

## **Adua: An Indictment:**

### **This can only happen in Ethiopia!**

By 1945, at the end of the Second World War, the Germans understood that they had been misled and taken for a ride by the National Socialist German Workers' Party, under the leadership of Hitler.

The Germans then atoned and vowed never again would such monsters rise to power; one sin too many. Their naivety to follow a herd and then their ability to reverse could only be taken by adaptive and flexible German minds, perhaps because the Germans are insightfully wise or remarkably 'advanced'. I will leave this for you to contemplate; I have no ready made answer to provide. But one thing is sure: the Amhara elite and ruling class committed far worse sins and crimes against other nationalities under their occupation for 800 years.

However, when the time has come to realise and repent, they are still holding on and flexing their repressive arms in an attempt to perpetuate their colonial dreams.

When Italy under Benito Mussolini returned to Ethiopia in October 1935, it was a walkover. Not only had the Italians made strides in technological advances, but Ethiopia was deliberately made to regress by its leaders.

Whilst in their second foray the Italians had enough time and resources to redress what they were not able to do the first time they set foot in the famous place they remembered, called Adua, the Lioness chained by cordillera belt.

On 1st March 1896 it had taken only one full day to defeat and rout the Italians; 3000 Italians were captured, well treated and released back to Italy. Meanwhile, the Eritrean Askari's captured soldiers had one leg and one arm amputated as a way of dehumanising them and rendering them useless in the event that they pose a threat to Menelik's rule.

To add injury to insult; this can only happen in Ethiopia led by disgraceful Amhara leaders, Menelik rewarded defeated Italy (by signing the Treaty of Mariam Sheweto) by giving up more land, that included Kern, in the hope Italy would drop its claim if protector rights over the rest of Ethiopia that Menelik wanted to exploit and rule at the expense of Tigray.

Eritrea was auctioned to Italy in return for money and arms Menelik badly needed to colonise and rule the rest of Ethiopia, but this is another topic I will not dwell on here.

This can only happen in Ethiopia Amhara rulers sovereign land for cash and arms in return.

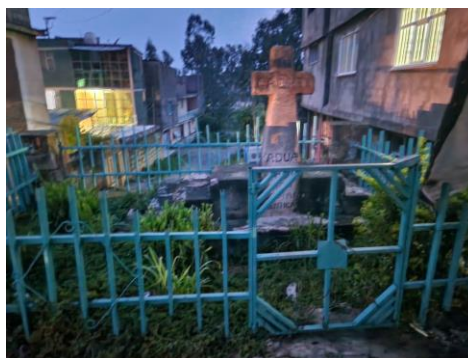


*Fiddlesticks! To saddle tentivy glopping horse with chronic spinal pain triggered by Tabes dorsalis!*

Forget that the Amhara ruling class built war memorials for the fallen victims, they neglected to house clean and maintained what the Italians dutifully left behind.

So when the Italians came back in 1935, fully prepared and equipped, they spent time in Adua to erect a monorail Cenotaph to the Italians who fell as martyrs, close to the River called My Guga. The inscription reads: "We Shall Never Forget This Defeat/Loss."

The sad story to tell is this; the Cenotaph stood from (1935-1980s) for nearly 50 years built but left in disrepair by successive governments as a war museum. Worse now, it has totally collapsed and the land sold to private owners who have turned it into a kiosk.



The travesty, every year while in charge, Haileselassie, a cynical personality, celebrated the Battle of Adua, not in Adua but in Addis Ababa, with flags hoisted on every light pole. Haileselassie himself had only made two visits to the town during his reign. One was on his way through and the first for a one-night stay only.

The pretence that the Battle of Adua was the victory of all black Africans against colonialism has been a charade to bully and intimidate or show off, suggesting that other Africans are inept.

What does one expect from an emperor who ran away at the height of war seeking refuge in Britain, who tacitly connived with the Italians until the Italians turned hostile to Britain by siding Hitler.



*Not only Haileselassie but the Amhara lords in their droves genuflecting Rodolfo Graziani.*

It beggars belief that Adua, the symbol of black pride and the resolve for freedom and independence, was neglected to a state of dereliction beyond recognition.

The icon of independence could have been the centre for a military academy. Instead, Haileselassie built and catered for such institutions in Harrer and Debre Berhane instead, showing his bias that he was after all interested in Amhara dominance over accurate history. To illustrate this further, Adua had no high school until 1968 (1968 first Matriculation) nearly five years before he was dethroned.

Furthermore, the Emperor gave a deaf ear to the Italians when requested to take back the Aksum state looted during the Second World War. He wouldn't wish to see the honour and glory reinstated!

Universities in Bega Medir, they renamed Gondor, Polytechnic and teacher trainings in Gojjam and Wollo after grubbing it from Kemant and Agew, Oromos and others. None whatsoever in Adua, Tigray! These are disguised colonialists and they masquerade pretending they rule in fairness under one flag.

There was no industrial nor agricultural institutions or projects carried out in Adua, for that matter in any part of Tigray. No hospital that could carry out major operations, only a clinic.

Likewise, seventeen years of military rule, and despite the bravados and fanfaronade of the Battle of Adua displaying in a stadium full of people, a bottle full of blood thrown that was meant as a stand against imperialism, Menegusgu Haile Mariam never visited Adua in his life time.

The same was the case with Menelik. Apart from the journey to watch the battle field, he had never gone back to visit the memorable place who falsely claimed much of the praises even for the dead. Fake people with a fake history to tell. Such are the Amhara ruling elite.

Here is why Battle of Adua was a shining victory: despite if all odds of Amharas' misrule, Tigray under Sehul Mikeal, ንጉሥ/King Welde Selassie, Sebagdis, Emperor Yohannes IV, Ras Alula had sound military social and cultural structures capable to withstand and defeat foreign and well as internal enemies.

40 years the Amhara rulers had decimated the Tigrayan institutions and capabilities that the Italians were able to walk pass Adua to Matchew/ማጩው and score decisive victory against Haileselassie's ill-equipped and less resolved forces. And unlike Tewodros and Yohannes, the Emperor had scurried, pick up this luggage and flee to the camp of adversaries where the plot to invade Ethiopia was hatched in the first place.



*A few Eritrean Askari amputees.*

And what kind of horse breeds are there in the Amhara region; flat back good for placing an armchair for the likes of Taytu to sit. For here again Itege Taytu who hardly appears able to walk, but like father like son, we are told she spearheaded the war.. I.e The Battle of Adua!



***Empress Taytu and her entourage. La Guerra Italo-Abissina: Bulletino Illustrato, Num. 24. Maggio 1896. Milano, Italy. African Section Collection, Library of Congress African and Middle Eastern Division.***

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