



NUEYS Global

National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students (NUEYS)

This newsletter aims at:

- > Updating you on NUEYS' activities and achievements
- > Consolidating the global Eritrean youth movement
- > Demonstrating NUEYS' contribution to the general global youth movement
- > Enhancing Eritrean youth solidarity worldwide!

Message from the Editor

After overcoming some technical difficulties, *NUEYS Global* is back! This month's issue celebrates the 18th anniversary of Eritrea's independence. Nation wide and among Eritrea's Diaspora around the world, this year's Independence Day was celebrated under the theme "Our Independent Path: Guarantor for Our Sovereignty."

Eritrea was liberated on 24 May 1991 through paying a very high price of sacrifice unparalleled elsewhere. Now Eritrea is an exemplary model of commendable economic progress based on self-reliance thanks to the independent state of mind of its people and leadership who have gone through bitter times together. There are still many challenges ahead, but no matter how many conspiracies that have come her way, Eritrea has been and still is prepared to shoulder and pay what it takes in the name of truth and justice. This is because the people know that a meaningful existence could only be guaranteed through independent choice and economic emancipation.

Safeguarding freedom is a very demanding task and it needs every citizen to zealously guard it with dignity coupled with the aspiration to achieve solid economic emancipation. And the role of the youth can in no way be undermined or excluded. Although the journey to our national vision has been hard, and although there is still a long way to go until we reach that final destination, the efforts exerted by the youth has been praiseworthy. Moreover, the continuation of the active participation of the youth is essential for the journey ahead.

Eternal glory to our beloved martyrs; victory to the masses!!

Foreign Affairs Department



Eritrean Youth from the Sudan Visit Eritrea

From 25 April to 5 May 2009, a delegation of Eritrean youth from the Sudan paid an 11 day visit to Eritrea. The visit was coordinated by the Eritrean Ambassador to the Sudan, Mr. Issa Ahmed Issa and NUEYS' Chairperson Mr. Sultan Saeed.

Upon their arrival in Tesseney on the 25th of April, the group was warmly welcomed by Mr. Luigi Hussein, the Head of NUEYS Gash Barka, and other NUEYS staff. During their stay in the town, the delegation met with the Administrator of Tesseney as well as with NUEYS youth representatives of the sub-zone and had a discussion with them regarding current youth issues.



The following day, the group toured the Gereset and Fanko Dams and saw all the plantation projects of the Warsai-Yekealo Development Campaign in that area. Later upon their arrival in Barentu, they were given a general overview of the NUEYS Gash Barka region by Mr. Luigi and other staff.

On the 27th of April, the group visited the Hamelmalo College of Agriculture and was warmly welcomed by dean of the academic affairs of the college. An overall explanation of the developmental activities of the college was given for over two hours by college staff.

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Assessment meeting on organizing young women carried out

An assessment meeting on the organization of young women in NUEYS was held in the Southern Region (Zoba Debub) on the 9th of May 2009.

The assessment meeting was aimed at developing gender awareness in gender politics and women issues, developing female participation in education, increasing the participation of women in NUEYS' programs, ensuring the equal productivity of both genders in the union, and bringing young women to leadership, as well as assessing activities that have been carried out during the past three years.

In an opening speech he delivered, NUEYS Chairman Mr. Sultan Saeed indicated that although the armed struggle has played a major role in encouraging women to participate in different domains, a decrease in the number of women who reach higher posts has been registered. Indicating that chances of equal opportunity for education are open to both sexes, Mr. Sultan called on the participants to come up

with conclusions that would enable the union to organize women.

The head of NUEYS in the Southern Region, Mr. Hagher Ganzai, on his part indicated that the armed struggle has witnessed the equality of women. Furthermore, Mr. Hager added that in-depth discussions regarding women participation in the union during the past three years ought to be taken in view of the fact that developing young women denotes developing NUEYS as a whole.

Thorough discussions on the subjects of ensuring the equal participation of young women, the role of men in encouraging their participation, ensuring female competence in education, combating underage marriage, the importance and outcomes of the assessment meeting, among others were carried out.

The meeting was concluded after numerous recommendations and suggestions were passed. Over 160 people took part in the assessment meeting.

Computer training center and library inaugurated in semi-urban Tsorona

In continuation of the efforts exerted to ensure social services to youth residing in remote areas, NUEYS as a collaborator for development opened a library and a computer training center in the Tsorona sub-zone, in the Southern Region (Zoba Debub).

In a speech he delivered during the opening ceremony, the administrator of the Tsorona sub-zone, Mr. Tesfamariam Teame, disclosed that due to the TPLF regime's invasion, inhabitants as well as the youth of the sub-zone have been totally isolated from such social services; he called on the youth to make good use of their newly built institutions so as to ensure their sustenance.

The NUEYS head of the Southern Region, Mr. Hagher

Ganzai, indicated that in its endeavors exerted to create a competent youth, the union has opened five cinemas as well as numerous libraries and computer training centers, and are rendering service to over 220,000 youth in the 10 sub-zones of the region.

In a report she gave to a news agent, a beneficiary and inhabitant of Tsorona, Merhawit Fessehayee, said that she doesn't have any know-how on computers and added that she is going to make good use of the opportunities opened to her by the union.

Inhabitants on their part expressed their gratitude for the social service provision that is being offered by NUEYS.

Tsorona is located near the border of Eritrea and Ethiopia.

Eritrean higher educational institutions week held



Eritrean higher educational institutions week was enthusiastically conducted from the 7th to the 10th of May under the theme 'Enhancing our Capacity Reduces Challenges'.

In a speech he delivered during the opening ceremony held at the premises of the University of Asmara, head of NUEYS – Sawa and Higher Institutions, Mr. Awate Osman, disclosed that NUEYS is striving to create conducive grounds and provide training for the youth to discover their capacity, and to develop their skills and innovativeness.

During the youth week, various activities including exhibitions reflecting educational activities of various higher education institutions and colleges, artistic exhibitions, general knowledge competitions, musical performances, dramas, as well as sports activities were carried out.

During the closing event that was held on Sunday, the 10th of May, at the Eritrean Institute of Technology (EIT), Minister of Education Mr. Semere Russom handed out prizes and certificates to colleges and to students who won in the various competitions.

Did you know?

Although Eritrea has 6 administrative zones, NUEYS operates in 7. The 7th 'zoba': Sawa and Higher Institutions, is there to mobilize youth in Sawa and the 6 colleges around the country.



Holding on to Independence and Freedom

By Daniel Semere

The history of mankind is inherently characterized by a non-stop struggle to liberate oneself from something undesirable. The form of this liberation and hence the challenge that engendered the struggle differ with time, place and context. The search for independence is an innate human characteristic and an ever-present scenario since the early times. But based on our reality, history, background, and context, what we want to be free from might be different from place to place and across time. That's why the challenges and priorities of nations differ greatly. What is constantly the same and does not change, however, is the sacred and magnanimous spirit to achieve and firmly hold on to one's independence and freedom.

It still remains in the memory of the Eritrean people, as it highlights the pride they have in their national traditions, to protect and hold on to independence and freedom, which many people of different generations sacrificed their lives for. To achieve and protect independence and freedom, the Eritrean people have gone through unimaginable ups and downs. No one thus can deny that the people, more than anyone, desire the right to enjoy independence and freedom. We are therefore in this stage where our immediate task is to preserve and make strong our independence, watching out for any threat. This requires vigilance on the part of we, the young generation, to clearly define our opportunities and challenges.

In this time of great international economic integration and given the great and important achievements that have been made in the years of renovation, we now face new opportunities and challenges in our efforts to protect national independence and freedom.

It is no wonder that the living standards and economic development level of many countries are much higher than that of Eritrea, although this comparison is somewhat unjust, as many countries have been developing for hundreds of years and some have never been destroyed by war. As we have so far only lived in peace for a handful of

years, this has put a lot of pressure on the society to advance forward as quickly as it can.

Since we are also part of the world, the fast development of information technology, the trend of globalization, and the integration of regional and world economies is bound to raise a number of new issues in the protection of national sovereignty and integrity, as well as in the development goals and path which we have chosen. It's been disclosed time and again that one of the immediate tasks that stands upfront in the challenge to protect and give meaning to independence is economic emancipation. This needs a realistic approach to reconcile between enjoying the fruits of independence while doing one's homework.

Such a vast task might naturally entail some challenges in the development process, such that can attempt to derail us from the right course of action and path.

However, besides those challenges, we also enjoy a number of favorable opportunities that emanate from our natural and traditional value endowment that can be harnessed and galvanized into the vision we all have for our dearly gained nation. And this is bound to ultimately make us desirable partners in development, even in the regional and international arena. This in turn creates the right conditions for us to protect our independence and freedom in an interdependent world.

Regardless to the changes in the international arena, national independence and freedom remains valuable and sacred to every nation in the world because, as it has been repeatedly said, "all people are born equal, and no one has the right to dominate another; everyone has the right to live and enjoy freedom and happiness".

Generations of Eritrean people have been patriotic and have shown an iron will to protect national independence and freedom. The youth have guaranteed the independence of our nation; and even now it's up to us (the youngsters) to protect and make Eritrea a peaceful, independent and beautiful place to live.

It still remains in the memory of the Eritrean people, as it highlights the pride they have in their national traditions, to protect and hold on to independence and freedom, which many people of different generations sacrificed their lives for.

Dehai Diaspora

NUEYS-North America Youth Leadership Conference



The National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students - North America Chapter held its 3rd annual Youth Leadership Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota from February 13th to 16th, 2009.

Members of NUEYS and interested youth from across the United States and Canada took part to develop their leadership skills, exchange experiences between organizations and consolidate scattered youth initiatives.

The Conference had a number of workshops for attendees to participate in, each led by an experienced professional involved in community and youth development.

The National Union of Eritrean Youth and Students-North America (NUEYS-NA) is an umbrella organization that brings together

NUEYS branches and Eritrean youth organizations in the United States and Canada.

Eritrean Youth from the Sudan Visit Eritrea (Continues from page 1)

Early the next day in Asmara, the group met with NUEYS Chairman Mr. Sultan Saeed and held a meeting concerning the bilateral relations of the two organizations. Following the meeting a brief explanation on the activities of the NUEYS Central Region was given by the head of the NUEYS Central Region, Mrs. Saba Haile. Moreover, the group met with the head of the PFDJ Central Region, Mr. Youssef Saik.

In the afternoon hours, the group headed to the Orotta Medical and Dental School and took a tour of the college, as well of the College of Health Sciences; they were given a full explanation about the two colleges by Dr. Andemariam and Dr. Azieb, respectively. After the tour of the Orotta Medical School, the group visited the Eritrean Institute of Technology (EIT) and was colorfully welcomed by vice-chairman of the college, Mr. Kahsai Negguse and NUEYS members who are students at the college.

Early the next morning, 29th of April, the group returned back to Keren to take part in the 3rd Congress for the Coordination of Governmental Bodies and the Front on the Issues of Youth, and they met Mr. Zerasenai Tesfai, Head of NUEYS Zoba Anseba. The next day, the delegation met with different governmental officials in the Anseba region including the head of the political affairs of PFDJ in the region, the administrator of the town, and the head of the Anseba region branch Ministry of Education. The group received a briefing concerning youth activities and the current political situation by the respective government officials.

On the way to Massawa, the group passed through Filfil (Semenawi Bahri Green Belt), and observed the various developmental activities that are being carried out by the Warsai-Yekealo Development Campaign. During its stay in Massawa, the delegation visited the Marine College and observed its activities. They met with Dr. Zekaria, the Dean of the College, and the NUEYS members who are currently studying at the college. In the evening, the group met with the Head of Developmental and Social Affairs of the region, Mr. Tesfai Tekle, and the Head of

NUEYS Northern Red Sea Zone, Mr. Ibrahim Hassen. Mr. Tesfai Tekle excellently presented the role of youth in Eritrean history and the future expectations of them from the nation, from the youth living inside the country as well in the Diaspora. On May 1, the delegation after having some leisure time in the port city of Massawa came back to Asmara through Ghindae.

The next day, after having an interview with Eri-TV in the afternoon, the delegation went to a farewell dinner hosted in their honor. Gifts were exchange and in his speech on the occasion, Mr. Sultan Saeed, NUEYS Chairperson, clearly stated the expectations and mandates of the delegation upon their return to the Sudan and how they can influence the youth and students to take part in the development of the nation. On his part, the head of the delegation Mr. Kaled Ismail promised to bring to reality what is expected from them.

On their way back to the Sudan, the group stopped for an over night visit to Sawa and met with NUEYS staff and members there, different military officials and directors of the schools of the vocational training in Sawa.

The group was able to tour the town of Alebu where they had the opportunity to met the Minister of Trade and Industry, Dr. Ghebregergish. He gave them a broad explanation about the policy of the Eritrean government towards trade and industry and the achievements that have been made in achieving social justice. Afterwards the delegation had a tour around the different new industries built in the area .

The visit was a very successful one; the delegation was completely impressed by the development projects running in the country as the projects were absolutely beyond their expectation. Moreover, they were extremely impressed by the modesty of the leadership which they found to be radically different from the country they came. At the end of the visit, they were very excited and eager to go back to tell all of the Eritrean students in the Sudan about the reality in Eritrea. They promised to come as soon as possible, no later than July, with a much larger number of students to conduct a similar visit.

NUEYS Activities for Summer 2009

1. ZURA N'HAGERKA 2009

PLACES TO VISIT

- Day 1(14/07/09) Asmara, Sawa
- Day 2 (15/07/09) Sawa
- Day 3 (16/07/09) Sawa, Tesseneay
- Day 4 (17/07/09) Tesseneay, Keren
- Day 5 (18/07/09) Keren, Filfil, Green Island
- Day 6 (19/07/09) Massawa
- Day 7 (20/07/09) Massawa, Adi Keih
- Day 8 (21/07/09) Quhaito, Adi Keih
- Day 9 (22/07/09) Adi Keih, Asmara

PAYMENT

◆ 6,970.00 NAKFA



2. SAWA AWARDS 2009

25th of July

3. HIMERET Training

27th to 30th of July

4. Seminars

4th, 11th and 18th of August

5. Music show

26th of July

**Sign up at the NUEYS Branch or Eritrean Embassy nearest you.

Our Basic Goals (PFDJ National Charter)

Our vision can be summarized into six basic goals:

1. **National Harmony:** For the people of Eritrea to live in harmony, peace and stability, with no distinction along regional, ethnic, linguistic, religious, gender or class lines.
2. **Political Democracy:** For the people of Eritrea to be active participants and become decision makers in the administration and conduct of their lives and of their country, with their rights guaranteed by law and in practice.
3. **Economic and Social Development:** For Eritrea to progress socially and economically in the areas of education, technology and the standard of living.
4. **Social Justice (Economic and Social Democracy):** Equitable distribution of wealth, services and opportunities, and special attention to be paid to the most disadvantaged sections of society.
5. **Cultural Revival:** Drawing on our rich cultural heritage and on the progressive values we developed during the liberation struggle, to develop an Eritrean culture characterized by love of country, respect for humanity, solidarity between men and women, love of truth and justice, respect for law, hard work, self-confidence, self-reliance, open mindedness and inventiveness.
6. **Regional and International Cooperation:** For Eritrea to become a respected member of the international community, by coexisting in harmony and cooperation with its neighbors; and by contributing, to the extent of its capability, to regional and global peace, security and development.



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National Union of Eritrean
Youth and Students (NUEYS)

BUILDING A VERSATILE YOUTH



Next Edition...

- Commemorating Martyrs Day (June 20)
- NUEYS Central Council holds 8th Meeting
- Organizing youth workers

Congratulations to the Freedom Loving Eritrean People

Editorial released by the Ministry of Information on 20 May 2009

The people of Eritrea, endowed with so much respect for freedom, are celebrating their 18th anniversary of Independence. People who had to endure the yokes of colonization more than anyone else, and who journeyed long in the quest for independence paying a huge sacrifice, surely it is natural that it will definitely take pleasure in the essence and meaning of Independence more than anyone else. The Eritrean peoples, when they celebrate their independence they celebrate it with so much fervor and devotion.

The reason to why the Eritrean people is celebrating their Independence Day every year with more fervor and deep national feeling is because the road that took to reach to this day and the unique performance and struggle for independence was exceptional and unparalleled with any other. When the Eritrean people took arms in 1961 to liberate their country through armed struggle when denied their right through peaceful means had no hard ware to rely on rather than a strong longing for freedom. However, if there is a will there is a way. The struggle of the Eritrean people, hence, has proved this reality in practice.

After independence, the Eritrean people opened a new chapter of struggle, the struggle for economic emancipation. This endeavor for development also, just like the armed struggle for independence started from below zero. From the onset the Eritrean people understood that their desire to rebuild their nation will not be hurdled by the lack of resources, but rather just like that was proved during the armed struggle for independence through hard work and principle of self reliance. Our independence was gotten through toil, sacrifice and enduring years of bitter struggle and not by blessing. Similarly the past experience had taught the Eritrea people that economic emancipation will only be realized through hard work and self reliance. Hence, it was not difficult for them to grasp and seize the secret for development. And because of this realistic view, the Eritrean people without having to depend on others were able to make their independent choices devoid of succumbing to numerous pressures and worked in harmony to acquire sustainable development and eventually be able to score this exemplary track record in development 18 years later.

18 years are not that long in the history of a nation and its people. Eritrea is still a young nation. However, thanks to their remarkable culture of working and principle of self reliance have used the past 18 years effectively to develop their country without reservations and wastages. As a result of their work, the Eritrean people elevate themselves to a higher level each year and go one step closer towards an enlightened future. This is another reason that adds to the fervor and amplifies our celebration.

The people of Eritrea, very proud with its unique and precious history of struggle and the development scored after independence, are celebrating their Independence Day under the theme "Our Independent Political Choice: Guarantee for Development" with jubilation and optimism vowing to carry out further the ongoing developmental activities adding more impetus and speed. Congratulations to the people of Eritrea from inside the country and from outside and to its Defense Forces.