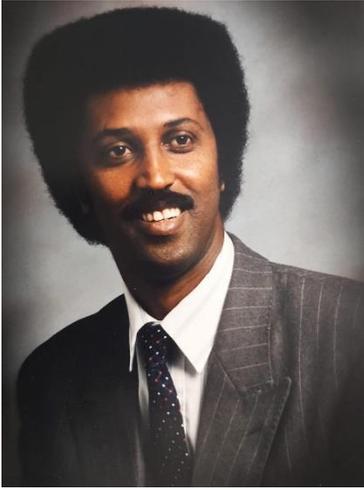


## OBITUARY



**Dr. YOHANNES GHEBRAT M.D; DTM&H; MPH,  
(January 10, 1961 - April 6, 2020)**

*“Therefore, you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you.” John 16:22  
NKJV*

*Dr. Yohannes Ghebrat was a God Loving man who is a model to many of us. His kindness, helpfulness and selflessness were unparalleled. He had an uncanny ability to reach people in deep and positive way. He will be missed deeply. Now, he is with the LORD where there is no sorrow nor pain.*

Dr. Yohannes Ghebrat was born on Jan 10, 1961 in Asmara, Eritrea. He is the son of the late W/o Zewdi Tekle and the late Memher Ghebrat Woldemichael, artist/painter and a well-known veteran teacher, director of Hibret school in Eritrea in the late 1950s who wrote Public Health book in the fifties (titled “Kinkin Teina”). Yohannes was inspired by his late father to work and dedicate his life in the field of Public Health.

Following graduation from Elementary School, He joined Keih Bahri Secondary School of Asmara. After completing high school, he pursued his higher education at Addis Ababa University Medical School and graduated with Doctor of Medicine (MD) in Sep of 1987.

Early in the period of his medical internship, he conducted research on Malaria with a colleague which got him gold medal award for an outstanding research from the Ethiopian Medical Association (EMA). After his graduation, he worked as a General Practitioner in the southern part of Ethiopia for a couple of years

Dr. Yohannes, furthered his Graduate Studies at the Univ. of Bergen, Norway and the United Kingdom in the late eighties and earned his Master of Public Health (MPH) and Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (DTMH).

After graduation Yohannes returned to Eritrea in 1993 to serve his people on the early years of Eritrean Independence.

His first job in Eritrea was with the World Vision in 1993 then he joined USAID in 1997 where he served on health-related projects for several years. Yohannes joined World Health Organization (WHO) in 2002 and served as Disease Control and Prevention (DPC) Officer for two decades. Dr. Yohannes has traveled extensively around the globe especially to East and

South Africa in relation to public health activity. He continued practicing medicine at his clinic in Asmara when he was in town and available to help his community.

Dr. Yohannes was a devoted scientist who published a multitude of research articles in reputable journals relevant to public health in the field of epidemiology, infectious diseases, psychiatry, and internal medicine. His most recent responsibility was to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic and worked round the clock fighting this new enemy until the very night he fell sick and succumbed to his illness in less than 24 hours.

He was a dedicated, loving, and caring father and husband, very close to his wife and his four children. He treated many Eritreans who had health issues. He went beyond his normal duties to help people and was like a personal physician to everyone who knew him. He respected and loved his siblings & their spouses, nephews, nieces, and his friends. He was Exemplary and role model for many and has inspired some of his family members to follow on his footsteps. Yohannes had a kind heart that was one of a kind, he always had a friendly smile and remained calm, collected, and positive even on a very challenging and difficult circumstances.

Under WHO, his contribution for the public health of the Eritrean People and many African countries was extensive. His job demanded him to travel to various African countries to teach, organize and execute public health issues, relevant to each country.

Yohannes suddenly fell ill, and passed away unexpectedly the next day, April 6<sup>th</sup> at Orotta Hospital.

Dr. Yohannes is survived by his beloved wife, Eden Mehari, four children (Yonathan, Betty, Hannibal, and Hiyabel), siblings (Haile, Dr. Tedros, Daniel, Azieb and Helen), nephews, nieces, and many cousins. He was also brother to the late Dawit and Eyob Ghebrat.

His sudden, untimely death is shocking to all who knew him, and he will be missed by his family members, friends and those who knew him for many years to come.

The family thanks:

- The support provided to him by the Orrotta Hospital staff and his colleagues at WHO.
- The minister of Health.
- To all of those who expressed their condolences and supported the family in this difficult time.