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፩ - is a GE'EZ numerical representation for number 1 and 'Habesha' is the name given to all Ethiopians despite their difference in religion, tribe, economy or social status. So, ፩-HABESHA is to imply the unity of Ethiopian People despite their difference.

Editor's note:

Hello every one! Welcome to June's newsletter. I bring you warm greetings from the Habesha people. The rainy season is starting to take over the sunny weather. If you are coming to Ethiopia in the coming two months, I suggest you bring your rain coat. I hope you will find something that would grab your attention as you go through the newsletter.

Enjoy!!

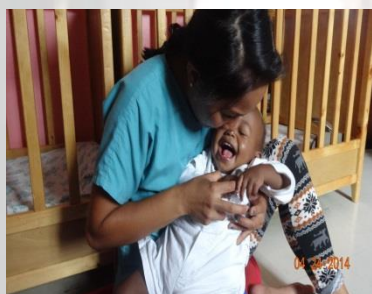
Bereket Tesema

Communication Officer

A high school graduate used her gap year to volunteer in Ethiopia



Ever since she attended a conference about youth travelling to developing countries four years ago, 19-year-old Clea Arrieta from Canada, wanted to go and volunteer in a developing country. After she graduated from high school, she used her gap year to fulfill her dream by coming to Ethiopia to volunteer at the Care and Teaching Projects through Projects Abroad.



She came for four and a half months which gave her enough time to work in the two placements. Clea worked at Selam Children's Village where she was responsible for keeping the children occupied, sharing her love, knowledge and skills with them. Her next placement was at Hillside

School where she taught English and helped students of primary and middle school in the science fair.

"I over looked 400 projects and got to check up on the children's progress. I also taught English for grade one and two," said Clea explaining her typical day at Hillside. "I also enjoyed spending time with the children playing, singing, drawing, and hugging them at the orphanage. We also organized a sports day once and donated footballs, basket balls, and jump ropes to Selam Children's Village." Apart from the sports materials, Clea with other few volunteers also donated some clothes to the girls living in the orphanage.

"Though I faced some culture shock in my first week, it didn't take me long to get along because Ethiopian people are very friendly and helpful. I would definitely recommend others to come to Ethiopia."

Clea also travelled outside of Addis Ababa and visited various historical and natural heritage sites of Ethiopia including the Great Wall of Harar, the beautiful

city of Hawassa, and Langano. "It was so interesting to have the chance to go to the country sides and experience the beauty of this country outside of the city."

"Everything I experienced in Ethiopia was unforgettable. I am very happy with my projects, the people, and the country. I have already started



planning to comeback after I finish my education so that I can help the children more."

Clea's advice for volunteers who wish to have similar experience is not to be nervous since there is nothing scary in Ethiopia. "There are times when things can be overwhelming because of the different way of life, but the best thing to do is to throw yourself into the situation and I assure you, you will have an amazing time. Besides, the people are very helpful and full of empathy."

Dirty day At St. Paul hospital



St. Paul is a public hospital which treats patients of all ages from infants to the elderly. There are thousands of patients being treated in the hospital each year. To serve vulnerable infants with better treatment, this hospital got a new pediatric ward that is believed to serve more than 60,000 children each year. Projects Abroad Ethiopia was invited to paint the ward with different drawings that would attract the children's attention. Following the call, volunteers collaborating with artists for charity, an organization where professional artists use their skills to help vulnerable children, painted the whole ward with beautiful and attractive pictures.



The Landscape of Ethiopia

By Daniel Kibsgaard

Taken from authors blog post by permission



...The most astounding natural feat near Bahir Dar is beyond doubt the Blue Nile Falls. It is a 40-minute drive on a bumpy, dirt road to reach the place where you begin your walk to reach the best view. Before reaching the Falls, you cross the Portuguese bridge that was constructed in the 1600s. It is built out of stone and rather than being straight, it extends diagonally in the direction of the flow of the river and

then turns diagonally back to end straight across from its starting point, forming a triangle. It is used today as it was 400 years ago, with time leaving little trace on the antiquated structure. Perhaps the shockingly low level of water in the river has made it easier on the old stones.

Upon reaching the fall, I was amazed at its sheer size. Steep cliffs drop for over a kilometer with water sliding over the edge at

three distinct places. The biggest of these is the furthest on the right, which you can hear from kilometers away. On the left flows a fall from the dam that diverts much of the water and severely damages the Falls' former grandeur. Hopefully, when the Renaissance Dam is completed, this one will be taken out of action, and the falls will be returned to their full immensity.

To read more: [Click here](#)

World Cup SOSEE



Following the World Cup 2014 being held in Brazil, people all over the world are talking about, and in some way doing something related to the game. The same is happening here in Ethiopia where volunteers organized a football match for orphan children living in SOS Orphan Ethiopia. The match was between two groups of children, representing France and Ethiopia. Ethiopia won with a penalty after a 3-3 equal result. The children were very happy to get the chance to be part of this World Cup event.

