

Magnificent Day

May in Honor of the 21st Eritrean Independence Day

Which officially kicked off on May 12th in London UK

London 15th May 2012

Embassy Media UK

On Saturday 12th May 2012 as part of the UK program, "May in Honor of the 21th Eritrean Independence Day" an event for Children and Family was colorfully celebrated.

This year Children & Family day once again continued with whole host of activities for kids and adults, that was entertaining and at the same time inspiring. The family atmosphere was witnessed as participants came flocking early with the beautiful sun shining on them.

Greeting the participants with smiles all-round was the job of every Eritrean on the spot; nonetheless there were well organized programs for the participants, which made their day unforgettable, a bright day that marked the resilience and unity of Eritreans in the UK.

The Eritrean community in London enjoyed the event throughout the day with a positive and forward moving atmosphere, once again showing their unity by coming together and acting as a big family.

As preparations conclude many, parents, youth and children began to flock into the Lee Valley Leisure Complex and the games begin with all the best Eritrean music being played through the sound system.

Organizers planned the day around the attendees with games for athletics, football, sac race, youth, and parents took part. The teams were given names that have Eritrean relevance with regards to heritage as they came prepared from South, North, West London, with team colors, team tactics and team captains exhorting their players into action.

Surrounding the football games, also other games took place on the athletics track where all in their respective groups try to stake their claim as the fastest of their peers and there is a palpable, almost raw feeling of competition.

The youth exhort all their efforts which bridges gaps of immeasurable size, and this was evident at the event with real camaraderie amongst the children. The commentators gee up the capacity crowd filled with cheering and clapping parents, bursting with joy at the sight of their children racing and playing football.

On the outskirts of the field, there were tents set up for catering to food & drink, by the members of the Eritrean National Campaign Committee (ENCC), National Union of Eritrean Woman (NUEW), Young People's Front for Democracy & Justice (YFPDJ).

There were also other tents set-up which attracted parents and children that contained all the activities that the younger children can partake in. These involve an introduction to their cultural heritage via drawing face-painting and bouncy castles for a more fun filled day whilst they learn about their country.

The celebration was attended by H.E. Tesfamichael Gerahtu Eritrea's Ambassador to the United Kingdom and Ireland along with 380 Parents and more than 1600 children, youth participants.

A fantastic end to a fantastic Sports Day for Children Youth and Family!

This year's Independence day will be celebrated under the theme "**Eritrean Independence: Core of Dignity**" in a vibrant spirit, and that the preparations include Trade & Economic Forum, ERI-UK Friendship, Cultural shows in different parts of UK.

Upcoming dates;-

"May in Honor of the 21st Eritrea Independence Day in United Kingdom"

- **17th May - Trade & Investment Forum in London**
- **19th May - Independence Day in Newcastle**
- **19th May - Independence Day in Sheffield**
- **19th May – Independence Day in Glasgow**
- **24th May - ERI-UK Friendship Forum in London**
- **25th May - Independence Day in London**
- **26th May - Independence Day in Birmingham**
- **3rd June - Eritrean Professional Network Forum in London**

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