

HFE93	Kor Nebir Mikael (church) 14°25'/38°46' north of Aksum, near Eritrea <i>kora, koora</i> (O) 1. saddle, saddle-like hilltop; 2. stirrup; 3. limit; 4. conceit, haughtiness, pride; 5. kind of shrub or small tree, <i>Piliostigma thonningii</i> ; 6. outdoor meeting usually under a large tree	14/38	[Gz]
GDM34	Kora 09°22'/34°44' 1506 m, east of Begi	09/34	[Gz]
HCS79	Kora (Koya) 07°57'/38°19' 2121 m west of Adami Tulu	07/38	[Gz]
HDC19	Kora (Cora) (area), cf Korra	08/37	[+ WO]
HDD56	Kora (K'ora, Qora) 08°39'/38°07' 2375 m at the Jimma road	08/38	[Gz q]
HDE75	Kora (Gora) 08°49'/38°54' 2133 m (with church Maryam)	08/38	[Gz]
HDE75	Kora (Gora) 08°49'/38°57' 2056 m between Akaki and Debre Zeyt	08/38	[Gz]
HDF73	Kora 08°50'/39°39' 1249 m mountain near Garibaldi Pass	08/39	[Gz]
HDK08	Kora (area), see under Welenkomi	09/38	[AA]
HDL72	Kora (mountain) 09°44'/38°38' 3082 m	09/38	[AA Gz]
HDT17	Kora 10°03'/39°07' 1685 m	10/39	[Gz]
JBP86	Kora (seasonal spring)	05/41	[MS WO]
JDC50	Kora (Cora) (area) 1417 m	08/41	[+ WO]
JDG08	Kora (Cora, Khora) 09°06'/40°32' 1237/1285 m railway station between Awash and Mieso, 40 km east of Awash stn There is sloping ground, and east of it is an area with plenty of <i>Euphorbia</i> trees.	09/40	[Gz WO Gu Wa]
JDJ59	Kora 09°35'/42°25' 1860 m, north-east of Harar /this Kora in Hararge?/ Population 368 as counted in 1967.	09/42	[Gz]
??	Kora, about 20 km north of Alamata "Kora feels a lot further away travelling in the extraordinarily ancient minibus-like vehicles which take up to two hours to splutter there. Kora is nothing to get excited about, but you may just find that your arrival causes a mutely excited stir." [Bradt 1995(1998) p 328]	12/39	[n]
HDJ23	Kora Weredale 09°19'/36°57' 1974 m south-west of Hareto	09/36	[Gz]
HEK83	Korabba (Corabba, Coreva), see under Macha	12/37	[+ WO Ha]
HDH01c	Koradulle (Coradulle) (village)	09/35	[Gu]
KCH28	Koraf	06/46	[MS]
JBT40	Korago (Corogo) (waterhole) 04°57'/43°24' 388 m	04/43	[Wa WO Gz]
JCD16	Korago (Corago)	05/43	[+ WO]
JCD33c	Korago	05/43	[Wa]
JCL37	Korahe (Gorrahei) (plains)	06/44	[+ WO]
JCL39	Korahe (K'orahe, Qorahe, Gorahai, Gorrahei) (Korshe) 06°37'/44°18' 474 m	06/44	[+ n]
JCL39	Korahe (K'orahe, Qorahe, Gorahai, Gorrahei) (Qorrahey, Gurahai) 06°36'/44°16' 375/474 m (local centre), near map code JCM30 A hot and very level plain about 30 km wide, with dust-devils and mirages.	06/44	[Gz q WO x]
1930s	Around 1930 it was rumoured that the Italians had built a motorable road northwards into Ogaden as far as Korahe. At some time they had a block-house and a small garrison at the river. The Italian road was not maintained by the Ethiopians and soon became very bad. [Agge 1935 p 8, 47-48]		
1935	"In August /1935 after the Welwel incident in December 1934/ the Ethiopian commander		

Afework moved back still further from the wells of Gerlogubi to the wells of Gorrahei, a little oasis with a stone fort. Gorrahei, at the southern end of the Tug Fafan, one of those dry desert river-beds that in the Ogaden's rainy season suddenly become torrential, was the Ethiopians' main advance post manned by a garrison of 600 men. --"

"Steer visited the oasis of Gorrahei where he no sooner arrived than he was put under arrest - 'with great courtesy I must admit' - by its commander, Afework /who/ though xenophobic, impressed all the foreigners who met him. He was technically subordinate to Fitaurari Shifferaw, but in effect the real commander of the Ogaden, a man of weight and force of character, of African features, energetic, suspicious, much loved by his men, known throughout the Ogaden since his capture of some Italians in the recent skirmishes, and, a rarer quality in Ethiopia, an administrator of talent."

"The Italians, only too aware of the threat posed by Afework, had offered Hussein Ali of the Rer Naib, leader of an irregular *banda* also six hundred strong, machine-guns and 'perhaps a tank' if he would occupy the oasis of Gorrahei and Mullah's fort. But neither Hussein Ali nor the Italians had in fact appeared. There was, technically, peace in Ogaden. Afework, though, was digging his 600 men in, and had set up his Oerlikon anti-aircraft gun and his two machine-guns by the Mullah's stone fort, the *Garesa*, at the centre of his position."

"As Steer returned to Harar, he passed reinforcements moving down to Gorrahei: one of the two Guards Battalions at Harar, with its commander, Fitaurari Simu."

[Mockler 1984 p 51-53]

The fighting in 1935 is described by G.L. Steer in *Caesar in Abyssinia* from which a 3-page extract is reprinted in Ethiopia Observer 1956 no 1 p 22-25.

"Two days after the war was declared the Italians attacked Gerlogubi near Walwal and the Ethiopian post of Dolo down by the Kenyan border. At Gerlogubi -- the Italians lost ten men, and Balambaras Tefere twice as many before he fell back on Gorrahei."

"-- the Italians prepared to move against Gorrahei where Afework's forces had now been joined by the second Guards battalion from Harar. There were three thousand men, with mortars and machine-guns, led by Afework, Ali Nur, Omar Samanthar, Fitaurari Baade, and by the two Guards battalion commanders, Fitauraris Simu and Kebbede."

"Colonel Frusci prepared an operation on a large scale, using all his six Arabo-Somali battalions, 150 lorries, 9 tanks, and 20 armoured cars. They were not to be needed. On 2 November twenty Italian planes bombed the Mullah's stone fort. Afework was badly wounded in the hand and the leg. Two days later he lapsed into a coma. Before he died he told his men to bury him on the spot. 'Do not take me back,' he said. 'Even my body should fight the Italians.' But his men disobeyed him, for it was unthinkable that they should not give their leader Christian burial. With one of the few motor-trucks that supplied them they took his body back to the nearest /Christian burial ground at Degeh Bur/."

[Mockler 1984 p 68-69]

"Grazmatch Afeworq attempted to breed a contempt in his men for the aeroplanes and his view was confirmed by the futility of some initial bombing sorties. However, the Italian pilots, completely unopposed, soon improved their aim and on 2 November 1935 they commenced an intensive bombardment of the garrison at Gurahai, a position they coveted for a landing strip. Grazmatch Afeworq was wounded at his Oerlikon anti-aircraft gun and fearful of the effect on his men, ignored his wounds. Unable to move from the gun turret, he remained firing at the enemy planes until two days later, when he collapsed as gangrene spread from his wounds. Against orders, Fitawrary Simu had Afeworq placed in a lorry and ordered the evacuation of the position."

[R Greenfield, Ethiopia, London 1965 p 205]

"When the Italian columns setting out from Gerlogubi and Ferfer reached Gorrahei on 7 November, they found a deserted camp, huts burnt, and 500 rifles abandoned. Afework's death and the continued bombings had demoralized the whole force. Even the Guards battalion had fled, and the efforts of Fitaurari Baade to rally a few men further back were barely successful. The Italians motored forward to the village beyond Gorrahei, /Kebri

Dehar/."

[Mockler 1984 p 69]

"Some of the fiercest fighting was at Qorahé, referred to by the Italians as Gorahai -- One of the most heroic acts on the Ethiopian side was played by Grazmach (posthumously Dejazmach) Afawarq Walda Samayat, who personally operated one of the Ethiopian army's few anti-aircraft guns. Faced by repeated enemy bombing, he was seriously wounded, but, determined to maintain the morale of his men, refused to abandon his anti-aircraft gun. He died of a gangrenous ..led..., which could almost certainly have been cured had he agreed to leave his post for hospital treatment."

[Pankhurst, The Ethiopians, 1998 p 235-236]

text G.L. Steer, Dejazmach Afewerk, hero, *in* Ethiopia Observer no 1 p 22-25.

picts P Gentizon, La conquista ..., Milano 1937 p 177 air view of bombardment;
Ethiopia Observer 1956 no 1 p 24 Emperor at a monument to Afewerk
Wolde Semeyat

HCK28	Koraja (Coragia) (area) 06°34'/38°19' 1861 m Coordinates would give map code HCK29	06/38	[+ WO]
HCK48c	Koraja (Coragia) (place) 06°35'/38°19'	06/38	[Gu Gz]
HDP12	Korak (Corac, Cerac, Chirec) (area) 10°03'/35°58' 989 m	10/35	[+ WO Gz]
??	Koralay ("the Saddleback", = Korale?) Richard Burton ascended this mountain in mid-December 1854 on his way from Zeyla to Harar. From the summit he could count at least forty homesteads, many of them deserted. Some fairly fresh cows' bones might have been from animals eaten by lions. The landscape was partly green and partly yellow. [Burton (1856, 1894, 1966) 1987 vol I p 165]	09/43?	[x]
JCG67	Korale, see Horeley		
JDK53	Korale (Coralei)	09/42	[LM WO]
JDS93	Korale (area) <i>koralla</i> (O) kind of shrub or medium tree, <i>Galiniera coffeoides</i> ; koralti: <i>korati</i> (O) thorn	10/42	[WO]
HDD41	Koralti (Coralti)	08/37	[+ WO]
HEM82	Koram, see Korem		
HD...	Koramache (40 km south of Debre Birhan)	09/39?	[x]
HEL63	Koramba 2453/2577 m, cf Kuramba	12/38	[LM Gu]
HEL63	Koramba Giyorgis (Curamba Gheorghis)	12/38	[LM WO]
HCM32	Koramamu (Coramamu) (area)	06/39	[+ WO]
	<i>koran</i> (qoraan) (O) firewood)		
JEB95	Koranadle (Coranadle)	11/41	[+ WO]
JEC82	Korandadda 10°48'/41°49' 687 m (with water, recorded in 1841)	10/41	[Ha Gz]
HEF83	Korani (K'orani, Qorani) 11°38'/39°37' 1778 m south of Weldiya	11/39	[Gz q]
HFF22	Korar (K'orar, Qorar) 13°45'/39°38' 2233 m (with church Medhane Alem), see under Wikro	13/39	[Gz q]
HFF30	Korar (Qorar, Auza) (with rock-hewn church) see under Geralta churches - northern	13/39	[x]
HDM34c	Korare sub-district (Korarie ..) (centre in 1964 = Aliyu Amba)	09/39	[+ Ad]
HFE07	Koraro	13/39	[x]
HFE39	Koraro (Qoraro) (with rock-hewn churches) see under Geralta churches - northern	13/39	[x]
HFE..	Koraro sub-district (centre in 1964 = Agerbea)	13/39	[Ad]
HFD58	Koraro wereda (centre in 1964 = Inda Silase)	14/38	[Ad]

korata (qorat'a) (A) cut, trimmed; *koret* (korät) (A) gravel;
koreta (qoräta) (T) siege style of warfare;
kwerata reesu (Geez) "striking of his head", a version of
the Crown of Thorns of Jesus

- HEC99 **Korata** (Quorata, Quorta, Kiratza, Koreta, Kwarata) 11/37 [18 Gu WO Ha]
(Qwarata, Koratsa, Qoräta, Qwärät'a) 11/37 [20]
At lake Tana, 1908 m.
- 1600s In the 1600s one of the main seats of the Jesuit mission,
with a Catholic community.
- 1800s Cardinal Guglielmo Massaia camped briefly near Korata (Querata) in the mid-1800s,
accompanied by an escort of soldiers. He admired the view over the lake and says that at
this time Korata had "only" about a thousand inhabitants. It was a place of refuge.
Massaia was well aware that it was from Korata that Antoine d'Abbadie had sent his letter
proposing to start a Catholic mission among the Oromo.
Massaia observed one Gebru Wende who - while reciting the Psalter and in the presence
of his confessor - ordered a certain beautiful woman to be sent to his tent. Massaia took
this as a proof of the low sexual moral of the locals. Massaia's party received food
plentifully but were molested by onlookers from the town.
[G Massaja, *Mes trente-cinq années ...*, Paris, vol I (orig. Italian ed. 1885) p 206-207]
- 1860s According to Flad, two rich merchants of Qoräta were made to part with 20,000 and
10,000 M.T. thaler each to Emperor Tewodros in 1865.
[Tsegaye Tegenu, *The evolution of Ethiopian absolutism*, Uppsala/Sweden 1996 p 139]
On 14 February 1866 the British consul Hormuzd Rassam arrived at Korata, to wait for
prisoners requested to be released from Mekdela. Emperor Tewodros sent him letters and
two lion cubs. The Europeans could hunt hippos in the lake while waiting.
At the end of February missionary Flad arrived, at the beginning of March the artisans,
and a little later the wives (a French woman and the rest Ethiopians). On 10 March the
former British consul Cameron arrived, emaciated after having been chained for two
years, together with the rest of the prisoners, 18 people in all.
They were not permitted to leave Korata. The Emperor ordered Rassam to investigate the
"ill-doings" of Cameron. Finally on 13 April the prisoners departed in direction Gondar
and consul Rassam in direction Zege.
In early June the Emperor and the European prisoners passed Korata again on their way
from Zege to Debre Tabor.
[sources in general]
In March 1867 Tewodros set off to raid Qwarata, a commercial town, but the peasants
prevented him. For a year they had been on their guard against him, and signalled his
moves by beacon fires.
[7th Int Conf 1984 p 272]
- 1870s Carlo Piaggia (b 1827), after having been caravan leader for the French consul De Sarzec
from Massawa in 1873 obtained permission to stay in Ethiopia and made Quorata the
centre of his naturalist collecting. After four years he was frightened by something said by
the emperor and fled to Sudan via Metemma.
The naturalist Achille Raffray (b 1844) sometimes worked together with Piaggia and
lived for a period at Korata, between exploration journeys in 1879 and 1882.
[G Puglisi, *Chi è?...*, Asmara 1952]
- 1930s A large picturesque village on a hill which continues as a small promontory of volcanic
rocks towards the lake. Market on Mondays. A small natural port to the north.
The Italians thought they would revive some of the former importance of the place.
[Guida 1938]
- 1950s The German traveller Herbert Rittlinger and his wife landed for a day at Korata around
1954. They liked the views and culture there very much and took many photos.
"Biblische Gestalten lugten von Bergeshöhe weit über den See. Sie empfangen uns bei der
Landung am Dorfstrand unten und worden nicht unbiblicher. Det Priester und der

Schum, der Bürgermeister, geleiteten uns in ihr Dorf."

"Dieses Dorf Quorata führe ich hier als Gegensatz zum Uito-Dorf an. Es wurde fast rein von Amharen bewohnt, obwohl wir, zumal unter den Frauen, einige unverkennbare Falascha-Merkmale feststellten. Sie hatten ein ganz schönen Anbau für den eigenen Bedarf - sogar Kaffee darunter - und reiche Herden auf Weidegründen weit ausserhalb. Es war das Fruchtbare, Harmonischste, Schönste und Friedlichste, was ich je an menschlichem Gemeinwesen erlebt habe."

"Es war abgelegen und so völlig ausserhalb der uns bekannten Welt, wie man es sich abgelegener gar nicht vorstellen kann. Daher kam uns auf einmal alles, was die Menschen der westlichen und die Hälfte aller Menschen der östlichen Hemisphäre heute so bewegt, in Quorata auf eine geradezu unwahrscheinlich paradisische Art gegenstandslos vor. Dies war ein einfaches, wohlhabendes, von jeder Zivilisation fernes Dorf unter dichtem Grün - das ruhte in sich selbst and sah nach aussen hin aus wie ein perfektes Gemeinwesen."

"Vielleicht war es das alles. Vielleicht herrschte hier aber auch eine übel 'vercliquete' Theokratie. Wir wussten es nicht."

"Wie dem auch sei: Der Verfasser, allein mit seinem Weib, von menschlichen und sogar wohlwollenden, nach aussen hin vorwiegend stumm-staunenden Eingeborenen umgeben, handelte, auf sich selbst gestellt, hier auch nicht anders, als auch seine Kameraden gehandelt haben würden - er fotografierte wie ein Irrer und wechselte Filme. - Nach trotz Schiebewind anstrengender Seefahrt waren wir wunderbarerweise noch am selben Abend in Bahr-dâr."

[H Rittlinger, Schwarzes Abenteuer, Wiesbaden 1955 p 206-207]

- picts Massaja, Mes trente-cinq années ..., vol I circa 1886 p 206 general view;
 Bianchi 1896 p 149 landscape, 153 house of priest;
 F Rosen, Eine deutsche ..., Leipzig 1907 p 385 shore, 389 church, 390 market;
 H Rittlinger, Schwarzes Abenteuer, Wiesbaden 1956
 p 192[3] visit to a village house

- HED60 Korata, see Koreta
- HE... Korata Anbessame (in Debre Tabor awraja) 11/38? [Ad]
 The primary school in 1968 had 136 boys and 49 girls, with 4 teachers.
 korata welete: *welite* (A) daughter of /used in female names/
- HEC99 Korata Welete Petros (Qwärat'a Wälätä P'ët'ros) 11/37 [LM Wa]
 (Karata) 11/37 [20]
 known at least from the 1700s
korate (qorat'e) (A) kind of short dress of women;
koratti (qorattii) (O) thorn
- JDC06 Koray (Corai) (area) 08/42 [+ WO]
- HCG87 Korayko (Coraico) 07°07'/35°25' 958 m 07/35 [+ n]
 koraz: *korats* (qorats') (T) courageous
- HBP62 Koraz, see Nakwa (village)
- korba* (qorba) (T) waterbuck
- HDA89 Korba (Colba) 08/35 [LM WO]
- JBN79 Korbaad (=Korba Ad?) (area) 05/40 [WO +]
korbaya (O) ram, he-goat, mutton, kid
- HCD04 Korbaya (Corbaia) 05°26'/37°53' 1674 m 05/37 [+ WO Gz]
 see under Burji
- HDL10 Korbe 08°46'/40°03' 1219 m 08/40 [Gz]
 south-west of Awash station
- JEC03 Korbelli 10°57'/41°54' 635 m 10/41 [Gz]
 on the border of Djibouti
- HDJ86 Korbento (K'orbento, Qorbento) 09/37 [Gz q]
 09°48'/37°11' 2402 m, south-east of Alibo

- korbeta: *korbita* (korbita, qorbita) (A) hill;
korbet (qorbät) (A,T) skin
- HEU13 **Korbeta** (K'orbeta, Qorbeta, Corbeta, Corbetta) 12/39 [Gz q WO Gu]
 (K'orbata, Korbete, Marsa) (monastery nearby)
 12°48'/39°39' 1740/1771 m
 Centre in 1964 of Mehonie Korbeta sub-district.
 Within a radius of 10 km there are at km
 6SW Mekan (Mecan, Mecam) (with pass) 2512 m
 10W (Maychew, see this name directly)
 5NW Amba Arara
 9N Agudo (Aia) (with pass) 2910 m
- early According to O.G.S. Crawford the trading centre of Manadeley described by Alvares, with about one thousand inhabitants in the 1520s, would correspond to present-day Korbeta in Tigray.
 [Pankhurst 1961 p 144]
- 1930s Agricultural village in a fertile plain surrounded by mountains. After the invasion of Ahmed Grañ in the 1500s, the Oromo moved in, and this became the northernmost area of their advance. Korbeta is an important centre of agriculture and husbandry of the Azebo Oromo.
 In the neighbourhood is the ancient convent of Kidus Merkorios, with a thermal spring.
 [Guida 1938]
- 1936 "With their right flank on Mount Bohorà /the Ist Corps of the Italian forces/ were then to extend their occupation as far as Corbettà, an important centre, the chief town of the Enda Moeni /Enda Mohoni/ district and a busy market, in a favourable position for controlling the approaches to the plateau, and forming therefore the left flank of the alignment."
 "During March 16th and 17th the Ist Corps therefore sent out a light column of Eritreans to Corbettà and the 'Pusteria' Alpine Division to positions on Mount Bohorà and the eastern Mekan Pass; at the same time the remainder of its forces were echeloned back along the caravan road."
 [Badoglio (Eng. ed.) 1937 p 129]
- 1938 About 560 inhabitants. The Italian *Residenza* was on a knoll named Amba Marsa. The market on Thursdays was a centre of exchange between highland and lowland, the most important product being salt brought up from the Afar area.
 [Guida 1938]
- 1940s During the *weyane* revolt Korbeta was bombed twice on 7 and 9 October 1943 with a total of 32 bombs. This British bombing was carried out with three Blenheim from Aden.
 [Gilkes 1975 p 180, 190]
- 1960s Population 1,817 as counted in 1967.
 The primary school (in Raya & Azebo awraja) in 1968 had 151 boys and 65 girls, with 5 teachers.
Korbeta : Mekan
 "At 5.45 a.m. /on 31 March 1936/ -- the alarm was given: the first hostile patrols had come in contact with our advanced posts. Immediately afterwards, salvos from the enemy artillery and mortars fell on the western Mekan Pass, where a first attack was launched and promptly stopped by the Alpini. The centre of gravity of the assault was then moved towards the eastern Mekan, where our prearranged fire plan came immediately into action and destroyed or put to flight the first waves of the enemy's attacking forces."
 "Between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. the attack on the eastern Mekan was renewed in greater strength, after preparation by well-directed artillery and machine-gun fire; but it was broken by the concerted action of the 3rd group of Eritrean battalions and the 'Exilles' battalion of Alpini, who drove the enemy to take refuge in a small wood near by, where he was immediately annihilated by the fire of numerous batteries and by air bombardment."

"About 8 a.m. the attack seemed likely to pause. But an hour later it reopened with renewed violence, its greatest weight being directed throughout against the left flank, where the enemy probably counted on the lesser capacity for resistance of our coloured troops."

"This time the whole of the Imperial Guard, supported by a lively fire, moved against our positions, advancing in rushes and making good use of the ground, giving proof of a solidity and a remarkable degree of training combined with a superb contempt of danger. Against it a veritable avalanche of fire was let loose; the attack was cut short; those who had succeeded in reaching the dry-built walls of our defences were thrust back with the bayonet and with bombs. Held up on this sector, the enemy sought to extend his attack eastwards, where the ground, being more broken and giving better cover, was favourable to an advance. Here he made some progress; but, counter-attacked by the 4th, 5th, and 24th Eritrean battalions of the 2nd Division supported by fire from the artillery of both the divisions, his troops were first stopped and then repulsed decisively, with very heavy loss."

"About 4 p.m. a fresh and desperate attack was attempted against both flanks of our line; but the concerted action of the two Eritrean divisions on the left and the firm stand of the 'Intra' battalion of Alpini on the right, supported by detachments of Blackshirts from the 6th Group and by the Scimenzana native irregulars, decided the day."

"This was the last action launched by the enemy in a final effort. At 5 p.m. he fell back along the whole front, followed up by the artillery and machine-gun fire and by bombing and machine-gun fire from the air. He was at the same time attacked on the right flank by the Azebò Galla, whom we had won over to our side and armed, and who had been concentrated at Uarrabei, in front of Aià, to watch the left flank of the Eritrean Corps." [Badoglio (Eng. ed.) 1937 p 145-146]

HDB10	Korbeysa (Corbeisa) 08°19'/35°43' 1657 m <i>korbi</i> (qorbii) (O) fork-like stick for moving sheaves when threshing	08/35	[+ n]
HCL09	Korbi (Corbi) (area)	06/39	[+ WO]
HEC89	Korbi (Corbi), see under Bahir Dar	11/37	[+ WO]
JB49	Korble (Corble) 04°28'/42°03' 196 m	04/42	[+ Gz]
JC...	Korbo (Corbo)	06/40	[+ Gu]
HDL10	Korbu 09°11'/38°29' 2602 m north-east of Addis Alem	09/38	[AA Gz]
	<i>korch</i> (A) <i>Erythrina abyssinica</i> , <i>E. brucei</i> , tree with ornamental flowers and large leaves		
JER31	Korchita (Corcita) (mountain) 13°06'/41°36' 1284 m	13/41	[+ WO Gz]
JEC19	Kordali (area) <i>Kordida</i> , name of a group of people, subject to the Oromo in the 1600s and partly returning to the Christian empire in the 1700s	11/42	[WO]
HDL84	Kordida 09°51'/38°50' 1952 m (with church Igzi'aber Ab)	09/38	[AA Gz]
HDL87	Kordida 09°47'/39°05' 2600 m, east of Fiche	09/39	[Gz]
HCL58	Korduro (Corduro) 06°50'/39°09' 3449/3685 m mountain south of Dodola	06/39	[Gz WO]
	<i>kore</i> (qore) (A) crater; (A?O?) swamp; <i>kore</i> (O) (qoree) thorn; (qoore) start to dry; <i>kore</i> (Som) 1. upper, above, top; 2. small monkey; <i>koore</i> (Som) saddle; <i>qore</i> (Som) author; <i>Kore</i> (Qoré), a group of Oromo known from Lasta around 1700		
GDM32	Kore 09°23'/34°31' 1605 m, near Begi	09/34	[Gz]
HCL85	Kore (Core) (hill) 2740 m, cf Korre	07/38	[+ WO]

HCL95	Kore (K'ore, Qore, Core) (place) 07°13'/38°55' 2752/2756 m, north-east of Kofele	07/38	[Gz q WO Gu]
HCS78	Kore (K'ore, Qore) 07°56'/38°14' 2376 m	07/38	[Gz q]
HDE61	Kore (Core)	08/38	[x WO]
HDK06	Kore (K'ore, Qore) 09°05'/38°04' 2518 m see under Ginchi	09/38	[AA Gz q]
HDL40	Kore (K'ore, Qore) 09°28'/38°26' 1756 m	09/38	[AA Gz q]
HDL55	Kore (K'ore, Qore) 09°34'/38°57' 2659 m (with church Mikael)	09/38	[AA Gz q]
HDT47	Kore (K'ore, Qore) 10°22'/39°05' 1701 m	10/39	[Gz q]
HDT88	Kore 10°45'/39°09' 2651 m, north-west of Were Ilu	10/39	[Gz]
HDU71	Kore 10°35'/39°28' 1979 m, near Were Ilu	10/39	[Gz]
JCP91	Kore (K'ore, Qore, Egarsa, Eghersa, Ejarsa) 08°05'/40°47' 1388 m	08/40	[Gz q]
JDA88	Kore (K'ore, Qore, G. Core) (area) 08°05'/40°47' 1388/2425 m, see under Gelemso	08/40	[Gz q WO]
JDB90	Kore (K'ore, Qore) 09°02'/40°45' 2118 m	09/40	[Gz q]
JDH05	Kore (Core)	09/41	[LM WO]
JDH27	Kore 09°14'/41°24' 1883 m, west of Deder	09/41	[Gz]
JDH57	Kore (Core) (area)	09/41	[WO]
JDJ06	Kore 09°06'/42°12' 1602 m, north-east of Harar	09/42	[Gz]
	kore boru: <i>boru</i> (O) muddy /water/; (A) ox having a blaze		
HDL44	Kore Boru (K'ore B., Qore Boru) 09°29'/38°48' 2567 m	09/38	[AA Gz q]
HDL73	Kore Edi (K'ore Edi, Qore Edi) 09°42'/38°45' 2650 m, south of Fiche	09/38	[AA Gz q]
HDL46	Kore Gero (K'ore Gero, Qore Gero) 09°26'/38°58' 2657 m	09/38	[AA Gz q]
HE...	Kore Gotu (Koregotu) (centre in 1964 of Seyo Tebela sub-district)	11/39	[+ Ad]
HDL55	Kore Jilo (K'ore J., Qore Jilo) 09°34'/38°54' 2637 m, south-east of Fiche	09/38	[AA Gz q]
	kore roba: <i>roba</i> (O) rain		
HDL23	Kore Roba (K'ore Roba, Qore Roba) 09°16'/38°45' 2625 m, north of Addis Abeba	09/38	[AA Gz q]
	kore sulo: <i>sulo, suuloo</i> (O) one-eyed		
HDL45	Kore Sulo (K'ore Sulo, Qore Sulo) 09°30'/38°56' 2651 m	09/38	[AA Gz q]
	kore yamo: <i>yamu</i> (O) invite, call		
HDL91	Kore Yamo (K'ore Y., Qore Yamo) 09°55'/38°33' 2223 m, east of Tulu Milki	09/38	[AA Gz q]
HEE55	Koreb, see Girshit		
??	Korebe During a campaign in Wello in November 1856, Emperor Tewodros fought a battle at Korebe. [Zänab 1902]	../..	[n]
	<i>korebta</i> (koräbta) (A,T) hill		
HDK89	Korebta (Cirofta) 09°50'/38°24' 2577 m see under Gebre Guracha	09/38	[AA Gz]
HDM64	Korebta Be'ale Weld (church) 09°36'/39°43' north of Ankober	09/39	[Gz]

Korem: an Amharic dictionary gives no explanation as a word, but pronunciation *kwerem*

- HEM82 **Korem** (Quorem, Quoram, Quaram, Kuaram, Koram) 12/39 [Gz Te Gu x]
 (Kworam) MS: 12°33'/39°32' 2490 m; Gz: 12°30'/39°32' 2539 m
 (1940s source: 12°30'/39°45')
 "Quoram Vecchia = Old Korem" has the same coordinates
 (with sub-post office under Dessie and military camp)
 Centre in 1964 of Mehal Wefla wereda and
 of Wefla sub-district.
 Within a radius of 10 km there are at km
 8E Cholemeder (Ciolemeder, Ciollemadur, Chilama Durr) (area)
 7SW Womberat (Uomberat, Uomberet) (mountain w pass) 3160 m
 10SW Lat (Lat Ghiorghis) (village)
 7NW (lake and locality Ashenge, see this name)
 6N Mekarre (Mecarre, Mecare) (village) 1469 m
- geol At Korem 1500 m of lavas can be simply divided between 1200 m of monotonously
 uniform basalts forming the lower part of the succession, with 300 m of basalts and more
 silicic lavas at the top.
 [Mohr, Geology 1961 p 126]
- meteo Average rainfall 991 mm per year recorded in 1908-1915.
- 1500s The decisive battle in 1542 between Ahmed Grañ and the Portuguese
 seems to have been in this area.
- 1900s The Italian telegraph line Asmara-Addis Abeba which was constructed
 in 1902-1904 had an office at Korem.
- 1909 Dejzmach Abate Bwalu, a Shewan, was appointed governor of Tigray in March 1909.
 He did not leave the capital until several months later. Abreha Araya, governor of Inderta,
 said that he would not submit and would fight if Abate set foot in Tigray.
 Abreha made a surprise attack on Abate near Korem on 9 October 1909 at dawn. Three
 hours later, Abate telegraphed the emperor that he had won the battle.
 Doctor Annaratone (who was also Italian commercial agent) was called from Dessie to
 Korem to take care of the wounded. There were thousands from both sides.
 Those dead who were followers of Abreha were denied burial and were abandoned to the
 vultures. For two weeks doctor Annaratone coped alone with the heat, mosquitoes, poor
 water supply and the wounded until Dr. l'Herminier arrived from Addis Abeba.
 [C Prouty, Empress Taytu ..., 1986 p 317-319]
- 1936 "Dr. Veeneklaas, of the Netherlands Red Cross, stated that the Italians bombed Quoram
 with gas for an entire day, demoralizing the Ethiopian soldiers who mutinied."
 (Was this bombing on 16, 17 or 18 March 1936?)
 [Sbacchi 1997 p 72]
 Two single-engine Fokker F.VIIa were bought second-hand from France and delivered in
 June 1935. They were given the names *Aba Dagnew* nad *Aba Kagnew* and were used as
 Ethiopian Red Cross planes, especially one of them piloted by Carl Gustaf von Rosen.
 They were first attacked at Dessie in Februari and are said to have been both destroyed at
 Korem on 17 March.
 [Nordbø for EAL]
 Pilot von Rosen was hidden in the neighbourhood while the Italians shot from the air at
 the Fokker on the ground. During a pause von Rosen hurried there and saved his
 sandwiches and a beer. In the trip to Korem as described below the plane carried some
 anti-poison gas chemical to be delivered. As there was no more ambulance plane to fly,
 von Rosen had no proper function and left Ethiopia, originally with the intention to
 collect a new airplane to deliver to Ethiopia.
 [Swedish sources]
 Haile Selassie left Dessie in the afternoon of 21 February 1936 to move to Korem.
 In late February the Emperor stayed for a time in three caves near to there.
 [Potyka 1974 p 165]
 When the voluntary Red Cross officer Major Gerald Burgoyne got to Korem he met and
 became friends with Bitwoded Mekonen Demisse, Governor General of Wellega. He and

his staff occupied the cave which had sheltered the Emperor.

"They rode together to the battle-front, and Gerald Burgoyne was able to render some last sad services to the Ethiopian hero when Mekonen died of his wounds on the plain of Antalo."

[3rd Int Conf of Ethiopian Studies 1969 p 316]

"On the evening of the fortieth anniversary of the battle of Adowa, 1 March, the Emperor reached Quoram by mule, having left his car at the foot of the Tigrean highlands. There he met Ras Kebede and Captain del Valle and heard of the deaths of Ras Mulugueta, of Mulugueta's son, and of Major Burgoyne."

[Mockler 1984 p 106]

On 2 March 1936 the British Red Cross Ambulance was bombed near Alamata.

"/Dobinson:/ 'In the afternoon of the same day we rapidly shifted our camp out into the great Kworam plain in order to get weel away from any military objective. - The morning after that, March 4th, the unit was ready to start work. The flags had been spread out on the ground and the wounded were beginning to come in. In the operation tent Dr. Melly was putting on his gloves to make the first amputation when an S.62 plane flew over. Without warning it dropped a heavy bomb which fell right in the middle of the Red Cross flag stretched out on the ground about 60 feet from the tents. -- The next bomb, one of small calibre, fell on the tent itself, killing the patient on the operating table and blowing doctors and attendants in all directios, fortunately without injuring them. - The plane dropped ten large bombs, twenty smaller bombs and a number of incendiaries. Three patients were killed outright in their beds and four others mortally wounded. Several tents and lorries were completely destroyed."

[M Junod, Warriors without weapons (French orig. ed.: Le troisième combattant), London 1951 p 54-55]

"An Italian plane flew over the new camp at Korem. Its mark was S62, and its pilot was Vittorio Mussolini, son of the Italian Dictator. At an altitude of between five and six hundred feet he circled round the camp. He dropped forty bombs on the British Red Cross Unit. Altogether three patients were killed and several wounded."

The camp was bombed again on 5 and 6 March.

[G L Steer 1936 p 278-280]

The Fokker aircraft of the Ethiopian Red Cross, piloted by Count von Rosen and with Dr Junod of the League of Nations as passenger, was completely destroyed by Italian airplanes on the ground near Korem on 17 March 1936.

During several hours they dropped a total of 230 bombs on the Fokker, which finally was ignited and burnt out.

[Svenska vingar ..., 1999 p 10 + F Hylander, I detta tecken, Sthlm 1936 p 126]

By mid-March the Italians could look across the plain of lake Ashenge towards the heights of Korem. "All around and behind Quoram, down in the hot plains below, the countryside was in open revolt. Bands of Galla, hundreds sometimes thousands strong, were snapping at the flanks of the Imperial armies."

The Emperor meanwhile remained at Korem, with his court officials and his Guards, Ras Kebede's army from Amba Alagi, and very little else.

[Mockler 1984 p 111-112]

The Emperor made some optimistic statements from Korem still on 20 March. The adviser Konovaloff left lake Ashenge on 3 April, and when he arrived at Korem he found that it had been pillaged by Ethiopians. Konovaloff found the Emperor at the Mikael church south-east of Korem.

The Emperor had heard about a camp of about 2000 Italians in the neighbourhood and wanted to attack them before reinforcements arrived. The chiefs and soldiers did not want to do this. Haile Selassie discussed plans for radical reorganization with Konovaloff, but in the late afternoon he gave order to leave, in the direction of Lalibela.

[Potyka, Haile Selassie 1974 p 168, 173]

Dr. Junod of the International Committee of the Red Cross went north from Addis Abeba by airplane. "Kworam was about twenty miles from the Italian lines and it was subjected

to bombing from the air all day long. In order to avoid unpleasant encounters we should have to arrive just before nightfall, too late to be caught by Italian planes and yet early enough to be able to make a landing whilst there was still enough light."

"We left Dessie at 5.20 -- By good fortune all went well and at a quarter to six we landed and taxied over to the side of the Emperor's plane. When I descended I was surprised to find that His Majesty had sent one of his own mules to carry me to his headquarters, and there was also a mule for my pilot /Carl Gustaf von Rosen/. So there we were making our way astride our mules along the mountain paths towards the famous caves which formed the refuge of the Emperor and his General Staff."

"The whole time I noticed a certain persistent smell, something like horse-radish, and I asked an Abyssinian officer what it was. -- 'That's mustard gas. Every day Italian planes sprinkle it over the whole sector.' So the rumours I had heard repeatedly in Addis-Abbaba that the Italians were using poison gas were well founded."

"For about two hours we had been making our way along an out-of-the-way track, and suddenly as we came beyond the shoulder of a hill we saw thousands of fires glowing amidst the trees. They were the camp fires of the Imperial Guard -- It was like a well-lighted town under a sparkling heaven of stars."

"We had to dismount. The path now rose so steeply and became so narrow that it was impossible for mules. Climbing up we came to a sort of terrace before a steep rocky face. Towards the edge of the terrace I saw the menacing shape of an Oerlikon anti-aircraft gun, and I knew that we were near to the Emperor."

"In a few words I informed him of the terrible situation of our ambulance units and asked him to provide me in good time, before dawn the next day, with a company of soldiers to help camouflage my plane on the Kworam air field. I also told him that I intended to leave as soon as possible taking the wounded Dutch officer with me.

I took my leave of His Majesty, and for that evening and the subsequent night I was the guest of his officers."

"At four o'clock in the morning when the dawn was just breaking 200 Abyssinian soldiers lined up near my tent. Silent and motionless each man carried a large leafy branch in his hand. -- At about half-past five we arrived at the air field and hastily camouflaged the planes, then we turned towards the mountains to join the British ambulance unit."

"After a climb of about an hour and a half we turned and looked back towards the plain and there we saw the shapes of our plane and the Emperor's clearly outlined by the greenery on the yellow air field. I looked at my pilot, who grinned. The camouflage was a waste of time."

"Whilst we were still looking down at the air field we heard the drumming of aeroplane engines, and three Caproni bombers flew over towards the air field. One of the first stick fell squarely on the Emperor's plane, which flared up like a torch. We looked at each other again and then decided to hurry back to the air field and remove the camouflage from our plane if we could, and to chance once again the slender protection of the Red Cross."

"We made our way down to the plain as fast as we could, constantly stumbling in our haste, still protected to some extent by a few trees. The Capronis were still circling round. One of them was obviously trying to hit our plane, a second was dropping bombs round the air field and the third was bombing the surrounding hills. We had to keep an eye on them and throw ourselves to the ground whenever they flew over us."

"After progressing for about 600 yards I became aware of an acrid odour and at the same time my eyes began to smart. There was no doubt that the Italians were dropping mustard-gas bombs. We took a rather longer way round which skirted the shoulder of a little hill and kept us above the level of the gas. Having no doubt exhausted their bomb loads the Italian planes now turned away and soon they had vanished over the horizon."

"When we got to our plane we found that, as though by a miracle, it was undamaged. We removed the camouflage hurriedly and no sooner had we finished than three Italian Fiat fighters roared over. -- The fighters dived one after the other for about a quarter of an hour, machine-gunning as they dived. But to our astonishment our plane did not catch fire."

Junod's party found, however, that the petrol tank and containers had holes so that all petrol had run out. Junod returned to the headquarters of the Emperor and found someone who would be able to repair the tank and returned with him. "But on reaching the brow of the last hill which gave us a view of the air field I observed with a sinking heart that our plane was now a heap of charred wreckage from which smoke was curling into the air." A wounded Dutch transport officer, van Schelven, turned up on a mule and was disappointed that he could not have a flight back to Addis Abeba. Junod went back to the Emperor's shelter once more. There were many wounded outside. "Men were stretched out everywhere beneath the trees. There must have been thousands of them. -- I could see horrible suppurating burns on their feet and on their emaciated limbs."

"We finally left Kworam in the Emperor's car. When he offered me its use His Majesty said only: 'Take care.' - 'Of the Italian planes?' - 'No, of the Chiftas.'"

/Concerning the continuation for Junod and von Rosen, see under Kobbo./

[Junod 1951 p 56-62]

1937 Post office of the Italians (civilian to replace an existing military one) was opened in the beginning of September 1936. Its cancellations read QUORAM * ETIOPIA in early 1937 which was changed to QUORAM * ERITREA later in 1937.

Around September 1937 it also happened that Ethiopian rebels sacked Korem.

Korem was centre of Wefla (Uofla) which had about 62,000 inhabitants.

The town had about 1,100 inhabitants of which 45 Italians.

The original village had markets on Thursdays. The Italians developed a centre about 2.5 km to the south-west.

At 5 km from the centre there was a temporary *Tappa di Quóram* with military commissariat of stores and a military command post.

In the Italian time there was an *albergo* with 8 rooms, 4 places serving food, post, telephone, school, hospital. There were plans to build a new *albergo-ristorante* and a small church of *San Antonio da Pádova*.

[Guida 1938]

1940s The radio telegraphist Angelo Squeglia (b 1916) worked at Korem in 1940.

In September 1943 the Minister of War, Ras Abebe Aregai, had his headquarters there during the campaign to put down the *weyane* revolt in Tigray. The main road northwards was finally cleared on 6 October.

[Gilkes 1975 p 180]

When members of the Swedish Mission BV passed there in November 1947 they saw a gallows erected near the road.

The school around 1948 was in a little church built by the Italians.

1960s Population 6,841 as counted in 1967.

There were ten telephone numbers in 1967. Those on Christian-type personal names were for Asseffa Dargie, Wagshum Getahun Admassu, Kassaye Tesemma, Legesse Berhe, Reda Gabre Hiwot. Moslem-type names were Nafih Mohammed and Haji Siraj Hagos. European-type was Vincenzo Defabritiz. There was a single number for the Imperial Ethiopian Army.

Lt. General Hailu Kebede school (in Wag awraja) at the primary level in 1968 had 408 boys and 221 girls in grades 1-6, with 11 male teachers and one female.

At the junior secondary level there were 48 male and 14 female students in grades 7-8, with 2 teachers of which one foreign.

1970s Cancellations of the postal agent (-1974-) used spelling QUOREM.

1982 In late 1982 shelters for 24,000 famine victims were set up by the government at Korem.

In December 1982 Save the Children Fund (UK) set up a feeding centre for malnourished children. Between 300 and 400 children were cared for in that month. Some children arrived weighing 70 per cent of their proper body weight, a critical limit.

- 1983 From the three to four hundred children being looked after in Korem over Christmas 1982, the figure showed a steady rise in the early months of 1983. In March 1983 a survey trip to Korem was made by Father Stephanos Tedla, executive secretary of the Ethiopian Catholic Secretariat, and he then issued a call to all voluntary agencies stressing the need for immediate famine relief.
- By April 1983 the total figure of children at the Korem centre had risen to 35,500.
- On 21 April 1983 a party set off from Addis Abeba toward Korem, consisting of the British Ambassador Brian Barder, his wife, one of the embassy staff, and Miss Libby Grimshaw, field director of the Save the Children Fund. They halted in Dessie, however, and only Grimshaw continued to Korem.
- At dawn the next morning the town of Korem was attacked by the TPLF. The defenders could muster only 1,700 troops against an attacking force of 4,700. By the time the air force MiGs arrived, the attackers were well inside the town and could not be bombed. The TPLF took supplies and all the Save the Children vehicles. They took a hostage of foreigners: director Grimshaw, two expatriate doctors, a nutritionist, two workers from the Irish relief agency named Concern, an American priest, and some Italian nuns. The guerrillas headed off with their captives the next morning. They were all released about seven weeks later at the Sudan border.
- It was not until September 1983, five months after the TPLF took the town, that Save the Children was operational again in Korem. 2,000 children were registered by early February 1984. 6,000 children were registered in the first three weeks of March 1984. Save the Children dispensed medical help at Korem in 1983-84.
- In April 1984 the relief camp /of RRC?/ recorded 854 deaths, and about 400 in September.
- [Jansson, Harris & Penrose 1987 p 134-136 + P Gill 1986 p 18-21 + R W Solberg, *Miracle in Ethiopia*, New York 1991 p 22, 24]
- Resident population in the town about 9,300 in 1984.
- Claes-Göran Landergren from the Swedish Red Cross and working for the Ethiopian Red Cross visited Korem in late 1984 and realised what the situation was like. He then tried to persuade the Ethiopian Red Cross to start aid work, but its leader Dawit Zawde (once a young doctor in the Gambela hospital) was reluctant and thought that famine relief was outside the region of engagement of the Red Cross. When then the whole world became engaged through TV films, the Ethiopian Red Cross also joined (at Bati by then) and finally reached a million people.
- [C-G Landergren, *Medmänsklig färdriktning*, Sthlm 2003 p 109-110]
- "In the Korem camp more than 100 people were dying each day in October 1984; this number rose before the end of the year but had been reduced to about 20 each day by mid-1985. Fifty-two thousand people remained in the camp, but food supplies throughout the period amounted to less than 1,700 calories a day per person."
- [Jansson et al 1987 p 157]
- The British journalist Peter Gill visited Korem with a television crew 8-10 October 1984, and no other journalist had then been there for several months. As he describes the town it has a small Orthodox church, a modest market, several extraordinarily scruffy hotels and an army barracks-cum-administrative headquarters.
- "Korem is virtually the furthest north you can drive from Addis without risking capture by the guerrillas. Indeed it is quite possible that you will arrive in Korem only to find that the road behind you has been cut and that you cannot return."
- [P Gill, *A year in the death ...*, London 1986 p 1, 17]
- From July 1983 up to March 1984 the monthly death toll in Korem camp stayed under 100; then it shot up. In April 1984 the camp recorded 854 deaths. By October the deaths in Korem topped 100 a day for the first time. What food aid there was in Korem in October 1984 was from the European Commission.
- /Hancock writes that the first truckloads of food aid arrived in November 1984./

[Gill 1986 p 26, 79]

In late 1984 there was some serious infectious disease in Korem and other camps. Some medical staff diagnosed it as shigellosis and others as cholera, but government authorities preferred to have no talk about cholera.

"The problems of transporting food to inaccessible locations in the Ethiopian highlands /in 1985/ were formidable. It took ten hours to reach Sekota by truck from Korem, a distance of 96 km."

[Jansson et al]

Commissioner Dawit Wolde Giorgis was /Deputy/ Chief of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) and headed the famine relief operation in 1974 and in 1983-1985. In his book 'Red Tears' he mentions Korem most often among the relief camps, and he used to take foreign visitors there.

"I was particularly interested in Korem. There had recently been a great deal of publicity attached to this small city. In May /1983/, Tigrayan rebels had made a surprise attack and briefly occupied it, capturing seven relief workers, including two British citizens from the Save the Children Fund. The prisoners were soon released unharmed, but as a result of the attack all relief operations in Korem were shut down and famine victims had dispersed.

After two months of inactivity, the RRC sent in workers to begin relief efforts again. I had just asked the Save the Children Fund to reopen their shelter as well, and they had agreed. -- I had worked with them when I was Deputy Commissioner of the RRC during the 1974 drought and was impressed by their unflinching perseverance under the most difficult circumstances; nevertheless I was amazed at their readiness to return to Korem and continue their relief activities after the kidnapping incident. Now I wanted to make sure that the area was adequately defended so they could feel secure in their work."

"I found Korem secure, but in a desperate state. Thousands of refugees were swelling the population of the city beyond our ability to serve them. More than 48,000 people were waiting for food assistance. The Ethiopian Red Cross was hopelessly overburdened. Sekota, a popular rebel stronghold 40 miles to the west, was out of food and unable to get more. Since neither the RRC nor the voluntary agencies could send in supplies because of the danger of rebel attacks, floods of Tigrayan refugees were pouring east into the shelters of Korem, Alamatta, and Maichew every day."

[Dawit W.G., Red tears, USA (The Red Sea Press) 1989 p 122-123]

"After much pressure from Minister of Interior Taye who chaired the famine committee, it was finally persuaded /for government members/ to visit the worst-affected areas in the North. We flew to Kombolcha at the beginning of April /1984/ and then drove north to Korem. -- The area was a blighted wasteland where nothing could possibly grow; nothing was left but people, lining the main roads, almost attacking the cars in their desperation for food."

"We stopped at many villages on the way to Korem. Some of the ministers wanted to keep going on, but I was determined to bring the reality of famine home to these men -- Every village was full of suffering and death. -- Whenever we stopped hundreds of people rushed to our cars, pressing up against the glass, faces twisted with the pain of hunger -- People crowded around us because the lead car was mine and had the RRC emblem on it, a sign of hope and relief among the peasants for over a decade. -- Taye, a deeply religious man, began to cry and the rest showed signs of deep emotion."

[Dawit Wolde Giorgis 1989 p 138-139]

"We reached Korem. I had been here four times in the past two months and each time I had seen a terrible change for the worse. -- There were more than 250,000 people in and around the small village which had a population of 3,000 under normal circumstances. The shelter of Save the Children could hold no more than 10,000 and there were an estimated 100,000 needing immediate assistance."

"The shelters and the open field near the warehouse were packed to overflowing with the sick and dying. -- There were a few who still had the strength to shout at us in anger and despair: 'Why are you coming to see us? We've had so many visitors, why doesn't Mengistu come to see us?' As if to mock them, even here the streets were decorated for

the upcoming celebration. Heroic posters of Marx and Lenin frowned down at them in the streets and even inside the shelters."

"The relief workers did not even have time to talk to us. One of the ministers asked an exhausted Save the Children volunteer to explain the situation. She snapped back: 'It is ridiculous that we should have to tell you the problems of your own people! -- Commissioner Dawit can tell you what the situation looks like --' None of us could control ourselves; we all wept. Korem had become the death bed of thousands. But Korem was only one of 240 shelters and distribution centers --"

"Every hour that went by 100 people /in the North/ starved to death. The only thing that could save them now were massive donations from the big grain producing governments in response to my appeal of March 30. That response, also, never came."

[Dawit 1989 p 139-142]

UN Secretary-General Pérez de Cuéllar with wife visited the Korem relief centre on 9 November 1984.

[UNDRO News, Nov/Dec 1984 p 3]

The writer Graham Hancock visited Korem at the beginning of December 1984 together with the photographer Mohamed Amin who said as follows: "If Makalle was bad, Korem was much worse. There were about 60,000 starving people in Korem when we arrived, camped in an open field outside the town. There was almost no food, and no real shelter, and the nights up there are cold, with temperatures falling to around zero. The early morning scenes were the worst, by far the worst thing I have ever seen. -- I went and filmed in the mortuary where the dead were carried by their relatives to be logged and recorded, and for two solid hours the bodies kept on being brought in. To the people of Korem, just to survive the night was an achievement."

"-- the situation had stabilized somewhat but people were still dying in droves. The only difference, according to aid workers, was that they were now dying in relief camps rather than on their farms and that there was therefore some hope that the death-rate might be brought under control."

"Korem has no airstrip of its own so, to get there, it is necessary to land at the town of Alamata in the valley a few thousand feet below and then drive 25 kilometres of winding road up a mountainside."

"The children /at Korem/ were in a worse condition even than those at Bati, while the adults, with huge bald heads atop dwarfish, skeletal bodies, seemed not of this earth --"

"But at least there was food in Korem - even if pitifully little of it - and people no longer faced the immediate threat of death by starvation. Far more serious, at an altitude where temperatures below freezing point are common, was the fact that 30,000 people, about half the population of the camp, had *no shelter whatsoever*, no blankets, no waterproof clothing and, in the total absence for miles around of any fuelwood, no fires."

"Thus it was, as Christmas came and went, and as 1984 edged into 1985, that upwards of 500 drought refugees *every day* were continuing to pour into Korem, compounding and complicating an already stupefying logistical problem for the overburdened relief agencies."

[G Hancock, Ethiopia - the challenge of hunger, London 1985 p 94-96]

It is impossible to say what the result of the October 1984 appeal would have been if left to itself, because by the last week of that month the Ethiopian famine was suddenly catapulted into headlines all around the world. On 23 and 24 October, two films made at the shelters in Korem and Mekele were shown on BBC television. These reports, each about eight minutes long, left Great Britain gasping with horror."

[Dawit 1989 p 181]

"Was there something in the camera work of Mohammed Amin that struck a special chord? -- it is unfathomable to me why, on that particular date, that particular film created a worldwide sensation. The scenes televised nightly by World Vision were just as horrible; *Seeds of Despair* was just as shocking."

"Michael Buerk's deliberate words and powerful phrases echoed -- In the next week, 425

international stations picked up the footage for release and the entire Western world was stunned by the hopelessness and horror --"

[Dawit 1989 p 188-189 with pieces of BBS film text]

Buerk: "Dawn, and as the sun breaks through the piercing chill of night on the plain outside Korem, it lights up a biblical famine, now, in the twentieth century." The BBC said that its documentary was subsequently shown by 425 of the world's broadcasting organizations with a potential audience of 470 million people.

Bitter Harvest, made for Thames Television, was transmitted on 25 October.

[Gill 1986 p 91, 93]

1984: "The British nurse was picking her way through the mass of women and children squatting in the dust at the entrance to the field hospital of the refugee camp at Korem -- She was selecting which children could still be helped, she was choosing who would live and who would die. A television crew trailed behind her, moving its way among the starving. A reporter approached her with a microphone and asked her how she felt about what she was doing. It was not a question she felt capable of answering. The look she gave the camera came from very far away."

[M Ignatieff, *The warrior's honour*]

"The British Minister of Overseas Development, Timothy Raison, came to Ethiopia twice. -- He seemed to understand nothing of the human question -- When he came I personally drove with him to Korem. As with Senator /Edward/ Kennedy, I saw him change before my eyes. The mask of the government official was stripped away --"

[Dawit 1989 p 219]

Peter Gill made a new visit to Korem on 19 June 1985, together with a group of French VIP persons. The camp was better ordered than eight months earlier. There were new corrugated-iron shelters, one prominently marked "Starvation Room". The death rate was about 20 per day.

"The 52,000 people at Korem were prisoners in their relief camp. They had neither the means nor the opportunity to resume a productive life."

[Gill 1986]

At a press conference in New York on 19 August 1985, RRC Commissioner Dawit Wolde Giorgis said that deaths in the Korem relief camp had fallen to 4 or 5 in a day, compared to 180-200 at the end of 1984.

[News]

"Even after I had finally left Ethiopia /January 1986/, my office reported to me -- that NGOs at Korem had estimated about 12,000 of the camp population at the relief centre had fled into the surrounding hills for fear of being registered for resettlement. Our monitors had been informed that they would not be allowed to fly to Korem to look into the matter, and the office was besieged by telephone calls from the press. -- /Jansson succeeded to arrange for the monitors to visit Korem./ That was done and the situation was resolved when the people returned from the hills and were readmitted to the relief centre. But this was one more indication that the resettlement programme was running into increasing difficulties."

[Kurt Jansson et al, *The Ethiopian famine*, London 1987 p 67]

By August 1987, the world learnt that Ethiopia was in the throes of a new crisis, but the camps at Korem and elsewhere were not recreated.

[Solberg 1991 p 176]

Enrolment in the Sweden-supported Wello Environment Education Project at Korem secondary school was 375 in 1985/86 and 340 in 1986/87.

"TPLF fighters bypassed Mekelle and in a series of offensives launched as of 25/5/88 completely destroyed government forces and controlled Ambalage, Maichew, and Korem --"

"The government counter-offensive against the TPLF forces which had blockaded the Dessie-Makelle road started on 5 May 1988 from two directions. The 9th Army Division

which had been shipped from Massawa to Assab and brought through Dessie attacked the TPLF forces from the southern direction. The 3rd Army Division -- launched an offensive operation from the opposite direction. After a fierce battle of six days government forces were able to regain control over the town of Korem and open the Dessie-Mekelle road." [Tekeste Melake *in* 12 Int Conf of Eth Studies p 967, 969-970]

When the government in late August 1989 prepared an offensive into southern Tigray, the EPRDF struck first. By 8 September EPRDF forces had captured Maychew and Korem and were advancing along the main highway.

[Africa Watch 1991]

1990s Population about 16,900 in 1994.

"Korem is Maychew revisited, but scruffier and even more hysterical. There are plenty of gaudy hotels along Korem's main street -- A more alluring attraction along this stretch of road is Lake Ashenge."

[Bradt 1995(1998) p 328]

2000s Population about 20,800 in 2001.

picts P Gentizon, *La conquista ..*, Milano 1937 p 192 Italian military trucks;

Gli annali .., anno III vol I /Roma 1940/ p 804-805[1]

Italian-built informary;

Vi (Sthlm) 1985 no 2 p 16-17 tent camp and row of dead people;

R W Solberg, *Miracle in Ethiopia*, New York 1991 p 112-113

[pl 2] new shipment of food, [pl 7] drought victims waiting for food;

Ethiopia, Library of Congress (USA) 1993 p 61 famine scene.

HEM82 Korem wereda (-1994-) 12/39 [n]

Koremash: pronounced *kweremash*

HDL19 Koremash (Koremsha, Coromasc) 09/39 [Gz WO Gu n]

with peak at 09°13'39°18' 2072/2089 m, south-west of Sheno

HDM31 **Koremash** (Kormash) (visiting postman u. D.Birhan) 09/39 [MS Ad Po]

(centre in 1964 of Kasim wereda)

(Korämash, Koromatch, Koramache, Koremish)

/which Koremash?:/

1920s On his way back to the capital after the large expedition to Dessie, Ras Teferi around 15 July 1921 visited Koremash, where the recently captured Lij Iyasu was kept prisoner for the time being. Dr Mouzels in his journal during the expedition wrote:

"Il y a là sur un éperon à pic au-dessus de la vallée, un plateau sur lequel ont été construits un certain nombre de bâtiments recouverts en tôles, c'est paraît-il, un dépôt de munitions et une cartoucherie."

Hanck mentions an arsenal in 1922 and Guillon a depot of ammunition in 1925.

[12th Int Conf of Ethiopian Studies 1994 p 893, 895, 897]

1960s The Koremish primary school in 1968 had 58 boys and 24 girls in grades 1-5, with 2 teachers.

2000s "12.5 km from the main road, with the turn off a small gravel road 64 kilometres from Mekananya, marked by a small sign on the right which is rusted out and unreadable. Although the road starts out okay, after about 5 km it deteriorates into a rocky mess which should only be negotiated in the dry season in a good four-wheel drive. The scenery is lovely, especially when you get to the edge of the plateau and begin to get scenic peeks into the valley of the Kessem River."

"At the very end of the road is Koremash, a small Amhara village perched on a cliff-top overlooking the endless view down into the Bulga and Afar lowlands and the Awash River valley. It is easy to see why Negus Haile Melakot, the father of -- Menelik II -- chose this site for his stronghold and ammunition dump. I was told that Menelik inherited the site and used it as his armoury."

"There are about a dozen stone buildings in a large compound on the site. Although they date from about 150 years ago, they have been kept up and are undergoing renovation, so

they are in good shape. They are impressively large and well constructed, about 15 m long by 5 wide and 3 high, made of stone blocks with corrugated metal roofs. In some of the buildings there are impressive juniper wood ceilings, on top of which the ammunition was apparently stored. The compound is surrounded by a low stone wall, which on three sides is on the edge of an impressive cliff."

"Unfortunately there are no old cannons or other military equipment left at the site. Even our informal guide -- who had taught at the local school over 25 years ago, couldn't remember seeing any weapons there. The compound remains an active government centre, with Woreda offices, a local court and even prison accommodation kept in some of the buildings."

"The Italians used this as an administrative and military centre, and there are a few signs of their occupation. In one of the buildings used as an office there is an Italian stone plaque, about 60 centimetres high by 40 wide. Carved on it is *Fortino Botteco*, the name they gave Koremash, with the details of the Italian military brigade."

[John Graham in AddisTribune 2000/03/03]

pict V Tamm, I tjänst hos Negus, Sthlm 1936 p 303 telephone station of Koramache

JDJ20	Koreme 09°19'/41°39' 2289 m, east of Deder	09/41	[Gz]
HFD30	Koremni (Coremni) 13°50'/37°34' 903 m	13/37	[+ WO Gz]
HDL89	Koremta 09°48'/39°16' 2685 m north-west of Debre Birhan	09/39	[Gz]
JDJ51	Korenchat (K'orench'at, Qorenchat) 09°32'/41°44' 1377 m, west of Dire Dawa	09/41	[Gz q]
HED50	Koreng (Coreng), see under Debre May <i>korenj</i> (A) tie strongly	11/37	[+ WO]
HEC99	Koreta, see Korata		
HED60	Koreta (Korata, Quorata) 11°29'/37°32' 1692 m village south-east of Bahir Dar 1933: "Leaving Bet Manzo, we rowed straight to Korata on the mainland and passed on up the coast. Korata Church was not visited, as Rassam gives an account of it in his book. It stands on a hill 100 feet high, close to the shore and covered with big trees, under the shade of which are the coffee-gardens for which it is famous." The church was dedicated to the memory of Wolatta Petros by Fasiladas. Wolatta Petros was a nun, who was tortured and chained by the Emperor Susenyos, because she refused to abjure the faith of her fathers and to take Mass as the Roman Catholics did. "Coffee is brought by <i>tankwa</i> from Korata -- for export to the Sudan." [Cheesman 1936 p 167, 169]	11/37	[Gz It]
	korfou: <i>qorfe</i> (Som) cinnamon		
JCC56	Korfou 05°54'/42°12' 854 m	05/42	[WO Gz]
HEH46	Korgiya (Corghia)	12/36	[+ WO]
	<i>kori</i> (qorii) (O) 1. vessel of wood for milk or porridge, decorated bowl /seldom found in the lowlands/; 2. kind of meat soup; 3. slit in a cloven hoof; <i>kori</i> (qori) (A) wooden mixing bowl; <i>kori</i> (Som) put on top, cause to climb; <i>qori</i> (Som) wood, timber, stick, /extended:/ rifle; <i>khoori</i> (Som) creek, stream; canal, channel, inlet		
HDL15	Kori 09°13'/38°54' 2812 m, north-east of A.Abeba	09/38	[AA Gz]
JCN35	Kori (K'ori, Qori) (mountain peak) 07°31'/40°17' 1072 m	07/40	[Gz q]
JDP64	Kori (Cori) (area)	10/41	[+ WO]
JEH84	Koribula (Corribula) 12°32'/41°02' 213/483 m	12/41	[LM WO Gz]

	<i>koricha</i> (A) saddle; (O) linen textile; (qoricha) (O) medicine		
HC...	Koricha (Corricia) In the valley the river Bako passes under a natural bridge, called Dildila Waka or Bridge of God, which is about 100 m long. [Guida 1938]	07/35	[+ Gu]
HDK18	Koricha (K'oricha, Qoricha) 09°13'/38°17' 2929 m	09/38	[AA Gz q]
HDK24	Koricha (K'oricha, Qoricha) 09°18'/37°55' 2051 m	09/37	[AA Gz q]
HDK34	Koricha (K'oricha, Qoricha) 09°21'/37°53' 1963 m Kuricha is at 4 km to the SE	09/37	[AA Gz q]
JDA88	Koricha Giyorgis (K'oricha G.) (church) 08°55'/40°33', north of Gelemso	08/40	[Gz]
JDP67	Koriddra (Corridra) 10°30'/41°21' 833 m (recorded in 1841)	10/41	[Ha Gz]
HD...	Korie (centre in 1964 of Derra sub-district)	09/38?	[Ad]
HDE39	Koriftu (Coriftu), see under Nazret	08/39	[+ WO]
HDE..	Koriftu, see Debre Zeyt lakes		
JDP04	Korili (Corili) (area)	09/41	[+ WO]
HEL61	Korissa (Corissa) 12°19'/38°28' 1260/1629 m	12/38	[+ WO Gu Gz]
HDG03	Korji Gonda 09°03'/35°07' 1838 m near map code HDA93 <i>korjo</i> (O) goat-skin bag	09/35	[Gz]
JCP93	Korjo (G. Corgio) (area) 08°06'/40°58' 1616/1828 m	08/40	[Gz WO]
JDB03	Korjo (Corgio) (area)	08/40	[+ WO]
HDD84	Kork 08°56'/37°54' 2384 m, south-east of Ambo	08/37	[Gz]
HDS04	Kork (Corc) (with church) 10°02'/37°49' 2169/2430 m, south of Debre Markos Coordinates would give map code HDS03 1927: There was a small, unfrequented ford of the Abay below Kork. The Kork church stood on the edge of the precipice, with a most extensive view of the Abay valley. The drop from Kork to the water's edge is 1,425 m. A government official was stationed at Kork. At one or two kilometres from the river there was a pool of a salt spring. Cattle were driven periodically from the highlands to drink the saline water. The pool was conspicuous by a thick salt incrustation and was obviously much frequented by hippopotami, which had left great footmarks. In the neighbourhood of Kork, the bend of the river brings the Abay to its point nearest to Addis Abeba. [Cheesman 1936]	10/37	[Ch WO Gz]
pict	Cheesman 1936 at p 293 Abay river near Balati ford below Kork		
HDS04c	Kork Giyorgis (centre in 1964 of Kork sub-district)	10/37	[Ad]
	<i>korka</i> (Som) top; <i>korke</i> (qorke) (A,O) 1. Swayne's or Tora hartebeest, Alcelaphus buselaphus ..; 2. bottle top /of crown type/; 3. (O) name of a month approximately corresponding to March		
HDE24	Korke (K'orke, Qorke) 08°20'/38°50' 1673 m (with church Giyorgis), north of lake Ziway	08/38	[Gz q]
HDE25	Korke (K'orke, Qorke) 08°21'/38°54' 1639 m north of lake Ziway	08/38	[Gz q]
HDE92	Korke (village) 08°58'/38°38' 2679 m west of Addis Abeba	08/38	[Gz q x]

HDL20	Korke (K'orke, Qorke) 09°17'/38°29' 2849 m (with church Maryam at some distance to the west) north of Addis Alem	09/38	[AA Gz q]
HDL81	Korke (K'orke, Qorke) 09°49'/38°31' 2805 m west of Fiche	09/38	[AA Gz q]
JDA17	Korke (Corche) (area)	08/40	[+ WO]
JDA47	Korke (Corche) (area) 1703 m	08/40	[+ WO]
JDB96	Korke (G. Corche) (area) 2066 m	08/41	[+ WO]
JDJ33	Korke (K'orke, Qorke) 09°23'/41°56' 2090 m south of Dire Dawa	09/41	[Gz q]
HE...	Korke sub-district (Qorkie ..) (in Yeju awraja) (centre in 1964 = Adami)	11/39?	[+ Ad]
HCL06	Korkite (K'ork'ite, Qorqite) 06°25'/39°00' 2680 m (mountain chain)	06/39	[Gz q]
HES38	Korkocha (K'ork'och'a, Qorqocha) 13°00'/38°18' 2465 m, east of Deresge	13/38	[Gz q]
HFF40	Korkor (Qorqor) (with rock-hewn churches) see under Geralta churches - northern	13/39	[x]
??	Korkora (Qorqora) (market in Angot in the 1500s)	../..	[Pa]
??	Korkora (Corcora) (mountain) As war area in February 1936, see under Amba Alage	12/39?	[+ It]
GCT50c	Korkoro (river valley) An affluent of the Akobo river in Kefa. The valley has been prospected for gold, apparently with little result. [Mineral 1966]	07/33	[Mi]
HDG38	Korkoro, see Boji		
??	Korkoro wereda (centre in 1964 = Hore Kelo) (in Borana)	../..	[Ad]
HFC06	Korku (K'ork'u, Qorqu) (peak) 13°35'/37°13' 1170 m	13/37	[Gz q]
	<i>korma</i> (A,O) bull /not castrated/; (O) male /said of animals/ strong, tough; <i>kormaa</i> (O) cock Korma, cf Kurma ..		
??	Korma (visiting postman under Nazret)	../..	[Po]
HCA36	Korma (Corma) (mountains) 05°45'/35°21' 923 m	05/35	[+ n]
HDG64	Korma 09°38'/35°08' 1534 m, south-east of Mendi	09/35	[Gz]
HDK03	Korma (mountain peak) 09°07'/37°48' 2486 m north-west of Ambo	09/37	[AA Gz]
HDM62	Kormargefiya (Kormagafia, Tormurgetia) 09°36'/39°31' 2802 m, see under Debre Birhan	09/39	[Gz WO]
HDM31	Kormash, see Koremash		
HD...	<i>korme</i> (O) clever, strong, tough; (Som) stallion, stud Korme, in Gimbi awraja A private school in 1968 had 188 boys and 27 girls in grades 1-4, with 4 teachers.	09/35?	[Ad]
HDE90	Korme 09°02'/38°25' 2273 m see under Addis Alem	09/38	[AA Gz]
HEM84c	Korme (Corme)	12/39	[+ Gu]
HCF51	Kormos (Cormos) 05°56'/39°28' 1584 m (an Oromo district)	05/39	[+ WO Gz]
HBU24	Kormowario, G. (area)	04/39	[WO]

koro (O) troop, band of men; (qooroo) (O, from A)
local judge or sub-chief; *abba qorro*, provincial governor;
(qorro) historically one of 70 districts of the Oromo kingdom

	of Abba Jifar II, 1861-1934; <i>koro</i> (Som) wait for, expect; <i>qoro</i> (Som) employ /etc/; <i>qooro</i> (Som) male sexual organ		
GDM11	Koro (Coro)	09/34	[+ WO]
HBL14	Koro (area)	03/38	[WO]
HDL72	Koro (K'oro, Qoro) 09°46'/38°38' 3203 m south-west of Fiche	09/38	[AA Gz q]
HFE07	Koro (mountain) 13°42'/39°05' 2051 m east of Abiy Adi	13/39	[Gz]
HBR27	Korobbo, G. (hill)	04/37	[WO]
HBU11	Koroftu, G. (area)	04/39	[WO]
HDM75	Korogassa, see Goragussa		
JBT40	Korogo, see Korago <i>korojo</i> (A,O) leather bag		
JDG29	Korojole 09°14'/40°39' 1524 m, west of Mieso	09/40	[Gz]
HDJ94	Korom (K'orom, Qorom) 09°54'/37°01' 2209 m Korom, west of Alibo	09/37	[Gz q]
HDH78	Koromi 09°43'/36°25' 1921 m	09/36	[Gz]
HDH78	Koromi 09°46'/36°23' 1865 m	09/36	[Gz]
HCD06	Koromma (Coromma) 05°31'/38°05' 1828 m <i>korommi</i> (O) bulls /not castrated/	05/38	[+ WO Gz]
JDJ20	Korommi (Corommi) (area) 2643 m <i>koromo</i> (T) kinds of shrub or tree, <i>Maerua angolensis</i> , <i>M. oblongifolia</i> ; the last-mentioned is a low shrub	09/41	[+ WO]
HDB15	Koron (K'oron, Qoron) 08°18'/36°09' 2060 m south-west of Bedele	08/36	[Gz q]
JCM93	Koron (Coron) 07°10'/44°37' 933 m, cf Kuron	07/44	[+ Gz]
GDM42	Korosko (Gebel Corosco) (mountain) 09°27'/34°34' 1546 m	09/34	[+ Gz]
HCD83	Korpa (K'orp'a, Qorpa) 06°12'/37°51' 1173 m on the southern east shore of lake Abaya	06/37	[Gz q]
HDK20	Korpe Shenterer (area)	09/37	[AA]
HDL80	Korpeti 09°49'/38°26' 2579 m (with church), see under Gebre Guracha	09/38	[AA Gz]
	<i>korra</i> (A) coral tree, <i>Erythrina abyssinica</i> , with ornamental red flowers turned upwards; (O) (<i>qorra</i>) 1. frost; 2. splendour; 3. name of a month approximately corresponding to November		
HDT18	Korra (Corra), cf Kora	10/39	[+ WO]
HDM25	Korrayta (Corraita)	09/39	[+ WO]
	<i>korre</i> (O) frost, ice; <i>korree</i> (Som) be on top		
HDG08c	Korre (Korree) c09°00'/35°36' There is a mineral occurrence called the Korea-Nejo iron belt. Biotite granites in alternation with diorites occur in the southeastern and western parts. At the southeastern end of the explored area, a dark green igneous rock of porphyritic structure is emplaced between granites and paraschists. A ground magnetic survey was carried out in 1964 by Ravnik and Kelhar of the RUDIS Mining Association. "The magnetometric survey -- was not successful due to martitization of the magnetite. It could be assumed that the martitization is deep and therefore the magnetic anomalies are relatively weak." For the richest magnetite-haematite deposit found in the region, see Gordona. [Mineral 1966]	09/35	[+ Mi]
??	Korre (Corre)	../..	[+ Gu]

Probably the same as Kolela (Collela) which was an important centre at the time of the Jesuits, who established a mission there and built a church of San Ignazio (1626) at the expense of Ras Sela Kristos. Perhaps also the same place as Densa.

[Guida 1938]

- | | | | |
|--------|--|-------|------------|
| HED41c | Korre (Corre), cf Kore | 11/37 | [+ Gu] |
| JBJ67 | Korrei (Correi) 04°10'42°17' 212 m
(mountain on the border of Somalia) | 04/42 | [+ Gz] |
| JDP67 | Korridra (Corridra) 10°30'41°21' 833 m | 10/41 | [+ Gz] |
| JCL39 | Korshe, see Korahe
<i>korti</i> (qortii) (O) 1. container for valuables; 2. feast in memory of a deceased adult | | |
| HCR33 | Korti (Corti) (area) 1946 m
<i>kortu</i> (O) superb | 07/36 | [+ WO] |
| JDB83 | Kortu (Cortu) (area)
Kortu used to be an important place of assembly, <i>chafe</i> , for the Mecha/Liban Oromo. | 08/40 | [+ WO] |
| JDG65 | Kortumi (Cortumi) 09°35'40°18' 667 m
1928: "After crossing several large areas of grazing land, on which herds of water-buck and gazelle were feeding, we reached the river again at about noon. Here we came to a village called Kortumi, in the territory of the Assoba tribe."
"As we approached the group of huts which made up Kortumi, several men and their chief marched out to meet us. We wished to continue on our way a little, so as to encamp near the river, in a place suitable for ourselves and for the animals. But the chief and the elders insisted on showing us what they considered to be a more satisfactory spot."
"As I had expected, the place to which they took us was quite unsuitable, being at some distance from the water and pasture. -- our camels were exhausted by the excessive heat. We were therefore obliged to stop and unload under some mimosas. A snake, six feet long, came out and went on lazily creeping over bales and boxes. Our men with sticks and lances began to chase it, and the Danakils made scores of lance-throws at it, but all missed their mark. The track of the snake along the ground was marked by lances the points of which were embedded in the earth. Pastori took a rifle and killed the reptile with lead. The excitement of the Danakils over this pursuit seemed to imply that snakes were not common there."
"-- the entire population of the village was crowding to stare at us. -- As the afternoon advanced they remained as troublesome as at first, getting in our way continually, and pestering us to buy milk, goats, sheep, and freshly caught bucks -- We purchased far more than we needed, but were unable to satisfy everybody. Disgusted by the manners of the people, and by our unsuitable camping-place, we planned to resume our march that evening, and made a resolution never to yield in future to the pressure of village chiefs. Our projects were to meet with immediate obstacles, however."
"Soon after our arrival there had come to pay as a visit an Abyssinian, accompanied by a group of his own men. The presence of such a person seemed strange in this wild place. He was a <i>dania</i> , an itinerant judge. He was called Ato Sale, and he and his posse of police were armed to the teeth. Though his expression betrayed an arrogant and overbearing nature, as befitted a member of that official class which claims the privilege of harassing the rest of the community, he forced himself to display a meek bearing in his present unsafe surroundings."
"Ato Sale drank coffee and spirits with us, spoke at length with us and our men, asked for and received presents. His presence was far from reassuring for us. We should have much preferred to have to do only with the criminal Afars, who are easily tamed by a little tact and a few presents. That judge on the contrary could hardly have avoided causing us trouble and vexation, making us pay non-existent tolls, by reason of the fact that he was an official of that avaricious Abyssinian 'justice' which pronounces perjury to be no crime. -- That gatherer of material for the prisons of Menelik's Lion was the worst thing we | 09/40 | [Ne WO Gz] |

might have met in our path."

"Ato Sale left us in apparent good will, and we were foolish enough to hope that our feelings about him were without foundation. Our doubts were short-lived, however, for in the afternoon he returned, and we saw that new developments were to be revealed. -- He had dressed for the occasion in an old military tunic, hailing from somewhere in Europe, and Abyssinian breeches of white cotton, very broad in the seat and tight at the calf. He even wore sandals. While he drank his coffee his hand never left his rifle, but his fingers nervously played about the trigger and the bolt. His men, Abyssinians of the border, stood about armed, and fraternized with our servants. The Danakils of the village kept in the background, watching."

"Ato Sale now began to raise objections to everything we proposed to do, to the itinerary we wanted to follow, to our lack of 'papers of Government', and to the fact that we had with us men from the Plateau. -- He demanded that we retrace our steps for our two last stages, ford the river, and keep to the other side, travelling at the foot of the Plateau spurs."

"We made our preparations to sleep without pitching our tent, for it was a beautiful night. The moon rose through the trees, turning the forest into an enchanted scene full of black shadows and white light, unexpected and wonderful."

"Morning rose with its cares, and the villagers flocked to us for medicines. A quinine pill for this man, a throat tablet for that -- We filled several vessels with a weak solution of potassium permanganate, and that bright pink fluid was much sought after by our patients. They dipped rags in the miraculous water, and bathed their sores and their aching limbs. Our dispensary was in the shadow of a mimosa, and proud was the man whom we appointed as chief assistant."

In the morning Nesbitt went to take a bath at the river, and found that some naked women were also bathing there.

"After the midday meal, the dania made his appearance again, accompanied by his men. He refused to sanction our advance. We managed to treat him tactfully and pleasantly but found we were wasting time to no purpose. We finally told him that we intended to leave for the north, whether he approved or not, as we had planned to journey straight through the middle of Danakil to the Aussa. However, he would not yield, so we cut the discussion short, and ordered our men to load the camels. The dania was in a passion, but we paid no further attention to him. The Danakil chief and his people seemed to be enjoying the scene."

"When the dania saw that we were ready to depart, he begged us to write out and sign a document stating that we were travelling at our own risk, and that we absolved him of all responsibility for our safety. We were far from acknowledging that he had authority to demand any such document, but to cut the matter short we wrote a few lines in French, and handed them to him. At last we were on the move."

"The camels had only paced a few yards from the place of our encampment when the Ethiopian gaoler came after us to deliver his treacherous last shot. Walking fast, he managed to get ahead of the caravan. Then he turned about, raised his hand in the air, and put the Amharas and Gallas in our gang on their allegiance in the name of the Word of Menelik."

"Our Plateau men stood as if thunderstruck. The command which the dania had delivered was as potent now as it had been when delivered by the dead Negus Menelik himself. We tried to restrain our men, but seeing Wolde Gabriel leave us and pass over to the dania, the others, after the briefest hesitation, followed him. They all surrendered to us their rifles, cartridges, and the pouches which contained articles of which we were in constant need while on the march, and which they always carried. We made the camels which carried the personal gear of our deserters kneel down, and their belongings were restored to them. Nevertheless, we three Europeans exchanged glances of inquiry, and after a short consultation we decided that it would be foolish to lose our band of men now, as our expedition could not go on without them. We therefore approached the dania, and told him that we were prepared to follow the more westerly route along the base of the Plateau

-- The dania seemed quite satisfied with this arrangement, so without wasting a minute more we reformed our column, and returned the firearms to our men."

"We now turned about to retrace our step, much to the joy of the Plateau men. If one could get to the Aussa by travelling in the safe country along the foot of the Plateau until coming abreast of Batie and Dessie, and then turn north-east and follow the caravan route, why not do so? Ato Sale must have seemed to them a very wise counsellor."

[L M Nesbitt, Desert and forest, UK (1934)1955 p 105-110]

HCS83	Koru Abo (church) 08°01'37°49', south of Welkite	08/37	[Gz]
HCA68	Korum (Corum) (area)	06/35	[+ WO]