

Letter of Request to MIR from Ras Sela - December 2008

African Love:

I Ras Sela Judah Fari (a.k.a Carlos A. Seales), Ambassador of the Rastafari Alliance of Panama, Nexus to the Global Rastafari Hispanic Community and Advisor to the Order Of the Nyahbinghi of Jamaica, Ancient and Administrative Council kindly solicit the assistance of Motherland International Relations for sponsorship in order to realize a historic journey to Harar and Shashemene Ethiopia.

The October-November 2009 trip is an educational/bridge building venture to gather information around the birth place of the Father of African Unity Haile Sellassie I The First, and the burial site of his Mother Woezero Yashimabet both in the Harar region. The journey is also aimed at the continual support of worthy programs in Shashemene Ethiopia.

May this solicitation for MIR's organizational sponsorship ultimately forward the varied and harmonious development of Africa through the cooperative spirit of unity.

"Knowledge paves the way to love, and love in its turn fosters understandings, and leads one along the path to great common achievements....". H.I.M Haile Sellassie I The First.

Respectfully,
Carlos Seales

The Board of Directors of Motherland International Relations responded favorably to the request to sponsor this historic journey and the following have become the aims and objectives.

ABOUT THIS JOURNEY

Motherland International Relations (MIR), a North Carolina, US-based not-for-profit organization, is facilitating a fact finding journey to Ethiopia with an international delegation of Pan African advocates. The journey is scheduled for October 26 through November 18, 2009. The delegates will engage in dialogue with the Ethiopian Church, Government, Non Governmental Agencies, Repatriates, and the General Public to deepen collaboration that will make follow-up service programs a success. A week of consultation in Addis Ababa, Shashemene, and Harar respectively will be focused on expanding cooperative human service efforts. Specific information about the birthplace of Haile Selassie The First, the Father of African Unity, and the internment site of his Mother, Wayzeuro Yeshimabet, will be sought in order to research the potential for an educational monument to be established in Harar. The delegation will visit and assess existing assistance programs in the growing Pan African community of Shashemene. The group's steep learning curve will be documented by film to broaden access to the knowledge gained. The film will also serve to inspire on going service pilgrimages to Harar and to the initial land promised to Africans in the Diaspora, Shashemene.

This delegation's tasks are as follows:

1. To establish favorable relationship with the Government of Ethiopia and the Ethiopian Orthodox Church to expand Pan African efforts for the up keep of both fore-mentioned Harar sites and to support appropriate action in Shashemene.
2. To inventory a few on the ground programs in Ethiopia that focus on poverty reduction, education, and environmental sustainability. This inventory is for the greater Pan African community and for MIR's discernment process in how to create partnerships that best support Ethiopia's progress.
3. To conduct a demo-graphic study and interviews within the Harar region toward future appropriate development.
4. To document this fact-finding trip with audio and visual equipment to serve as educational aids for Africa and the Diaspora. (Note: Presently, filmmaker Tikher Teferra Kidane who made the 2008 release "Man of the Millenium" is hoping to participate and assist in documenting this journey).
5. To continue these bridge building works. This first trip is a pilot study and could become an annual journey toward the edification of other African Humanitarians and the fulfillment of appropriate development as well as giving support of programs already existing in Ethiopia. The next journey would be scheduled for July 2010 in order to keep the momentum building.

MIR is responsible for:

- A. Networking with Pan African organizations toward an inclusive and efficient journey.
- B. Serving as logistical coordinators before and during the journey.
- C. Providing transparent accounting for all funds spent in-country as well as the funds dispersed as service donations
- D. Facilitating an orientation to Ethiopia and building group cohesion before meeting in Addis Ababa. This will be accomplished through participant Resumes, MIR application completion, reading lists, and teleconferences.

MIR is not responsible for Visas, Airplane Tickets, Insurance, Yellow Fever Vaccine, Malaria Medication, or coordinating any in-country arrangements after the last scheduled day of this journey (Nov. 18, 2009).

Updates on Harar as of 2/18/2009:

We are awaiting an estimate to fix the roof of the Orthodox Church located at Emperor Haile Selassie The First's birthplace. Ras Jahterms has volunteered his artistic expression to present the Ejarsa Goro Priests with a portrait of the stages of life of Haile Selassie I. Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie has requested that the Delegation also carry a painting of this church as a gift to the priests in honor of their perseverance.

Updates on Shashemene as of 2/18/2009:

We are seeking small service project proposals for the delegation to initiate in Shashemene. The Niyabinghi Tabernacle is being contacted to ask for permission to hold the Novembers 3rd and 4th African Groundation Reasonings in the royal setting.

Scroll down to see the **ITINERARY** on the next page.

To listen to the two teleconferences:

1. Log onto <http://www.thebasementventures.com/free-conferencing-recording.html>
2. Enter your First Name, Last Name, Email Address along with the Bridge Number (202160) and click Listen Now.
3. Once you are logged in, select the conference you would like to review (Ethiopian Pilgrimage #1 and Ethiopian Pilgrimage #2).
4. Click on Play button to listen to the recording.
5. To save the file on your PC, right click on the LAUNCH button, then click SAVE TARGET AS and name the file.

Working Itinerary for the Delegation: October 27 - November 18, 2009

Note: The arrival date may change slightly depending on flight availability.

Day 1 October 27th Tuesday: All delegates arrive in Addis Ababa at Yonas Hotel. In country grounding.

Day 2 October 28th Wednesday: Meet with government officials and visit Filwhuha hot spring baths.

Day 3 October 29th Thursday: Meet with Church officials. Visit Churches and the Lion Zoo.

Day 4 October 30th Friday: Government escort to visit National Museum, Africa Hall, and the Palace. Eat at Habesha.

Day 5 October 31st Saturday: Meet with Crown Prince Zara Yacob and visit Entoto.
(**Evening Reggae concert in Addis Ababa).

Day 6 November 1st Sunday: Trod to Shashemene stopping at Lake Langano.

Day 7 November 2nd Monday: Tour Shashemene. Link with ones in Repatriate community. CORONATION ISES

Day 8 November 3rd Tuesday: African Groundation Council And Service Project

Day 9 November 4th Wednesday: African Groundation Council And Service Project

Day 10 November 5th Thursday: Visit Wando Gennet Hot Springs. Then to Awassa Circle Of Life Hotel.
(**Evening Reggae concert).

Day 11 November 6th Friday: Return to Shashemene for seal up reasoning and **Reggae Concert.

Day 12 November 7th Saturday: All day journey to Nazaret. Visit Sodere Hot Springs. **Concert at Safari Lodge

Day 13 November 8th Sunday: Travel to Dire Dawa. Stay at Ras Hotel.

Day 14 November 9th Monday: Visit Monastery of Asebot. Drive to Harar and settle into accommodations in the city.

Day 15 November 10th Tuesday: Receive official tour of Harar.

Day 16 November 11th Wednesday: Travel to Ejarsa Goro. See HIM birth site and Woizero Yeshimabet Internment site

Day 17 November 12th Thursday: Open

Day 18 November 13th Friday: **Reggae Concert in Harar.

Day 19 November 14th Saturday: Leave Harar for Addis Ababa.

Day 20 November 15th Sunday: Addis Ababa. Meet with Crown Prince.

Day 21 November 16th Monday: Meet with Ras, Government, and Church Officials to seal up.

Day 22 November 17th Tuesday: Seal up connections and souvenir shopping. Delegation Debrief & next steps defined.

Day 23 November 18th Wednesday: MIR facilitation sealed. Ones return to respective origin, go on historical tour, or make other plans as desired.

**** Represents potential concert date if a Reggae Musician is part of the journey.**