



Melaku Mehrete Belay

October 13, 1948 - July 8, 2024

In Loving Memory of Melaku Mehrete Belay

“I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die” (John 11:25)

Melaku Mehrete Belay, born in 1948 in the vicinity of Yemeka Abo, Gojam, Ethiopia, was a remarkable and kind-hearted man who touched the lives of many. His journey began under the guidance of his parents, Woizero Yimegne Mebratu and Ato Belay Mehrete, who ensured he received a traditional church education. When the time came for his formal education, Melaku and his father moved to Harar, where his father accepted a government position. There, Melaku excelled at Medhane Alem Secondary School, graduating with honors.

Melaku's academic achievements earned him the Enno Littmann German Scholarship, leading him to Addis Ababa University (formerly Haile Selassie University), where he graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering in 1973.

Starting his professional journey with the Imperial Ethiopian Telecommunication Board, the precursor to today's Ethio Telecom, Melaku

joined the ranks of technical elites in Ethio Telecom Operations and Maintenance. He worked diligently and rose to lead the Operations Department. His leadership took him to various parts of Ethiopia and the world, where he inspired and guided his dedicated staff, who continue to hold him in high esteem today.

In 1995, Melaku moved to the United States with his family, continuing his career at Primus Telecom in Virginia. For the next 20 years, he served as a Technical Manager, excelling in his role and advancing to a senior position where he led and oversaw numerous staff and projects with unwavering dedication until his retirement.

Melaku's legacy extends beyond his professional achievements. As a devoted father, he provided his sons, daughters, and adopted niece with opportunities for education and successful careers. His support extended to family members in Ethiopia and those resettling in the U.S., always encouraging them to strive for success, leading with love and empathy. He was so giving, always lending a hand to many, opening his home, and allowing them to be part of his family.

Let me know what you think: A pillar of the community, Melaku was one of the founders of the Menelik Club in Virginia, a self-help organization dedicated to defending human rights and freedom of speech in Ethiopia. The club, under his leadership, supported exiled journalists, diaspora media outlets, and humanitarian efforts. In addition, Melaku was an active member of Fana Maheber for 15 years and served as its Vice President. Through his endeavors, they were able to build a water supply for the Debra Lebanos Monastery in Ethiopia. Melaku also played a compassionate role in arranging Fana Maheber's efforts to support families during their most difficult times, helping to cover funeral and other expenses associated with the loss of loved ones. His philanthropic efforts also included building an elementary school

and a church in Ethiopia.

Despite being ill since March, Melaku demonstrated remarkable strength and resilience, pushing through everything that came his way. His perseverance allowed us the precious time to be with him until his passing on July 8, 2024. We are profoundly grateful for his strength and the time he gave us.

Melaku's passing leaves a void in the hearts of his family, friends, and colleagues. He will be deeply missed by his loving wife Beletshachew, his sons Beakal and Zelalem, his daughters Eskedar, Albab, Hiwot, niece Rahel, and his grandchildren, and all who were fortunate to know him. As we remember his love, teachings, and generous heart, we strive to live our lives through the values he instilled in us and showed us every day. One of his favorite sayings was, "Love conquers all and we must yield to Love", which he often shared with his loved ones.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to everyone for their support during this difficult time. May Melaku Rest in Peace. God bless our community, and may we find hope and strength to continue from this difficult time in our lives.

“ትንሳኤ እና ሕይወት እኔ ነኝ የሚያምንብኝ ቢሞት እንኳን ህያው ይሆናል።” ዮሐንስ 11:25

የአቶ መላኩ በላይ ምህረቴ አጭር የሕይወት ታሪክ

አቶ መላኩ በላይ ምህረቴ ከአባታቸው ከአቶ በላይ ምህረቴ እና ከእናታቸው ከወ/ሮ ይመኝ መብራቱ በቀድሞ ጎጃም

ክፍለሀገር በደብረ ማርቆስ ከተማ አቅራቢያ በሚገኘው የመቃ አቦ ቀበሌ ጥቅምት 3 ቀን 1941

ዓ.ም. ተወለዱ። ዕድሜያቸው ለትምህርት ሲደርስ ወላጅ አባታቸው በስራ ምክንያት ወደ ሐረር ተዘዋውረው መድኃኔዓለም ት/ቤት የመጀመሪያ ደረጃ እና ሁለተኛ ደረጃ ትምህርታቸውን በከፍተኛ ሁኔታ በማጠናቀቅ በቀድሞ ኃይለስላሴ ዩኒቨርሲቲ በአሁኑ አዲስአበባ ዩኒቨርሲቲ 5ኪሎ በሚገኘው የምህንድስና ኮሌጅ በኤሌክትሪካል ኢንጅነሪንግ መስክ በ1965 ዓ.ም. ተመርቀዋል። በተጨማሪም በዩኒቨርሲቲ ቆይታቸው የላቀ ውጤት በማስመዝገባቸው ከጀርመን አገር ይሰጥ የነበረውን የኢኖ ሊትማን Enno Littmann ስኮላርሺፕ ተሸላሚ ነበሩ።

አቶ መላኩ በላይ ከተመረቁ በኋላ በዘመኑ የኢትዮጵያ ቴሌኮሙኒኬሽን ቦርድ ይባል በነበረው አገራዊ ተቋም የአፕሬትን ስራ አስኪያጅ በመሆን አገልግለዋል። አቶ መላኩ በላይ በስራቸው ታታሪ እና ትጉህ ሰራተኛ ስለነበሩ ፣ ተቋሙ በሙያ እንዲዳብር እና የስልክ መስመሮች በስፋት እንዲዘረጉ ከማድረጋቸውም በላይ ተቋሙ በአፍሪካ እንዲታወቅ ከፍተኛ አስተዋፅዖ አድርገዋል። እንዲሁም በተለያዩ የኢትዮጵያ ከተሞች እየተዘዋወሩ እና ደከመኝ ሰላቸኝ ሳይሉ በምህንድስና ሙያቸው ለአገር ጥሩ አስተዋጽኦ ያበረከቱ ባለውለታ እና ምስገን ኢትዮጵያዊ አባት ነበሩ ። አቶ መላኩ በላይ ውድ አገራቸውን በዚህ ሙያ ሲያገለግሉ ቆይተው ወደ አሜሪካ አገር ለመምጣት ባገኙት ዕድል ከባለቤታቸው ከሲስተር በለጥሻቸው በኩረ እና ከልጆቻቸው ጋር የዛሬ 29 ዓመት ወደ አሜሪካ መጡ።

አቶ መላኩ በላይ በአገረ አሜሪካ በቫርጂንያ ስቴት በሚገኘው ፕራይምስ(Primus) ቴሌኮም በተሰኘው የቴሌኮም ኩባንያ ውስጥ ለ20 አመታት ከፍተኛ የምህንድስና ሀላፊ በመሆን አገልግለዋል። በዚህም ሙያቸው እያገለገሉ ውድ ልጆቻቸውን ከባለቤታቸው ከሲስተር በለጥሻቸው ጋር በመሆን የኮሌጅ ትምህርታቸውን አጠናቀው ወደ ስራ ዓለም እንዲሰማሩ አድርገዋል።

በተጨማሪም እንደ ልጆቻቸው አድርገው ያሳደጓቸውን የቤተሰብ አባላት እራሳቸውን በማስቻል ፣ እንዲሁም በኢትዮጵያ የቤተሰብ መድ ልጆች በትምህርታቸው እንዲበረታቱ ከፍተኛ ድጋፍ አድርገዋል። አቶ መላኩ በላይ በተጨማሪም ልዩ ልዩ ዕድል አግኝተው ወደ አሜሪካ የመጡትን ቤተሰቦቻቸውን እንዲቋቋሙ ከፍተኛ እገዛ አድርገዋል። በማህበራዊ ሕይወታቸውም ከቅርብ ጓደኞቻቸው ጋር በመሆን በሸርጂንያ ስቴት ምኒሊክ በተሰኘው የመረዳጃ እና የኢትዮጵያ ወዳጆች ክለብ መስራች ነበሩ። በዚህም ክለብ ውስጥ ለዜጎች ሰብአዊ መብት መቆምን ዓላማ አድርገው ፣ ለተሰደዱ ጋዜጠኞች ድምፅ ያሰሙ እና የኢሳት ቴሌቪዥን ጣቢያን ሲረዱ የቆዩ ሰው ናቸው። ከዚህ ጋር በአርቆ አስተዋይነት ፣ በብልህነት ዐበይት ተግባራትን ለመፈጸማቸው እና የማህበረሰቡም ምሳሌ ለመሆናቸው ጓደኞቻቸው እና የሚያውቋቸው ሁሉ ምስክሮች ናቸው።

ከዚህ በተጨማሪ አቶ መላኩ በላይ የፋና ማህበር ዋነኛ አገልጋይ በመሆን ለ15 ዓመታት ያህል በምክትል ሊቀመንበርነት አገልግለዋል። በዚህም ድርጅት አማካኝነት ከአጋሮቻቸው ጋር በመሆን ለደብረ ሊባኖስ ገዳም የውሃ መስመር ማዘርጋት ችለዋል። ከዚህም ባሻገር ለሰዎች ባላቸው ከፍተኛ ርህራሄነት ሰዎች በተጎዱ እና እርዳታ በፈለጉ ጊዜ የፋና ማህበርን እርዳታ እንዲያገኙና የደረሰባቸው ሃዘንና ጉዳት እንዲቃለል የበኩላቸውን ድርሻ ተወጥተዋል። የበጎ አድራጎች ስራቸውንም በማስፋት በኢትዮጵያ ቤተክርስቲያን እና ትምህርት ቤትን ለማሰራትም ችለዋል።

የአባታችን አቶ መላኩ በላይ ከዚህ አለም በሞት መለየት ለባለቤታቸው ለሲስተር በለጥሻቸው፣ ለልጆቻቸው፣ በአካል፣ ዘላለም፣ እስከዳር፣ አልባብ እና ሕይወት እንዲሁም የእህታቸው ልጅ ራሔል ፣ ለልጅ ልጆቻቸው ለወዳጅ ዘመዶቻቸው እና ጓደኞቻቸው በአጠቃላይ ለሚያውቃቸው ሁሉ ያጎደሉ ናቸው። በተለይም በላጋስነታቸው ያላቸውን ዕውቀት እና ገንዘብ

ለማካፈል ወደ ኃላ የማይሉ ለቤተሰቡ የፍቅር ማገር ሆነው ፍቅርን ሲሰጡ ያለፉ መልካም አባት ነበሩ። ሁልጊዜም ከሚወዷቸው የዘወትር አባባሎች “ፍቅር ሁሉንም ያሸንፋል እኛም ለፍቅር መገዛት አለብን” የሚለውን አምላካዊ ቃል ከአንደበታቸው የማይጠፋ እንደነበር እና እንዲያውም “በላይ ይሙት” የሚለው ቁርጠኛ ንግግራቸውን ቤተሰቡ በሙሉ ዘላለም ሲያስታውስ ይኖራል።

አባታችን አቶ መላኩ ለዚህ ምስክርነታቸው ከሚወዷቸው ባለቤታቸው ጋር ለ44 ዓመታት በፍቅር ተቆራኝተው የኖሩ ፣ በመንፈሳዊ ሕይወታቸውም የአምላካቸውን ትዕዛዝ በመፈፀም በስጋው ወደሙ ፀንተው የኖሩ አባት ናቸው። ውዱ አባታችን አያያ (ጋሼ) ከመጋቢት ወር 2016 ዓ.ም ጀምሮ በህመም ላይ ሳሉ የነበራቸው መንፈሳዊ ጠንካራነት በዚህም ስቃይ ላይ እያሉ በአልጋ ላይ ሆነው እንኳን ስለእያንዳንዱ ቤተሰብ ማሰብና መጨነቅ በገፅታቸው ይታይ ነበር። እንዲህ ሲታገሉ ቆይተው በእግዚአብሔር መልካም ፍቃድና ጥሪ ሞት ለአዳም ልጆች ሁሉ የማይቀር ዕዳ እንደመሆኑ ሀምሌ 01 ቀን 2016 ከዚህ ዓለም በሞት ተለይተዋል። አባታችን አቶ መላኩ በላይ በህክምና ላይ እያሉ በአካል በመመላለስ ከአገር ውስጥም ሆነ ከአገር ውጪ ስልክ በመደወል ለጠየቃችሁን እንዲሁም በፀሎትና በሐሳብ እገዛ ላደረጋችሁልን ወዳጅ ዘመዶች ሁሉ

በእግዚአብሔር ስም ከፍ ያለ ምስጋናችንን እያቀረብን የአባታችንን ነፍስ በደጋጎቹ አባት አብርሃም ፣ ይስሃቅ እና ያዕቆብ አጠገብ ያኑርልን። አሜን

Previous Events

Day Before

JUL 15. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

The Waterford
6715 Commerce Street
Springfield, VA 22150

Funeral Service

JUL 16. 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Debre Haile Kedus Gabriel Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church
2601 Evarts St NE
Washington, DC 20018

Graveside Service

JUL 16. 11:00 AM (ET)

Fairfax Memorial Park
9900 BRADDOCK ROAD
FAIRFAX, VA 22032

Reception

JUL 16. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

The Waterford
6715 Commerce Street
Springfield, VA 22150

Tribute Wall



“ Jefferson Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Melaku Mehrete Belay



Jefferson Funeral Chapel - July 14, 2024 at 03:53 PM

ZA

“ Zemach A. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Melaku Mehrete Belay.



Zemach A. - July 16, 2024 at 09:00 PM

HT

“ This is still feels unreal. I know for sure that God takes who he loves! May your kind and sweet soul rest in peace Gash Melaku! You will never be forgotten and will forever be missed 🙏

Herodawit Tesema - July 16, 2024 at 10:49 AM

EF

“ Elshaday Negash and family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Melaku Mehrete Belay.



Elshaday Negash and family - July 14, 2024 at 11:49 PM

VD

“ Vincent DuBois planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melaku Mehrete Belay.

Vincent DuBois - July 13, 2024 at 11:26 AM

VD

“ Vincent DuBois purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Melaku Mehrete Belay.



Vincent DuBois - July 13, 2024 at 11:26 AM

GF

“ Genet Takele Moraetes family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melaku Mehrete Belay.

Genet Takele Moraetes family - July 12, 2024 at 11:44 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Melaku Mehrete Belay.



July 12, 2024 at 11:44 AM

TF

“ *The Bizzell Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melaku Mehrete Belay.*

The Bizzell Family - July 11, 2024 at 04:37 PM

TF

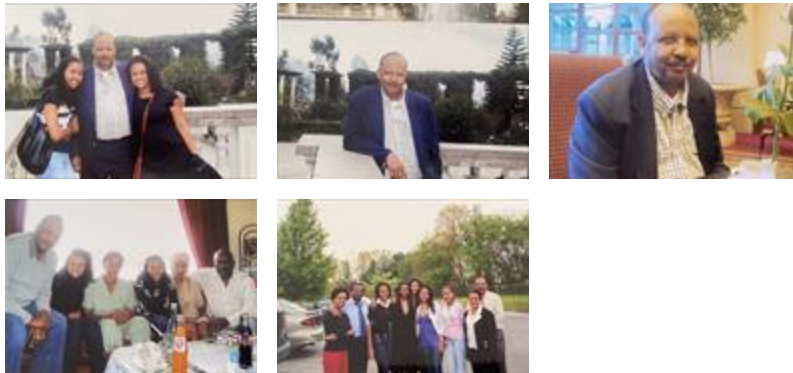
“ *The Bizzell Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Melaku Mehrete Belay.*



The Bizzell Family - July 11, 2024 at 04:37 PM

ES

“ *42 files added to the tribute wall*



Eskedar - July 10, 2024 at 05:44 PM