



Tigray Development Association of Northern California (TDA-NC)
P.O. Box 720715
San Jose, CA 95172-0715

May 11, 2006

To all Tigray Development Association (TDA) members and supporters in the Bay Area.

As you recall Ambassador Tewelde Gebru, current director of TDA International, was here among us few months ago. During his stay in North America he has toured many cities and met many TDA members and supporters. With a invigorated mission TDA has commenced to build many elementary schools through out Tigray. These schools have been identified and are for most part located in remote rural areas. Though these schools are up and running unfortunately they do not have a single building. Students sit in open air class room though few may have a shade (das). We all know growing up what open air classroom means to students. One is exposed to al kind of distractions. Realizing this TDA has envisioned a plan to involve its members and supporters in Diaspora to sponsor these schools. The plan is for one city in the US or elsewhere to sponsor one school out of the mentioned 90 or so schools to be determined by a drawing.

The Bay Area Tigrean community and members and supporters of TDA have had their share in shaping TDA to be what it is today. It is with out exaggeration this community has been at the forefront in confronting every challenge that hampers our people's resolve to be masters of their destiny. An educated child in Tigray adds to the strength of our people's tenacity to survive and be masters of their own destiny. Experience from all over the world tells us education as a key element for development.

The Bay Area has been selected to sponsor a school in Asgede Tsimbla (አስገደ ስምብላ) in Western Tigray. TDA has prepared a project plan and will help in building this school. Our share of the cost is \$35,000.00. The total cost is close to \$70,000.0 US Dollars. The remaining \$35,000.00 will be covered by the people themselves. This is a win-win formula where every one is involved. We need to raise this money so that the school is readied for next academic year. We ask all of you to contribute and be a member of TDA Northern California Brach. TDA membership fee is \$60.00 per year, and to raise the fund to cover the school project we may need to target each household to contribute about \$350.00.

Contributions and pledges can be sent to the following address: (Please, make your checks payable to TDA)

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TDA-NC Board Members.