



NATIONAL COALITION OF CLERGY AND LAITY

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December 9, 2021

The UNHCR Representative in Tunisia
U.N. High Commission for Refugees
Immeuble La Rive
Rue du Lac Biwa – Les Berges du Lac 1053
Tunis, TUNISIA



in re request to assist young Ethiopian refugee Alem Yohannes Berhe of Sobia, Tigray State, in hiding in Tripoli, Libya; to evacuate him to Tunisia, to then resettle in the U.S.A.

Excellent and dear Sir or Madam:

Might you please assist us, a small non-profit charity (NGO), to bring to the United States an Ethiopian refugee, a young student, who has recently fled the war in his homeland of Tigray State, and who has been twice kidnapped, tortured, and held for ransom by human-traffickers in Libya, and who is currently in hiding there?

As the attached documents indicate, we have been in communication with the young man, and have written repeatedly on his behalf to the UNHCR offices in Tripoli, without reply.

Our intention is to start with you the process of evacuating the young man to Tunisia, in order then to resettle him in the United States. We have the resources and the people to assist us, willing to sponsor him in the U.S.

The refugee's name is Alem Yohannes Berhe. I attach (below) a short biography which he has delivered to us.

Also attached is the certificate declaring Alem an asylum-seeker, which Alem received from the UNHCR office in Tripoli.



We have repeatedly asked Alem to visit the UNHCR office in Tripoli again in order to appeal to them to evacuate him to Tunis, but he often cannot get to the office. Sometimes his passage in the streets is blocked by roaming thugs or local para-police. Other times, when he does arrive, he is not permitted to enter. He has tried to phone the office repeatedly, but so far no one there has accepted his calls.

We look forward to your earliest possible reply to this request.

Sincerely & gratefully,

G. P. Lloyd

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cc: Rev. Fr. Tesfamariam Baraki, c/o St. Gabriel Catholic Church
26 Grant Circle NW, Washington D.C. 20011-4606 USA



*"Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church,
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matt. xvi, 13-19*

short biography of Alem Yohannes Berhe

delivered November, 2021 c/o Rev. Fr. Tesfamariam Baraki, Washington, D.C.

My name is Alem Yohannes Berhe and I was born on December 21, 1997 (GC) [Gregorian Calendar – ed.] from my mother Letebrhan Hadush Gebremariam, and from my father Yohannes Berhe Abay in Sobia (Sobia is the part of woreda Gulomekada regional state of Tigray in Ethiopia). I started grade one school in 2003 (GC) at the primary school of Sobia living with my mother. But at that time my father was not with my mother because he divorced her and was living with another wife.

Since my father moved to Adama in Oromia State, I went with my father in 2004 (GC) and I started school from zero grade because I could not speak the Amharic language at that time. I studied up to grade 3 in Adama (Adama is the capital of Oromia regional State) Primary School of Degene Sime staying with my stepmother. But in 2008 (GC), I went back to Tigray and went to school staying with another step-mother Tsadkan Tesfay in Zalanbessa (Zalanbessa is part of wereda Gulomekada in the regional state of Tigray) and I finished grades 4 to 8 from 2008-2012 (GC) in the Primary School of Zalanbessa. And from 2013-2016 (GC) I studied at Zalanbessa Secondary School. In 2017 (GC), I went to study at the Debre Markos University for about two years majoring in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering. But when I was in the second year, a conflict broke out and I was forced to go back to Zalanbessa in Tigray, and I was enrolled at the Ethio-Lens College located in Adigrat in 2019 (GC) by distance because of Coronavirus.

Then in November of 2020 (GC), the destructive and genocidal war against Tigray broke out. At that time, I was in Zalanbessa and I was forced to flee the town and hide in the cave to save my life. At the war, my friends were killed by the troops, and my family was disappeared; but after one month I was able to encounter my family once more for the last time. After that, I realized that I had one chance to survive and that was migration, that is, to flee or run away from my country to another unknown country to receive refuge.

I started to migrate to Sudan but I was arrested along with others by kidnapers/human traffickers and brought to Libya after that they beat us and tortured us; they punched us; imprisoned us and they commanded us to pay \$10,000 dollars otherwise they would sell us to other human traffickers! At that time or moment, there was not any connection or communication in Tigray because of the ongoing war, and my family could not pay this kind of money at all! They arrested me for about 6 months in Libya in a place known as Binwelid. After 6 months, they transferred us to Zawya (part of Libya); and at this place, they never stopped torturing us and threatening and terrorizing us to kill us. But after one month I managed to escape from their camp and to flee to Tripoli (the capital city of Libya) and now am living to hide with my fellow neighbors.

So, dear compassionate people of goodwill, I am desperately seeking your help to rescue my life from the life-threatening conditions I am in the ruleless and anarchic land of Libya! I am seriously in bad situation... if you can please help me to rescue me from this terrible and dangerous life! My phone number is [REDACTED] My email is [REDACTED]

Contact me!

[page 2 of 2 in letter of G. P. Lloyd, 9 December 2021, to UNHCR – Tunis *in re* refugee in Libya Alem Youhanis Behre of Tigray, Ethiopia]