

JCL49	Ba Lakmadobe (Ba Lacmadobe) (area) see under Kebri Dehar ba magan: <i>magan</i> (O) excrement, shit; (Som) refuge, sanctuary; <i>magaan</i> (Som) slow horse, animal giving very little milk	06/44	[+ WO]
JCE98	Ba Magan (area) <i>baadiye</i> (Som) country	06/44	[WO]
JCD58	Baadlei 05°56'/43°18' 264/272 m	05/43	[WO Gz]
JDG66	Baakileli (Baachileli) <i>baala</i> (O) 1. leaf; 2. feather	09/40	[+ WO]
JBP82	Baalale (seasonal spring) 05°16'/40°55'	05/40	[WO Gz]
HCR06	Baanche (Baance) 1495 m <i>baar</i> (O) sea, ocean	07/37	[+ WO]
HES57	Baarna Abbo, see Seketati		
JDG86	Baasu Ale (area)	09/40	[WO]
HDB89	Baata	08/36	[WO]
HFF81	Baati (Ba'ati) 14°18'/39°28' 2545 m Baati, north-east of Adigrat	14/39	[Gz]
	baba: <i>babba</i> (A) be afraid <i>baabba</i> (O) finished, all gone /mostly said to children/		
HEE79	Baba, see Aba Wat		
HEL92	Baba 12°36'/38°41' 2077 m	12/38	[Gz]
JDJ27	Baba, G. (area)	09/42	[WO]
HCG67	Babaka, see Bebek		
HCC70	Babat 06°05'/36°38' 2554 m, south of Bulki	06/36	[Gz]
HCR63	Babbia (forest = Cossa forest?), see Saso Den		
	<i>Babbo</i> , some Oromo claim descent from a man with this name; <i>babbo</i> (Som) flutter in the wind; <i>babbo alon</i> (O) big bird		
HD...	Babbo A female Evangelical teacher in the village of Babbo in Wellega, in the 1940s, had been the wife of the eldest son of a medicine man, <i>qalicha</i> , by name Abba Terso who was active in Challya. The son intended to continue the cult of his father, but this son died suddenly, so his widow became free to join the Evangelical Christians instead. [J Hagner, Guds under i Gallaland, Sthlm 1948 p 29-30]	10/36?	[x]
HCL78c	Babbo Ghennetie, see Hubo		
HD...	Babech (in Yerer & Kereyu awraja) The primary school in 1968 had 85 boys and 40 girls in grades 1-4, with one (!) teacher.	08/39?	[Ad]
HDB24	Babessa (Babesso), see Ejerso Tiki		
HDE76	Babicef (Babicheff) (former concession), see Migra		
HDD90	Babich 08°58'/37°33' 2277 m	08/37	[Gz]
JDP13	Babie (area)	10/40	[WO]
JDJ17	Babih, see Babile		
HDH75	Babila (area)	09/36	[WO]
	<i>Babile</i> , <i>Babille</i> , <i>Babilli</i> , group of tribes of the eastern Oromo, related Barentu-Umbana-Kallo-Babile, with two sub-tribes Gondaba and Karalla. "The Babille, who are mixed with Somali, live east of Harar in the mountainous massif of Kondudo and its valleys." [J S Trimmingham 1952]		
HDU85	Babile 10°45'/39°50' 1730 m	10/39	[Gz]
JDH13	Babile 09°12'/41°00' 1773 m	09/41	[Gz]
JDJ18	Babile (Babilli) (wide area) Potassium feldspar (orthoclase) occurs in pegmatite gangues, accompanying granitic intrusive bodies. There are a number of feldspar seams 2 km west of Babile.	09/42	[WO Gu]

- [Mineral 1966]
- JDJ28 **Babile** (Babile, Babilie, Babilli, Babih) 09/42 [MS Gz Ca WO]
MS: 09°16'/42°12' 1646 m; Gz: 09°13'/42°20' = JDJ18, 1648 m
With sub-post office.
- 1941 "At the next defensive position /in late March 1941/ along the road to Harar, the Babile Gap, the Italian artillery held up the Nigerians for two days and a half. But, wrote an Italian officer:
The days we spent at Babile were really terrible. The lives of the officers were in danger every night, every night more askaris were deserting, and then firing on us in the hope of terrorising us to the point where they would be able to get away with the battalion's arms and equipment.
Booty, not treachery, was the motive."
[Mockler 1984 p 367]
"The Babile Gap appeared even more formidable than the Marda Gap /near Jijiga/. The huge granite boulders and the precipitous walls which gave passage for the impressive Strada imperiale appeared impregnable to any attack. It had been evident all through the East African Campaign that the Italians had not been able to anticipate in advance the alternative routes open to the attackers, or to judge the speed of the advance. At the Babile Gap, two approaches were available to the attackers. One was the old road which had been used before the new highway had been built. This was the route of the attack by the South African Royal Natal Carbineers. This secondary attack diverted some of the strength of the Italian defenders from the well-placed positions which already had made the Nigerian advance on the main highway very difficult. A costly two day battle followed through road blocks, under heavy fire from the heights on both sides. However, facing the prospects of still another day of attack, on the third morning, the Nigerians and the South Africans both found -- that the enemy had withdrawn during the night - the Italians were gone."
[R N Thompson, Liberation .., 1987 p 131]
- 1942 During a period of unrest in the area around May 1942 Babile was also pillaged and burnt. [Gilkes 1975 p 220]
- 1960s Reporters for National Geographic magazine went from Harar to Jijiga /in early 1965?/ in a hired cab:
"Three heavily armed policemen stopped us in the nearby village of Babile, and we thought this the end of our road to war. But no, they packed themselves into the car, loading their rifles and releasing the safety catches as they did so. 'We had a phone call from Harar,' they explained. 'We're your escort.'"
[National Geographic, April 1965 p 578]
In the 1967 telephone directory there were 4 numbers, of which only Abebe Habte Michael on a personal name.
The primary school in 1968 had 112 boys and 62 girls, with 7 teachers.
- 1970s Spelling used by the sub-post office around 1975 was BABILE.
There were clashes with forces of Somalia at Babile on 3 October 1977.
[Africa 1977 no 75 p 33]
Around 1978 there was a petrol filling station of Shell.
- 1990s After about 30 km from Harar "you'll come to the town of Babile, the site of hot thermal springs used to supply much of eastern Ethiopia with bottled water".
There is the Bruk Hotel and the Anwaar restaurant.
Babile: Elephant Sanctuary
South of Babile is the large 6,982 sq km Babile Elephant Sanctuary, which sits at an altitude of 1,000-1,788 m. The sanctuary consists of semi-arid open woodland and contains an unknown number of mammals, including black-maned lion, kudu, and wild ass. It was created for the protection of the endemic subspecies of elephant, *Loxodonta africana oreleansi*, but visitors are unlikely to see any. There are no visitor facilities.
[Camerapix p 145, 319]

The sanctuary is disrupted badly by incursions of Somali refugees and livestock. Accommodation is in the village of Babile. There is no formal park headquarters or entrance gate.

[Lonely planet 2000 p 41, 306]

Although it is regarded as very uncertain to catch sight of the elephants, on one occasion in 2003 some 45 elephants walked rather unconcerned near the Fagi market.

[H Pohlstrand from visit]

Babile: Valley of Marvels (Rock Valley, Dakhata, Dakata)

The valley is filled with unusual volcanic formations where tall columns of black and red rock, withered and twisted by the elements, stand topped by loose, precariously balanced boulders.

[Camerapix p 319]

It seems certain that Italians during the occupation tried to shoot down the most 'precariously balanced' rock which can be seen from the main road, because there are marks of lead from bullets on its underside.

[H Pohlstrand from visit]

The valley is noted for amazing rock formations, most especially the balancing rock at Dakata. The rock is near the Jijiga road, about 2 km past the village of Babile. [Bradt]

Some 4 km from Babile the main road enters Dakhata, called the Valley of Marvels. Tall rocks have been sculpted into strange shapes by the elements. The valley stretches for some 13 km.

[Lonely planet 2000 p 307]

"Babile, unlike any other place in Ethiopia, immediately draws your imagination to those American westerns forcing you to look for the brave cowboy drawing his pistol behind the huge rocks and single handedly chasing away the Indians."

[Dimitri Kyriazis in Addis Reporter, 1969]

picts B von Rosen, Berget och solen, Sthlm 1949 p 203 landscape with rock "column" having a boulder resting on top; Addis Reporter 1969 no 12 p 22-23 five photos of stones on top of each other.

JDJ28	Babile sub-district? (-1997-)	09/42	[n]
JDJ28	Babile wereda (centre in 1964 = Babile)	09/42	[MS Ad]
HEL04	Babingia, see Ben	11/38	[+ WO]
HCS29	Babissa, cf Bubissa	07/38	[Wa]

Babo, name of an Ania tribe of the eastern Oromo

GDF93	Babo, cf Babbo	09/34	[WO]
HCL.?	Babo	06/39?	[x]

The Danish missionary Hjalmar Andersen in 1977 made a visit to the school in Babo after riding for three hours from his station at Lincho. He met teachers Berhane and Getahun and evangelist Butta. Teachers and pupils had gone to every household in the village and tried to persuade parents to let at least half of their children go to school. This action resulted in 47 new pupils, of which 10 girls.

There were mostly Moslems in the peasant association, but even so evangelist Butta had been invited and permitted to talk at their meetings.

[F Hylander, Crabatto, (EFS) 1980 p 104-106]

HDG39	Babo 09°20'/35°40' 1906 m	09/35	[Gz]
HDG54	Babo (Ciolti, Colti) 09°34'/35°10' 1543 m	09/35	[Gz]
JDJ35	Babo (mountain chain) 09°24'/42°05' 2081 m	09/42	[Gz]
JDJ45	Babo (mountain) 09°27'/42°05' 2210 m	09/42	[Gz]
JDJ45	Babo 09°27'/42°06' 2119 m	09/42	[Gz]
JDJ53	Babo (mountain) 09°34'/41°52' 1304 m	09/41	[Gz]
??	Babo, historical village in Lasta	12/39?	[x]

According to a century-late chronicle, the Lasta dissident Mälke'a Krestos was at one time

victorious against Emperor Susneyos so that the imperial soldiers abandoned their standard and war-drums and arms in two villages called Adibi and Babo.

[7th Int. Conf. of Ethiopian Studies, 1984 p 216]

HDG46	Babo Budi	09/35	[x]
	About 18 km (in a straight line) WSW of Nejo and near Jarso. [EFS mission sketch map] With an Evangelical church in the 1960s.		
HDG39	Babo Change	09/35	[x]
	4 km east of Boji and about 21 km south-east of Nejo. [EFS mission sketch map]		
??	Babo Gembel (Babo Gambel) (area with minerals)	../..	[n]
	also a settlement near Nejo Diadem Resources from Canada was around 1999 awarded a one year exploration permit on a concession in the western region of Babo Gembel.		
HDG66	Babo Gitten	09/35	[x]
	About 26 km WNW of Nejo. [EFS mission sketch map] (Gz has another Babo at 09°34'/35°10' = HDG54 near Komis river.)		
HDG29	Babo Kingi	09/35	[x]
	7 km east of Boji, near the road and near UA river, about 25 km (in a straight line) ESE of Nejo. [EFS mission sketch map]		
HDG46	Babo Torban	09/35	[x]
	About 15 km (in a straight line) south-west of Nejo. [EFS mission sketch map]		
HDL54	Babochi 09°35'/38°50' 2600 m	09/38	[AA Gz]
HEE78	Babokal (Babok'al, Ale Bamba, Alebamba) 11°31'/39°14' 2094 m	11/39	[Gz]
	babor: <i>babur</i> (A) train, railway		
HCP90	Babor (locality) 08°05'/35°45' <i>babu</i> (O) dear /baby/	08/35	[WO Gz]
HCR62	Babu	07/36	[Te]
HDH87	Babu 09°50'/36°20' 2059/2120 m	09/36	[WO Gz]
HDT12	Babu 10°07'/38°38' 1921 m	10/38	[Gz]
HDE91	Baburoto 08°59'/38°33' 2670 m, south-east of Genet	08/38	[Gz]
H CJ51	Baca, see Baka & HCP16		
H DU15	Baca, see Sirt		
J DH00	Baca, see Beka		
J DK20	Bacaca, see Bakaka		
J DA35	Bacaca, see Bekeksa		
H CD87	Bacai, see Bakay		
H BE91	Bacan Sada, see Bakan Sada		
J DN97	Bacana, see Bakana		
J EC63	Bacarla, see Bakarla		
J BK92	Bacaro	04/42	[MS WO]
J EH08	Bacarri Ale, see Bakarri Ale		
J CB48	Bacassar (seasonal spring)	05/41	[MS WO Gu]
G DU16	Bacchi, see Becchi		
H CN87c	Bacchisi, see Bakisi		
H DB00	Baccio, see Becho		
H DS45	Bacet, see Bechet		

bacha (O) affluent, rich;

Bacha, caste group of hunters living among the Dime

HC..	Bacha (hills)	06/35	[Ca]
HE..	Bacha sub-district (centre in 1964 = Ziguda) <i>Bachada</i> , ethnic group living in the upper Omo valley	11/36	[Ad]
HBP88 text	Bachada (Bachiada, B. Bana?) (area) A Chenevière, Ethiopie .., Paris 1989 p 54-65 about Bachada and Bodi people mostly large colour pictures.	05/36	[+ WO]
HCH67	Bache, see Bake		
HCR06	Bachefarda 07°17'/37°08' 1498 m	07/37	[WO Gz]
HCH52	Bachema, see Bachuma		
HEB44	Bachen, see Baken		
HDS36c	Bachet (area, ravine), cf Becet An outrunning ravine, coming from the Choke mountains, crossed by Cheesman in February 1927. There were then many villages and cornfields on the slopes and terraces of its sides. The Bachet river falls into the ravine and flows into the Abay. [Cheesman 1936]	10/38	[Ch]
HDS45	Bachet, see Bechet		
HCN19	Bachi, see Bechi		
HEK53	Bachila (Bach'ila) 12°13'/37°51' 2795 m	12/37	[Gz]
HFC19	Bachila, see Bachita		
HCR30	Bachilcha (Bacilcia)	07/36	[+ WO]
JFA38	Bachili, see Bakili Bad		
HCC40	Bachio, see Bako		
HCS00c	Bachira Locality in southern Kembata a little east of Omo river.	07/37	[20]
HFC19	Bachita (Bachila) 13°41'/37°27' 1877 m see under Adi Remet	13/37	[Gz WO]
HCR31	Bachilcha (Bacilcia) 07°35'/36°42' 1927 m	07/36	[+ WO Gz]
HCS00c	Bachira (in south-west Kembata) <i>Bachitu</i> , a clan of the Fullelle of the Borana people	07/37	[20]
HEA66	Bachiuge, see Bakyuje		
H....	Bacho (Batcho), near Gore a small village on the top of a hill range [A H Savage Landor 1907]	08/35	[+ x]
HCH52	Bachuma (Bachema, Baciuma, Bacuina) (Basciuma, Berchuma, Berciuma, Golda) 06°50'/35°52' 1912 m (centre in 1964 of Goldiya wereda) Coordinates would give map code HCH51 Golda may be a separate place 25 km south of Bachuma In a beautiful and healthy position on the watershed beteen Akobo and Dincha. There is also a stream Golda which is an affluent of the Akobo. [Guida 1938]	06/35	[Gz Ad WO Gu]
GCT35	Bacialba, see Bochiaba		
HCR31	Bacilcia, see Bachilcha		
GDM85c	Backe About 23 km (in a straight line) west of Mendi, at the southern bank of river Dabus. [EFS mission sketch map]	09/34	[x]
HED63	Baclo, see Baklo		
HCC40	Baco (Bacco), see Bako & HDA09 HDJ05		
HDB00	Baco, see Becho		
JCD54	Bacol, see Bakol		

bada (O) 1. hot ash, kiln, furnace; 2. many, much; 3. bad, evil;
(A) person who lacks ties with those of the area in which he lives;
beda (bäda) (A) desolate and deserted

HCU70	Bada (Badda) 07°55'/39°23' 3928/4139 m (mountain), cf Bedda MS coordinates would give map code HCT78 which together with the height stated corresponds rather to the Chilalo mountain	07/39	[MS Gz WO]
HEJ..	Bada Rüppell in 1832 at the market of Bada, near Gondar, could buy large blue grapes.	12/37	[18 x]
??	Bada Area in the lowlands and to the east in the region disputed between Ethiopia and Eritrea. The Border Commission in The Hague ruled in April 2000 that the steep land area of Bada shall be Ethiopian (and not Eritrean) territory. [AddisTribune 2002/04/12] bada abbai: <i>abbayi</i> (O) kinds of shrub or small tree, <i>Maesa lanceolata</i> or <i>Myrica salicifolia</i>	../..	[20]
HDC65	Bada Abbai (mountain) 2590 m	08/37	[WO]
HDD62	Bada Rogge, see Badda Rogge		
HCR44	Badabuna (coffee forest), cf Baddabuna The Italians described it as a marvellous forest with many kinds of tall trees and a lower level of coffee and many flowering shrubs, lianes and orchids. In the "window of the valley" the Jimma meadows opened. [Guida 1938] The Italians even declared this forest to be a National Park. [F Quaranta 1939 p 92]	07/36	[WO Gu]
JDP10	Badad (area) <i>badada</i> (O) name of one of ten <i>gada</i> sets; (badhadha) wealthy /man/; <i>badhaada</i> (O) blessings	10/41	[WO]
HDS09	Badada, see Tulu Bedada		
JDK65	Badadalle (area)	09/42	[WO]
JEH54	Badaih (waterhole)	12/41	[WO]
JBP70	Badale (seasonal well) 05°10'/40°45' <i>badalla</i> , <i>badallaa</i> (O), <i>badalya</i> (Borana O) maize, <i>Zea mays</i>	05/40	[WO Gz]
HDB37	Badalle, see Bedele		
JDG34	Badamu <i>badanu</i> , <i>badano</i> , <i>badana</i> (O) kind of small or medium tree, <i>Balanites aegyptiaca</i> , grows in dry land, has green spines and eatable fruit <i>badase</i> (O) kind of tree, <i>Croton</i> or <i>Syzygium</i> , see <i>bedesa</i>	09/40	[WO]
HDT09	Badaso (area)	10/39	[WO]
GDF86	Badasso, cf Bedesa	08/34	[WO]
HDK45	Badatina	09/37	[AA]
HDK55	Badatina, see Bedatino		
JDE53	Badays (Badais) (area)	08/43	[+ WO]
JDE70	Badays Soksoggubetu (Badais Socs.) (area) <i>badda</i> (O) 1. highland; (Borana O) 2. kind of tree, the wood of which is used for smoking milk vessels; 3. (Borana O) front space in a house	08/43	[+ WO]
HDA97	Badda, see under Yubdo	08/35	[WO]
JEB83	Badda Ale (well) 11°37'/41°01', see under Tendaho badda bar: <i>baar</i> (Som) peak; <i>bar</i> (Som) livestock; /further meanings, see at Bar Abir/	11/41	[WO Gz]
HCM21	Badda Bar (wide area) <i>badda gobo</i> , hump-shaped highland? <i>gobo</i> (O) humpback; <i>gobo'</i> (Som) drop, droplet; <i>goobo</i> (Som) circle	06/39	[WO]
HDJ45c	Badda Gobo	09/37	[Gu]
HBR05	Badda Iccinni, see Inchini		

HCD18	Badda Magado, see Magado		
HDD62	Badda Rogge (B. Rogghie, Bada R., Beda Roge) (mountain) 08°43'/37°41' 2968/3550 m <i>badda ummo</i> , bird tree or highland? <i>ummo</i> (O) a kind of bird; <i>uumo</i> (Som) create for oneself	08/37	[+ WO Gz LM]
HDC33	Badda Ummo (Umo) 08°30'/36°54' 2122/2390 m (mountain), see under Koma	08/36	[WO Gz]
HCR43	Baddabuna (hill) 2089 m, see under Jimma	07/36	[WO]
JEA58	Baddana (area)	11/40	[WO]
JEA69	Baddanaduma (area) <i>baddane</i> (O) kind of tree, Balanites, see <i>badanu</i> above	11/40	[WO]
HDJ96	Baddasseri, see under Alibo <i>bade</i> (baaDee) (O) 1. large gourd; 2. cow that gives much milk	09/37	[WO]
??	Badeke (Badeqe, Fre: Badequé) Queen Naod Mogasa /1400s?/ built a church there, decorated with gold. [J Doresse 1957 vol II p 251]	../..	[+ x]
1500s	The army of Imam Ahmed around 1541 arrived at a very rich church at Badeqe, a town in Shewa not far from mount Zikwala. The Muslims burnt the church. "They carried off the gold and pillaged and put to fire the cloth which the Christians had left in the town --" [Pankhurst, .. Chronicles 1967 p 56]		
HED21	Badenneb, see Badnib <i>badessa</i> , <i>baddessa</i> (O) kind of tree with edible plum-like fruit, Syzygium guineense; (badheessa) rainy season		
JDB80	Badessa, see Bedessa		
??	Badessa Tega, see Bedesa Tega <i>badi</i> (Som) 1. win, beat one's opponent; 2. multitude, majority; 3. increase, cause to be many; <i>baadi</i> (Som) stray animal, lost person or thing; <i>badhi</i> (Som) buttocks, tail of sheep; <i>Badi</i> , an Oromo clan which took part in the struggles that resulted in the kingdom of Jimma; nowadays a lineage of the Sabbo-Karrayyu-Dayyu of the Borana people; <i>Badditu</i> , a group of the Sidama people		
HCG77	Badi	06/35	[x]
JBU72	Badi (area), cf Bedi	05/44	[WO]
GCM57	Badica, see Badika		
HCG87	Badica, see Bardika		
GCM57	Badika (Badica) 06°48'/34°57' 1236 m	06/34	[+ WO Gz]
HFK..	Badime, see Badme <i>badimma</i> (A) abandoned enclosure; <i>badma</i> (A) 1. depopulated district; 2. soil made fertile by house refuse and animal droppings badin: <i>bedinn</i> (A) corpse		
HEK60	Badinia 12°24'/37°30' 1855 m	12/37	[WO Gu Gz]
HEA45	Badisilu, J. (hill), see under Gubba	11/35	[WO]
JDD28	Badisso (area)	08/43	[WO]
HDA67	Badjiro, see Bajiro & HDK13		
JBS53	Badle (Bodle, Bodleh) badma ..: <i>meda</i> (A) field	05/42	[MS 18 WO Wa]
HFK13	Badma Meda (Baduma) (plain) 14°40'/37°50' c1000 m	14/37	[Gz WO]
HFK12c	Badme (Baduma plain) Area and locality between the Tekezze and Mareb rivers. It became disputed between Ethiopia and Eritrea from 1998.	14/37	[20 WO]
1900s	"The Italian colonial authorities deliberately refused to demarcate the borders between		

Eritrea and Ethiopia agreed in 1900, 1902 and 1908. Instead, Italy chose to manipulate the colonial map so as to include the larger part of the Badme plains under its territory. -- the Ethiopian government went along with this map, as is evidenced by the *National Atlas of Ethiopia* of 1985."

[Brothers at war, 2000 p 24]

There was a history of sometimes friendly and sometimes hostile contacts between liberation forces in Tigray and Eritrea.

1980s

"As the new relationship with EPLF was put under pressure, TPLF's relations with ELF seemed to improve. ELF was operating in Badme area -- and had several military operations against Derg positions inside Tigray. (Young 1996: 106; 1997: 112-13). TPLF saw these attacks as furthering its own interests, and thus established closer cooperation with ELF. But this relationship soon ceased, as ELF began to assist a competing Tigrean movement, the Tigrean Liberation Front (TLF). TPLF found itself at loggerheads with TLF, which eventually led to strained relations with ELF."

[Brothers at war p 14]

"Discussions and disagreements as to the exact borders of Eritrea arose for the first time in 1976. The main contenders in this issue were ELF /Eritrean Liberation Front/ and the newly established TPLF /Tigrayan People's Liberation Front/. According to later accounts put forward by members of TPLF, ELF had expanded its territory to the Badme area. The Kunama minority group together with semi-pastoralist groups from the Eritrean highlands inhabited this area - but on the Ethiopian side of the border. In one view of the matter, ELF was following its own people and trying to exercise authority over them. The TPLF account states that, with the support of the population, TPLF managed to push ELF away from the Badme area. A few years later, TPLF and EPLF jointly defeated ELF, expelling it completely.

In 1984, the border issue surfaced again and was raised by EPLF. In early January -- a meeting was held between the two fronts. TPLF, admitting that there could be disputed areas along the border, pointed out that it had no mandate to delimit and demarcate the Ethio-Eritrean border. -- It is most probable that this was how matters stood when Eritrea became formally independent in 1993."

[Brothers at war p 25-26]

A joint border commission met for the first time in November 1997. Eritrea took the initiative to the commission. No minutes have been made available.

[Brothers at war p 28]

1998

"On 6 May 1998 a small group of Eritrean soldiers entered a disputed territorial zone on the Badme plains along the -- borders of Eritrea and Tigray -- The move was intended to mark Eritrean presence and interests in these areas -- The handful of Eritrean soldiers were confronted by Tigrean militia and security police and asked to put down their arms and return to undisputed territories. A shoot-out between the Eritrean unit and the local militia followed, resulting in a few casualties on both sides. Among the dead Eritreans were the commander of the group, /who was/ a high-ranking officer and a veteran liberation fighter."

"Immediately after the skirmish, large contingents of the Eritrean military launched an offensive on several fronts in order to retake what they claimed to be Eritrean territories controlled by Ethiopia. The major Eritrean offensive came as a surprise to Ethiopian authorities -- They had viewed the border clash on 6 May as a 'routine' incident, similar to several others during the previous two years -- In four weeks, what had started as a minor border skirmish had escalated into a full-scale bilateral war --"

[Brothers at war, 2000 p 1]

"On 12 May 1998 Eritrean forces occupied the rocky Badme triangle on the Tigrayan border. Both sides massed troops and heavy weapons at strategic sites along their common border. Within a month they locked in fierce battle -- In late June, the two sides agreed to a ceasefire. -- In February and March 1999 hostilities flared again along fronts in Badme and Tsorona."

[T M Vestal, Ethiopia - a post-cold war ..., USA 1999 p 193]

"After eight months of *de facto* ceasefire the war flared up again in February 1999 with even greater intensity. A major Ethiopian offensive from mid-February managed to push the dug-in Eritrean forces out of Badme. The Badme battle, or 'Operation Sunset' as the Ethiopian military termed it, was probably the biggest military engagement in Africa since the Second World War. Over 40,000 Eritrean troops stationed along the Badme front had used the eight-month ceasefire to build well-protected defensive positions and trenches -- and a wide zone of landmines. The Ethiopian military command sent about 80,000 troops to make a frontal attack against the Eritrean positions along the Badme front. By 1 March 1999, Badme village and its surrounding areas were once again under Ethiopian control."

[Brothers at war p 2-3]

After initial air raids on 5 February 1999, the large-scale offensive started the following day on the Badme-Shiraro front. The conflict escalated rapidly into what has been estimated to be the biggest battle on African soil since the expulsion of Nazi forces from Egypt during the Second World War. Over 40,000 Eritrean troops were deployed in the area, but Ethiopia, using a 'wave' strategy of pouring thousands of men against the Eritrean positions during the three-day battle of 23-26 February, managed to drive the Eritrean army out of Badme town and the surrounding Badme plains. Conservative estimates suggest that Ethiopian casualties at Badme reached 10,000, whereas Eritrea probably had a lower casualty rate since they were in defensive positions.

While fighting resumed on February 6, UN envoy Ambassador Mohammed Sahnoun was in the region still seeking a peaceful resolution to the conflict. Following this first phase of fighting, Eritrean troops were compelled to withdraw from Badme - an important element of the draft OAU Framework Agreement.

[Brothers at war p 73-74, 141]

2002 The Border Commission in The Hague ruled in April 2002 what should be Ethiopian and what should be Eritrean territory. However, Badme was not explicitly mentioned, so the two sides made different interpretations of the ruling concerning that locality.

[AddisTribune 2002/04/12+19]

"Both sides claimed the 490 sq km as their own."

2003 In March 2003, the Ethiopia-Eritrea Boundary Commission said that Badme was part of Eritrea and that Ethiopia had not provided enough evidence to overturn its decision. "Ethiopians are not ready to back down. Most of the town remains under Ethiopian administration, and the impoverished country is so convinced of its right to Badme that a state-run rehabilitation organisation is spending \$2.2 million to rebuild it."

The money will be used to repair some of the damage cause by war. Some 160 houses with roofs blown off and walls shredded by shellfire will finally get a makeover, while schools, clinics and administrative offices will be rebuilt. Journalists were shown the site of a new high school, being built next to the old school building destroyed by artillery fire. Town cleric was Mulu Germaye.

[AddisTribune 2003/05/30]

2004 Prime Minister Meles Zenawi said on 25 November 2004 that he reluctantly accepted the conclusion of an independent commission that Badme belongs to Eritrea, as peace is the most important.

[News]

HFK.. Badme wereda (Badime ..) (1994-) 14/37 [n]

In June 2002 there was a pilot project to resettle draught-affected families to Badme sub-region. About 210 people from Abergele, Naider, Adet, and Were Ilu were moved in the first project, many of them being households with no father because of war and famine.

[AddisTribune 2002/06/14]

HED21 Badnib (Badenneb) 11°04'/37°38' 2297 m 11/37 [Gz Gu]

bado (A,T) 1. empty, barren, bare, unoccupied /land/; 2. (A) buttermilk;
(Som) increase, multiply; *badho* (Som) 1. centre, middle;
2. animal with poor yield of milk

HCE99	Bado 06°19'/39°15' 1925 m, cf Bedo	06/39	[WO Gz]
HDU..	Badoge (Badoghe) (hill) <i>Badowacho</i> , a section of the Hadiya people living near Durame <i>Badu</i> , name of a Jarso tribe of the eastern Oromo; <i>badu</i> (O) 1. rest of milk after making butter; 2. cheese; 3. disappear; <i>bedu</i> (bädu) (T) drink	../..	[+ Gu]
JDC92	Badu, G., see Goboenti		
JCL11	Badu Danan, see Denan		
JCK29	Baduein 06°32'/43°20' 429 m	06/43	[WO Gz]
JDH71	Badulo, G. (area)	09/40	[WO]
HFK03	Baduma Asa	14/37	[WO]
HDK18	Badus 09°09'/38°14' 2929 m <i>badweyn</i> (Som) ocean	09/38	[AA Gz]
JCK29	Badweyn (Baduein, Bodawein, Bodewen) 06°32'/43°20' 429 m	06/43	[+ WO Wa 18]
HEH15	Bafa (mountain) 11°56'/36°09' 1200 m	11/36	[WO Gz]
JDH46	Baffe, G. (area)	09/41	[WO]
HBK33	Bagab (mountain) 03°56'/37°46' 791 m	03/37	[WO Gz]
HCD93	Bagade (lake), see Abaya		
HCD10	Bagadi, see Bugadi		
JEP49	Bagado 13°05'/41°33' 466 m	13/41	[WO Gz]
JBN58	Bagaga (area)	05/40	[WO]
JBP41	Bagaga 04°58'/40°50' 1061 m	04/40	[Gz]
JBS56	Bagago bage: <i>baggee</i> (O) climbing plant with thorns; <i>bageh</i> (T) kind of herb, <i>Cynoglossum lanceolatum</i> , in English called "hound's tongue" because of its blue colour	04/43	[WO]
HDC26	Bage 08°22'/37°08' 1737 m	08/37	[Gz]
HEU03c	Bage (Baghe) (hill)	12/39	[+ Gu]
HDP19	Bagela 10°03'/36°34' 1694 m	10/36	[Gz]
??	Bagele Dejazmach Welde Sillase of Tigre around 1795 conquered the town of Bagele in a war against Ras Gebre of Simen. bagenä: <i>begenä</i> (bägäna) (A) harp-like musical instrument	../..	[x]
HER09	Bagena (B. Amba), see Abertege		
HEB65	Baghidir, see Belaya bagi: <i>baggi</i> , <i>bage</i> , <i>bagge</i> , <i>baghe</i> (western O) kind of shrub, <i>Combretum paniculatum</i> , usually climbing; <i>bage</i> (Kefa) sheep; <i>baji</i> (O) cattle without horns		
HDH77	Bagi (Bagghi) 09°45'/36°17' 1896 m Coordinates would give map code HDH76	09/36	[Gz WO]
HEK38	Bagi	12/38	[WO]
JDK96	Bagiagar, see Bajajar		
HEB92	Bagilti (Baghilti) (area)	11/35	[+ WO]
HEH03	Bagilti (Baghilti) 11°50'/35°59' 961 m	11/35	[+ WO Gz]
HE...	Bagimela (centre in 1964 of Jerba sub-district)	12/39	[Ad]
HDA67	Bagiro, see Bajiro		
HCR90	Bago (mountain)	08/36	[WO]
HDN17c	Bagole In November 1975 the village Bagole had 34 household groups with 156 individuals. They owned a total of 12 cows, 15 donkeys, about 130 goats, 18 sheep, about 300 hens and cocks, 9 francolins and about 50 dogs. (Bega people have no cats or pigs).	10/35	[x]

Patrik Wallmark studied this village and published a map of it on p 101 of his book, showing with names where every household had its house in February 1976.

It was not usual in the area to stay in the same village for more than 15-20 years.

In January-March 1975 over fifty parties were held in the village, mostly informal beer-drinking gatherings but also religious ceremonies.

[P Wallmark, I högländets .., 1978 p 65, 101, 103, 109]

How Bagole met the revolution: The teacher Rare told the news two weeks after the Emperor had been deposed. It was discussed by the villagers but they did not think that it concerned them very much. School boys from Bagole studying in grades 4 and 5 in Mendi started concluding their letters with 'Ethiopia Tikdem'. Rare had a transistor radio and knew Amharic so he could monitor the news. The villagers after a couple of months started understanding what the Derg was, and a few children were even given the name Derg. Bigger news was that a lion had been shot near Bagole.

A group who came to inform about socialism and land reform included an administrator, a man from the Ministry of Agriculture, one from the Polit Bureau and in their company came three teachers, a dresser, a couple of priests and evangelists from the mission. The school had the only space large enough to hold the information meeting. Some men rose and went away, but the interpreters tried to tell in a more simple and concrete way what the officials wanted to say in political language. People were elected for various posts, and Hikal who knew Oromo language was elected chairman of the peasant association. A village militia was established and they were ordered to take the implements away from the two fortune-tellers. No violence was used. Two Oromo from outside who did not dare to keep their rifles sold them to men in Bagole.

Two women sent by the administrator in Mendi came to Bagole, stayed for two days and tried to persuade the women to send girls to school. The Bagole school had about 40 boys, most of them staying only one or two years. After two years a new chairman of the peasant association was elected, by name Echaka. The association tried to start adult education, not very successfully.

When the government changed the money and introduced new banknotes, no one was trusted to go to Mendi and change notes for everybody in the village. Some did not even change them at all. Government officials visited more rarely as time went on. There was no land reform as the land was owned collectively by the klan. The Bega felt that they were treated better than before in the towns of the Wellega highland.

[P Wallmark, Hos Begafolket .., 1978 p 128-144]

picts P Wallmark, Hos begafolket .., Sweden 1978 p 16
school and part of village;

P Wallmark, I högländets skugga, Uppsala/Sweden 1986
p 91 family life in the village, 101 map of homes in the
village with names of the families

HDB60	Bagoz, T. (hill)	08/35	[WO]
JEB42	Baguddu (area) 582 m	11/40	[WO]
HCC90	Baguenia, see Bargela		
HCC90	Baguna	10/36	[WO]
HDR83	Baguna (Baguina, Baguenia) 10°44'/36°57' 2134 m (Boguina) (with church Maryam), west of Bure	06/36	[Gz WO]
HEB57	Bagusta 11°21'/36°24' 1060 m	11/36	[WO Gz]

bah (Som) family by female line, uterine relationship
baha, *ba'a* (central O) kind of tree, *Olea welwitschii*,
which gives good material for joinery and woodcraft;
beha (bäha) (A) white soil, limestone;
beha meret (bäha märet) (A) clay soil which is good for pottery

GDF53	Baha, see Shola		
HCH95	Baha Giyorgis (It: San Giorgio)	07/36	[+ Gu]

	(church on top of high mountain) c2200 m, see under Bonga		
JCL20	Bahad 06°35'/43°24' 445 m, near map code JCK29	06/43	[WO Gz]
JDN28	Bahadu, see Beadu		
HCA83	Bahakoys (Bahacois) 06°09'/35°09' 1182 m	06/35	[+ WO Gz]
	<i>bahal</i> (Som) 1. cave; 2. wild animal, beast; evil person; (but the following location is not in a Somali language area); <i>bahil</i> (A) custom, tradition, culture		
HDR95c	Bahal Sghier (= B. Igziabiher?) (church)	10/37	[Gu]
??	Bahala Maryam (church & convent)	../..	[+ Gu]
	Known for lemons supposed to give fertility to women and animals. [Guida 1938]		
HES22c	Bahaltiet Wiha (B.Uaha="widow's water") (plain)	12/37	[+ Gu]
HEC89	Bahar Dar, see Bahir Dar		
HFE50	Bahara (Bahera)	14/38	[WO x]
	With rock-hewn church Maryam at two hours' walk from HFE61 Gubo, on the east face of a mountain and about 30 m up from the valley floor. The church is 9 m wide, with orientation east-west. The nave, which is barrel vaulted, rises above the side aisles, which have flat ceilings. There are exciting and possibly quite early paintings with a Byzantine feeling. In front of the rock face is a built pronaos with a screen inside. [Ruth Plant <i>in Ethiopia Observer</i> vol XIII 1970 no 3 p 262-263] bahari: <i>bahri</i> (T) sea		
JEB68	Bahari (area)	11/41	[WO]
JEB72	Baharri Bada Ali (area)	11/40	[WO]
HFE50	Bahera, see Bahara		
JEN65	Baheri (plain) 13°08'/40°09'	13/40	[WO Gz]
	<i>bahir</i> (A) sea, large lake, any water with some depth; overseas; <i>bahir dar</i> (A) shore, seashore, coast; <i>bahiri</i> (T) sea		
HEC89	Bahir Dar (Bahar Dar, Bahrdar)	11/37	[MS Ca WO Gu]
	(Bahr Dar, Bahr Dar Giyorgis)	11/37	[Te x]
	(Bahar Dar Ghiorghis, Bhardar Giyorgis)	11/37	[Gu Ch]
	MS: 11°37'/37°24' 1802 m; Gz: 11°36'/37°23' = HEC88, 1784 m (1940s source: 11°35'/37°30' 1880 m) Centre of awraja (-1956-). Within a radius of 10 km there are at km		
	8E Werer Mikael (Uarer Micael) (church)		
	10E Aba Gerima (Abba) (village) 2089 m		
	??E Abay (HEC89 Abba) 1794 m		
	4S Gordemma (village)		
	5S Dishet (Discet) (village)		
	6SW Joao (area)		
	6SW Jigadi (Gigadi) (mountain)		
	6SW Ibab Iyesus (Ivav Jesus) (hill/mountain)		
	8SW Abiyanejj (Avianegg) (mountain)		
	10SW Innessa (centre, with church Maryam)		
	4W Kobuta		
	5W Devangi (Devanghi, Debanji) (swampy? area)		
	6W Sechel Mikael (Secel Micael) (church)		
	8W Gwobarwa Kwoskwam (Guobarua Quosquam) (village on hill)		
	10W Kwobenti (Cuobenti) (village)		
	3NW Inda Awreat (Enda Aoreat) (church on hill near lake shore)		
	4NW Adi Sessela (village on lake shore plain)		
	6NW Gumanu Mereb (G. Merev) (church)		
	8NW Liblibo Maryam (Livelivuo Mariam) (near lake shore)		

8NW Salchen (Salcen, Selcen) (village with church Mikael)

8NE Geddera (Gheddera) (village) 1865 m

8NE Chimbil (Sensellima) (village) 1927 m

9NE Korbi (Corbi) (village)

Bahir Dar is situated at the shore of lake Tana, about 3 km from the Chara Chara cataract where the river Abay leaves the lake.

Distance 560 km (or 578 km?) from Addis Abeba.

geol The more recent basalts are generally associated with preserved cones and craters, and these are especially numerous in the vicinity of Bahir Dar, and from where the pimply, scoriaceous young basalts have generally flowed northwards.

[Mohr, Geology 1961 p 216]

meteo Mean annual rainfall 1409 mm, and mean annual air temperature 17.3°C, as published in 2004.

early The place is known since the late 1500s.

1800s At one occasion when Emperor Tewodros II (1855-1868) was at Bahir Dar, a severe outbreak of cholera occurred. "It was so great that the King broke camp and crossed the Abay river -- While the army was on the march the people seized by the disease dropped from their horses and mules and fell by the way. When, however, the King reached Begemder -- the cholera ceased."

[Pankhurst, .. Chronicles 1967 p 149]

1920s Average rainfall 1278 mm per year was recorded in 1921-1924.

Cheesman was there in May 1926 and was given the use of an iron canoe brought there by the Grabham and Black surveying mission. This mission had presented a metal bell to the Kidus Giyorgis church near the lake shore. Cheesman considered this church to be a well-constructed building in a good state of preservation but without historical interest. It had good wall-paintings on linen but was not said to have books or manuscripts.

The Grabham and Black mission in 1920-1921 made a gauge at the lake outlet. The gauge consisted of three iron bolts driven into a big lava cube. Cheesman called it Fig-Tree Gauge and paid a monthly wage to a local reader for recording the water level of lake Tana every day during the time that Cheesman was British consul at Dangila in 1926-1933 /?/.

Cheesman referring to 1926: "The first crossing of the Blue Nile for trade caravans is by ferry at Kamforo, near Bahrdar Giyorgis, a small lagoon of deep water below the Kamforo rapids a mile downstream from Chara Chara. /These rapids/ is the site selected for the regulator in the latest plans for the control of the lake." [Cheesman 1936]

1937 On 23 April 1937 an Italian column "moved from Gondar and, after rapid march, occupied Bahar Dar Ghiorghis at the southern end of Lake Tana, which thus came entirely under our control."

[Badoglio (Eng.ed.) 1937 p 156]

About 25,000 inhabitants of which some Waito.

Residenza del Tána Meridionale, post, telegraph, airport, motorboat to Gorgora, *spaccio*. The church of Kidus Giyorgis near the shore was regarded to have paintings "of usual type". [Guida 1938]

The road Bahir Dar-Dangila 80 km was not maintained in the 1930s and not coated.

Post office of the Italians was opened 1 June 1937. Its cancellation stamps read BAHAR DAR AMARA. Postal hand stamp had spelling BAHER-DAR around 1953 and BAHR-DAR around 1963. [Philatelic source]

After the Graziani massacres in February 1937 followed a general revival of resistance, sparked off more particularly in Gojjam by the brutality of the Italian *residente* in Bahir Dar, Captain Corvo. "It is reported that this officer summoned a number of chiefs who had formerly supported Ras Imru and who had then submitted, ostensibly in order that they should go to Gondar to make their submission to the governor. He took them out in a boat on Lake Tana and threw them into the lake, their bodies weighted with heavy stones."

[Shirreff 1995 p 16]

"In the last days of August /1937/ there were almost simultaneous but apparently uncoordinated attacks by *shifta* on garrisons near Debra Tabor and near Bahr Dar."
[Mockler 1984]

- 1940 A newly-arrived Italian *Gina's brother* described his impressions of Bahir Dar in 1940:
"Today 27 September is the Coptic feast of Maskal and from the nearby *tukuls* come their strident and guttural songs accompanied by the beating of tom-toms. Towards dusk they come to the camp around the *tinish robilano* (little planes) doing their dances and fantastic movements, all very strange and primitive. Then a group of stinking natives gets hold of each one of us by surprise and with their arms outstretched throw us high into the air sometimes to a dangerous height, catching us and throwing us again until we promise to give them *falas*. It is their custom and it is better to humour them ... After dinner we drink to the next victories that we wish ourselves.
Yet Gina's brother, though confident and hopeful, was depressed both by the lack of white women - only one 'represents the female sex among the Italians' - and, more particularly, by his living conditions. The airmen had to live within one square kilometre bounded by wire-netting interspersed with sentry posts and continually patrolled. -- his entry for the same day:
-- Bahr Dar is surrounded by *shifta bande* consolidated by Mangasha; they once submitted but are now in open revolt again. -- No 13 Bomber Squadron stationed here operates continuously and indefatigably on these rebels, smashing up their inhabited centres, markets, herds of cattle, and so on.
No wonder Mangasha and Fitaurari Taffere Zelleka wanted above all else the appearance of British planes in the sky. --
When the good news came that British planes *had* appeared and *had* bombed Engiabara and Bahr Dar there was great rejoicing." [Mockler 1984 p 263-265]
Bahir Dar was bombed by the Royal Air Force on 21-22 October 1940, and it was a boost to patriot morale rather than making much damage.
An Italian aircraft from Bahir Dar once dropped a bomb on the Mission 101, but it did not explode. [Shirreff 1995 p 54]
- 1941 "A defensive perimeter of six to seven miles included the town and lake shore, with inner defences round the town /there is a sketch map of the military movements on page 137/. -- Mackay had five British sergeants and 120 men, Jarvis had a strong company of 250 men -- In support were two sections of the Ethiopian mortar platoon and Fitaurari Birru with 500 Patriots. Against this force Torelli had -- a total force of about 5500. As in the Debra Markos operations, the irregulars supporting the Italians considerably outnumbered those supporting the Anglo-Ethiopian forces at this stage."
"On 18 March, while Jarvis was carrying out a reconnaissance in force against the main Italian positions, Mackay was badly wounded by shell fire -- Simonds was not then in wireless communication and sent a mounted Sudanese with a message to Nott at Burye asking for help. The Sudanese arrived on 21 March, on foot and carrying his saddle having left an exhausted horse behind him -- Mackay recovered from his wounds and passes out of this story --"
"On 23 March -- Torelli launched an attack on the two platoons on Yebab Yesus. -- The attack was beaten off with some difficulty, the *ascari* approaching within 50 yards of the Sudanese positions. Simonds -- hastened the departure of the Italians by setting fire to the long dry grass with a Verey light, and they retired, pursued by the Patriots. -- The Sudanese found ten bodies when the Italians withdrew and their own casualties were two killed and two wounded. There were casualties among the Patriots, including a subchief whose funeral Simonds attended next day, 'the service was in Ge'ez' --"
"Torelli's attack was thought by the British to be part of a general counter-attack in Gojjam, but it does not seem that this was the case."
[Shirreff 1995 p 137-139]
"Colonel Torelli was to attack southwards from Bahr Dar -- The attack was planned for 27 March. -- Simonds had only 250 Sudanese -- and Birru Wolde Gabriel with 75 followers - a force that Torelli -- attacked with 5 battalions -- The 'besiegers', naturally

enough, fled into the hills. Why Torelli did not continue with his advance down the road and recapture Dangila is a mystery. -- Torelli lost 175 men killed or wounded by Simonds's sniping. He withdrew back into Bahr Dar only seven hours after issuing forth. - a few days later /into April/ *Bimbashi* Jarvis reported that he was, not surprisingly, in 'difficulties' by Bahr Dar."

[Mockler 1984 p 354-356]

On 2 April 1941 the 54-year-old brigade commander Torelli attacked No 3 patrol company again at Bahir Dar, a more serious attack than on 23 March. The attacking force followed the Dangila road, bypassed the Kebab Yesus hill and swung up to No 3 patrol company's positions, penetrating between the animal transport lines and the forward posts. - Torelli himself was seriously wounded. "Simonds heard later that Torelli had himself driven round in his men's position propped up in a staff car to dispel rumours that he had been killed."

Torelli was recalled to Gondar by General Nasi and moved out on 27 and 28 April 1941. Lt Col. Boustead arrived at Bahir Dar from Mota on 1 May and found *Bimbashi* Jarvis and No 3 patrol company in possession.

[Shirreff 1995 p 156-157, 174]

Retail trade in Bahir Dar was dominated by Yemeni Arabs in the 1940s.

1950s The Emperor had some thoughts to possibly move the capital to Bahir Dar, and a proposal for town plan, prepared by Sir Patrick Abercrombie, was exhibited in Addis Abeba during the Silver Jubilee in 1955.

By that time Bahir Dar had service by the Ethiopian Air Lines.

A group of German travellers who wanted to make a trip on the Abay were making preparations in Bahir Dar in the first half of the 1950s:

"Es erwies sich als nahezu unmöglich, überhaupt ein Fahrzeug aufzutreiben! Das Auto des -- Hotelwirts -- ein Land Rover -- harrte noch immer der Batterie, die 'mit dem nächsten' Flugzeug kommen sollte."

"Es stellte sich aber heraus, dass es doch noch einen Wagen in Bahr-Dâr gab, einen Lastwagen - einen amerikanischen Drei-Tonnen-Army Truck. -- Wir mieteten ihn für achtzig Dollar."

Gebre Yesus was administrator at the airport. The Germans saw a plane land there and met another German 'Wandervogel' who travelled all alone and wanted to go northwards via Asmara and walk along the Nile!

[H Rittlinger, *Schwarzes Abenteuer*, Wiesbaden 1955 p 212-216]

1958 Population according to a 1958 census was 2,080 but it was believed later that the enumeration was not complete. There was estimated to be an annual average growth of 15% in the period 1958-1966.

1959 Sub-province Governor of Bahir Dar awraja in 1959 was Ato Belete Gebre Tsadik.

1960 The electric authority EELPA by 1960 had started operation at Bahir Dar.

A macadam road of length 30 km was under construction from Bahir Dar to the site of the Tis Isat hydro-electric power station to be built.

[Eth. Herald 1960-09-24]

Written by a British woman: "I decided against putting my Land-Rover aboard the tiny steamer and went in search /in Gondar/ of the office of the Imperial Highway Authority. -

-

'You might find a way round the lake -- if you take an interpreter. There are two rivers to cross and also the Abai, just outside Bahar Dar; there they are building a bridge for the visit of the Emperor; until it is built you cannot cross the river.'

Next morning at six o'clock I slipped out of the hotel to the resounding battery of guns, for it was Independence Day /Liberation Day 5 May/."

The Land-Rover got stuck in the river Reb, but a jeep happened to pass ("you may not see a vehicle here for weeks") and pulled it out. Driving across the river Gunmara at a ford used by local people was possible when a small boy walked in front of the car in the water and acted as a guide.

"Finally, I came to the new bridge that was being built across the Abai -- The bridge's

surface had been covered with palm-leaves and a bulldozer was emptying the last load of red earth on the top -- An American in a jeep -- pulled up beside me. 'What the heck are you doing *this* side of the river?' he asked."

"The lake-side village of Bahar Dar was in uproar preparing for the first visit of their Emperor. The small hotel was being repainted to receive the royal guest, and the lesser mortals had been forced to camp in the grounds. -- The airstrip runs right into the village and planes fly in twice a week from the capital. -- the hotel guests were finally asked to leave the grounds. Tents were packed and people moved out, either to set up camp on the airstrip or along the lake. 'Come back when it is all over,' the proprietor said to me."
[Barbara Toy 1961 p 166-171]

Agreement for a technical assistance programme of the Federal Republic of Germany was signed on 9 November 1959. One of its points had the effect that seven Germans of a town-planning group arrived in 1960 to make plans for Bahir Dar and for a hotel there. The group was headed by Professor Max Guther and included an economist Doctor Goldner and Professor Wilhelm Mueller as expert of sanitary engineering. They had an audience with the Emperor on 23 January 1961.

[Eth. Herald]

1961 On 11 May 1961 the Bahr-Dar Textile Mills Share Company was officially advertised as having a share capital of Eth\$ 9,650,000 with all shares (except four held by government corporations) paid up by the Ministry of Finance.

On 15 June 1961 the Emperor inaugurated the new 226 metres long highway bridge over the Abay, situated at about 3 km from Bahir Dar. Many ministers etc. were present. Governor of Bahir Dar at this point was Ato Belete Gebre-Tsadik.

[Eth. Herald]

Getachew Bekele became governor in November 1961 although he had been arrested for a while on suspicions that he was on the side of those who attempted a coup d'état in December 1960.

1962 The opening of a branch of the State Bank of Ethiopia was published in November 1962.

1963 The road Bahir Dar-Gondar was open to motor traffic by the beginning of 1963.

A Polytechnic Institute opened in 1963. It was established, financed and run by the Soviet Union and was designed to accommodate 1,000 students. At the start in September it had 21 Ethiopian teachers and 250 students of 8th grade level.

The Eth\$ 2.9 million buildings consisted of a three-storey study building, an assembly hall, a refectory, two manufacturing study halls, and a hall for agricultural machinery.

[News]

1964 From 9 January 1964 the new Tis Isat power station supplied Bahir Dar with electricity. Swedish author Mrs Söderling-Brydolf visited Ethiopia in the latter part of 1964 and mostly studied wild flowers and made drawings of them. She stayed for some time in the main hotel in Bahir Dar and mentions some details in her book:

Ras Hotel at the time had some ten rooms and a "square not very cosy" dining-room.

Three Americans having to do with meteorology or mapping had stayed for 4 months at the hotel. There was at least one American Peace Corps teacher in town.

Papaya trees, *Carica papaya*, were grown outside the hotel. There was a large Shola tree, *Ficus sycamorus*, near the shore. Plants near the shore were *Polygonum*, *Ipomaea*, *Solanum campylacanthum*, *Bidens negriana* (the meskel flower). In the lake grew *Nymphaea lotus* and *Nymphaea coerulea*, that is white and blue lotus, together in the same bay, and there was plenty of papyrus, *Cyperus Papyrus*. Bathing was prohibited because of bilharzia. Concerning size of population, officials in the town gave her guesses of 5000, 14000 and 35000. Among local restaurants in town, Gojjam was one of the best.

Governor was Habte Mariam, headmaster at the Polytechnic Institute was Yifru Gebeyehu. There was extra painting work in town for a visit of the Emperor. He was accompanied by Bundespresident Lübke to inspect a hospital built with German contribution. An improved road had been built from Abay river through the city and to the German hospital about 3 km west of Bahir Dar. This new road was 8 km long and 40 m

wide. [Christina Söderling-Brydolf, *Blommorna vid Blå Nilen*, Stockholm 1965, some items in p 55-157]

The artist *Abba* Wolde Tekle Haimanot Kassa was born in Bahir Dar in 1927. He was first trained by an artist Alefelege Selam and finally joined the Addis Abeba Art School in 1963.

[Eth. Artists p 42-43]

"Bahar Dar is a small town located on the southern tip of Lake Tana. -- The only passable hotel in town is the Ras Hotel. Its location is one of the most beautiful of any hotel in Ethiopia: right on the shores of the lake, with an attractive garden sloping down to the water."

"The bus station is across the street from the Ras Hotel, near the Total petrol station. -- The airport is across the street from the Ras Hotel, just beyond the Total station. -- Caution: Lake Tana is not safe for swimming. The visitor should only admire - not swim, wade, drink or fall in. -- The /Polytechnic Institute/ is just past the Shell station and is distinguished by a number of large, modern buildings."

[Welcome to Ethiopia, AA ca 1965 p 193-194]

1965 EAL flight service to Bahir Dar as part of the "Historic Route" for tourists was inaugurated on 4 February 1965. The landing strip had no radio station (-1962-). Official statistics for 1965 say that there were 1,420 owned, 2,380 rented, and 140 unspecified dwellings. Of these 2,870 used piped water, 70 water from wells and 980 from streams.

Population was stated to be 11,990 of which 41% males and 59 % females. This total included 80 male and 90 female foreigners. Owing to the pattern of moving into Bahir Dar at that time, the proportion of children of school age was relatively low. There was a large proportion of young females of age 15-30.

Surveys of the Central Statistical Office in the mid-1960s found that of the town population in Bahir Dar ten years of age and older, there were 3,310 men of which 50.8% literate and 5,570 women of which 7.2% literate. Literate females were usually 10-20 years of age. Mother tongue was 88% Amharic, 8 Tigrinya and the small rest divided on several languages. Over 90% were Ethiopian Orthodox Christians.

1966 In 1966 it was decided that the Ministry of Interior would design a master plan for Bahir Dar, without engaging external consultants.

The Emperor arrived by air to Bahir Dar on 17 February 1966 to lay the foundation stones of the new Giyorgis church and the new Imperial palace.

About half of the population had been resident in the town for less than 5 full years.

Households were still relatively small (as there were also rather few Muslims), but the percentage of single persons was lower than expected. 55% of the households lived under thatched roofs, 73% had piped water but 75% had no toilet facility while 23% had pit latrines.

About 5,000 people had regular employment, with the textile factory being the biggest single source of employment. 'Industrial establishments' were counted as 145 but over half of these were retail trade and services.

[Central Statistical Office, September 1966]

1967 The Tewodros Sports Stadium with 1,000 spectator seats was inaugurated in 1967, and it was owned by the Municipality.

On 1 July 1967 the Emperor distributed diplomas to the 150 first students of the Polytechnical School. In the following days he inspected various things in Bahir Dar.

A new building for the Bahir Dar branch of the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia was inaugurated in 1967.

Population 12,463 as counted in 1967, of which 75.5% were illiterate.

The telephone directory listed 30 numbers, of which those on personal names were Hadji Ali Ahmed, Aman Hagos, Arega Workineh, Gabre Egziabher G. Kidan, Hailu Gabre Michael, Mammo Agonafer, Mohammed Tioum, Nechol Asress, Teklu Hagos (of Agip), and general contractor Tsegaye Belayneh.

"At once /6 February 1967/ I made for the newly-opened luxury Ras Hotel -- and its

dapper Ethiopian manager could hardly conceal his agitation when a room was booked by a repulsive object covered in mud and blood and wearing a shirt and shorts so torn that they had become mere tokens of the will to be decent. -- Then he noticed Jock standing patiently by the veranda - and all was well. Jumping from his chair he exclaimed 'The Irish lady with the mule!' and held out his hand. Even before he said it I knew that Leilt Aida had been on the telephone.

When a platoon of wide-eyed servants had conducted me to my room I sent one of them to buy barley for Jock and another to buy insecticide for me. This enormous hotel consists of rows and rows of rooms on the edge of the lake, laid out in chalet style. Tonight two rooms are occupied. My spacious, elegant suite has a private (pale pink) bathroom, limitless boiling water, a bed with primrose-yellow sheets and an ankle-deep, wall-to-wall olive-green carpet. The whole thing seems Hiltonian and I'm loving every inch and minute of it."

[Dervla Murphy, In Ethiopia with a mule, 1969 p 168-169]

1968 The Polytechnic Institute in 1968 had 619 students in four levels, with 51 teachers of which 23 foreign. It had opened in 1963 with branches for agricultural mechanics, industrial chemistry, electrical technology, wood-working and processing technology, textile technology, and metal technology.

Atse Sertse Dengel in its primary part in 1968 had 1464 boys and 906 girls, with 22 male teachers and one female. It was one of the largest schools of its kind in the Ethiopian provinces at that time. 30 out of 34 students in grade 12 sat for school leaving certificate in 1968, but none of them passed.

Atse Sertse Dengele M. Seged junior secondary school in the same year had 157 male and 50 female students in grade 7-8, with 16 teachers of which 9 foreign.

1969 The Emperor inaugurated the stadium on 29 May 1969. Next day he visited the textile factory, Felege Hiwot hospital and the new market centre.

In 1969 there was the Ras Hotel and the Blue Nile Spring Hotel.

The Ethiopian Government was a 100 per cent owner of the Bahir Dar textile mills, as of year 1969. [Gilkes 1975 p 154]

The textile factory had 20,000 spindles and 360 looms. There was (-1964-) a large grain silo built by the Grain Corporation. There was also a plan to establish a vegetable ghee factory to make margarine from oil seeds.

On 12 August 1969 an EAL DC-3 plane starting from Bahir Dar in direction Asmara was hijacked by seven students and forced at gun point to fly to Khartoum.

[News]

1970 With the decision to build a power station at Tisisat Falls, Bahir Dar was scheduled for development as a modern industrial town. The attractive modern buildings of the Polytechnic Institute "seem quite out of keeping with the style of architecture favoured by Russian designers until very recently." The city was designed for future growth with residential districts separated by wide avenues with school sites at convenient intervals. The business district faces the lake.

"The main avenues are all asphalted, but side streets are clay and rock. Some lead to settlements of thatched round huts -- A large dock serves boat traffic on the lake. Both /the government Marine Department and a private company Navigatana/ provide regular service to the most important islands and to Gorgora -- The old harbour -- is still used by *tankwas* which bring in loads of firewood every afternoon -- The lake-shores here are all black lava, solid stone in places, but more frequently boulders of considerable size.

Enormous sycamore figs shade the landing site. Above it, on a small peninsula, are ruins said to date from Portuguese times. A two-storey tower stands empty, but until recently was inhabited by an old nun. /The old Giyorgis church/ has been replaced by a tan stone modern building in the popular neo-Byzantine style. As such churches go, it is quite attractive. Several old trees around it have grown to great height and provide nesting-places for a large colony of black-headed herons --"

"One afternoon I went with a young Ministry of Community Development officer to the headquarters of the fishermen's co-operative he had organized in a building at one end of

the market area. -- Until a few months before, each of these fishermen had gone about his work separately, each going to sell his fish to townspeople as soon as he had caught enough to justify his plying the streets. The co-operative encouraged each man to spend a full day fishing, bringing a maximum catch to the co-operative centre in the late afternoon -- the excess catch is refrigerated and transported to buyers in more distant locations." (A study of the fish in the lake was published as a dissertation in 1998, see 'texts' at the end below. The catch from the reed boat fishery consists mainly of *Oreochromis niloticus* and *Barbus tsanensis*.)

"I went to see the Emperor's palace on a hilltop above the river on the Begemder side. It has a full view of the lower bay of the lake -- This palace, completed in 1967, is surrounded by formal gardens. It is a large two-storey villa -- A grand staircase with a lion on each side at the top leads to the main living and reception area-- the furniture simple modern style. The floors were ceramic tile in a great variety of patterns and subdued colours, with each room different. -- All in all, it was a most attractive residence, but HIM had used it only three days in the preceding year."

[P B Henze, *Ethiopian journeys*, (USA 1977)A.A. 2001 p 254-256]

- 1971 On 22 January 1971 an EAL DC-3a scheduled for Asmara with 16 passengers on board was hijacked and forced to fly to Khartoum, where the hijackers said that they were Eritreans studying in Addis Abeba. In Benghazi they said that they belonged to the Eritrean Liberation Front.
- 1975 Population 43,826 in 1975, a three-fold increase in less than ten years. A little over 10% of those living there in 1978 were born in Bahir Dar, which indicates the perhaps most rapidly growing town in Ethiopia.
It was announced on 3 February 1975 by the Derg government that the Bahir Dar Textile Mills S.C. was among 14 textile enterprises to be fully nationalized.
[News]
- 1978 Population 45,955 as estimated in January 1978. By around 1978 there was a post office and petrol filling stations of Agip, Mobil and Total.
- 1981 By 1981 the number of students at the Polytechnic Institute had fallen to 370 in departments of agricultural mechanics, industrial chemistry, electrical technology, wood-working and processing technology, and metal technology. Director Beyene Bekele, dean of students Yetna Beyene, librarian Tesfai Berhane.
Dr Demissie Manyahlote was dean of the Academy of Pedagogy in the early 1980s. The main hotels by 1982 had the names Tana (at the edge of the lake) with 128 beds, swimming pool and manager Gebre Mariam Beyene, and Ghion with 60 beds and manager Tadesse G. Selassie.
- 1982 The Polytechnical Institute offered (-1982-) a 2-year course to students who had passed grade 12 examination. There was teaching of six technological subjects. There were a total of 432 male and 28 female students and a yearly intake of 760(!?). The staff were 24 Ethiopian and 6 expatriate.
The Teachers' College offered (-1982-) a 2-year diploma course and a 4-year degree course with six specializations. There were 154 male and 15 female students in the diploma course, and 204 male and 9 female in the degree course. The early intake was 130 for diploma and 70 for degree level. The staff were 49 Ethiopian and 7 expatriate. There were Unesco scholarships and grants for books and equipment.
[The two surveys above published in Dar es Salaam 1983]
- 1984 In January 1984 Red Cross volunteers arrived from Sweden. Two of them, Jan and Kicki, were placed in Bahir Dar. After some months Jan fell seriously ill with dysentery and later also became psychologically depressed so after a second try in Bahir Dar he had to be sent home. His successor Anders happened to hit an Ethiopian with his little Suzuki car so badly that the person died.
[C-G Landergren, *Medmänsklig ...*, Sthlm 2003 p 101-102]
It was published in late 1984 that the European Investment Bank would lend ECU 7 million (US\$ 5.1 million) for upgrading of the textile mill.
- 1986 At the end of June 1986 head of state Mengistu Haile Mariam officially opened an

international airport at Bahir Dar. Facilities had been built by local enterprises at a cost of Eth\$ 46.8 million.

"Thirty-two people aboard an Ethiopian Air Lines Boeing 737 were killed when it crashed soon after take off on 15 September 1988."

[Reuters news]

"Did you hear about the air crash at Bahar Dar -- It was one of two 737s that Ethiopian Airlines used for domestic flights. Shortly after take off from Bahar Dar, *en route* north to Asmara, the plane had a bird strike. The pilot managed to turn and lift the wheels. He made a belly landing in a field, in the flat hinterland of Lake Tana. The mud had absorbed a lot of the impact, but the nose came to rest in a ravine, and the hull broke open in flames.

Official reports said thirty people had died, but rumours suggested there were few survivors."

[Marsden-Smedley 1990 p 42]

Population 61,121 in 1987.

1988

Around May 1988 the 603rd core army of the Derg made its centre at Bahir Dar. The 603rd together with two other armies formed the Third Revolutionary Army (TRA) with over 60,000 men.

[12th Int. Conf. of Ethiopian Studies, 1994]

"I avoided the two government hotels and found a private place towards the Blue Nile bridge. The manager took my permit and copied details on to a form. Then he said, 'Please hand in your pistol.'

'But I have no pistol.'

'No pistol?' He shook his head, and put a dash in the appropriate column."

"Later we walked down to the bridge in the last half-hour of daylight. The road ran above a marsh, on a grassy embankment, and bustled with marching crowds - barefoot farmers herding laden mules and cattle, lone fishermen, schoolchildren, bicyclists, occasionally a belching lorry or a bus hurrying into town before dark. This is one of only two roadbridges over the Blue Nile --"

"One day I walked over the Blue Nile to a new orphanage site. A team of barelegged workers was breaking the black soil with mattocks, in front of a row of dormitory huts.

'We will grow our own vegetables and fruit.' The director pointed to a grove of freshly-planted papaya. 'And the children will be able to learn about basic farming, as well as subjects in the classroom. Next month the first one hundred and fifty are arriving.'

The project had been set up by the Church of England, to deal with some of the orphans of the last famine, from Gondar and Wollo. Alemayehu had been put in charge. He was a serious young man, and a committed member of his own Church."

"Lake Tana's freight company had a pre-fab office above the concrete quay. I told them I wanted to visit the islands, and took my papers from one office to another --

Finally he gave in. 'You may have a ticket. That is one US dollar. But you will need a permit.'

At Security, I was shown into the chief's office. He was away in Addis, and a deputy was enjoying his chair. On his desk, a book entitled simply *Marxist Philosophy* lay between two plastic flags - the Red flag and the Ethiopian tricolour. The man's face seemed set in a permanent scowl, and his lower lip hung towards his chin like a tumour. On entering the room I felt a sudden anxiety, a schoolboy's anxiety standing in the headmaster's study.

He read my papers slowly, and I knew then he was going to say no."

[Marsden-Smedley 1990 p 91, 100-101]

1989

Graham Hancock and Richard Pankhurst visited the lake Tana area in late 1989.

"The morning flight from Addis Ababa to Bahar Dar -- took about an hour and a half.

Despite the fighting reported in the area, no special procedures were observed during the landing, and the plane made a low, slow, scenic approach over the Blue Nile Falls before touching down on the bumpy gravel strip. -- motored the few remaining kilometres into town along roads lined with jacaranda and flame trees. We checked into two of the hundred empty rooms at the Tana Hotel on the lake's edge and then drove to the Maritime

Authority pier where the motor launch that we hoped to use was moored. After protracted negotiations with the officials concerned it was eventually agreed that we could charter the boat."

[G Hancock, *The sign and the seal*, New York 1992 p 200]

1990 "The army is collapsing faster than the opposition can take advantage of the opportunities this presents. On 3-4 March /1990/, the army abandoned Bahir Dar in disarray, blowing up the Blue Nile bridge - with several hundred soldiers still on it - and damaging the strategically important airport.

The EPRDF had too few fighters in the area to capture the town: it was reoccupied by a crack brigade from the Third Division a few days later."

[Africa Confidential, 18 May 1990]

"In March 1990, the army first evacuated and then re-entered Bahir Dar after a battle with the EPRDF. On re-entering the town, soldiers killed an estimated 50 civilians. According to some accounts, the soldiers were drunk and ill-disciplined." [Africa Watch, USA 1991]

1991 The Swedish surgeon Åsa Molde arrived to the hospital in Bahir Dar in November 1990 on a 3-month contract with the International Committee of the Red Cross. By mid-February 1991 they were an all-female team with Molde as the only doctor together with three nurses from Germany, France and Australia.

After some fighting on 24-26 February EPRDF controlled the town. There was no electricity during four days.

Dr Åsa Molde could not communicate with the outside world when the formal end of her contract occurred. Within 2½ weeks about 850 wounded people were brought to the hospital. The Ethiopian staff more or less abandoned the hospital during the first three weeks, and there was also no water.

Until mid-April over 1000 people were treated, of which only about 50 were civilians and the others were wounded government soldiers. EPRDF said that they had their own medical services and did not use the hospital.

EPRDF brought water to the hospital and lent some money to be used by the foreign staff.

Ghion Hotel was re-opened in mid-May but Tana Hotel was used as headquarters for the EPRDF and closed to the general public.

In a camp at Bahir Dar about 40,000 former government soldiers were temporarily collected.

[Tenaestelin (Sthlm) 1991 no 2 p4-6]

February-March: "Getachew -- takes us to the airport, one of the few international airports in Ethiopia. Firing from the other side of the lake, the Front scored a direct hit on the airport building, now just a blackened and semi-demolished skeleton of steel girders and fragments of concrete. In piles, at one end of the runway, are bombs in their wooden casings ready for loading onto MiGs. There are others stacked or scattered apparently at random in the surrounding grassland."

"From there, we drive to the headquarters of the 603rd Army Corps, a couple of miles away on the same side of the lake. As we approach the perimeter, the only signs of battle are stretches of scorched and blackened grassland. The camp itself appears to be untouched. It has been until recently a large and well-ordered base for one of the crack corps of the Dergue Army. Lines of huge semi-circular galvanized structures stand in double rows. Getachew has keys to every storehouse and bunker, although doors to some are wide open and flapping in the wind."

"Furthest from the perimeter are the munitions stores, emptied by the EPRDF of all light and immediately useful weapons, but crates of mine detectors are still here and wooden boxes of bullets of all sizes, Belgian *nata* guns, anti-tank missiles, boxes of TNT and some sophisticated electronic weaponry that Getachew does not fully understand. In a secure underground concrete bunker, several hundred yards away are stored the more volatile mines of all kinds, anti-personnel mines, anti-tank mines, time bombs, with mine detectors and fuses."

"It is hard to believe that little more than a week ago this deserted installation, now abandoned to the waving grasses and the birds, was a thriving military complex. For the

first time, I absorb the hideous reality of the vast fortune invested by this government for use against Ethiopian civilians."

"There are several pairs of guards evident at intervals around the camp, scruffy in their motley uniforms and long hair, but they are humorous and gentle when I stop to talk to them -- These are EPDM fighters and Amharic-speaking -- In this heartland of Amhara culture, it is they who play the major role, as far as their numbers allow. The coalition Front does not want to give the impression that Tigrayans are trying to dominate the Amharas."

[Hammond 1999 p 333-334]

"Despite the assurances of the Front that they have been warmly welcomed, the mood of the town does not feel good. Not only are hundreds of Dergue cadres -- demanding salaries on equal basis with government employees -- but thousands of soldiers have returned here in civilian clothes so they are difficult to identify. AK47s are changing hands at knockdown prices."

"Here, as in other newly liberated towns, some groups took immediate advantage of the Front's early announcement of freedom of expression and assembly and, about four days after their entry into the town, a few hundred people took to the streets in a demonstration against them. -- According to Tadesse Kassa -- the event was organized by the Dergue Party and attended mostly by students and teenagers carrying hostile slogans. -- The fighters followed the demonstrators at a distance and called them to a meeting in the stadium. No one came --"

"Tadesse Kassa, the Front's Administrator for the military zone of Gojjam and Gondar, an Amhara and a member of the EPDM, has set up a temporary office in another vacated house of a Dergue official. -- Tadesse is an interesting man who looks too young and slight for the responsibilities of his position."

[Hammond p 335, 337]

"The textile factory/ is still closed. It produces cotton cloth and clothing, but it is now cut off from its old source of raw materials in government territory in the Awash valley to the south. The workforce is willing to work and has no other means of life, so the EPRDF has undertaken to pay them until alternative supplies can be negotiated."

"Aklilu brings the factory manager to talk to me. He is obviously reluctant, but reluctant also to antagonize these unfamiliar bosses. He, like everyone else I have talked to here, is so deeply scarred by fear and the daily expectation of repression, that spying, suspicion, reprisals, and unremitting attention to saving one's skin have assumed the appearance of normality --"

"The workforce is three thousand, the wages, excluding the management, come to seven hundred thousand birr a month paid fortnightly, today's payment will be financed eventually by the sale of existing stock, ten to fourteen tons of raw cotton per day are needed -- the Front are negotiating an alternative supply from the Sudan."

[Hammond p 340]

"Later in the day, we go to the hospital to interview wounded prisoners of war. There are no guards on the gate. We just walk in. No one asks for our papers or challenges our presence there. -- It is a small hospital, completely given over to the Dergue army. Injured fighters are being treated in a Front field hospital somewhere in the countryside."

"It is a government hospital and has been a military hospital with military personnel for a year -- the civilian patients -- have all been discharged."

'All the staff left the hospital for two days and the civilian staff came back on Thursday -- the International Committee of the Red Cross have a team here.'

The ICRC team is made up of a Swedish /female/ surgeon and three nurses.

-- The Swedish surgeon is called Åsa Molde and she has been working here for three months. With her in the ICRC house are an Australian physiotherapist and two nurses, one French and one German. -- They don't seem able to believe it when I say I've travelled from the north with the Front."

[Hammond p 341-345]

The British researcher/author Jenny Hammond made interviews at the hospital on

8 March 1991, and next day witnessed a demonstration for pay by about 3000 workers at the textile mill on 9 March.

[Hammond 1999 p 448 notes 8, 11]

The "Historic Route" was opened to visitors again in late August 1991 and special travel permit was then no longer needed.

[Eth. Herald]

1994 Population 96,140 as estimated in 1994. Another estimate in October 1994 says 115,531 which made Bahir Dar the 7th largest provincial town in Ethiopia.

Bahir Dar is one of ten air force bases in Ethiopia.

[World directory of defence .. 1995]

1995 The OAU Observer Group of 81 members were represented at the polling stations of Bahir Dar and eleven other major towns at the elections on 7 May 1995.

"This large town -- has a sticky tropical ambience unusual for northern Ethiopia. -- Palm-lined avenues and pretty lakeside vistas make Bahir Dar a decidedly attractive town. -- About 1 km past the Blue Nile Springs Hotel a large bridge crosses the river. -- The first turn past the bridge leads to a hill on which there is a palace that was originally built for Haile Selassie (entrance and photography forbidden). -- The palace is about 3 km from the bridge."

"My enjoyment of Bahir Dar was marred only by a *farangi* hysteria level that occasionally veered close to hostility. -- This is the only Ethiopian town where I was regularly, and for no apparent reason, told to 'fuck off' --"

"Bahir Dar and Gonder are linked only by early morning buses. These leave at around 6.00am and they take about six hours. Ethiopian Airlines flies daily between Addis and Bahir Dar, and between Bahir Dar and Gonder. -- There is a daily ferry between Bahir Dar and Zege and a weekly ferry to Gorgora. Neither service is currently open to tourists."

The two government hotels are both part of the Ghion chain. The better of the two is the Tana Hotel. The more central Ghion Hotel is also very attractively positioned with the lake lapping its gracious lawns. The only other tourist-class hotel is the Blue Nile Springs Hotel, which lies on the Gonder road next to a filling station. There must be in excess of 50 private hotels in Bahir Dar, only a few of which deserve a special mention. The Mulu, Blue Nile and Guna Terera hotels are all clean and comfortable. The Bradt guide also mentions Kassai, Nyala, Shega and Abarat Tegegna hotels. "Saving the best for last, the Dago Istafanos Hotel lies around the corner from the bus station -- Provided you find a good room, this hotel is far and away the best value in Bahir Dar." [Bradt 264-267 with sketch maps of the surroundings & the centre]

"Bahar Dar for centuries has been a place of commercial importance. It was and still is visited by *tankwas* (pyrus canoes) -- constructed at Bahar Dar and in the nearby Fogera area."

[Camerapix 1995 p 84]

1997 In June 1997 the Ethiopian Privatisation Agency called for bids for the purchase of the Bahr Dar Textile Enterprise.

There were domestic flights of EAL between Bahir Dar and Addis Abeba, Aksum, Debre Markos, Gondar, Humera, Lalibela.

1998 Instrument approach procedure to the airport has been published. Length of the paved runway is about 3000 m.

Debebe Mola, a captain of the airforce, defected aboard a Cessna aircraft from Bahir Dar towards Sudan where he asked for political asylum.

[Indian Ocean Newsletter 98-05-16]

"At the AAPO's sixth anniversary celebration in Bahir Dar in 1998, ANDM cadres waged a propaganda campaign to keep people from attending the meetings of the AAPO 'warmongers'. Kebele residents, workers and students were warned that there might be violence in the meeting. Policemen and armed soldiers kept watch on the hall while ANDM cadres tried to register residents who were entering. Nevertheless, the hall was packed and the meeting was conducted without any disruption."

(AAPO, All Amhara People's Organization)

(ANDM, Amhara National Democratic Movement)

[T M Vestal, Ethiopia - a post-cold war ..., USA 1999 p 148

citing Ethiopian Register, March 1998)

In 1998 the government established four new universities. Amhara University in Bahir Dar was formed by combining the Polytechnic Institute with a teacher's college.

[Vestal as above, p 156]

1999 The National Geographic expedition to make a tour of the whole of the Abay (Blue Nile) inside Ethiopia started at Bahir Dar in mid-September 1999:

"And when there are five /foreigners/ together in one place - well, for the Ethiopians, you're a circus. That was how our group was received when we tried to see a little of Bahir Dar. We'd been prevented from getting a good look of the town from the air, since 15 minutes before landing, the steward instructed us to shut our windows /this was the time of war with Eritrea/. -- The Ethiopian Air Force launched most of its air strikes on Eritrea from a base near the airport, and with our windows closed we couldn't spy on these activities. We heard them, though. Not long after we disembarked, two fighter jets thundered into the sky."

"The town was pretty with its wide boulevards and sidewalks cafés shaded with palms and flame trees. I'd visited it a couple of times before the revolution and always liked its easygoing atmosphere. Maybe because of that tropical warmth or because even Ethiopians regard the town as a resort, things move a little slower here than in Addis. It's a flat city -- and people are sturdy, Chinese bicycles wove their way among the busy press of taxis, buses, and trucks."

"Over the years, Bahir Dar has become a center of provincial growth, and signs of progress, primarily in the shape of new governmental buildings, were everywhere."

[V Morell, Blue Nile, Washington 2001, p 103-105]

A four-storey office building for the Bureau of Planning and Economic Development cost 4.5 million Birr.

In the late 1990s Bahir Dar is the seat of the Amhara National Regional State (Region 3).

In addition to industry mentioned above a shoe factory is established there.

In the crossing of two tree-lined avenues there is a sculpture of an Ethiopian warrior.

Nearby is the church of Giyorgis. This church has had such high reputation that the locality was also called Bahir Dar Giyorgis. This church is said to have the only Portuguese-type altar with the monogram of the Jesuits on it.

In contrast to many highland settlements, Bahir Dar is a very green place with a lot of vegetation. At the eastern roundabout there is a cinema, where the films are projected directly onto the concrete wall.

The government palace (former Haile Selassie's villa) is about 8 km north-east of the town, on the other side of the Abay.

Private hotels in the 1990s were mainly Blue Nile Springs Hotel at the shore not far from Tana Hotel, and Deb Anbessa at the main road crossing. The airport had daily connections, flight time to Addis Abeba about 45 minutes. To take a bus to Addis Abeba was a two-day trip.

Bahir Dar being in a level area, it is possible for visitors to rent bicycles

Only the Maritime Transport Authority is authorized to take tourists by boat to the islands. The transport by ferry from Bahir Dar to Gorgora was a two-day trip still in the 1990s, with landing at an island only at Dek and overnight stop at Kinzela.

[Äthiopien 1999 p 248-251, 253, town plan p 249]

"Though more geared up to tourism than most other towns in Ethiopia, Bahir Dar miraculously still retains a semblance of a soul. --

Ironically, despite its proximity to the falls, the town suffers from water shortage --

Malaria is endemic in Bahir Dar. According to a local doctor, an average of six people daily die of malaria. --

About to open at the time of writing is the huge and modern Bahar Dar Resort Hotel. Rooms with fridge and TV should cost around US\$ 50."

[Lonely planet 2000 p 167-168]

"The main hotels of Bahir Dar are positioned to take the best advantage of the views of the lake. The faded glory of the Tana Hotel offers one of the best views. There is a nice sitting area outside, an empty swimming pool, a high ceilinged restaurant and bar, and nice old-fashioned rooms."

"The Ghion Hotel, on the main road into town, also takes good advantage of the lake view. The verandah on the lake side overlooks a decayed but still attractive garden, where it is pleasant to look over a small bay of the lake with pelicans floating by."

"The Dib Anbessa hotel is not on the lake side, it is on the boulevard. From the upper story restaurant or rooms you overlook the lake, with the additional height providing a longer view. -- it offers comfortable new rooms."

[John Graham in AddisTribune 1999/12/03]

"Apart from its slightly greater distance from the mosquitoes based on the side of the lake, Dib Anbessa offers comfortable new rooms, many with nice lake views, at the best rates by far for foreign residents and visitors of the major hotels. -- For supper, I recommend the Enketash restaurant, near Ghion on the way to the airport, for Ethiopian food with a fish emphasis as well."

"The addition of the new Papyrus Hotel, which is away from the lake near the market, provides another welcome alternative. It is a large and attractive hotel, with the unusual feature of a very large swimming pool. There is also an uncompleted resort on the lakeside, which has been under on and off construction for a long time, and promises relative luxury and watersports when, or if, it is ever completed!"

"-- the old Portuguese church, which is next to the lake near the main square, behind the modern and attractive St. George church (Beta Giyorgis). The Portuguese building is a ruin a couple of stories high, with an old stone staircase that you can mount."

"The Bahir Dar main market is a bustling place not far from the central square. I've found the woven shawls and scarves, with their bright red stripes against a white background are a good buy here. There are plenty of leather baskets for sale but beware, they look like a nice decoration but their odour can be overwhelming!"

[John Graham in Addis Tribune 2001/09/14]

2000 Some official names of various kinds of units are:

- Amhara National Regional State Council
- Amhara Sport Commission
- Bahir Dar University
- Bahir Dar Polytechnic Institute
- Bahir Dar Teachers' College
- Organization for Rehabilitation and Development in Amhara (ORDA)
- Amhara Development Association (ADA)
- Amhara Credit and Saving Institution (ACSI)
- Bahir Dar Textile SC
- Ambasel Trading House PLC, branch for cotton export etc.
- Bahir Dar Tannery (of Davimpex Enterprise)
- Two Seasons PLC

Great Commission Ministry Ethiopia is a Christian organization.

Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation has an address at Bahir Dar, with "an initiative working to bring the social and economic exclusion of people with disabilities in Africa to an end."

Bahir Dar Engineering College was built by Alemayehu Ketema, general contractor.

Capacity of hotels is Ghion 190 + 30 rooms, Dib Anbesa 61 rooms, Tana 60 rooms.

2001 Population estimated at about 118,200 in 2001.

President of the Amhara regional government in 2001 was Yosef Reta.

On 26 April 2001 an Air Force plane flying from Bahir Dar to Addis Abeba was hijacked and forced to fly to Khartoum. Ethiopia's UN ambassador described the hijackers as "failed trainee air force pilots." They were five men and one woman. There were 51

people on board, of which six women and five children were the only civilians. The hijackers gave up after ten hours at Khartoum, and Sudan said that they would not be sent back to Ethiopia.

[News]

- 2002 On 9 June 2002 there was an attempted hijack of an EAL plane on a domestic flight to Addis Abeba. It was believed that the security guards did not make a proper check because they wanted to see a TV broadcast of the World Football Cup. The two hijackers had knives, but they were shot dead by a security guard. One of them, by name Tewodros Mekonen, was a former member of the Army. The name of the other young hijacker was Tesfaouni Yeneabat. The attempted seizing of the Fokker 50 was done half an hour into the flight. There were 42 passengers on board.

[AddisTribune 2002/06/14 + Africa News 2002/06/10]

On 17 July 2002 the leading elder of the Full Gospel Church at Merawi, about 40 km from Bahir Dar, was attacked and killed and other evangelicals were also mobbed so some 50 evangelicals fled to the Full Gospel Church in Bahir Dar on the next morning.

[www.christianitytoday.com]

- 2003 The branch office of the private Dashen Bank was computerized and by early 2003 had been upgraded to Wide Area Net Work. Dashen Bank by then had 28 offices in Ethiopia.

[AddisTribune 2003/05/30]

In mid-2003 was opened the SOS Hermann Gmeiner primary & secondary school in the SOS Children's Village of Bahir Dar. More than 420 pupils would get education in 12 classes, and there was also a Kindergarten with about 100 young children.

In the SOS compound there were twelve family houses, an administration, a clinic, a hall and a service block with a bakery and a shop.

- 2004 In June 2004 were opened Unesco-supported Community Multimedia Centres in Bahir Dar and Lalibela. The first-mentioned CMC was housed in the Mulualem Cultural Centre in Bahir Dar.

Six expatriates gathered at the Dib Anbessa Hotel in the beginning of September 2004 to prepare and start a tour with a raft on the Abay river.

- 2005 Six female members of the Swedish parliament in late February 2005 visited the newly established Fistula clinic in Bahir Dar.

[News]

text Seltene Seyoum, A history of Bahir Dar town: 1936-1974;

B.A. thesis, A.A. University, 1988;

Tesfaye Wudneh, Biology and management of fish stocks in Bahir Dar Gulf, Lake Tana, WAU diss. 2460, Wageningen, June 1998.

picts Gli annali ..., Roma 1938 anno I vol II p 606-607[3,7]

simple ferry in the Italian time, p 607 fig 1 Kenyazmach Negatu;

Eth. Trade Journal 1961 no 4 p 10-11 three photos of start of

a hydro-electric dam project, 16 new bridge over the Abay,

and the textile mill; Eth. Tr. Jou. 1962 no 2 p 40 model of

a German proposal for town plan by Max Guther;

C Söderling-Brydolf, Blommorna vid ..., Sthlm 1965 p 112

everyday street scene;

Liberation Silver Jubilee, A.A. 1966 at p 243 textile mill building,

p 266 hospital, p 290 model photo of Bahir Dar Polytechnic buildings;

H Helfritz, Äthiopien ..., Köln 1972 p 99 [pl 42] round church;

Steven Gish, Ethiopia, New York 1996(1999) p 50

manager of the textile factory in his office;

J Hammond, Fire from the ashes (Red Sea Press) 1999

p 222-223[13-14] bombs and mines of the Derg time;

P B Henze, Ethiopian journeys, (reprint) A.A. 2001

pict 70 exterior of the modern Giyorgis church,

pict 75(b) lion sculpture at the Imperial palace

Bahir Dar : Liblibo Maryam

1933: A church named Liblibo Maryam stands close to lake Tana near the Imfraz estuary, but the building is of little interest as it has been destroyed by fire and rebuilt three times. It is a typical circular church. It was described as a *gedam*, but there were no monks.

[Cheesman 1936]

Bahir Dar : Peace Corps

US Peace Corps volunteers who served in Bahir Dar were

- * 1964-66 Carol M. Beddo
- * 1964-66 Ann M. Chartrand
- * 1964-66 William R. Chartrand
- * 1964-66 Ann M. Jensen
- * 1964-66 Ann M. Kutz
- * 1964-66 Susan L. Medway
- * 1965-67 Robert E. Hamilton
- * 1966-68 W. Morris Baker
- * 1966-68 Susan Hundt Bergan
- * 1966-69 Michael P. Goldston
- * 1966- Julius Willis, Jr.
- * 1967- Robert M. Hill
- * 1968-70 Barbara C. Andersson
- * 1968-70 Van Anderson
- * 1968-69 Ed. D. Hall
- * 1968-69 Lynn K. O'Hern
- * 1968-69 Linda Karen O'Hern
- * 1974-75 Michael T. O'Malley
- * ? Greg Olund
- * 1974-75 Robyn Shelby Philips
- * 1996-99 Mickey O. Goggin

Bahir Dar: Salchen

Salchen Mikael is a church near the Lake Tana shore between Infraz and Bahir Dar. Consul Cheesman was there on 20 March 1933.

"An old man in the village at Salchen said that the church there had been rebuilt thirty years before, as baboons had visited it and had made a ruin of the edifice during the absence of the priest. This seems as quaint an explanation for the restoration of a church as one could wish for. -- In this case it is probable that some berries had fallen from the trees on to the thatch and into the crevices of the walls of the church, and a vigorous search for them by the apes had resulted in its demolition. It seems unlikely that the animals would do so much hard work out of pure mischief."

[Cheesman 1936 p 149-150]

HEC67	Bahir Dar awraja 11°25'/37°15' (centre -1956-1980- = Bahir Dar) Population 276,800 according to a survey in 1965, with about 15,000 more males than females. Illiteracy was 96.6%. Teff was clearly the most important crop. The holdings were 85% owned and 11% rented (and the rest mixed). There were 259,000 cattle in the awraja, the largest number in the seven awrajas of Gojjam. There were also 1,200 camels, otherwise unusual in Gojjam.	11/37	[Gz Ad]
HEC89	Bahir Dar wereda (centre in 1964 = Bahir Dar)	11/37	[Ad]
HEC89	Bahir Dar Zuriya sub-district? (-1997-)	11/37	[n]
??	Bahir Giyorgis (Bahr G.), in the Tammi-Chay area It was described to Cheesman as a volcanic lake 3 km in diameter, with no exit for the water. [Cheesman 1936]	../..	[Ch]
HEM81	Bahir Hatera (B. Hat'era) 12°34'/39°31' 2646 m west of Korem	12/39	[Gz]
HFF33	Bahira 13°54'/39°39' 2112 m (with church Maryam)	13/39	[Gz]

- HFF61 Bahira (Bahera, Bahara, Bahra) 14/39 [x n]
 With rock-hewn church Maryam and another Maryam at nearby Muga.
 "A 2 h de marche vers le N à travers la plaine, à partir de la piste conduisant à Gubo; puis remontée d'une vallée. Belle basilique hypogée, avec un narthex construit par devant; peintures intéressantes et frise axoumite dans le maqdas semi-circulaire."
 [Sauter 1976 p 162]
- texts Ruth Plant *in* Ethiopia Observer vol XIII no 3 Dec 1970 p 262ff
 with plan and drawing;
 Claude Lepage *in* Archeologia (Paris) Nov 1973 p 51,54.
- HEM91 Bahiro 12°36'/39°26' 2835 m 12/39 [Gz]
- HDT31 Bahit 10°16'/38°31' 2250 m 10/38 [Gz]
- HEJ34 Bahita (at the shore) 12°06'/37°01' 1826 m 12/37 [Gz]
- HEJ35 Bahita (Bata) 12°05'/37°03' 1784 m 12/37 [Gz Ch Gu WO]
 Small island in lake Tana just outside the narrow peninsula Kidane Mihret.
 Its church was sacked by the Dervishes. In the 1930s it was tree-clad but deserted.
 [Cheesman 1936 p 217]
- HEL44 Bahita 12°09'/38°49' 2437 m 12/38 [Gz]
- HEE57 Bahoch 11°18'/39°04' 1822 m 11/39 [Gz]
- HCA99 Bahr (with small lake), see under Maji 06/35 [WO Gu]
- HEC89 Bahr Dar (Bahrdar Giyorgis), see Bahir Dar
bahr zaf (A) blue gum, *Eucalyptus globulus*, literally
 "tree from beyond the ocean" because it was brought from
 abroad to Ethiopia;
abbo (O) term of address among male friends;
Abbo (A) colloquial name of Saint Gebre Menfes Qiddus
- HEC06 Bahr Zafa Abbo (Barzafa Abbo) 10/37 [+ WO]
 bahri: *bahriy* (Arabic, with variant in Geez) pearl, jewel
- HEU.. Bahri (village) see under Mekele 13/39 [n]
- HEJ69c **Bahri Gimb** (Barye Gemb) 12/37 [+ Pa]
 A huge-domed church just off the present-day road Gondar-Bahir Dar,
 32 km south of Gondar, probably dates from the middle 1700s.
 [Pankhurst, The Ethiopians, 1998 p 124]
 "Bahri Gemb Qeddus Mikael is an unusual church supposedly built in the reign of Sarsa Dengel (1563-95), or possibly even earlier -- Driving south, it is situated on a hill to the left of the new Azazo-Bahar Dar road about 2 km north of the small market town of Maksenyit. -- Local tradition -- claims that it was founded by a certain Dejzasmach Barye. In the chronicle of Emperor Iyoas -- he is said to have stopped at Menzero 'which is called Bahrey Gemb' in 1768. This is the first - and last - actual mention of the place in the chronicles."
 LaVerle Berry (1994 p 90) suggests that Bahri Gimb is more likely to have been an experimental successor of Gondar-style architecture than a predecessor. It seems to have been a relatively obscure place. Bruse does not mention it in 1970-71. Neither does Rüppell in the 1830s, although Antoine d'Abbadie includes it in his geographical survey a little later.
 "The 14 m. square building is constructed of basalt, with decorative courses of red tufa, and possesses a large and unusually high dome -- supported on a drum. The plan appears to have been a square pierced by four round arches on each side, with an inner sub-circular colonnade of twelve square columns. -- The columns and their linking arches support a double vaulted roof, resting on the inside on a further square structure. the *maqdas*. This has the usual three doors at the western end in the west, north, and south walls, with arched doorways and red stone corbels. -- On the exterior a string-course separates drum and dome. The east wall of the *maqdas* is pierced by a triple window, now blocked. -- The façade was originally plastered, and new concrete finishing has now

replaced this during recent restoration. -- There is a low enclosure wall around the buildings with some fine *qolqwal* and other trees inside."

[S Munro-Hay 2002 p 168-169]

HCR98	Bahu (Bahur) 08°07'/37°20' 1797 m	08/37	[Gz]
HBT09	Bai	04/39	[WO]
JDK17	Baia, see Baya <i>baibea</i> (T) stammer		
GDU34	Baibbio, see Bibbio		
GDU54	Baibi, see Biye Abi <i>baid</i> (ba'id) (A) alien, one who is an outsider to the family (<i>yebaid ager</i> , foreign country)		
HCC08	Baide	05/37	[WO]
J....	Baideba The Ethiopians argued in 1957 that the 1908 Convention said that the frontier between Ethiopia and Kenya/Somaliland "starts from Dolo ... proceeds eastwards by the sources of the Baideba ..." while the Italians claimed that Maidaba and not Baideba was meant. [J Drysdale, The Somali dispute, London 1964 p 92]	04/4.	[x]
HCC18	Baido (Ba'ido) 05°34'/37°20' 1817 m south-west of Gidole	05/37	[Gz]
JEC09	Baied Adega, see Bayed Adega		
GDE24	Baignol, see Baitiok		
GCS97	Bail, see Bul		
HCC42c	Bailama Area in the south-east corner of the Male-inhabited district (but not having a sub-chief of the Male).	05/36	[x]
JCG47	Bailei, see Bele		
HEJ68	Baio Maiano, see Bayo Mayano		
JDK14	Bair Said 09°11'/42°56' 1577 m	09/42	[Gz]
HFE84	Bairai, see Bayray <i>Baiso</i> , ethnic group numbering 1,010 at a census (in the 1990s?) text H.C. Fleming, Baiso and Rendille: Somali outliers, <i>in Rassegna di Studi Etiopici</i> 20(1964) p 35-96.		
HCK04	Baiso (Ba'iso) 06°23'/37°55' 1209 m in or near lake Abaya Village with people who speak Baiso (Alkali), but they are bilingual.	06/37	[n Gz]
HDJ11	Baita Maryam (Ba'ita M.) (church) 09°13'/36°42'	09/36	[Gz]
HFF21	Baitakor (Ba'itakor) 13°48'/39°28' 2142 m (with church Maryam)	13/39	[Gz]
JCC28	Baitan, see Baytan		
GDE24	Baitiok (Baignol) 08°21'/33°50' 409 m	08/33	[WO Gz]
HFE84	Baito Makoe sub-district (Baito Mako'e ..) (centre in 1964 = Rama)	14/38	[Ad]
HCS92	Baja (village)	08/37	[x]
HEE29	Baja 11°06'/39°18' 2127 m	11/39	[Gz]
HEC12	Baja wereda (centre in 1964 = Injibara)	10/36	[Ad]
HCS84	Bajai (Baja'i) 08°01'/37°52' 2307 m south of Imdibir	08/37	[Gz]
JDK96	Bajajar (Bagiagar) 09°52'/43°02' (village with well) Near a river with sandy bed and wells for the dry season. Geologically, there are green schists (amphibolite schists) intercalated with chloritized "augen-gneisses" from the Aw Barre area until Bajajar. [Mineral 1966]	09/43	[+ WO Gu Mi]

- HDS59c Bajana (old name) 10/38 [x]
Area about 40 miles (65 km) east-north-east of Debre Markos.
- HDA67 Bajiro (Bagiro) 1494 m 08/35 [x WO]
93 km W of A.A. and 16 km north of Nekemte road.
Sawmilling: A steam-driven band saw could produce 100 cubic metres per month and was still working by December 1943. Another band saw and two frame saws were not working by then.
[W E M Logan, An introduction to the forests ..., Oxford 1946]
- HDK13 Bajiro (Badjiro) (forest) 09°10'/37°50' 09/37 [+ Gz]
- HEH73 Bajisa, Gebel, see Bayisa
- HCB15c *baka* (baqa) (O) fleeing from danger;
Baka, a sub-division of the Ari-Banna ethnic group. 05/36 [x]
Field studies of the Baka were made by the Germans Ad. E. Jensen and Elisabeth Pauli in January-March 1951.
The Baka are a sub-tribe of the Ari. There are traditions saying that they became regarded as parias because of eating dog meat. The name Baka was chosen by Jensen without being an established tribe name of the people themselves. The size of this ethnic group was estimated at 1000-2000 individuals.
Jensen got most of the information from about 35-year-old Grazmach She'i who was headman of all the Baka. He was intelligent but rather negroid-looking.
Even by 1950 there was still in principle war between the Baka and their neighbours Male to the east.
The Baka live in scattered homesteads and not close together. They are settled cultivators, and they used only hoes until the Shewans introduced cattle-drawn ploughs. Tobacco is smoked in water-pipes. Comparatively few domestic animals are kept but it is a rule to have some beehives. Very little 'jewellery' is worn.
[Ad E Jensen 1959 p 31, 75]
- text Ad. E. Jensen, Die Baka, in *Altvölker Süd-Äthiopiens*, Stuttgart 1959 p 29-85, continued by E. Pauli p 87-105.
- picts *Altvölker Süd-Äthiopiens* 1959 (pl 1-2 are drawings by E Pauli), pl 1 farm of Dunamer + chieftain's residence in holy place Ashti, pl 2 farm of a sub-chieftain, Tafel 6,7,8,9,10 twelve Baka men, 24 three photos of houses, 31 collective field work, 33 ploughing with oxen, 35 household work, 48 fence in Ashti with horns and jaws of ritually killed animals.
- HCC40 Baka, see Bako
- HCI51 Baka (Baca) (mountain) 06°49'/36°35' 1267 m 06/36 [Gz WO]
cf Beke
- HCP16 Baka (Baca, Beca) 07°24'/36°15' 1620/1727 m 07/36 [Gz WO Gu]
/this Baka?/: The Catholic missionary Massaja in or after 1858 founded a mission at Baka.
[A Cecchi, vol I, 1886 p 479]
- HDK28 Baka (village & area) 09°14'/38°17' 2659 m 09/38 [AA Gz]
- HDU15 Baka (Baca), see Sirt
- HEC93 Bakaa (Baccaa) (with church Medhane Alem) 11/36 [+ It]
see under Yismala Giyorgis
- HCD87 Bakai, see Bakay
bakaka (O) 1. cleft, crevice; 2. plowed and left to lie fallow;
bakakka (O) lightning, thunderstorm, heavy rain
- JDK20 Bakaka (Bacaca) (area) 09/42 [Ch WO]
The British consul R.E. Cheesman travelled there in January 1927. "Many of the rivers were enclosed in precipices, inaccessible to cattle, and some were dry in January. -- A local official at Gurami shook his head over Gonsha, and said that it was very bad going

- for loaded mules as there were some big precipices to be passed." [Cheesman 1936]
- JDJ.. Bakallan 09/42 [20]
Interview in late 1986 with Fatma Abdullah Ahmed, mother of four children, about events in 1985:
"I am from the village of Bakallan, near Babile, where there was no drought, only oppression. When the Amhara soldiers first came to our village they destroyed the school and took all the children - about a thousand - to another school, twelve hours east by foot in Abdur Kader, near Arrir. The soldiers said it was a better school. On Saturdays and Sundays the children were allowed to walk home."
"Later the soldiers came again. My family had four goats and eight oxen. The soldiers slaughtered the big oxen and ate them. We had to pay the soldiers 12 birr every week to guard the smaller ones. Some of our neighbors had cows. There were several Christians in our area. The soldiers made the Christians slaughter the cows of the Moslems, and the Moslems those of the Christians. This was against our tradition."
"The soldiers explained that socialism meant that everything had to be shared equally. They ordered every wife in the village to sleep with another husband, not her own. -- The prettiest girls were taken by the soldiers. -- The soldiers said no one could read the Koran, because it is Arab politics. The mosque was turned into an office for the soldiers. Seventeen sheikhs in the area were shot -- they were buried in one long trench."
"-- our maize was collected by the soldiers -- We never saw it again. -- The smaller oxen and the goats were killed. The soldiers had cameras. Like white people, the Amharas are always taking pictures."
"We were marched three hours by foot eastward where we were made to build new *gambisata* (mud huts) in a straight line. The men were taken every day to work in a place called Unity farm."
"In late February 1986 we escaped after midnight. -- There were many of us. -- After walking through the night we spent the day at Dakata, a place the Ethiopian soldiers were afraid to go because it was frequented by the Western Somali Liberation Front. -- The second afternoon the Ethiopian soldiers found us at the end of a forest. -- Nine were caught -- In March 1986 we crossed the border."
Mrs. Ahmed's new home was a tent in the Oromo refugee camp of Tug Wajale B, west of the Somali town of Hargeisa and 8 km from the Ethiopian border.
[R D Kaplan, Surrender or starve, USA 2003 p 6-7]
- HDC57 Bakamoti (Bacamoti) 08°36'/37°18' 1735 m 08/37 [+ Gz]
bakan ..: *sada* (A) kind of liane with edible root
- HBE91 Bakan Sada (Bacan Sada) 03/38 [+ WO]
bakana: *bekana* (bäkana) (A) vagabond, idler; *bakkana* (O) here
- JDN97 Bakana (Bacana) (area) 10/40 [+ WO]
bakara (O) large spear, used for killing buffaloes or elephants
- JBN53 Bakara (Bacara) 05°01'/40°04' 1090 m 05/40 [Gz]
- JEC63 Bakarla (Bacarla) (area) 11/41 [+ WO]
bakarri: *bakari* (baqarii) (O) sweet-smelling herb put in yogurt or used for sweetening milk utensils
- JEH08 Bakarri Ale (Bacarri Ale) (area) 727 m 11/41 [+ WO]
- JCB28 Bakassar (Bacassar, Basassar) 05°40'/41°25' 612 m 05/41 [Gz]
- H... Bakat sub-district (centre in 1964 = Shafi) ../. [Ad]
- HCD00c Bakaule, 20 km south-east of Gidole 05/37 [x]
Administrative centre of the Amhara in Konso country when a German ethnographic expedition visited there in the second half of January 1935. The researchers built some huts for their camp, and old Balambaras Defarsha took part at its inauguration.
[Ad. Jensen 1936 p 159]
Below the Konso village Buso, with a small dam and almost empty between market days.
[K Pettersen, Etiopia .., Oslo 1967 p 156]

- HCD87 Bakay (Bacai) (place & area) 06°13'/38°11' 2125 m 06/38 [+ WO Gz]
bake, bakke (O) 1. plain, meadow, grass-land; 2. field used for "going to the toilet"
- HCH67 Bake (Bache) (area) 06/36 [+ WO]
 JD... Bake Kallo (Baké Khallo) 09/42? [+ x]
 Village in the Harar region, at one day by mule south of Saka Sharifa. Swedish artist Björn von Rosen visited there in the late 1940s when Sheriff Mohammed was head of the village.
 On an inward-sloping black rock surface he found some paintings which reminded him of Bronze Age figures. One of them can be perceived as a butterfly, whether this has been the intention or not. Soot on the surface seemed to be from sacrificial fires below the 'Butterfly rock' in recent time, and it could rather easily be washed off.
 [B von Rosen, Berget och solen, Sthlm 1949 p 213-220]
 pict von Rosen as above, p 213-217 five photos of rock and paintings, p 380 paintings of butterflies
- GCU80 Bakedi 08/34 [Wa]
 ?? Bakelat (Fre: Baquélat) ../.. [+ x]
 Town somewhere near Muger river, mentioned in medieval time.
 bakelo: *bakalo* (A,O) maize, *Zea mays*
- HDM72 Bakelo, cf Baklo, Bekelo 09/39 [Ad]
 The primary school (in Tegulet & Bulga awraja) in 1968 had 91 boys and 35 girls, with 5 teachers.
 baken: *bakkena* (bakkäna) (A) go to waste, be dissipated /wealth/
- HEB44 Baken (Bachen) 11/36 [+ WO]
 ?? Baker (199 km by road from Gondar) ../.. [It]
 HDM73c Bakiello (Bachiello) 09/39 [+ 18]
 see under Liche
bakila, bakela (baqelaa) (A,O) bean, broad bean, horse bean, *Faba bona*, *Vicia faba*; *bad* (Afar) lake
- JFA38 Bakili Bad (Bachili) (salty swamp) 13/40 [Ne WO]
 HCN87c Bakisi (Tullo Bacchisi) (mountain) 08/35 [+ Gu]
 baklo: *beklo* (bäqlo) (A) mule
- HED63 Baklo (Baclo) (area) 11/37 [+ WO]
 HD... Baklo sub-district (Bakielo ..) 09/39 [+ Ad]
 (centre in 1964 = Lajagind)
- bako* (Kefa) fowl; *bakko, baqqoo* (O) hot lowland region /especially as hunting ground for big game/;
Bakko, name of an ethnic group speaking a Nilotic /?/ language
 ?? Bako, river but which one? 06/35? [Mi]
 An affluent of Gilo in the Guraferda region. A great deal of prospecting for gold was carried out during the Italian occupation and in 1950-1960.
 [Mineral 1966]
- HBR81 Bako, see Jinka
 HCC40 **Bako** (Baco, Bacco, Bachio, Baka, Bakko) 05/36 [Wa WO Gu Te]
 05°47'/36°34' 1417 m, see also under Jinka
 Coordinates would give map code HCB49.
- 1900s Bako after the war in 1899 was administered by the Russian "dejzmach" Leontieff and after him by "fitawrari" Babicheff who lived to become very old and died in Addis Abeba in 1953.
- 1910 Dejzmach Ganama, one of Emperor Menilek's old *fitawraris*, in 1910 was charged with governing Bakko.
- 1935 In 1935 it was the administrative centre of Bako province, south of Omo river.

- [Zervos 1936]
- 1940s An improvised British prisoner-of-war camp at /this?/ Bako was closed in 1942. In 1943 it was reported from Kenya that the district of Bako, east of Maji, seemed to be entirely unadministered.
[Margery Perham]
- 1950s An administrative centre north of Omo river at a straight line up from lake Turkana. People living in the surroundings belong to the Baka ethnic group.
[Ad E Jensen 1959 p 30]
- meteo Mean monthly rainfall in 1954-1957 was 226 in August, 183 in April and 195 in July, 116-123 in March, May, June, September, 82 in October and 15-34 in other 4 months. Population about 6,100 in 1984, about 10,400 in 1994, about 12,800 in 2001. Which Bako in Gemu-Gofa?: Sudan Interior Mission had a clinic there (-1955-).
- HDA09 Bako (Baco) 08/35 [+ WO]
- HDJ05 **Bako** (Backo, Baco, Bacco) 09/37 [Gz Br x It]
09°08'/37°03' 1743/1789 m
Centre in 1964 of Fedis wereda and of Tibi Dega sub-district, with school and church Mikael.
Mean annual rainfall 967 mm.
- 1930s *Commissariato dei Bácco*, clinic, Missione della Consolata with school and laboratory.
[Guida 1938]
Post office of the Italians was opened on 20 October 1938.
Its cancellations read BACCO * GALLA E SIDAMA.
- 1948 Some Swedish missionaries (Torsten Persson with wife, Hilma Olsson, Ruth Perman, Ruth Lundgren) took a rest for food in Bako and started discussing that the EFS mission ought to start something in the place. Premises for a clinic were obtained in the centre some time later, but EFS could only afford to place the dresser Ato Namomsa there. Competitors in Bako caused Namomsa to be placed in jail.
- 1950s The place had som 100 houses in 1950.
- 1951 In December 1951 nurse Ruth Perman (b 1897 and an oldtimer in Ethiopia) started working at the Bako clinic. Namomsa continued work when he was released from jail, together with one Wolde Mariam who hade worked at Nekemte before. It was a two-room building where nurse Ruth used to sleep in the inner room and Namomsa and Wolde Mariam in the outer room, and in daytime there was clinic in the rooms.
- 1952 Already during 1952 there were registered 14,914 treatments.
- 1953 Swedish missionaries in the beginning of 1953 were pastor Ingvar & Britta Nilsson with one child, and nurse Ruth Perman.
In 1955 the EFS mission signed a contract with the Ethiopian Government for use of about 160 acres of land which had not yet been cultivated (the land was later obtained as a gift). A clinic and dwelling house were constructed in that year at the new mission station, through Thorsten Månson. The rented clinic premises at the market could be abandoned. At least from 1955 and into the 1970s nurse Margit Pettersson (b 1918) worked at Bako. In 1958 the infirmary with ten beds had 346 inpatients during the year and 12,575 outpatients. There were two Swedish nurses and two Ethiopian dressers. In 1959 there were 4 missionaries and 70 members of the Evangelical congregation.
[Mission sources]
A casual Swedish visitor in 1959 gives a rather idyllic description of the clinic and of the mission station in general:
"Efter fyra timmars körtid befinner vi oss vid den lilla missionsstationen -- Syster Rut Perman, hurtig och glad, tar emot i sitt nybyggda hus -- Omkring oss lyser röda lijor, amaryllis i prunkande rabatter, och vägen ner till sjukhuset och kliniken är kantad med bougainvillea och nerium.
Syster Rut tar mig med till kliniken. Den är inte stor, men välskött, och de patienter som där tas emot direkt från hyddornas skumma vrår får en tid av omvårdnad och lugn -- Nere vid floden har Building College -- ordnat en inbyggd källa -- hämta vatten och där en stor

tvättanordning är uppbyggd för byns kvinnor --

Vi får också se det bygge som bekostas av svenska pojkscouts genom en stor insamling över hela Sverige. Det är en blindskola som här skall ordnas, och hit skall sedermera blindskolan i Addis Abeba -- förläggas.

Så kommer tysken Ehm in, en gammal vindbiten farmare, som är här och hjälper stationen att lägga upp en stort anlagd kaffefarm, som med tiden skall bidra till att höja inkomsterna, så att man skall kunna bygga ut kliniken -- Solen bränner rakt ner på våra huvuden, då vi i bussen kör runt och ser på kaffebuskarna i prydliga, snörräta rader. När vi går ut för att ta oss en närmare titt på planteringarna, bränner marken som eld genom skosulorna."

[I Wachtmeister, Från det sjudande Afrika, Sthlm 1960 p 66-67]

The idea to have a farm and agricultural school in connection with the mission was initiated by Harry Eknor, who came to Ethiopia engaged by the Swedish technical aid organization NIB. The Ethiopian government provided a substantial amount of land, about 80 hectares. The farm was founded in 1959 and construction of a mission station next to it was started. Pioneers there were missionaries Ingvar Nilsson and Torsten Månsson, later Torsten Persson for several years.

- 1960 During 1960 there were about 1,500 inpatients and about 15,000 outpatients at the Bako clinic and a new infirmary was built. A school for blind boys was inaugurated on 31 December 1960. This school had been started by the EFS mission in 1949 in Addis Abeba and was now moved. There were 15 boys in 1960, 30 in 1961 and 45 in 1962.
- 1962 On 10 January 1962 ten young Swedes arrived to Bako for a 3-month stay. They belonged to SLU (later named CUF), the youth branch of a political party with many farmers as members.
- 1963 A contract between CUF and EFS was signed on 31 May 1963 for a period of five years. The CUF project for assistance to agriculture at Bako continued for more than ten years. Leader of the first group was Carl Claeson who had worked at the agricultural school at Ambo already in the 1940s.
- 1965 CUF was in charge of the agricultural school from 1964 and it was completed in 1965. Other donors (Lutheran World Federation) financed a trade school for woodwork and metalwork which started in October 1965, with SIDA volunteers as teachers. The 12 (30?) first students of the agricultural school were admitted in March 1965, with Thorvald Persson as director of the farm and the school. The agricultural school had been planned for two classrooms, two teachers' dwellings and 8 huts with 4 students living in each. The farm had about 80 hectares, of which 60 hectares possible to cultivate. There was also a home economics school started in 1967 by CUF, with Evy Kjellberg as its first director from April, and it had 75 students in 1968.
On 27 October 1963 a large hydraulic ram (water-driven pump) started to work at the Bako station.
- 1966 In 1966 the mission had teacher training in grade 2 only, with 12 students. A course for teachers at the blind school was led by Ingrid Lundqvist in January 1966-July 1967, with four seeing and four blind students. Six of them remained as teachers at Bako, of whom Restum Gebreyesus as director of the school for blind boys. [Various Swedish sources]
- 1967 Population of Bako 3,440 as counted in 1967.
There were at that time 9 telephone numbers, of which those on personal names were Abdi Sire, Ahmed Ibrahim Shah, Ali Idris, Gelaye Diro, Mohammed Ahmed Fedis, and Yirgu Gabre Egziabher.
There was an EECMY General Assembly of the Mekane Yesus Church in Bako in 1967. A summary of the questions discussed there is given (in Norwegian language) in S. Hunnestad, Sidamo i morgenlys, Norway 1969 p 59-63.
- 1968 Population of Bako town about 15,000 in 1968.
The mission clinic by then had a staff of 8 and 40-50 outpatients a day.
A governmental 'injector' had for six years operated from an Italian war monument next to the municiplaity. The EFS mission had some service in the prison where they also sprayed

against malaria.

[Report by LTH students in Lund/Sweden]

The primary school (in Jibat & Mecha awraja) in 1968 had 346 boys and 118 girls, with 5 male and 2 female teachers.

Swedish Mission school had 111 boys and 16 girls in grades 1-2, with two teachers.

The junior secondary school had 77 male & 11 female students in grades 7-8, with three teachers (Ethiopian).

On 1 January 1968 a central financial administration started to work for the various Ethio-Swedish activities, preparing for passing over all of it to the Ethiopian side in the future.

So far there had been spent Eth.\$ 728,000 from various (mostly Swedish) donors. An independent Evangelical congregation in Bako had been founded in 1961, had about 200 members in 1968 and built a chapel paid by their own money in 1963-1964, with the missionary John Eriksson as leader of this work.

On 13 January 1968 there was the first graduation in a 2-year course for weaving teachers led by Brita Larsson. The training was aimed at providing teachers for the blind and used European-type weaving, as the traditional Ethiopian type was judged to be more difficult for blind weavers.

On 11-12 October 1968 the Emperor inaugurated a German-funded experimental farm at Bako. This Agricultural Research Station was mainly concerned with oilseeds and other local cash crops. The station was supported for a number of years by Universität Giessen in Germany.

Teferi Sendabo worked as a teacher in the late 1960s and later settled in Sweden.

Some Swedish staff at Bako in the 1960s:

Gösta Dahlén, Ivan Erixon and Karl Sigvard Gustafsson, young men of the CUF, arrived in February 1963 to help with building work for 4-5 months.

Pastor Torsten Persson (b 1915) with wife Elsa (b 1913) and three children returned around August 1964, after a year in Sweden since 15 May 1963 (they had four children all born in Addis Abeba), and nurse Kerstin Perols (p 1912) left about the same time but returned and left finally around May 1967, together with an adopted girl Diribe.

Agronomist Thorvald Persson (b 1937) with wife Sonja (b 1938) arrived around October 1964 to be headmaster of the agricultural school. A daughter was born to Sonja & Thorvald Persson on 4 May 1968. They left Ethiopia around October of that year.

Among Swedish staff in April 1965 was also John Eriksson (b 1932) with wife Gudrun (b 1933) and Stig Lundholm.

A third daughter was born to Gudrun & John Eriksson around May 1964.

Around 1965 Brita Larsson (b 1929) arrived as weaving teacher and Ingrid Lundqvist (b 1934) as teacher in the school for blind. Another teacher of weaving, Maja Andersson, arrived in late 1968.

Volunteer Karl-Fredrik Wikberg (b 1932) arrived as woodwork instructor April 1966.

CUF volunteer Hans Pettersson left around April 1967 after a year as assistant at the agricultural school, and as his successor arrived Sten Andersson with wife Margareta. Nils-Arne Carlsson arrived at the same time to be teacher of metal craft.

Family pastor Rune & Gungerd Backlund worked in Bako about the first half of year 1969.

Land surveyor Måns Swartling (b 1929) with wife Leila (b 1933)

and 3 children, early 1970

Agronomist (*lantmästare*) Måns Swartling (b 1929) with wife Leila (b 1933) and 3 children arrived at the beginning of 1969. Måns was killed in a car accident in May 1969.

Arne Karlsson, teacher of handicrafts, Evy Kjellberg, home economics teacher (CUF volunteer having been there since about April 1967), and Hans Hansson left in June-July 1969.

Birgitta Brorsson arrived around September 1969 to be teacher for Swedish children and Carri Rastas around October to be wood work teacher (the two were engaged in August 1970).

1970s The Swedish women's organization CKF (Centrens KvinnoFörbund) in 1970

took over from CUF teaching at the school of home economics.

On 1 July 1970 the EFS mission station at Bako (together with other schools and stations elsewhere) was handed over to the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Iyesus (EECMY).

By around 1978 there were petrol filling stations of Agip and Shell in Bako. There was a small Italian spaghetti restaurant (-1970-) at the Agip filling station.

1975-1978 after the revolution EECMY were forced to remove all foreign missionaries and to close the Bako project, but in 1979 at least Paul and Eva-Karin Persson could work there again (1979-1981-). Paul Persson grew up in Bako as a child and returned as an adult to Ethiopia but worked more in places other than Bako, in the service of EECMY.

Some Swedish staff at Bako in the 1970s:

Torsten Persson with family stayed at Bako for 25 years and all their 5 children were born there

Family Fredrik Almqvist around January 1970 after three years in Sweden

Pastor Rune Backlund (b 1937) & nurse Gungerd (b 1936) (1963-)1971-

Civil engineer Sven Bengtsson (b 1935) & correspondent Ingegerd (b 1937) 1970-73

Family John Eriksson (b 1932) with wife Gudrun (b 1933) with 5 children moved to other work around 1970

Volunteer and building engineer Anders Boden (b 1946) early 1970

Volunteer and agricultural instructor Ulf Geivall (b 1942) early 1970

Gardener Arne Hermansson (b 1928) early 1970

Handicraft teacher Kari Rastas (b 1940 in Finland) early 1970

Teacher Birgitta Brorsson (b 1946) early 1970

Home economics teacher Nelly Palmgren (b 1945) early 1970-July 1972

Trade teacher Gunnar Fällman (b 1931) & office worker Anna (b 1935) and three children, March 1971-73-

Nurse Ingegerd Håkansson (b 1943) July 1979-December 1980 sent by the Swedish Church Mission

Engineer/pastor John Isaksson (b 1926) & teacher nurse Ingeborg (b 1919) 1972-75 John first time in Ethiopia in 1954, Ingeborg in 1952

Agronomists Ingemar & Ingrid Jarlebring (b 1942 and 1944) 1973-

Building engineer Pelle Joelsson & textile teacher for blind Birgitta, Nov 1971-

Mechanic Göran Konradsson (b 1947) 1972-73

Assistant Bertil Paulsson (b 1939) & teacher Bodil (b 1942) Sep 1972-73-

Pastor Paul Persson (b 1953) & nurse Eva-Karin (b 1952) 1979-82-

Nurse Signe Persson (b 1947) 1972-

Nurse Margit ("Mia") Pettersson (b 1917 or -18)

in Ethiopia 1951- and Bako clinic -1956, 1970-73-

Teacher Birgitta Rastas (b 1946) 1969-71-

Nurse Birgitta Rubenson (b 1947) 1973-

Agronomist (*lantmästare*) Ingvar Åkesson (b 1938) & nurse Gunnel (b 1937) and five children, August 1971-72-

1971 Bako minimum package project started its activities in mid-1971, with its centre in Bako town. It operated both in Jibat & Mecha awraja and in Nekemte awraja. Surveys indicated a large proportion of tenant operated holdings and many absentee landlords. The largest area owned by one individual in Nekemte area exceeded 3,000 hectares. Along the Bako-Jere road (Jere is 11 km north of Bako) a socio-economic study of 196 families was made in 1971. They were 63% Oromo and 25% Amhara and they belonged 81% to the Orthodox Church and 17% to Islam. Many were not full time farmers of their own but worked also at the farms of the Mekane Yesus Church and the Ethio-German agricultural station. 40% of the tenants paid a fixed sum in cash while the rest were share-croppers. 60% of the tenants in the sample had lived on their holdings for more than 4 years and 34% for more than 11 years. The two mechanized farms did not seem to have spread innovations to the peasants, not even fertilizer. By far the largest landlord in the area was the Imperial family.

The *balabbats*, 29 within the project area, seemed to have more authority than *wereda* governors, and those in Jere and Ijaji even had private prisons. There were both Oromos and Amharas among them. They were usually also large landowners.

The minimum package project by late 1973 covered 10 x 71 km along the Addis Abeba-Gimbi road and 10 x 18 km along the Bako-Jere road. The project's main activity was to demonstrate the effects of fertilizer and to distribute it against credit or cash. However, the Bako minimum package project was regarded as a failure because it did not really reach the tenants. Efforts to form co-operatives were not successful, partly due to the negative attitude of the local powerholders. The arrival of commercial mechanized farming around 1973 meant that tenants were threatened by eviction. Lease agreements would be terminated by 1974. There were some violent clashes so that police had to be brought in. The feudal structure had not yet been challenged, even if it was near to its end because of the national revolution in 1974.

[M Ståhl, Ethiopia: political contradictions .., Uppsala/Sweden 1974 p 114-130]

- 1972 18 members of CKF (Centerns KvinnoFörbund) made a study visit to Bako and Asela in the second half of 1972, and some of the visitors wrote their impressions in the magazine Budkavle .. 1973 no 2.
- 1974 In 1974 there was a labour-intensive road building project to Jere, financed by the Swedish SIDA.
- 1980s Spelling of the post office was BAKO (-1983-).
Swedish missionaries in the 1980s:
Pastor Anders Nilsson (b 1949) & nurse Christin (b 1955) & 2 children arrived in April 1981, sent by the Swedish Church Mission
Engineer Daniel Rubenson (b 1958) and midwife Ros-Marie (b 1954) from 1984 and still there in 1986, sent by the EFS
- 1985 Famine became known in early 1985 and was officially recognized in the latter part of the year. Daniel and Ros-Marie Rubenson worked for the Mekane Yesus Church with food distribution to about 1,500 families in the Bako area.
The Evangelicals had been persecuted by the officials and several members of the Bako congregation had been whipped for attending services.
[A Sandström 1986 p 140-141]
- 1990s With airport but no scheduled regular flights (?), unpaved runway with length about 1100 m.
- 2001 The 40-year celebration of the Bako blind school was held on 30 June 2001.
Signe Rydland, a daughter of Torsten Persson, worked there at the time.
[EFS .. Budbäraren 20 Sept 2001 p 9]
- texts Tenaestelin (Sthlm) 1966 no.2 p 5-6, the school for blind is described by its teacher Ingrid Lundqvist;
Svenskbladet, A.A. Febr 1968 p 3-12 detailed for all the projects;
E. Kelber & Awole Mela, Agricultural survey of Bako area, 1970;
10 år i Etiopien, Sweden 1973, 134 pages; contains a project history and an evaluation of the part within the mission station area which from 1963 was supported by Centerns Ungdomsförbund (CUF), a political youth organization from which volunteers for agricultural development were recruited to Ethiopia;
- picts Haile Selassies land, Sthlm (EFS) 1961 pl 42 nurse Ruth Perman outside new clinic, pl 43 waiting patient, pl 54,55 boys at the blind school, pl 75 picking at the coffee farm;
A M Rubin, På skollov .., Sthlm 1962 p 81 mission coffee farm newly planted;
T Persson, Det lyser i natten, Sweden (EFS) 1965 p 56 drawing of mission church, 76 dwg of street in the "village" for blind boys, 83 dwg of outdoor shower flanked by palms;
N G Nilsson, Det är ju människor .., Sweden (EFS) 1966 p 100 headmaster of arts & crafts, 106 headmaster of agriculture, 110 blind student Teshome at an organ, 114 blind school boys;

10 år i Etiopien, Malmö (CUF) 1973: twenty-one photos of Bako Evangelical mission station and agricultural development project, of which page 19 air view of the compound with buildings; Tenaestelin (Sthlm) 1982 no 1 p 24-25 health centre.

Bako : Anno Gambela

Around 1974 there was the Anno Gambela settlement project, with school and church buildings recently erected with local materials.

JDJ05	Bako, see Baku		
HBR71	Bako awraja (centre in 1959 = Hamer Koke) cf Geleb & Hamerbako awraja	05/36	[Ad]
??	Bako Gazer sub-district (-1997-)	../..	[n]
??	Bako Gazer wereda (-1984-1995-)	../..	[n]
	This is an intensively cultivated agricultural wereda with less opportunity to raise livestock. According to the 1984 census the size of ethnic groups was 107,764 Ari (and 30,600 Male, shared with Hamer wereda). Wereda centre (-1995-) was Jinka and there were 54 kebeles.		
??	Bako Tibe sub-district (-1997-)	../..	[n]
HCC40	Bako wereda (centre in 1964 = Bako)	05/36	[Ad]
HCG32	Bakol (mountain), see Bokol		
JCD54	Bakol (Bacol) (area) A spokesman in Mogadishu claimed that 300 Ethiopian soldiers, with transport vehicles and armed cars, passed into Somalia in early June 2001, at a border town in Bakol. <i>baku</i> (O) to flow, to melt away; <i>bakku</i> (O) /cow/ not giving much milk	05/42	[+ WO]
JBG72	Baku, H. (Hara? Haro?)	04/40	[WO]
JDJ05	Baku (Bako) 09°08'/42°04' 1678 m, cf Amuma	09/42	[Gz]
HCC69	Bakule (Bak'ule, Baqule) 06°01'/37°29' 2097 m	06/37	[Gz q]
HDG03	Bakure 09°04'/35°04' 1746 m	09/35	[Gz]
HEC85	Bakusti Medhane Alem (Bacusti M.A.)	11/37	[+ It]
HEA66	Bakyuje (Bachiuge)	11/35	[+ WO]