

MANCHESTER PUBLIC "MEKHETE" SEMINAR

A public seminar to Eritreans in the greater Manchester area was conducted on 5 February 2011. About 120 Eritreans participated in the seminar conducted by Ambassador Tesfamicael Gerahatu under the theme **"2010 as a Turning Point and the year that Glorified Eritrea's National Capacity"**.

In his deliberations, the Ambassador discussed on the successful diplomatic engagements and campaign, the national capacity that laid the promising foundation of the efforts in food security, human capital formation and its implication to national capacity and the national capacity built to create structural transformation in strategic productivity. The Ambassador also noted that despite challenges and hostilities from many corners, Eritrea's economy and development showed encouraging growth in many aspects. The resilience of the Eritrean economy in relation to the national capacity created was thus the epicentre of the seminar discussion.

On the occasion, the framework of the future plan and the effort that will be made to celebrate the 20 anniversary of Eritrea's independence in the UK was also presented. It was noted that the 20th Independence Anniversary celebration will be reflected in many different programmes in the UK starting from March up to September 2011 under the theme **"Brand Eritrea in 2011"**. At the end of the meeting, participants reiterated commitment to shoulder their responsibility and support the development efforts going on in their country.

After the seminar the Ambassador also held a consultation meeting with the Eritrean youth in the Greater Manchester area and discussed on ways of strengthening the recently initiated Youth Movement in the area. The participants also agreed to take the necessary steps towards that end in a very short time.

To further consolidate the effectiveness of the public campaign, the Ambassador also conducted a meeting with PFDJ members, the executive committee of the National Union of Eritrean Women - Manchester Branch and the management of the Eritrean Committee in Manchester. In all meetings the Ambassador exchanged ideas on various organizational issues, the necessity of internal consolidation of the various bodies and on ways of raising coordination among all Eritrean community bodies in the area.

Embassy of the State of Eritrea
London
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