

*"Let Us not be too proud to face...honestly and frankly the fact that by the standards of the modern world, the African peoples today are poor. Our poverty need not cover Us with shame... But just as we must not be too proud to recognize the facts of Africa's economic situation as it exists today, so We must not be cast down or discouraged by the magnitude of the problems which face Us.*

*For Africa is potentially rich.*

*The Wise mind of Emperor Haile Sellassie I on Development*

## Ethiopia Harar-Shashemene Delegation Report

Motherland International Relations

April 7, 2009 Report

### **Eight Applications Received:**

- 1) Sister Ijahnya Christian lives in St. Kitts and is the Executive Director of The Caribbean Rastafari Organisation
- 2) Ras Pive Dread lives in Mexico and is a student of social anthropology
- 3) Sister Africa Thompson lives in Jamaica and is a member of the Rastafari Youth Initiative Council and is a social worker
- 4) Ras Kandre Leveridge lives in Jamaica and is a member of the Rastafari Youth Initiative Council as well as being experienced in social work
- 5) Messenjeh Selah lives in California and is a reggae musician and activist
- 6) Ras Elliot Leib lives in California and is an organizer
- 7) Ras Sela is from Panama and is member of the Ethio-Africa Diaspora Union Millennium Council and fills the role of security and logistics coordinator
- 8) Ras Tito is from Panama and is a commercial driver

### **Expecting Applications by the end of April from:**

- 1) Elder Sangie Davis lives in Jamaica and is the public relations officer for the Ethio-Africa Diaspora Union Millennium Council
- 2) Tikher Tiffera is an Ethiopian living in DC and is a film maker
- 3) Dr. Jalani Bongo Niah lives in Jamaica and is a professor at the U. of West Indies
- 4) Ras Mukuto in Chile who is a graphic artist
- 5) Marcus Goffe as legal council for the Ethio-Africa Diaspora Union Millennium Council
- 6) Any other individuals who may submit an application before the end of April

*Zero money has been received thus far toward the payment of \$1555.55 per participant which does not include airfare which will be around \$1300.*

### **Endorsement supporting this fact-finding and service mission have come from:**

- 1) Prince Ermias Sahle Selassie for The Ethiopian Crown Council
- 2) The Rastafari Youth Initiative Council
- 3) Sister Barbara Makeda Blake
- 4) Ras Iral founding member of CRO
- 5) General Salem in South Africa as a member of the Rastafari Youth Initiative
- 6) Ras A. R. King for The Ethiopian World Federation Addis Ababa

- 7) Ras Howard Wright for The Ethio-Africa Diaspora Union Millennium Council
- 8) Ras Franklin Mwalimju Kwame Tafari for the Caribbean Rastafari Organization
- 9) Ras Marley for the Rastafari Universoul Prison Ministry Fellowship
- 10) Ras Scott Mosher for The Word Sound and Power Collective in California
- 11) Priest George Latty for the Theocracy Reign Order of the Nyahbinghi Jamaica

***Crown Prince Zera Yacob has shared his support for the mission and will provide the an audience for the delegation when InI are on the ground in Ethiopia***

***Motherland Internations Relations Board of Directors met March 28 and 29, 2009 and approved the following:***

**The Pan African delegation to Ethiopia will research:**

- Creating a cultural heritage site in Ejarsa Goro to honor the birthplace of Haile Selassie The Fist known as the Man Of The Millennium and The Father Of African Unity
- A proper internment site for the remains of Woizero Yeshimabet the Mother of Lij Tafari the Conquering Lion Of The Tribe Of Judah and King Of Kings
- The preservation of artwork through determining the cost for fixing the roof of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church in Ejarsa Goro

**And accomplish in Shashemene:**

- Financial Support for some aspect of agricultural development
- A Water Catchment System for the Secondary School in Shashemene
- Financial Support for the Elders Fund

**And accomplish in Addis Ababa:**

- Financial Support for the Children's Village Center

**And accomplish for the Global Pan African Family:**

- Video documentation of the journey
- A Foundation set for future service pilgrimages to Ethiopia
- Building trust through cooperative, inclusive, and transparent accountability
- Bridge building toward effective and incremental unifying action

*The amount of financial support referred to above is dependent on applicants paying their trip fees and the establishment of a fundraising mechanism for the Global Family to have access to transparent and progressive support of the fore-mentioned works*

**Steps Ahead:**

- 1) Finalizing the group of participants and receiving brief reports from all individuals and bodies working toward this journey to ensure mutual cooperation
- 2) Communicating with the Authority For Research And Conservation Of Cultural Heritage to better know the criteria and process for establishing cultural heritage sites, the Minister of Tourism, and representatives of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church to set official delegation and "business" visa status for the group
- 3) Coordinating booking of airplane tickets through Lion Of Judah Travel

- 4) Orientation packets to participants and using consistent teleconference meetings
- 5) Setting Ethiopia in country logistics

Submitted by Christopher Liontree Co-Director Motherland International Relations