

What is Wrong with us?.....more

//.....vibration.....//

Promoting Social Harmony 2010



Project
„Shading Light on Haile Fida's
Life“

The Substance of the mental being is still, so still, daß nothing disturbs it. If thoughts or activities come they do not rise at all out of the mind, but they come from outside and cross the mind as a flight of birds crosses the sky in a windless air. It passes, disturbs nothing, leaving no trace. Even if a thousand images or the most violent events pass across it, the calm stillness remains as if the very texture of the mind were a substance of eternal and indestructible peace. A mind that has achieved this calmness can begin to act, even intensely and powerfully, but it will keep its fundamental stillness - originating nothing from itself but receiving from Above and giving it a mental form without adding anything of its own, calmly, dispassionately, though with the Joy of Truth and the happy power and light of its passage.

Sri Aurobindo.....

"Shading light on Haile Fida's life"

A short testimony out of the flash (8/5/2010)

To Jawar....for your project "Shading light on Haile Fida's life"

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This is something I expected the least....at least in this rest of my life...aging...life...

After witnessing your "vibrating" (your vocabulary) contributions during the last months and weeks in the Ethiopian opposition movement...to know that you have this intention is the crowning of the events....I highly appreciate. I don't know *Haile* as personally as some friends of mine doHowever, with all the commitment and activity I could manage, I belonged during my youth, to the movement with which his name is mostly associated - meison- until a point in my life, when I opted to live otherwise and reflect more on the "ideology" of my young days...which I think somehow (save details here) went wrong...be itdue to ...a lot of entangled reasons.....local, regional , global, individual/personal.....or organizational.....causes.

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But to our point....*Haile*.....let me assure you that he is a Personality who owes all respect like all the friends I lost during those days. Those days, which were turning the world (1968) and Ethiopia (1974) apart and upside down..... Like all the friends, -I don't know ---should I mention names....beginning with the less known and with the less public ones....just out of a memory flash.....like

....*Meklit...Asfaw...Jemal*.....etc. ..etc....and not to forget among many others.....

... the young charismatic ones such as *Gebre-Ezzabher Hagos* and *Genesse Belay*, who didn't live longer to witness the full brutality of...the dergue...in its final phase .../among the very early victims of eprp assassination/....(... narratives of their friends, I admire)

....the courageous...*Friend* (I lost his name) whose ear drums were totally damaged during torture in prison.....

....*Kebede Deriba*.....and his friend *Eyob*, the "eternal" revolutionary from the old USUAA

....*Merid* (our "small" pseudo Karate Expert....both in his liveliness and articulation art)...

....and the Man ...*Berhanu Gameda*, the courageous, the most selfless Man, I encountered in my life, who moves me always to tears...the moment I think of him ...(and of course I can't

forget his friend, the late *Hailu Gerbaba*, who looks always enchanted and ready to live, for the pair of moments I saw him or he took notice of me...)

....and last but not least...our common most brilliant young Friend *Yohannes Mesfin* (Our Dr. of Philosophy ...imagine in his mid twenties....with all good reasonsto choose another career...insisting to come back home to help the revolution.....like a substantial section of the intelligentsia in that generation, committed for the cause of the people during those days)....

.....the last beautiful brilliant *Konjit Kebede*, full of love and understanding – a young psychologist (on whom I happened to hear that , she said, that she would have committed suicide, had she not encountered Marxism in her life).....and andetc...

Not to mention some of the other "giants", to use your language.....(other friends who were closer to them may lose some words on them...or others whom I have not encountered to make a first hand opinion, like *Dr. Kedir, Hadissu*, etc.....murdered by Legesse's and the notorious Shambel Berhanu's killers).....

.....those wonderful and selfless martyrs of our days like...

.....the big charismatic *Kebede Mengesha*.....always with his genuine smile, on his face, with his capacity of just naturally inducing a sense of confidence the moment you approach him.....

...

.....the tall handsome *Mesfin Karam*, who left his beautiful young wife behind, without a nuance of hesitation, a man of different stature than the average Ethiopian, whom you would take to be a Hollywood actor than a revolutionary, if you take him at face value, an old-timer of the student movement, tortured to death bluntly telling his executors, in the face ..." the crime they have done to the people and the revolution; all in the name of the people" (as told by his torturers later).....

.....*Dr. Mekonnen Jote* (you know I have left all titles of the other friends, if they happen to have one; only here I have to use the title Dr. because all of his friends call him by his title..Doctor), a man of authority so short like Atse Haile Sellasie, and so much aware of the impact and meaning of authority for the masses to inspire them for change if one grasps the art of using it with love and solidarity...(my observation on a common trip in the countryside).... *Jote*...as some friends of him call him lovingly, was a man of commitment with authority and clarity for the real and down-to-earth pragmatic, remembering my intuitive senses.....Therefore one of the first victims of an open state terror of the dergue, (just a day or two after meison left the alliance) perhaps masked and disguised as an "eprp" assassination.....the same with *Abdulahi Yousof*, as far as I can guess and as one intermediate eprp leader in prison told me to know.....

.....the highly intellectual -as I intuitively sensed in a meeting - the first time I heard him making a speech giving an analysis of the social context in which they -we- were working....I

just remember now that it was at that time...too complex for me to understand.....but sufficient enough to know that there is such an intellectual capacity in our ranks and space.... I mean...the intellectual *Daniel Tadesse*, ...I never got the opportunity to appreciate his intellect there after...like all his friends cold bloodedly assassinated by Mengistu's and Legesse's killers (or I don't know...may be he opted for the "Workneh style (1953)" too like his friend *Kebede Mengesha* at the last moment of confrontation) ...

and

.....his brother.....I remember him as a dynamic speaker in ESUE -Moscow Branch-.....*Desta Tadesse*, who was shocked (as I was told later) since I refrained to say "hello" to him in my "Hibue-Phobia" short after I arrived in Addis to work with the friends,.....and...

.....his wonderful selfless brilliant Wife *Negist Adane* (I remember her selfless speech in a meeting, committed to leave the alliance with dergue as soon as the latter turns reactionary, without any hesitation whatsoever, "even if it would immediately cost our lives" (as it indeed did for most of these young men and women of Ethiopia)....."in the interest of the people", she pleaded)...

.....and the tall *Mitiku Terfassa*, who inspired me always with his stature that, to die and work in the interest of the people is as natural and self-evident as quenching your thirst with a glass of clear water on a sunny day.....and a lot more ..I have in vivid memory...

.....and of course I will never forget...the skilled elegant *Dr. Tereffe and his Wife*, who left their children in their delicate years (I think under 10...one perhaps 7 or less...I always tried to imagine this...after I became a father) for the cause of the people and in unhesitating solidarity with their friends.

.....At this point one....You...the young Jawar can guess , that these guys were the "creme de la creme" of a section of the Ethiopian intelligentsia ready to offer their intellectual capacity....simply, sincerely and genuinely at the service of the well-being of a people they love.....albeit all the ideological dogma of the period of which no body was immune....

But there is something important in this context one would not miss:

- a) From the perspective of the dergue
- b) Out of the perspective of all external powers, who may have envisaged to rule Ethiopia by proxy - Cuba and Russia and the rest...like former East Germany or the rest of the former eastern block.... or even as a matter of fact, as far as real politics is concerned (through intelligence activity and destabilization) I would even dare to say America /USA and Western Europe.

For dergue...there won't be any other solution other than to get rid of this intellectual "collection", whom they are for sure afraid of, let alone all other factors and scapegoats....even simply out of an intellectual inferiority complex for instance.....

For the external powers...such a pile of intellectuals affiliated in one group...together... is for sure –not attractive to say the least.... in the long term interest of their corresponding intervening nations...and above all not liable to be taken by the hand, be it, to manipulate it for corruption nor to be lulled to compromise on any points of common national interests.

Therefore....the end of the alliance with the dergue is, if you look at it straight, it was quasi, "a fait accompli" and a question of time...And it was....

If you were not involved in the social movement then, you may see this constellation....or now there is certainly nobody who won' claim to be „wiser" in the aftermath...How can one be so blindfolded by revolutionary romanticism...?

May be an over dosage of an intellectual "social drug" (sorry if I offend some sentiments here) called "Marxism" combined with "Leninism" ---if you look at it ...even contradictory in terms....totally incompatibleForget it ; this is another theme....

That the alliance with Dergue would end sooner or later was not a big secret....like the "siwir Polis of Menilik with "siwir polis written on their capes"meison cadres were proclaiming this fact at every opportunity...and conference or "ye niquat zemecha" (Perhaps to impress our counterparts or what? I really don't grasp now....our "blauaüigkeit"/ naivety...it amounts to telling a soldier in the face you are my enemy tomorrow) that the military-dergue is only a provisional ally ...

Forget this too...and let me go to the point of your interest and *Haile*....

A lot more...I would like to spare you.....perhaps living or not ...in this or that corner of the globe or Ethiopia... You know all this is a cumulated sum of experience which goes down to the grass...below...the grass to the Ethiopian Earth.....if only one is ready to pick it up to do better and more with the substance all these people left to our part of mankind....the Ethiopian section....Be it good or bad...all this is the treasure of the new generation....the masses ...the kings....thepoets....the artist.....all and all. Pick up the difference ...the positive difference and make another positive difference out of it..... to progress forward....that is what science does....this is how nature unfolds...etc....That is the big point I think....what perhaps a substantial section of our Ethiopian political class today... is missing...Any way... In those days the air was full ofCommitment.....as a matter of fact....which ever section....one belonged to, (it is one generation if you look at it from afar above from the sky...so to speak; if you walk up the sky....to speak with Meklit Hadero...my Ethiopian Voice of Aesthetics, these days).....A commitment one can only dream of today....

As one historian scholar, unafraid for a critical reflection on the past, Dr. Gebru Tareke..... a former eprp correctly underlined in an interview (cf. Sheger Neger) about the generation..." one can accuse that generation for any shortcomings you may want, but by any standard you like, the slightest doubt about their commitment to their people and their love for Ethiopia can never be justified" (free quotation out of memory).

A commitment one can only dream of today as far as I leisurely happened to observe today....Including myself a good for nothing and a sleeping sentimentonly sticking my nose in some books to understand what philosophers have to say on what went wrong with us.....so la la ...so la la.....after so much has flowed through the "bridge and the mind".

Back to *Haile*,.....He must have been a man of extraordinary reflecting capacity and clarity for his days, for our days of those days, as all those close to him happened to tell me and as far as I managed to understand the thoughts he promoted in those days, leaving aside all the knowledge and the experience, time and space of the aftermath had offered us in the mean time.....Us -the survivors- and -You- the late-comers by birth.....

There are here three points, I would like to mention. Points and clues, I got in touch with, that indicated about the genius of the Man:

1. I will begin with the big Point originating from him....This is the point, I always remember. The initial promotion of "the critical support to dergue" „There is an alternative".....he said... (free quotation)....."We have an alternative... ..at this crucial time,...either we have the courage to change the whole political climate and our political capacity, by actively participating in the social transformation of the Ethiopian society; by giving critical support for all the progressive steps the military takes....or....we step aside condemning simply the reactionary measures it takes and remain meaningless in the history of the Ethiopian revolution....." I wonder how the political landscape would have been today...if we had opted for the adventurous direction.....(like eprp...our main counterpart of the days)....For the big mass of the Ethiopian people; in the context of prosperity and development, I would dare to say, certainly worse than today. I wonder whether the big reform...the "land reform", (save the recent development; the whole sale to foreign investors) which brought about the radical social transformation of the state and its structure, had taken place....at all.....etc.....This is in spite of some political blunders and the political "naivety" which, as far as my opinion and experience is concerned, the line of "the critical support" had certainly enfolded in its nutshell. We - they- and almost all the young people of those days, were- "neulinge/fresh beginners/, " including our counterparts...of those days, who are still today sustaining in unfolding the blunders and "gedankenlosigkeit"/a state of non-reflection/ (H. Arendt), which had their origins during those days of political virginity.

2. A point indicating his reflecting capacity and clarity for his days: We all know besides his scholar works and expertise on Afan Oromo and linguistics, he has written for sure hundreds of essays and political articles in his life time...So far so good...Others may have also this capacity... You know "Umberto Eco", the famous contemporary Italian literature Laureate. Commenting how his works come to being...I remember reading his notes in a small brochureof him.....he said, explaining his toils behind his works, he had to change the presentation of his texts "a hundred times" before giving them free for publications....Aware of this and on the other hand knowing how in some enlightening situations, texts and works

of art flow without much effort to see the light of the world out of the minds of some genius the world produced once in a while; I asked a friend about the writing style of *Haile*....To my surprise and wonder...he told me.....the following without disguising his envy, " After presumably making a pause for reflection....he would begin to write....He just simply writes down his points and texts as in a flow of fluid to the paperNo change ...no correction....it is just there ready for publication....And look I have to change and scribble, correct and write all my stuff again and again, before it goes to the rest of the world- " ...I.e. Like the big man of literature... "Umberto Eco" with his "hundred corrections" This was highly significant and interesting for me....For me this was an unequivocal indication, that the Man - *Haile*- as you interestingly enough called him...must have somehow belonged to the "Giants" ...at least in the fact that he has clarity and transparence in what he has perceived....Perception is in a way personal as you know and this doesn't necessarily have to be correct for all times and for all the generations to come.....As we know....social knowledge is not static ...and there is always the immanent "difference" (Deleuze) which moves the world, as far as I have learnt now. That means, I mean even he may have made mistakes, (which I have not particularly studied to evaluate; what I know, according to my opinion is that the generation ...not only of Ethiopia...the whole globe for that matter went astray in the political perception of the reality) like all great people do in their lifetimes. The best thing to do, not to make errors is, we know all, NOT TO DO, stop living.....I.e. Death..... And that is not our mission...or that is not life...if you or if one is „Pro Life".

3. The third point, I want to mention is another one which is equally highly significant but personal.... indicating a fact that - the Man is beyond his time - It is a personal episode....You remember...there was a significant event in the Ethiopian 1974 Revolution - an atrocious event which marked the beginning of the future trajectory of the revolution...The execution of the 60 high officials of the last regime- by dergue....headed by Mengistu Haile mariam.....Among these high officials was the father of a friend of all of us. I remember (I am not sure,....may be not) we were holding a sort of a meeting (ESUE) in Berlin. The moment we heard about the event, all what occurred to me was the famous aphorism of our Idol, Mao Tsetung.... " Abiot ye rat gibshia aydelem" - "revolution is not an evening dinner"....like all the rest of my friends (the friend told us later) it never occurred to me to utter a ton of condolence to the friend, who lost his father...For us it was a matter of self-evidence that he has to accept this as the consequence of the „class struggle". The only exception was *Haile*, our friend told us in the aftermath,.... *Haile* took our friend by the hand in a corner and conveyed his condolence formally to him, for losing his beloved father.. ...

I will leave the rest of the interpretation for you, Jawar; but I would only try to speculate today, after more than 35 years since the event, that the man - *Haile* - must have been ahead of his time...And it seems that the political class was not in a position to grasp this fact...Even after so many years ...the political class ...may be ...is still living in its infantilism to be afraid of this Man....and his Ideas....Ideas, which for sure would have not remained

stuck to their dogmatic past...but with all creative and integrative emergence, may have developed to show us a brighter Day for Ethiopia...and all the peoples in the Ethiopian state....dancing together into the future full of diversity and prosperity...social justice being a common natural right for every citizen.....Nonetheless I am an optimist....Ethiopia has the potential for hundreds and thousands of his kinds ...Some time the Virtual will become the Actual...It is only a question of time and space...

I wish you all the best for the successful completion of your project on *Haile*!!

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...So....to conclude.....In the aftermath and with the "advantage of a late birth" and a new climate of emergence across the globe, be it man or knowledge, we could say a lot, we may have learnt a lot, we may be advised for the better etc.....This would however not change the commitment and sacrifice made by all the friends we lost, so that we could enjoy the knowledge we are acquiring today...un-dogmatically.....ultimately for good...and for the better...whatever that could be.....in a nutshell.....In a "nutshell" because....if we have the courage to reflectwe are always on the threshold, on the edge between the past and the future, always with something novel - "*andach nefer*" - a favorite expression of *Haile*....Specially You, the Youth and your youth....My days are rather gone ...with the wind....and the air, the atmosphere a part of it is with the old friends and all those who sincerely lost their lives in the interest of the well-being of Ethiopia....They, who left for good or noneMine is the old age.....awaiting for the dust and the ashes to come...Yours has to be for a brilliant and pleasant day to come....

Wish you all the Best.....

At last I would like to mention...what came to my mind these days...I would say...we are all in a mood and a "mode of construction"+....after witnessing a lot of disappointments in all "the modes of productions "the world has experienced so far...But always with the courage to reflect more and more to make it better....at any rate....always in vibration.....like all the "matter" around us....and the „spirit".....may beWho knows....I am not dogmatic.....be it in matters of.....spirit or matter...as I used to be.....open for ...even for the „Akashi" concept from the wisdom of old India....

Yours,

H.B.

Sorry for my awkward writing style....with all the dots and the space between words..... just take them for feelings, which resist significations and expressions....due to time or capacity....you see, I am not *Haile*; my words are refusing to live.

+ in this context; out of the blues, one friend called my attention to the thoughts of Jeremy Rifkin; an interesting coincidence - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=omVXo3qYSt0&feature=player_embedded

PS:

My Word of The YEAR 2010 and in the Future is and will be VIBRATION replacing Contradiction whenever it- a phenomenon- comes across my mind...Life is full of vibrations and not contradictions...The outcome of vibrations will be either resonance (ex. harmony) resulting in emergence or collapse and chaos...inaugurating the process of the next round in a new slice of time and space....."Contradiction" ...is a simple and linear perception of relations, which are actually manifestations of the vibrations of life taking place substantially at the fundamental level. - Perception in Contradiction, mostly ending up in a process of polarization counteracting or containing and maintaining the process in the plane of the chaotic phase....or overlooking the possibility of the ensuing resonance, which could be the outcome of the latter vibrations.

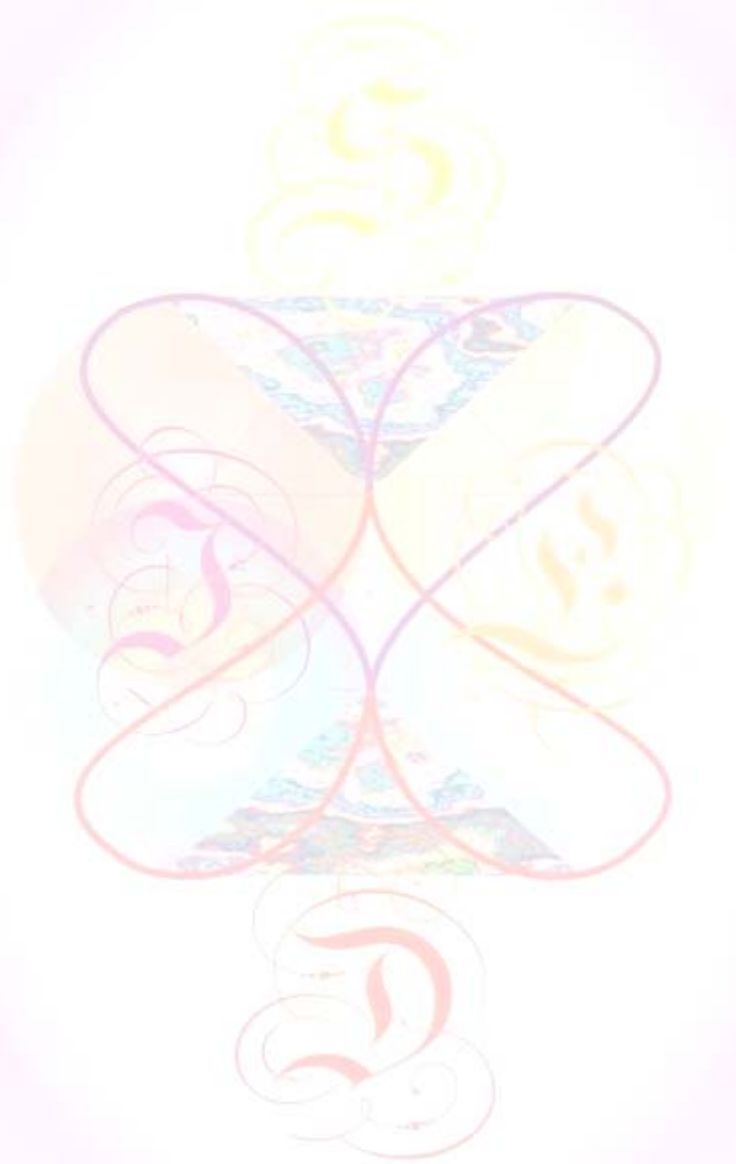
(cf. complexity theory; this is as far as I take it in short & rough)

And Life in Ethiopia coming out of such A VIBRATION can also be

So beautifully genuine...musical....vital...social...diverse and peaceful*

*<http://www.youtube.com/user/ethiopianTV#p/u/0/i1Ohxz1E4SM>







May Science make it to Perfection
With Time and Space,
New Dimension.
May Culture be pure and Human
Would History cease to be?
For new Culture, Peace and free,
Life is Faith and Faith in Life
For Infinity — Eternity,
Through Harmony
To the Point, the Destiny.
JOY! is the final Act!
Through high Hope -Deliverance,
It is real; for the Human to feel the Source.

Be it Nature or Universe
With Mankind full of Wisdom
Where the state is History
And the Laws are Freedom.
Where faith and religion
Inspire pure Knowledge
Life for Heaven;
Is a challenge.

For perfection peace and culture.
JOY! is the final Act!
Through Harmony the glory purpose
The godly Human would touch the Source.

"It occurred to me by intuition, and music was the driving force behind that intuition. My discovery was the rest of musical perception." - Albert Einstein on his Theory of Relativity

The Purpose of Life (Quintessence)

LIFE is a manifold complex process of nature to attain the godly nature of All-Being-creativity, by revitalizing the H-uman, U-niversal and M-an-kind's A-esthetic N-ature - H-U-M-A-N-..., with the ultimate purpose of creating the Harmonious Human Being through generations (1).

The quintessence of life lies on

- I. The social plane
- II. The cultural plane
- III. The Material plane
- IV. The Spiritual plane

The interfaces on the transcendental level are

- V. The Human plane (consisting of these four planes) and
- VI. The Absolute plane (consisting of all the planes)

There are eight Dimensions making the Backbone of these Planes

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. The State & Laws | 5. Mankind & Conscience |
| 2. Community & Ethics | 6. Nature & Religion |
| 3. Family & Love | 7. The Universe & Faith |
| 4. The Human Being & Hope | 8. God, The Absolute & Deliverance |

These Dimensions have their corresponding Axes (Strange Attractors of Meaning, SAM /1):

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Humanity (h) | 5. Mass (m) |
| 2. Intelligence/Consciousness (I) | 6. Energy (E) |
| 3. Music (g) | 7. Light (c) |
| 4. Destiny (D) | 8. The Source (S) |

Analogous to the Einstein theory of relativity, which is formulated for the Material & Spiritual plane (in the Godly Hemisphere) by

$$E=mc^2; \text{Energy} = \text{Mass} \times (\text{Speed of Light})^2;$$

there may be a social reality which can be formulated by

$$I=hg^2; \text{Intelligence} = \text{Humanity} \times (\text{Quality of Music})^2$$

for the social & cultural plane (in the Human Hemisphere).

According to this Model, the Purpose of Life is **HARMONY** within and between the four Planes of Life and achieving the corresponding Higher Objectives of Mankind:-

Peace, Culture, Perfection/Wealth and Faith.

This will give birth to the godly HUMAN, the Destiny, ready to rejoin its Source.

The Present is however unhappy and full of disharmony. The unhappy present is due to this disharmony within and between these planes of Life.

1) Original: "The purpose of Life is to develop the godly nature of Mankind and create the harmonious Human being after generations." Reformulated after an encounter with the "Complexity Theory", ensuing an odyssey-discourse in philosophy (to be cont.)...

