

## **Ethiopia**

Ethiopia is a landlocked country located in the Horn of Africa. Officially known as the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, it is the second-most populous nation in Africa with over 79.2 million people and the tenth-largest by area with its 1,100,000 km<sup>2</sup>. The capital is Addis Ababa. Ethiopia is bordered by Eritrea to the north, Sudan to the west, Djibouti and Somalia to the east, and Kenya to the south.

Though most African nations are, in their modern form, less than a century old, Ethiopia has been an independent nation since ancient times, being one of the oldest countries in the world. A monarchy for most of its history, the Ethiopian dynasty traces its roots to the 2nd century BC. Besides being an ancient country, Ethiopia is one of the oldest sites of human existence known to scientists today, having yielded some of humanity's oldest traces. It may be the region from which *Homo sapiens* first set out for the Middle East and points beyond. When Africa was divided up by European powers at the Berlin Conference, Ethiopia was one of only two countries that retained its independence. It was one of only four African members of the League of Nations. After a brief period of Italian occupation, Ethiopia became a charter member of the United Nations. When other African nations received their independence following World War II, many of them adopted the colors of Ethiopia's flag, and Addis Ababa became the location of several international organizations focused on Africa.

Modern Ethiopia and its current borders are a result of significant territorial reduction in the north and expansion in the south toward its present borders, owing to several migrations and commercial integration as well as conquests, particularly by Emperor Menelik II and Ras Gobena. In 1974, the dynasty led by Haile Selassie was overthrown as civil wars intensified. Since then, Ethiopia has seen a variety of governmental systems. Ethiopia is one of the founding members of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), G-77 and the Organisation of African Unity.

(OAU). Today, Addis Ababa is still the headquarter of the African Union, the Nile Basin Commission and UNECA. The country has one of the most powerful militaries in Africa. Ethiopia is one of a few African countries to have its own alphabet. Ethiopia also has its own time system and unique calendar, seven to eight years behind the Gregorian Calendar. It has the largest number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Africa.

The country is a land of natural contrasts, with spectacular waterfalls and volcanic hot springs. Ethiopia has some of Africa's highest mountains as well as some of the world's lowest points below sea level. The largest cave in Africa is located in Ethiopia at Sof Omar, and the country's northernmost area at Dalol is one of the hottest places year-round anywhere on Earth. There are altogether around 80 different ethnic groups in Ethiopia today, with the two largest being the Oromo and the Amhara, both of which speak Afro-Asiatic languages. The country is also famous for its Olympic gold medalists, rock-hewn churches and as the place where the coffee bean originated. Currently, Ethiopia is the top coffee and honey-producing country in Africa, and home to the largest livestock population in Africa.

Ethiopia has close historical ties to all three of the world's major Abrahamic religions. It was one of the first Christian countries in the world, having officially adopted Christianity as the state religion in the 4th century. It still has a Christian majority, but a third of the population is Muslim. Ethiopia is the site of the first hijra in Islamic history and the oldest Muslim settlement in Africa at Negash. Until the 1980s, a substantial population of Ethiopian Jews resided in Ethiopia. The country is also the spiritual homeland of the Rastafari religious movement, which is influenced by Pan-Africanism. Ethiopia, which has Africa's second biggest hydropower potential, is the source of over 85% of the total Nile water flow and contains rich soils, but it nevertheless underwent a series of famines in the 1980s, exacerbated by adverse geopolitics and civil wars, resulting in

perhaps a million deaths. Slowly, however, the country has begun to recover, and today Ethiopia has the biggest economy in East Africa (GDP) as the Ethiopian economy is also one of the fastest growing in the world and it is a regional powerhouse in the Horn and east Africa. The country remains politically fragile, with the opposition struggling for democracy and with reports of human rights abuses.

ἘΠΙΘΡΕΛ ἰζ ᾠ λονδλοκτ κληχρε λῶκᾠετἰδ ἰν τἰλ ἡρν ον ᾠφρἰκλ . ἁφἰσηλε νῶwin ᾠζ τἰλ fedrῶl demᾠkrῶtik rεpᾠblik ον ἘΠΙΘΡΕΛ , ἰτ ἰζ τἰλ sekἰnd mῶst popyῶlis nᾠeshἰn ἰn ᾠφρἰκλ wἰτἰ ᾠνλ 79 . 2 milyἰn pεpῶl ᾠnd τἰλ tεnτἰ λΔjἰst bἰ ereλ wἰτἰ ἰᾠs 1 , 100 , 000 km<sup>2</sup> . τἰλ κῶpᾠtῶl ἰζ ᾠdis ᾠbᾠbᾠ . ἘΠΙΘΡΕΛ ἰζ bᾠrdἰd bἰ erἰchreλ tῶ τἰλ nᾠrἰ , sῶdᾠn tῶ τἰλ west , djἰbῶte ᾠnd somΔleλ tῶ τἰλ est , ᾠnd kenya tῶ τἰλ sῶᾠτἰ . τἰῶ mῶst ᾠfrᾠkin nᾠeshἰnz Δ , ἰn τἰel modἰn fᾠrm , les τἰᾠn ᾠ sendre old , ἘΠΙΘΡΕΛ ἡᾠz ben ᾠn ἰndᾠpendἰnt nᾠeshἰn sἰns ᾠenchἰnt tἰmz , beḡ wᾠn ον τἰλ oldἰst κληchrez ἰn τἰλ wᾠrld . ᾠ monᾠke fᾠ mῶst ον ἰᾠs ἡἰstjre , τἰλ ἘΠΙΘΡΕἰn dἰnᾠste t rᾠesἰz ἰᾠs rῶᾠs tῶ τἰλ sekἰnd sendre bese . bἰsἰdz beḡ ᾠn ᾠenchἰnt κληchre , ἘΠΙΘΡΕΛ ἰζ wᾠn ον τἰλ oldἰst sἰᾠs ον ἡᾠmin existἰns nῶwin tῶ sᾠeἰntἰsᾠs tῶdᾠe , ἡᾠveḡ yeἰldἰd sᾠm ον ἡᾠmonᾠtez oldἰst chrᾠesἰz . ἰt mᾠe be τἰλ rejἰn frᾠm wἰch ἡᾠmῶ sᾠepἰnz fᾠrst set ᾠot fᾠ τἰλ mἰdῶl est ᾠnd pᾠenᾠs beyond] wen ᾠφρἰκλ woz dἰvἰdἰd ᾠp bἰ yῶr ᾠpἰn pῶowἰz ᾠt τἰλ bᾠrlἰn konfrἰns , ἘΠΙΘΡΕΛ woz wᾠn ον ᾠnle tῶ κληchrez τἰᾠt rᾠtᾠend ἰᾠs ἰndᾠpendἰns . ἰt woz wᾠn ον ᾠnle fᾠ ᾠfrᾠkin membἰz ον τἰλ leg ον nᾠeshἰnz .

. Δftᾠ ᾠ bref pereἰd ον ἰt ᾠlyἰn okyῶpᾠeshἰn , ἘΠΙΘΡΕΛ bᾠkᾠem ᾠ chἰΔtᾠ membᾠ ον τἰλ yῶnἰtἰd nᾠeshἰnz . wen ᾠτἰλ ᾠfrᾠkin nᾠeshἰnz rᾠsevd τἰel ἰndᾠpendἰns folἰweg wᾠrld wᾠ II , mene ον τἰem ᾠdᾠptἰd τἰλ κᾠlἰz ον ἘΠΙΘΡΕἰz flῶg , ᾠnd ᾠdis ᾠbᾠbᾠ bᾠkᾠem τἰλ lῶkᾠeshἰn ον sevrῶl

int ʌnəʃnəʊl ɔɡənɪzæʃnz fōkɪst ɒn ɔfrɪkə . modɪn  
ɛplɛðrɛʌ ɒnd ɪəs kʌrɪnt bɔrdɪz Δ æ rʌzɒlt ɒv sɪgnɪfɪkɪnt  
tɛrʌtɔrɛəʊl rʌdɪkʃɪn ɪn ʃɪl nɔʃɪ ɒnd ɛkspənʃɪn ɪn ʃɪl  
səʊtɪ tʌwɔrd ɪəs prʌzɛnt bɔrdɪz , ɔɛg tɔ sevrəʊl  
mɪgræʃnz ɒnd kʌmɪʃnəʊl ɪntʌgræʃɪn ɔz wəʊl ɔz  
kɒŋqesɔs , pɔtɪkɔlə bɪ ɛmpɪrɪ ɒnd rʌs ɡɔbɛnɪ .  
1974 , ʃɪl dɪnʌstɛ lɛd bɪ hʌɛɛ sɛləsɛ wɔz ɔvʌʃrōwɪn  
ɔz sɪvəʊl wɔz ɪntɛnsɪfɪkɛd . sɪns ʃɪn , ɛplɛðrɛʌ hɔz sɛn æ  
vʌrɪtɛ ɒv ɡʌvʌmɛntəʊl sɪstɪmz . ɛplɛðrɛʌ ɪz wʌn ɒv ʃɪl  
fəʊndɛg mɛmbɪz ɒv ʃɪl nɒn ʌlʌɛnd mɔvmɪnt (nɒm) , jɛ  
77 ɒnd ʃɪl ɔɡɪnɪzæʃɪn ɒv ɔfrʌkɪn ɡɔnʌtɛ (ɔɛyɔ) .  
tɔdɛ , ʌdɪs ʌbʌbʌ ɪz stɪl ʃɪl hɛdkɔʃt ɒv ʃɪl ɔfrʌkɪn  
ɡɔnyɪn , ʃɪl nʌɛɪl bɛsɪn kʌmɪʃɪn ɒnd ɡɔnɛkʌ . ʃɪl kʌnʃrɛ  
hɔz wʌn ɒv ʃɪl mōst pɔʊwɛfəʊl mɪlɪʃrɛz ɪn ɔfrɪkə .  
ɛplɛðrɛʌ ɪz wʌn ɒv æ fɔ ɔfrʌkɪn kʌnʃrɛz tɔ hɔv ɪəs ɔn  
ɔlfʌbɛt ɛplɛðrɛʌ ɔʌsɔ hɔz ɪəs ɔn tɪm sɪstɪm ɒnd ɡɔnɛk  
kɔlɪndʌ , sɛvɪn tɔ æt ɡɛɪz bɪhɪnd ʃɪl ɡrɛɡɔrɛɪn kɔlɪndʌ .  
ɪt hɔz ʃɪl ʌdʒɪst nʌmbɪ ɒv ɡɔnɛskɔ wɜʌld hɛrʌtɪj sɪəs ɪn  
ɔfrɪkə .

ʃɪl kʌnʃrɛ ɪz æ lɔnd ɒv nɔʃrəʊl kɒnʃrɪʌsɔs , wɪʃɪ  
spɛktɔkɔlə wɔʃtʌfɔʌz ɒnd vɔlkɔnɪk hɔt sbrɪgz .  
ɛplɛðrɛʌ hɔz sʌm ɒv ɔfrɪkɪz hɪst mɔʊntɪnz ɔz wəʊl ɔz  
sʌm ɒv ʃɪl wɜʌʌs lōwɪst pɔʌnɔs bʌlɔ sɛ lɛvəʊl . ʃɪl  
ʌdʒɪst kɛv ɪn ɔfrɪkə ɪz lōkɛtɪd ɪn ɛplɛðrɛʌ ɔt sɔf ɔmΔ,  
ɒnd ʃɪl kʌnʃrɛz nɔʃɪnmōst ɛrɛʌ ɔt dɔʊlɔl ɪz wʌn ɒv  
ʃɪl hɔtɪst plɛsɪz ɡɛʌ rɔʊnd ɛnɛwɛʌ ɒn ʌʃɪ . ʃɪl Δ  
ɔʌtʌɡɛʃɪʌ ʌrɔʊnd 80 dɪfrɪnt ɛʃnɪk ɡrɔps ɪn ɛplɛðrɛʌ  
tɔdɛ , wɪʃɪ ʃɪl tɔ ʌdʒɪst bɛg ʃɪl ɔrɔmɔ ɒnd ʃɪl  
ʌmʌhʌrɪʌ , bōʃɪ ɒv wɪʃɪ spɛk ɔfrō æʃtɛtɪk lɔnʌɡwɪjɪz .  
ʃɪl kʌnʃrɛ ɪz ɔʌsɔ fɛmɪs fɔ ɪəs ɔlɪmpɪk ɡɔwd  
mɛdɔlɪsɔs , rɔk hɔwɪn ʃɪʃɪz ɒnd ɔz ʃɪl plɛs wɛʌ ʃɪl  
kɔfɛ bɛn ʌrɪʌnɛtɪd . kʌrɪntɛ , ɛplɛðrɛʌ ɪz ʃɪl tɔp kɔfɛ  
ɒnd hʌnɛ prʌʒɔsɛg kʌnʃrɛ ɪn ɔfrɪkə , ɒnd hōm tɔ ʃɪl  
ʌdʒɪst ʌɪvstɔk pɔpɔləʃɪn ɪn ɔfrɪkə .