

No More Goddess... (... in the blessed Holy Trinity Realm)

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As Spiritual I, as reigning living Christ within JAH Creation, the RastaMan got the blessed gift to recognize and announce the coming up Time. This is the charisma of prophecy provided by the Holy Trinity JAH to HIM blessed sons *and* daughters, but refused to the wicked fruits of the rebellious self-claimed Leaders (Mt 16:2-3).

As collective One, as manifestation of Holy Trinity Mystic Inity, the RasTafari Nation is aware about the new cycle that is to coming up. A New Day is clearing the mystic East, a New Millennium; for a thousand years is like a single day to HIM. The RasTafari Nation, like a handful wise brides, is ready to welcome the dawn of Justice, and rejoice the fullness of HIM Blessed Presence and Love for Imanity. This feeling of close and radical evolution caused, within a short period, deep and various reactions from the different Houses, Organizations and Personalities from the RasTafari Nation.

Since 2004 the Orthodox Faith Elders impuled a yearly forum (*Trinity Trod Youth Alliance*) to gather the precious flock who faithfully defends HIM Christic and Biblical teachings: the Holy Trinity creed –JAH is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as it was from the Beginning, from Adam and the Patriarchs. As House who hold the Eldership in Rastafari Nation, the Jamaican Theocratic Order of Nyahbingi came to crucial reasonings (to be pursued) about the refreshment of the Guideline, the adequacy of the House motto or the necessity to implement the Holy Sacraments as priesthood dedication... Amongst the various meditations which are contributing to prepare JAHJAH D-Day, InI must overline the original contributions brought by Ras Iration I on different issues about Rastafari Livity and Nation building.

I-man personally highly apprecilove the courageous and lucid analysis's that led this Elder to confront rhetoric (formal discourse) of Rastafari Livity with effective negative realities resulting from Babylonian behaviours plaguing InI communities. Ras Iration I contribution tries to avoid partiality and lay on a respectful style, aimed to the search of Inity and the will of global RasTafari conformation to the very obvious challenges InI are confronted to. Most often I-man agreed with the bredrin stands, supporting his open-minded way of reasoning (when, for instance, he questioned the Jamaican feeling of "proprietorship" *vis à vis* the Rastafari Movement, being himself Jamaican) and, above all, his ability to mobilize historical, sociological or cultural facts to argue InI positions.

Nevertheless, I must avow disagreement and vigilant prevention with some of I Elder propositions that appear as misconceptions or bad answers to correct reports, as was exemplified by the last paper he issued : "*Time to acknowledge Nyah Binghi Priestesses*"

Ras Iration I last reasoning is about the recognition by the Rastafari Nation of a Churchical Empresses Priesthood Ministry, looking for the setting up of a Priestess body on the same ground with the anointed Ilect ones. It is obvious that administrative and management responsibilities must be fully open to InI Rastafari Sisterhood. But concerning the Priesthood, I totally disagree with the Iration I suggestion as wrong founded historically, culturally and spiritually. I consider the Elder is bringing an inappropriate answer to the very crucial issue of gender relationship within the Rastafari Nation. Let InI scrutinize properly the matter in details.

1. Is Patriarchalism a white man foundation and monopoly? Elder Iration I argues that disrespect and bad behaviours which plague gender relationship within Rastafari Nation is rooted in “Judeo-Christian” influences (i.e. Western imperialist cultural domination) which overwhelmed African cultures through slavery, colonization, or even through oldest cultural amalgamation processes like in Ethiopia (?). This position is determined by affirmation that patriarchy is a White European cultural and economical feature. But actually there is no evidence of that. The great respect of female contributions in Traditional African societies don't contest that they was, an still are, patriarchal societies.

As example InI may consider the case of the last civilization “discovered” by white explorers: that was the black dreadlocks peoples of Papouasia-New Guinea, which never been submitted extensively to white supremacy until the 1960's. Until today these people present a very classical patriarchal cultural pattern, where political and churchical powers still are concentrated in the dominant male hands. Likewise, it was the case for African cultures prior to the white man irruption in Africa. African Patriarchy is fully compatible with Empress organizational co-management. But InI must document the pivotal fact that *matrifocality*, as family pattern inherited from slavery and its ensuing necessity of Blackman humiliation, still provides roots to *matriarchy*, expressed as female-based endeavours to share the same (if not superior) JAH spiritual blessed anointing position than male one.

2. Is the biblical patriarchal pattern an European one? The fact that female leaders still play a prominent role in most of African societies (even not so apparent) does not mean these societies turned to matriarchy. They were and remind Patriarchal ones. A cultural reading of Proverbs 31:10-31 reveal the following evidences:

- The so-called “Judeo-Christian” masterpiece (the Bible) actually describes the “Perfect Housewife” as an African woman, like those modern “Mama Benz” who control the biggest market places of Western Africa (Nigeria, Benin, Togo...). This biblical portrait is one of a business woman, creative, productive and supportive. The European women are still fighting to reach such an ideal.
- Nevertheless, this expounding portrait designs a different type of patriarchy from the white oppressive one. This is marked through the fact that the only one male-quoted activity is the belonging to the Elder Council (political power), where there is no mention of female participation (Pr 31:23). This fact still can be observed in almost any African town or village:

through the permanent leading male *groundation* under the Palaver Tree... The female economical prominence faces the male political leadership without global confrontation, but through a balanced specific order aimed to Love, Truth and Justice (as concluded in verse 31)

- the economical activities attributed to this Biblical Empress run from handcrafts to trade, comprising also clothing, agriculture and social care, through a complex organization whom she is the effective boss... **Patriarchalism don't (never) means woman disrespect !** Female oppression is a form of slavery fed by evil domination, carnal mind, hate, vainglory, fear, lack of true Faith which is Love and Iritical Oneness... Adam received the fullness of this Partnership with Eve as a AllMighty blessed answer from his previous useless solitude.

As African Princess, Woyzero Menen was also involved in such leading and economical activities to strengthen Her Family Leadership, fulfilling the above Biblical evidences. Harold G. Marcus (in his *Haile Sellassie I, The formative years*) wrote:

"Tafari, Princess Menen, Imru and others facilitated commercial agriculture from which they derived great profits. The Princess governed the Chercher region of Derder, where coffee was king. (...) Each dealer paid Menen a one-time fee of [Marie-Thérèse Thaler] MT\$ 100 for a permit to do business, and thereafter MT\$ 25 annually for each trading post and MT\$ 50 for each coffee scale. The Princess also traded in coffee grown on Her own lands by sharecroppers, as did Tafari, who worked an experimental farm six miles from the Erer [Harrar] train station on the rail line. The Ras had irrigated a thousand hectares, which were planted in citrus, grapes, nuts, sugar cane and kapok, as well as coffee." P. 80

It results from the preceding comments that Biblical Patriarchalism isn't a European virus, but a old African cultural framework where the female strength and contribution are celebrated as balanced counterpart of male prominence.

3. [Is Queen Nyabingi a blessed example to follow ?] To support his purpose (to implement priestesses within the RasTafari Nyabingi Order) Ras Iration I referred to the pivotal role played by Priestesses against the colonial activities of White Powers in Africa, in particular with the Nyabingi case. Among the many sins who plagued the Ilect Tribes through their Iniversal mission (i.e. to host and spread JAH Word, Sound and Power) was Goddess worshiping under Matriarchal Priesthood. These cults led to Sacred Prostitution (Os 4:12-14) and still remind by InI days through the evil cult of the Beast of Babylon. JAH condemned these cults (Dt 23:18-19). A lot of bredrins are still ignoring that *Nyabingi* is actually the name of a famous Queen from Kigezi region in Central Africa, whom living spirit continued after her physical death to enforce the strength of resistant worshippers and female Leaders and Priestesses (like Queen Muhumusa) who took the torch of independence fighting during almost a century (~ 1850 to 1950).

Originally *Nyabingi* means 'She possesses a lot of things'. These facts can't be contested and deserve to be better documented. But they can't be considered and applied as appropriate

rightful Iritical organizational pattern for the RasTafari Nation: **for Inl are the Children of Revelation** and must acknowledge BlackMan and global Imanity History as Divine Judgement process, burning fire of destruction upon the negative irrelevant forms of human activities and Iritical illusions. **None can contest that these resistances failed to preserve African independence; and they failed because of the weakness, illusive creed and spiritual inadequacy of these Priestesses backwarding cult.** These so-called prophetesses sent thousand and thousand worshipping warriors to useless death, only protected by their fallacious and ridiculous magic powers against cannon and machine gun... Inl must reject romanticism, historical short cuts and unnecessary animistic heritage when dealing with so important subjects involving collective security, resistance, independence and churchical organization within RasTafari Nation building process. Inl can't follow an already spoiled way, which brought defeat, self-contempt, misgiving and finally insanity to the Black People. Queen Muhumusa stayed almost fifty years in English jail without been delivered by her powers, meanwhile the faithful Christic Ethiopia preserved her independence by the blessed Will of Almighty JAH.

These facts can't be obscured by the opportunistic propaganda which appointed HIM as Nyabingi Grand Master, **realizing that the very true Head of African Resistance was no more some defeated priestesses but the King of kings and Lord of lords, the Conquering Lion of Juda, Ethiopian Salomonic offspring of David, as it was, long time before, prophesized in this African book called Holy Bible (Rev 19:11-16)...** Both the formal adoption of an older African Traditional reference and the mystical claim of HIM empowering as new Head of African Resistance (as confirmed by Nelson Mandela during his first trial) led to a very original blessed new creation, Biblically founded in Christic Faithfulness yet Traditionally rooted.

4. Is Itege Menen a part of the Holy Trinity ? Let Inl examine now the role played by Empress Menen after Her joint anointed crowning, November 2d 1930. Before this date nothing (contrary to her Imperial Husband) allows Inl to consider Her with a churchical (or Iritical) fate. She was married to Ali Amede in 1899 (she was 9 yo) and got from this first husband 4 children (Woizero Belaynesh, Jantirar Asfaw, Jantirar Gebre Egziabher and Woizero Desta). She was then married to Ras Segad Atnaf Segad, one more time for statical purpose. Likewise when the Heir Prince of Ethiopian Empire, her uncle Iyasu, married her to Ras Tafari who he wanted to get rid of, it was for statical strategy. They were married in 1911, 19 years before their common crowning. Did She played any role as part of the Trinity during these years?

Ras Tafari received the name Haile Sellasie as Christian name when he born (1892). He was first married to Woizero Altayech from who he got a daughter, HIH Princess Romana Work who shared the Imperial dignity and privileges in 1930. Did Altayech shared a part of the Trinity too ?

loved bredrins and sistrens, **Inl must consider carefully that Negus Tafari didn't ascended to the Throne of David on November 2d 1930, but 7 months before (April 3d 1930)**, on the morrow of Empress Zawditu death (see HIM Autobiography p. 172). This foundational date is the mystic fulfilment of prophecies; for the first words of RasTafari as HIM Haile Sellassie I was a reading of the Psalm 151 which is talking about the AllMighty's choice of the less impressing son of Jesse, the weakest and youngest, the one no one could imagine on the Throne of Israel, the shepherd David... HIM was crowned *alone* in this original forgotten event.

As the April events did concern internal and foundational Ethiopian affairs, the November ceremony must be seen as a message to the Worldwide and the people of the whole Empire: the Imperial and religious honours granted to Itege Menen (to Meridzamatch Asfa Wossen and all the Imperial Youths also) expressed a symbolic and political partnership between the I King Janhoy and the I Queen Itege as blessed foundation of a regenerated Salomonic dynastic presence on the throne of David for generations (as exemplified by official dynastic titles bestowed to the Imperial children since the April 3d 1930 Throne access). **This is a Most High JAH promise that never the Throne of David would miss an Heir from the Jesse seed (1K2:4), and after centuries of difficulties to ensure the dynastic continuity, it was fundamental to make sure they shall never more have resolve to accept a woman on the Throne according (or despite) to Makeda's oath. Queen Zawditu is supposed to be the last Empress-in-Power in Ethiopia; and Itege Menen fulfilled the mission to manifest HIM Patriarchal vision...**

Did Itege Menen be never appointed to any governmental mission except for humanitarian solidarity? No ! Did Itege Menen played any significant role in political, administrative or military matters during Her reign ? No, no, no ! Did anyone have witnessed she intervenes at a directory level in the spiritual leadership of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tawahedo Church that HIM created in 1948 ? Not at all !!! **There is no woman within the Holy Trinity because JAH didn't need sex to Ireate Imanity and the Iniverse. Spirit have no sex, HIM just used Word, Sound and Power...**

The very true position of Itege Menen beside Her Imperial spouse is to represent and manifest the Sanctuary of Inl-present-days Salomonic Dynasty. **From Her womb and HIM Seed will come the continuing fulfilment of the Prophecy. There is the very significant message of the November 2d 1930 double crowning...** Itege Menen always dedicated Her works to Her family, comprising the whole people of Ethiopia. She was not attracted to external position of power, and totally devoted to domestic service and private support to HIM endeavours and blessed mission. She supported HIM mission through family duties and ceaseless Ises. When she appeared officially it always was to support women institutions and initiatives, in a devout perspective, or to help the Church through classical benevolent gifts. She every time expressed a humble attitude and was fully obedient to the Patriarchs and Her King-man. Despite and beyond apparent banality, these facts have to be meditate, for no one can come and contest RasTafari patriarchalism on behalf of Her Imperial Majesty Itege Menen, and then turned out as weakly inspired by Her Imperial Perfect Example of effective domestic service and humble faithfulness...

HIM Haile Sellassie I said about Her: “*Her character was such that, apart from goodness, there is no evil or malice in Her. Ever since we were married we live together, by virtue of being fertile, in one family sharing joy as well as sadness.*” (*HIM Autobiography*, p.42)

In addition InI can observe that all the daughters of the Imperial Family shaped their contributions within the framework designed by Itege Menen: Churchical obedience, Youths and Women support, Ethiopian service, humanitarian care, social commitment and... stational weddings. InI could compare with the early involvement of the three sons of the Imperial Couple in the Empire affairs, being appointed to official responsibilities at very tender age.

5. Christic Love shall bring Salvation. Let InI come back to the original and true issue of gender relationship within RasTafari Movement. What are the causes of disrespect and lack of Empress Lighting Up within RasTafari Leadership ? It is obvious to any blessed Christic worshipper from Rastafari Faith that this situation results from a lack of spiritual love within InI bredrins, and from absence of a proper collective process in order to bring healing to InI Black People suffering souls. This point was pivotal for the first Rasta Elders like Howell, Hinds, Hibbert... But no more Balm Yards remain in Fari “ghettos”.

I agree with Elder Iration I that InI must keep in mind the most part of the Rastafari Movement came from the Maroons rebellion which, as well as the original Nyabingi, was focused on fighting rejection of White Western Worshiping, then seeking cultural/spiritual alternative to European Papacy and its Protestant Americanism. This basic *Jamaïcan rasta* mobilization is (was?) to fight till “*death to black and whites downpressors*” prior to Repatriation... What news about this agenda? It sounds like the motto start to be inappropriate to face InI Iritical ordeals. This Black Maroon Tradition within RasTafari growing turned to political corruption, folklorization and entertainment. Then it results a deprived mentality fed by materialist hunger, carnal frustration, golden expectations, and further, useless and boring lips service about JAH prophecies, Weed as Sacrament, Repatriation supposed a must, InI so-called Inity and – most of all- real manifestations of lack of true will and repent purification to change the world from InI Inner Livity...

The most part of Rastafari families is living outside spiritual congregations and do not perform any collective (personal neither) Iritical duties. What you sow is what you get. Some bredrins are using the blessed name of Rastafari for their evil works, but the judgement is already upon their heads (Mt 7:22) InI shall identify them through their fruits. Tafari never hate Menen, who brought support and love to HIM. Every day InI can see carnal minds leading Dreadlocks behaviour under numerous masks made with bigotry, opportunistic demagogy, absence of angelic vision, ego-made violence... The Iration I suggestion (to implement priestess within Rastafari cult) is inappropriate to solve such a loosing situation. It is just coming back to Goddess cults as blamed by InI Biblical JAH. I-man can't overstand what an Empress could Churchically bring, within a Traditional Patriarchal framework, apart playing male role without changing the global *dreadstem* itself.

InI have to meditate about the case of Myriam, the Moses and Aaron sista, who was not satisfied with the charisma of prophecy she got from the Most High JAH in the Tabernacle (Ex 15:20); so she rebelled against HIM and HIM anointed One, in order to accede to a High Priest position, seducing Aaron in her vain plot. She masked her envy and jealousy under a racist anti-Ethiopian protest; so the worst pain fall upon her from JAH, turning her brown skin to a white leprous one (Nb 12).

InI Sisterhood have to serve HIM with love and disinterest (unlike Martha) if they can't stay in peace to eat and drink HIM blessed words (like Mary), unless they prefer to confront HIM warning : *don't let the spirit of vainglory gain over the blessed I* (Lc 10:38-42)...

The Healing Ises of a Loving One is the Blessed Solution. It doesn't need no title, no position, function or protocol neither. InI RastaMan doesn't need any fallacious play to apprecilove and honour InI Empreses. True Christic Love shall bring true Solidarity and Salvation. And, last but not least, the benefit of collective, spiritual, organizational efficiency within Rastafari Family. Selah.

One RasTafari Blessed Love,

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Notes about Empress Menen

by Yared Gebre Mikael

“... Empress Menen except Her childhood She gave Her life for good deeds, She goes to St. Mark church everyday. She stays up to 9 A.M. praying to God and received monks and nuns came from different churches and monasteries. Empress Menen also gave donation Her own money for the reconstruction of churches.

When She goes to palace from church, received the women who lost their husbands in the war front and fullfill whatever they demand.

Empress Menen built and reconstructed many churches like Gishen Mary. Tenta Michael Boru Trinity, Endelba St. George church etc.

Empress Menen is not praying for Herself only but also for the pillar of Ethiopia His Imperial Majesty Haile Sellassie, for Her country Ethiopia, and for the development of the loyal of Ethiopia.

Empress has never alienated from church' 'Wudasie Amlac, 'Seife Selassie Arganon,' St Mary parrying in Golgota. She always reads those books. Empress Menen likes to give attention for interpreted books the church. This shows how She is far sighted and have bright brain.

Empress Menen shared problems of the poor and always visit patients in hospitals.

Empress Menen believes man is mortal so that She always shares problems of the people and tries to solve. Ethiopian people rely on her.

During the five years of Italian invasion many churches were devastated. Empress Menen has been in a deep sorrow because Her beloved children were died. All Ethiopian people shared Her grief and sympathized Her. As She is strong spiritually, Almighty God gave Her strength. She passed each problem patiently. Even though She lost Her children She never neglect the country's problem this is well known by Ethiopian people.

Therefore, Ethiopian people love Empress Menen from the bottom of their heart and share the happiness and sadness of Her..."

The Author Yared Gebre Mikael presented the book titled "YAFICATSEHAY' (The Sun of Africa) to Emperor and Empress on the occasion of the 64th of His Imperial Majesty King of Kings Haile Sellassie's birthday (1956).