

A.P. David, From Ethiopia

MELES AND NILE/GIONE

This article communicates the late Prime Minister Meles Zenawi's contributions to the Nile Basins, and asserts a message to the Egyptian people from their brothers and sisters of Ethiopia.

Reaping the changing of the geopolitical ecosystem in the region, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi enthusiastically engaged for the benefit of the nation from one of its national resources the Nile, deeming that it worthwhile for opening up prospective investment opportunities for the Horn and beyond by linking the undeniable benefits to all neighbors. Meles analyses the Nile's dimension of politics and stayed grounded and defeated fear, for the peculiar and unimaginable Renaissance Mega-Dam to be built at the nose of the Sudan. Sudan was a member of Egypt on the Nile issues for a lengthy time. Consequentially Meles conquered fears in order to speak his mind and act accordingly. Meles was the planner and implementer of the many dams, including the Millennium Mega-Dam. Before he inaugurated the Millennium Dam, he worked extensively with all the nations surrounding the Niles. He was not rushing to use the Nile unilaterally, but he labored together with ten countries and led them for the betterment and equitable benefits to all concerned citizens of the Nile zone. He discussed collectively for ten years non-stop with all around to use the Nile equally and legally. He designed the agreements so that all nations are responsible for their shares. Under Ethiopia's weight, the designs focused on the Blue Nile, highlighting the subject of impartial 'benefit sharing' rather than flow of the water sharing. Hence, the logic of Ethiopia for building hydropower dams to commercialize electricity - energy for the East African countries and beyond, is as part of a large scope of Nile Basin 'power pool'. Working together between the beneficiary countries, which they showed the same ambitions and interests,

under the Nile Basin Initiatives (NBI) included political as well as technical channels, building on the establishment of the Nile Council of Ministers. As a result, the perennial Nile issue becomes a temptation and made it wholly difficult for Egypt to reject the equal share benefit offered by Ethiopia. As Meles and his party's strategy to fight and overthrow was mystery and misery for the communist regime in Ethiopia for seventeen years, it becomes an identical disease for Egyptian leaders, not knowing how to figure out or to deal with Meles' strategy about the Nile's Mega-Dam. Even though it is not a secret, that Egypt does not contribute to the Nile Water one iota; the president of Egypt, Mr. Mohamed Mursi, took the risk and tried the old 19th century scare tactics to use military power. Nevertheless, his declaration of threats on Ethiopia did not save him or his authority for his childishness and hidden agenda, but the same military power that he intended to use against Ethiopia, swallowed him and his authority. Unfortunately, Egyptian leaders still live in the Pharaohs times and state of mind. They could not move an inch and catch up to the game of politics of the 21st century. The power was in their hands for centuries. If Egyptian leaders were smart enough to be more than pessimistic, making ill intended slogans, and amplifying myths and traditional rites, they could have integrated Egypt, with the Sudan, and Ethiopia economically, as one nation for the neighborhoods safety and security. This was the only way out for their fears. Again, beyond being selfish, distracting of Ethiopia, bribing and terrorizing the Sudanese, they still do not have the capacity of mind to build the neighborhoods in a beneficial way. As it has been mentioned above, Meles the original thinker and mystery maker of politics habitually glues himself with morality of justice and justification, which is hard for others to fight against it. Meles was a gifted leader and talented individual who knew how to make others say yes to his plan for his country and for the region. Meles made it difficult for the 19th century dominators to reject, in actuality, the theme of equal allotment in the 21st century. However, they made a lot of noise

anyways. Meles cornered those who wanted to live in the 19th century and told them that yesterday is not today, it ain't going to work for you anymore, and life is so precious for all, not only for selected nations or individuals. He was speaking the languages of there is no bigger fish who should swallow the smaller fish; everybody is a child of the creator. Meles spoke both languages; first, he spoke peace for a good neighborhood win-win, sustainable, accountable climate, and developmental languages. If non-receptive, but only the language of war, he stressed out that it will be handled as it comes if necessary. Therefore, there is nobody to fear under the sky from using the God given resources' to benefit the citizens of the nation. He spoke the language arts of capability and showed to friends and foes that Ethiopia overcomes all its obstacles that has been intrigued by other evils, and is able to build its capacity as a nation. Therefore, no force on earth can stop her from using her natural resources from her womb into her children's mouth. Unless if there is someone who hates to live and wants to jump into the Tsunami of Fire.

Whereas, the Sudanese moved fast enough, in a smart and constructive way. They divorced the unfair marriage with Egypt and they looked into the their areas and their neighborhoods interests and agreed with the Mega-Dam's purposeful project. Thus, not only did they bring their will into daylight for the Mega-Dam, but also they felt they should help and cherish it. Truly, they will gain from the results. Clearly, the Sudanese want to live in today and tomorrows not in yesterdays. They chose to be in the right place of the history of the neighborhood's family, blessings, not cursing. Bear in mind, this formula of trust does not pop up one day in the next morning with the sun, but it is the result of the foresighted and brainy Meles Zenawi's honest and deep love of human beings equally to his citizens and neighbors. With his universal euphoric aphorism and regional commonwealth unity vision, he worked tirelessly, served for their trusts and benefits, to all surroundings. His rigorous efforts bore fruit to both his

country and all the neighborhoods interdependent economic lifelines. Thanks to the right leadership of the late Meles Zenawi and his government, let the Egyptian leaderships worship their historical right's imagination, and let the Ethiopians worship and sip their undeniable God given resources, be it through electrification or irrigation. Meles Zenawi's nature was not hate mongering, but history will mark its course that he is the only African leader who made the Egyptian leaderships helpless in the face of the truth, throughout the Nile Basins History.

Advise to the Egyptian people

It will be beneficial to both nations and to the region to convey honest advise to the Egyptian family on the down side of the Nile; whose leaders are campaigning maliciously and blindly against the Renaissance Mega-Dam. Ethiopians, even when they have little bread for the day, their cultures and faith is to sit surround and eat from one plate with joy. They are the most generous of people, which the Egyptians know that unequivocally. Yet, it does not mean that Ethiopians will consent in the 21st Century to go to bed with their stomachs empty and live in the dark for the sake of greed and obesity of the leadership in Egypt. Hence, partake in the communal benefit under the goodwill of your Ethiopian families' attitude of care and togetherness charity. If your leaders reject this generous act of love from the Ethiopians and choose the war alternative, for the sake of their gluttonous syndrome, regrettably, mark the word for the record "You will lose it forever." You should know better that the result of war does not depend on hypes and machine powers. As the late, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi had explained that war is a science and justice. Plainly, the moral campus and justice is not on your side to win a war. In case your leaders choose war, you should expect the same result from the descendents of whom your parents' leaders tried and failed in the 19th Century. If you think, you now have better western and eastern weapons, you should also know that the Ethiopian people never have depended solely on machines to protect

their country, but they always relied on justice and their own blood. On the other hand, it is worthy to mention and is well known that the current leaders of Ethiopia are the ones who started with five antiquated weapons, fought against injustice, and routed the Derg regime that had the biggest well-equipped military force in the continent of Africa, in the 1980th and 90th. Case in point; think twice about what the parable said, “The one who lives inside of the glasshouse should never throw the first stone.” Whether there is war declared by president **Mohamed Mursi** or general **Sisi**, to invade the spheres of the Ethiopian sovereignty, will not give any relevancy, unless you are ready for suicidal consequences. The machine power your leaders got from America, even they might add new ones from Moscow, will never make you succeed neither, even if it were to drench Ethiopia in blood, their plan would never fit in to drink and irrigate the water of the Nile/Gione by force. You must stop the addiction of disgrace, which the Ethiopian father’s sealed their nation with their scared blood, once and for all in the 19th century when they defeated your parents’ invasion and miscalculation, that should be the end the era of intimidation. You must not try to break the seal; otherwise, it will cost you hugely. For that matter the pure blood of Ethiopians will poison you and sweep you from the face of the Nile/Gione region. Therefore, your leaders might have the power to start the war, but it will not be under their control to stop it, even on the terms of shameful defeat on their side. Only being greedy does not make a justifiable war. Good luck on your **vacillations**.