

Tradition und Innovation in der äthiopischen Kultur

von Ulrich Braukämper

(Résumé eines Lichtbildvortrages auf der Tagung des Deutsch-Äthiopischen Vereins am 13.3.99 in Kassel)

Während über die Begriffsinhalte von Innovation ein vergleichsweise klares Verständnis besteht, erscheinen die von Tradition sehr viel komplexe und schwieriger zu umreißen. Z.B. ist die Bezeichnung "Traditionalisten" für die Anhänger von Stammes- oder Volksreligionen – nicht nur in Äthiopien – insofern problematisch, weil die Weltreligionen Christentum und Islam vielerorts auf eine größere Zeittiefe und "Tradition" zurückblicken können. Traditionen können, wie viele Beispiele aus der postkolonialen Epoche zeigen, aus politischem Kalkül wiederbelebt oder "neu erfunden" werden, was sie in die Nähe von Innovationen bringt. Im Interesse einer größeren Klarheit der Sachverhalte erscheint es deshalb hier zumeist angebrachter, von Kontinuität (bzw. Beharrung) und Wandel in der äthiopischen Kultur zu sprechen.

Kontinuität war für die Geschichte und Kulturentwicklung Äthiopiens in einer Weise prägend, wie nur in wenigen anderen Ländern der Welt nachweisbar. Das Bewußtsein des historischen Gewordenseins besitzt bei Äthiopiern verschiedener kultureller Orientierung, deren Betrachtung sich hier auf die Gruppen der orthodoxen Christen, der Muslime und der Anhänger von "heidnischen" Religionen be-

schränken soll, einen gleichermaßen hohen Stellenwert.

Das äthiopische Christentum kann auf eine bis in das 4. Jahrhundert zurückreichende Kontinuität zurückblicken und erhebt den Anspruch auf den Besitz der biblischen Bundeslade und die Tradition, mit Lalibela seit dem ausgehenden 12. Jahrhundert ein neues Jerusalem geschaffen zu haben. Der nachweislich im 13. Jahrhundert geschaffene Mythos von der "salomonischen Dynastie" wurde zu einer politischen Doktrin, die bis zum Ende der Monarchie 1974 als unantastbar galt. Auch für das Regime von Mengistu Haile-Maryam war die Suche nach legitimierenden Elementen aus der Geschichte ein wichtiges Anliegen. Die mitunter bis in die Nähe eines amharischen Chauvinismus gestiegenen zentralistischen Bestrebungen überlagerten den sozialistischen Internationalismus. Bei dem von der neuen Regierung unter Meles Zenawi anvisiertem Föderalismus auf ethnischer Basis erscheint es noch unklar, auf welche geschichtliche Grundlagen und Kulturtraditionen er sich zu seiner Legitimation berufen kann.

Die muslimische Tradition nennt Äthiopien als das Land, in das sich im Jahre 615 n.Chr. die "erste Hidjra" (Flucht) vollzog. Muhammad hatte seinen Anhängern geraten, vor den arabischen Verfolgern nach Habasha (Abessinien) zu flüchten, wo sie eine gerechte Herrschaft finden würden. Bei den äthiopischen Muslimen war immer

das Bestreben ausgeprägt, eine "sharifische" Herkunft, d.h. eine Abstammung vom Propheten Muhammad und seiner Familie, nachzuweisen. Bei vielen erst im 20. Jahrhundert islamisierten Gruppen, z.B. bei vielen Oromo, läßt sich eine Manipulation der Genealogien mit dieser Zielsetzung auf eine solche als besonders prestigehaltige Abstammung erkennen.

Auch die Anhänger der Volksreligionen verbinden die Traditionen ihrer Herkunft oft mit berühmten historischen Stätten wie z.B. Jerusalem, Mekka oder Gondar. Dabei werden mitunter jüdische, christliche und muslimische Elemente zu verschiedenartigen Synkretismen verbunden bzw. miteinander vermischt.

In den Grenzen Äthiopiens leben ca. 70 ethnische Gruppen, für die in den siebziger Jahren nach dem Vorbild des sowjetischen Vielvölkerstaates der Begriff "nationalities" üblich wurde. Ethnische Gruppe ist nach wissenschaftlichen Erwägungen jedoch der neutralste Begriff, während "Nationalität" vorrangig die Zugehörigkeit zu einem Nationalstaat

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ausdrückt und deshalb auf dieser juristischen Verständnisebene

belassen werden sollte. Linguistisch gehören die Äthiopier den semitischen, kuschitischen und omotischen Unterabteilungen innerhalb der afro-asiatischen Sprachfamilie sowie der nilo-saharanischen Sprachfamilie entlang der Sudangrenze an.

Ungeachtet der großen ethnischen, sprachlichen und kulturellen Vielfalt lassen sich gewisse Kriterien einer "pan-äthiopischen" Kultur und Identität erkennen. Eine in dieser Hinsicht bedeutende Klassifikation wurde von Donald Levine in seinem Buch "Greater Ethiopia. The Evolution of a Multi-Ethnic Society" (Chicago 1974) vorgenommen. Er spricht von Äthiopien als einem "relational network" und einem "culture area" mit vielen gemeinverbindlichen Zügen. Dazu gehören z.B. die Betonung der Männlichkeit und der Gerontokratie, des mit dem Alter verbundenen Prestiges, das durch herausragende Taten und/oder durch Reichtum erworbene "Verdienst", das mit Titeln, Festen und Ehrungen bedacht wird, das Preisen großer Persönlichkeiten und mitunter auch der eigenen Person mit Lobgesängen, Reinheitsgebote, die sich in einer Vielzahl von Verhaltensweisen wie z.B. Nahrungstabus ausdrückt, die Betonung der bäuerlichen Tätigkeit als ein ehrenhafter Arbeitsbereich bei gleichzeitiger Verachtung handwerklicher Arbeiten und der gesellschaftlichen Ausgrenzung von Töpfern, Gerbern und Schmieden als eine Art von "outcastes".

Innerhalb dieser pan-äthiopischen Systems glaubt Levine eine charakteristische Unterteilung in ein "Amhara-System" mit hierarchischem Individualismus und ein "Oromo-System" mit egalitärem Kollektivismus erkennen zu können. Dem erstgenannten kann das Vermächtnis der Tigray zugeordnet werden, das seit 1991 erheblich an Bedeutung gewann, und dem letztgenannten die meisten der südäthiopischen Volksgruppen. Gemäß der von Levine zugrunde gelegten Dialektik bildet das Amhara-System die These und das Oromo-System die Antithese. Idealerweise sollte daraus eine "äthiopische Synthese" erwachsen, das Greater Ethiopia als ein multi-ethnisches, aber doch in übergreifenden Zügen einheitliches Gebilde mit einer eigenständigen politischen und kulturellen Identität.

Auf die pan-äthiopischen Kulturtraditionen ausgerichtet sind auch die "Images" bzw. die Klischees und Bewertungen, die sich von außerhalb und besonders aus einer eurozentristischen Sichtweise mit Äthiopien verbinden. Äthiopien wurde u.a. mit den folgenden Attributen versehen:

Das weit entfernte Land (far-off place): In der Sichtweise der (europäischen) Antike und bis ins Mittelalter hinein galt das "Land der Dunkelhäutigen" als die Peripherie der bekannten Welt.

Das fromme Land: Äthiopien wurde betrachtet als ein Hort von Religiosität, in dem sowohl die indigenen als auch die Weltreligionen zu besonders intensiven Ausdrucksformen gelangten.

Das glanzvolle Königreich (magnificent kingdom): Es verbinden sich damit die Traditionen des antiken Reiches Aksum, vom legendären Erzpriester Johannes, der als Verbündeter im Kampf des Abendlandes gegen den Islam gesucht wurde, und von dem "eroberten Löwen von Juda".

Das wilde Land (savage Ethiopia): Es wurde oft gesehen als ein von Monstern und Kannibalen bevölkerter Gebiet. Die amharische Sitte des Essens von rohem Fleisch wurde von den Portugiesen im 16. Jahrhundert als barbarisch empfunden, und das Fortbestehen von Sklaverei und Sklavenhandel im 20. Jahrhundert konnte von den italienischen Faschisten im Völkerbund erfolgreich als eine zivilisatorisch-humanitäre Legitimation für ihre gewaltsame Annexion Äthiopiens 1935/36 angeführt werden.

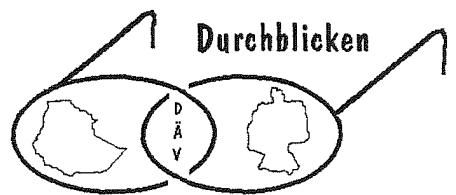
Die Bastion afrikanischer Unabhängigkeit: Äthiopien als ein nur kurzfristig kolonialisiertes Land wurde zum Symbol antikolonialistischen Widerstandes. Ghana übernahm 1957 als erstes unabhängiges Land in Westafrika die Farben der äthiopischen Flagge, die karibische Religionsgemeinschaft der Rastafarians betrachtete Äthiopien als ein gelobtes Land, Kaiser Haile Selassie I. stieg zu einem einflussreichen Mitbegründer der Gemeinschaft der blockfreien Staaten auf und Addis Ababa wurde Sitz der Organisation für afrikanische Einheit (OAU).

Der Vorposten semitischer Zivilisation: In dieser von Wissenschaftlern vorgetragenen Sichtweise gilt Äthiopien als ein Bestandteil der westasiatischen Hochkulturen

und ihrer schriftbesitzenden Tradition.

Das ethnographische Museum: Das Spektrum der ethnisch-kulturellen Unterschiede erscheint ungeheuer weit gespannt – etwa zwischen dem gelehrten Dabtara der orthodoxen Kirche und der eine Lippenscheibe tragenden Me'en-Frau.

Der Prototyp des unterentwickelten Landes: Äthiopien hat einen Standardplatz in Aufzählungen von Ländern, die gemessen am Brutto-sozialprodukt am wenigsten entwickelt und von Naturkatastrophen und kriegerischen Konflikten besonders stark heimgesucht sind. Was die relevanten Konfliktkonstellationen angeht, so lassen sich einige Raster erstellen, die in der äthiopischen Geschichte weit zurückverfolgt werden können. Zum Teil erscheinen sie durch naturräumliche Voraussetzungen vorgegeben, überwiegend jedoch kulturbedingt. Zu nennen sind vornehmlich die folgenden in vielfältiger Weise miteinander verschränkten



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Gegensatzpaare:

1. Hochland - Tiefland
 2. Zentrum - Peripherie
 3. Nord - Süd
- Die von Bauern bewohnten
Hochländer bieten ökologisch,
klimatisch und geo-medizinisch in

Vergleichselemente	Nord	Süd
Lebensraum	größtenteils erodiertes Hochland	fruchtbares Hochland
Bevölkerung	"Staatsvölker" (Amhara, Tigray)	unterworfen, politisch marginalisierte Gruppen
Sprache	überwiegend semitische Sprachen	überwiegend kuschitische omotische, nilotische Sprachen
Kulturmuster	schriftbesitzende "Hochkultur"	schriftlose Kulturen
Religion	orthodoxes Christentum	Muslime; Anhänger indigener Stammesreligionen
Wirtschaftsweise	Pflugbauern (hauptsächlich Hack- und Grabstockbauern (hauptsächlich Knollenfrüchte);	Zerealien) Nomaden
Sozio-politische	zentrale Autoritäten; Königtümer	überwiegend egalitäre Organisationsformen

der Regel bessere Lebensbedingungen als die trocken-heißen Tiefländer, die überwiegend nur für eine mobile Viehwirtschaft nutzbar sind. Entsprechend haben z.B. die Somali einen ständigen auf die Hochländer gerichteten Expansionsdruck ausgeübt.

Der Zentrum-Peripherie-Gegensatz ist durch das Nebeneinander von "Staatsvölkern", den als eigentlichen Habasha bezeichneten Amhara und Tigray, und Unterworfenen charakterisiert. Als Staat in seinen heutigen Grenzen existiert Äthiopien bekanntlich erst durch die Eroberungen des Kaisers Menelik II., durch die sein vormaliges Territorium um das nahezu fünffache ausgedehnt wurde. Es handelte sich dabei um einen kolonialistischen Akt, in dessen Gefolge rund 60 ethnische Gruppen als Unterworfenen zu Staatsbürgern zweiter Klasse degradiert wurden. Diese Dichotomie hatte bis in die Gegenwart Bestand.

In eine damit enge Verbindung läßt sich der Nord-Süd-Gegensatz bringen, der ethnisch im wesentlichen auf den Gruppen der Amhara und der Oromo gründet. Der französische Geograph Alain Gascon hat in seinem Buch "La Grande Ethiopie – une utopie africaine" (Paris 1995) diesen Gegensatz mit der Aussage, daß im Norden die Paläste und im Süden die Getreidespeicher stehen würden, besonders drastisch formuliert. Modellartig lassen sich diese beiden Systeme in der folgenden Weise umreißen.

Das Gesellschaftsbild der Amhara ist bestimmt durch das Konzept der "von oben" legitimierten Autorität. Sie verstehen sich selbst als die zum Herrschen auserkorene Gruppe. Wesentliche Kennzeichen dieses Modells sind: vertikale Orientierung auf allen Ebenen sozialer Organisation auf das autoritative

Zentrum hin; horizontale Distanz zu Personen in ähnlichen Statuspositionen; vergleichsweise geringe Affektivität der zwischenmenschlichen Beziehungen; stark hierarchisch bestimmte Interaktionen zwischen einzelnen Personen; eine tendenziell individualistische Grundeinstellung.

Demgegenüber erscheint das Modell der Oromo und anderer südlicher Völker mehr durch eine horizontale Orientierung gekennzeichnet. Der Grundstock ihrer Gesellschaft ist die Identifikation mit der Gruppe. Die vertikale Ausrichtung ist gering, Statusunterschiede werden bewußt relativiert und ausbalanciert, wie z.B. zwischen den mehr legislativ tätigen Führern der Altersgrade im *gada*-System der Oromo etc. und den mit exekutiven Aufgaben betrauten Leuten wie den Kriegsführern.

In einer sehr groben tabellarischen Rasterung lassen sich beim Nord-Süd-Gegensatz die folgenden Kriterien entgegensetzen:

Eine Übernutzung nordäthiopischer Gebiete, die zu einer großflächigen Erosion und damit zu einer schwerwiegenden Verminderung des Naturraumpotentials führte, läßt sich bis in die Zeit des aksumitischen Reiches um die Zeitenwende zurückverfolgen. Sie resultierte in einem ständigen Migrationsdruck nach Süden, der in den mittelalterlichen Eroberungen des christlich-äthiopischen Reiches, in der Landnahme amharischer Siedler nach der Okkupation des Südens durch Menelik im späten 19. Jahrhundert und schließlich im "resettlement programme" der 1980er Jahre seine Höhepunkte fand. Fortgesetzt hat

sich bis zur Landreform in den siebziger Jahren auch die Tradition der Ungleichheit der Besitzverhält-

nisse an Produktionsmitteln. Das etwa zur gleichen Zeit anlaufende Projekt der "Verdorfung" widersprach in so massiver Weise den ökologischen Voraussetzungen, den sozio-ökonomischen Gegebenheiten und kulturellen Wertvorstellungen, daß es von Anbeginn zum Scheitern verurteilt war. Einigen Erfolg hatte die Politik des DERG möglicherweise im Hinblick auf eine gesellschaftliche Emanzipation der Handwerkergruppen. Noch unzureichend zu beantworten sind Fragen, wie weit moderne Innovationen, z.B. die Kebele-Ordnung, in traditionellen Bereichen von Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft, wie etwa den Systemen der Nachbarschaftshilfe, wirksam werden oder wie umgekehrt die althergebrachten Formen in die neuen Elemente integriert werden könnten.

Utilisation of Biogas Technology in Ethiopia

by Melis Teka, Addis Ababa

Introduction

Ethiopia, part of the Horn of Africa, is one of Africa's largest countries, with an area of 1.13 million square kilometres. Its population is estimated about 55 million with a growth rate of 2.9 % p.a.

According to a survey 82 % of the total energy supply in the country goes to household consumption, while 99 % of the household demand is supplied by biomass fuel. And yet the country lacks adequate distribution systems for household energy.

The ever increasing demand for bio-fuel for households, coupled with the high rate of population growth and low agricultural productivity has put social and economic stress on the rural households where an overwhelming majority of the population lives.

Women have to travel far distances for long hours to collect fuel wood for the daily demand. Thus, women and children in particular are the victims of both social and economic crisis. Here, the biogas technology can have its own contribution to alleviate the energy crisis. Ethiopia as one of the countries with considerable livestock population of above 31 million cattle coupled with favourable climatic conditions of an average of 20°C which is suited for biogas production, gives attention to promote the technology. Different NGOs and government institutions have tried to disseminate biogas technology. However, success depends on many different factors. Therefore, this paper highlights the current status, the potential and some of the efforts and issues regarding the biogas technology.

2. Household energy situation and problems

In Ethiopia, more than 80 % of the population live in rural areas where the major energy is for subsistence. The main form of energy in rural Ethiopia is traditional, consisting of fuel wood followed by animal dung and crop residues. Energy expenditure constitutes a significant portion of the expenditures of rural households. It is estimated that for every birr spent by the household 4 cents go to energy purchase. The estimated energy consumption is 2 kg of wood at 25 % m. c. equivalent per person. Ethiopia has one of the lowest per capita consumption of energy in the world.

Major problems of the household energy situation are in the area of lowering agricultural production, migration to urban areas, affecting women's and children's health and physical tiredness due to long distance travel to collect fuel wood. A detailed analysis is given below.

3. Biogas technology

Biogas production takes place in a well known mechanism of anaerobic digestion with different digestion processes to get burnable gas. Organic matter is digested or fermented under airless, anaerobic conditions. The resulting gas consists mainly of methane and carbon dioxide. Methanogenesis by methane forming bacteria is only the biological part of the ecosystem, which includes chemical and physical parameters as well that can be referred to as environmental factors. Environmental factors important for producing biogas from organic feed materials are temperature, PH, C/N ratio, etc. There are different biogas plant types, namely: Balloon type, floating and fixed dome plants. The major type of biogas plants is Indian type for its simplicity and accessibility in Ethiopia. In Table 2 the number of fixed dome plants is shown, the rest are Indian types.

4. The potential for biogas technology

Ethiopia has the largest livestock population in absolute number in Africa and ranks tenth in the world

(Table 1). The access to cattle waste for biogas is more likely than the use of waste of other livestock. A significant amount of biogas can be produced even if we consider only the 31 million heads of cattle.

Table 1: Livestock population in 1994/95 (million)

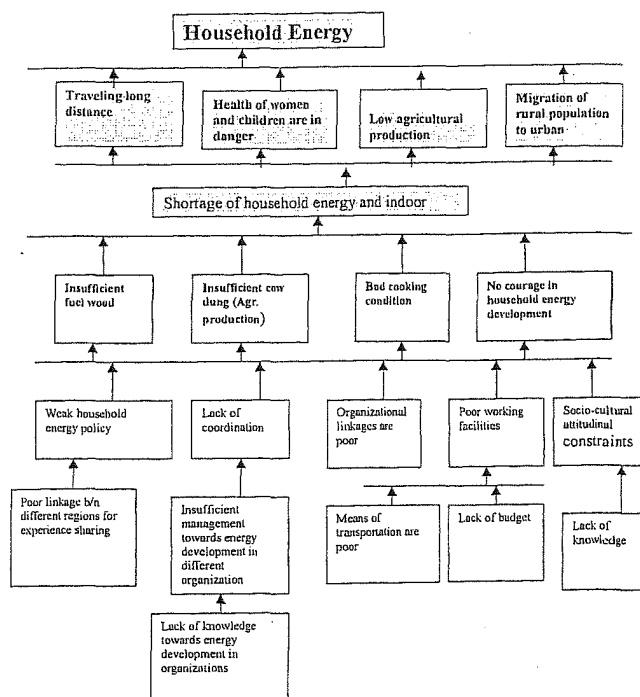
In Ethiopia, biogas could substitute about 20 % of fuel wood for household consumption if all conditions are fulfilled and all wastes of cattle are put in biogas digesters (Melis Teka, 1995). However the current utilisation is limited far below one percent.

5. Current dissemination of biogas technology

At different times different organisations have tried to implement biogas technology as renewable energy source in the country. The major institutions in the past and at present are the Ministry of Mines and Energy, Ministry of Agriculture under Rural Technology Promotion Program, in the Regions through Bureaux of Mines and Energy and Bureaux of Agriculture, NGOs and church organisations.

The promotion of biogas technology gets attention since 1974 dur-

Fig 1: Problem analysis of household energy in Ethiopia.



Problem analysis of household energy in Ethiopia

Source: Adopted from ZOPP training of the author on Eschborn, GTZ

ing the first drought in Wello region. Since then the effort has increased to a limited extent. During the past regime it was given quite good attention by the two ministries towards cooperatives support. However, the target groups were selected according to government interest, and most of the plants failed to operate. Today, the technology is disseminated in a decentralised manner. The Federal State supports implementation, especially the Ministry of Mines is involved in dissemination. But NGOs have a quite significant contribution, too. However, nothing is done to promote private enterprises in this field. On the other hand, coordination efforts are insufficient. Only little effort in this respect is done by the Ethiopian Energy Centre. Until today the total number of biogas plants is limited to 300 (Ethiopian Energy Study Centre, 1999).

Due to lack of responsible national institutions and attention by the government it is even hard to quantify the existing plants. Efforts are made in decentralised manner. Therefore, it is necessary to assess the existing plants, define problems, and to plan for better results. The available organisational structure of government institutions, the assigned experts at regional and zonal level and the increased fuel wood energy demand favour the promotion of biogas technology.

When we consider that the live-stock population in the surroundings of Addis Ababa is about 58,000 and about 80 % are under stable feeding in commercial live-stock rearing enterprises, this gives vast opportunity to make use of the technology. But the number of existing biogas plants in this Region is restricted to 14. On the other hand, in the Southern Nations Nationalities People's Region (SNNPR) and in Oromia efforts are more intensive. During a biogas inventory and assessment of the potential in SNNPR by the author of this paper it was clearly revealed that problems in the availability of biogas lamps are hampering the existing plants. Still, efforts are going on when the fuel wood crisis is critical in the area of promotion.

6. Strategies for further dissemination of biogas technology

The dissemination of biogas in Ethiopia is carried out solely by

government institutions and voluntary services. The role of the private sector is nil. Since the private sector is more efficient than government agencies in terms of organisation and satisfying consumer needs this is a serious deficiency. Possibly, the unfamiliar technology and comparatively low profit margins may have discouraged entrepreneurs. It would be highly appreciated if the private sector could be encouraged to take up a role in disseminating the technology.

7. Issues of biogas technology in Ethiopia

The adoption of biogas technology in Ethiopia is hampered by a variety of technical, institutional, economical and financial barriers that occur throughout the entire transfer and diffusion process.

Technical: People are not acquainted enough to biogas technology and need additional training at different levels of institutions, especially private entrepreneurs and craftsmen.

Institutional: The energy power sector does not give renewable energy equal weight with conventional large scale supply options. Thus biogas dissemination is suffering from institutional bias towards large scale hydropower development.

In summary, the major problems are the following:

No comprehensive long term strategy available ;

Insufficient integration with international know-how development;

Biogas units are expensive to disseminate to small rural farmers;

Underutilisation of favourable conditions for biogas production in the country.

8. Conclusions and recommendations

In order to decrease the demand of biomass for fuel side support is needed by renewable energy development such as biogas technology. The successful dissemination needs to be based not only on development of biogas plants of appropriate size, but also on knowledge of the prevailing socio-economic conditions and cultural parameters of the target area and target group.

The available manpower under agricultural offices and the Ministry of Mines and Energy are potential resources for dissemination of the

technology. In addition, encouragement of private entrepreneurs is critical to successfully disseminate it.

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- (MSc, Principles of renewable Energy, BSc, Agricultural Engineering

Ideenwettbewerb des DÄV und des "Awassa College of Agriculture (ACA)"

Zum Thema: "How to solve a big agricultural problem of peasants (in my home village) in a self – help way" lief der Ideenwettbewerb von Dezember 98 bis März 99.

Es waren studentische Vorschläge gefragt, wie mit einfachen, angepassten, äthiopischen Lösungen bestimmte Probleme auf dem Land gelöst werden könnten. Auf 4 Schreibmaschinenseiten sollte ein lokales Problem beschrieben werden und die Problemlösung entwickelt werden. Dabei wurde auf den Selbsthilfe – Charakter des Projektes Wert gelegt. D.h. das zu lösende Problem sollte so drängend sein, daß die Betroffenen von Anfang an eingebunden sind und sich bei der Lösung stark engagieren, die Lösung sollte aus der örtlichen Kultur entspringen, und die Umsetzung des Vorschlages sollte zum allergrößten Teil aus heimischen Ressourcen erfolgen können. Kurz gesagt, es war Kreativität gefragt, wie mit einer guten Idee und wenig Aufwand ein Problem im bäuerlichen Bereich gelöst werden kann.

Der DÄV hatte hierfür 4000 Birr zur Verfügung gestellt. 1000 Birr erhielt das ACA für die Durchführung des Wettbewerbes und 3000 Birr wurden als Preisgelder für 3 Preise ausgelobt. Die Vorauswahl der 16 eingereichten Vorschläge trafen Ato Berhanu, der Beratungslehre – Lehrer und ich, während für die endgültige Entscheidung noch weitere Fachlehrer mit hinzugezogen wurden. Am Schluß einigten wir uns auf 4 Preise.

Der 1. Preis (1200 Birr) ging an Muluken Emagnu mit

"Minimising unemployment and its effect through participatory projects in Delghi town (Tana See)".

Er schlägt vor, im Ort 3 genossenschaftliche Projekte zu etablieren: eine Baumschule und ein Gemüsegeld v.a. für Frauen, eine Fischerei Gemeinschaft für Männer, sowie eine Handicraft Gruppe, um lokale Gegenstände wie Körbe, Tücher u.a. Gegenstände – auch zum Verkauf – herzustellen.

Die 3 zweiten Preise zu je 600 Birr gingen an Temesgen Diriba Fufa mit:

The impact of Leeches (Lymnatis nilotica) on cattle productivity and their controll measure: The case of "Ammachallo – Horro" Peasant Association, East Wollega, Oromiya.

Er schlägt vor, mit "Endod" (Phytolacca dodecandra), einer lokalen Medizinalpflanze, die Leeches - Parasiten beim Vieh zu bekämpfen Jemal Hebeno mit:

Water supply to improve the health and living condition of the farmers: The Wabe Gefersa Case

Er schlägt vor, in Wabe Gefersa, ca. 50 km östlich von Shashemane, mit der Bevölkerung einen Brunnen für den Ort zu graben.

Daniel Markose und Wondimu Wallelu mit:

The effect of labour and time management in addressing rural poverty in Midregenat, Sidamo.

Sie schlagen vor, in einem Ort die Bevölkerung anzuregen, in der arbeitsärmeren Zeit des Jahres zusätzliche Einkommensmöglichkeiten zu erschließen.

Der Wettbewerb wurde in großer Eintracht und Freude durchgeführt. Die Gewinner waren natürlich glücklich über die Geldpreise und eine dekorative Urkunde. Das College, das von Anfang an auf die Idee sehr erfreut reagiert hatte, war dankbar für die Anregung und die zusätzliche – außerschulische – Motivation für die Studenten. Und der DÄV wurde von allen Beteiligten in höchsten Tönen gelobt.

Nachrichten aus Äthiopien

zusammengestellt von Harmen Storck

Conflict with Eritrea

From the Battlefields:

The Ethiopian Defense Forces successfully repelled an attack by five Eritrean brigades on May 25 and 26 on Ethiopian army positions at the western front near the Mereb River. Since May 22, 1,265 Eritrean soldiers were killed and 3,100 wounded, the office of the Government Spokesperson said (*state media*, May 27, 28).

According to a press release by the Eritrean Foreign Ministry on May 25, the Ethiopian attack launched on the central flank of the Mereb-Setit front was totally foiled with the TPLF regime suffering considerable casualties. 380 Ethiopian soldiers were killed, 975 wounded while eleven others were captured (*VOA*, May 25).

The Eritrean Foreign Office declared that Ethiopian air attacks on Massawa caused little damage and the attacks on Zalanbessa missed their targets altogether (*Atkurot*, May 18).

The Ethiopian Air Force attacked strategic sites in Massawa, the sea port of Eritrea, on Sunday, May 16. It is said that heavy and extensive damage was caused to the naval base, the oil depot and the port (*state media*, May 16).

The Ethiopian Air Force attacked the Eritrean Military Training Camp at Sawa. The air attacks caused heavy damage to the training camp and conscripts awaiting training (*Radio Ethiopia*, April 15). The Antonov squadron destroyed key points, training grounds and buildings, logistics depots, runways, vehicles, heavy weapons, etc., while the Mig 23 squadron bombed residence buildings for trainers and trainees, the airfield, other depots, etc. (*Reporter*, April 19).

Based on information from the fronts, the ICRC has disclosed that 15,000 soldiers have been killed on both sides in the war between Ethiopia and Eritrea (*Arbegnaw*, April 3).

It was heard that a total of 110,000 land mines had been planted by the enemy in and around Badme and

Sheraro localities which were recently liberated, according to a military expert. 10,000 of the land mines anti-tank mines (*Radio Ethiopia*, March 25).

The fighting at Zalanbessa between Ethiopian and Eritrean troops is said to be the bloodiest so far with Ethiopian troops now in control of 75% of the area under contest, only one Eritrean fort still holding out. Although Ethiopian aircrafts had been regularly striking enemy targets, it had proved difficult to dislodge Eritrean troops in the mountainous fort of Aiga - the last remaining resistance pocket before the successful conclusion of the operation at Zalanbessa (*Radio Ethiopia*, March 15).

A total victory for Ethiopian Defense Forces was achieved on Friday, February 26, 1999 in the military counter-offensive named Operation Sunset. This military engagement which took place on the Badme Front from February 23 - February 26 was consolidated on Saturday, the central military command said. During the engagement at the Badme front the enemy deployed over 40,000 military personnel from three corps, several divisions, hundreds of heavy artillery, around 70 tanks and armored military vehicles. The Eritrean Government also tried unsuccessfully to use its air force. For nine months the enemy had dug and heavily fortified over 100 km of trenches on the border using bulldozers and surrounded by anti-personnel and anti-vehicle landmines. - The enemy was totally routed out of the area. The spokes-person's office stated that the army of President Issayas had suffered a monumental and humiliating defeat (*State media*, February 26).

Eritrea has announced that Ethiopia had mounted a new heavy artillery offensive backed by its air power on the Assab front, 71 kilometers from the port. According to the announcement, Ethiopia used Antonov 130 bombers as well as helicopter gunships in the fighting. However, one of the helicopters was shot down by Eritrean defense units (*VOA*, February 14).

Ethiopians there, Eritreans here:

The government in Asmara has stepped up its actions of arbitrary arrests, abuse and torture of Ethiopians residing in Eritrea since its devastating military defeat at

Badme last February, the office of the Ethiopian Government Spokesperson said. To date, the Ethiopian government has been able to document close to 2,500 cases of imprisonment, abuse and disappearances since February. One of the greatest cases of abuse is the imprisonment of 1,900 Ethiopians in Eritrea's Aweshait prison (*State media, May 19*).

A number of Eritrean teachers as well as other government and non-government employees have reportedly been sacked in a recent wave of dismissals (*Maebel, May 8*).

The 39 Eritrean students recently released by the Ethiopian government after nine months in detention in a former military camp in southern Ethiopia said that they were severely beaten and forced into hard labor by the prison authorities. Red Cross officials say one student had died in prison for lack of medical care. Eritrea says there are 1,500 other Eritreans held in detention in Ethiopia adding that many of the 50,000 Eritreans expelled by Ethiopia since the war started were forced to leave behind family members, property and bank accounts. Ethiopia also accuses Eritrea of expelling thousands of Ethiopians and says that the detained Eritreans were spies or are a threat to Ethiopia's security (*VOA, February 25*).

A new directive was issued on Jan. 6, regarding employees working and expelled from various government offices. It deals with employees who are still working and those sacked from work. It includes a guideline on how to gather information and evidence to carefully screen Ethiopians and Eritreans (*Tobia, January 21*).

A number of enterprises run by Eritrean "investors" in different parts of Ethiopia were, in fact, owned by the EPLF ruling party. The party supplied the necessary capital and assets and used its agents as managers of these enterprises. These agents, posing as owners, turned over the annual profits to the coffers of the EPLF (*Beza, January 20*).

Deported Ethiopians from Eritrea have disclosed on arrival in Ethiopia that the Eritrean government has prohibited Eritreans from buying goods and property from deported Ethiopians. As a result, most deported Ethiopians have been

forced to leave the country without selling their property (*Efoita, January 13*).

The Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (CBE) has announced plans to auction the properties of 218 Eritreans expelled from Ethiopia. The bank has said that the Eritreans owe CBE 46 million dollars. The bank also indicated that it has collected 9 mio \$ from deported Eritreans other than the 1.5 mio \$ it obtained from the sale of the assets of 112 other deported Eritreans (*VOA, January 9*). The CBE is also finalizing plans to put on auction five large enterprises, including Mitchell Cotts Co., in order to recover money loaned to Eritrean businessmen. The Bank is said to have granted loans of up to 400 mio birr, 85% of which was owed by these five companies (*Beza, January 12*).

Security forces are hunting down unwanted Eritreans who reportedly change towns of residence, move from hotel to hotel, stay with relatives and friends to avoid being sent home to Eritrea. Some people suggest irregularities in the process of expulsion. Some actions are based on settling old scores and might open the way to corruption. It is said that Eritreans married to high officials but who had voted in the referendum live in peace while poor Eritrean-born individuals who consider themselves Ethiopians are expelled (*Tobia, January 14*).

Proposals for Conflict Resolution:

The UN has announced plans to send an international military observer group to the Ethio-Eritrean border when and if the two countries agree to a cease-fire. With this group placed at the borders, experts will be sent to start border demarcation on the ground, according to this plan (*Beza, May 11*). UN Special Envoy Mohammed Sahnoun has indicated that renewed fighting between Ethiopia and Eritrea is inevitable. Ambassador Sahnoun said this in Burkina Faso where he had been briefing the current OAU Chairman, President Blaise Compaore, on his efforts to seek a peaceful settlement to end the crisis. He noted that serious consequences would follow as the two countries have lined up troops along their common borders. International pressure is needed to avert escalation (*VOA, May 2*).

UN envoy Mohammed Sahnoun touched down in Eritrea on April 4 to begin shuttle diplomacy aimed at ending the eleven-month conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia (*Monitor, April 27*).

In a letter that he wrote to the president of the UN Security Council, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia demanded that the Eritrean government pay reparations and compensation for the loss of human lives and destruction of properties Ethiopia suffered during the operations to regain control of Badme and to make amends to the hundreds of thousands of Ethiopians displaced as a result of the Eritrean invasion (*Seife Nebelbal, March 12*).

The current chairman of the OAU, President Blaise Campaore, who was on a visit to Denmark, is said to have invited the British and Italian governments to assist in cartography to help solve the Ethio-Eritrean border demarcation problems (*Goh, March 13*).

The Ethiopian Government Spokesperson issued a statement declaring that Ethiopia would continue fighting for its sovereignty because the Eritrean army still controls the Ethiopian territories of Aiga (Zalanbessa), Beda (Bure front) and Egala. The statement noted that Eritrean officials talk about accepting the OAU peace plan while they are openly preparing for further military operations. It said that, in this context, Ethiopia cannot accept the UN call for a cease-fire which is a denial of its right to defend its sovereignty (*Ethio-Time, March 8*).

Eritrea said on Saturday that it had accepted the peace plan drawn up by the OAU. Eritrea presidential advisor Yemane Gebremeskel said on Sunday, February 28, that Eritrea had retreated from the contested Badme area after the latest offensive (*VOA, February 27, 28*).

Appeals for Peace:

The Heinrich Boll Foundation convened a conference on "Conflict in the Horn : What can Civil Society do to Bring about Solidarity and Cooperation in the Region" - 15 - 17 March 1999, at Nairobi. There were 69 participants from Djibouti, Eritrea, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, Ethiopia and Kenya. Most remarkable was the presence of Ethiopians and Eritreans from non-governmental institutions - the first

such encounter since the outbreak of the Ethio-Eritrean crisis (*Addis Tribune*, March 19).

A senior delegation of religious leaders led by His Holiness the Patriarch of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church (EOC) left for Germany to make peace and reconciliation efforts with their Eritrean counterparts who will meet them in Germany. The two delegations will discuss ways to find a peaceful settlement to the Ethio-Eritrean crisis (*Radio Ethiopia*, January 22).

Mobilising Troops, Armament and Money for the War:

The Federal Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC) over 166 million birr has so far been raised to assist displaced people and the national defense forces out of which over 93 million birr has so far been used to rehabilitate the displaced and to support the army (*State Media*, May 20).

Sources in Asmara have indicated that the Eritrean government purchased six used Mig 21 jets. Where Eritrea made its latest purchases has not been revealed (*Reporter*, April 26).

The BBC correspondent in Asmara has reported that men and women between the ages of 16 and 45 were taken to Sawa military training center on April 4. The recruits, numbering about 20,000, will be trained for 18 months receiving a monthly allowance of 150 nakfa (*Kibrit*, April 8).

Ukrainian Ilyushin-76 aircraft were transporting armaments and ammunition from Bulgaria to Asmara in a series of flights March 20-30, 1999, sources revealed last week. Six aircraft have transported assorted explosives, hand grenades and rounds of ammunition and light armaments (*Reporter*, April 7).

AFP has estimated that the Eritrean army has grown in strength from 200,000 to 260,000 while Ethiopian troops could number about 300,000 (*Menilik*, February 19).

A regional expert, Mr. Patrick Gilkes, wrote for the BBC, "It has been estimated that each side is spending a million dollars a day. But this is likely to be a considerable under-estimate" regarding the cost of the Ethio-Eritrean conflict. Mr. Gilkes states that in December, Ethiopia took delivery of eight Sukhoi 27 fighters and Eritrea acquired eight to ten MIG interceptors - Eritrea has received attack heli-

copters from Italy, adding to the four it was given by Ethiopia in 1995, during its conflict with Yemen. In addition to the fighters, Ethiopia purchased helicopter gunships and helicopters from Russia in December adding to its existing numbers. France has also supplied communications equipment. Eritrea has received material such as rocket supplies for its BM21 multi-barreled rocket-launchers (known as "Stalin's Organs") from Bulgaria, which were flown into Asmara by Ukrainian planes. Reports suggest that Ethiopia may have exchanged coffee with China for ammunition. China has completed a significant ammunition contract last year and is now implementing a repeat order. Eritrea is raising funds from Libya and the Gulf, as well as from treasury bonds and from Eritreans overseas (*Addis Tribune*, February 19).

According to a report on arms sales to Africa in 1998, which based its information on the U.S. Arms Control Agency, the two leading arms suppliers to Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan, and Somali factions are citizens of Egypt and South Africa. The report indicated that, these two countries, along with East European countries and the disintegrated former Soviet Union, lead the arms sales to Africa either openly or clandestinely (*Goh*, January 30).

According to reports, the government of Libya is providing full military support to Eritrea. Libya is presently training Eritrean jet pilots in Asmara and Libya. As regards arms and weapons, it has supplied and continues to supply anti-personnel and anti-vehicle mines, light and heavy weaponry, ammunition, foodstuffs and military equipment. The Libyan government has also given Eritrea an unknown amount of money and has met its fuel needs (*Reporter*, January 27).

Other Issues:

Delegates of the ICRC visited some 300 Eritrean prisoners of war between April 17 and 19. The ICRC team, which included a health delegate, registered the POWs and interviewed them in private, in accordance with the Third Geneva Convention, a release said. In Eritrea, mean-while, the ICRC is pursuing its efforts to gain access, as required by the Third Geneva Convention, to Ethiopian POWs captured since the conflict erupted

last year, the release said (*Monitor*, May 8-9).

Speculations abound alleging that the U.S. is courting Issayas Afewerki because it wants to reopen the Kagnev military surveillance station in Asmara to keep close watch on the Islamist government in Khartoum and other states deemed threats to its security (*Sun*, March 11).

Hundreds of thousands of Addis Ababians converged at Meskel Square to express their joy over the victory the Ethiopian army scored over the Eritrean invaders by recapturing the disputed Badme district (*Radio Ethiopia*, March 2).

His Holiness Abune Paulos, Patriarch of the Ethiopia Orthodox Church, said the EOC was very pleased with the victories scored by the Ethiopian defense forces over EPLF. He also said that the Church was saddened by the UN Security Council resolution last week which, he said, aggravated the problem instead of resolving the crisis. Similarly, the Chairman of the Ethiopian Islamic Affairs Supreme Council, Sheik Abdurahman, said the attainment of victory over the Issayas regime within such short a time shows that Ethiopia is the real winner (*Radio Ethiopia*, February 28).

Economics, Finance, Commerce

Investment and Investment Policy:

The Bahr Dar Textile Factory has been re-equipped with an outlay of 100 million birr to undertake a new production project. The factory obtained the money from the World Bank and from Italian private investors. Accordingly, the factory will start production of a new type of textiles this year (*Efoita*, May 19).

A new bottling company, licensed to produce and distribute the brands of the Coca Cola Company in Ethiopia, has been formed under a joint venture agreement signed recently in Addis Ababa. As part of the joint venture agreement, Coca-Cola Sabco will immediately inject US\$ 9.1 million (*Addis Tribune*, May 21).

The first stage of an assembly plant to produce television sets in Ethiopia was to be opened last Saturday in Kaliti. Set up at a cost of 4.5 million birr, all of which was financed by the company, the assembly plant employs 65 Ethiopi-

ans including managers. The plant which will produce 100 TV sets per day at its initial stage is expected to grow and satisfy Kenyan, Tanzanian and Zimbabwean markets. The second stage of the investment will be made as a joint venture with the Turkish firm called Vestel Foreign Trade Company and hopes to raise the local components of the TV sets through transfer of technology (*Monitor*, May 8-9).

The 245 million birr Dire Water Dam Project has been inaugurated. The dam is expected to raise the city's water supply from 60 to 75 percent (*Addis Lissan*, April 28).

Ethiopia's fourth and largest sugar factory with an annual production of 850,000 tons and built at a cost of 1.8 billion birr (about \$240 million) was inaugurated in the Fincha'a river valley, a tributary of the Blue Nile, 350 km west of Addis Ababa. The Fincha'a factory, which took 22 years to complete due to financing problems, is the biggest industrial concern in terms of investment in Ethiopia. It has 4,000 employees. The new factory will raise Ethiopia's annual sugar production from 185,000 tons to 270,000 tons, leaving enough tonnage for home consumption and export to neighboring countries; Djibouti and Yemen in particular (*Monitor*, April 29). The construction of a further sugar factory will be undertaken in South Wello administrative zone at a cost of 100 million birr. Three hectares of land has been set aside for the factory and 2,000 hectares for sugar cane development (*Mahtot*, April 22).

Neway Gebreab, chief economic advisor in the Prime Minister's Office, told reporters that there was no sign of new foreign investments as investors waited to see how events were unfolding (*Reporter*, April 14).

Investors with an aggregate capital of 100 million birr have launched various development projects in Gurarge zone of Southern Ethiopia region, the zonal council announced. The investors are engaged in farming, cattle breeding, afforestation, coffee development and medium-scale industries (*ENA*, March 2).

The Addis Ababa Water and Sewerage Authority (AAWSA) and the American company called Modern Ecological Industry (MEI) have signed an agreement to establish an Organic Fertilizer Factory in

Akaki. The General Manager of AAWSA, Ato Tadesse Kebede, said an agreement has been reached to produce fertilizer from sewerage refuse and waste from toilets (*Addis Lissan*, January 27).

15 projects with an investment capital of over 566 million birr have been approved over the last six months by the Amhara State Investment Bureau. The projects are in the areas of agriculture, industry, hotel, tourism and energy. The projects will create employment to over 13,000 employees. A total of 379 projects with an investment capital of over 3.4 billion birr were licensed between 1992 and December 1998. 123 of the projects have entered their implementation phase creating 28,658 jobs (*Entrepreneur*, February 3).

Speaking at a forum organized by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the General Manager of the Ethiopian Investment Authority said that the flow of foreign investment in the country is low. He said that 152 projects with a capital of about 8.3 billion dollars have so far been licensed. He added that despite the availability of incentives for private investors and the enabling investment climate, foreign investment has been quite small (*Radio Ethiopia*, January 20).

NGOs:

The Organization for the Rehabilitation and Development of Amhara state (ORDA) said it has launched various development projects at a cost of over 26 million birr. ORDA's director, Ato Yonas Gedamu, said that out of the total budget, 16 million birr would be used to launch integrated food security programs, four million birr for rural water supply projects, and five million birr for the development of irrigation systems (*Mahtot*, March 4).

Non-governmental organizations in the Southern Peoples' State are undertaking over 30 million birr worth of social services expansion projects. The projects include the construction of schools, clinics and roads, the Regional Economic Planning Bureau said. The NGOs include Agriservice, World Vision, Catholic Relief Services, the Norwegian Church Aid, and Mekane Yesus (*Radio Ethiopia*, January 24).

The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus has said it is assisting over 652,000 people in the low-income group through its rural development projects. (*Radio Ethiopia*, Jan. 25).

The Tigray state branch of the Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) has announced plans to construct this year social service facilities at a cost of 6.5 million birr in the state. According to the branch office, the construction of a primary school and a health station will be undertaken. The construction of health posts and sinking of 60 water wells would also be carried out (*Monitor*, January 26).

Privatisation:

Ethiopia has announced that it would privatize 120 state-owned and public enterprises in the coming three years. The enterprises to be privatized have, however, not been named. Ethiopia has to date privatized 176 enterprises (*VOA*, April 23).

The Coffee and Tea Authority is planning to privatize the Coffee Development Enterprise. The enterprise administers large coffee plantations in Bebek, Limu and Tepi localities. The privatization of the enterprise is expected to encourage investors to engage extensively in coffee development. The private sector has the highest share in supplying the foreign market with Ethiopian coffee (*Entrepreneur*, March 3).

The Construction and Business Bank, owned and operated by the government, is now under the process of privatization, sources disclosed last week. The Bank is said to have been unable to collect 30% of loans for development activities. Even though it is said the Bank will be privatized through share holdings, it was learned that a final decision has not been reached to that effect (*Reporter*, January 6).

Foreign Trade:

A drop in international coffee prices has hit heavily at Ethiopia's foreign exchange earnings, a government official disclosed. According to the Vice Minister of Trade and Industry, the volume of export and the hard currency earning between July 1998 and March 1999 showed a 23 percent and 38 percent fall respectively compared to the performance during the same period last year. Ethiopia had earned \$410 million by exporting 121,000 tons of coffee

in 1997/98 and generated \$356 million from the export of 112,000 tons the previous year. Coffee prices have dramatically declined by 20 and 30 percent in the last eight months alone as the supply of the commodity by far outweighed the demand for it in the international market. The prospect for coffee price improvement in 1999/2000 looked bleak (*Monitor*, April 24).

Ethiopia's export earnings had risen to \$600 million in 1997/98, double the level of the early 1990s, but were expected to decline in 1998/99, mainly due to the collapse of coffee prices in world markets (*Reporter*, April 14).

The demand in the world market for Ethiopian oil seeds is steadily growing, exporters say. The price of Ethiopian oil seeds has grown to 900 U.S. dollars per ton from only 600 U.S. dollar last year. Oil seeds are exported to North Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the United States. Ethiopia obtained 340 million birr in 1997/98 from the sale of 85,954 tons of oil seeds in the foreign market (*Entrepreneur*, March 3).

Ethiopia's leather export accounts for 15% of its exports revenue. But the quality of its leather had indicated deterioration due to the disease identified by the FAO as 'ekkek'. Trade between Ethiopia and Italy was particularly relevant since 25% of Ethiopia's exports are directed to Italy (*Addis Tribune*, March 5).

The Coffee Purchases and Sales Enterprise has been ordered closed on grounds of bankruptcy. The order was signed by Ato Assefa Abraha, minister in charge of state enterprises in the office of the prime minister. Except for some vital staff, employees will have their contracts terminated as of February 8 (*Fiameta*, February 17).

The Governor of the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), Ato Teklewold Atnafu, has announced the establishment of Exporters Credit Scheme to streamline the activities of exporters. Ato Teklewold said that the new scheme is expected to facilitate export trade services as well as provide prompt bank credit services to businessmen who were so far denied bank credit services. The scheme will go into effect as of Jan. 18, 1999 (*Radio Ethiopia*, Jan. 15).

State Revenues, Budgets, Economic Growth:

The office of the Auditor-General disclosed that sample audit conducted in the Inland Revenue and Customs offices revealed that 411,621,067 birr in tax arrears were not collected. Audit conducted in several government offices in 1997 and 1998 showed 37,017,024 birr in arrears were not collected. Purchases worth 18,731,247 birr made last year did not follow the necessary procedures (*Radio Ethiopia*, April 20).

Ethiopia's defense budget in 1998/99 stood at \$126.3 million from a total \$1.61 billion state budget (*Reporter*, April 14).

A senior Ethiopian official said that the impact of the ongoing border conflict with Eritrea had been minimal on the country's overall economic performance so far. - He said the country had averaged an annual growth of 6 percent GDP during the last six years (1993-98). "We hope to maintain the same level of growth this current Ethiopian fiscal year (1998-99 ending in June)". Inflation has been kept at bay - below 5 percent for the sixth consecutive year, he disclosed. But the Ethiopian currency, the birr, has depreciated against the dollar from 7.087 in May 1998, when the border conflict with Eritrea started, to 7.910 at present (*Monitor*, April 10 - 11).

The National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE) expects an economic growth rate of 9.4 % during the current year. The expected growth was made possible by the remarkable boost in the agricultural sector, comprising 47 % of the GDP, which increased from 7.6 % last year to 10.3 % now. The industrial sector will register a growth rate of 8.9 %, the distribution and service sectors 9 %, and other sectors 8.3 %. No increase was witnessed in the foreign currency reserve which stood at 1.6 % last year (*Entrepreneur*, February 24).

Debts, Grants, Loans and Credits:

The United States is reconsidering forgiving Ethiopia \$90mio in debt due to renewed fighting with neighboring Eritrea, a U.S. State Department official said (*The Monitor*, May 27).

From June 1998 to February 12, 1999, Ethiopia has secured \$706.5mio grant and \$327.6mio loan from various donor countries

and multilateral organizations. During this period, sources of loans were the International Development Association (IDA), the African Development Bank (ADB), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) which have offered loans of \$160mio, \$145.1 million and \$22.5mio respectively. From the total amount of the grant, 32.3 % or \$228.3mio is to undertake food security programs, increased food production and food assistance. The education sector has taken 16.3 % of the total grant or \$115.3mio (*Capital*, April 18).

The annual IMF report has indicated that Eritrea has failed to pay over a billion dollars that it had borrowed from Ethiopia only between June 1996 and June 1997. The report disclosed that the war with Ethiopia had ravaged the Eritrean economy (*Arbegnaw*, April 17).

Some bilateral donors have stopped releasing already agreed on aid packages to Ethiopia as an 11-month border conflict with Eritrea shows no signs of abating, an Ethiopian government official said. (*Reporter*, April 14).

Ethiopia and EU signed a memorandum of understanding to provide a 26.5-million U.S. dollar grant out of which 13.8 million USD will be allocated for the purchase of 50,000 metric tons of cereals to be used as emergency food aid by the DPPC. 6.6 million USD will be used for an integrated food security program in selected districts of the Amhara State, and 4.4 million USD for an integrated food security program in Tigray. The remaining 1.7 million USD will be allocated for capacity building program in food security. Ethiopia and EU also signed a grant agreement valued at 21.5 million USD to finance the Addis Ababa water supply project. Meanwhile, another grant agreement amounting to 5.08 million USD was signed between Ethiopia and Japan to promote the country's economic structural adjustment program and the mitigation of economic difficulties including indebtedness (*Radio Ethiopia*, March 24). Since 1992, major donors to Ethiopia are USA, Japan, Germany, Sweden, Italy and the Netherlands. And recently, Norway, Ireland and Belgium have focused on Ethiopia as a development center. Foreign aid in the form of loans has constituted 37.1 percent of Ethiopia's

1998-99 budget while 22.1 percent has been in the form of aid (*Addis Tribune, February 28*).

The Development Bank of Ethiopia (DBE) has announced plans to grant loans amounting to 840 million birr this year. 410 million birr of the stated sum will go to the agricultural sector and 295 million to the industrial sector. The bank plans to collect a total of 574 million birr from debtors this year (*Entrepreneur, January 27*).

The Axum branch of the Dedebit Credit and Savings Share Company has loaned over one million birr to poor farmers in three districts of Central Tigray Zone. The loan was given to 926 poor farmers. Most of the credit beneficiaries are engaged in small-scale trading activities. The company has loaned over 15 million birr to over 13,000 people during the past five years out of which 8.3mio birr has been repaid (*Entrepreneur, January 27*). Ethiopia is to receive 255mio USD in long-term lending from the Abidjan-based African Development Bank (ADB) for the implementation of projects in agriculture, transport and public utilities. The agreement stipulates that Ethiopia would receive \$235mio as loan and \$20mio as grant to pay for project studies and institutional support (*Monitor, Jan. 26*).

The Development Bank of Ethiopia has announced its plans to give a loan of 840 million birr during this Ethiopian calendar year. Accordingly, about 410 million birr has been earmarked for the agricultural sector and 295 million birr has been set aside for the industrial sector (*Radio Ethiopia, January 19*).

Wisdom Micro-financing Institution has officially been inaugurated in the presence of U.S. Ambassador David Shinn. He said that micro-financing institutions will play a major role in promoting food security by strengthening the private sector and by contributing to the democratization process. Ato Yosef Imana, the General Manager of Wisdom MFI, said on the occasion that MFI targets the so-called 'unbankables' in rural and urban areas of the country who, in most cases, he said, fall prey to the traditional money lenders (*ENA, January 5*).

Transport and Communication:

The Ethiopian Telecommunications Corporation (ETC) is set to begin providing mobile telephone service to its metropolitan subscribers. About 14,000 subscribers - minus an unspecified number of Eritreans deported from the metropolis - have so far been registered at eight ETC Centers by paying a third of the subscription fee. Now, they are required to settle the remaining two-thirds plus the price of the mobile terminal (*Monitor, April 27*). The construction of a 360-km gravel road linking five districts in Gambella state is well under way at a cost of 66 million birr. The road will link Godere, Abobo, Gambella, Itang and Gog districts (*Entrepreneur, April 28*).

The Ethiopian Shipping Lines (ESL) has bought a new liner at a cost of 6,825 million dollars. The new liner, named "Tekeze", will boost ESL's capacity by 20 percent. With a capacity of 18,145 tons, "Tekeze" is by far the biggest of ESL's semi-container liners and has 240 percent more capacity than its nearest sister (*Addis Tribune, April 23*).

According to the Addis Ababa Roads Authority, about one third of the 33.2 kilometer ring road in Addis Ababa has been graveled. The construction of four bridges is also underway. (*ENA, April 10*).

The Ethio-Djibouti Railway has completed the rehabilitation of six locomotives under a project financed by the French Development Agency (AFD). The rehabilitation is part of a larger AFD financed project, including the purchase of four new reconditioned locomotives (already delivered to the Railway) and of various equipment that are necessary for the maintenance of the track. The total value of the project is 56.7 million French francs (about 68 million birr), out of which 16.5 million French francs funded the spare parts and the technical assistance needed for the rehabilitation (*Monitor, April 8*).

Half of the 150 tanker trucks imported by a dozen trucking companies with a 250-million birr granted by the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (CBE) have started service. The trucks are part of a 300-strong fleet to be imported by 12 trucking companies. (*Addis Tribune, April 2*).

Abyssinia Flight Services, the third private charter air service, has formally started its operation. Cap-

tain Solomon Gizaw, the owner and managing director, said that the company has two 10-seater planes, a Cessna Caravan and Turbo Beever. Abyssinia Flight Services was established with a 13-million birr capital. The other two private air charter services are Gosh Air and General Systems Engineering (*Radio Ethiopia, April 1*).

It seems that the contemplation by the European Union to test the port of Berbera on whether it would be a practical option for food aid import has, indeed, proved to be sound. The first test vessel, Astra 2, had successfully discharged its 15,000 tons of wheat before leaving the port on March 12, 1999. It was for the first time, after 22 years of interruption, that a vessel discharged cargo that would be shipped to Ethiopia. Though the private sector was recommended to seriously consider the use of Berbera port for imports to the eastern part of the country, cost figures show a completely different feature. For instance, the distance from Dire Dawa to Berbera (472 km) costs \$10 more than that from Dire Dawa to Djibouti (320 km) which costs \$50 per ton. On the other hand, upon his arrival at the port, the import had to face a tariff increase from \$6.50 to \$10 which had not been anticipated (*Capital, March 21*).

To improve the current switch to the Djibouti port, which had before the breakout of the conflict been dealing with an increased 36% of all Ethiopia's imports, railway lines have been rehabilitated and old train cars have been renewed. New railway lines, with a larger gauge, are also to be laid out from Djibouti to Dikil to Awash, and also from Djibouti to Milay. For this purpose, the EU has donated 40 million US dollars. Bids have also been drawn up for laying asphalt on the roads from Awash to Dewele through Qulubi and Dire Dawa (*Addis Tribune, February 19*).

Telephone service in six towns of west Shoa zone has been disrupted due to "cable theft". The Ambo region office of the Ethiopian Telecommunications Corporation disclosed that over 2,200 meters of telephone cables stretching across an area between Ambo and Nekempte Mewcha have been stolen (*Monitor, February 18*).

Transporting of cargo from Djibouti port to the hinterland would be

carried out in a more efficient manner beginning next month, the Ethiopian Roads and Transport Authority said, by transporting cargo through selected places like Ardayit, Kombolcha and Nazareth towns where loading and unloading facilities have been arranged. Priority would be given to transporting rapidly relief food aid, fertilizer and salt which accumulate at the port. He said this system has been devised in order to ease the cargo congestion at the port as ships with a loading capacity of between 300,000 to 400,000 tons are arriving daily (*Efoita, February 3*). The Authority of the Port of Djibouti has signed a contract agreement with a Chinese company to acquire two more gantry and six sets of rubber-tyred cranes at a cost of \$14,960,000 for the supply of these cranes to be delivered within 10 months and start operation two months after delivery. (*Capital, February 7*).

Other Issues:

Ethiopia's development index is expected to reach between 0.290 and 0.323 in the next five years, still far below the sub-Saharan African average (0.38) registered in 1994, a UNDP national Human Development Report revealed recently (*to Reporter, May 19*). Preparations are being finalized to begin a share market here in Addis Ababa after 30 years of interruption (*Radio Ethiopia, March 18*). Ayat, a local private real estate developer, has announced that it would soon hand over to owners 1,500 dwelling houses built in District 28 in Addis Ababa (*Monitor, February 18*). The chief project coordinator The tenements which are being readied for transfer are part of 6,225 houses Ayat planned to build in the first phase of its 10-year 25,000 housing units project. (*Addis Zemen, February 18*).

Agriculture, Food Aid, Drought

Extension, Investment and Credits:

The Ministry of Agriculture has announced plans to launch in July 1999 a national livestock development capacity building project at a cost of 308 million birr. 258 million birr of the stated sum is secured from the African Development Bank while the Federal and state governments will cover the balance (*ENA, May 26*).

The number of participants in the extension package program was raised to 2.9 million (*Reporter, January 13*).

Agricultural Inputs and Production:

Agricultural inputs for this year's production period have not yet been distributed to all the 13 districts of East Gojjam zone. According to Ato Worotaw Abera, head of the zonal agricultural department, 272,000 quintals of DAP and Uria fertilizers are needed for regular and extension farmers. But only 45,000 quintals have been distributed so far. The failure was blamed on shortage of transportation services (*State media, April 25*).

69,161 quintals of fertilizer and improved seeds worth 17 million birr will be distributed to ca. 86,000 peasants in west Harerge zone during the current year (*Radio Ethiopia, March 31*).

The Gumero Tea Development Enterprise in Illubabor Zone of Oromiya State has announced that it has obtained over four million birr in gross profit over the last six months. The stated amount was earned from the sale of 10,865 quintals of dry tea. The enterprise has not, however, been able to meet the planned profit margin because of the damage done to its tea plantation by rain-fed flood. It is currently developing ten plantations on 860 hectares of land in the zone (*Entrepreneur, March 24*).

The Agricultural Inputs Supply Enterprise says it is distributing 900,000 quintals of fertilizer among farmers in nine zones of Oromiya and southern Ethiopian regions. 400,000 quintals of fertilizer are being distributed to farmers and state farms in Belg (Ethiopia's short rainy season) growing regions (*Monitor, February 13*).

The Gurage Zone of the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples State (SNNPS) has obtained grain harvests this year exceeding that of last year by over one million quintals. Last year, the zone obtained 2,386,000 quintals which considerably rose to 3,401,000 quintals this year. The extension program has enabled farmers to obtain 48 quintals of maize per hectare which used to be 17 quintals through regular farming. Wheat production has also increased from 12 quintals per hectare to 22 (*Entrepreneur, January 27*).

A report submitted by a fact-finding marketing study team said the prices of cattle, sheep, goats and camels in the Somali Region were falling sharply by more than 50 percent from last year. The study attributed the fall in prices to the emerging drought situation and to the reduced supply of livestock to the external market. (*Radio Ethiopia, January 15*).

Other Agricultural Issues:

An outbreak of army worm has been reported in three zones of Amhara state. The state's agricultural bureau said the outbreak was in Oromiya, North Shoa and South Wello zones. The agricultural bureau of Oromiya state said it has contained army worm infestations in four zones of the state (*Radio Ethiopia, May 21*).

The Science and Technology Commission announced that a laboratory which will experiment with methods to eradicate tse tse fly vector of trypanosomiasis will soon be set up in Ethiopia. It is estimated that ten million of the 30 million heads of cattle in the country are found in tse tse fly infested regions covering about 200,000 sq. km of land. The south western and north-western parts of the country are rife with the fly. The south Ethiopia Rift Valley tse tse fly eradication project coordinator, Dr. Assefa Mebrate said the laboratory will alter the genetic make up of the flies to stop them from multiplying (*ENA, March 18*).

A seminar which be held in Addis Ababa is designed to raise awareness on "opportunities and issues of establishing cut flowers projects". More than 70 participants are expected to attend this seminar where issues such as the global cut flower industry, Ethiopia's potentials, preparing business plans, management support, and case studies of Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia will be extensively addressed. The first and only rose flower project, Meskel Flower, is being supported by African Project Development Facility's (APDF) fund and the European Union. At full production, Meskel is expected to produce 16.5 million statics and allium flowers for export to the European market and earn a net foreign exchange of \$2 million per year (*Capital, January 20*).

Drought, Famine and Food Aid:

A 5.7-million U.S. dollar amended grant agreement for the purchase of 25 metric tons of wheat was signed last week between the governments of Ethiopia and the United States of America (ETV, May 17).

A year of war and poor rains have conspired to place hundreds of thousands of Ethiopians in a state of "critical vulnerability" because of food shortages, the UN warned. The worst-affected regions are Wello in the northeast, Shoa in the center, Tigray in the north, Harerge in the east and Somali in the southeast, according to a UNDP report. In North Wello, a frequent region of shortages, cases of malnutrition have been reported and the population is migrating to areas of food aid distribution. The government estimates that 3.25 million Ethiopians will need urgent food aid this year. This figure includes almost 400,000 people displaced because of the border war with Eritrea, which broke out in May 1998. But the estimate does not include new needs expected to arise from the anticipated failure of this year's harvests. Several UN agencies as well as the European Union and several donor countries are due to send evaluation missions to affected areas this month (Monitor, May 13).

The United Nations World Food Program (WFP) announced that it would provide emergency food aid to 640,000 drought-stricken pastoralists in the Somali Region of Ethiopia. Grazing conditions are much worse than normal for this time of year and drinking water is in short supply. Lack of rainfall during the two previous rainy seasons has only exacerbated the drought conditions (Monitor, April 8).

Around 1,282,308 people in the Oromiya and Somali regions are affected by drought, the World Food Program disclosed recently. In the Oromiya region, eight districts in Borena zone, nine districts in Bale zone, nine districts in Bale zone, and 12 districts in East Harerge zone have been affected, says a WFP report. On the other hand, Abdulkarim Ahmed Guleid, Chairman of Hope for the Horn (an NGO working with pastoralists in Somali region), said the drought had affected 1.7 million people in the region. Food scarcity hit the region more than three months ago when

nomads lost their market following the ban on livestock export to Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia imposed restrictions on livestock trade from the East Africa sub-region after the outbreak of the Rift Valley fever in Kenya (Reporter, March 24).

Environment:

The agricultural bureau of the Amhara State in cooperation with the Gonder Integrated Rural Development Project Office, has begun planting 2.5 million tree seedlings (Mahtot, April 22).

Preparations are underway to set up a laboratory to carry out research on possible ways of containing environmental pollution in Addis Ababa. The laboratory, the first of its kind in the country, will be a major research and information center in the field. Land degradation, poor sanitation and industrial chemicals residues are among the major environmental problems in the capital (ETV, March 29).

Ethiopia and the Netherlands have signed a 12.6-million dollar grant agreement for a project on environmental preservation support activities. The project includes strengthening the natural resources database and information system of the computer and geo-information service in the Ministry of Water Resources, preparing environmental assessment and sustainable resource utilization plan for North Wello. It will also support the Ministry in the preparation of natural water administration master plan (Radio Ethiopia, March 30).

Environmental conservation development activities are underway in South Gonder Zone with the participation of over 139,000 people. The projects include terracing, road works and agricultural activities (Bekur, January 8).

Tourism:

Thirty German and Austrian tourists who had visited different places in northern Ethiopia said their visit was a big success. The tourists said they faced no security or other problems during their visit to Lalibela, Fasil Castle in Gonder, Blue Nile Falls and the monasteries of Lake Tana (ETV, March 2).

Ato Yusuf Abdullahi Sukkar, Commissioner for Tourism, disclosed that Ethiopia's income from tourism has increased sixfold over the last seven years. Presenting the com-

mission's six-month performance report to the House of Peoples' Representatives, Ato Yusuf said the annual income increased from less than 40 million birr in 1991 to over 240 million birr last year. According to the Commissioner, the number of tourists who visited the country also increased from 79,000 in 1991 to 122,000 in 1998. Ato Yusuf attributed the major reason for this to be peace and stability in the country and improved access to tourist attractions. Ato Yusuf added, however, that not enough has been done to

preserve the country's man-made and natural attractions. He pointed out that problems related to visa issuance, flight delays, bloated customs formalities and unfair entrance fees are some of the complaints often raised by tourists (ETV, February 23).

Social, Cultural and Political Aspects

Opposition-Related Issues:

The highly-celebrated surgeon and leader of the All Amhara People's Organization (AAPO) died on May 14 at the age of 71 after receiving treatment at the Pennsylvania University Hospital. Professor Asrat Woldeyes, an influential Amhara rights activist and the first surgeon in the country, left for the U.S. in December last year following permission from the government for treatment abroad (Radio Ethiopia, May 16).

Ato Merera Gudina, chairman of the Oromo National Congress (ONC), has declared that the Oromo people would do well to struggle for the realization of democratic governance in Ethiopia rather than promote secessionist ideas. The Oromo people, on the strength of their number and their vast land, could only profit by winning freedom from oppression. He said the quarrel of the Oromo people is with past and present autocratic rulers and not with Ethiopia and Ethiopians (Tobia, April 8).

In a joint statement, the OLF and the Ogaden National Liberation Front (ONLF) are said to have called on the people of Oromo and Ogaden not to join the fight against the Eritrean invasion. The statement accused the Ethiopian government of oppressing the Oromo

people and the Ogadeni, and claimed that the two fronts were fighting for the freedom of their people and were not anti-peace as alleged by the government (*Arbeganaw, March 20*).

According to a report, plans by Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) to launch attacks in western Ethiopia were foiled last week. Targeted places were Assosa, Dembidollo, Nejo, Mendi and Bila. After the plans leaked out, Ethiopian government troops moved quickly and surprised the would-be assailants, many of whom were reportedly killed and captured (*Keyit, March 18*).

After secret negotiations with government officials, AAPO (All Amhara People's Organization) is reported to have agreed to participate in the Ethiopian elections of 2000. It is said that the U.S. Ambassador to Ethiopia, Mr. David Shinn, had played a part in persuading AAPO to take part in the elections (*Beza, March 9*).

In an interview with the BBC, the new leader of the Ogaden Liberation Front, General Mohammed Oumer Osman, disclosed that his group has expanded its military operations against the Ethiopian army in Degehabour, Burahe, Kekafi, Gode and Dolo. He also said that his front receives arms and financial assistance from Eritrea (*Atkurot, March 2*).

The Council of Alternative Forces For Peace and Democracy in Ethiopia issued a statement on February 11 regarding the ongoing war with Eritrea. The statement declared that the Council will set aside its differences with the EPRDF and give top priority to the defense of the country, for which it is ready to pay every sacrifice. It also called on the Ethiopian people, the national defense forces and the government to contribute their full share in the defense of Ethiopia (*Amaratch, February 14*). Somali factions opposed to Hussein Aideed are said to have disclosed in a statement that Eritrea has sent five plane-loads of weapons to Somalia to be distributed to Ethiopian opposition groups through Aideed. The Ethiopian government has been accusing Eritrea of arming such dissident groups as Al-Itihad, the Oromo Liberation Front and the Ogaden National Liberation Front (*Maebel, January 30*).

Crime, Corruption and Legal Affairs:

Out of the total of 171,000 registered land and real estate owners in Addis Ababa, 101,000 have been discovered to be tax evaders. The evaders owe the government a total of 59,800,000 birr in tax arrears (*Abiotawi Democracy, May 9*).

Nine officials of the agriculture bureau of the Southern Regional State found guilty of misappropriating public funds have been sentenced to prison terms of between four to ten years (*Radio Ethiopia, April 17*).

The World Bank has prepared a document on corruption in Ethiopia. The report indicates that the Ethiopian Government is concerned about the state of corruption and hopes to contain it through its reform program. According to the government, corruption in Ethiopia is the result of incompatibility of the justice and legal systems with the Federal Constitution, excessive bureaucracy, the absence of a service-oriented civil service, low pay for civil servants, outdated contract offers and others. A World Bank expert said corruption in Ethiopia is not as rife as in other countries in Africa. However, it manifests itself in the form of poor contract offers to big mining projects as well as when citizens of the country require service from government institutions. The expert added that even government ministers have told him they sometimes have to pay money to execute government business. However, Ethiopia sent a strong message to fight corruption when it took measures against former Deputy Prime Minister Tamrat Layne, the expert said (*VOA, April 22*).

Twenty-one local administration officials have been removed from office in Nazareth for allegedly selling 130 government houses and returning other nationalized residences to their former owners. The kebele officials were also accused of issuing identity cards to non-Ethiopians, and of taking bribes (*Radio Ethiopia, January 20*).

A recent study carried out by Save the Children, Sweden unveils most of the children in Ethiopia suffer from corporal punishment daily. The charity undertook the study in the Amhara, Oromiya, Gambella and southern Ethiopia regions, as well as in Addis Ababa and Dire Dawa administrations. The study

indicates children in most households in Ethiopia do not escape physical punishment by their parents and teachers (*ENA, January 21*).

Military and Defence:

Two Ethiopian jets crashed near Arba Minch while on training on April 20, 1999. All the instructors and trainee pilots were killed and the jets were destroyed (*Amaratch, April 25*).

Only a week after an Ethiopian helicopter crashed near Nazareth, a Mig 21 fighter jet perished on a training flight on January 22. The pilot, Major Bahru Mohammed, was killed (*Moreshe, January 26*). The crash of a 9th Ethiopian aircraft. Aviation experts suspect sabotage at the level of the technical staff as most of the airmen who suffered the accidents were experienced veterans (*Ethop, January 28*).

Refugees:

The DPPC disclosed that 343,656 people have been displaced from their homes due to the war with Eritrea while 41,000 Ethiopians have so far been deported from Eritrea. The U.S. has granted 15,120 tons of grain and the WFP has pledged 45,351 tons of food aid for displaced people (*State media, May 20*).

Having implemented harsh government restrictions in 1997, namely a 38 percent income tax for expatriate staff, thereby causing most international aid agencies to abandon their operations, the Eritrean government is now calling on them to return. With thousands of Eritreans displaced and in need of food and shelter, Eritrea has invited 15 of the organizations to return, and hopes that the aid groups will send money to purchase food and donate blankets, medical supplies, tents and trucks to their relief effort. The eleven-month war between Ethiopia and Eritrea has rendered 450,000 Eritreans vagrant, homeless or unable to manage their farms and businesses. Add to that the 55,000 Eritreans deported from Ethiopia and the figure reaches over half-a-million people destitute (*Addis Tribune, April 9*).

The United Nations has estimated the fresh displacement of 270,000 more people from northern Ethiopia following the latest fighting between Ethiopia and Eritrea. Meanwhile, the Ethiopian government has not

yet allowed diplomats, relief workers and members of the international media to go to that part of the country to provide assistance and see the actual situation for themselves (VOA, February 13).

News about Church and Religion:

A senior cleric of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, Komos Melake Hiwot Adhane Hagos, who is now in self-imposed exile, told the Voice of Germany that up to 267 church figures, including bishops and scholars, left Ethiopia because of the misguided style of leadership of Patriarch Paulos (Beza, April 27). Leaders of the Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant churches as well as the Addis Ababa Islamic Supreme Council President have expressed their support to Ethiopia's self-defense efforts in the war against Eritrea. The Ethiopian Islamic Affairs Supreme Council last week reiterated that it will continue to give all necessary assistance to the Ethiopian fighting forces engaged in combat against the EPLF (Radio Ethiopia, February 7, 10).

Ethiopians in Frankfurt, Germany, reportedly disturbed and interrupted worship services at St. Mary's Church led by Patriarch Paulos of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church (EOC). Members of Ethiopian opposition groups like AAPO and EPRP were said to be vociferous in challenging the Patriarch's authority. German police intervened to restore calm and allow Dr. Paulos to leave (Atkurot, January 26).

Certain people are fomenting dissent in the Ethiopian Evangelical Church. The church has surely done well to rid itself of these ethnic chauvinists and impostors. However, these people are still active and the church must remain vigilant (Seife Nebelbal, January 15).

News about Culture and History:

The Patriarch of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church received from the Minister of Information the stolen cross of King Lalibela. The 800-year-old cross, weighing about five kilograms, was stolen in 1997 from Lalibela church, registered by UNESCO as a Universal Human Heritage Church, and sold to a Belgian relic collector for 25,000 USD (Addis Zemen, May 13).

A new species of human ancestors and early traces of animal butchery

dating back to 2.5 million years have reportedly been discovered and are said to stimulate new debate and additional research on the origin of Man. The discoveries are the latest in a series from the Afar depression of eastern Ethiopia where three great rift valleys intersect in the Horn of Africa. The new discoveries were made by Ethiopian anthropologist Dr. Berhane Asfaw and his colleagues from the U.S. and Japan. The fossils have been described as possibly a direct human ancestor and an evolutionary link between the ape-man of Africa (Australopithecus) and Genus Homo (ETV, April 22).

An Association for the Return of Mekdela Ethiopian Treasures, AFROMET, was formed at a ceremony held in Addis Ababa. The association seeks to restore treasures forcibly taken from Ethiopia to Britain to the rightful owner, including several valuable treasures looted during General Napier's expedition to Mekdela. Dr. Richard Pankhurst, member of the association, said that the loot from Mekdela included a variety of gold, silver and brass crosses as well as many illuminated parchments. The British Library had received 350 manuscripts, he said. It was also disclosed that 15 elephant-loads and 200 mule-loads of property of the Ethiopian church and monarchy were looted in 1968 (Radio Ethiopia, April 13).

Ato Wolde Michael Chemu, Minister of Information and Culture, said that a mechanism has been devised to protect the country's relics against looting. The Minister indicated that antiques have been registered in many parts of the country including in areas occupied by Eritrea just days before the invasion (Radio Ethiopia, February 16).

Other Social and Political Issues:

32% of the people in the southern regional state have been able to get access to potable water over the last few years. An average of 150-180 km road was built annually with the participation of the local people. Education and health coverage has increased to 49 and 40 percent from 26 and 28 percent respectively over the last five years (ENA, May 26).

Ethiopia is in the forefront in setting a good example for other African countries in the implementation of

population programs and activities. This was stated by the director of UNFPA Country Support Team, at a workshop in Addis Ababa. He said that since the adoption of its population policy in 1993, Ethiopia has registered a high implementation rate compared to most African countries supported by UNFPA (Radio Ethiopia, April 13).

Only 19 of the 209 scholarship grants given by foreign governments and international agencies to the Afar Region have been used by the region. This, according to the management and training team in the regional council, is due to the absence of a body which should follow up the matter and the eligibility of candidates (Radio Ethiopia, March 6).

Foreign Relations:

Somali leader Hussein Aideed accused Ethiopia of invading Somali territory and training Somali faction fighters in Ethiopia and sending them to start troubles Mr. Aideed also charged that Ethiopian troops laid landmines in central and southern Somalia which killed and wounded people and animals. He called on the OAU, the UN and IGAD to denounce Ethiopia's occupation of Somali territory and find a solution to the problem (Enat Agere, May 21).

According to a BBC report, Ethiopia's foreign minister traveled to Tripoli to hand over a letter from Prime Minister Meles Zenawi to Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Gaddafi. Libyan Radio indicated that the letter dealt with the war in the Horn of Africa (Menilik, April 30).

The president-elect of Djibouti, Ismael Guelleh, has declared that future economic, social and political cooperation between his country and Ethiopia would be his administration's top priority. Describing Ethiopia as Djibouti's life-line, he noted that Ethiopia is the number one customer of Djibouti port and a major trading partner (Fanos, April 23).

Non-essential U.S. embassy staff, who were evacuated in February, have been returning to work in Ethiopia starting April 19. This is good news for Ethiopia as it suggests that either the Americans feel the war is going to end soon, or that Ethiopia has the upper hand. Either way, it is evident that the Americans believe the area is safer

now than it was at the outbreak of war. (*Addis Tribune*, April 23)

At a three-day conference in Washington, the African governments joined the U.S. administration in support of an African free trade bill, and a sympathetic senator, Indiana Republican Dick Lugar, took the opportunity of the conference to launch a second attempt to steer the legislation through the upper chamber. The bill, which offers easy access to the U.S. market for reform-minded African countries, has become a litmus test for whether Americans share Clinton's enthusiasm for a closer relationship with Africa. Clinton's proposal was that international creditors move quickly to forgive \$100 billion, the amount of debt that could qualify for forgiveness under the World Bank's program for highly indebted poor countries many of which are in Africa and Latin America (*Monitor*, March 20). Clinton remarked when addressing his move to resubmit a measure (African Growth and Opportunity Act) to Congress aimed to boost African exports to the US by doing away with quotas and customs duties (*Addis Tribune*, March 19).

It has been reported that the Ethiopian Minister for Trade and Industry reached an agreement with the Sudanese Minister for External Trade on improving trade relations between Ethiopia and Sudan during his visit to Khartoum to attend an international trade fair. Ato Kassahun also held talks with Sudan's president Al-Bashir whom he briefed on the current Ethiopia-Eritrean war (*Seife Nebelbal*, February 19).

According to Africa Confidential, Ato Siye Abraha, the former minister of defense, traveled secretly to Khartoum for talks with Sudanese officials on improving relations between the two countries (*Menelik*, February 5). Vice President Riak Machar said a sizeable Sudanese delegation would travel to Addis Ababa "In the coming days" to complete the normalization of ties strained since a failed assassination bid against Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in June 1995 in Addis Ababa. The visiting Sudanese delegation would also discuss the voluntary repatriation of Sudanese refugees from Ethiopia estimated by the UN refugee agency to number 76,000 (*Sun*, February 11).

Nile Waters:

The 7th Nile Cooperation Council of Ministers meeting wound up after adopting important decisions to foster cooperation among the nine Nile basin states. A foreign ministry legal affairs director Seife Selassie Lemma told reporters the meeting took steps towards facilitating investment in irrigation and hydroelectric power utilization projects at the national level for riparian states (*Radio Ethiopia*, May 14). The nine Nile basin countries are Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi, Congo, Ethiopia, Egypt, Sudan and Eritrea (*Radio Ethiopia*, April 29).

The current status quo is based on the water agreements which have been so far signed. Those colonial agreements, signed by the forces which had ruled Sudan and Egypt, favored colonial interests in Egypt and Sudan. There were other agreements signed between colonial powers and independent states. Here, the notable one was the 1929 agreement between the British government and the newly-independent Egyptian government. That agreement recognized Egypt's rights much more than anybody else's in the Nile basin. The third type of agreements are those reached between independent countries in the basin. The agreement signed in 1959 between Egypt and Sudan gives the bulk of the Nile waters to Egypt (*Reporter*, April 21).

The Egyptian newspaper Al-Ahram is said to have reported that the IMF has decided not to give loans to Ethiopia for projects on the Nile and that loan money obtained previously should not be used for such projects (Goh, January 2). Egyptian officials are said to have persuaded IMF experts not to grant loan to Ethiopia for projects on the Nile before their own projects have been completed (*Beza*, January 5).

Education:

Education coverage in Ethiopia has grown over two-fold, according to the Ministry of Education. The coverage of education which had been at 19.6 percent in 1993 has now more than doubled to reach 42 percent in the last one year. This is attributed to the change in public attitude towards education, the allocation of additional budget to the sector, as well as the conditions created to enable students to learn

in their native languages (*ENA*, April 12).

The German humanitarian foundation Menschen für Menschen, through its Merhabete project, Merhabete Integrated Rural Development Project (MIRDP), had constructed schools and two of them were recently inaugurated. The chairman of MfM, Mr. Karlheinz Bohm expressed his concern about the way MfM projects are being handled once they are handed over to the respective government authorities (*Monitor*, March 9).

Schools worth 2 billion birr will be constructed in the Amhara Region within a period of three years. 592 new elementary and 12 new secondary schools will be built by 2002. Furthermore, five more community skills development centers and specialized schools for the deaf will be constructed. 1,200 elementary schools will be upgraded and 18 high schools will be renovated (*Radio Ethiopia*, February 21).

A total of 1,408 students have graduated from different vocational training centers in Amhara Region after ten months of intensive training. The students were given courses in drawing and surveying, auto-mechanics, construction, building technology, electricity, metal works, woodwork and electronics (*Bekur*, January 29).

The Ministry of Education has said that 2.7 billion birr has been earmarked this year for the construction and maintenance of educational institutions in the country. The ministry indicated about 1.9 billion birr of the total amount has been set aside by the regional administration education bureau as capital budget for the purpose (*Radio Ethiopia*, January 7).

Health

A UNICEF study indicated that Vitamin A deficiency among peasants in Harar has reached an alarming stage. This happened as a result of the peasants abandoning the growing of vegetables and concentrating on growing Khat (*Radio Ethiopia*, April 27).

More than 9 percent of 10,930 Ethiopians whose blood samples were tested over the past nine months as part of a prerequisite for the issuance of visas to various countries have turned out to be HIV/AIDS positive, the Addis Ababa health laboratory said. Ato Zewdu

Tessema said that 994 applicants for visas to go abroad on scholarship, for business or for adoption purposes were disqualified due to their blood test results (*Monitor*, April 15).

The graduation of 21 students and 4 teachers from the Shimeles Habte High School as Adolescent Reproductive Health Trainers and their receiving of certificates from Save the Children USA in a ceremony held at the school was announced in a press release from the USIS. The Adolescent Reproductive Health Club program is an initiative by Save the Children USA that trains students and teachers in government high schools to disseminate reproductive health information through peer education activities such as dramas, songs, panel discussions, guest speakers and essay competitions (*Addis Tribune*, March 19).

Ethiopia has the highest number of reported tuberculosis cases in Africa, the 1998 World Health Organization Report disclosed. WHO's Tuberculosis Epidemic Report launched recently said 171,033 people are officially reported to have TB while there are 90,277 estimated TB cases (*Reporter*, March 17).

Women in south Omo zone, southern Ethiopian state say they seek the assistance of administrative and other pertinent bodies in the fight against harmful traditional practices. Women of the Ari, Hamar, Bena and Karo nationalities approached by ENA said they need assistance to thwart harmful traditional practices that are inflicting physical and psychological damages on them (*ENA*, March 16).

His Holiness Abune Paulos, Patriarch of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, said that the clergy should be at the forefront in the fight against AIDS. Noting that the clergy had so far been reluctant to take an active part in the fight against the disease, he pointed out that this is a critical time to take the lead and protect people against the menace (*ETV*, March 9).

A report submitted at a half-day gathering at the Ministry of Health has indicated that there are 66,000 AIDS patients registered by medical institutions across the country and that there are half-a-million others identified as HIV carriers. The report quoted studies conducted up to last December on

AIDS, polio and malaria. It was also disclosed that malaria is spreading at an unprecedented rate even in highland areas (*Radio Ethiopia*, March 4).

Health projects by NGOs operating in Addis Ababa Administration at a cost of 105 million birr are being undertaken this year. According to Dr. Iyob Kemal, head of the health bureau of Addis Ababa Administration, 30 NGOs are undertaking the construction of 63 health establishments in localities where the government has not so far built such centers (*Addis Lissan*, February 24).

Menschen Fur Menschen says it has finalized preparations to construct a hospital in Alem-Ketema town, North Shoa zone, at a cost of eight million birr. The donor agency has also allocated 4.5 million birr to equip the hospital with the necessary internal facilities. Upon completion, the hospital will render service to over 400,000 people (*ENA*, February 16).

The Hadiya zone health department says the construction of health institutions is underway in the zone at a cost of over six million birr. The projects include the construction of six health stations and posts and the expansion of two clinics (*Monitor*, February 18).

Media in Ethiopia have reported that the malaria epidemic which has affected West Shoa, Jimma, Wellega and several other parts of the country has been effectively contained. Hundreds of people are reported to have died from the epidemic since September (*VOA*, Jan. 5).

Human Rights, Religion

Freedom of Press:

The former editor of Beza newspaper, Ato Yared Kifle, is reported to have been released on March 11 after nearly a week's detention in connection with an article published 3 years ago (*Beza*, March 16).

The draft of the long-awaited broadcast proclamation was discussed by the House of Peoples' Representatives and referred to the Legal Affairs Standing Committee. The proclamation allows to establish private radio and TV stations at regional and national levels. Licenses will be issued for eight and ten years. An agency with the task of ensuring the expansion of a high standard and reliable broadcasting

service accountable to the Prime Minister will be established (*Sun*, March 11).

Ato Kifle Mulat, president of EFPJA (Ethiopian Free Press Journalists' Association) is reported to have urged the government to grant legal recognition to EFPJA and allow access to information to private journalists. Ato Kifle noted that 12 private journalists are presently in jail.



Förderung der Kreativität

Jahreshauptversammlung und Äthiopien Seminar 1999 des Deutsch-Äthiopischen Vereins in der Jugendherberge in Kassel vom 12.-14.3.99

Gedächtnisprotokoll von Ursula Schäubel

Das Seminar begann mit einer Vorstellungsrunde, die einen interessanten Einblick in die vielfältigen Aktivitäten des Vereins, seiner einzelnen Mitglieder sowie der Projekte gab.

Alle deutschen Teilnehmer fühlten sich veranlaßt mitzuteilen, daß sie, nachdem sie vor mehr oder weniger langer Zeit und auf unterschiedliche Art und Weise mit Äthiopien in Kontakt gekommen waren, dieses Land sie nun nicht mehr loslasse.

Zu den größten Aktivitäten des Vereins im letzten Jahr gehörte eine Veranstaltung mit Circus Ethiopia, die Lutz und Bernhard in Heidelberg sehr erfolgreich organisiert hatten. Mit dem Überschuß aus der Veranstaltung konnte eine Nebelmaschine und eine Lichtanlage für die Zirkusgruppe in Mekele gestiftet werden. Lutz hat diese im Dezember mit nach Äthiopien genommen. Leider konnte er sie nicht persönlich übergeben, weil sie nicht rechtzeitig aus dem Zoll geholt werden konnte.

Außerdem förderte der Verein das deutsch-äthiopische Musikprojekt "Sounds of Saba" mit 2.000,- DM. Die Tour der Gruppe konnte so um ein Konzert im Haus der Kulturen in Göttingen erweitert werden.

Als weiteres Beispiel der Förderung von Kreativität wurde von Bernhardt Schulte Kemna die Ausschreibung eines Wettbewerbs mit Mitteln des Vereins am Agricultural College von Awassa (s. Artikel von Bernhard). Das Wissen der Studenten sollte "angezapft" und mit Preisen von 1500, 1000 und 500 Bir belohnt werden. Auf 4 getippten Seiten sollten Selbsthilfsvorschläge aus der eigenen Kultur vorgestellt werden, das Projekt soll drei Jahre laufen und der Verein schlug vor, daß die Vorschläge von den jeweiligen Lehrern beurteilt werden sollten.

Lutz Crakau schlägt vor, über Patenschaften, Brieffreundschaften und Schüleraustausch Informationen über das Land und Kontakte zu vermitteln. Dies könnte in Zusammenarbeit mit Schulen geschehen. Es wurde auch vorgeschlagen äthiopisches Kunsthandwerk und Künstler zu fördern. Über die Möglichkeiten Fördergelder zu bekommen wurde diskutiert. Verschiedene Rundfunkanstalten sind interessiert, was ihnen fehlt sind geeignete Berichte.

Nebiu Assefa von der Technischen Hochschule Darmstadt zeigte eine Ausstellung von einem als Pilotprojekt am Institut von Prof. Stoffel entwickelten kleinen Wasserkraftwerk, für das sich auch die Universität in Addis Abeba interessiert hat. Er berichtete auch über die seit 10 Jahren bestehende deutsch - äthiopische Freundschaftsgesellschaft, die z.B. an der TH nicht mehr benötigte Geräte nach Äthiopien bringen will.

Bernhardt Schulte - Kemna, Helga Tewes und Lutz Crackau stellten dann nochmal die dem Seminar zugrundeliegende Idee zur "Förderung der Kreativität" vor und forderten die Teilnehmer zum brainstorming auf. Es wurde eine umfangreiche Liste von Ideen erstellt, die unter bestimmten Gesichtspunkten zusammengefaßt werden sollten, damit sie im Laufe des Tages von Teilnehmergruppen bearbeitet werden konnten.

Anschließend stellte Prof. Braukämper vom Institut für Völkerkunde der Universität Göttingen seine jetzigen und früheren Äthiopienstudien über das Frobenius Institut vor und berichtete

über eine Wiederbelebung von Traditionen in jüngster Zeit. Mit zahlreichen Bildern veranschaulichte er sein Forschungsgebiet "Innovation und Tradition", was hier nicht im Einzelnen wiedergegeben werden kann. Die Schriften von Prof. Braukämper können über das Frobenius Institut in Frankfurt bezogen werden und stellen sicherlich eine spannende und faszinierende Lektüre für die Mitglieder und Freunde des Vereins dar.

Am Nachmittag gab Prof. Stephan Brüne vom Überseeinstitut in Hamburg einen chronologischen Abriss über den Krieg zwischen Äthiopien und Eritrea, der von Fragen und Anmerkungen der Teilnehmer ergänzt wurde. Zu den Hintergründen konnten nur Mutmaßungen angestellt werden. Auch eine Zukunftsprognose erschien unmöglich. Stephan Brüne stelle aber fest, daß die ganze Region nunmehr durch Bündnisse verschiedenster Art in den Konflikt involviert ist und große Unsicherheit in den gesamten Raum gebracht wurde.

Es blieb nur wenig Zeit für die Ideenwerkstatt. Viele bedauerten, daß sie nur an einer Gruppe teilnehmen konnten. Von den Ergebnissen der Workshops konnte nur noch unter großem Zeitdruck und im Telegrammstil berichtet werden. Ohne Anspruch auf Vollständigkeit wird folgendes festgehalten.



1. Literaturwettbewerb

Der Literaturwettbewerb soll möglichst weit gefaßt zu einer Sammlung von Geschichten und Aufsätzen von Kindern, Jugendlichen und Erwachsenen in den verschiedenen Muttersprache führen. Er soll in Zusammenarbeit mit Goethefreunden und dem Institut sowie Schulen durchgeführt werden. Die Auswahl soll von Äthiopiern getroffen werden. Preisgelder müssen aufgetrieben werden. Zunächst einmal ist nur ein Informationsschreiben zu verfassen und Portokosten vom Verein zu zahlen. Das Echo hierauf wird dann die weiteren Schritte diktieren.

2. Strategien zur Konfliktbewältigung

Die Strategien zur Konfliktbewältigung sollen über die Schulen vorwiegend an Jungens herangetragen werden. Mit Lehrern in der BRD soll das Material gesichtet und an private Schulen, z.B. auch die deutsche Schule herangetragen werden. Das Material muß eventuell angepaßt werden. Es sollen auch Kontakt zur Mekane Jesus Kirche eventuell in Wollega und den Hermannsdorfern geknüpft werden.

3. Landschaft u. Pflanzenschutz

Die Landwirtschaftsgruppe soll eine Nachuntersuchung am Projekt in Arba Minch veranlassen. Am College in Wondogenet und Awassa soll ein Projekt mit Helmut Spohn zur Verbesserung der Qualität von unbehandeltem Oberflächenwasser durch Muringa stenopetala - Kohibaum durchgeführt werden.

4. Lokale Diskussionsgruppen

Es sollen lokale Diskussionsgruppen mit Teilnehmerlisten für Entwicklungshilfeprojekte gebildet werden, um Interessentengruppen zu bilden und Leute auswählen zu können. Beispiel: Der DAAD hat ein Wasserversorgungsprojekt gesponsert, das über die Uni Addis Abeba und eine italienische Universität angeboten wurde.

Nähere Informationen zu den AG's, z.B. Ansprechpartner, kann man beim Vereinsvorstand bekommen.

Vorstandswahl am 14.3.99

In diesem Jahr stand mal wieder der Vorstand zur Wahl an. Klaus Mechelke hatte schon im Vorfeld klar gemacht, daß er für den Posten des Kassenwartes nicht mehr kandidieren wird.

Als neuer Kassenwart vorgeschlagen und gewählt wurde Bernhard Schulte-Kemna.

Den 1. Vorsitz macht weiterhin Lutz Crackau, 2. Vorsitzende ist Helga Tewes und zum Schriftführer wurde neu Fekade S. Bemnet gewählt. Der Vorstand wird so auf zwei Jahre bestehen.

Äthiopien-Leitfaden

Bei der letzten Mitgliederversammlung wurde außerdem vorgeschlagen, daß unser Verein einen Leitfaden über alle äthiopische Organisationen, Vereine, Restaurants, Aktivitäten, etc. In Deutschland erstellen sollte. Diese Informationen sollten dann in Form einer Broschüre veröffentlicht werden. Da dieser Vorschlag allgemeine Zustimmung fand, habe ich mich bereit erklärt bis zum Ende des Jahres 1999 alle Informationen bei mir zu sammeln. Dazu benötige ich die Mithilfe aller Vereinsmitglieder, die Adressen, Selbstdarstellungen, Beschreibungen von äthiopischen Initiativen oder Restaurants haben oder selbst in so einer Organisation tätig sind.

Wenn wir genügend Informationen zusammen bekommen, werde wir im Jahr 2000 diesen Äthiopien Leitfaden herausgeben.

Helga Tewes
Stephanstr. 10
34131 Kassel
0561-36210
E-mail: htewes@gmx.de



Ein paar Eindrücke von meinem Aufenthalt in Äthiopien vom 6. - 24. April 1999

Hinflug mit Alitalia von Frankfurt via Milano: 16,5 Stunden unterwegs wegen Umfliegen des italienischen Luftraumes (Jugoslawien – Krieg), Zwischenlandung in Jeddah zum Auftanken und Umfliegen des eritreischen Luftraumes. Flugkosten: 1219,- DM bei Ticket – Großhändler; (Ethiopian Airlines ist noch ca. 170,- DM billiger und fliegt direkt nach Addis).

- Ich habe einen Rollstuhl, Medikamente und Geld für das AGOS Waisenhaus und Stadtteil - Projekt in Addis dabei. Paß- und Zollkontrolle verlaufen reibungslos.

- In Addis und im zentralen Äthiopien ist alles total ruhig. Nichts deutet auf Krieg hin. Keine Benzin- oder Lebensmittelknappheit. Die Propaganda, die noch im letzten

September aus allen Rohren zum Rückerobern der besetzten Gebiete aufgerufen hatte, ist einer ruhigeren Berichterstattung gewichen. Allerdings soll es auf dem Land inzwischen auch Zwangsrekrutierungen gegeben haben, nachdem sich im letzten Jahr viele Freiwillige gemeldet haben.

- Fahrt nach Awassa: Miserable Straße von kurz nach Mojo bis Awassa; der Neubau des Straßenabschnitts verzögert sich. Die alte Straße ist so kaputt, daß die Fahrt mit dem Bus eine Qual ist. Auf dem Rückweg mit dem großen Toyota Landcruiser "fliegen" wir nur so über die Schlaglöcher, was wesentlich angenehmer ist.

- Kaufkraft: Die Fahrt im Bus nach Awassa kostet 16,5 Birr, was bei 4,1 Birr/1DM ca. 4 DM für fast 300 km bedeutet. Als ich vor 25 Jahren EH in Awassa war, kostete die Fahrt 5,50 Birr bei einem Kurs von 1,25 DM/1 Birr. Ich habe mehrfach festgestellt, daß für jemanden mit DM oder \$ in der Tasche die Kaufkraft ungefähr gleich ist, wie vor 25 Jahren (Birr- Wert im Vergleich zur DM nur noch 18% bei Preissteigerungen von ca. 400-600%). Für Äthiopier, die nur Birr haben, ist diese Preissteigerung von ca. 10-20% pro Jahr natürlich herb. Der gesetzlich niedrigste Tageslohn liegt heute bei 5 Birr. Ein Akademiker im Staatsdienst erhält ca. 800,-Birr. Die niedrigste Taxi-Preisstufe in Addis ist momentan übrigens 45cts. Ein Taxi im "contract" kostet 20 Birr die Stunde.

- Sicherheit: Es ist erstaunlich, wie friedlich und sicher das Leben für Ausländer in Äthiopien ist. Ich hatte nicht eine Situation, wo ich irgendwelche Bedrohung o.ä. verspürt hätte - und das, obwohl ich auch nachts allein in Addis unterwegs war. Vor Taschendieben sollte man sich natürlich vorsehen, besonders im Gedränge oder auf dem "Mer-kato", und man sollte auch bestimmte Gegenden nachts nicht unbedingt allein durchstreifen wollen. Aber insgesamt habe ich mich sehr sicher gefühlt. Für weitere Fragen stehe ich gern zur Verfügung.

Bernhard Schulte-Kemna
Schützenhausstr. 3
69245 Bammmental
Tel: 06223/46121

Buchtips



INFORMATIONEN ZUM GRENZ- KONFLIKT ERITREA/ÄTHIOPIEN

Dokumentation
Juli 1998

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ÄTHIOPIEN

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AETHIOPICA

International Journal of Ethiopian Studies

Institut für Afrikanistik und Äthiopistik der Universität Hamburg

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*Alle Buchempfehlungen von
Reinhold May*

Peperoni halbieren, entkernen und in längliche Streifen schneiden.

In einem Topf ohne Fett die Zwiebeln kurz anbraten. Mit 2 Tassen warmem Wasser aufgießen und kochen, bis die Flüssigkeit verkocht und alles zart ist.

Ingwer, zerdrückten Knoblauch, Salz und Butter dazugeben, alles bei schwacher Hitze weitere 5 bis 8 Minuten kochen.

Mit Peperoni abschmecken.



Guten Appetit!!!

zur Mittagszeit Injera, Doro Wot, Aicha u.a. Delikatessen aus Äthiopien angeboten. Wer sich in Amsterdam aufhält, sollte deshalb ein Besuch im Tropenmuseum in Betracht ziehen.

Helga Tewes

DÄV- FOTOAUSTELLUNG

Die Fotoausstellung, die von unseren Mitgliedern zu unserem ersten Äthiopien-Seminar beim DED in Berlin erstellt wurde, befindet sich immer noch in der Obhut des DED. Dort kann sie bei Bedarf abgeholt und zu weiteren Ausstellungszwecken genutzt werden.

Näheres dazu bei Klaus Mechelke,
Tel: 04173-6819

Anmerkung der Redaktion

Dieser Rundbrief sieht ein bißchen anders aus, als die Rundbriefe davor. Falls jemand einen Beitrag vermisst oder seinen Beitrag anders vorfindet, als erwartet, dann möchte ich mich hiermit entschuldigen. Lutz Crackau, der bisher mit wachsender Erfahrung und Routine den Rundbrief redaktionell zusammengestellt und gelayoutet hat, war diesmal beruflich sehr eingespannt und befindet sich zur Zeit auf Dienstreise im fernen Mali. Ich habe also von ihm einen Stapel Disketten und Papiere bekommen, die ich möglichst in kurzer Zeit, denn wir sind schon wieder zu spät dran, zu einem Rundbrief zusammenbasteln sollte. Deshalb eine etwas dünnere Sommerausgabe.

Die nächste Ausgabe wird ungefähr im November erscheinen.

Redaktionsschluß 31.Oktober

Wir bitten um Zusendung von Artikeln und anderen Beiträgen. Diese können auch über E-mail geschickt werden. Bitte möglichst in Word-Version.
htewes@gmx.de
crackau@t-online.de

Helga Tewes

OSTAFRIKANISCH KOCHEN



Gerichte und ihre Geschichte

von
KetselaWubneh-Mogessie
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ISBN 3-89533-246-1

Ein kulinarischer Streifzug durch die Geschichte und Kultur der ostafrikanischen Küche. Mit 160 Rezepten aus Somalia, Kenia, Ruanda, Burundi, Tansania, Mosambik, besonders aber aus Äthiopien. Mit Farbfotos und vielen Hintergrundinformationen.

(Rezeptbeispiel s. unten)

Helga Tewes

HABESCHA GOMEN BESIGA

Grünkohl mit Fleisch

1 ½ Std. Vorbereitungszeit und Kochzeit

200g Fleisch
750 g Grünkohl
1 milde oder scharfe Peperoni
2 gehackte Zwiebeln
½ TL gemahlener Ingwer
3 Knoblauchzehen
3 EL Gewürzbutter od. Butter

Das Fleisch in längliche Stücke schneiden. Die Kohlblätter abstreifen, waschen und grob hacken. Die

Notizen

111 BRUNNEN FÜR ÄTHIOPIEN

111 Jahre Gerolsteiner - 111 Brunnen für Äthiopien

Unter diesem Motto stand eine Spendenaktion der Mineralwasserfirma Gerolsteiner. Vom 31.Mai bis zum 31.Juli konnten spezielle Karten oder E-mails an die Firma gesendet werden. Für jede eingegangene Meldung spendete die Firma Gerolsteiner 1,11DM an die Organisation "Menschen für Menschen" zum Bau von 111 Brunnen in Äthiopien.

ETHIOPIA - THE HERITAGE OF AN EMPIRE

Äthiopien Ausstellung im Tropenmuseum Amsterdam noch bis zum 16.8.99

Im Tropenmuseum in Amsterdam gibt es seit dem 12.11.98 eine Sonderausstellung zu Äthiopien. In anschaulicher Weise wird die alte und die neuere Geschichte des Landes, seine Kultur und sein Alltag dargestellt. Videofilme zeigen Ausschnitte aus den besten und den schlimmsten Zeiten. Ein Computer bietet die neuesten Informationen aus dem Internet und im Restaurant des Museums werden