

Dr. Tekie was an expert in all aspects of Eritrean history, but the focus of his work was the history of the ill-fated Eritrea-Ethiopia Federation of 1952-1962, the result of the 1950 UN Resolution 390 A(v) that denied the people of Eritrea their right to independence and led to a 30-year long war of independence. Dr. Tekie was an expert in the history of this federation from its inception to its unilateral abrogation by Ethiopia. His 1990 monograph, *Eritrea: From Federation to Annexation, 1952-1962*, published by Eritreans for Peace and Democracy (EPD), is a prime example of his deep understanding of that period. His 1997 Eritrean Studies Review article: *A Brief Encounter with Democracy: Eritrea in the Federation Years* stands as another testimony to his expertise.

Dr. Tekie was also a member of the Eritrean Constitution Commission that drafted the Eritrean Constitution. In this capacity, he was one of three Eritreans who tirelessly toured major U.S. and Canadian cities from 1994 to 1997 to ensure the participation of all Eritreans in the constitution-making process.

In the few years before and after Eritrea's independence, Professor Tekie was hopeful that the countries in the Horn of Africa would realize the benefits of economic cooperation about which he wrote and lectured a great deal. Two prime examples were the topics: *Prospects for Economic Cooperation Between Eritrea and Its Neighbors* (1991) and *Economic Cooperation in the Horn of Africa* (1996). Unfortunately, his hope was shattered when Ethiopia declared war on Eritrea in May 1998. That prompted him to pen his seven-part series, "An Economist's Lament." Between 1998 and 2000, Tekie's pen was busy explaining to the world the complex Eritrean-Ethiopian conflict in simple and clear language. His numerous essays from this period have been compiled in his book, *Shattered Illusion and Broken Promise: Essays on the Ethiopian-Eritrean Conflict*, published in 2003 by the Red Sea Press.

In addition to his intellectual prowess, Tekie was a wonderful human being. No adjectives are sufficient enough to describe him. However, people who knew him will agree that he was a man of character, high intellect, humble and modest, patient and tolerant, kind and generous, and compassionate; the list goes on ad infinitum.

Tekie's plan was to retire in a year or two and go to live in Asmara, his childhood home. However, the Creator's plan for him turned out to be different. After a brief but gallant struggle against a brain tumor, and medical treatment at the Johns Hopkins Medical Center, he passed away peacefully in the presence of his family and friends on April 19, 2010. He is survived by his son Michael Tekie Fessehatzion, his siblings: Haregu, Asghedet, Kahsay, Ghenet and Togoruba Fessehatzion, 11 nieces and nephews, as well as thousands of his Eritrean compatriots who felt for years that he was speaking for them. Though the void he leaves behind is hard to fill, his gentle and humble spirit will live on forever. So long, beloved father, brother, uncle, and compatriot. May you rest in peace!

April 24, 2010

ብምቕሉል ሃገራዊ ቃልስኻ፣ ብዓቃል ዕርክነትካን ብኣብነታዊ ሕውነትካን ናይ ነፍሲ-ወከፍና መምህር ነይርካ። ብብርዕኻ ታሪኽና ሃብቲሙ፣ ሃገራዊ መኸተና ተርጉሙ እዩ። ቅሶን። ታሪኽካን ሃገራዊ ኣበርክቶኻን ህያውዮ።

"You gently touched our lives with your presence and left us forever changed. We shared only a moment, but will remember you for an eternity."

ስንብታ

‘ቲ ኹሉ ዓቕልኻ ‘ቲ ኹሉ ህድኣትካ፡
 ኣማሰዩኡስ ጌርካ ዘይኣመልካ፡
 “ድኣን ኩን” ኢልካ ከይተሰናበትካ፡
 ምሉቕ ኢልካ መምህር ተሃዊኽካ።

ወለድኻስ ኢሎም ተኪኦ ተኪእና፡
 ንሕና ግን ኣይንብልን ኣምሳይ ረኺብና፡
 ካብ ተዘመትና ዘይትካእ መምህርና፡
 ከንእዊ’ዶ ኣብ ቅርዓት ወጺእና፤

ደኣን ኩን በል መምህር ካብ ነቐልካ፡
 ፈቃር ኣውን፣ ኣዶ ኹሉን ኔርካ፡
 እዚ ካብ ኩን ግን ስንብታ ዕምርኻ፡
 ኣብ’ቲ ዝኻድካዮ ገነት ይቀበልካ።

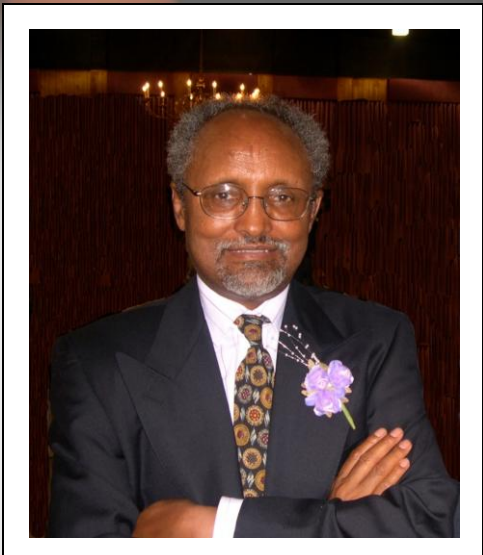
ምስጋና

ኣውና ተኪኦ ኣብ ጊዜ ሕግሙ ኩን ፡ ምስ ዓረፈ ፡ ኣብዚ ናይ ሎሚ መዓልቲ ጸሎት ፍትሓትን ስነ ስርዓት መፋኅዊን ፡ ድኻምኩም ከይጸብጸብኩም፡ ካብ ርሑቕን ቀረባን መጸእኹም ፡ ንዝገበርኩምልና ኩሉ ሕያውነትን ምጽንናዕን ፡ ካብ ልቢ እናኣመስገንና፡ ሕሰም ኣይትርከቡ ክንብል ንደሊ።

Acknowledgements:
 We wish to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to us during this hour of bereavement. May God Bless and Keep You!



**ንዝኻሪ
 IN
 LOVING
 MEMORY**



ዶ/ር ተኪኦ ፍስሓጽዮን
 1 ጥሪ 1941 — 19 ሚያዝያ 2010

DR. TEKIE FESSEHATZION

January 1, 1941 - April 19, 2010

መደብ ፍትሓትን ፈነወን
 ቀዳም 24 ሚያዝያ፣ ሰዓት 11:00 ቅ.ቀ

SERVICE

Saturday, April 24, 2010 - 11:00 A.M.
 Hines-Rinaldi Funeral Home
 11800 New Hampshire Avenue
 Silver Spring, Maryland, 20904-2897

