፖለቲካ ተመክሮ ያላቸው ወገኖች እየነገሩን ያለውን እኔም እንደምጋራው ለመግለጽ ያህል - የኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ እያለ ያለው፤ ቋንቋ እና ጉሳ ተኮር የሆነው፤ ለኢትዮጵያ ዳር ድንበር ደንታ የሌለው፤ ወገንን ከወገን እያቃቃረ ያለው፤ የዜጎቿን መሰረታዊ መብቶች አፍኖ የያዘው - ገዢው ግንባር፤ እስካሁን ያደረሳቸው ጉዳዮች፤ ይቅርታ የማይደረግላቸው እና በጥገናዊ ለውጥ ሊስተካከሉ የማይችሉ መሆናቸውን ነው - አራት ነጥብ

ያ - ማለት፤ ስር ነቀል ለውጥ ተደርጎ - የኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ ይበጀኛል ባለው መንገድ እንዲመራ - ገዢው ግንባር ዛሬ ነገ ሳይል፤ የከፋ ጉዳትም ሳያደርስ፤ የህዝብን ስልጣን ለህዝብ ያስረከብ ማለት ነው። ለገዢው ግንባር ሊበጀው ይችላል ብዬ የምገምተውም፤ የህዝብን ስልጣን ልክ እንደ የግል ንብረት ለዘላለም ሙጭጭ ብሎ ይዞ የመኖር ሓላ ቀር አባዜን - ላንዴም ለሁሉም ከኢትዮጵያ የሚወገድበትን ሁኔታዎች በማመቻቸት - በነጻ የህዝብ ምርጫ የሚተካካ የህዝብ አስተዳደር እንዲመሰረት - ሰላማዊ የስልጣን ሽግግር ሲያደርግ ብቻ ነው። ያን ሲያደርግ - እንደ ጥሩ ስነምግባር በታሪክ ማህደርም ይመዘገብለታል - የወደፊት እጣ ክፍሉም በጣም የተሻለ ይሆናል። ኢትዮጵያም ብቻ ሳትሆን - የፈረደባት አፍሪካም እንደትልቅ ጥሩ ምሳሌነት ትቆጥርለታለች። የወደፊቱ ትውልድም በቀና መልኩ ሊያነሳው የሚችል አንድ ነገር ያገኛል። ያ - ሳይሆን ቢቀር፤ እየተባባሰ ለመጣው ጉዳት ሁሉ ተጠያቂ የሚሆነው - አሁን አራት ኪሎ ያለው ገዢው ግንባር ብቻ ነው። ህዝብ የሃገሩ ሉዓላዊነት እና ሰብአዊ መብቶች እንዲጠበቁ መታገል፤ በተፈጥሮ ያገኘው ፣ ከማንም ፈቃድ የማይጠይቅበት መብቱ ነው።

ይህንን የዚህን ወር ጠማሬን ከማጠቃለሌ በፊት - ሌላ የምጨምረው ጉዳይ አለ። ሃገርን እና ህዝብን ማስተዳደርን ያህል ዓብይ አላማ፤ እንኳንስ ከአምባገነናዊ ገዢ ግንባር ጋር፤ የሞት የሽረት ትግል እየተደረገ ይቅርና - የተሻለ ነባራዊ ሁኔታ ውስጥ እንኳን ቢሆን፤ የተደራጀ ጠንካራ ኢትዮጵያዊ ድርጅት አስፈላጊነት፤ ፈጽሞ ለነገ የሚተወ ጉዳይ ሊሆን አይገባም፤ ታስታውሱ እንደሆነ፤ እኔ በተደጋጋሚ ስል የነበረው - በቅንነት ለኢትዮጵያ ሉዓላዊነት እና ለ - ህዝቧ እኩልነት የሚታገሉ ሁሉ [ሀብረት፣አንድነት፣ውህደት] ይፍጠሩ ነበር። ሀሳቤ በቅንነት ላይ የተመረኮዘ እና ትክክለኛ እንደሆነ እስካሁንም እምነቴ ቢሆንም ቅሉ፤ ከዓመታት ጉትጉታ በኋላ አንድ የተገነዘብኩት ነገር ቢኖር - ነገሮች ሁሉ ምስቅልቅላቸውና ዝብርቅርቃቸው የወጣ መሆኑንና፤ እኔ ሊፈጠር ይገባል የምለው አይነት [ሀብረት፣አንድነት፣ውህደት] በተግባር ለመተርጎም እጅግ በጣም አስቸጋሪ መሆኑን ነው። እንዲያው - ሰሞኑን በተፈጠሩት ሁኔታዎች ሳቢያ፤ ቁጭ ብዬ ሳሰላሰል - ቸግሮአቸው እና በፍጹም የማይሆን ነገር ሆኖባቸው እንጂ፤ እንዲህስ በኢትዮጵያ ጨክነው አይጨክኩም ነበር - ወደሚል መደምደሚያ ላይ ደርሻለሁ። ለተቀማጭ ሰማይ ቅርቡ ነው - ይል የለ ያ ጀግናና ሩህሩህ ህዝብ! እንደዚያ ሆኖብኝ ነበር ማለት ነው መሰለኝ።

በመጨረሻም - ይህንን አዲሱን ዓመት አስመርኩገዬ፤ አማራጭ መንገድ ሊሆን ይገባዋል ብዬ የገመትኩትን ላካፍላችሁ። እኔም ሆንኩ ሌሎች ስንል የነበረው [ሀብረት፣አንድነት፣ውህደት] ለአሁን የማይደርስ ከሆነ፤ ሌላው አማራጭ - የሃይል ክፍተት አደገኛነቱ፤ ሃገርንና ህዝብን አጥፎ ሊሆን ስለሚችል - የኢትዮጵያን ሉዓላዊነትና የህዝቧን በእኩልነት አብሮ መኖርን መሰረታዊ መመሪያው ያደረገ ፣ በአፈጣጠሩና በረጅም የትግል ታሪኩ በማያሻማ ሁኔታ ኢትዮጵያዊ የሆነ ፣ የአማራጭ ድምጽ በመሆን የህዝቡን ትግል በድል እንዲጠሩቃቅ ለማድረግ የሚያስችል የፖለቲካ ድርጅት ፈልጎ መቀላቀል፤ ማገዝ፤ መደገፍ ተገቢ ነው እላለሁ። ጡንቻው እንዲገባለብት መርዳት - ማለቴ ነው። ይህም ይዋል ይደር የሚባል አይደለም። አለመታደል ሆኖ - አሁን ጡንቻቸው ጠንክሮ የሚታዩት፤ ኢትዮጵያን ለመጉዳት የሚረሯሯጡት ናቸው። ለነገሩም - የኢትዮጵያን ጥፋት በግለጽ የሚፈልጉት ብቻ ሳይሆኑ፤ በኢትዮጵያ ስም።

ትግል አዘናጊ እና ተልካሻ አቋም ይዘው፤ አስተማማኝነት ሊኖረው የማይችልና የትም የማይደርስ የብልጣብልጣነት መንገድ ተከትለው፤ በመጓዝ ላይ ያሉ ብዙ ድርጅቶችና ስብስቦች ስላሉና፤ የኢትዮጵያን ጥሩ ነገር የማይፈለጉ ባዕዳንም ከጎናቸው ስለሚገኙ፤ ከምንጊዜውም በላይ ጥንቃቄ ሊደረግ እንደሚገባው ለማስታዎስ እወዳለሁ። በሉ - በርቱ እንግዲህ።

ከምስጋና ጋር!

-----እንደገና አስከምንገናኝ-----

Museum

Akiye | October 2, 2016 | ahget2015@gmail.com

It was one of those days – you.....you know, some days when the noise index [information-wise, that is] in the elite media gets unhealthy. September 18, 2016 was one of those days, when I became frustrated by what I see and hear on television. When that happens, I subconsciously begin flipping channels, hoping to stumble on to something nice, something relevant. At some point, I found myself listening to a conversation. It was about the opening ceremony of a new museum, in the District of Columbia (DC). It will be a week after, and better yet; the ceremony will be broadcast live. I paid attention and pinned a reminder on my calendar.

Greetings to you all adarashians; this is Akiye’s monthly blog, for October 2016. Happy autumn! This morning, I am set to write, primarily on the opening ceremony of the new museum, [The National Museum of African American History and Culture] in DC. Toward the end, I will insert a different topic, a topic related to Ethiopia.

Speaking of museums; their added value to society in structurally conserving the reflections of life from the past, nurturing the present and spreading the seeds of the future, is just incomparable. From open-air, stand alone, work of art or display of an object – to a huge collection of life practiced, under one roof – – museums are exhibiting schools to mankind, with a potential of making all interested; mesmerized, reflect, learn, tinker, and tinker with realities. Internet has it; the total number of museums worldwide, around [55,000]. Of those, 60 something percent are in the United States, wow! Whatever number you have at your disposal, adding the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which opened its doors to public on September 24, 2016 is a triple crowned [+ 1].

If you had the chance to attend the opening ceremony in person, or just watched on television, like yours truly; it is impossible not to be impressed with the majestic presence of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, near the White House. It is a testament to a vision [since 1915] came true, with deep rooted, triple crowned, work of amazing architecture. Beautifully enhanced with a hint of West African Pre-colonial Art, housing over 36,000 collections, reflecting the intricacies of life from the past, contextually setting the present and responsibly informing endeavors towards a better future – the marvels of American history. I am saving my imagination for one hopeful day, to actually go

and visit. If you allow me to spoil your imagination, just a little; I learned – a piece that supposedly was considered, ‘it had disappeared’ – the original painted plaster sculpture “Ethiopia Awakening,” by Meta Vaux Warrick Fuller, [1921] is one of the displayed collections.

Now, the ceremony was held outdoors, in front of the museum, where prime dignitaries sat under the elegant porch at the main entrance. Three consecutive, two terms, Presidents of the United States were in attendance. Between the three, they lead the nation almost for a quarter of a century. President Barack Obama made a speech, and rang the bell to officially open the museum, to the world. By the way, yesterday morning, I went back to the Smithsonian’s website and listened again, President Obama’s speech. It was worth a repeat. A snippet, I just want to share with you, goes like this:

Speaking of African Americans that is, the President said, “We are not a burden on America, or a stain on America, or an object of pity or charity for America.” “We are America.”

I mumbled to myself, quietly that is, [the museum should put the President’s speech, as one of the collections, for visitors to get an opportunity to listen.] It was really a great speech! In the face of despair, the speech was a healthy dose of sanity.

Well, well, well. Enough about the museum for now and here is what I mentioned earlier, something I wanted to say, which relates to Ethiopia. I am obliged to insert a different topic on this blog, to recognize and thank my fellow Ethiopians all over the United States and around the world, for that matter – for reviving the courage and spirit of oneness, during the most recent demonstrations held in DC and elsewhere worldwide. Thank you, for being the true voice to the voiceless by coming out as one and united people. Thanks, for fighting for the betterment of Ethiopia, under the only [Green, Yellow, Red] flag of that great nation. That was part of every Ethiopian’s dream come true. Protest, dissent, advocacy, and love to country should inform one another. You efficiently demonstrated that to the world. There should be no confusion in the essential components of the struggle, informing one another. Doing any different, wrapped up with commonly unrecognizable colors, is voluntarily crossing the line of tolerance.

In closing, the importance to showing or demonstrating firm solidarity as one people and one nation is not really what would immediately come out of the demonstration per se – the prime importance is rather, the incomparable and durable power it has on people’s mindset, reviving the battered spirit, and erecting the pillars of hopefulness on a firm and stable ground. And that is priceless. Good job!

As always, thank you for reading.

-----Until next time-----

ጊዜ መንገደኛው

አኪዬ | ጥቅምት 22, 2009 እ.ኤ.አ

በአቀማመጧ እና በአካባቢዋ የተፈጥሮ ፀጋ ሳቢያ፤ እንኳንስ ወራሪ ጠላትን ይቅርና፤ ተወልዶ ያደገባትን ህዝብ እንኳን ሳይቀር፡ በፍቅር የምታማልልል – ጥንትም ቢሆን ዉብ መንደር እንደነበረች፡ በኩራት የሚናገሩ አዛውንቶች፡ ቁጥር ስፍር የላቸውም። አምስት ስድስት የሚሆኑ፡ እሳተገሞራ የወለዳቸው ሃይቆች፤ አንዱ ካንደኛው እንዳይነፋፈቁና፡ በችግርም ሆነ በደስታ ጊዜ ቶሎ ለመደራረስ አስበዉ እንደሆነ፡ ሹክ በሚል መልኩ፤ በቅርብ ርቀት ተደላድለው በመቀመጥ፡ መንደሪቷንና የመንደሪቷን አካባቢዎች ቆንጆ ሆነው ለዘላለም እንዲኖሩ ለማድረግ፡ ምክንያቶች ሆነዋታል። ጨለቅለቃ እንኳን ባቅሟ፤ ሸንጥ ባደርጋት ወራት፡ ውሃ ትቋጥርና፡ ለመንደሪቷ ተጨማሪ ዉበት ለመስጠት ፡ ጸጉር እንኳን በማያንቀሳቅስ ንፋስ አመካኝታ፡ የበኩሏን – ዘንበል ቀና ትላለች።

ይህች መንደር – ረዘም ያለ ታሪክ ያላት ቢሆንም ቅሉ፤ አዝጋሚውን የእድገት ጊዜ መንገድ፡ ወገቧን ጠበቅ አድርጋ የተያያይዘችው፡ ጣልያን ወደ መካከለኛው፤ ደቡብ፡ ደቡብ ምእራብና ደቡብ ምስራቅ የኢትዮጵያ ክፍሎች፤ የመስፋፋት እቅዱን ለማሳካት፡ አማካይ ቦታ ትሆናለች ብሎ፡ አይኑን ካሳረፈባት በኋላ ነበር። ጊዜ መንገደኛው፡ የአጭው የአዝዛዝ ዘመን ላይ ሲደርስም – አፄ ኃይለሥላሴ፡ ቅዳሜ እና እሁድ ሲፈልጉ ዘና ለማለት እንዲያመቻቸው [ከወረዱ በኋላ ወደ ሆስፒታልነት ወደተቀየረው ቤተመንግስታቸው] ብቅ ይሉ ስለነበር፤ እንዲሁም የኢትዮጵያ አየር ኃይል፤ አየር ወለድ፤ ሌላም በዛ ያሉ የንግድ፤ የትምህርት፤ የጥናትና ምርምር ማዕከሎች በመንደሪቷ በመመስረታቸውና – ዋና ዋና በሚባሉ አገር አቋራጭ የመኪናና የባቡር መንገዶች ሸንጥ ላይ የተቆረቆረች በመሆኗ – ተወዳጅና ሞቅ ያለች ታዋቂ ከተማ እየሆነች እንድታድግ፡ ምክንያት ሆነዋታል።

ውድ የኢትዮጵያ ልጆች – እንዴት ናችሁ? ይህ እንደ-ፈረንጆቹ አቆጣጠር ባመዛኙ በየውሩ መጀመሪያ አካባቢ፡ በ – አዳራሽ ድህረ ገጽ አማካኝነት ለንባብ የሚሰራጨው፡ የአኪዬ መጣጥፍ ነው። ቀደም ብዩ እንደመንደርደሪያ የጠቃቀስኳቸው፡ አንድ ለ-አኔ በጣሌ ልዩ ትርጉም ያላት፡ ከአዲስ አበባ፡ በስተደቡብ ምስራቅ ወደ 30 ማይልስ ርቀት ላይ የምትገኝ፤ ባመዛኙ ሞቅ ያለ የአየር ጠባይ ያላት፤ የረርና ዝቅላን በሩቁ ደጀን አድርጋ፤ ዱከምንና ሞጀን መግቢያና መውጫዋ ላይ አስፍራ፤ የታላቁ 'ሪፍት ቫለ' መሻሻ የሆነችው፡ ያኔ በ-አኔ ጊዜ ደብረዘይት፤ ዛሬ ቢሾፍቱ ተብላ ስለምትጠራው ከተማ፤ ትንሽ ላጫውታችሁ እንደፈለግሁ፡ ፍንጭ ልስጥ ብዩ ነው።

አብረን እንቆይ!

ቢሾፍቱ – የህዝቧ ቁጥር እያደገ ለመምጣቱ፡ ቀደም ብዬ የዘረዘርኳቸው ማዕከሎች በከተማዋ መመስረታቸው፡ እንደ ምክንያት ሊቆጠሩ ከሚችሉት ዋና ዋናዎቹ ሲሆኑ፤ እነኛ ምክንያቶች ለከተማዋ ንጹህ የኢትዮጵያዊነት ገጽታ – ያደረጉት አስተዋጽዖ እጅግ በጣም ግዙፍ ነው። የቢሾፍቱ ኗሪ – በኢትዮጵያ አየር ኃይል፤ አየር ወለድ፤ እንዲሁም በዛ ባሉት የንግድ፤ የትምህርት፤ የጥናትና ምርምር ማዕከሎች፡ ስራ በመያዝ ከመላው የኢትዮጵያ አስራአራቱም ክፍለሃገራት በመጡ ኢትዮጵያዊያን ጭምር የተገነባ ነው። ስራ ይዞ ወደ ቢሾፍቱ የሚመጣ ሁሉ፡ (በማንኛውም የኢትዮጵያ ከተማዎች እንደሚታየው) ወንደሞቻቸውን አህቶቻቸውን፤ ዘመድ አዝማድንም ጨምሮ፤ ለማስተማርም ሆነ ለመርዳት ወደ ቢሾፍቱ ያመጧቸዋል። የቢሾፍቱ ኗሪ – [የዚህ ቋንቋ፤ የዚያ ቋንቋ ተናጋሪ] የሚል ነገር ባጠገቡም ሳይደርስ፤ አንዱ ቋንቋ ተናጋሪ ከሌላው ተጋብቶ ተዋልዶና፡ በሰብብ ባስባቡም በዝምድና፤ በጓደኛነት ተሳስሮ ተፋቅሮ የኖረ ህዝብ ነው። የቢሾፍቱና የአካባቢዋ ኗሪ – በማንነቱና በኢትዮጵያዊነቱ የሚኮራ፤ ባህሉን አክባሪ የሆነ፤ የተማረ፤ ለዘመናት በፍቅርና በሰላም አብሮ የኖረ – ደግ ህዝብ ነው። እንዲያው – በዓል ወይም ሌላ አጋጣሚ ምክንያት ሆኗችሁ፤ ቢሾፍቱ ከተማ ውስጥና በአካባቢዋ ወደሚገኙ ገጥር መንደሮች ስትሄዱ፤ ከሃይማኖት ጋር የተያያዘ ማህበርም ይሁን፡ ወይም ሌላ ድግስ ካለ፡ ሰው መንገድ ላይ ይቆምና – አላፊ አግዳሚውን፡ 'ግቡ..... ፀበል ያዲቅ ቀምሳችሁ ትሄዳላችሁ' እያለ አብልቶ አጠጥቶ የሚሸኝ፡ ቅን ህዝብ ነው። ያን አይነቱ የህዝብ ቸርነትና እንግዳ ተቀባይነት፡ የኢትዮጵያዊነት አይነትኛ መገለጫ ባህሪ ነው። ቢሾፍቱ ኢትዮጵያ – ኢትዮጵያም ቢሾፍቱ!

የቢሾፍቱና የአካባቢዋ ኗሪ – ጠንካራ ሰራተኛ ነው። ከዚያም ባሻገር፤ ለመደሰትም ጊዜ ፈጥሮ፡ በጋራ ከመፈንጠዝ ወደኋላ የማይል፡ ብሩህ ጭንቅላት ያለው ህዝብ ነው። በዓል በመጣ ቁጥር – ወደ ከስኢት በኋላ ጀምሮ፡ የተለያዩ ቋንቋ ተናጋሪ የሆኑ የከተማዋና የአካባቢዋ ኗሪዎች - በቡድን በቡድን በመሆን፡ አማካይ ቦታ ወደሚገኘው የ- መገበያያ ቦታ ይሰባሱቡና፡ ጭፈራውንና ዘፈኑን

ሲያቀልጡት ያመሻሉ። የከተማዎ ኗሪዎች – ወደ ጭፈራው ቦታ በመሄድ፣ የተለያዩ ዘፈኖችን እየተዘዋወረ በመኮምኮም፣ በፍቅርና በደስታ አብሮ የመኖር የኢትዮጵያዊነት ስሜትን አጎልብቶ፣ ‘የከርሞ ሰው ይበለን’ – እያለ ወደየመጣበት ቀየው፣ በሰላም ይመለሳል።

የቢሾፍቱ ኗሪ – የኢትዮጵያን እጣ ክፍል በሚወስኑ የህዝብና የሃገር አስተዳደር ጉዳዮች፣ ንቁ ተሳትፎ ያደረገ፣ እያደረገም ያለ ህዝብ ነው። ከጎረቤት ሃገሮችም ሆነ፣ አለመታደል ሆኖ በውስጣችን በነበሩት አለመግባባቶች ሳቢያ፣ በተፈጠሩት ጦርነቶች ሁሉ፣ የኢትዮጵያ ቁርጥ ጊዜ ልጅ በመሆን፣ ለኢትዮጵያ ሉዓላዊነትና ዳር ድንበሯን ለማስከበር – ከድርሻው በላይ – ደሙን ያፈሰሰ እና አጥንቱን የከሰከሰ፣ ጀግና ህዝብ ነው። በተማሪዎች እንቅስቃሴ ወቅትም፣ አዲስ አበባ አንድ ነገር ተፈጠረ በተባለ፣ ከ – አንድ ሁለት ሰዓታት ባልበለጠ ጊዜ ውስጥ፣ የቢሾፍቱ ትምህርት ቤቶችም ‘ይረበሹ’ ነበር። በከተማዎ መሃል የሚገኘው የአፄ ልብነድንግል ትምህርት ቤት፣ ኮረብታን ደገፍ ብሎ የተመሰረተ በመሆኑ፣ ተማሪዎች ትምህርት ለቀው እንዲወጡ ለማድረግ፣ የተወሰኑ ልጆች ከኮረብታዎ ላይ በኋላ በኩል ይወጡና፣ በድንጋይ እርምጃ የትምህርት ክፍሎቹን የቆረቆረ ጣራ ሲይተራምሱት፣ በቋፍ ላይ ለነበሩት ተማሪዎች፣ የጦርነት ነጋሪት የተጎሰመ ያህል፣ በዚያ በህፃንነት ድምፃቸው፣ እየተጫጫሁ ክፍሉን በርግደው በመውጣት ወደየቤታቸው ይሄዱ ነበር።

ጊዜ መንገደኛው እየሰጠሰ የአፄ ኃይለሥላሴ መንግስት ለወርድ በቀረበበት ሰሞንም – በመላው የኢትዮጵያ ክፍለሀገራት የተቀጣጠለው የተማሪዎች እንቅስቃሴ፣ በጣም ተፋፍሞ ስለነበር፣ የቢሾፍቱ ተማሪዎችም ጎላ ያለ ሚና ተጫውተዋል። አንድ ቀን ጠየቅ ላይ፣ [እንዲያው በቅጡ አልታወስህ አለኝ እንጂ – ከአየር ኃይል ወይም ከአየር ወለድ (ምናልባትም ከሁለቱም ሊሆን ይችላል)] ወታደሮች በመኪናዎቻቸው በመሆን ወደ ከተማዎ አውራ መንገዶች በመምጣት፣ “አይዟችሁ ከእናንተ ጋር ነን” የሚል በራሪ ወረቀት መጠተናቸውን አስታውሰዋል። ያ – የወታደሩ የድጋፍ እና የአጋርነት መግለጫ፣ የቢሾፍቱ ከተማን ተማሪዎች ሞራል እንዴት ከፍ እንዳደረገውና፣ ትግሉን የበለጠ አጠናክሮ እንዲቀጥል እንዳበረታታው ለመግለጽ፣ ቃላት ያጥረኛል ብል። ማጋነን አይሆንም።

አለመታደል ሆኖ፣ ያ – የአጋርነት መግለጫ የተጻፈበት ቀለም እንኳን በቅጡ ሳይደርቅ፣ አፄውን የተካው ወታደራዊ ደርግ፣ የኢትዮጵያን ተስፋ እና ብሩህ ትውልድ በአረመኔነት ሲጨርስ፣ የቢሾፍቱ ልጆችም ያለርህራሄ ተፈጅተዋል። የት – እንደደረሱ ሳይታወቅ፣ ደብዛቸው ጠፍቶ የቀሩ የቢሾፍቱ ልጆች፣ ቁጥር ስፍር የላቸውም። ወንድ ሴት፣ ወጣት ጎልማሳ፣ እናት አባት፣ ተማሪ ላብ-አደር ወታደር – ኢትዮጵያን ባሉ፣ የዜጎችን ሰብአዊ መብት ለማስከበር በታገሉ፣ መሬት ላራሹ ባሉ፣ ጊዜያዊ ህዝባዊ መንግስት ተቋቁሞ፣ ለኢትዮጵያ እድገትና ብልፅግና የሚመጥን ህዝባዊ መንግስት ይቋቋም ባሉ – ፋሺስታዊው ወታደራዊ ደርግ፣ በአጭር ቀጫቸው። የቢሾፍቱ ኗሪ፣ ያ-ሁሉ ግድያ፣ ያ-ሁሉ እስራትና ስቃይ ሳይበግረው፣ የፋሺስታዊውን ደርግ የግፍ አገዛዝ እንዲያከትም – ለአስራሰባት ዓመታት – ከመላው የኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ ጋር በመሆን፣ በከተማና መሳሪያ በማንሳት በየ ዱር-ገደሉ ይደረግ የነበረውን ትግል በመቀላቀል፣ የበኩሉን መስዋትነት በደሙና በአጥንቱ ከፍሏል።

ጊዜ መንገደኛው – እያነከሰም ቢሆን እንደ ኢትዮጵያ አቆጣጠር 1983 ዓ.ም ላይ ከደረሰንና፣ በአሁኑ ወቅት አራት ኪሎ ያለው ገዢው ግንባር ኢትዮጵያን ከተቆጣጠረ በኋላም፣ የ – ቢሾፍቱ ከተማና የአካባቢዋ ኗሪ፣ በሃገሪቷ መሰረተልማት እየተለበት እንዲሄድ፣ ሌት ተቀን በጥንካሬ እየሰራ ያለና፣ በሃገሪቷ ፖለቲካም ንቁ ተሳትፎ በማድረግ፣ ለቢሾፍቱ ኗሪ ብቻ ሳይሆን፣ ለኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ በሙሉ ሰብአዊ መብቶች እንዲከበሩለት፣ በፅናት እየታገለ ያለ ህዝብ ነው። በዚያም ሳቢያ ዛሬም ብዙ የ – ቢሾፍቱ ኗሪዎች ህይወታቸውን አጥተዋል፣ ወደ እስርቤት ተወርውረዋል፣ ደብዛቸው ጠፍቷል።

ልክ የዛሬ ወር መሆኑ ነው እንግዲህ – የቢሾፍቱ ከተማና የአካባቢዋ ኗሪ፣ በየዓመቱ በደመቀ ሁኔታ የሚያከብሩትን የእሬቻ ባህላዊ ክብረ በዓል፣ ለመሳተፍ በተሰበሰበው ያ-ጀግናና ደግ ህዝብ ላይ የደረሰው እልቂት፣ መላውን ኢትዮጵያዊ ጥልቅ ሃዘን ውስጥ ከትቶታል። እኔም ይህንን አጋጣሚ አንተርጼ – ምንጊዜም ቢሆን ለማፈቅረውና ትልቅ አክብሮት ላለኝ፣ ለቢሾፍቱ ከተማና ለአካባቢዋ ህዝብ፣ ከልቤ ያዘንኩ መሆኔን ለመግለጽ እወዳለሁ። የዚህ የኖቬምበር/ጥቅምት ወር መጣጥፎ፣ ዋነኛው መልዕክቴም – ይሄው ነው።

እንግዲህ የኔን ነገር ታውቁታላችሁ – እንዲያው ሰብብ ፈልጌ፣ እግረመንገዴን የምጨማምረው ነገር አላጣም። ታዲያ የአፄ ኃይለሥላሴን፣ የወታደራዊው ደርግን፣ እንዲሁም አሁን በስልጣን ላይ ያለውን የገዢውን ግንባር የአገዛዝ ዘመናት አካቶ፣ ጊዜ መንገደኛው እያፈራረቀ በኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ ላይ ያስቀመጣቸውን ገዢዎች፣ አምስት መሰረታዊ ሊሆኑ ይገባል ብዬ በወሰድኳቸው መስፈርቶች፣ የድርሻቸውን ገጽታ አጠር አጠር አድርጌ እንዳስቀምጥ ይፈቀድልኝ። ይህንን ጉዳይ ለማንሳት፣ እንደምከንያት የሆነኝ፣ ኢትዮጵያ በአሁኑ ወቅት፣ እጅግ በጣም የከፋ አደጋ ላይና፣ ምን ሊከተል እንደሚችል በእርገጠኝነት መናገር የማይቻልበት መጥፎ ጊዜ ላይ እንዳለች ስለማምን፣ እንዲያው – የሚሰማኝን ልተንፍስ ብየ ነው።

1. የኢትዮጵያን ሉዓላዊነት እና ዳር ድንበሯን በተመለከተ - አፄ ኃይለሥላሴም ሆኑ የደርግ አገዛዝ፣ የኢትዮጵያን ሉዓላዊነት እና ዳር ድንበሯን በተመለከተ አይታሙም። አሁን በስልጣን ላይ ያለው የገዢው ግንባርን ግን፣ ኤርትራን ከማስገንጠል ጀምሮ፣ ዳር ድንበሯን ለጎረቤት አገር ለመቸር፤ እንዲሁም የአንዱን ክፍለሃገር ድርሻ የሆነን መሬት ወደፈለገበት አየሽነሽነ በመስጠት፤ የአንድ መንግስት መሰረታዊ ስራ የሆነውን፣ የሃገርን ሉዓላዊነት እና ዳር ድንበር ማስከበርን ግዴታና ሃላፊነት፣ በፍፁም እንደማይከብር - በማናለብኝነት በተደጋጋሚ፣ በተግባር አረጋግጧል።

2. ህዝብ የሃገሪቱን ሃብትና ንብረት፣ ፍትሃዊ በሆነ መልኩ ተጠቃሚ እንዲሆን ማድረግ - ይህን ጉዳይ ለምጣኔ ሃብት ባለሙያዎች አተዋለሁ። ቢሆንም ቅሉ፤ በጣም ግልጽ የሆኑ አንዳንድ ነገሮችን ላንሳ። በቅድሚያ - ኢትዮጵያ አሁንም ድረስ [ወደ ሰባ፣ ሰማንያ በመቶ የሚጠጋው] ህዝብ፣ የገጠር ኗሪና ከፋም ለማም በአመዛኙ አርሶ አደር፣ አርብቶ አደር የሆነ ህዝብ ነው። ይህም - መሬት ይዘታ፣ ሊትዮጵያዊያን መሰረታዊ ጉዳይ እንደሆነ፣ ጠቋሚ ነው። የመሬት ይዘታ ጉዳይ፣ የአፄ ኃይለሥላሴ አገዛዝ ሊውድቅ ከቻለበት ምክንያቶች አንዱና ዋናው ሲሆን፤ የደርግ አገዛዝም ሆነ አሁን በስልጣን ላይ ያለው ገዢው ግንባር፣ የህንን ጥያቄ ባግባቡ ሊመልሱ አልፈለጉም፣ አልቻሉምም።

በመቀጠልም - በተለይም አሁን በስልጣን ላይ ያለው የገዢው ግንባርን፣ በመሪነት፣ በአባልነት፣ በደጋፊነት በማገልገል ላይ ያሉ ግለሰቦች፣ የዛሬ ሃያአምስት ዓመት፣ በሃብታምነታቸው የማይጠረጠሩ፣ ዛሬ [ሚልየነር፣ቢልየነር] የመሆናቸው ነገር ሲታይ፤ [ልብ በሉ እንዲሁ-ይህ ሁሉ የሚሆነው፣ በዓለም የመጨረሻ ደሃ በመሆኗ የምትታወቅ ሃገር ውስጥ ነው]።እናም...እናም...እናም - በሃገሪቱ ውስጥ ምንኛ አይን ያወጣ ዝርፊያ መኖሩን በግሃድ የሚያሳይ ነው።

ሌላው በዚህ ረገድ ሊነሳ የሚገባው - እንዲያው እንደቀላል ነገር ተቆጥሮ፣ ከአንዳንድ ቅን የኢትዮጵያ አለኝታዎች በስተቀር፣ አብዛኛው የአማራጭ ድምፅ እንኳን፣ ሲያነሳው የማይሰማው ጉዳይ፣ በሚሊዮኖች የሚቆጠር ህዝብ በረሃብ እየተቀጣ መሆኑን ነው። ይህም አሁን በስልጣን ላይ ያለው የገዢው ግንባር፣ በሃላፊነት ሊጠየቅበት ከሚገባቸው መሰረታዊ ጉዳዮች አንዱ ነው። በአየር መዛባት ማሳበብ፣ ገዢው ግንባር በሃላፊነት እንዳይጠየቅ፣ የሚያደርገው ከንቱ ሙከራ እንጂ፤ የሻይ ማንኪያ ያህል ውሃ የሚቋጥር ምክንያት እንዳልሆነ፣ ትንሽ እንኳን ህሊና ላለው ሰው፣ የተሰወረ አይደለም።

3. የሰብአዊ መብቶች ጉዳይ - ያኔ ከህዝብ ቁጥር አነስተኛ መሆን፤ እንዲሁም በፖለቲካ እና በአገር አስተዳደር ጉዳዮች ላይ ህዝብ የነበረው ተሳትፎ፣ እንደ ዛሬ በጣም ጎልቶ ይታይ የነበር አይሁን እንጂ፤ በአፄውም፣ በደርግም ሆነ አሁን በስልጣን ላይ ባለው የገዢው ግንባር፤ ኢትዮጵያ - ሰብአዊ መብቶች የታፈኑባት፣ ህዝብ በገዛ ሃገሩ ላይ እንደ እስረኛ የሚቆጠርባት ሀገር ነበረችም - አሁንም - ምንም የተቀየረ ነገር የለም። የኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ - በሶስቱም የአገዛዝ ዘመናት - የመናገር፣ የመጻፍ፣ የመደራጀት፣ ባህሉንና ቋንቋውን እንዲያዳብር የማድረግ፣ በነፃ የህዝብ ምርጫ መሪዎቹን የመምረጥ - መሰረታዊ የሆኑትን መብቶችን ተገፎ፣ በጭቆና እየተገዛ ያለ ህዝብ ነው።

4. አንፃራዊ ሰላምን በማስፈን ረገድ - ሰላምን በተመለከተ፣ በንጽጽር የአፄው አገዛዝ ትንሽ የተሻለ ቢመስልም፤ የኤርትራን ችግርና በየቦታው ይነሱ የነበሩትን የህዝብ አመፀኛ ባግባቡ መፍትሄ ማግኘት አለመቻላቸውን ብታዩ፣ በአፄው አገዛዝ ዘመንም የሚመጸደቁበት ሰላም ሊያስፍኑ እንዳልቻሉ እናያለን። በምሆኑም፤ ሶስቱም የአገዛዝ ዘመናት፣ አንጻራዊ ሰላምን ሊያስፍኑ ያልቻሉ ያአምባገነንነት ባህሪ የተጠናወታቸው፣ መሰሪዎች እንደሆኑ መረዳት አዳጋች አይሆንም።

5. የግል ስነልቦናዊ እርካታን፣ እንዲሁም የህዝብ ሃገርኛ ተስፋ ሙሉነትን በተመለከተ - እያንዳንዱ ዜጋ [በቋንቋና በዘውግ ላይ ያልተመረኮዘ] በፍቅር ሃገራ ብሎ፣ አብሮ በመኖር አኳያ ያለውን ስነልቦናዊ እርካታና ተስፋ ሙሉነት ብታዩ፤ የአፄው አገዛዝ፣ እውነት ለመናገር ከሆነ - እጅግ በጣም የተሻለ ነበር። በዚህ ረገድ፣ የወታደራዊው የደርግ አገዛዝና አሁን በስልጣን ላይ ያለው የገዢው ግንባር፣ የኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ ለሃገሩ ያለው ፍቅርና የአንድነት ስሜቱ፣ እየደበዘዘ እንዲሄድና፤ የሃዘን ማቅ ለብሶ፤ አንገቱን ደፍቶ እንዲኖር - ሆነ ብለው ሳያስልሱ ሰርተዋል።

ወደ ወገኖች - ከላይ ያስቀመጥኳቸው አምስት ነጥቦች፣ ስለ አንድ 'መንግስት' ነኝ ባይ፤ በጎም ሆነ ከፋ መስራቱን ለማየት፣ ከምንም በፊት እንደ ዋነኛ የመመዘኛ መስፈርት ሆነው ሊታዩ፣ የሚገባቸው መሰረታዊ ጉዳዮች ናቸው ብዬ - በግሌ አምናለሁ።

ጊዜ መንገደኛው እንደመዘገበልን - በኢትዮጵያ ላይ የተፈራረቁት ሶስቱ የገዢ ቡድኖች፤ በጥቅሉ - ከልማታቸው፡ ጉዳታቸው እጅግ በጣም ያመዘነ ስለሆኑ፤ የኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ አምርጭ ታግሏቸዋል፤ እየታገላቸውም ነው። እንደ አንድ ኢትዮጵያዊ ዜጋ - የ ቢሾፍቱ ከተማና የአካባቢዋ ህዝብ፡ ከላይ በአጭሩ የተዘረዘሩትን አምስት ነጥቦች እግምት ውስጥ በማስገባት ነው - አሁን በስልጣን ላይ ያለውን የገዢውን ግንባር፤ የህዝብን ስልጣን ለኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ እንዲያስረክብ፡ በመታገል ላይ ያለው። ልብ በሉ ጎበዝ - ለአንድ መንግስት አወንታዊ መመዘ ኛ መስፈርቶቹ፤ እንደኔ እንደኔ - ከላይ የዘረዘርኳቸው አምስት ነጥቦች እንጂ፤ ፎቅ ቤቶች፤ መንገዶች፤ ትምህርት ቤቶች ከፍቻለሁ የሚሉት፡ በፍጹም ሊሆኑ አይገባም። እነሱንም - ጣልያንም ሰርቷቸዋል!

የኢትዮጵያ ህዝብ አሁንም በምሬት እየታገለ ያለው፡ ይህ እንደተለምዶ የያዘነው - በህዝብ የነፃ ምርጫ ያልተመረጠ ‘መንግስት’፤ አንዴ ስልጣን ላይ ከወጣ የማይወርድበትን አባዜ፤ ላንዴም ለሁሌም ኪትዮጵያ እንዲጠፋ ለማድረግና፤ ከላይ የዘረዘርኳቸውን አምስት መሰረታዊ ጉዳዮች፡ ቀዳሚና ዋና ስራው መሆኑን በተግባር የሚገልጽ፡ ህዝባዊ መንግስት እንዲመሰረት ነው። እዉነቴን ነው የምላችሁ፡ ያ - እንዲሆን፡ አሁን አራት ኪሎ ያለው የገዢው ግንባርም ቢሆን - የማይፈልግበት ምክንያቱ - በፍጹም አይታዩኝም። በደስታና በሙሉ ልብ፡ ሃገሪቱን በቀናነት እያስተዳደሩ አንዳልሆነ፤ የገዢው ግንባር መሪዎችና አባላት በተደጋጋሚ ለህዝብ ተናግረዋል። መላው የኢትዮጵያ ህዝብም - በላቡ፡ በአንባው፤ በደሙና በአጥንቱ በተፃፈ ማመልከቻ፡ አሁን አራት ኪሎ ያለውን የገዢውን ግንባር እንደማይፈልግ አስታውቋቸዋል። እዚህ ላይ - በድርብ የህሊና ሰረዝ፡ አጽንኦት በመስጠት፡ ለሁሉም ላስገነዝብ የምፈልገው ጉዳይ አለ። ከላይ የጠቀስኳቸው ሶስቱም የገዢ ስርአቶችም ሆነ፡ ከነሱ በፊት የነበሩትን ጨምሮ፡ በታሪክ አጋጣሚ - የመንግስት ስርአትና ባለስልጣኖች፡ ባደረጉትና አሁንም በቀጥታና በተጓዳኝ፡ እያደረጉ ባሉት ኢ-ሰብአዊ በደሎች ሁሉ፡ ተጠያቂ የሚሆኑት፤ የመንግስት ስርአትና የመንግስት መዋቅር ውስጥ የነበሩና፡ የተመሳጠሩ ግለሰቦች ብቻ ናቸው። እንዲያው ባጋጣሚ የ-‘መንግስት’ መዋቅር ውስጥ የነበሩና አሁንም ያሉት ግለሰቦች በሚናገሩት ቋንቋና ወይም በሚጋሩት የብሄረሰብ ቁርኝት ሳቢያ [ጨቋኝና በደለኛ መንግስትን - ከአንድ ብሄረሰብ ህዝብ ጋር በጅምላ መፈረጅ] - ያኔም ሆነ ዛሬ - በጣም አደገኛ ስህተት ከምሆኑም በላይ፡ ኢትዮጵያንም፡ ኢትዮጵያዊያንንም፡ አይጠቅምም።

ውድ የኢትዮጵያ ልጆች - እስቲ..... የገዢው ግንባር አፍቃሬ የሆኑ፡ ግለሰብ ወገኖቻችንን አንድ ጥያቄ በመጠየቅ፤ ወደማጠቃለሉ ላምራ። ጥያቄዬም የሚከተለው ነው። እንዲያው ሁሉንም ነገር ትተን፡ [የገዢው ግንባር ለኢትዮጵያ ያለውን ጥላቻ፤ ግድያውን፤ እስራቱን፤ የሃብት ምዝበራውን፤ ወገንን ከወገን መከፋፈሉን ሁሉ ብንተው..... ማለቴ ነው] አንድ ‘መንግስት’ [ወደፊት በነፃ የህዝብ ምርጫ የሚመረጥ፡ ህዝባዊ መንግስትም እንኳን ቢሆን] ከአራት ወይም ከአምስት አመታት (‘አንድ ተርም’) በዛ ቢል (‘ሁለት ተርም’) የአስተዳደር ዘመን አልፎ - ሃያ፣ ሰላሳ፣ አርባ አመታት፤ ምን አለፋችሁ - ለዘላለም - በተወሰኑ ግለሰቦች ብቻ እንገዛ የሚል አቋም በመያዛችሁ - እንዴት አይነት ጤናማና የሰለጠነ ህሊና ነው፡ ትክክለኛነት ነን ብላችሁ እንድታምኑ ያደረጋችሁ? ማን ስለትክክለኛነት አወራና ነው፡ ካላላችሁ በስተቀር!

ውድ የአዳራሽ ድህረ ገጽ እንግዶቼ - ከተለምዶዬ ውጪ፡ ረዘም ስላደረግሁት፡ ቅር እንዳልተሰኛችሁ እምነቴ ነው። ኢትዮጵያ - ሌላ የጨለማ አዙሪት ውስጥ ትገባ፡ ይሆን ይሆን? እያልኩ በመጨነቄ ነው። ውድ የኢትዮጵያ ልጆች - ለመቋጫ ያህል፡ ጊዜ መንገደኛው እረፍት የለውምና፤ [ነገ - ከያኔውና ከዛሬው] የተሻለ እንዲሆን፤ መጪው ትውልድም እኛ ለማየት ያልታደልነውን ሰላም፤ ብልጽግናና ሰብአዊ መብቶች የተከበሩበት፤ ሃገርኛ ተስፋ-ሙሉነት የተጎናጸፈ ህይወት እንዲኖር ለማድረግ፡ መፍትሄ ሊሆን ይችላል በሚል፡ በብዙ ቀና ኢትዮጵያዊያን እየተጠቆመ ያለውን ዋና ጉዳይ፡ እኔም እንደምጋራው ለመግለጽ ያህል - ልድገመወና ላብቃ። ወገኖቼ - የሚበጀው [ለሁሉም ይበጃል ብዬ የማምነው] - አሁን አራት ኪሎ ያለው የገዢው ግንባር - የህዝብን ጥያቄ፡ የአስቸኳይ ጊዜ አዋጅ በማወጅና ግለሰቦችን በመቀያየር፤ ወይም የአማራጭ ድምፅ ከነበሩት ውስጥ የመረጣቸውን አንድ ሁለት ሰዎች ብቻ ለተመልካችነት በመጋበዝ፡ ችግሩ እንደተፈታ ለመቁጠር የሚያደርገውን ቀልድ አቁሞ፤ ሁሉንም ኢትዮጵያዊ ያሳተፈ ጊዜያዊ ህዝባዊ የሽግግር መንግስት እንዲመሰረት፤ ሁኔታዎችን ሲያመቻች ብቻ ነው። ያንን ማድረግ እንደሚገባው፤ እንደሚችልም ምንም ጥርጥር የለኝም። በሉ - ለዛሬ ጨርሻለሁ።

አመሰግናለሁ!

የኅሊና ጉራማይሌ

አኪዬ | December 1, 2016

ወደ የኢትዮጵያ ልጆች፡ እንዴት ናችሁ? የልብ ሰላምታዬ በያላችሁበት ይድረሳችሁ።

በዚህ በ-December 2016 መጣጥፌ --- 'የኅሊና ጉራማይሌ' የሚለውን ሐረግ እንደ ርዕስ መጠቀሜ፤ ኅሊናን እንደ ዕውነተኛ አዕምሮ እና እንደ ሃቅ ማምረቻ መሳሪያ፤ ጉራማይሌን ደግሞ እንደ ዝብርቅርቅነት እና ግድፈት -- በመውሰድ፤ ኅሊናን እና ጉራማይሌን አጣምሬ እንደ-ተለዋጭ ዘይቤ [metaphor] በመጠቀም፤ 'የኅሊና ጉራማይሌ' እንደ ፅንሰሃሳብ - delusional state of mind - ሊጠናወተው የሚችለውን የአጥፊነት አባዜ እና ተጓዳኝ የመሰሪነት ገፀባህሪውን፡ እንዲያው -- እንዲያው -- ላይ ላይንም ቢሆን፤ ለእናንተ ለአንባቢዎቼ ለማካፈል እንደቀረብሁ፡ ለመጠቀም እንዲያግዘኝ ብዬ ነው።

አብረን እንቆይ!

ወደ-ዛሬው ርዕሴ ከመግባቴ በፊት፡ አንድ ነገር ልበል። እኔ - በየአጋጣሚው፡ 'ጉራማይሌ' የሚለውን ቃል እንደ ጉራማይሌነቱ ሳነሳ፤ በጓደኛዎች መካከል ወይም informal በሆኑ አጋጣሚዎች የሚታዩትንም ሆነ የሚሰሙትን ዝብርቅርቅ እና ለግድፈት vulnerable የሆኑ፤ የቃል ወይም የሐረግ አጠቃቀሞችን - ማለቴ አይደለም። የኔ ትኩረት - formal በሆኑ ዝግጅቶች ላይ፡ በሚታይ ወይም በሚሰማ የቃል እና የሐረግ አጠቃቀም ላይ ነው። በተለይ -- በተለይ፡ ለ-general public ታስቦ በሚዘጋጅ የማስታወቅ፤ የማስተማር፤ የማንቃት፤ እንዲሁም የአዕምሮ ብስለትን እየተከተቱ ለመንከባከብና፤ ለማሳደግ በሚተለሙ ቅንብሮች ላይ - ጉራማይሌ እንደ ጉራማይሌነቱ - ሊያስከትል የሚችለው አሉታዊ እንደምታን አሳቤ በማድረግ ነው። የቋንቋ ጥራትን መጠበቅ -- ቋንቋው እየበለፀገ እንዲሄድ ከማድረጉም በላይ - በግልፅ አማርኛ መጠቀም ለምሳሌ፡ በመልዕክት አዘጋጁ እና በአድማጭ-አንባቢ-ተመልካች [audience] መካከል፡ በቀለለ ሁኔታ መናበብ እንዲፈጠር ለማድረግ ትልቅ እገዛ ያደርጋል ብዬ አምናለሁ። እናም -- በግልፅ ቋንቋ [plain talk] communicate የማድረጉ ነገር፤ እየተለመደ እና እየገለበጠ እንዲሄድና፤ በተግባር እየታየ እንዲቀጥል፤ ጥረት የማድረግ ላይ ላላችሁ ሁሉ - በዚህ አጋጣሚ የወገናዊነት ምስጋና የ ይድረሳችሁ እላለሁ።

ወደ-ዛሬው ርዕሴ ልመለስና - እንዲያው ካልጠፋ ርዕስ፡ ዛሬ ለመሆኑ 'የኅሊና ጉራማይሌን' ምን አስመረጠህ ለምትሉ - ሰበብ የሆኑኝን ነጥቦች በአጭሩ እንዳስቀምጥ ይፈቀድልኝ። አንደኛው ነጥብ - የሰው ልጅ ባህሪ እኔን ያለማቋረጥ intrigue ከሚያደርጉኝ ከስተቶች ሁሉ ዋነኛው መሆኑና -- ኅሊና ደግሞ የባህሪ ማምረቻ machinery መሆኑ ሲሆን፤ ሁለተኛው ነጥብ - ተረጎም ዓመታት በኋላ፤ ባለፈው ሰሞን ጉራማይሌን በተመለከተ እዚህም እዚያም ሲወራ በጨረፍታ መስማቴ --- ቀልቤን ስለሰበው ነው። የመጣጥፌ አብይ ትኩረትም - የኅሊና ጉራማይሌ ላይ በማነጣጠር፤ ተላይ እንደጠቀስኩት [ቃልና ሐረግን ብቻ ሳይሆን፤ ከበስተጀርባቸው ያለውን ዝብርቅርቅ ግንዛቤን እና የሃቅ ግድፈትን] ዶሮ ሳይጮህ ማረቅ፡ crucial መሆኑን - ጨዋነት ባልጎደለውና ብዙም በማይጎረብጥ criticism፡ ፅንሰሃሳቡን -- ጎሽም ማድረግ ላይ ነው።

By the way - ዛሬ ያለውትሮየ [ሆነ ብዬ] አማርኛን እና እንግሊዝኛን ደበላልቄ መጠቀሜ፡ የ-Akiye Monthly Blog, inherently 'informal' መሆኑን ለማስታወስ እና ስለ ጉራማይሌ እየተጨዋውትን ከሆነም አይቀር፤ ጉራማይሌ እንደ ጉራማይሌ --- ጠረኩ እንዲያውዳችሁ ፈልጌ ነው።

በሉ እንግዲህ - እስካሁን ያልኩትን ሁሉ እንደ መንደርደሪያ ቁጠራልኝና፤ ርዕሴን አስመልክቼ በጫጫርኳት አጠር ያለች ግጥም --- የዛሬውን መጣጥፌን ልቋጭ።

የኅሊና ጉራማይሌ

ምናል፤

ምናል.....ጉራማይሌ -
የቃላት ቅላፄ -- ቋንቋ ብቻ -- ሆኖ ቢቀር
ምንስገደኝ -- ጉራማይሌ -
በፍቅር ተማሎ ቢሾር።

ሲሆን፤

ሲሆን እንጂ..... ጉራማይሌ -
የኅሊና ዝብርቅርቅ
እውንና -- ውሸት ቅዠትን -
ያለማገናዘብ ሲያደባልቅ
የአብሪተኝነት ማጥ ውስጥ -
በጭፍኑ ሲዘፈቅ።

ያኔ፤

ያኔ ነው እንጂ.....
ሃቅን ማጥበቅ
የኅሊና ጉራማይሌ -
የምትሃት -- ማቅ
ከእውነተኛ ስብዕና ጋር -- ሊገጥም ሲቃጣው -
የሞት -- የሽረት -- ትንቅንቅ።

ሲሆን፤

ሲሆንማ..... ጉራማይሌ -
የተሰነጣጠቀ አንደበት
ቢመክሩት የማይሰማ -
የተካነ በግትርነት
በጉም ካብ ላይ -- ሲንጠለጠል -
የሃቅ በር -- የትየለሌ ተከፍቶለት።

በቅጥፈት፤

በቅጥፈት..... ሰክሮ ሲቦርቅ
ሣር ዘርቶ -
ዋርካ አንዲበቅል ሲጠብቅ
የበግ ለምድ ለብሶ -
ከንፁሃን ጋር ሲደባለቅ
የአኬልዳማ -- ገፀበረከት አቅርቦ -
የእግዜር ይስጥልኝ - ምላሽ ሲጠብቅ
የኅሊና -- እንቶፈንቶ
በግድፈት በርጨማ ላይ ተኮፍሶ -
ሲፎልል -- ሲመገደቅ።
ምሕዳር በሌለው ቅዠት
የኅሊና ባዶነት ውስጥ -- እጅ አግሩን ተቀፍዶ -

እንደተጫነ እቃ -- የኋልየሽ ሲጎተት።

ያኔ፤

ያኔ ነው እንጂ..... እርሳስ መቅረፅ
በሽላ ብዕር -- ተጠቅሞ -- ሃቅን ማስረፅ።
የአዕምሮ -- ጠማማን
በቅጥፈት የደነደነ -- ልቦናን
የጎሊና ጉራማይሌ -- በቁመናው የበደነ ስብዕናን
እንዳግባቡ -- ምሱን ሰጥቶ -
ግብአተመሬቱን -- ማፋጠን።

አመሰግናለሁ!

-----እንደገና አስከምንገናኝ-----
