



... **A VERY SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO** ...



PRIME MINISTER MELES ZENAWI



THE GREAT VISIONARY OF OUR TIME

What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us. But what we have done for others and the world remains, and are immortal too? Therefore, those who are prepared to die for good causes are seldom defeated. We know, that many people in this world say, how hard it is that we have to die: a very strange complaint to come from the mouths of those people who have had to live. But death is the only inescapable, unavoidable and sure thing in this world. We are sentenced to die the day we are born. Hence it is foolish and wrong to mourn those who died. Rather, we should thank God that such Great People like Meles lived here to make this world a better place to live in.

†...**H.E. Ato Mels Zenawi: The Late Great Prime Minister of Ethiopia**...†

No one's death comes to pass without making some impression and those close to the deceased, also inherit part of the liberated soul and become richer in their humanness.

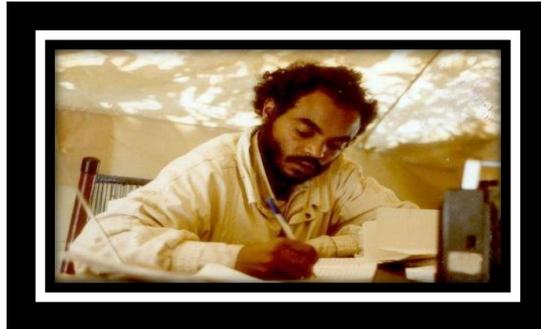
The greatest visionary of our time: the late Prime Minister of Ethiopia Mr. Meles Zenawi have died in peace in Brussels at the young age of 57, though the reason for his sudden death still not known but it would soon become known by us as some suspicions and rumors and spread around that said it was not a natural death. It needed the great vision & unremitting commitment of a man like PM Meles Zenawi to achieve so much in over the past 21 years with some noticeable drawbacks, and uncompleted or unfulfilled tasks. More or less, he will certainly remain as an inspiration to all the human rights activists, workers, democrats and others across the whole world. Great men of vision like him are respected by all Ethiopian religions as now clearly witnessed. He showed us the way, and we will also continue walking on it in his absence as well. And so will our children and this generation. He inspired us, we followed and all the differences in Ethiopia were made. Truly, that was a good gift from Almighty God, although; I disagreed with him on some important issues that I democratically expressed in front of him at a meeting held in Addis Ababa in the 1990s EC.



I have the greatest admiration for Mr. Meles Zenawi and most of his work in my genuine heart and soul all because under difficult circumstance at home and abroad, he seemed to have been that rare individual who combines the irreverence of a natural rebel with a driving sense of personal responsibility and integrity. Therefore, in my humble opinion and good wishes, he deserves to stand among the greats as an example of heroic compassion in this present century. He really was a remarkable man, is certainly a man who has changed Ethiopia & saved millions of innocent lives.

He was such a great inspiration for so many years and the memory of him will continue to be so. Meles Zenawi has been a true inspiration indeed. He has made millions of people, including me, fully realize that we all can have a good influence and improve human rights and people's living standards throughout the world let alone Ethiopia. Although, I only met Meles once in Addis, he has improved Ethiopians life. Without his foresight and strong sense of justice, millions out there and I would not have been an advocate for human rights at a heroic level. The TPLF movement that grew out of that first fight for freedom and justice for the people of Tigray and furthermore for other Ethiopians of all nations and nationalities, fully captured the growing sense of injustices in certain corners of mother Ethiopia but it needed a great and strong leader like him and his TPLF colleagues to get it off the ground. Meles was just that. Without him, where would millions be?

Meles Zenawi was a major force for good in this tempest tossed world. His vision gave birth to human rights activism back in those days when he interrupted his university studies and went to fight the fascist Derg regime that ruthlessly imprisoned & killed many of my families and relatives including my father and uncle: the Patriotic fighter Dejazmach Kebede Bizunesh. Meles Zenawi's life was a courageous testament to his great visionary commitment to fight injustice in Ethiopia. He was certainly an example to us all. He brought light into the darkness of prisons, the horror of those Derg torture chambers & tragedy of death camps around our beloved country, Ethiopia. This was a great visionary of our time whose conscience shone in this terrifying Ethiopian world, who believed in the power of the ordinary people to bring about extraordinary justice, change and, by creating equality among tribes & religion; he gave each of us the opportunity to make a difference.



In 1991, his vision gave birth to the New Ethiopia. In 2012, we are proud to dare say that his achievements are that, 1; nearly every child born in Ethiopia now can go to school for free. When you consider we had only 18% school coverage when this government came to power. 2, The 96% school enrolment we have now is the best achievement that every patriotic Ethiopian can be proud of. 3, Health coverage now is good 87% starting from nearly nothing. Again an amazing achievement for a country, never managed to have beyond 8% coverage in its entire 3,000 year history. 4, Every local district can now be reached by car. Considering Ethiopia had only 18,560km road before this Government took over. Now we have nearly 70,000km road and in the coming three years' time it is predicted that the road network will grow to 129,000km. 5, The people who lived below poverty line have fallen at least significantly from nearly 62% to 29% to date. Not bad! 6, The number of people with access for clean water is now 65% from nearly nothing. 7, The double digit growth every reputable western journalist wrote about Ethiopia is very much lauded and appreciated. 8, The transformation of the agriculture sector, every farmer now have access to agriculture extension worker, with improved seed and fertilizer which in turn is pushing real growth. 9, The number of public universities has now grown from 1 to 32 and maybe doubles that amount of private colleges. And the Abay dam etc. Massive achievement in numbers but more work needs to be done on the quality. 10, The diplomatic skill, brilliant foreign policy played out with the West and the East for the country's interest and economic achievement is good. A relatively peaceful, stable and optimistic nation than what they found when they seized power.

Therefore, his legacy is a solid movement for human rights, which survived to date and will never die too, if EPRDF are not divided and don't fail to play the cards right. What a great achievement if they do that too? You see, how one person's courage can change Ethiopia? Meles Zenawi was a man in many millions or a trillion even, who sacrificed a lot through TPLF organization, which has helped alleviate, much suffering for many innocent people oppressed under the Derg. He was a very remarkable and gifted leader was certainly a man of great vision though made few mistakes. I think he was an amazing man who did incredible things. Hence the greatest tribute to him now is how successful the EPRDF and in the process too, Ethiopia is tomorrow. I honestly believe that individuals like him can certainly help shape the course of events anywhere in the world. In this cruel and difficult world we live in, certainly, good leadership, courage and vision really matters. Meles Zenawi leaves behind a wonderful legacy for Ethiopia. Thank you to this great man for raising awareness of human rights, democracy and being an inspiration to all ordinary people like myself that we really can make a difference if we need to. Thanks to the remarkable commitment of Meles Zenawi again, the people of Ethiopia will forever more come together to fight starvation, backwardness and for this, I would like to say how thankful I am really? Thank you Prime Minister Meles Zenawi and his patriotic and good colleagues for highlighting those human right abuses in Ethiopia during the Derg era and fighting for us all, to fully liberate us: all Ethiopians? Thank you for creating an organization that allowed all ordinary people to make a difference in Ethiopia. I am really honored, to witness from afar, which this remarkable man had the vision to see that most of the Ethiopians needed. He has left an inspiring legacy. He was such a courageous man who has gone but his good deeds will live on. Meles Zenawi: The Human Rights and Democracy Warrior, who led us to fight our own causes to the very end, we Ethiopians too, will continue to fight for freedom, Peace, Democracy & Justice in our motherland Ethiopia until everything becomes right.

When Meles Zenawi & Co; lit the bright spark of hope in 1991, he really and truly awoke the Ethiopian people to the meaning of injustice. Hence as a long-standing and strong opponent of tyranny and oppression, I very wholeheartedly applaud his great achievements and also hope all his advocacies for economic growth will certainly continue to grow for many more years to come. Yes, we will continue too, with his extraordinary legacy to improve situations in today's Ethiopia for all people. We will never give up until some disguised petty regional tyrants stops abusing our God-given human rights at a cost of the government's good reputation. I wish he remained alive to finish his planned important works but still is sure that history will remember him kindly and his altruistic work, very articulate and straightforward nature, general knowledge and too brilliant leadership quality, long after some weak and enemy guys in our midst and political opportunists of our time in and outside Ethiopia, have been forgotten or thrown into the dust bin of history.

I dare say this now though I was once seen as a Darling of May as the old British Film episode around London Embassy, but then, I leave it all those democrats and historians who witnessed, was saddened to not even be able to attend Ethiopian Embassy in London to express my saddened feelings about the loss of PM Mr. Meles Zenawi: the visionary leader of Ethiopia and also sign the Special Book of condolence. Surely, Ethiopia certainly need better Diplomats than some of them.

Great men like Meles Zenawi are not ordinary people. The mark that one man like him has made in Ethiopia and also on the face of this earth today unarguably remains indelible. That seed which was sown by Meles Zenawi: the visionary will continue to grow only if we persevere in the pursuit of his dream of the Ethiopia in which everyone's rights are better respected more than before he died. That challenge is ours collectively and individually. The future of Ethiopia really needs more people like Meles Zenawi not pretenders and power hungry mercenaries like the Shabia's Agents those alleged CIA agents in USA & the EU who are totally out of date and out of reach, so-called political party leaders and activists not worth my time and ink, to mention their full names at all.

Therefore, I urge his respected Predecessor and the New Prime Minister: His Excellency Ato. Haile Mariam Desalegn and all the EPRDF Administration, not to allow that hateful, power hungry and community reject individuals who are lurking around like rats in the western world, not to set their blood-socked foot in Ethiopia to try to fool and loot Ethiopians anymore. I honestly think and strongly believe too, the poor homeless and most of the wrongly or rightly imprisoned folks can do a much better job for their community & the nation at large, if given amnesty, also are trained to be given the chances as citizens. Yes, together, we can and are really able to do better things.

I say these all because as I have observed them for many long years, they are all tested for over 40 years and have failed a 1,000 times. Hence treat all of them as their sell-by-date has passed and that some good and educated individuals and intellectuals in the Diaspora and also at home should be given the chance to participate in all the projects that were set up by Meles & Co. an amnesty should be given to political and or and journalist prisoners too, to ease all the tension & unnecessarily confrontation. Meles is an inspiration to all who hold Human Rights as their most fundamental belief. A very remarkable man who has made a great contribution to humanity in a very simple but determined and committed ways; which has made a huge difference in today's Ethiopia in terms of enthusiasm for those who always assist & hope for those who suffer unjustly.

Meles Zenawi had the courage, determination and the wisdom to light a lasting candle that would guide the Ethiopian people and world's conscience forevermore. This candle will always burn for this courageous, honorable, dedicated and very determined Ethiopian hero who had to be born from that very famous Adwa in Tigray: where our unparalleled and honorable history of Adwa was made in 1 March 1896. Therefore, in this short tribute of mine, I would also like to send my sincere and wholehearted condolences to Meles Zenawi's dear wife: the First Lady of Ethiopia Mrs. Azeb Mesfin, the children and all families, whom I trust will take great strength from the legacy he has bestowed upon the people of this troubled, divided and fragile country Ethiopia and the world.



Having said all that, it is true that there are indeed heroes in evil, like that of Adolf Hitler, as well as in good, like the great visionary of our time, Meles Zenawi. I very much regret this unbearable great loss of your beloved husband, a loved & cherished father of the children and Prime Minister of Ethiopia hence beg you to convey my warmest regards to your family, close friends, supporters and all relatives in Ethiopia and elsewhere. I am indeed very sorry to hear your loss and Ethiopia's loss at a crucial time like this although I am sure his soul and body are at rest now. Therefore, Meles Zenawi truly knows the Glory of the Heavenly Kingdom as he has been granted eternal bliss in the end. Dear Ethiopia's First Lady Azeb Mesfin, your amazingly true and unselfish love for him from young age to present day and during his illnesses, working and family life was and now is, unforgettable testimony of the wonderful and hardworking and patriotic person he really was to his family, relatives, colleagues and us all Ethiopians and friends of Ethiopia around the globe.

As one wise person once remarked, "any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankind. Death comes equally to us all, and makes us all equal when it comes". I sincerely and wholeheartedly bid PM Meles Zenawi, a truly heart-felt farewell not only in plain words but deep grievance and sorrow with my family that also record some of the lost golden opportunities. But, I express hope, optimism and confidence in the future of Ethiopia and EPRDF's administration. Hence My heart goes out to you and the Ethiopian people who fully benefited from his good leadership, but you must also realize that God's plan for PM Meles Zenawi is now done, without him being confined to a wheel chair or bed for too long and is subjected to terrible sufferings. He has gone to a better place for his eternal life without pain and stress to forever rest. Therefore, my sincere and wholehearted prayers, my thoughts, my tears and my heart go out to all who loved him and admired his good leadership. Let's make his final departure a time to celebrate his long and wonderful life & unparalleled legacy of good leadership more in peace than in sorrow. In Jesus Christ's love, may God bless and keep you all to fulfill his planned projects for the betterment of Ethiopia and Ethiopians. May his soul be blessed & rest in precious peace & in heaven too? Amen!!



Dr. Gizachew B Amosha – 1 September 2012 - London, England
Chartered Accountant, an Administrator and a Political Scientist



PS: I sincerely & wholeheartedly thank the organizers of the funeral session and the Ethiopian people for showing & expressing their true feelings and love for their leader in unison. God Bless!!

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