



NUEYS Global

Message from the Editor

Dear Readers!

This month, the NUEYS Foreign Affairs Department received information that the African Union declared the first of November African Youth Day. Reading more into the occasion, we've found out that the theme for AYD for 2008 and 2009 is "Positive African Values, Peace and Solidarity." African positive values? Confused about the theme, we asked various staff members around the office what are African positive values but nobody had any real clue. First of all, it is quite difficult to assess positive values universally accepted among the countries that make up the most diverse continent in the world. Second, if there are African positive values, then what makes them African? In other words, isn't it possible that the same values could be shared among other people of the world? Another thing that came to the mind of members is the AU's role in promoting positive values. The AU might not lack goodwill, but it sure does lack positive accomplishments especially in regards to peace, security and development.

Nevertheless, African Youth Day aims at sensitizing people on African youth development issues, just like this newsletter does! Therefore, we've dedicated a section of this newsletter to outline values that we are very familiar with: Eritrean national values. If we, the Eritrean youth, are to build our nation—which was brought about through huge sacrifice—according to our aspiration for peace, justice and prosperity, then we need to build upon, reaffirm and recreate those values that enabled us to accomplish incredible feats so far—values such as commitment, heroism, self-sacrifice, patriotism and self-reliance. We also need to remain vigilant and fight relentlessly against those negative tendencies that are currently trying to frustrate these positive national values.

There are certain moral and psychological qualities people should possess in order to secure sustainable development. Progressive cultures and change-oriented values are crucial elements in this case. Having change-oriented values does not necessarily mean inventing or adopting new traditions and values; rather it means promoting and strengthening existing ones in a context of an ever-changing environment.

One thing that NUEYS strongly criticizes the African Union for is its support to the invading Ethiopian army in Somalia. In this newsletter, we've also included an article outlining the faults of the African Union when it comes to its inability to keep intact the fundamental principles in which the union was created.

As a progressive youth and student movement, NUEYS stands for peace, solidarity and social transformation for all peoples. NUEYS is against imperialist aggression and exploitation. Moreover, NUEYS stands for African unity!

If you have any questions, comments or inquiries for us, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please send us feedback on this newsletter. Enjoy!

NUEYS Foreign Affairs Department

A youth center built in Adi Tekelezan

NUEYS Anseba region, in collaboration with the administration of the Anseba region and other partners, built a youth entertainment center in the Adi Tekelezan sub zone.

The youth center which was built at a cost of 1.4 million Nakfa includes a modern hall, offices, a computer training center and other utilities which will help the youth to exercise cultural, sports and health activities.

Administrator of Anseba region, Mrs. Salma Hassen, inaugurated the youth center in the presence of NUEYS heads, parents and youth. During the inauguration ceremony, the head of the Adi Tekelezan sub zone, Mr. Kafil Mussa, congratulated the youth of the sub zone and reminded them to optimally utilize the center as a source of knowledge and profession.

NUEYS chairperson, Mr. Sultan Saeed, on his part underlined that effective planning was a necessary condition for success. Mr. Sultan further recommended that the ongoing efforts to build a versatile youth should be continued extensively in an organized manner.

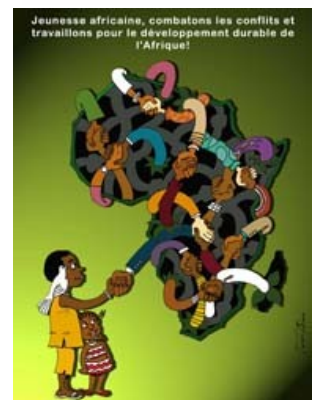
Head of NUEYS Anseba region, Mr. Zeresenay Tesfay, on his part appreciated the measures taken by the administration and other partners to equip the youth with an optimistic future.

Parents present during the ceremony expressed their satisfaction and reminded the youth to efficiently use the center.

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!



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“Organizing youth workers shoulders up youth development” Mrs. Salma Hassen

“Organizing and strengthening the youth workers’ association is the most important mechanism to shoulder up and assure continued youth development,” said the administrator of the Anseba Zone, Mrs. Salma Hassen, in the congress of youth workers of the Anseba zone held in Keren.

Mrs. Salma in the opening speech said that organizing youth workers plays a vital role towards a youth development paradigm at the time when the country is working very hard in accomplishing the Warsai-Yekealo Development Campaign. She added that youth workers must always be ready to face infrequent hardships and to participate diligently in solving them.

The participants of the congress, after hearing the detailed briefings of the works of the past two years, held deep discussions on the issues of ways to organize youth workers, advance the union’s earnings, the participation of female members, as well as other issues. The congress selected 11 members of its committee, three being female.

The head of NUEYS Anseba Zone, Mr. Zeresenay Tesfay, on his part underscored that the role of youth workers is the base for future generations and promised that NUEYS will work hard for the development of activities for youth workers.

The conference concluded with closing remarks by the administrator of the Anseba Zone, Mrs. Salma Hassen. After saying that knowledge and progress comes from education, Mrs. Salma advised the participants to work very hard to strengthen their organization.

NUEYS has organized over 3,400 youth workers in Asmat, Keren, Adi Tekelezan, Elabereed, Habero and Hagaz.

Did you know?

Besides organizing students, NUEYS also organizes young workers and youth in the military.

Youth in Southern Region registered successful achievements

The coordinated programs implemented by the regional administration, NUEYS, the PFDJ and other partners has enabled the youth in the Southern region (Zoba Debub) to improve themselves and effectively participate in national reconstruction campaigns.

In a meeting held to evaluate the activities of NUEYS in the region, head of the union of the region, Mr. Hager Ganzai, pointed out that all the trainings, seminars, club activities and the organizing of *himerets* (core members), which further develop the foundation for the bright future of the youth, were successfully implemented. Mr. Hager further indicated that computer, English language, first aid, basic journalism, auto mechanics, arts, etc, were some of the trainings given in the past 12 months to enhance the skills of the youth. Moreover, the youth were made to visit different historical places in order to acquaint them with the historical heritage of their country.

Activities such as helping the families of martyrs, campaigns against negative backward traditions and STDs, as well as cultural and sports activities were reported to have been done successfully.

Organizing youth workers, improving the participation and contribution of administrations on youth issues, and strengthening the participation of females were announced to be some of the activities planned for the coming year.

Maj. General Filipos calls on the youth to fully acquaint themselves with the nation’s history and be hardworking

The Commander of Operation Zone 5, Maj. General Filipos Woldeyohannes, called on the youth to fully acquaint themselves with the country’s history and to work hard so as to honor the trust of the martyrs. He made the remarks in a meeting held in Keren organized on October 18 with the youth of the Anseba region. The meeting was organized by NUEYS Zoba Anseba.

Noting that nation and nationalism constitute the history and identity of a given society, especially of youth, he stressed the need for the youth to demonstrate courage and steadfastness, and thereby honor the trust of the martyrs. In this regard, Maj. General Filipos underlined the paramount importance of exerting coordinated and effective endeavors to inculcate in the minds of the youth the culture and norms of the society and the nation.

Indicating that there exists a historic bond between the youth and the Eritrean Revolution, he called on them to think collectively and reinforce the nation’s noble culture and values, in addition to being proud of such a great asset. Maj. General Filipos further reminded the youth to live up to expectations as regards safeguarding the sovereignty of the country and reinforcing the national development drive.



Eritrean national values: progressive culture and values for development

As outlined in the People's Front for Democracy and Justice (PFDJ) National Charter, there are six basic principles that serve as guidelines for our activities. These principles are:

1. National Unity
2. Active participation of the people
3. Decisive role of the human factor
4. Relationship between national and social struggles (struggle for social justice)
5. Self-reliance
6. A strong relationship between people and leadership

1. National Unity

Unity within diversity is not just a slogan in Eritrea; it is a way of life. If there were divisions or discrimination of people because of their ethnic background, religion or sex, Eritrea would not have attained independence in 1991. The struggle for independence, guided by a national political line and leadership, organized hundreds of thousands of Eritreans despite their ethnic and social background to achieve full victory.

After independence, national unity became more relevant than ever as the Eritrean people came together to re-build their war torn country and then again when the TPLF regime launched a war of aggression on Eritrea within the pretext of a border conflict. Unity, equality and participation of all sections of the Eritrean society are the base of all programs. If it weren't as such, let alone build and develop Eritrea, we would not be able to preserve the internal peace and security we now have. Taking into consideration our long experience and the sacrifices made, it is essential that we preserve and enhance that unity. In Eritrea, nationhood is the basis of all political institutions and policies.

2. Active participation of the people

Had there not been a strong connection between the liberation movement and the people, the struggle would not have survived, let alone succeeded. Today too, active and organized participation of the people, based on political consciousness, is a basic condition for the success of the current journey. Active participation, meaning the people participating in all decisions that touch their lives and country, from the inception to the implementation of ideas, is a principle highly appreciated by the Eritrean people. Without public participation, there cannot be development; development achievements being witnessed today are evidence of the vital-ness of people participation in development, and especially that of the participation of youth.

3. Decisive role of the human factor

The secret of our victory to gain independence was found in the dedicated fighter who was committed to one goal. It was this selfless individual who made it all possible, beating all odds, defeating Ethiopian colonialism and its powerful backers. The Eritrean experience is a conformation that a conscious and determined human being, committed to a just cause, is stronger than steel and brute force.

In building a strong economy too, the most decisive factor is human resources, not natural or capital resources, nor foreign aid and

investments. Even though we need foreign investment, it is primary that the human aspects by which we build Eritrea—strong will, diligence, efficiency, work ethic, discipline, ability and skills—is always respected, promoted and enhanced. Just as the liberation of Eritrea would have been impossible without committed people, the prosperity and modernization of Eritrea is also unthinkable without them.

Thus, the human element is accorded a central position in our development strategies, which are primarily people oriented—meaning they are aimed at meeting the material and spiritual needs of people. In general, we strive to build a people-oriented society in which every Eritrean can develop his/her capacity, free from oppression, fear, poverty and ignorance.

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4. Relationship between national and social struggles (struggle for social justice)

The Eritrean experience has proved that the struggle for independence and the struggle for a better future cannot be separate. If our struggle had not been linked to the social struggle, reflecting people's interest, it would not have resulted in victory.

It is impossible to advance without the participation of the people. However, for people to sustain their participation there must be programs that help them bring about real changes in their lives. Mere political campaign promises are not sufficient; only when people actually see that the political movement or government works in their interest, only when they see that promises are kept, do they become enthusiastic participants in programs. Such was the experience of the Eritrean revolution with respect to people's participation because they saw modern education and health services provided and development projects initiated with materials locally available and with the involvement of people.

Progressive social philosophies and programs were a main characteristic of our liberation struggle and they are so today. The establishment of peoples' assemblies and associations, initiation of development projects, expansion of social services, changes in the conditions of Eritrean women in general, and the awakening of the rural population were all witnesses to such policies. Further, the liberation struggle possessed a strong social consciousness characterized by love of truth and justice, support for the oppressed, intolerance for oppression, respect for human rights and equality and awareness of people's daily problems. Social justice is a very broadened flexible concept open to different interpretations. However, for Eritreans based on actual experience, social justice means narrowing the gap between the have and have-nots, ensuring that all people have their fair share of the national wealth and can participate in the political, social and cultural life of the country, to creating balanced development, respecting human rights and advancing democracy.



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Eritrean national values: progressive culture and values for development (cont.)

5. Self-reliance

Self reliance is another foundation for the victory attained by our liberation struggle and the development miracles witnessed today in Eritrea. Self-reliance in all fields—political, economic and cultural—is a basic principle. Politically, it means to follow an independent line and give priority to internal conditions; economically, to rely on internal capabilities and develop internal capacities; and culturally, to have self-confidence and develop one's own cultural heritage. Self-reliance does not mean to isolate oneself from the international community; it only means being an independent and self-confident a player as possible in the international community.

Self-reliance is a proud tradition, which has been the basis of our victory to independence. Although we need outside expertise and experts, we have to rely on our own abilities and experts, and give priority to developing our own capabilities and expertise. We challenge the tendency to worship everything foreign and avoid imitation of foreigners as observed in some sections of our society, especially among our youth.

6. A strong relationship between people and leadership

If we had not had qualified and effective leadership that could mobilize our limited and weak resources, a leadership that could turn resilient and committed people and fighters into an impregnable force through proper organization and guidance, we definitely would not have gained independence. Leadership, in this sense, does not refer to only a higher executive body but, in a broader sense, to the organized broad political force that provides leadership. Our experience confirms that it

is impossible to provide proper leadership by leaders residing in foreign lands, or even when residing inside the country, if they are isolated from the people.

In order to awaken the efforts and creativity of our people, who performed the miracles in the past, and direct them to building the Eritrea we all desire, we must preserve and strengthen our relationship with the people, not only in thought and spirit, but also through our daily physical presence among them. Our leadership and cadres at all levels, and the activities of the government and the political movement is spread to all corners of the country.

In continuation of our proud leadership tradition of our liberation struggle, leaders must be free of corruption, refrain from misuse of power, be teachers and humble servants, become positive role models, continuously learn and update skills, and be accountable at all times. The Eritrean experience is a living testimony to the need for a collective leadership yet clearly defined by individual responsibilities and procedures, respect for the law and adherence to the legality of actions.

Self-reliance does not mean to isolate oneself from the international community; it only means being an independent and self-confident a player as possible in the international community.

Education bearing fruit among students around the country

In the month of October, graduations took place all over the country. For the graduating students of the various colleges, each Saturday marked the day of culmination of their studies, making that day indeed worthy of a celebration.

Higher educational institutions play a great role in the development of a nation. Since 2003, seven colleges have been established in Eritrea, giving opportunity for thousands to learn.

There are around 40 degree and 37 diploma programs in all the colleges across the country. These colleges are the Hamelmalo College of Agriculture, the Eritrea Institute of Technology, the College of Health Sciences, the College of Business and Economics, Orotta School of Medicine and Dentistry, the College of Arts and Social Sciences, and the College of Marine Sciences. Besides colleges, there are also many technical schools around the country that equip students with technical skills that will help them get jobs and contribute to the development of their country.

- ◆ On October 4, a total of 528 students graduated in Masters, Degree and Diploma from the Colleges of Business and Economics, as well as the College of Health Science.
- ◆ On October 13, a total of 417 students, out of whom 137 are females, graduated from the Dembosko Technical School in the town of Dekemhare, upon completion of a 9-month course in different fields.
- ◆ On 17 October, a total of 302 students, out of whom 68 are females, graduated from the Wina Technical School in Nacfa upon completion of a one-year vocational skills training. The students who were enrolled in the technical school from the Warsai-Yekealo School have been following courses in electricity, metal and wood works, mechanics and building construction.
- ◆ On 22 October, a total of 107 students graduated in certificate, diploma and advanced diploma from the Mirara Arts Association in Asmara upon completion of a 2 to 4 year course in painting.
- ◆ On October 25, the Massawa based College of Marine Sciences and Technology graduated a total of 127 students in degree and diploma.
- ◆ On 1 November, a total of 952 students graduated from the Eritrean Institute of Technology in Mai-Nefhi in degree and diploma.



What has the African Union accomplished?



The big question is what the Organization for African Unity, now known as the African Union, has accomplished since its founding on 25 May 1963? At a time when African countries were receiving their independence from colonization, expectations were high. When the OAU launched its mission, the following main objectives were outlined:

1. The sovereign equality of all Member States.
2. Non-interference in the internal affairs of States.

3. Respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each State and for its inalienable right to independent existence.

4. Peaceful settlement of disputes by negotiation, mediation, conciliation or arbitration.

5. Unreserved condemnation, in all its forms, of political assassination as well as of subversive activities on the part of neighboring States or any other States.

6. Absolute dedication to the total emancipation of the African territories which are still dependent.

7. Affirmation of a policy of non-alignment with regard to all blocs.

The aforementioned principles and objectives being its main pillars, the OAU charter includes many other points towards ensuring the development, peace and stability of the peoples of Africa. Hence, the founding of the OAU was a very important chapter in the history of the continent and a turning point for Africans. However, it has become a shameful and sad story of failure, as the organization has been around for 45 years without having any tangible data of putting into practice these noble principles and goals.

In pursuit of the right to self-determination, the Eritrean people paid huge sacrifices to achieve independence in 1991. Subsequently, in 1993, Eritrea was crowned her sovereignty through referendum. It was then that the Eritrean people got the chance to have their first say in an OAU summit in which H.E. President Isaias Afwerki underlined the Eritrean people's regret with the failure of the OAU to live up to its expectations. In his statement to the Heads of African states, President Isaias said:

"The pride and honor we feel to stand here in this gathering and have our place of honor among you does not emanate from the satisfaction we are having by rejoining the family that has forsaken us for so many years. This pride and honor is primarily the upshot of the Eritrean people's resilience and devotion. It is indeed a very sad fact that the OAU has turned out to be a nominal organization that failed to practice the principles and promises set out from its very beginning. Hence, I would like to underscore in this forum that we are joining the organization not for its achievements, but for the fact that we are shouldering a family responsibility."

President Isaias Afwerki did not make this statement only because the OAU failed to address the Eritrean case during the struggle for independence. Although the OAU holds very appalling failures as regards the Eritrean case, its failure to handle various other issues is yet to be asserted. The objective situation in Africa in light of the organization's agenda and its mission are as follows:

1. Let alone assuring the unity of the continent, the AU is committing countless errors in the political and security fields; the ethnic dispute that is raging in this land of inferno continues to devastate and divide nations. Entire African unity notwithstanding, the present reality of the continent is synonymous with hell, where every day strategic mistakes disrupt the unity of one nation and ethnic and political clashes erupt one after the other everywhere. This fact is a clear indication of the AU's utter failure.

This sad history of failure cannot be attributed in general to the problems of African politicians and their organization, for the intervention of western countries have had a considerable negative role to play in widening and complicating African problems.

2. Another indication is the continent's inability to feed itself. Its people facing death one after the other due to acute hunger and while being barred from the global economic system, Africa yawns on aid and handouts. Far removed from participation in global politics and economic systems, Africa is dependent on foreign aid for food and its people die everyday from starvation. What is more, as a result of corruption and mismanagement, Africans continue to die due to poverty, famine and perilous diseases such as HIV/AIDS. By all standards of the human development index, the continent stands in the last rank among all those lagging behind and is indeed the world's open wound;

3. Africa is not a continent where her people live proudly and confidently; rather it has become a continent where gruesome atrocities and genocide are meted out against its children, a continent where in most cases people live under continuous terror and tribulations of tyrannical and autocratic governments. Far from becoming a continent where citizens' rights are respected, as can be seen from the Rwandan experience in the past and the current war crimes and gross human rights violations taking place in Somalia, Congo and Ethiopia, Africa has still not managed to break free. Hence, deprived of all basic human rights, her children migrate to foreign lands;

4. Slavery of Africans is not over yet. Fleeing from the flames of war and ethnic clashes at home, African refugees have become the pillars of western economy. All those who are carrying the economic burden of the West are Africans, those who are selling their knowledge and labor cheaply. They are slaves of the 21st century, those who have left the continent fearing ethnic rivalry and civil war.

The African Union has not so far been able to perform an impressive tangible job as regards bringing about a solution to clashes that frequently arise in many African countries. And it opted to close its eyes when acts of genocide occur, when colonial boundaries are transgressed and the rule of law is

bypassed. It is an organization that opted to violate its own charter and principles due to muffled silence and absolute paralysis.

This sad history of failure cannot be attributed in general to the problems of African politicians and their organization, for the intervention of western countries have had a considerable negative role to play in widening and complicating African problems. Despite this, the political forces that hold power in African countries and this weak and inept organization, which was founded to foster peace, development and prosperity of the peoples of Africa, were not able to enact all the fundamental principles in which the organization stood for. It still continues to operate on such an unsatisfactory track and this has been the root cause as well as the source of problems in Africa.

Taking its disloyalty to the protection of the rights of African people one step forward, the AU even gave the green light to the invasion of Somalia by Ethiopia in clear violation of the UN Security Council Resolution that precludes external intervention in Somalia. The negative initiatives being taken in the name of the African Union, which has focused on stifling the positive progress in the Somali national reconstruction process, is done by exploiting the weak stance of the continental organization. The new consciousness of the Somali people, which was progressing towards stability and unity, has become a disturbing development to the TPLF regime and the powers that back the regime. Hence, the peace-keeping force that is deployed in Somali territory by the African Union to implement the agenda of superpowers is indeed the armed forces by the TPLF regime. Instead of backing up the internal progress of national reconciliation in Somalia, the AU sadly opted and limited itself to be just an implementer of neo-colonial, imperialist agenda.

Hence, in totally disregarding its responsibilities, the AU is not only incapable of resolving problems but is itself a part of the major problems in Africa.

Dehai Diaspora Eritrean youth residing in France reiterate readiness to back up national development drive

Eritrean youth residing in France reiterated their readiness to fulfill what is expected of them in backing up the ongoing development programs being implemented within the framework of the Warsai-Yekealo National Development Campaign.

The youth voiced their commitment in a meeting they conducted to discuss on ways of strengthening their organizational capacity, as well as the role of the youth in reconstruction programs.

The Eritrean Ambassador to France, Dr. Ahmed Hassen Dahli, gave briefings to the participants of the meeting on the role of Eritrean youth in the struggle for independence and in safeguarding the nation's sovereignty, as well as their role in the nation-building process. He called on the youth to enhance their contribution to the development drive.



Dehai Diaspora NUEYS Uganda Established

In October 2008, Eritrean youth in Uganda came together to establish a NUEYS branch. As soon as seven executive members were chosen, they drafted an action plan with their major goal being to strengthen the Eritrean community in Uganda. As part of the action plan, the executive members agreed to gather Eritrean football teams and organize a sports event. Another major assignment they agreed upon was to find an office (for NUEYS and the community at large) and a small recreation center. The executive members of NUEYS Uganda have agreed to meet on a weekly basis so as to ensure the sustainability of their branch and work for the development of the larger Eritrean community.

63rd Japanese Peace Boat voyage visits Eritrea

Eritrea welcomed the Japanese Peace Boat, with its 750 passengers, as it docked at the port of Massawa on 5 October 2008, its 13th visit to Eritrea.

On arrival at the port, visitors were accorded a warm welcome by the mayor of the city of Massawa, Mrs. Fana Tesfamariam, members of NUEYS, different government officials and members (mothers) from the National Union of Eritrean Women (NUEW).

With 100 Hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors) of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, this particular Peace Boat voyage was extra special. Sharing their experiences of the atomic bombs with people around the world, the Hibakusha called for nuclear abolition, a universal message critically needed by contemporary society. Onboard the Peace Boat, guests had the opportunity to see photographic exhibitions on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

During the Hibakusha Project Testimonial Ceremony, Mrs. Fana indicated that the visit of the Peace Boat has a significant role to play in further enhancing the existing relations between the two countries and peoples. Proceeding, she signed the initiative to abolish nuclear weapons called "Mayors for Peace" and presented gifts to the Peace Boat. After the signing, participants viewed the documentary film of the May 1990 bombing of Massawa, *Kibtset*. After seeing parts of the documentary, a member of NUEYS gave a testimonial of the bombing as he witnessed it on that day. The Hibakusha had plenty of questions to ask about it after seeing that the Eritrean experience has many similarities to their own.

The Peace Boat participants were divided into 8 groups and NUEYS had facilitated other tours and activities including:

- ◆ A youth exchange program conducted with NUEYS members of Massawa, where they played different games and sports at Gurgusum Beach.
- ◆ An exchange with NUEW Northern Red Sea Zone where Peace Boat passengers had a taste of Eritrean traditional food and traditional handcrafts, in an attempt to introduce the guests to Eritrean customs.
- ◆ A tour to the Manzanar Project, an environmental project that promotes the planting of mangrove trees to improve the livelihoods of coastal inhabitants.
- ◆ A tour to Foro where passengers visited a school and had a cultural exchange with students. They also experienced a 'home stay'; the members of this group spent the day with 10 families from the Saho, Afar, Tigrinya and Tigre ethnic groups.
- ◆ A tour to the hot springs of Mai Wu'ey where they bathed and enjoyed a traditional coffee ceremony.
- ◆ A tour of Massawa city that included a camel ride and a visit to a Rashida village (Wed'dbue).
- ◆ A ride on Eritrea's world famous steam locomotives to the town of Mai Atal.

At the end of the day, an Eritrea Japan Friendship Music Event was organized for all the public to see. After NUEYS members performed traditional song and dances of the Saho and Afar ethnic groups, groups of Japanese youth demonstrated their own culture with a show of traditional Japanese drums and two dances. After the friendship event was over, NUEYS members opened their own concert for the public. Members of the Peace Boat then joined the crowd and danced to traditional Eritrean music.

It is to be recalled that NUEYS, in close collaboration with Peace Boat coordinators, facilitates Peace Boat visits in Eritrea. The Foreign Affairs Department considers the Peace Boat activity as part of its overall peacebuilding and peace education program.



From NUEYS' Seminar Series...

“Nationalistic trade policies are the only alternative for development” young presenters

A research based seminar organized by NUEYS was conducted on the 25 September 2008 at the Junior Club in Asmara.

In the seminar, Mrs. Milena Bereket and Mr. Michael Tekie presented a summary of the book titled “*BAD SAMARITANS – The Guilty Secrets of Rich Nations and the Threat to Global Prosperity*”. Mrs. Milena and Mr. Michael explained the protectionist trade policies which have been followed by rich nations and the imposition of neo-liberal policies by the rich nations on poor countries. The *Bad Samaritans* are recommending policies that are fundamentally at odds with their historical development path. The young presenters stressed that the rich countries have ‘kicked away the ladder’ by forcing free market and free trade on poor countries.

Furthermore, Mrs. Milena and Mr Michael explained the techniques and mechanisms whereby neo-liberal policies of rich countries are applied on poor countries and the consequences of such policies in globalizing poverty in LDCs.

As an alternative and a reaction to these policies, the presenters recommended poor countries to follow nationalistic policies to realize socio-economic development witnessed in rich countries.

A hot debate took place during the occasion and the presenters had entertained questions and comments coming from participants.

Mrs. Milena Bereket and Mr. Michael Tekie have summarized the above-mentioned book whose author is Ha-Joon Chang. The summary of the book was published and distributed by the research and documentation center of the PFDJ.

A research seminar on U.S financial sector crisis conducted at Junior Club

Senior economist and economic advisor to the Government of Eritrea, professor Abraham Kidane, presented a research seminar titled the *U.S financial sector crisis: Causes and implications* on 15 October 2008 at the NUEYS Junior Club in Asmara.

The Professor explained the relationship between the financial sector and the economic sector and underscored that the current financial crisis has its repercussion effect on the economic sector in terms of low economic growth and unemployment. Professor Abraham Kidane analyzed the current situation in the U.S financial service sector as a state of uncertainty and eroding confidence in the public and business sectors; the crisis is added with volatility in energy and food prices, creating fear of rapid inflation, defaults and foreclosures, shortage of liquidity and the tightening of credit which is leading to a clear and present danger of depression.

The senior economist eloquently outlined the triggers and contributors of the current U.S financial sector crisis. Furthermore, the Professor pointed out the impact of the crisis in resulting illiquidity and tight credit, erosion of credit worthiness in the financial institutions and possible bank runs and total collapse.

As a policy recipe, the Professor noted, the U.S government is trying to restore confidence in the financial sector by injecting cash and applying stronger and sophisticated regulatory systems. Thus far, demand enhancing packages such as purchase of securities and bank bailout has been taken as measures to solve the crisis.

In a conclusion, the Professor noted, monetary and fiscal intervention, tough regulation, and reduced and realistic market expectation will dominate the economic scene as a byproduct of the prevailing financial turmoil.

Professor Abraham Kidane also implied that while the less developed countries who are importers of energy and capital goods tend to benefit from the current crisis, those countries who are dependent on foreign aid and external finance would be adversely affected by the situation. Moreover, LDC government would have less pressure to liberalize, the senior economist reported. As a result of the ongoing financial crisis and many other factors, the Professor claimed that the United States is slowly but surely losing its influence as a leading economic power.

Finally, Professor Abraham Kidane responded to questions and comments forwarded from participants. More than 170 participants attended the presentation.

The research seminar was organized by NUEYS' Culture and Media Department.

Did you know:

NUEYS hosts a seminar series where young people can come and get info and ask questions on current events and issues that are important to them. The series is very popular among youth workers, young intellectuals and even government officials.

Zeresenai wins gold in Rio de Janeiro

Eritrea's star athlete Zersenay Tadesse won the men's world half marathon championship for the third time with a dominant performance in Rio de Janeiro on 12 October 2008. Zersenay won the first prize of US\$30,000 in a time of 59:56, nearly two minutes ahead of his closest challenger, Patrick Makau Musyoki (1:01:54) who was also silver medalist in 2007, with Qatar's Ahmad Hassan Abdullah, the 2004 bronze medalist, taking third (1:01:57). Zersenay is the first ever three-time men's race winner in the history of the competition. Eritrea ranked second following Kenya with Michael Tesfay (12), Mogos Ahferom (25), and Yemane Teame (29).

Zersenay is best known as the first Eritrean ever to win an Olympic medal; he won the bronze medal at the 2004 Olympic Games.



NUEYS' Values

NUEYS' programs and activities are guided by its values. The values that NUEYS stands for are as follows:

- ◆ The promotion of national unity, tolerance and respect for principles of democracy and human rights.
- ◆ Commitment to the total well being of young people physically, intellectually, emotionally, culturally and morally.
- ◆ Active involvement of youth in decision-making and in development programs
- ◆ Respect for human dignity, diversity and unity
- ◆ Pursuit of equitable and non-discriminatory opportunities for the development of the unique potentials of young men and women.
- ◆ Respect and support for family integration.
- ◆ Respect for law and order, and accept the principles of fairness, equality and unity in everyday life.



National Union of Eritrean
Youth and Students (NUEYS)

BUILDING A VERSATILE YOUTH



Next Edition...

- NUEYS Central Council holds 6th regular meeting
- Sawa Reunion in Sweden
- World AIDS Day
- Protocol agreement signed between Egypt's youth council and NUEYS
- 63rd anniversary of WFDY's constitution

We're on the web!
<http://www.eri youth.org>

Send us feedback!

Email: nueyspub2001@yahoo.com

Feature: Volunteering in Eritrea

Everyday, Eritrean youth are working hard to develop their country. There is no doubt in anybody's mind that the duty and responsibility demonstrated by Eritrean youth has an enormous positive affect on national development. Without the vigilant participation of the youth, Eritrea wouldn't be the country it is today nor would it be the prosperous nation it is bound to be in the near future.

Eritrean youth in the Diaspora are not required to do national service. However, NUEYS feels that not only is it the duty of these Eritrean youth to serve their country but that by serving their country, they will learn about their country through first-hand experience. Understanding the importance of youth participation, NUEYS encourages Eritrean youth and student to do internships and national service in Eritrea. Moreover, NUEYS' Foreign Affairs Department has taken the initiative to facilitate for all of those who are interested.

To preserve a cooperative culture is the responsibility of all Eritreans. To achieve our goals as a nation, the participation of all Eritreans is necessary. There is also the need to create an atmosphere where Eritrean youth from the Diaspora can play their role in perpetuating the entity called Eritrean. NUEYS calls on the Eritrean youth in the Diaspora to serve their country and people.

Choosing to do your national service or internship or to volunteer in Eritrea through NUEYS will not only give you an easy way to arrange your stay in Eritrea but will also be an opportunity for you to learn more about your country, your people and yourself.

For more information as to how you can volunteer or do an internship in Eritrea, please do not hesitate to contact NUEYS' Foreign Affairs Department. We ask that you send us your resume or CV and a 'statement of interest' so that we can assess the best place where you can be placed. Email us at nueyspub2001@yahoo.com.

This past summer, Degen Okbay (from the UK) and Lehem Fessehaye (from Sweden) volunteered at the Asmara Orphanage. Their lead led to many youth from the Diaspora visiting the orphanage and spending some time there. It was their personal initiative and the contact they established among each other that helped them know and bear greater responsibility while spending their summer vacation in their country.

Several Eritrean youth from Milano, Italy had arranged a party to raise money for the orphanage; they collected 24,000 Nakfa and sent it to the orphanage.

