

Eritrean Veterans' Day - A call to all Eritreans

Eritreans have been looking forward to have a day called “Eritrean Veterans’ Day”. Discussions have been going on among many or in private. Earlier this year, an Eritrean woman approached some Eritrean Veterans and asked the reason there was not a day called “Eritrean Veterans’ Day”. One of the Veterans suggested the 1st week of August as the best timing for that day.

The reason for choosing this date?

Many already know the significance of the month of August engraved in Eritrea’s history. It was the month that brought peace and unity when Eritrean fighters lifted one another. This unity led us to victory.

Remembrance

- The civilians living in the war thorn areas – for the first time – involved themselves to stop the fratricide war going on.
- The freedom fighters (tegadeltys) for the first time recognized the truth and prayers coming from their own people and asked for help.
- Some of the fighters-- knowing full well that refusing to take arms would result in their being punished with capital punishment (death)--refused to point their arms towards their own brothers and sisters.
- The civilians’ population and freedom fighters (tegadeltys) decided to elect a group as mediators.

If this day/month was not an option

- Without unity, we could not defeat the enemy and push him back to the outskirts of Asmara.
- Eritreans would have had to surrender their weapons, their belongings and above all our land/country.
- Eritreans freedom fighters (tegadeltys) would have killed each other and the enemy would have prevailed.

August is a month of hope

- The Eritrean population living in the cities and villages were then absorbed in a spirit of hope that embraced all freedom-fighters (tegadeltys).
- Because of the misunderstanding among freedom fighters (tegadeltys) some that had left the front came back after this day of unity.
- Eritreans conscripts of the enemy’s army, joined the liberation fronts.
- The underground guerrilla warfare increased in numbers in all cities.
- The number of conscripts joining the liberation fronts increased.

The spirit of that day – August 7/ 1974- still lives in our hearts and we aim at making it a day called “Eritrean Veterans’ Day” We hope you will join us.

Any information, queries and comments, please send to emails below:

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