

# *Twenty Days in Addis:*

*A Diary of an Addis Lover*

*by*

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## **Dedication**

Dedicated to all the Ethiopian people I met in Addis. To the people who made my stay memorable without even talking much to me. Their warm gestures and welcoming smiles made me appreciate more the importance of sharing the same lifeline. I can't stop myself from loving and appreciating the people through their land and under their feet runs 85% of the reason for my existence - and of course the existence of the other seventy something millions who live in Egypt.

## **Acknowledgement**

*I am so grateful to three Egyptians to whom I owe the reason for my visit to Addis, and the feelings I have for the people of Africa at large and Ethiopia in particular:*

- *First and most important HE Mr. Shamel Nasser, the Ambassador of Egypt in Ethiopia, and my dearest friend, who made my trip to Addis both possible and enjoyable.*
- *Dr. Iglal Raafat, Professor of Political Science, who was able to implant the love of Sudan and Ethiopia in my heart even before I arrive to Addis.*
- *Dr. Mohamed Riad, Professor of Geography, and one of my gurus to whom I look with much respect since I was a little kid.*

## **Introduction**

I always had this dream of visiting all Nile Basin countries, especially Ethiopia; this dream became so urgent after attending recently a series of seminars about the Sudanese problems.

I tried very hard to work as a consultant for the Nile basin organizations by responding to several newspapers advertisements and speaking to leading figures in the ministry of water resources and irrigation.

It seemed difficult to me at least to penetrate the bureaucratic wall that prevents some university scholars from dealing with Nile-Basin related issues.

I was lucky enough to find an advertisement in the Department mail about a program of exchange of scholars through the Association of African Universities. I did apply for a scholarship to spend a period of three weeks at the faculty of technology, Addis Ababa University.

## **Saturday April 2, 2005**

I arrived after midnight. The airline was two hours late. I found two employees from the Embassy waiting for me. I also found a driver from Addis Ababa University (AAU). His name is Shigut. He is very friendly and met me with a great smile. He conveyed the apologies of Dr. Hailu and Dr. Yonas since the arrival time was very late. He drove me to the hotel called [Ras Amba](#), close to the Indian Embassy. Shigut came back the next morning at 10:30 AM to drive me to the Bank which closes at 11:00 AM to change some dollars into their local currency called [Birr](#). I do like the name of the currency, it means a lot to me in Arabic. During the breakfast, before I met Shigut, I found that a delegation from Egypt was there. It turned out that I knew at least three of them, Dr. Samia El-Gindi, Dr. Ayman Battisha, and Eng. Nadia from Nile Research Institute NRI. I introduced myself to the group. Eng. Ibrahim Ahmed from Sudan, Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources. He knew my former graduate student, Dr. Siddiq Ahmed, and also Dr. Gamal Abubakr, a colleague of mine from the University of Qatar. It turned out to be really a small world.

Shigut drove me to the [Egyptian Embassy](#), and I was accompanied to the Ambassador residence, where his Excellency welcomed me. We had a long chat, and he showed me around, telling me a lot of enchanting stories about the history of the buildings and importance of Ethiopia to Egypt, and the current good relations between the two countries. He was kind enough to ask me to stay for lunch. I have not been treated like this before. I noticed that every time he uses his wireless pager to call his maid, he asks her to bring him Ambo. It sounds like the same word that Egyptian children use if they want to drink water. Yes Ambo is water, produced locally and carbonated naturally as I learned from his Excellency. After lunch we drove in the Embassy car to the Sheraton hotel, where we strolled together around in a place that is very luxurious, and have a drink in one of the coffee shops inside the Hotel. Then he drove me to my hotel, where he met the Egyptian delegation and shook their hands asking about their visit. I was delighted that he met and chatted with them. It makes a great difference to me and I think to them too. The Egyptian group was ready to leave. I had a discussion with Dr. Ayman, and he asked Dr. Salah – a Sudanese in the ENTRO organization – to use the car to make a quick shopping trip for me. I bought some small items like water, honey, fruit and soap. I sent them off and I wished I could have spent more time with them. I was so tired, I went immediately to bed.

## **Sunday, April 3, 2005**

I woke up and had breakfast. I decided to discover the place on foot. On my way I noticed the different topography, the sloping streets and the buildings on the slope of the mountain. The hotel I live in has two entrances at two different levels. I walked to the University, Faculty of Technology. I went through the doors, nobody stopped me, and I entered the library and checked the books in the students section that relate to my specialty. I found good books. The people were very friendly. They look poor. The streets are very clean. I was struck by the unlikely combination of poverty and cleanliness. They all look attractive and beautiful. No fat persons, may be because of the diet. They walk with pride and dignity, may be because they are confident or this is the only posture that will support their body when walking down a sloping terrain. Even the children asking me for money, they were very cute, and look adorable to me – even with



**Rasamba Hotel**



**Ethiopian Birr**



**Egyptian Embassy**



**Football Team**

their modest clothes. On my way back I found a number of kids who were playing football near the hotel and approached me in a different way asking for money to fix the ball. I could not imagine how elegant was their request, their language was good; I

decided to give them money. I asked for their permission to have a photo of the [team](#) together. They posed for me in a very professional way. I think this picture will be one of my favorites. I went to bed to rest and woke up to walk in the other direction. The street gets even more sloping and I arrived at the intersection where I found a bridge with some water stream going underneath. I took a couple of pictures and walked back. On my way I found a coffee shop that looked interesting with wooden table and chairs made of wood and steel cables. I had a great tea with lemon, watched a comedy show in Amharic language and paid only one Birr and some change as tips. I could not forget the welcoming smiles of the faces of the shop owner and her daughter (I think). The only conversation took place when I was leaving. She asked me where I come from. I said make a guess. She thought I am Greek. Not bad for a guy with a beard like myself. I liked the place. I decided to go again tomorrow. I returned to the hotel and watched TV. I found a call from Dr. Dereje; he offered to give me a ride the next day at 8:30 AM. I fell asleep after Maghreb prayer.

### **Monday, April 4, 2005**

I woke up early, I got my breakfast. I forget to tell that it is bread (lightly toasted) with butter and jam, with choice of tea or coffee. The coffee tastes great, I tried it twice then I stopped fearing that it may increase my already high blood pressure. The most important and exotic part of the breakfast is the papaya juice or the papaya fruit that you eat with the spoon (this was my best guess). You can have also egg made with three different types. A good question: how can an Egyptian like me survive without eating beans in breakfast? Just a second, for those Egyptians who will start to panic, Dr. Hailu showed me a shop called [Hanna Cafe](#) in front of the Campus which sells “foul”. He also mentioned that there are better restaurants near the Markato area. Leaving breakfast for now; Dr. Hailu came to pick me up at the exact time, and we went together to school. He is a tall handsome person, who speaks English very well, even though he got his Ph.D. from Germany as I learned later.

We went the Dean’s office, where he welcomed me and invited me for tea, and gave me a copy of the undergraduate bulletin of the Faculty of Technology. We discussed one of my publications that will be used in the training and teaching program during my stay, and he showed interest in the project management part. I went later for a tour of the Faculty and the labs, and I was struck by the [bench mark](#) showing that the land elevation is about 3467.42 m above sea level. He showed me my office, gave me three keys for the front and office doors and a key for the washroom. We discussed the details of the training program and I knew that my first class will be tomorrow at 8:15 AM. We crossed the street and went to the other part of the campus across the street, the Faculty of Pharmacy. There was the restaurant for the staff and employees. I saw the most peculiar food on tables, with different bright colors, yellow and red. The dish looked strange to me because of the grey table cloth spread under the food over the plate, and the people cut it and eat it. It turned out that it is national bread called [Enjera](#) made of a grain not known to me called “Teff”. I met several Egyptian Professors from the Faculty of Pharmacy and they talked about their life in Addis, and how they are disconnected from the people in the Egyptian Embassy.



**Hanna Cafe**



**Bench Mark**

I ordered three helpings from different food, boiled meet, mixed vegetables, and spaghetti with meat. I could not finish the food, because it was too much and because I found the same mixed vegetables in the boiled meat plate.

I went home, had some rest, took my camera and went to the coffee shop of yesterday. I met [Almaz](#), this is the name of the owner. I wrote in her book, in which she keeps reflections from the customers who like to leave some words behind. She was listening to Sudanese music. She told me that this is her favorite music, and she listens to it all the time. She told me that she visited Egypt and she liked it very much, especially the service. I could not believe her affection to the two countries from the Eastern Nile. Almaz is a living example of how these three countries are tied together in the hearts and mind of Almaz. There might be other Almaz around, in Addis, Khartoum and Egypt. She was able to have all this love in her heart without written agreements or the establishment of ENTRO office outside her shop. I wish my visit to Addis and my love the country and people make more Almaz in the University where I work.

I received a call from the Ambassador's office inviting me for dinner on Wednesday at 7:30 PM. I went with my camera before sunset to take some pictures of two [churches](#) that I liked much. I went to the [roof of the hotel](#) and had a great fish dinner, the Mexican way. It was hot and delicious.

### **Tuesday April 5, 2005**

I woke up around 6:30 AM to have a shower and eat breakfast before Dr. Hailu arrived. He took me to school. He was kind enough to bring a book about Amharic language as a gift for me. He also taught me that this language is composed of about 39 consonants, without any vowels. He also showed me in the book how the letter change in appearance to give six different sounds. Some letters are pronounced in a very difficult way called explosive in the English list of Amharic characters. The origin of the language comes from South Yemen. It has its own writing system (the only in Africa), and differs from other Semitic languages as it is written from left to right. I went to school in time and gave my first lecture to the graduating class of 71 students. I used the laptop and the beamer as they call it here to talk about how spreadsheets are compared to FORTRAN, and I gave some examples from surface hydrology. I was amazed how it was difficult for me to communicate with the students. Dr. [Yonas](#) who was attending the class and helping me used his authority as their teacher to make some of them interact with me. This is a difficulty for the instructor since he could not measure if the students are following closely or not. I went with Dr. Yonas to Mr. [Abyut](#) to upload the material I covered to the network, where the student can access my lectures notes and the programs I wrote. I had a discussion with Dr. Hailu after class and arranged for tomorrow's lecture on irrigation systems. During lunch time, I went to Blue Top, the expensive restaurant close to the Faculty. I had three things like yesterday, Fettuccini, fruit salad and ice cream. I felt sleepy afterwards, and was driven back to the hotel by the administration chief himself, since the driver of the Faculty was not around. I went home, took some rest, prepared myself for the class tomorrow, and called the Ambassador to thank him for the invitation. The Dinner is made on the occasion of the visit of Dr. Essam Sharaf, the Egyptian Minister of Transport. I called Shigut and asked him to pass by the hotel and take me for a drive and come back before 9:00 PM. I went to Almaz and took some pictures in her shop. I ordered Ambo this time, and she offered me a cup of coffee with peanuts on the house. When I came back I found a big noise the hotel guard said it is "Sarc". It was an engagement [party](#) with loud music and a lot of nicely dressed women and men. I took some pictures. Shigot came to pick me up and we went for a long tour



**Enjera and Watt**



**Almaz and Ambu**



**A Church**



**Hotel Roof**



**Dr. Yonas**



**Eng. Abyut**



**Wedding Party**



**Me and Dr. Dereje**

of the city at night. We went to a gift shop that was still open and I bought some Ethiopian articles like a wooden mask, a pen with the three colors of the flag, which are the same colors in the enjera and wat plate that I will eat tomorrow with Shigut during lunch time. I went to an official telecommunication center to make a phone call to Egypt. The charge was very high. We drove along the airport road which Shigut told me is maintained by China. I came back around 9:00 PM, and the noise was still there. It finished very quickly, and I went to bed.

### **Wednesday, April 6, 2005**

The driver arrived in time. He speaks little English. I went to my office, asked for a white coat and decided I will not use the laptop and the beamer since the theoretical material I will cover will eat the two hours. Dr. Dereje not Dr. Hailu as I used to call him came to my office and asked if he can attend the class. I said no problem. He brought me a white coat and a bottle of water. It was even a better class than the previous one, students started to communicate a bit. Dr. Dereje intervened a couple of times to explain in a very professional way. I benefited from the explanation. He thanked me a lot after the class commending me on the effort, the examples used, my sense of humor, and the interaction with the students. I went after class to university restaurant, but I did not see Shigut, I sat with Dr. Abdelnasser and Dr. Fathi until I saw Dr. Dereje again. He was heading to the restaurant. I left my Egyptian colleagues and joined him. We ate Enjera and Wat. They were fasting; therefore he ordered it with vegetable mix. He asked the waiter to bring me another two kinds of sauce to taste. It was not bad, but I paid later for my food adventure, a stomach disorder and dayaria, and I had to go the Faculty washroom before leaving to the hotel. During my walk with Dr. Dereje he told me that the local time is calculated differently depending on sun rise and sun set. When they say meet me at three hour in the morning, they mean 9:00 AM. Also, their calendar is now 1997, and not 2007, since they calculate the start of the Georgian calendar about 7 years after it started. The reason is that they got informed about the death of Jesus later or they did not consider the changes made to the calendar throughout history. Also, their year is thirteen month, twelve months each 30 days, and one month 5 or 6 days depending on the year. After lunch, he took me to the Hanna Café to drink tea and coffee. I asked the waitress to take a [picture](#) of us. I went to the University to call the driver. He was not there. The chief administrator of the Faculty drove me to the hotel. I do not know what to say. I am treated with a lot of passion and friendliness. I went home to rest before the dinner function. I called Shigut to come and pick me up. He came in time and drove me to the Ambassador residence. His Excellency and his guest the Minister of Transport were a bit late. I had the chance to talk to some official from and Embassy and Dr. Joseph the media attaché, and Dr. Magdi who worked recently in the African Union, as Head of Planning. During the dinner, his Excellency introduced me and I was asked about the College of Technology, the number of staff and students. The Minister asked about my university. He did not know that I knew about him from before and we had met in a conference in Egypt. I ate a lot as usual. It seems the Embassy food can be repeated.

### **Thursday April 7, 2005**

I woke up with difficulty. I went to school for the meeting with Dr. Dereje. I accessed the internet, and found that Eng. El-Daly my TA in Egypt gave the presentation on the

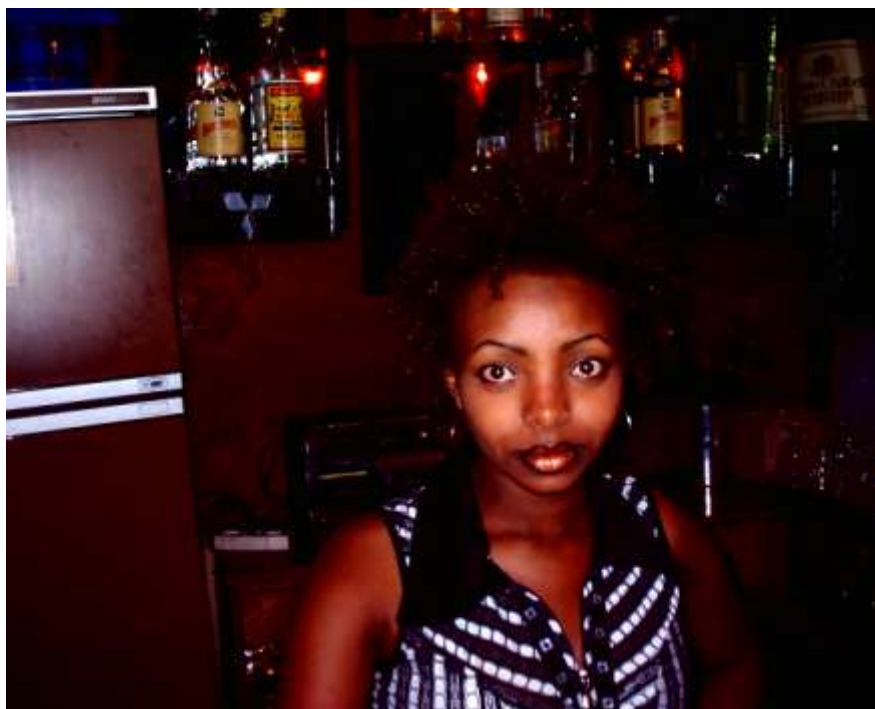
EDAPSE project, and had a long discussion with the Minister of Higher Education about project. The meeting with the Vice President was cancelled because of his many engagements. I went to Hanna Café and ate fowl and sponge cake. I uploaded most of my Spreadsheet book with the help of Abyut to prepare for the training course next week. I visited the National Museum and was able to take a lot of pictures of the modest Museum. I went home walking, had a short sleep, then called Dr. Abdelnasser and we agreed to meet somewhere downtown. I went in time, but I missed him. We agreed to meet near to a bakery called Shao, and he said close to the pharmacy. The problem was that the bakery is a franchise that has different shops in the city. The more confusing is that there was a pharmacy there too. I ate pizza in the pizzeria close to our meeting place. Then I bought some fruit on my way back. I had a cold drink in a shop close to the Hotel. I was amazed that the [owner](#) serves [coffee](#) in the same way as the gulf people do, with some changes. I took some pictures. I thought of writing a joint paper with Dr. Dereje on the subject I was lecturing to his class. He made some valuable additions to the lecture contents.

### **Friday, April 8, 2005**

The driver did not come. I had to take a microbus to [Arat Kilo](#) square, and walk with two briefcases to campus. I arrived very tired. I am getting old. I had a tee with some friends from the Faculty. I met the dean and a Tanzanian colleague. I went to my office to prepare for my class. When the time for the mass prayer comes, I went to have a shoe shine and met the colleagues from the faculty of pharmacy and we walked to the Embassy. I met the Ambassador, told him that I will go for my tutorial and come back at 4:00 PM. Somebody from the Embassy gave me a ride with the rest of the Egyptian professors. I arrived just in time, and I had a great lab with very intelligent students. I was amazed of how they understand me very quickly. Dr. Dereje joined me in the lab and gave me a ride back to the Embassy. His Excellency was not at his residence. I went to the office. We went back, had a great lunch and we talked. We sat by the computer for some time after lunch, listened to Egyptian music, and watched some TV. He proposed to go to any hotel for coffee or tee. I could not, I was very tired. He drove me himself to someplace close to the hotel. I changed my room to be close to the boiler since I was having difficulty getting warm water in the morning. I sat to transfer the pictures of today and write my diaries.

### **Saturday April 9, 2005**

I woke up early, took my breakfast, and walked to school. I enjoyed the walk. I arrived a bit tired and went to my office to prepare for my class. The lab administrator gave me the key of the computer lab. I did not use the beamer since it was needed by somebody else. Dr. Dereje came after I started and told me that he passed by the hotel and found that I left early. He invited me to a presentation about a CD produced by the Faculty about water conservation. I left my class and went downstairs to the conference room. It was a good presentation that shows how the staff is capable to use multimedia software. There was a lady from Sudan “Shaza” who is working for UNESCO and has been in Addis for sometime. She is very sociable. We had a break where they served some snacks. I was interested in “[Kolo](#)” which is fried wheat. During the discussion after the break I made three comments on the importance of interviewing the stakeholders (farmers for example), public awareness of some everyday water saving tips, like a



**Owner of Coffee Shop**



**Making the Coffee**

plastic bottle in toilet flushing tank, washing dishes, showering, etc, and on plumbing devices to save water used from shower heads and faucets. My comments were not received well by some participants. I learned later on that I should not have to tell them what to do with respect to water, since it is a sensitive issue especially when it comes



**Arat Kilo**



**Kolo Snack**

from an Egyptian. I was a bit upset, but after sometime I thought that I should listen more if I am a newcomer. Shaza asked me to join her in a meeting with the dean and a

colleague from Tanzania. I called HE instead and went to his residence walking. We drove in his beautiful car with the driver and went to “Duburseit”, which is outside Addis and we had hamburger with cheese in a restaurant called “Family”. We drove back to “Demble Dome” a shopping mall where I bought a swimming suit. We went to the hotel to bring my laptop to be able to access my CD and show the Ambassador some of my presentations. We drove back to the Embassy, and had some delicious Egyptian lunch “Koshari”, then we sat to the computer to exchange some displays of family pictures. We watched TV and had chats about several subjects. We watched a black and white old Egyptian movie. He then walked me outside the Embassy with his guards until I found a taxi that drove me to the Hotel. In the Hotel, my key did not open the room. It was a new lock. I had to wait in the restaurant where they offered live [music](#), org and violin played by two Ethiopian girls. The music was great and I had a discussion with someone from the Hotel administration. He was very sociable. The only way to access my room is that some body accessed the balcony through the roof and entered through the glass opening in the balcony door. He was very athletic. The only way not to lock the room again is to keep the room open, and close it only from the inside.

### **Sunday April 10, 2005**

I woke up a bit late, around 8:00 AM, took my breakfast and sat to write my diary. I called Dr. Abdelnasser, but I did not find him. I called Dr. Dereje and he said he will be available in the afternoon. I went for a walk in the other direction. I reached up to the Uganda Embassy. It is a street full of Embassies: Britain, Russia, Belgium, Cuba, Uganda, etc. I walked for more than an hour then I had tea and a peace of cake in a coffee house. Then I continued walking until I arrived to Almaz café. She advised me to listen to Shawondai as example of modern Ethiopian music. He had a lovely song called aynaiya which means my eyes as in Arabic. I saw on her TV an old guy singing passionately in front of Axum, which is an Italian monument in the Tigrai. There was a TV program for people from the Tigrai region. She told me she does not understand their language. I knew later that they represent only five percent of the population, but they are influential politically. I arrived to the Hotel and went down exactly at the agreed time to find Dr. Dereje waiting for me with his wife’s 4-wheel car. We drove together to the highest point in Addis, a tourist place with admission fee, where it is 3000 m above sea level. On our way up, we saw a lot of trees ([Calypus](#)) that is not indigenous and imported to Ethiopia after the Emperor got an advice from one of his aids. The advice was not a very good one since the trees has harmful effect on soil, and their roots deplete the groundwater reserves in the area. The series of mountains are called toto mountains which is a natural watershed boundary that separates the catchments of Awash river where Addis is located and the Blue Nile River on the other side. Dr. Dereje told me about the history of Addis. It was established only 100 years ago only after the suggestion of the wife of the Emperor Menelek. She was standing in the same place where we were close to the Emperor's residence and the [security tower](#). She pointed to a flat place where there was a warm natural artesian well she used to take a bath. She planted a lot of roses around the place. The name Addis Ababa means new roses. There was an artist in the place, who is the same man who collects the admission fee, and I took a picture of him in front of [his paintings](#) about three Ethiopian women carrying wood on their back. He said these women walk daily for about 25 km while the man of the house drinks beer. I kind of liked the idea. The exiting thing is that I found on my way back



**Music with Dinner**



**Calyptus Trees**



**Security Tower**



**Painting of Three Women**



**Real Three Women**



**Anwar Majid**

from the Awash River, [three women](#) carrying heavy loads on their back, and they look like the three women in the paintings. This time they were carrying their laundry that they washed in the river. We went to the gas station to have fuel before we travel to the Awash River. The people in the station were consuming 'Kat' and I saw the strange plant for the first time. I chewed some of it to taste it. Dr. Dereje drove me to the ['Anwar Masjid'](#) at the time of the Asr prayer. On our way we stopped twice for two other small mosques inside Addis. I was amazed by the good condition of the [highways](#), and I learned that the city authority responsible for maintenance has a good civil engineer. We traveled for an hour until we reached the [Awash River](#). There were a lot of women washing their cloths. I remembered the same picture I took in Egypt for a similar gathering along the Bahr El-Saghir canal near Mansoura. There were some differences of course. I also noticed that along the way to the river I saw a very [long line](#) of people waiting for their turn to get water from a well. This is a very important picture of the suffering of the people of Ethiopia upon which a lot of water falls every year. They use donkey with special saddles to carry two yellow water containers. I wanted to take a close picture of the donkey carrying water. We took permission from the lady who owns the donkey and she allowed me to take the picture. The most amazing thing is that the [donkey](#) stopped and posed for me. There were a lot of donkeys around, and I knew that the cattle population in Ethiopia is very huge that may reach a ratio of one to one compared to population. I wondered how they are fasting now and not allowed to eat meat, and I related this to the increased cattle population. We visited a pre-historic location with interesting information about life along the Awash River that dates back to pre-historic times. On our way back we found some very rich residential areas very close to the slums that we see everywhere. Dr. Dereje explained that in Ethiopia there is no class separation since the big people is always surrounded by their subordinates. There is plenty of street advertisement with young Ethiopians and children for different campaigns. The most exiting was this one on the use of condoms called "sensation", where the picture of the girl in the advertisement is Miss Ethiopia taking part in the campaign against AIDS. The numbers I heard about the people with AIDS in Ethiopia differs, but the important thing is that this epidemic is a problem here with large proportions. We also talked about the colors in the Ethiopian flag. The green stands for the green revolution, the yellow for hope, and the red for the war heroism. The colors in the Ethiopian flag are repeated in other African countries like Cameroon, Uganda, and other countries, since Ethiopia is an advocate of the pan-African movement. We came back to Addis, passed by the City Hall, the [train station](#), and went to the Armenian club. They open for dinner all days except Sunday starting from 7:00 PM. We went to the YMCA center close to the hotel and ate soup, spaghetti, and shish kebab (the smallest shish pieces I have ever seen), and drinks. We paid very little. It is a great and affordable eating place.

### **Monday April 11, 2005**

I woke up early ready for my first day in the course. I waited for Dr. Dereje, he came in time. I went to class, and found about 20 trainees from Addis Ababa University, another university about 500 km away, and from private business. I started at nine, took a break at 10:30 AM, and continued at 11:00 up to 12:00 noon. Two hours for lunch. I went to Pizzeria, and had Caesar's salad, fried fish, and fruit salad. I called HE, he has a meeting, and I tried after lunch and had a chat with him about what I did yesterday. I continued



**Highway**



**Awash River**



**Water Line**



**Donkey carrying Jerry Cans**



**Train Station**

after lunch break, I was tired, but wanted to go into another subject interesting to the trainees. I finished very tired, Dr. Dereje drove me home. I had a chat with the [reception people](#) at the hotel, took some pictures. I was drained, I rested in bed and woke up, went to the roof for a dinner, soup and fruit salad again. I went down tired. I do not know why I feel so tired. I woke up at 4:30 AM and still not feeling well. I noticed that people when they speak they make a noise inhaling during normal speech in a way that you think they may choke. I noticed this with many Ethiopians. I could not know the reason; it may be the lack of oxygen due to the high elevation. Something else, the area of Ethiopia is about one million square kilometers, and the population is about 70 million, the same as for Egypt. However, the number of children in the age ranges before 15 makes the population pyramid has a bulge in its lower part, which causes population momentum. It might be a good study to use the population distribution in the two countries and project the population in the next 5 years. According to what I hear, Ethiopia will outnumber Egypt to be the second largest in Africa after Nigeria, the giant.

### **Tuesday April 12, 2005**

I went to University, the driver came on time. It was not a very good day, since I was very tired. I was not even able to walk during the long lunch break, and I had difficulty breathing too. I gave my first part of the training, took break for half an hour and continued. I learned that two of my students come from “Arba Minch” university, 500 km from Addis. It is a university specialized in water studies only. Arba Minch means forty springs, since the area has actually forty natural springs. I gave one of them my card and told him that I will be glad if he communicates with me in the future. During the two breaks, I tried to contact HE by phone, and he was not available. I was not able to take lunch; I went walking towards Arat Kilo, and bought a book about the history of



**Me with Reception Girls**

Ethiopia from the Axumite period to the fall of Haila Sellassie I. I took a tea in one of the coffee shops and returned walking to University. I continued my class with the help of Mr. Riad one of my intelligent students. I went downstairs about 3:00 in the afternoon waiting for the driver who came at 4:00 to drive me home. I took a strange meal in the hotel which was a bad idea and spent the whole afternoon and night in bed.

**Wednesday April 13, 2005**

I woke up early at 4:00 AM and was still tired. I had some rest woke up again at 7:00 AM. I took breakfast, had a shower, and the driver did not come. I took minibus to Arat Kilo, and walked to University. I was a few minutes late. The class started very well, I regained my energy. During the break we went to get my check. During the Lunch break we went to the National Bank downtown. The new building close to the old one will cost about 80 million Bir. Dr. Dereje told me about the monument in the Sedes Kilo that tells the story of the 30,000 Ethiopians killed by Graziani, the Italian ruler when two locals threw hand grenades in a demonstration against occupation. Graziani was hurt and some of his troops died. He got mad and he decided to kill everybody. We passed by the hot springs close the Empress house, and I knew that Finfine is the old name of Addis Ababa. We saw also the highest building in Addis which is still under construction. I wished I brought my camera with me. Dr. Dereje discussed with me possible future collaboration. He said he enjoyed my lectures, the technical and the pedagogical content also. I noticed that when people hand you something, some of them bow a bit and uses his hand to hold the other arm. There is a lot of beautiful big banners in the streets most of them about girl's education, HIV, and condoms. To encourage people to use condoms, they are sold everywhere, 4 in a box for only one Birr. Before leaving at 4:00 PM I met a

student who is interested in collecting coins and stamps. I promised to bring some Egyptian banknotes tomorrow since I do not have any coins. When I arrived to the hotel I called HE and we decided that I meet him at the Embassy. I went to his office, he was very busy. Then we went to his residence, watched TV, I showed him the pictures I took during the last trip to Awash River. We chatted about different things and I benefited a lot from his experience in dealing with people especially the public figures. We had a different dinner and I had to leave after tea because it was 9:30 PM already.

#### **Thursday April 14, 2005**

I woke up, went to the restaurant, and I met a group of Sudanese people attending a conference with other African countries about cross boundary issues. I told jokes in English and Arabic since there was one African on the table. The Sudanese sociable person speaks Amharic. The driver came in time, and he was turning the radio on. He told me the singer's name is Zeer, but when I went to Markato today nobody recognized the singer. I arrived to school for Day 4 of the training on irrigation. The subject I covered was the optimal design of irrigation pipe networks. It was interesting to Dr. Dereje and the group. During the first break we went to Hannah café for tea, and during the lunch break he took me to YMCA and we had a heavy lunch. He mentioned a new movie in Amharic called "Samawi Faras" which means the blue horse, a science fiction about a person who made an invention to evaporate Blue Nile water and transfer it outside the basin to avoid legal conflicts and his invention was stolen by a gang. We talked about my book and the possibility of getting support to publish it, and the visit to Vice President. After returning, he went to have coffee at Hannah while I went upstairs to fix some programming problems. Before the end of the day I went out with three class members to Hannah again for a drink. They expressed their appreciation of the course material. I went to the hotel and I got a call from HE, he wants to do some internet research. I went first to Markato with Bait Laham -the owner of the gift shop- and she helped me buy some good souvenirs. I went back to hotel and took the same taxi to the Embassy. I chatted with HE and we did some work on the computer and had a dinner similar to the one we took yesterday.

#### **Friday April 15, 2005**

I woke up, wrote my notes, took my breakfast and had my shower. I met Dr. Mostafa from Sudan and the other Sudanese. I learned that Dr. Ahmed Abdelhalim, Ambassador of Sudan to Egypt has died. One of the Sudanese said he likes to have interesting conversation with me. The driver came in time. I went to University, gave my last class in the training course about project management. Dr. Dereje attended and took notes, and conveyed the Dean's apology to attend since he has guests from DAAD. In the first break we went downstairs to the Faculty garden and had pictures for the [whole class](#). I learned that "Fagegta" means smile to the picture in Amharic. It rained before going to Embassy for Friday prayer. I told Riad this is Addis saying hello to me at last. He said no, I think she is crying because you are leaving. Dr. Dereje insisted he drives me to the mosque. He said that the average annual rainfall in Addis is 1200 mm, and in the south west it can reach 2400. I met the Egyptian Professors, and I walked with Dr. Said from the Faculty of Medicine, and the Imam/Khatib of the mosque. He is graduated of the Azhar University. I asked Dr. Dereje if I can join the recreation trip of the third year students to Sodere. He said O.K. but you go on your own. There is no staff going with



**With Graduate Students**

the students. I continued my class, Dr. Dereje was present. After I finished Dr. Dereje gave a magnificent speech about the training course, said it is the best, he thanked me, and I extended the invitation to the trainees to communicate with me after the course, and said I want to come here again. I took the students to Hanna café and we had tea and pictures. I left to the Embassy; I took pictures for the Sedest Kilo, and had lunch in the Coffee House opposite to the Embassy. I asked for Barbary –which means hot sauce- for the fresh fries which was served late. They told me they have also “bet mita” which is a stronger hot sauce that was mentioned to me by HE before. I chatted with [‘Amy’](#) the waitress and [‘Michael’](#), the manager, and took pictures. He told me about the live performance on Saturday and Thursday nights. He said I can see Mahmoud Ahmed in person performing. He mentioned also T.D. Afro, a great singer. I went to HE and we had great time as usual and left to the hotel in a taxi. This time was not usual since the driver was somebody I know who works in the Faculty.

### **Saturday April 16, 2005**

I woke up early, took my shower, and did not have my breakfast since I was supposed to be in the Faculty by 7:00 AM. I went outside, tried to catch a taxi, I could not, and I took a minibus to Arat Kilo. I walked to the faculty and was in a hurry not to miss the trip. I found the driver relaxed and said this is student time; you can go have tea or coffee. I did in Hanna's café. The students started coming, with bread and the traditional food containers. Two students sat beside me, one of them is [‘Teshala Engeles’](#), who speaks good English and wants to continue his studies in North Carolina like his father. There was a lot of action in the bus especially a boy or a girl chooses his or her [dancing](#) partner and they demonstrate their skills especially shaking their shoulder in a very special way.



**Amy the Waitress**



**Michael the Owner**



**Teshala**



**Dancing in Bus**

It seems everybody can do this shaking, except me. We stopped on the way for the students to have [breakfast](#) at the side of the highway in the middle of nowhere. I was amazed that girls feed boys in the mouth. Another student offered me a coca bottle, his name is Zarai, and it turned out he is a great student leader. They played a game in the bus. Teshala told me that they put the name of each student on a piece of paper and each student choose a paper randomly and writes a question at the back for the paper. When we arrived, there was some debate between the students and the people at the door. I was asked to pay my entry fee, and enter through the gate until they sort out the problem. I tried to take a photograph of the sign at the door, the man asked me: what for? I said I love the [Amharic writing](#). The sign prohibits anyone from bringing food inside. The students won the debate and they brought their food inside. I was asked by the driver to go to the swimming pool and not wait for the students. I rented a locker to change my clothes and Teshala and his friend shared the locker with me. He said to go rightaway to the hot springs first. We walked some distance to reach the location. The hot spring water is collected and discharged through pipes and the bath is divided in two sections for men and women. I enjoyed the [bath with the students](#) and took great pictures. We walked back to the [swimming pool](#). The shower and the pool were both warm, and I enjoyed swimming, then I went out and sat with some students on table close to the pool. We had chats and I told them jokes. Then they invited me to have [lunch](#). It was a great experience sharing these young Ethiopians their Enjera. They offered to feed me in the mouth because it is part of their culture. I agreed as long as a girl can do it. The girl next to me [fed me](#), and I could not let the change go without taking pictures. After the food was served, we moved to the garden and they started completing the game they started in the bus. The place is full of monkeys or [apes](#) as they corrected me, and I took pictures of those very interesting creatures. The best one are those of the [mother and kid](#), and the clever and fast monkey who was able to snatch the [banana](#) from the father and puzzle the whole family with big smiles on the faces of kids. After finishing the game they danced together and created a [joyful atmosphere](#) I have never experienced before. They asked me to join them. I did of course. The only thing I regret in my trip is not bringing my video camera. They had to get into the bus at 4:00 PM to go back to continue their celebration around a camp fire. They asked me to join them, I declined since I was very tired and the bus trip seemed very long on the way back. They had an older student or administrator with them, and he was taking good care of me. He insisted to walk me up to Arat kilo where I can catch a minibus to the hotel. On the way he told me some personal stories and said that the students liked me. I arrived to the hotel and wanted to have dinner. I found my three friends from Sudan and the hotel person with whom I had a drink last week. Tonight is Saturday, the music day. I had an Ethiopian plate ZigZig and the pieces of meat where very small like the shish kebab I had in the YMCA. I had great time with the group sharing a lot of laughs. I discovered at that meeting the depth of the relation between Sudan and Ethiopia that was once mentioned by HE looking at map and mentioning the length of the shared borders between the two countries. The musicians were playing Sudanese music, and one piece I recognized “Izayakum” of Said Khalifa. I learned that when he died, the sorry about his death in Ethiopia was even more than in Sudan. Music is in the soul of Ethiopians, and Mr. Khalifa used to sing his songs in Amharic lyrics. One of the Sudanese spends more than six months every year with his cattle inside Ethiopia for grazing. In Khartoom there are more than six Ethiopian



**Student Eating Breakfast**



**Advertisement in Amharic**



**Bath with Students**



**Swimming Pool**



**Students Eating Lunch**



**Hospitality**



**Monkeys everywhere**



**Monkey Mother and son**



**Quick Monkey Snatched Banana**



**Students Enjoying Music and Dance**

restaurants, and a lot of Ethiopians living in Sudan. I knew that there is a place in Sudan in the west called Sodere, but complete desert without any water springs or falls. The

Sudanese left the hotel to catch the airplane, and I sat with the Ethiopian man and the two female musicians during their dinner sharing more laughs. I brought my computer to show the man the pictures I took. He said you are becoming an Ethiopian now. I left around 10:30 PM to go to bed. It was a great day.

### **Sunday April 17, 2005**

Today is a relaxation day after the effort I did yesterday. I woke up late, went to take breakfast, and had shower. I called HE and took a taxi to his residence. We sat together and I showed him the pictures of yesterday. I called my friend in Egypt. He wanted to invite me for lunch in the Hilton Hotel. He drove himself, and we went and had a great lunch open buffet, and listened to great music by a female singer in Amharic, and a very good male singer who sang in Italian and English. HE had some Egyptian newspapers, and some books. We read and listened to music. Then we went to drink traditional coffee in the hotel. He drove us back, and we sat by the computer and did a lot of things. I enjoyed discussing with him computer programs details, since he graduated as electrical engineer. I enjoyed my time; we took a walk around and went back to his residence. When it was about 7:30 I asked him to leave since I needed to have some rest. I took the taxi and went back to Ras Amba. I went to bed immediately. I woke up around 4:30 AM to watch some TV then went to bed again.

### **Monday April 18, 2005**

I woke up around 7:00 AM and wrote my diaries, took my shower and breakfast. The driver came a bit before the time. I promised him to send his picture -which I took during the trip with the students- by post. I told the driver to pick me up at 1:00 pm. I went the University, I did some work writing the mission report, and starting the write up of the joint paper. Some of the students of the third year civil came to my office to see their pictures. Also, the coin collector came and Eng. Zarai who said he likes to bring a CD the next day to get a copy of an abridged version of the trip pictures I took. I did the editing while he was with me to remove some of the highway pictures that the student may not be interested in. I went downstairs for tea, and wanted to have lunch in YMCA, and already walked towards the place, and then I remembered the time I gave to the driver. I went back to collect my stuff and when I was going to leave I met Dr. Dereje and told him that I like to discuss some matters with him tomorrow morning. The driver took me to the hotel to put my heavy notebook and other books, and I asked him to drive me on his way back to YMCA. I had a very heavy lunch that made me suffer after eating. I went to the hotel and studied the material for my Wednesday lecture. Then I called HE. He had a reception at 6:30 PM, and expressed his wish to meet me in Sheraton at 7:30. I went for a walk to ease some of the heaviness due to YMCA lunch, and I took a taxi to the hotel. I ordered Ethiopian tea with spice and waited for HE. He came and I invited him for a drink and some cakes. He asked his driver to leave. We had a very interesting chat together, and he drove me back to the hotel.

### **Tuesday April 19, 2005**

I woke up, took my shower, and went for breakfast. The driver came before the time (Zawdi). I took with me the book and notes to do some preparation for my class. I completed the report and gave Dr. Dereje a copy. I was able also to store the uploaded material on my flash with the help of Eng. Riad. Two of the female students, Etenesh

and Feven came to see the picture, and later brought CDs to make a copy of my photo collection. I had a chat with them and showed them some personal pictures of mine and my daughter. I went with Dr. Dereje to the Vice President office, but he was not there. The secretary said he may be back around 3:00 PM. The building of the University administration used to be a palace for Haila Sillassie, but there was a coup during his absence to Brazil, and his uncle died, but some loyal part of the army was able to suppress the unrest. He decided to live somewhere else and gave the palace to the University. There was a big library of some old Ethiopian documents written by hand, and there was a museum of historical nature at the same place. We looked around quickly and went back. I went to the Pizzeria and ate Pasta a la forno, and it was very heavy. I could not breathe, and I went back to school with difficulty. It rained a lot and while I waited for the driver, I saw some other girls, the one who won the beauty contest and her friends. Zawdi was a bit late, I asked him to wait few minutes until the girls see the pictures. He drove me to the hotel. I arrived and went to bed immediately, I was not feeling well. When I woke up at about 8:00 PM, I called HE in the Embassy, he was out. I called his mobile; he was busy and said that because I did not call, he assumed I was having a great time. I discussed with the male receptionist about my departure and I discovered that I should leave tomorrow and not on Thursday. I called Dr. Dereje, HE to tell him about the change in timing. I spent some time preparing for my last class tomorrow, and went to bed.

### **Wednesday April 20, 2005**

I woke up around 6:30 AM, I arranged my two suitcases, and took my shower. I went for my last breakfast, my last papaya juice, and Ethiopian coffee with milk. I went back to my room to write my last diary. The driver came before the time. I went to my office to review my lecture. I found a lot of the Sodere students who came to see the pictures. Dr. Dereje came to show me the two PowerPoint presentations he made for the lecture, and copy some spreadsheet files. We went together to the class and he started by explaining the subject and introduced me. I went through the solved example using the presentation he made for my lecture and my two spreadsheets. He made a small speech about my contribution to the department during my stay. One of the [students](#) wanted to present me with a card and a gift as a token of appreciation. I was moved and I took pictures of the class and the student presenting the [gift](#) to me. I went to my office again to write the report. Dr. Dereje suggested some additions to the report. Before I finished the report I got a call from HE, and he wanted to spend sometime with me before I leave. I said I will not be available before 2:00 PM. I finished the report, made two copies with the help of Helen, the [secretary](#). Dr. Dereje arrived, read the report, and offered to change the Birrs that I still have with me to Dollars. I took a taxi to the Embassy. Zairei helped me with the luggage. I arrived to the embassy. HE was able to cancel the important meeting he had from 4:00 to 5:30 and offered me a great lunch. We sat by the beautiful garden and then we decided to have a walk to Sedest kilo since I wanted to buy some Ethiopian tea and coffee. We took two of his guards with thus. After buying from the supermarket we headed back. It was a lively walk. We sat watching TV and reading Egyptian newspapers, until it was about 7:00 PM. I had promised Dr. Dereje to invite him for dinner at the Armenian club. HE drove me back with his two guards until we arrived to Ras Amba. I met Betlahem and bought two T-shirts from her. The food was great, but he was still fasting. He enhanced the discussion as usual by telling me about



**Undergraduate Class**



**Student Giving Me a Gift**



**Department Secretary**

the history of Armenian existence in Ethiopia. They were invited by Haila Sillassi as members of the church and because his relation with the Russian regime. When the new regime took over, they were executed, and most of them flew back. But they left some small population around. The prices in the menu had to be increased by 20% since we were not members of the club. After dinner we went for a car drive looking for a music store to buy some modern and classic Ethiopian music. We found a shop called Dawid music, and I bought some tapes of classic music and two tapes for TD Afro and Mahmoud Ahmed. He offered me tea at the airplane restaurant. We listened to live music. I took tea and he had a beer. He then drove me to the airport and I thanked him and we promised to see each other soon. I was able to change the Birr I still have with me into Dollars. I took the time after I checked into the waiting area for the airplane to write my last diary. It is now about 11:30 PM and I can hear the voice announcing the 440 flight to Cairo.

Bye Bye Addis.

# Related Documents

- Letter of mission completion by Dr. Dereje
- Tentative Training Program
- Activity Report by me
- Invitation letter sent to candidates

**ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY**  
**Faculty of Technology**

**Department of  
Civil Engineering**



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*Date: April 25, 2005*  
*Ref. No: CED/E-151/97*

**Agnes APEDOE**  
**Programme Assistant**  
**Association of African Universities**  
**P.O. Box 5744, Accra-North**  
**GHANA**

**Subj: Dr. El-Bahrawy Visit to Addis Ababa University**

Dear Mr. Apedoe,

Dr. Aly N. El-Bahrawy from Faculty of Engineering, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt, has visited the Civil Engineering Department of the Addis Ababa University starting from April 1, to April 21, 2005 through the arrangement of Staff Exchange Programme for the 2004/2005 academic year supported by the Association of African Universities. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking you and the AAU for supporting in many ways to successfully accomplish this particular mission.

During his three-week stay at our University, Dr. El-Bahrawy gave a series of lectures to graduating class students and also offered a short-term intensive computer-based training course on Water Resources Engineering to graduate students and practicing engineers. The lectures and the training course involved a considerable input of effort by Dr. El-Bahrawy. The feedback from the students and the trainees suggests that overall the course was very well received. Dr. El-Bahrawy lecture's coupled with his rich practical experience and excellent pedagogical techniques enabled our students and the trainees to gain a very good understanding of Water Resources Engineering issues and now many of them are well-versed in applying simple spread-sheet programs to solve complex engineering problems.

A very considerable amount of material has been provided for the course which is uploaded in the intranet of our Department. Dr. El-Bahrawy has also submitted a copy of his lecture materials and programs to the Department, which will be a useful reference in the future.

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P.O.Box 385, Tel. 251-1-23 24 18, or 251-1-232433 /Ext 207, Fax: 251-1-552601/239480  
E-mail: dhasfaw@ceng.aau.edu.et

Therefore, I am glad to inform you that the Civil Engineering Department is satisfied with the excellent performance of Dr. El-Bahrawy in handling the short-term course. I would like also to inform you that our Department fully endorses the activity report submitted by Dr. El-Bahrawy.

Appreciating the collaboration of the Association of African Universities, I am looking forward for further cooperation.

Thank you,

*Dereje Hailu*



Dereje Hailu (Dr.-Ing.)  
Head, Department of Civil Engineering  
Faculty of Technology  
Addis Ababa University  
Email : [dhasaw@ceng.aau.edu.et](mailto:dhasaw@ceng.aau.edu.et)

Enclosed:

- Activity report by Dr. El-Bahrawy (4 pages)
- Invitation letter for the training (2 pages)
- A copy of Dr. El-Bahrawy's passenger ticket (1 pages)
- Attendance sheet of the training course (1 page)

**ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY**  
**FACULTY OF TECHNOLOGY**  
**CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

**Short-term computer-based training on Water Resources Engineering**

**April 11 - April 15, 2005 at Technology Faculty, Amist Killo, Civil Eng. Dept. Room 213**

**Tentative program**

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Time</i>
1	Monday, 11.04.2005	<b><i>Introduction to WR Systems and Computational Environment</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Difference b/n high level languages and the spreadsheet supported by examples from hydrology</i></li> <li>• <i>Applying Optimization techniques to solve a WR problem</i></li> </ul>	<p><i>9:00 – 12:00 a.m. Lecture</i></p> <p><i>2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Hands-on Exercises</i></p>
2	Tuesday 12.04.2005	<b><i>Hydraulic Systems</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Network Analysis</i></li> <li>• <i>Unsteady flow in pipes</i></li> <li>• <i>Pump operation</i></li> <li>• <i>Backwater Calculations</i></li> <li>• <i>Sediment Calculations</i></li> <li>• <i>Design of grassed channel</i></li> </ul>	<p><i>9:00 – 12:00 a.m. Lecture</i></p> <p><i>2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Hands-on Exercises</i></p>
3	Wednesday, 13.04.2005	<b><i>Hydrologic Systems</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Rainfall-runoff models</i></li> <li>• <i>Flow routing</i></li> <li>• <i>Groundwater Flow Modeling</i></li> <li>• <i>Earth Embankment Calculations ( seepage, etc.)</i></li> </ul>	<p><i>9:00 – 12:00 a.m. Lecture</i></p> <p><i>2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Hands-on Exercises</i></p>

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Time</i>
4	Thursday, 14.04.2005	<b><i>Irrigation Systems</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Evapotranspiration Estimation (different methods)</i></li> <li>• <i>Irrigation Scheduling</i></li> <li>• <i>Irrigation Pipe Networks</i></li> <li>• <i>Design of Surface and modern Irrigation systems 7</i></li> </ul>	<p><i>9:00 – 12:00 a.m. Lecture</i></p> <p><i>2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Hands-on Exercises</i></p>
5	Friday, 15.04.2005	<b><i>Environmental Systems and WR Project Management</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Water Quality Modeling</i></li> <li>• <i>Use of Spreadsheets as Project Management Software</i></li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p><i>9:00 – 12:00 a.m. Lecture</i></p> <p><i>2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Hands-on Exercises</i></p>

# Activity Report

Visit to Addis Ababa University  
Faculty of Technology  
Civil Engineering Department

From April 1 to April 21, 2005

Submitted to

Association of African Universities  
Staff Exchange Programme  
For the 2004/2005 Academic Year

by

*Prof. Aly N. El-Bahrawy*

Faculty of Engineering  
Ain Shams University  
Cairo, Egypt

## **Introduction**

My mission was made possible through the Association of African Universities (AAU). The host institution was the Addis Ababa University (AAU). The agreed duration was three weeks. My mission was to give short-term computer-based training on Water Resources Engineering to student, staff and practicing engineers.

I left Cairo on Friday, April 1, and arrived to Addis on Saturday, April 2. My departure date was Thursday April 21 from Addis to reach Cairo the same day.

The Addis Ababa University provided me with transportation from and to the airport, and on week days to and from Campus. I was given an office with telephone, and had access to internet and secretarial services. I stayed in Ras Amba hotel (bed and breakfast). The University also provided me with per diem that covered my incidental costs.

I went to Awash river area and visited pre-historic location accompanied by Dr. Dereje, the Chairman of the Civil Engineering Department. He was kind enough to respond to all my requests, and was providing a friendly and hospitable atmosphere during my stay. I also went with the third year civil students on a recreational trip to Sodere. On my last day, the graduating class presented me with a beautiful card and a gift as a token of their appreciation.

I enjoyed my stay on the professional and social levels.

## **Activities Accomplished**

*Most of the training material is part of my book "Spreadsheet Applications in Water Resources" under publication. The training concept is mainly based on hands on experience in the computer lab where students and engineers have the chance to learn through practicing and computing using EXCEL.*

- **Graduating class lectures and computer lab**
  - Tuesday April 5, 2005
    - Spreadsheets and Programming Languages
    - Simple rainfall-runoff models (convolution, unit hydrograph)
  - Wednesday April 6, 2005
    - Surface Irrigation (methods, distribution and application of water, design and evaluation)
    - Graded border and Furrow irrigation
    - Spreadsheet design
  - Friday April 8, 2005
    - Computer lab on design of graded border irrigation
  - Saturday April 9, 2005
    - Computer lab on design of furrow irrigation
  - Wednesday April 20, 2005
    - Joint lecture with Dr. Dereje on Sprinkler Irrigation Design. He gave the theoretical part, and I went through the details of the example and its solution using spreadsheets.

- **Short Course on Computer-Based Training**
  - Monday April 11, 2005
    - Computational Environment and WR Systems*
    - Introduction to course material
    - Simple examples from hydrology
    - Demonstration
    - Water resources systems example (optimization techniques)
  - Tuesday April 12, 2005
    - Hydraulic Systems*
    - Introduction to open channel flow
    - Backwater computation (the standard step method)
    - Properties of natural channel
    - Water and bed profile calculations
  - Wednesday April 13, 2005
    - Hydrologic Systems*
    - Rainfall runoff models (loss and response sub-models)
    - The phi index and Horton equation
    - The triangular response
  - Thursday April 14, 2005
    - Irrigation Systems*
    - Design of pipe irrigation networks
    - Optimal design using Linear Programming
    - Graphical solution of LP problems
    - Practical example
  - Friday April 15, 2005
    - Project Management*
    - Basic concepts and network presentation
    - The Early Start and Late Start models
    - Calculation of Critical Path
    - Gantt chart, network, and resource distribution graphs
- **Uploading Course Material and Spreadsheet Programs**
  - Tuesday April 5, 2005
    - Material made available on the Local Area Network
    - For graduating class
      - Introduction
      - Irrigation design
    - For short course
      - Day 1 WR systems
      - Day 2 Hydrology
      - Day 3 Hydraulics
      - Day 4 Irrigation
      - Day 5 Project Management

*The list of uploaded files that follows contains text files and spreadsheet programs. Other material not covered in class were also uploaded so engineers can access it later according to their individual interest.*

Day No	Word files	Excel files
Day 1 WR systems	Introduction, Thirstpap	Allsheets, Thirst
Day 2 Hydrology	Byblos, BWSED	Byblos
Day 3 Hydraulics	Maniak, Rainfor,	Hort, Rec, SCS, SLR, SWM, SLR,
Day 4 Irrigation	Evapot, Sched	LPnetwork, Evapot, Irreq
Day 5 Proj Man + WQ		Day5, Envhyd, Massloading,

- **Social Activities**

- Introduced by Dr. Dereje to the Dean and other faculty members, meeting **and chatting with some of them in the lounge**
- Having tea and coffee with the short course engineers during breaks
- Going for a trip to the Awash River with Dr. Dereje
- Going with the third year students to Sodere on a recreational trip

*Date: March 22, 2005*

*Ref. No: CED/ E-/107/97*

**Ministry of Water Resources**

Addis Ababa

**Subject: Invitation to Training Course**

Dear Sir / Madam,

The Civil Engineering Department of the Addis Ababa University is planning to offer a short-term computer-based training on Water Resources Engineering from April 11 to April 15, 2005 at the Technology Faculty. The training will be given by a visiting Professor Dr. Aly N. El-Bahrawy from Faculty of Engineering, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt under the Association of African Universities Staff Exchange Program for the 2004/2005 academic year. The training program comprises of lectures on various topics of water resources engineering and computer or hands-on exercises. The topics to be covered in the training include:

- Introduction to water resources systems
- Computational environment
- Hydraulic systems
- Hydrologic systems
- Irrigation systems
- Environmental systems
- Water resources project management

This is, therefore, to invite your organization to send **four** participants to attend the training program. We hope that our staff, students and practicing engineers would benefit a lot from this training.

Please find attached to this invitation letter the tentative program of the training. Please confirm also your participation with the contact address indicated below before April 7, 2005. We would like to inform you that the course will be offered free of charge and transportation, accommodation, and all other personal costs have to be covered by participants.

Sincerely yours,

Dereje Hailu (Dr.-Ing.)

Head, Department of Civil Engineering