

THE ERITREAN AFAR PROPOSED RESETTLEMENT

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There are two groups of Eritrean Afar: the Asaemara ("red ones") and the Adaemara ("white ones").

Without going into the distinctions between the two Eritrean Afars, I am addressing the reality of these people's living situations that warrants to pay attention in a sort of urgent matter. They have been living along the Assab corridor coast and have been practicing a nomadic ways of life as well as living in the Danakil Depression; the hottest areas on earth within an average of 125 degrees F. for centuries. The underlying rational of my "Proposed Resettlement" is from the presumption that the Government of Eritrea may need to prepare a coherent plan of action to deal with the Afar daily struggle against this inhospitable environmental conditions that nature has dealt them.

By combining legal with strategic analyses that I put in to the Afar situation, it is in the best interest of the government to take this proposed resettlement action in particular for those who lives in the desert who have inhabited one of the most rugged and inhospitable areas in the world which is known as the **Danakil Depression**. It consists of a vast plain of salt pans and active volcanoes. Much of it lies 200 feet below sea level and has daily temperatures as high as 125 degrees F. The average yearly rainfall is less than seven inches.

In addition to the above mentioned reality this hottest and most inhospitable places on Earth the Afar are living without adequate food and fresh water supply for themselves and their herds. These conditions resulted in having one of the shortest life span in Sub Saharan Africa (45 years compared to 46 years), they also have the highest child mortality rate in Sub Saharan Africa (1/10 compared to 5/100). The Afar also suffers from the highest illiteracy rate in Sub Saharan Africa (17% compared to 70%) . This is happening to most of the Afar due to their nomadic and pastoralists daily search for food and being unable to stay in one place to receive any health and educational teaching and services. [For further study click here.](#)

To resolve this chronic problem of the Afar, the Eritrean Government could possibly come up with the following considerations:

1. stabilize the Afar people with both food sustainability and receive basic academic training in a safe environment with cooler temperature.

2. receive medical services through health care clinics located in a higher cooler environment
3. when health care and food sustainability are available, their life spans will increase and doubling their life existence as long as they find an environment where they can learn how to farm and raise live stock.

One of the ways to achieve this plan the government could consider changing the Afars' way of life by relocating them from their nomadic environment to a structured, reliable and renewable life condition that are agriculturally based. It is in the Afars' best interest and longevity that they learn to farm on their own and look for a renewable and sustainable agricultural land. That would yield them an excessive amount of food as well as for the first time a permanent housing structures that would automatically improve their overall health. The Eritrean Government would make the necessary investment on health care services and academic education and through farming techniques which would all take place in a stationary valley scenario if offered.

CONCLUSION

One of the best solutions for the Afar is relocating them inland in higher altitude in a secluded valley so that the Afar could live a happier quality of life and the Eritrean government would have an easier time providing health and academic services for them.