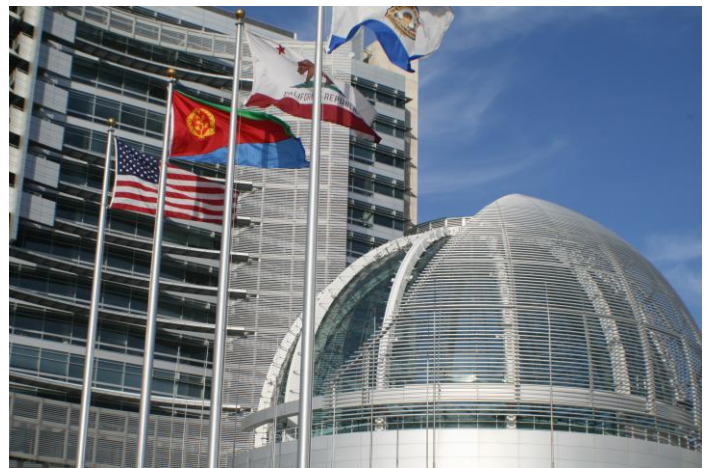


# San Jose and environs colorfully Celebrated May 24

Under the Slogan of “We Toil Today for a Bright Tomorrow!”, Eritreans in San Jose area celebrated their 23<sup>rd</sup> Independence Day colorfully, with great honor and pride.

The celebration started on Friday, May 23, 2014, in the Eritrean Flag Raising event, in front of San Jose City Hall rotunda, for the first time ever. It is to be remembered that the Mayor of San Jose, the Honorable Chuck Reed and other City Council members signed a proclamation, recognizing May 24 to be Eritrean Independence Day. It was a historical day to see our flag raised high this year, on San Jose City’s flag pole, along with the American flag. Our Flag will continue to wave throughout next week, until May 30, 2014. The holiday was memorable in a lot of ways.



Guest of Honor, Councilmember Sam Liccardo, who sponsored the flag raising event, who is also running for San Jose’s Mayoral election, this year, joined the celebration to make a memorable speech about Eritrea and its people.



**Another Guest of Honor was this year's Boston Marathon winner, Mebrahtom (Meb) Kiflezighi. His presence added colors to the celebration event. Graduates of "Class of 2014" were honored "Certificate Awards" by Meb Kiflezighi in coordination of Eritrean Community Cultural & Development Center and Holiday Coordinating Committee.**

**In this national Independence event, participants also enjoyed the young Eritrean American's Tigrigna language skills. These young Eritrean children continue to learn history and language in Adal School, run by YPFDJ San Jose's Chapter.**



**The Independence celebration concluded about 1:00 AM, with warm feeling & passion, looking forward to Eritrea's achievements.**

**Eternal Glory to our Martyrs!  
Honor to our Eritrean Defense Forces!  
Wetru Awet n'Hafash!**

**Media Committee  
San Jose, California**