

Gojjam Scholarship 2010/11

September 2011

Sixth Annual Report

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Gojjam Betresidiq Scholarship Year 6

Abraham Bekele, PhD

We had a fabulous academic year. And here is why: The scholarship program covered 35 preparatory schools;

that is 2 more than the previous year.

- Annual intake grew from 150 in the previous year to 162. That brought the total number of students supported during the year to 310, a net increase of 24% over the previous year.
- Recruitment of girls grew to 71, an impressive 65% increase over the previous year.
- Total number of students supported over the last six years reached 709. That brings the total number of annual scholarships granted to date to 1,207.
- All 99 students that took the Ethiopian School Leaving Examination (ESLCE) at the end of academic year 2009/10 joined higher education programs the following year. One

student missed the Examination due to poor health.

- We have some 148 students who took the ESLCE at the end of the 2010/11 academic year; and we expect most of the 47 students who joined higher education in 2006/07 and some of the 53 who joined in 2007/08 to have graduated from college.
- The Public Relations and Promotions Committee in Ethiopia is established, and has already conducted a successful promotion and fundraising activity.
- Contact between collaborating organizations was further strengthened by exchange of visits. Now the details.

Coverage

The program operates in all the

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Low Income Families in Ethiopia (LIFE) Scholarship Annual Report

Mr. Tessema Bitew

The central objective of LIFE Scholarship is to provide a safety net to high achieving students

in preparatory high-schools (grades 11 and 12) who are at serious risk of dropping out for lack of financial and moral support. Preparatory high-schools in Ethiopia are institutions that prepare students for further studies in colleges and universities. Students are selected to attend these institutions on the basis of their academic performance in earlier grades and their interest and potential to pursue higher levels of academic training. Unfortunately, the dropout rate in Ethiopian high-schools is very high. Among many, the following reasons are most significant.

- ▲ Preparatory high-schools are located in urban area that are far from rural localities where more than 85% of the population lives.
- ▲ Due to absence of road networks, public transportation between most rural

localities and urban areas where the preparatory high-schools are located is virtually non-existent.

- ▲ As nearly all rural folk in Ethiopia are subsistence farmers they do not have the means to support their children while attending preparatory schools away from home.
- ▲ HIV and Malaria epidemics have



Meeting with the Scholarship Committee and the leadership of GDA-Ethiopia. From left: Ato Tessema Bitew, Dr. Gualu Endegnanew, Ato Tiruneh Sinishaw, Ato Addis Anteneh, Ato Yohannes Zeleke, and Like Kahinat Abayneh Abebe.

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orphaned children; and there are no safety nets they could rely on.

- ▲ Girls are culturally underprivileged and underrepresented at all school levels.

2010 Calendar year LIFE Scholarship donors List and amount

Name	Cdn\$	Name	Cdn\$
St. Johns United Church	1832.00	Michael & Sarah Jansen	200.00
Bantiyhun Tizazu thru Ontario Power Generation	608.64	Silvia Margarido	200.00
Jennifer Considine/ Melaku G. Desta	400.00	Honda of Canada Mfg	200.00
Dr. Yidersal Gebeyehu	400.00	Temesgen Tesfu Birru	200.00
Jocelyn & Rogers Green	400.00	Dr. Haile Fenta	200.00
Gillian Anderson	400.00	Kathy Westbrook	200.00
Anteneh Emeru	225.00	Paul Van Arragon	200.00
Zelalem Mengistu	204.00	Tessema Bitew	200.00
Marilyn Holmstrom	200.00	Erica Curtis	100.00
Dr. Efrem Alemayehu & Yekite Kebede	300.00	Yihun Belay thru United way Toronto	41.78
Evelyn Smith	200.00	Yohannes Admassu	40.00
Ewnetu Beyene	200.00	Tracy Scott	20.00

help them secure a positive future.”

Similarly Gellian Anderson, Jocelyn’s sister in-law, wrote the following after she read our report in the 2010 GOSHANA Newsletter:

“Thank you for e-mailing the newsletter Tessema - I really enjoyed reading the articles & hearing of your organizations’ growing success in North America, & thus of course, in Ethiopia. The sense of responsibility & commitment of the GOSHANA members towards their less fortunate countrymen & women back in Ethiopia is commendable & humbling - I’m proud to be associated with such a caring group of people & am inspired to continue to help, even in such a small way. I’ll mail a cheque on Monday to help 2 students for the next academic year. Also, congratulations to you & Mr. Emeru on collecting & then distributing all those high school & college text books - a HUGE task, but such an asset for the children as they further their education”

Though the actual contribution of LIFE Scholarship is a drop in the ocean relative to the overwhelming need, its participation in this effort is registering significant results in the project area. So far over 400 students have been supported. Nearly all graduates of the program go to college, about 85% of them in medical and engineering fields.

In the 2010/ 2011 academic year LIFE Scholarship transmitted to Ethiopia Cdn\$5,000.00 collected from generous individuals and organizations listed below.

Our donors are also generous with their moral support and kind words of encouragement. Here are two examples. Jocelyn Green and her family has been donating to LIFE since its inception. Jocelyn has also been very encouraging with her emails. Here is her latest:

“Thanks for all your efforts in Ethiopia. The students are very fortunate to have a friend and dedicated person like you, to assist them in their education and

June 30 , 2011 Year todate donors List

Name	Cdn\$
Jennifer Considine/ Melaku G. Desta	500.00
Bantiyhun Tizazu thru Ontario Power Generation	417.63
St. John United Church	150.00
Yihun Belay	149.66
Evelyn Smith Mekonnen	102.00
Gebeyehu	100.00
Gilles Madore	51.00

May 16, 2011 Ethiopian Evening donation

Ann Dunn	500.00
Dave Jacklin & family	320.00
Sarah & Michael Jansen	200.00
Ekatering Amkha	150.00
Anonymous	130.00
Abena Thomas	100.00
Yihun Belay	100.00
Ewnetu Beyene Joan & John Bertram	100.00
Stephen McDonald Mekonnen	100.00
Gebeyehu	100.00
Zelalem Mengistu	100.00
Bamlaku Mulualem	100.00
Janet Head	100.00

May 16, 2011 Ethiopian Even. Cont..

Name	Cdn\$
Wassie A. Mulugeta	100.00
Darryl & Diane Gratrix	100.00
Lewis Sabo	60.00
Peter Polak	60.00
Adese Yeshinch	60.00
Ruth Adams	50.00
Masayuki Kishi	50.00
Nicole Irene Quint Garret	50.00
Cody Dupis	40.00
Zewdie T/Haimanot	40.00
Alison Jackson	40.00
Mary Jane Mathieu	40.00
Solomon M. Belay	40.00
Erin Siska	40.00
Zerfe Belay	30.00
Nancy Gaymour	30.00
Tsegaye Eshete	30.00
Alf Dumont	25.00
Takashi Sugiyama	20.00
Ruth McDonald	20.00
Evelyn Smith	20.00
Gorden Scott	20.00

I would like to thank Jocelyn and Gellian for their kind words and continued support to LIFE Scholarship, as well as their friendship to Ethiopia in whose future they are so generously investing.

I would like to thank our donors for their continued support.

Books for Schools Project Report

Fund raising for academic year 2011/12 is in progress. Funds collected so far is indicated in the tables below. Funds collected on May 16 are gross amounts from which cost of venue and other expenses would be deducted.

As reported last year, in addition to its continued participation in the scholarship project, Gojjam Development Association–Canada (GDA-C) has been collecting and sending books to high-schools, colleges, and universities in Ethiopia. The

The Trail of Books From Barrie, Canada to Gojjam, Ethiopia



Loading boxes of books from Anteneh's garage in Barrie to truck. From left: Tessema, Tamirat, Biruk, Almaz, Anteneh, Amanuel, Mekonnen and Mengistu.



Unloading the truck, Temeşgen and Zelalem.



Loading the container on a blistering hot Summer. Yohanes and Getahun are in the center.



The loading crew including University of Toronto students after the last box was placed in the container.



Mission accomplished in Toronto; Container is ready for shipping.



Container at Mr. Shibabaw Wole's facility waiting for shipment. From left: Yihun Belay, Andsew Beyene, and Yohanes Zeleke



Books changing hands from Gojjam Development Association in Ethiopia to Amhara Administrative Region for eventual distribution to Bahirdar and Debre Markos Universities.



Books being scarce, students take turns to use library facilities. Enjibara HS.



Debre Markos Library.

School Book Project was initiated three years ago. With the help of donors, in 2010 GDA-C collected and shipped about 15,000 books to Ethiopia.

August 21, 2010 marked the culmination of the School Book Project. On this date boxes of books that were piling up at Almaz and Anteneh’s garage over a period of two years were finally trucked to the University of Toronto and loaded into a container destined to Ethiopia. The effort involved the participation of a number of dedicated individuals. This was the day that concluded a couple of years of collecting books from various sources; sorting the useful from the unimportant and outdated; packing and labeling; fund raising for the cost of shipping; organizing various custom forms and clearing document required by Ethiopian authorities; and finally trucking to the University of Toronto and loading into a container. We would like to recognize the following individuals and groups without whose support the effort would not have succeeded.

- ▲ We are grateful to our compatriots from Barrie and Allison area who carried out the heavy task of loading and trucking the books to the University of Toronto. A special appreciation is due to young and energetic Mengistu Yegzaw whose strength and skill in loading were absolutely crucial.
- ▲ Our compatriots in Toronto and students of the University of Toronto helped unload from the truck to the container—a task tired hands would have found difficult to impossible in the heat and

humidity of August in Toronto.

- ▲ Almaz K. Mengesha and Anteneh M. Emeru took the responsibility of this project from its inception and endured the inconvenience of sacrificing the use of their entire garage for more than two years. In addition, they carried out a good deal of the grueling task of collecting, sorting, packing, and labelling. Almaz and Anteneh have earned our gratitude and respect.
- ▲ Melake Tizazu tirelessly collected college-level text books at his facility and brought them to us using his own van.
- ▲ University of Toronto donated medical books to the Faculty of Medicine of Addis Ababa University for shipment in the same container and shared with us the cost of shipment. We extend a special thanks to Sandra Kendall of the University of Toronto for making this possible, for allowing us to keep the container on University grounds, and organizing UT students to help unload boxes from the truck to the container.
- ▲ We want to thank everyone who helped collect books and raise funds for shipment. In this regard special gratitude is deserved by Bob Black, the director of Devxchange International, Brandi Bailey & Tara Bailey, the twin sisters, for their pivotal roles in fund raising.
- ▲ We thank Ato Addis Anteneh, chairman of Betresidik Kassa Scholarship, who was in constant contact with us during the shipping

Beneficiaries of the Scholarship Program and Principals Contacted by Mr. Tessema Bitew



Gojjam Ber (Dejen) High School. Principal is in the center next to Mr. Tessema Bitew.



Debre Markos HS. 5th from left is Yenewub Muluken, top student in the school, GPA=96.9%



Damot (Finote Selam) HS.



Enjibara HS



Tana (Bahirdar) HS



Ankesha HS

process, and to Ato Yohanes Zeleke and Ato Gashaw Shibabaw who organized and carried out all activities related to port and customs clearance and logistic in Ethiopia.

Ethiopian Cultural Evening and fund raiser held in Barrie

We held our second annual Ethiopian Cultural Evening in Barrie on May 14, 2011. This is a fund raising event whose proceeds will finance our various projects. The evening featured delicious spicy Ethiopian dishes catered by Wass Restaurant of Hamilton, and entertainment by Nouvel Expose group specializing in Ethiopian and African dances. We would like to thank all who came to this event for their time, donations and moral support. Special recognition and gratitude is owed to Bob Black, the executive director of DevXchange International, for his exceptional leadership and mentorship; the twin sisters Brandy Bailey and Tara Bailey who played critical roles in this event; and to Marten Nieuwhof & Anteneh M. Emeru who gave their hearts and souls to the event. Finally, we thank Wassie Ayalew, the owner of Wass Restaurant who catered the evening at cost.

My Trip to Ethiopia

Visiting schools and scholarship recipients

April 15 to May 6 I traveled to Ethiopia, visited some high-schools, and talked to the principals and students that benefit from our scholarship project. Due to shortage of time I was able to visit only six of the 34 preparatory high-schools included in our scholarship project. Unfortunately, in some of the schools I visited, not all beneficiaries were available at the time of my visit. The reasons are:

- ⤴ Due to shortage of space and staff almost all high-schools in Ethiopia operate on a shift system where half of the students attend in the morning and the other half attend in the afternoon. As a result, the students I met were part of either the morning or the afternoon shift.
- ⤴ The number of students I was able to contact was further limited by an



Ethiopian Evening Organizing Committee. From left: Tessema Bitew, Tara Bailey, Brandi Bailey, Anteneh Imiru, Bob Black. Missing in the picture is Martin.

unfortunate timing of my trip. It was the Easter holiday season, a holiday very much celebrated in the Orthodox Christian community, and many of our beneficiary students had travelled (most of them on foot) to their respective localities of origin.

In the limited time I had to interact with the beneficiaries, I gained a rewarding and extremely revealing experience of the difference our modest contributions make in the lives of the few we are able to help. I was profoundly touched by how gracefully our beneficiaries endure the economic hardships they have to bare. I was encouraged and humbled by their courage and determination to succeed. And I was brought to tears by their gratitude for the meager help they receive. Here is one example.

Yenewib Muluken is a grade 11 student at Debre Markos high-school. She comes from a family too poor to support her in school. She is physically challenged and unable to work to support herself while in school. Yenewib is the perfect candidate to fall through the cracks into a lifetime of poverty. But no more. After she won our scholarship she decided to stay in school and apply herself to her studies with single-minded determination. Now, with a grade point average of 96.9%, she is the highest scoring student in the entire school. Yenewib wants to be a physician and help others. She extends her heartfelt “thank you” to the donors she does not know but have altered her life’s trajectory.

Like Yenewib, most of the kids I talked to want to be either doctors or Engineers. And indeed, about 85% of our graduates so far chose to pursue health and engineering related programs of higher education. They reason that as doctors they can help alleviate the suffering of the Ethiopian masses from preventable and easily curable health problems. Those who aspire to be engineers want to contribute to the infrastructural and industrial development of the country.

Principals, teachers and students alike, all urged me to convey their appreciation of the scholarship program and their wish to see it expanded as there are yet numerous bright students who drop out of school for lack financial and moral support.

I came back from this trip with a profound awareness of the significance of our contribution though the problem we are addressing, principally poverty in Ethiopia, is immense and daunting. We are making a difference; and that difference can be multiplied manyfold if each one of us would spread the word, and motivate family and friends to be involved. There are many good people out there who are willing to be involved to make a difference in the lives of the helpless and the deserving. Share this copy with those around you and encourage them to visit our website: <http://www.devxchange.org/GDA%20PG%2022.html> for earlier copies of our reports. Please remember, that each dollar we send is changing not only the lives of the immediate beneficiaries, but their extended families and the country at large.

Meeting with GDA executives

During this trip I also had an opportunity to meet with committee members of our local partner implementing agency, the Gojjam Development Association (GDA – Ethiopia). The committee is composed of senior retired national and international civil servants, as well

as distinguished businessmen. GDA-Ethiopia, in addition to being responsible for implementation of the project, contributes 50% of the cost of the project, and carries out the bulk of studies and project preparation activities. Sustainability of the project is to a large extent attributable to the dedication of this organization and its leadership. During this meeting GDA members highlighted the following issues:

- ⤴ GDA does not have a car that could be used for project implementation and follow-up activities. They use either committee members' cars or public transportation. Both are inconvenient and impose undue sacrifice in time and money of travelers.
- ⤴ Relative to need the current coverage is a drop in the bucket. GDA would like assistance to expand coverage of the scholarship project.
- ⤴ Ethiopia in general and Gojjam region in particular is deforested due to population explosion and lack of awareness on the part of the public. GDA members emphasized the need for urgent intervention to reverse the trend. Currently, GDA is running some tree nursery projects.
- ⤴ Many historical churches are collapsing due to absence of care as parishes are impoverished and economically unable to provide the required support. GDA is planning some projects in this area as well but handicapped due to lack of funding.

The meeting was constructive. It shade some light on existing problems, and pointed opportunities in which supporters from abroad could participate.

(Editor's Note: All pictures in this report are courtesy of Mr. Tessema Bitew.)

Continued from page 1

preparatory schools within the four zones of the former province of Gojjam. Schools are added to the program as soon as they become operational. Preparatory schools consist of grades 11 and 12 and are established for the sole purpose of preparing students for higher education. Back in 2005/06 when the program started there were only eight such schools in the zones covered. In the 2010/11 academic year there were 35.

The number of students who would benefit from scholarship support is determined jointly by a coordinating committee - Betresidiq Kassa Scholarship (BKS) - in Addis Ababa which operates under the auspices of the Gojjam Development Association (GDA), and the Gojjam Betresidik Scholarship (GBS) in North America. Beneficiaries are selected by committees established at each secondary school in the program area. Qualification for the scholarship is primarily need followed by academic performance. The central objective of the program is to increase the number of university entrants from Gojjam by providing financial and moral support to the most competent students who are at risk of dropping out due to economic hardship. The program started with 100 students (53 and 47 in 11th and 12th grades respectively) in academic year 2005/06. The corresponding numbers in the academic year completed June 2011 were 162 and 148 for a total of 310 students. Over the first six years of operation the number of schools covered nearly quadrupled, and the number of beneficiaries more than tripled [Table 1].

Table 1: Coverage

	2005-2006	2010-2011	% increase
Preparatory schools covered	8	35	338
Total number of students supported per year	100	310	210
Annual intake	50	162	224
Percent of girls	Set-aside	25	65
	Actual	28	71

Gender Equality

The program recognizes the cultural and economic

hardships girls face in Ethiopia. It recognizes equally as well the potential role of girls' education in poverty alleviation and improvement of economic condition of future generations. And hence it started out with a set aside of 25% of scholarship for girls in addition to those they may win competitively. In 2005/06 only 28 scholarships were granted to girls. Only three were won competitively. The scholarships won competitively by girls were far short of the program's expectations. Hence the 25% set aside was a welcome cushion. The set aside is now set at 40%. In the 2010/11 academic year girls constituted 71 of the 162 or 44% of the intake. Of the total 709 beneficiaries of the scholarship to date 241 or 34% were girls [Table 2].

Table 2: Number of Scholarship Winners by Zone and Gender, 2006/06 - 2009/10

Zone	2005/06-2009/10			2010/11			Total			
	F	M	Total	F	M	Total	F	M	Total	%
Awi	30	69	99	12	16	28	42	85	127	18
W. Gojjam	52	117	169	19	23	42	71	140	211	30
E. Gojjam	68	153	221	36	43	79	104	196	300	42
Bahr-Dar	20	38	58	4	9	13	24	47	71	10
Total	170	377	547	71	91	162	241	468	709	100
%	31	69	100	44	56	100	34	66	100	

University Bound

The program is proud of its record of achievement regarding the destination of its graduates. Of the 395 students that completed the program 390 were admitted to university programs. Five did not take the ESLCE for health reasons. Results at the ESLCE are very impressive. Here is what those who graduated in 2010 achieved [Table 3]. The maximum score possible being 700 the median for our graduates of academic year 2009/10 was 476. The corresponding mean score and standard deviation were 462 and 81. Among the four zones Awi had the highest median and highest mean, 504 and 489 respectively, and the lowest standard deviation, 65. Bahir Dar fared poorly among the zones. Its median and mean scores were 445 and 434 respectively, with a standard deviation of 99, the highest among the four regions.

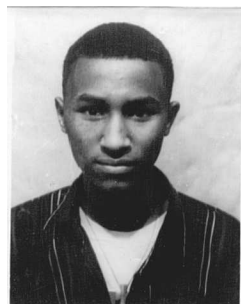
Boys outscored girls by significant margins; no surprise there. Boys had median score of 498 and a mean of 490. The corresponding scores for girls were 376 and 387.

Table 3: Performance at ESLCE 2009/10				
Zone	Number Tested	Median Score	Average Score	Standard Deviation
East Gojam	41	468	463	81
West Gojjam	31	487	456	81
Bahir Dar	11	445	434	99
Awi	16	504	489	65
Boys Only	72	498	490	66
Girls Only	28	376	387	67
All Students	99	476	462	81

Star Performers of the Year

In the past we have been hesitant to single out star performers among beneficiaries of the program. For us they are all stars that have overcome myriads of challenges life of limited resources threw their way. They all excel in national exams despite the fact they study in poorly equipped and poorly staffed schools. Hardly any of our students had half the necessary books or stationery. Some did not have the material resources required to survive let alone excel in their studies.

This year we are breaking away from tradition. We could not resist featuring one truly star performer. His name is Melaku Taye Amogne. Born in 1990 in Woine-Wiha, he graduated from Mota Secondary School in 2009 with a GPA of 4. This usually does not catch our attention as a good percentage of beneficiaries sport such results. Indeed two others we picked from the same school had identical grades. What caught our attention was Melaku's performance at ESLCE. With a score of 641 out of the maximum possible of 700 points, he stands out head and shoulders above the pack. His score is 45 points higher than the second best and 179 points higher than the average score for the cohort of beneficiaries that graduated in 2010. Melaku is now studying medicine at Addis Ababa University.



The second best score of 596 was nailed by Senayit Molla Ijigu of Debre Markos. She is now an engineering student at

Addis Ababa University.

Fields of Study and Location

The program keeps track of the fields of study and locations of its graduates. Here are some observations. The last cohort of graduates were dispersed over 15 locations. Nearly half (48 out of 99) ended up in Addis Ababa and Jimma. Gondar and Hawassa claimed 8% each, while Arba Minch and Bahir Dar took 7% each. Debre Markos, a newly established university, got 6% of the 99 graduates. For the life of the program, six locations -- Gondar, Addis Ababa, Bahir Dar, Adama, Jimma, and Hawassa -- were the destinations of 75% of our graduates. The locations of 4% of graduates remain unknown [Table 4].

The majority of graduates of the program join the most competitive and highly desired fields of study: medicine and engineering. In the

Table 4: Graduates of the Scholarship Program by Universities They Attend				
	2005/06-2008/09	2009/10	Total	%
Gondar	60	8	68	17
Bahr-Dar	54	7	61	15
Jimma	19	16	35	9
Hawassa	25	8	33	8
Mekele	15	1	16	4
Addis Ababa	30	32	62	16
Haramia	10	1	11	3
Arba Minch	4	7	11	3
Adama	34	4	38	10
Debre Markos	9	6	15	4
Dessie	7	3	10	3
Other	12	4	16	4
Not Tested	4		4	1
Not Known	12	2	14	4
Total	295	99	394	100

last cohort of graduates, 48% and 31% joined medicine and engineering respectively. For the life of the program about 60% ended up in medicine and health, while 16% chose to do engineering. Despite all efforts there remains a disquieting 8% of graduates whose chosen fields of study were not reported to the program coordinators [Table 5].

Fundraising and Transfers

Once again, this past academic year

Table 5: Fields of Study at the University Level				
Major	2010/11	2006/07 - 2009/10	Total	%
Medicine and Health Sciences	48	186	234	59
Engineering	31	32	63	16
Social Sciences	3	15	18	5
Other	7	34	41	10
Unknown	10	22	32	8
Not Tested		6	6	2
Total	99	295	394	100

fundraising results in the United States were poor. Two things account for it: the deepening recession and a lackluster effort to collect funds. Two organizations, GOSHANA-LA and Bahir Dar Unity Mahiber in the DC-Metro area continue to account for the lion’s share of contributions in the United States. For the academic year 2010/11 US\$6,550 was raised in the USA. Only US\$300 was raised outside of the LA and DC-metro areas [Table 6]. The trend in the US would appear to be discouraging. Over the last six years contributions have declined somewhat consistently. Fundraising efforts would need to be enhanced to more than counter the deleterious impact of the recession and meet the requirements of increased intake and other planned activities of the program. The picture in Canada remains bright thanks to the dedication, diligence, and persistence of Mr. Tessema Bitew and his colleagues there. They continue to raise encouraging amounts of funds from a variety of sources [see report on LIFE Scholarship].

In spite of fundraising challenges, North America met its commitment of financing of 50% of cost of the program for the 2010/11 academic year. C\$ 5,000, and US\$ 6,800 were transferred from GDA-Canada and GBS-USA respectively.

Table 6: Contributions from USA Resident 2010/11		
GOSHANA - LA		2500
From DC-Metro Area		
Bahr-Dar Unity Mahiber	2250	
Miss. Woinshet yaregal	150	
Mr. Alebachew Bekele	150	
Dr. Abraham Bekele	150	
		2700
Other DC-Metro Residents		
Mr. Tefferri Mokonnen and Mrs.Tiruayinet Abebe	150	
Mr. Lemma	150	
Mr. Tilahun Deres	150	
Mr. Tadesse A. Bekele	150	
Mr. Theodros Admassu	150	
Mr. Yigzaw	150	
Woinie’s friend	150	
		1050
Other Localities Within USA		
Prof. Yitayih Zelalem	150	
Mr. Ababu Zewdie	150	
		300
Grand Total		6550

Contact With BKS-Ethiopia

We had two visitors from the coordinating committee in Addis Ababa. Ato Dagnachew Kebede, Finance Officer of the committee, was in the DC-Metro area during the Spring. He had several hours of discussions with the coordinator of GBS-North America. Ato Aklilu Afework, Foreign Relations Officer, was in the DC-Metro area during the Summer. Ato Aklilu had the opportunity to exchange information and views in a teleconference with the Board of Directors of GOSHANA. Ato Tessema Bitew, coordinator of LIFE Scholarship in Canada, visited Ethiopia in late Spring. Ato Tessema visited at least half a dozen preparatory schools and met with beneficiaries of the program, visited a couple of libraries that benefited from the donation of books he championed, and had a meeting with

the leadership of GDA-Ethiopia and the BKS committee [see report by Tessema Bitew].

Public Relations and Promotions Committee

Long in planning, a Public Relations and Promotions Committee has become a reality. We congratulate the leadership of BKS for assembling a committee of capable professionals to promote the scholarship program in Ethiopia. The committee did not take long to spring to action. In collaboration with artists from the National Theatre it staged promotional and fundraising activities in Debre Markos, Finote Selam, and Bahir Dar. Funds in excess of Birr 75,000 were raised during these events. Report on net proceeds and details on its activities to date is forthcoming.

University Graduates
























It is now five years since the first cohort of beneficiaries graduated from the initial eight preparatory schools and joined programs of higher studies. Virtually all members of this group, and some of the second cohort, will have graduated from college by the end of academic year 2010/11. In fact, it is quite possible that a trickle of the third cohort that may have opted for accelerated three-year programs, may have graduated as well. There are discussions in Ethiopia as well as in North America to organize events and facilities that would mobilize our university graduates for networking among themselves and eventually providing support to the scholarship program. North America commits to participate in all efforts directed at promoting this objective.


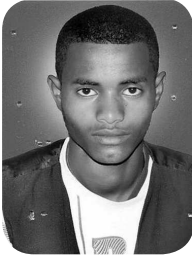



















This completes our report for academic year 2010/11. We appreciate the generosity of donors. We look forward to your continued support, comments, and suggestions.























**For information, comments,
suggestions, and donations**

**Please contact
in the United States
Gojjam Scholarship
5268 Cozy Glen Lane
Alexandria, VA 22312
gojjam.scholarship@gmail.com
703-980-6650**























**and in Canada
LIFE Scholarship
76 Callender Crescent
Alliston, ON L9R 0B4, Canada
705-434-1859
Tessema_Bitew@rogers.com
www.devxchange.org
Thank you for your support.**













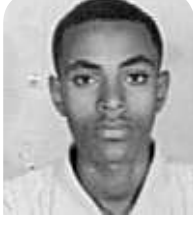










East Gojjam	Ginbot 20	Bizuayehu Assefa Tareqegn Alemshahs Mossu Ayele Tiringo kebede Simegn					
	Debre Markos	Enawgaw Anteneh Andualem Mesenbet Degefaw Alem Tessema Tariku Terefe Yenewube Muluqen Tesfaye					
		Tesfaye Kassa Birhane Bezawit Haile Zemariam Etagegn Kassa Mekuryaw Mulu Getaneh mogne					
		Shewangizaw Hailu Gelaw Alemtsehaye Yensew Enyew Biruktawit Getaneh Chane					
		Nitsuh Kefale Yeshanew Birhanu Zewdu Ayalew Habte Muluadam Terefe Banchi-Yimolu Terefe Temes- gen					
	Gojjam ber	Werkyantifu Chale Fetene Tilahun Amare Tamru					
		Bahre Giorgis	Belgu Bamlaku Gossa Melaku Tessema Kasse Yeshiwork Kasse Gize				























East Gojjam	Yejube	Zenebech Teferi Dilnesa Sewnet Ejjigu Mekonen Yesgat Asabe Gashe				
	Lyew Asres	Desalegn Mola Bayih Meskerem Abebaw Kebede Gojam Mengist Niguse Yenework Anagaw Geremew				
	Debre Work	Engida Dile Yalew Ayalnesh Amogne Tegegn Tigist Zewde Mekonen Tariku Mezgebu Tessema				
		Zemen Belachew Chekole				
	Abreh Wetsebeh	Metadele Zenebe Asres Lyew Demisse Temesgen Worku Birhanu Adugna Worknesh Jembere Ejigu				
		Shambel Sinte Gebre Askale Baye Mengiste				
	Amanuel	Getye Smachew Meseret Endesew Gerefaye Asege Tigist Zelalem Mengiste				























East Gojjam	Belay Zeleke	Demsachew Getnet Gobeze Ansha Mohammad Seid Abay Birhan Mekbeb Aklilu Workneh Ayehe				
		Abel Mesfin Chernet Abebaye Mehari Abebe Eyerusalem Getachew Chere				
	Mota	Alehegn Yirefu Yizengaw Selam Yibeltal Desalegn Silenat Gashaw Adbaru Tiruye Mengesha Tiruneh				
		Tilahun Sinshaw Minale Tadesse Mohammad Legesse Getachew Tibebe Tessema Kassahun Belsite Embiale				
	Qooy	Bantayu Molu Getnet Tenaw Gojam Nigusse Emiru				
	Debre Elias	Deguallem Desse Tegegn Demisse Alamrew Hunegnaw Atalay Abeje Alemyehu				
	Rebu-e Ge-	Zigaw Mengist Abebe Tirusew Hibsitu Tefera				






West Gojjam

West Gojjam	Damot	Gebeyaw Mitiku Alem Binalfew Kassahun Getahun Getnet Asichale Terefe Etsubedink Birhanu Yitayew				
		Simegn Gebeyehu Anagaw Hibsitem Tsehay Fetene Esubalew Tamru Ayele				
		Asegeq Zerihun Zeleke Yenew Gize Welelaw Degsew Walegn Tirusew Ayenew Cheru				
		Birhanu Bogale Getahun Nibrete Mekonen				
	Mere'awi	Animut Adamu Belay Tadesse Demilew Chekil Sisay Muche Andualem Etagnehu Desse Addisu				
		Atitegeb Asires Seyoum				
	Dembecha	Habtam Minwagaw Admase Tirnigo Girma Moges Bichal Hune Tegegn Atalay Aniley Wendem				

West Gojjam	Feres bet	Degefaw Alemayehu Reta Etagenehu Ayenew Desse Banchilay Addis Alemayehu Tsfaye Fikadu Fisahe				
		Yirgalem Bayle Zeleke Enchalew Ewnetu Gashu				
	Qarit	Teshome Ayenew Belay Melaku Tafere Negash Manay Ayalnew Mamo				
	Abay Min-	Melaku Belay Ameshe Getnet Addis Sewyew Tihune Getaneh Ayalew				
	Adat	Mulugeta Getnet Adamte Etsegenet Ayehu Desse Keffe Nibiret Sendeq Tiruye Chale Simeneh				
		Kenu Tarqe Demilew Gebre Atinafu Yihunete Shegaye Eyasu Tamre				
	Yesmala	Alemu Manalebih Bitew Amare Necho Asefere Endeshaw Demeke Asaye Serkalem Melaku Esubalew				

West Gojjam	Yesmala	Habtamu Jemere Gebeyehu Tilanesh Meshesha Abawa Ayehut Alehegn Andualem Huluager Ayenew Muche				
	Dur betie	Fasika Tadesse Atitegeb Degesew Belay				
	Jiga	Yilekal Balew Belay Weyneshet Achamyesh Ayalew				
	Shendi	Adugaw Getachew Bitew Asichal Zerihun Sitotaw				
Bahr Dar	Bahr Dar	Mehari Mayet Sewnet Solomon Tesfagaber Yigzaw Tenagnework Esseyneh Dag- naw Tesfanesh Getachew Anteneh				
	Gion	Zemenay Worku Melese Wasse Alemaw Yigizaw Seyoum Mengesha Worku Adugnaw Takele Birhanu				
	Tana Hayk	Mitiku Lule Tessema Gebeyehu Amare Seyoum Mekanent Alemu Endayehu Birtukan Gizachew Ayele				

		Yisasu Kume Kassa				
AWI	Tilili	Walelign Mulugeta Nebyu Abebe Kumlachew Belay Shita Bere Anite				
	Dangla	Chernet Tegegn Yismaw Asnakech Assaye Zegeye Abraham Workneh Azale Sisay Mekonen Wele				
		H/mariam Weutu Tirukelem Weynitu Genet Merso Hana Betye Yetwale				
	Injibara	Kibetey Yigezaw Zeleke Ayenew Kassahun Wolde Yeshalem Fente Alemtsehay Shiferaw Ayele				
	Chagni	Alemneh Mekuriya Liyew Alemirew Tesfaye Mitiku Tej Tsega Kassahun Ayalnesh Semineh Kassahun				
		Mulugeta Wasse Alamrew Yigardush Alemaw Bezabih Sewnet Getahun Mesfin				

Awii	Ankesha	Mulat Nure Chekol Bitew Emiru Ali Haimanot Fetene Moges Mastewal Semanew Ferede				
		Melkamu Gade Kassahun				
	Addis	Demeke Kelme Mulat Weyneshet Getu Amsalu	