

Message of appreciation from the Association of Disabled Eritreans (ADE)

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

First, we would like to express our best wishes that the new year 2009 to be a year of hope, peace and prosperity for everybody. We would also like to extend our appreciation with honor to all the men and women who in their young age devoted their lives to the liberation of our beloved country, Eritrea and achieved independence. In the long and bitter-armed struggle waged for thirty years, tens of thousands have paid their dear lives, and thousands more have sustained light and heavy wounds, in which some of them are now living with serious physical disabilities at the Eritrean war veteran center in Kassala, Sudan. The Association of Disabled Eritreans (ADE), officially registered in France, has been providing assistance for the disabled and their families. The assistance provided include living and medical expenses out of the budget that the ADE raises from donor agencies. However, the current budget covers only up to mid January 2009. The ADE Board of Directors now strongly appeals to the public to continue their generous donations and raise money for the fiscal year of 2009.

In the recent fund raising campaign, all those who dedicated their time and efforts to reach out and call upon the Eritrean public and the world community as well have effectively conducted the public awareness campaign on behalf of the Eritrean disabled veterans. ADE and the wounded veterans express their deepest appreciation to all and among them the webmaster of Meskerem.net, Mr. Alem Goitom, for dedicating his network to deliver the message; the host of radio Eritrea in Canada, Mr. Nazaret Yemane, for his contribution to put the voice and plight of the disabled veterans on the air through expert interviews; and Mr. Zegay Negash for his relentless effort in coordinating the program by updating the progress and posting inspiring messages. As a result, thanks to all those generous contributors, so far an amount of \$8000.00 has been raised and still in progress to meet the target.

Dear All,

The fund raising campaign will continue until it meets the annual budget, which is expected to run until the early first quarter of 2009. We would like to pledge that ADE would play its best role by collaborating with all participating individuals and institutions for a maximum outcome. Hence, once again, we call and ask you to donate your contributions to those assigned addresses in your respective areas, which they will eventually transfer the money to the treasury of ADE. You can also directly send your personal check or money order to the ADE treasurer:

**Zehaye Araia
344 N. Morris Dr
Palatine, IL 60074**

Phone# (847) 359-8474

Receipt and thank you letters will be sent right away upon receipt of donation.

We also would like to empower dedicated individuals or committees to organize a fund raising reception by preparing snacks and soft beverages to the gathering occasion where all Eritreans and foreigner friends should be invited to participate.

In conclusion, we are grateful to all those who forwarded their point of views to help the veterans and would like to re-assure them that we will consider their valuable views in the Board of Directors' deliberations. We also would like to encourage all to continue send your ideas or proposals.

With best regards,

Members of ADE Board of Directors in North America

27 Dec 2008