

## BON VOYAGE AFRICA



Winds of change are subtle, but chilly at times. How, when, where and why they start is only best reflected in history books. In hindsight, history glorifies and points to the exact sources and direction of the change.

Has Africa ever been free and working for itself? Does it realize that it remains only under illusory yokes of “dependence” that colonialists put it under? Does it have the courage to fore go with a

much-needed painful struggle against the burdens of its unfulfilled prophecies?

Africa; the land of plenty; where its needy people curl up to death lacking the basics, while few indulge on its vast resources. Few, colonialists at that!

At times, Africa’s leaders seem to have been psyched down with an Elephant trainer’s technique. Elephants; until they become obedient to their owners; are chained with solid chains. Even if the chains are changed for a lousy rope after a rigorous training, the poor animal fails to comprehend that it is only tied psychologically. And remains obedient for life!

Africa as a continent must not cry “foul play” excuses anymore and fall victim to failure of being introspective!

There have been courageous states that came from the worst situations vowing to rise beyond their obstacles. Take Eritrea as a case study! It comes from a depressing case scenario; where up on the United Nation’s permission to annex it with a back warded feudalist nation in 1952. With all Eritrea’s legal avenues to be independent in the 1950s, it was a less to hope for. Nevertheless, the basic steps this model took was the restoration of faith and confidence in its capacity to go head-to-head against its captures who were dedicated to squash its aspirations towards independence.

Being an embarrassment to the Eastern and Western superpowers, Eritrea finally prevailed as free in 1991 after a bitter 30 years struggle. What one needs to understand is that the Eritrean struggle not only fought the enemies that bombarded it mercilessly, but also fought its internal issues; i.e., poverty, literacy, health, corruption and other social ills at large.

Up on lifting a huge weight off its shoulders; i.e., demolishing a back warded colonial grip and even gaining respect from its Eastern and Western superpower adversaries; Eritrea prevailed as a true independent East African State.

Unfortunately, and depressingly, the global economic trend demands the independent and the restored to seek collaborations with others. Therefore, it makes it difficult for nations to clean their own homes and

close their doors. Of course, there are economic, political and social fluidity that market economy imposes as a fundamental rule. In that regard, it becomes imperative to get good answers for the hindrances of rapid improvements in Africa, which in turn begs the question; “who is who in Africa?” and many more.

Eritrea indisputably has been the captain of its destiny. It continues to do its part, shuttling its efforts into the fore, nurturing its civic infrastructure. This very model, therefore, will triumph at the end.

No wonder the powers-to-be wish to unleash their wrath and cook unspeakable sabotages to Eritrea’s plans and attempt to create havoc among its cherished people.

The recent unfounded allegation by the USA Mission in Geneva reminds us that the bad giants are not sleeping. In fact, they are so angry because the Horn of Africa politics is shaping to be governed by East Africans only! That can anger a bad giant!

Things may feel wired wrong, however, looking back at the last 20 years Eritrea stormed through, everyone would conclude that the hardships Eritrea encountered and the unjust punishments it triumphed against must register as unavoidable tide in Eritrea’s path of asserting its destiny, and that of its neighbors in fulfilling their aspirations. Hence, such allegations are chapters to be recorded as a colorful feather on Eritrea’s hat! If the gains Eritrea achieved appear small now, it is only because the less imaginative are sound asleep.

Africans certainly need to wake up in mass! The wrong giants are angry again!

Nevertheless, today, as ever, Eritrea must chuckle at its foes, for its foes never understand where sheer determination and passion comes from. Had they sat and listened, they would have understood that this vibrant nation is built upon the bloods of young visionaries, and that Eritrea will not be ready; now or ever; to gamble with its angelic souls. The Gallant Sons/Daughters of Eritrea that is!

God/Allah Bless Eritrea  
Eternal Glory to Our Martyrs  
Araia G. Ephrem