

SUSAN AITCHISON SCHOLARSHIP FUND



September 2022 student meeting

With Tefera, Chairman of Lalibelan Committee

And Teshale, Fund Manager

Registered as a Charity in Scotland SC044015

www.susanaitchison scholarship fund.org

Many tell me that they love all the pictures and have missed them in the reports during the troubles.

As you will see, we managed to have the meeting with the students in September 2022 and I am happy to be able to give you all the up to date photographs.

Our software engineering student, Getnet Adane, came to Lalibela for the meeting and, with the hire of a generator, set up a zoom link. I was able to speak to the students while sitting in comfort in Scotland. Many thanks Getnet for all your hard work and expertise.

Since the meeting, a peace treaty has been signed. The electricity supply has recently been returned to Lalibela which means water can now be pumped into the town. Everything is looking very positive.

The disruption from COVID restrictions, followed by the war, has meant disruption to the education system. The timings of student promotion to the next grade at school and to graduations have been variable for the last 3 years. I am pleased to report that the fund has been operational throughout all the disruption. This is thanks to the efforts of the Lalibelan committee and, in particular, to Teshale, the fund manager.

When I reported in April 2022, we were supporting 47 students. Since then, 11 students have graduated from University and College and are now out of the programme. Unfortunately, one young student, Temesgen Destaw, did not take the opportunity offered and left the programme. We accepted 13 new students into the programme in September and are now supporting 48 young people. 10 are at University, 7 at College and 31 are in the school system.

We distributed 685,012 Birr (Approximately £11,500) in the 2021/2022 academic year. The exchange rate has averaged about 60 Birr to £1. Because of this inflation, we increased the student monthly payments to 1,100 Birr as from September. (Approximately £18).

A little money goes a long way in Ethiopia. We can only operate the fund because of your support. Many thanks for keeping thinking about us. All our young people send their thanks for the opportunity you are giving them.

The fund could not operate without the team of people who give their time to ensure the smooth operation. Many thanks to June, Margaret and Joan who keep everything running in Scotland and to Tefera, Habtamu and Teshale who look after everything in Ethiopia. Thanks also to Simon, in London, who donates his time and his computing skills to keep the website updated. Thanks to Maureen for verifying our annual accounts.

Susan Aitchison



Birhan Zewdu
BSc Civil Engineering



Hanan Bedru
BSc Textile Engineering



Dinku Ayenew
BSc Agriculture



Dr. Birhan Mesele
Medicine

CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE

2022

GRADUATES



Getahun Fentaw
BSc Electrical and
Computer Engineering



Tibebe Amha
BSc Civil Engineering



Seble Agaze
BA Management



Mulugeta Seteye
BSc Electrical
Engineering



Demeke Tesfaw
BScMechatronics
Engineering



Tangut Agazh
Diploma 4
Pharmacy



Nuruhusien Umer
BSc Mechatronics
Engineering



CONTINUING STUDENTS at UNIVERSITY



Tilaye Biset

He is in his 6th. year studying Veterinary Medicine. Because of the war, he has had to move from Mekele to Gondar University. He will graduate in 2023.

Getnet Adane

He is studying his masters in Software Engineering
Hopes to graduate in 2023



Tadiso Fentaw

4th. year
Bahirdar University
studying Economics



Aweke Addise

He is in 1st. year at
Woldia University
studying Natural Science



Tseganew Telake

He is in 1st. year at
Woldia University
studying Economics



Tewodrose Mogoes

He is in 1st. year of Social Science programme at Woldia University



Hailu Wendimnew

He is in 2nd. year at Gondar University studying Law



Getachew Zemene

5th. year at Arba Minch University studying Water Supply Environmental Engineering

CONTINUING STUDENTS AT COLLEGE



Bizuye Tsegaw

1st. year studying Accounting

Alkan College, Debre Markose

Muluken Bimrewu

4th. year studying Management

Alkan College, Bahirdar



CONTINUING STUDENTS AT SCHOOL



Zuriash Abebe

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

GRADE 12



Bimrew Debash



Rahel Birhanu



Abbey Desale



Betelhem Debash

PREPARATORY SCHOOL GRADE 11



Dagem Shimeles



Getasew Destaye



Yordanose Mulat

CONTINUING STUDENTS AT SCHOOL

Secondary School

Grade 10



Lidiya Tadesse



Gashaw Birara



Yirga Habte



Tesfa Abebe

Secondary School

Grade 9

CONTINUING STUDENTS AT SCHOOL



Tafetu Kassa
Grade 8



Mahlet Tesfaye
Grade 8



Yohannes Shambel
Grade 8



Gebeya Adane
Grade 8

Elementary School



Kiriwoyna Abebe
Grade 7



Redeat Asefa
Grade 6



Birku Mengist
Grade 6



Melkam Alemu
Grade 1

NEW STUDENTS



BAYUSH ACHENEF aged 17 years

Bayush successfully completed grade 8 but couldn't move to grade 9 because of lack of money in the family.

Bayush started working as a servant in a house to earn money for her family.

Our support has meant her return to school.

Her ambition is to be a teacher.



BIRUK BEHAYILU aged 19 years

Biruk's education was disrupted when the TPLF occupied Lalibela. In spite of this, he did well enough in the National exams to be offered a university place.

He was unable to accept the place due to lack of money.

Our support means he is now in 1st. year at Dilla University taking a freshman course to become a Health student



FETLEWORK MEKONEN aged 18 years

Fetlework 's father recently died.

Her mother didn't access any education and is now trying to support 6 girls.

Fetlework is now in grade 12. She hopes, with our support, to study accounting at University.



GETASEW AYALEW aged 19 years

Getasew is very clever. He recently won a prize to attend a tutorial 'Stem Programme' at Woldia University and was the top student in the region.

His parents are divorced and he, with his 5 sisters and 3 brothers, live with the mother. She works as a daily labourer. Getasew also worked labouring after school and in holidays.

Our support means he can concentrate on his grade 12 studies. His ambition is to be a dentist.

NEW STUDENTS



JOHN TADESSE aged 7 years

John lives with his grandmother who is over 80 years old. He has no contact with his parents. He has been earning money by fetching water for people while there was no water in the town. Our support means that he has now started grade 1 at school.



MEKIDES MULUYE aged 16 years

Mekdes lives with her family in Shimsha, 23 Km. from Lalibela. She is expected to work on the farm and help her mother in the kitchen. A year ago, she had a kidney removed and was advised not to do heavy work but her parents still expected her to work hard. Our support means that she can concentrate on her education. She is in grade 10.



MOGES HABTAMU aged 19 years

Moges is now in 1st. year at Debark University. He is in the freshman course prior to starting his health studies. His financial support is thanks to the Bude Methodist Church.



SELAMAWIT MAREG aged 15 years

She was born out of wedlock and neither parent wanted her. When she was 8 years old, her mother forced her to work as a waitress and kept all the money. Our support is letting her start an independent life. She assures us that by investing in her we are investing in 100 girls as, in the future, she plans an organisation to help others in the same position! She has reached grade 8 by studying at night school.



TEMESGIN NEGASISAY aged 15 years

Temesgin is in grade 9. He is an average student but is a very talented singer and earns a little money from this. We have agreed to support him through grades 9 and 10. If he is successful in the grade 10 National exams, we will continue the support

NEW STUDENTS



TIGIST NEGA aged 19 years

Tigist is now in grade 12.
Her parents are divorced and she lives with her mother and 3 siblings. Tigist often has to miss school if there is an opportunity to work and earn money. She gets good exam results and has an ambition to be a health professional.



TRINGO ABERA aged 18 years

Tringo is now in grade 12.
She lives in Neakutoleab, 15 Km. from Lalibela. She has to walk to school so doesn't have time for Library visits or studying. Our support means she can now rent a room in Lalibela.



YALEW SEWBIHON aged 11 years

Yalew was abandoned by his parents. He lives with an uncle who expects him to look after the animals and do farm work. There is no money available for school materials. He is now in grade 5 and our support will let him stay in the school system,



YISAQ MOLLA aged 10 years

Yisaq is in grade 5.
Her parents are divorced and she lives with her father. Her father is a farmer and has a low income. She attends school half a day and looks after her father's sheep half time. Our support lets her attend school full time.

BUDE METHODIST CHURCH

The Bude Methodist church, in England, is continuing its sponsorship of young people studying in the medical field. The Susan Aitchison scholarship fund is managing payments to the students on their behalf.



Birhan Mesele
Medical Doctor

2 Students Graduated



Tangut Agazh
Pharmacist



Fikerte Melknew
3rd year Clinical
Pharmacy

5 Students are still
studying at
University or College



Bewunetu Alem
3rd. year Nursing



Tigist Adnew
3rd. year Pharmacy



Getu Biset
1st. year Medical
Laboratory studies



Addis Birara
1st. year Animal Health



Moges Habtamu
Freshman Course at
Debank University

2 new students are
now supported.
Both will move into
health related studies
next year



Biruk Behayilu
Freshman Course at Dilla
University