

Speech Text

In the name of Allah, the most Merciful, the most Beneficent

Ladies and gentlemen, my fathers, my brothers, my sons, it is a great pleasure to have the honor to stand in front of you as an orator on this great day, which I am not exaggerating if I say that it is the day of Asmara, which will remain a crown in the recorded golden register of our history. Furthermore, it can be considered as the immortal day of Eritrea in which most of its sons woke up and showed their presence and announced that they seek and aspire for one thing only, that they do not accept any alternative to their demand. The mass expressed their clear and unwavering demands in two distinct words:

Freedom and Independence.



Yes... freedom is a natural right of nations and a dear and precious thing for every animal as well as for humans who strive, long and seek it. They are prepared to endure hardships for its sake, suffer, ready to pay dearly and costly in preserving it. It is not surprising that we see this gracious gathering and this nimble people seeking their freedom and wanting to break their chains (get free and emancipated), in order to be free and independent.

Moreover, the free people rattle by claiming it and march frantically, led by the light of that sublime torch with which the Almighty Allah filled their heart... that torch is the flame of independence.

**Yes, independence is taken and not given...
and it is not realized by wishful thinking**

Ladies and gentlemen, the idea of independence is a glimmer of Allah/God's light, for which Allah/God opens the hearts of believers to win their right to life, the right of their homeland, and the glory of their country. Blinded by it are those whose gaze does not exceed the tip of their nose, those who buy the covenant of Allah/God for a small price, and violate their conscience with something trivial and transient, and go to seek it for a false claim, believing to deceive Allah/God and those who believe in Allah; nonetheless, they deceive only themselves although they do not feel it.

Praise be to Allah/God, who illuminated the insights of most of the Eritrean population, so they turned away from humiliation and turned towards Allah/God and the sacred homeland. Allah/God was with them and will not abandon them.

And Allah/God will not make a way for the unbelievers over the believers, and He will take care of them with His Eye (Might, Glory and Power) that never sleeps, for Allah/God, Glory be to Him, is too generous to lose this nation that demands its natural right. The people put their trust in Allah/God, for they do not confide except for Him in all matters. Almighty Allah/God made promise by saying in the holy Quran:

“O you believe! If you help (in the cause of) Allah, He will help you, and make your foothold firm.”

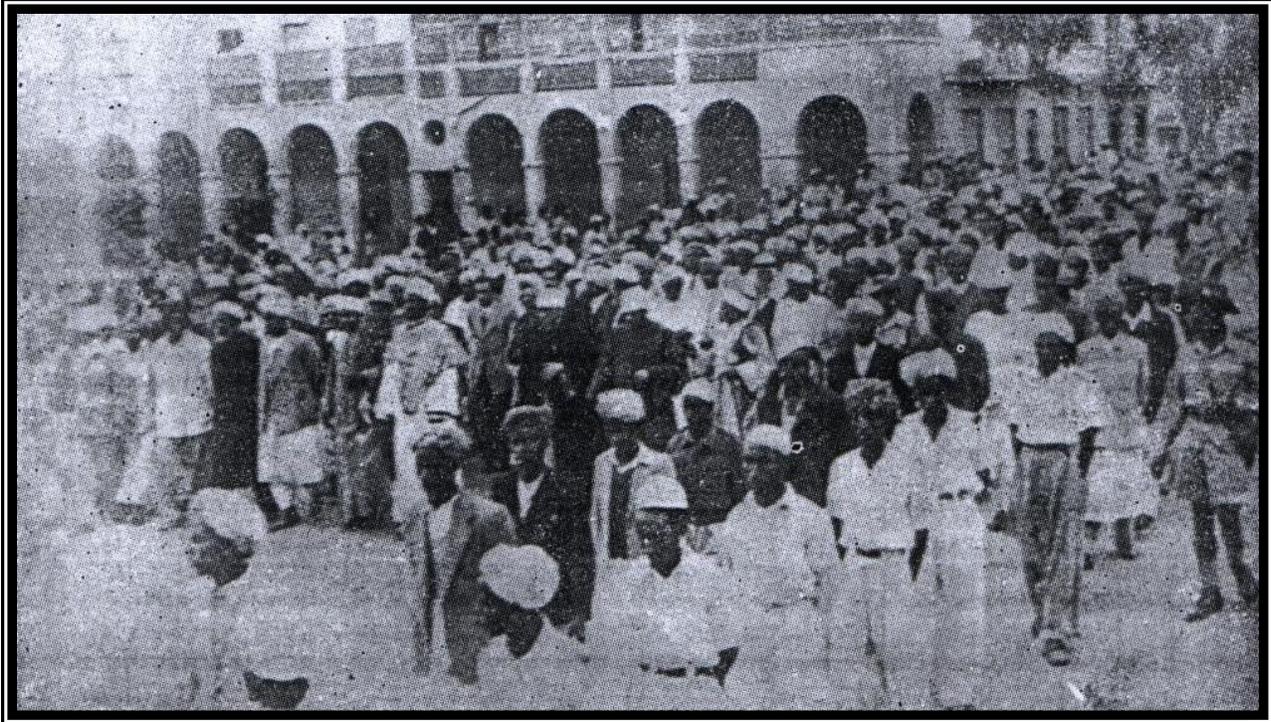
“And whoever puts his trust in Allah, then He will suffice him”.

“Surely, Allah is to accomplish his purpose”.

(Allah promises those who put their trust in Him that He shall suffice for them against all odds, because Allah will execute His decisions that He make for them, in whatever way He wills and chooses. Allah set a measure for all things. It is in accordance with this set measure that He decrees all acts).

Allah has made His command to write victory and success to those who put their trust in Him and act accordingly.

Surely, Allah is to accomplish his purpose, so Allah’s command is for the honorable people who strive, struggle and fight to attain their rights.



The great demonstration that took place on 10/06/1947 in Asmara, the huddled masses roamed in the thousands starting from the capital's mosque square and passing through the main streets, in order to express their free will for freedom and complete independence.

The people have the right to freedom and independence.

These two words have magical meanings. Repeat them with your tongues and remember them in your hearts until they mix up with your blood and send loud cries that fill the space and rip the sky so that it reaches the Just King. (Allah).

“Your Lord never wrongs His worshipers”.

Gentlemen, on this happy day, we did not gather on falsehood, nor did we gather to spread enmity and hatred. Rather, we gathered to tell the whole world that we

are a nation with a particular entity. We demand our rights for the sake of living a decent and honorable life.

We do not feel hatred or grudges against any nation or any people or any government. However, we are a nation that feels its existence and its right to life; so, it calls for independence in order to live a dignified life like other all other people of the world.

There is no blame or reproach on these people, because we are not hostile to Ethiopia, nor do we hate Sudan or Egypt, but rather we feel towards them a feeling of love and brotherhood.

Rather, we strive to obtain the same freedom and independence that other nations have attained, and to reach the level of sophistication and perfection they have reached. We will not hesitate to confront any state whenever if it tries to prevent us to attain our desired goal with enmity. We have only one goal and one end, the **freedom of our country** and the **well-being of ourselves**.

Shall one to be blamed for that?

Ladies and gentlemen, since Allah ordained for our people goodness and life; the last world war broke which was the cause for the defeat of the tyrannical Fascist and entered this country a just government, thanks to which the people were able to come out of their hide and express their desires, so it generated a strong will and an explicit word that is the demand for **independence and freedom**.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have repeatedly said freedom and independence and have not talked about how to achieve and realize them. Their path is clear and evident, and their door is one, and that is education (knowledge).

Knowledge (education) is the torch of freedom and its adornment.

The knowledge that we are guided with, will lit up with its beacon. The knowledge that we cannot preserve freedom without it. If we are truly seeking freedom and independence and are truly keen on them, there is no other way to achieve it except with knowledge (education). Knowledge alone is the guarantor of our arrival and our joining the convoy of free nations that do not know servitude, enslavement or humiliation. So, gentlemen, then, we must exert every effort with determination with all our strength and be ready to pay the price for the sake of attaining our freedom and independence, and its attainment is not an easy matter.

If we make concerted efforts, join hands and meet to fulfil and win our goals, then let all of us embark to education, young and old, and we should all know that there is no freedom or independence except with knowledge and action.

“Are those who know equal to those who do not know? But none bears in mind save those who are endowed with insight”.

The sign of hope and good news is that our youth realize this fact, so they hastened to adopt it and worked to spread the urgent need to educate their brothers and provide them with effective assistance in schools. Undoubtedly, the youth are the vibrant vein in the body of the nation, and it is upon them that our future depends. Additionally, the spirit of the youth is what pushes the nation forward step by step.

O people of Asmara, O people of Hamassien, young and old, and O people of a strong spirit, that by your demonstrations you have given Allh/God a covenant and promise to support the nation and to bring it to the end your demands, and that

your deeds in this way are many and great, foremost of which is your honorable program that is your determination to support education in order to accomplish what you stipulated for yourselves. Moreover, you sheikhs (elder people), your opinions and deeds have had the greatest share and the greatest chance in guiding the nation through your experience, your wisdom, and your faith, the nation has achieved this honor, and we expect more from you than what you have done and achieved so far.

Then... here is my final word.

We demanded for our freedom and independence, and we don't accept or will be satisfied with any alternative or compromise no matter what.

We say: Nay... Nay again and again... thousand-times Nay

We want our freedom and independence.

Undoubtedly, we are fully prepared to sacrifice with our immaculate and pure blood for its sake.

Long live the Eritrean Muslim League,

Long live our free and independent Eritrean country

Peace and the mercy of Allah/God be upon you

From the “Voice of Eritrean Muslim League” newspaper

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