

Remarks to the Melbourne Gathering of Ethiopians to Meet HIH Prince Ermias

By Mekonnen Kebede

Langham Hotel, June 24, 2017

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

First of all, on behalf of the Ethiopian community in Australia, I would like to thank The International Monarchist League in Australia (Victoria) for creating this opportunity.

Today, we all, and especially the Ethiopian Community in Melbourne are here to welcome Your Imperial Highness Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile-Selassie.

Ethiopia has been one of the most interesting and glorious nations in contributing to humane civilization and establishing civil societies. Ethiopia is part of Africa that used to be addressed by the European historian, such as Homer in the Iliad and Odyssey (c 800BC) as Aethiopians. It was to the land of the “blameless Aethiopians” that Homer’s gods led by Zeus himself, repaired to feast for twelve days.

The Roman historian and , Pliny the Elder (AD 23-79), described Adulis, which port he said was the Aethiopians’ principal trading town. This in our history is the ancient port of Ethiopia currently known as Djibouti.

Throughout the past centuries, despite its ups and downs, Ethiopia’s unity, integrity and freedom was maintained through the efforts of its Emperors and Empresses and the its people.

This includes the hard work and immense contributions, of His August Majesty Emperor Haile Sealssie the 1st, made to the world peace and progress, to the independence and unity of Africa and to the progress of his own country, our country, Ethiopia.

During the emperor’s reign we the people of Ethiopia were very much cared for. Your grandfather, the Emperor encouraged the youth of Ethiopia to gain wisdom and modernise the society and fulfil their dreams. At my young age I was fortunate enough to see and experience this.

It is a great honour and blessing, for us as Ethiopians, to see Your Imperial Highness, who is the descendant of hundreds of royal kings and queens and a reminder of our freedom, unity and integrity.

Your Imperial Highness, may Almighty God, the God of Ethiopia, grant you the the government of Davis, the blessings of Seam and years of Methuselah.