

- mai* (T) watercourse, intermittent stream
 Mai .., see also May .. and comment written there
- HFF61c Mai Aba (Mai'aba, Mai Abba) 14/39 [+ Ad x]
 (sub-district & its centre in 1964)
 (caves with some cut rock) south of Adigrat
- HFD.. **Mai Abai** 14/38 [x]
 The TPLF held its first Organisational Congress in February 1979. About 160 delegates gathered in Mai Abai in Shire district to draft the programme of the National Democratic Revolution. The congress elected a Central Committee of thirteen regular and two alternate members, and a Politbureau composed of the five surviving founders of the movement.
 [Markakis 1987 p 257]
- HF... Mai Abaour sub-district (centre in 1964 = Terier) 14/38 [Ad]
- HFF61c Mai Abba (with abandoned caves of church Samuel) 14/39 [x]
 South of Adigrat, in hills west of the main road towards Dessie.
 "Grottes aménagées grossièrement, abandonnées (incendie?)." [Sauter 1976]
 Ruth Plant has published a plan.
- HEL97 Mai Abuna Yohannes (M. A. Iohannes) 1900 m 12/39 [+ Gu]
mai adele: *may adele* (T) cat's water;
adala (O) kind of wild cat;
adele (adälä) (A) 1. divide; 2. serve *tej*
- HEU03c Mai Adele 12/39 [Gu]
- HFE.. Mai Agam 14/39 [Gu]
- HFF13 Mai Agula, 13°41'/39°37' cf Agula 13/39 [x]
- HFF83 Mai Agunore 14°20'/39°42' 2470 m, east of Adigrat 14/39 [Gu Gz]
- ?? Mai Aini/ [18]
 Wube at some time in the 1840s had an important captive Welde Iyesus. He was kept imprisoned for 3-4 months, Wube being undecided how to treat him.
- HEU03c Mai Alahati (wells in river bed) 12/39 [Gu]
- ?? Mai Alekti (Mai'alekti), in Adigrat region/ [Ad]
 (centre in 1964 of Awuli Tsero wereda & sub-district, and of Mai Alekti sub-district)
mai anbessa: *may anbessa* (T) lion's water
- HEU22c Mai Anbessa (Mai Ambessa) (saddle) c2500m 12/39 [+ Gu]
mai arkana: *arkaan* (Som) five pillars of Islam
- HEL98 Mai Arkana (Mai Arcana) (valley) 12/39 [+ Gu]
- H... Mai Awli (historical? area SW of Adigrat)/39 [x]
- HET.? **Mai Baha** (with rock-hewn church Amanuel) 13/38? [x]
 at 65 km on road west from Mekele, cf Maybaba
 "Dans un monticule se dressant à l'O de la nouvelle route Mekellé-Abiy-Addi, à 65 km de Mekellé, dans la descente en lacets. Basilique hypogée à trois travées, avec plafonds ornés de reliefs et de coupes. Un seul arc (triumphal). Architraves ailleurs."
 [Sauter 1976]
- texts Ruth Plant *in* Ethiopia Observer XIII no 3 Dec. 1970 p 234, with plan;
 D. Buxton, The rock-hewn .., Oxford 1971 p 41;
 G. Gerster, Kirchen im Fels, Zürich 1972 p 157, with plan.
- mai beles*: *may beles* (T) /cactus/ fig water
- HFE16 Mai Beles (Tini) (valley) 1920 m 13/38 [Gu]
 see under Abiy Adi
- H... Mai Buia, 1050 m 13/38 [Gu]
- HFE45 Mai Canetta, see May Kinetal
- HEU72 Mai Cayeh, see May Keyih
- HEU12 Mai Ceu (Mai Cio, Mai Chio), see Maychew

- HFM00c **Mai Chaha**, 15 km south of Senafe 14/39 [n]
 Until mid-1998 Mai Chaha "was undoubtedly under Ethiopian administration."
 The village lies in a valley surrounded by rocky hills. When Eritrean troops rolled into Mai Chaha on 31 May, the 400 villagers put up little defence. Three of the five militiamen gave up their guns, and the two others simply left the village.
 [Reuters 98-07-08]
- HFF00 Mai Chankwa (Mai Cianqua), see Diyadib
- HEU72 Mai Chelfo (Mai Celfo) 13°18'/39°36' 2086 m 13/39 [+ Gu Gz]
 south of Kwiha
- ?? Mai Chelicut (in Tigray), cf HEU81 Chelikut ../. [Mi]
 Four strata of different kinds of limestone in the Mai Chelicut gorge were specified and published already in 1884 by Ferret & Galinier.
 [Mineral 1966]
- HF... Mai Chena (abandoned in the 1840s?) 14/38 [18]
 Located at about 14°40'N and at some 15-20 km from Mareb river.
 Mansfield Parkyns passed there in 1843 after the big rains.
 "Mai Chena, when it existed, was so called from its brook. Now the brook only remains. The people becoming poor, and many having fled from the oppression of the soldiers, the remainder were unable to defend themselves against the attacks of the Barea, who frequently visit the neighbourhood in large parties; the place was consequently deserted."
 [M Parkyns, Life in Abyssinia, vol I, London 1853 p 258]
- HFE45 Mai Cheneta (M. Canetta), see May Kenetal
- HF... Mai Chiguna (Maichiguna) 14/39? [+ Ad]
 (centre in 1964 of Ahseo wereda)
- HFF00 Mai Cianqua, see Diyadib
- HFE.. Mai Ciocomti, see May Chokomti
- HFD20 Mai Ciogonte (Mai Chiogonite), see May Chogonte
- HEU.. Mai Cisa, see May Chisa
- mai daro: *daaro* (Som) touch lightly; *daro* (Som) strangle-hold
 in wrestling; *dhaaro* (Som) swear, take an oath
- HFD89 Mai Daro 14°18'/38°23' 1766 m 14/38 [Gu Gz]
- HFE74 Mai Deleita sub-district (Maidele'ita ..) 14/38 [+ Ad]
 (centre in 1964 = Adi Abun)
- HEU43 Mai Dima, see May Dema
- HEU92c Mai Dolo, see May Dolo under Kwiha
 mai elma: *elma* (O) milking a cow
- HFE00 Mai Elma 13°39'/38°27' 1750 m, east of Sekota 13/38 [WO Gu Gz]
- ?? Mai Gabat, in westernmost Tigray ../. [x]
 In the early 1980s its inhabitants grew crops for the TPLF soldiers and also received refugee families from the highlands.
 [M Pberdy, Tigray, 1985]
- HEU80 Mai Gibba (Mai Ghibba) 13°27'/39°21' 1746 m 13/39 [+ Gz]
 south-west of Mekele
- HEU91 Mai Giugurti, see Mai Jugurti
- HF... **Mai Gova** 14/36 [18]
 In 1845 on his way westwards Mansfield Parkyns "arrived at Nimr's retreat, which is situated near the summit of a hill; the principle village, called Mai Gova from a brook which flows near it, lies in the plain below, and there are one or two small hamlets in the neighbourhood."
 Nimr ("Leopard") had taken a leading part in the defence against the invading Turks.
 "Nimr was prince of the Jàlyn, who occupied the country about Shendy and Metemma /not the well-known present-day Metemma but one south-east of Dongola/."

Nimr was of advanced age and blindness when Parkyns visited him. His son "Immer" (Omar) entertained Parkyns in Mai Gova. Houses there were some of them square and some round, and almost all had a light shed as retreat in hot weather.

"The Jàlyn colony here seems to have adopted the costume of the Bedouin tribes around them, wearing their hair bushy or tressed --"

When leaving after a few days there was first a long dispute between one of Parkyns's attendants and a creditor concerning a small payment, and a crowd gathered around them.

"I never saw a more ill-looking set of fellows. They were a mixture of niggers from every part of the country, runaway slaves, deserters from the black regiments in the Egyptian service, and escaped malefactors of all sorts."

Parkyns in the meantime sat alone on a mule in the crowd and insults were shouted at him, but he was not attacked and could leave in peace.

[M Parkyns, Life in Abyssinia, vol II, London 1853 p 360-379]

- HCR27 **Mai Gudo** (Maigudo) 07°29'/37°12' 3260 m 07/37 [Gz]
in Kefa (there is another Mai Gudo in Eritrea)
"According to Villaminar (1938) the mountainous massif Mai Gudo is found between the 7th and 8th parallels and the 37th and 38th meridians and comprises part of the Jimma Province" bounded on the north by the Gibe, on the east by the Omo, on the south by Gogeb and on the west by the Jimma-Waka route. The massif was described as containing Kaffersa/Kefersa mountain 3100 m and the localities Melka Sedi 2650 m, Gammalucho 2700 m, Kurkure 2250 m, Boto 2640 m, Garo 2500 m, Gato 2400 m, Gube Abanchela 2640 m, Deraba 2440 m, Ilke 2550 m, Dombowa 2500 m, and Dekano 2650 m. The small rains, which generally occur in March and April in the Jimma region, are almost completely lacking.
"The region, according to Blanford, forms part of the volcanics of the Trap Series (stradoite) especially developed on the plateau and belonging to the Magdale group of Traps, composed mainly of thick beds of trachyte, more or less crystalline, with small, well-formed crystals of glassy feldspar, rounded at the corners; along with the trachytes occur dolerites almost always associated with claystone."
[Mineral 1966 p 574-575]
"In the autumn of 1962, prospecting and exploration activity was undertaken by the geological survey section of the Ministry of Mines. A group of four prospectors carried out the geological mapping of the areas between the Omo River in the east, 7°30' in the north, 7°20' in the south, and 37°15' in the west. The aim of the survey was to explore the ore outcrops by pitting in order to establish the size and the thickness (depth) of the iron layers. In all, twenty-nine pits and some trenches having an average depth of a few metres were dug."
[Mineral 1966 p 577-578]
The highest point visited was Sasachie on the eastern slopes of May Gudo mountain. Three pits were dug there.
"This find-spot is an example of the deposition of leached iron oxides along small cracks in weathered rock. The transitions from pinkish-yellow to yellow rock can be observed without interruption. These altered rocks are not iron ore and have no importance."
[Mineral 1966 p 581-582]
text A. Villaminar, Il massicio ferrifero Mai-Gudo nel problema autarchico dell'Impero, Gimma /Jimma/ 1938.

mai gundi: *gundo* (O) large basket for winnowing

- | | | | |
|--------|------------------------------------|-------|--------|
| HEU60c | Mai Gundi | 13/39 | [Gu] |
| HFE66c | Mai Gundi (wells) | 14/38 | [Gu] |
| HFF72 | Mai Gwo Gunna (M. Guo G.) (valley) | 14/39 | [+ Gu] |
| HFD17c | Mai Haini | 13/38 | [Gu] |
| ?? | Mai Hanse , in Tigray | ../.. | [n] |

1987: "Mai Hanse is a REST station /Relief Society of Tigray/ for foreign visitors. It is not much more than a single story, L-shaped building. The long arm holds two rooms, each with three beds, and the short arm is a sitting room where meals are served. -- Trees provide plenty of cover -- Outside the compound are scattered thatched huts among the trees, housing Tigrayan REST workers and a few fighters."

The author Jenny Hammond there met Ian Robinson, an Englishman Richard on a well-digging project for an Australian agency, and Steve working for a European development consortium. At the time /early 1987?/ Ian and Steve were leaving, an Australian geologist Graham with his wife Liz were expected to arrive, and three German journalists from Heidelberg - Dieter, Christian, Dorotea - arrived at nighttime. There was also a man from Oxfam/UK, and a Swiss and a Frenchman from the International Red Cross.

[Hammond 1999 p 95-97]

?? **Mai Humer**, in Tigray/. [n]

In 1986 it was a convoy depot of the TPLF.

"-- intolerably hot. Overrun by ants and assaulted by flies, we hid in a gully, ten foot deep and fifteen wide, but so slung with fallen tree trunks and muscular roots that we were invisible from a few meters away --"

The British researcher/author Jenny Hammond there on 30 January 1987 interviewed Drar Gebreyesus with field name "Anbessa" and Berhane Aberra with field name "Meley" concerning the TPLF.

[Hammond 1999 p 72, 444]

HFD35c **Mai Islamai** (M. Islami) 13/37 [18 x]

A battle was fought in December 1830 at Mai Islamai, near Debre Abay. Sebagadis of Agame was attacked by Ras Marye and Wube there, where they found him with only half his army. He commanded himself together with his eldest son Dejazmach Hagos. Sebagadis remained strangely idle (being drunk?). When Hagos was killed after having almost hit Ras Marye with two shots, Sebagadis finally went into the battle just in time to be taken prisoner.

"The cruel Galla horsemen -- now came up for the pursuit -- pursued the miserable fugitives for two or three days -- Their bones were visible in some places when I passed fifteen years after."

[M Parkyns, *Life in Abyssinia*, vol II, London 1853 p 116-117]

In the beginning of 1831 there was a bloody battle at Mai Islami between the forces of Ras Marye and Dejazmach Seb'agadis. Marye was killed, and Seb'agadis was executed in retaliation. In a lamenting song it was said that Seb'agadis died at Daga Shaha.

[Abir 1968 p 36]

HET59 Mai Jerbeda (Mai Gerbeda) (valley), see under Samre 13/39 [+ Gu]

HEU91 Mai Jugurti (Mai Giugurti) (valley), see under Mekele 13/39 [+ Gu]

HFF60c Mai Kado (with rock-hewn church) 14/39 [x]
see under Hawzen, cf Meakudi

HEU12 Mai Keu, see Maychew

HFE63 Mai Koho (Mai Coho, Mai Qoho) 14/38 [+ Gu n]
(high plateau), see under Aksum

HFE65 **Mai Kolla** (Mai Quolla) (valley) 14/38 [+ 18 Gu]
2130 m, see under Adwa

"-- we arrived /at the end of September 1843/ at a pretty little hamlet called Mai Quollow; the brook from which it takes its name (the Child's Water /or rather Lowland Water?/) flows close by, forming a cascade not far from the houses, picturesque, but not at all on a large scale --"

The chief of the village said that he had never heard talk about white men (except silversmiths at Adwa), much less seen one.

[M Parkyns, *Life in Abyssinia*, vol I, London 1853 p 240-241]

HFE92	Mai Lahla (Mailahla) (cemetery) 14°24'/38°42' north of Aksum near the border of Eritrea	14/38	[+ Gz]
HFE94	Mai Lahla, see Lahlaha		
HFE84	Mai Lala, see Rama		
HET06	Mai Lomin (valley), see under Sekota	13/39	[Gu]
HET07	Mai Lomin (Mailomin) (place), see under Sekota	13/39	[Gu WO]
HES13	Mai Luco, see May Liko		
HFF02	Mai Macdem, see May Mekden		
HEM..	Mai Mado (area), cf Mai Modo, May Mada On 16 August 1988 Derg government forces attacked Mai Mado. Five people were killed, one wounded, 22 houses burnt, grain stores emptied and the grain mixed with soil, and many animals killed. [Africa Watch 1991]	12/39	[Gu n]
HFD48	Mai Manru (Mai Manni) 13°58'/38°16' 1389 m	13/38	[Gz]
HFE99	Mai Marat (Maimarat) (recorded in 1868)	14/39	[+ 18]
HFF52c	Mai Marat Debrî (mountain, recorded in 1868)	14/39	[+ 18]
HFF71	Mai Masano (waterhole), see under Adigrat	14/39	[WO]
HF...	Mai Mechellikwit (Mai Mecelliquit) 1835 m	14/39	[Gu]
HFF53	Mai Megelta (Maimegelta, /Mai/ Meghelta) (May Megelta) 14°05'/39°39' 2409 m, south-east of Adigrat (sub-district & its centre in 1964, also centre of Aguedi sub-district)	14/39	[+ Ad Gz Br]
HFE07c	Mai Mereb (birthplace of Yohannes IV)	13/39	[Gu]
HEU52	Mai Mescic, see Keke		
HFE56	Mai Misham, see May Misham		
HEM..	Mai Modo (Maimodo)	12/39	[+ Ad]
HEM..	Mai Modo sub-district (centre in 1964 = Bechoka)	12/39	[+ Ad]
HFM03	Mai Muna, see Muna		
HFF30	Mai Quarar, see Adi Korkora		
HFD58	Mai Scebenni, see May Shebenni		
HET26	Mai Segalu (area with waterhole) Halting-place for caravans under large sycamores. [Guida 1938]	13/39	[WO Gu]
HF...	Mai Semut (Maisemut) (centre in 1964 of Kulu Feriha sub-district)	14/38	[+ Ad]
??	Mai Serau (with a bridge in the 1930s)	../..	[Gu]
??	Mai Shaha , valley in Simen	../..	[x]
geol	Erik Nilsson (1940 & 1952) considers that during the First Pluvial about 440 sq.km of the Simen mountains was under ice, with the Mai Shaha valley being the route of one of the largest glaciers. Scott (1958) reports finding morainic deposits in a ravine to the west side of the Mai Shaha stream, but /Mohr/ has not been able to confirm this but merely seen the presence of scree and rain-wash deposits. [Mohr, Geology 1961 p 198-199]		
HF...	Mai Shana (Maishana) (sub-district & its centre in 1964)	14/38	[+ Ad]
HF...	Mai Sheru (sub-district & its centre in 1964)	14/38	[Ad]
HFE63c	Mai Shum ("Bath of Queen Sheba") see under Aksum	14/38	[x]
HFD77	Mai Surru 14°14'/38°15' 1722 m, north of Inda Silase Mansfield Parkyns passed there in late September 1843. "At Mai Sourrou we had a warm dispute with the villagers, because it being dark we had taken one way and got in among their corn-fields." They were, however, received with great hospitality in the village itself.	14/38	[WO 18 Gz]

[M Parkyns, Life in Abyssinia, vol I, 1853 p 247]

- HFD27 **Mai Timket** (Mai Timchet) 13°46'/38°15' 1055 m 13/38 [x WO Gu Gz]
Coordinates would give map code HFD28
geol The Tekezze river shows terracing in coarse alluvium at 30-35 m near Mai Timket.
[Mohr 1961]
The hunters Maydon and Blaine passed there in early 1923.
"Although there are only one or two miserable villages on the neighbouring hills, this area, called Mai Tinket, is honoured with a name on the map."
[H C Maydon, Simen, London 1925 p 64]
The IInd Corps under Major Criniti were at Mai Timket in the early part of the Italo-Ethiopian war. Through air reconnaissance they knew that Ethiopian forces were advancing towards Tekezze, but because of leafy vegetation it was difficult to see and determine in what quantity. When Criniti's men intended to go southwards they were taken by surprise that Dejazmach Ayelu was just pushing north. The two sides met at dawn, and the Italians were driven back across the river. They had to think of retiring towards the Dembegina pass 25 km away.
[R von Xylander, Die Eroberung ..., 1936 p 24-25]
After the "battle of Shire" the Italian pioneer soldiers built a bridge, 110 m long, over the Tekezze at Mai Timket.
Later they built a better bridge there, 9 metres above the low-water level, and this one became 156 m long.
[R von Xylander p 72]
- ?? Mai Tzada ../.. [It]
- HES88 **Mai Tsalo** (Mai Tsahlo, M. Talo, May Tahlo) 13°28'/38°20' 2892/2940 m, south-west of Sekota 13/38 [WO Gu 18 x]
Théophile Lefebvre reached Wibe's camp at Mai Tsalo in 1840, without achieving any substantial results for France from negotiations.
[Rubenson 1976 p 89]
Towards the end of 1841 Wibe of Tigray openly declared war with Ras Ali of the Amhara. He marched his troops from Mai Tsalo in Simen to Maryam Wiha, not very far from Gondar.
[Parkyns vol II p 131]
After Guglielmo Massaia had been formally expelled he nevertheless, as head of the proposed Catholic mission to the Oromo, tried to travel in the highlands /in 1848?/. He did so under another name than the one he was known by. He had some protection from Dejazmach Wibe.
When Massaia arrived near May Tahlo, at the time regarded as capital of Simen, stories were invented that Massaia was in the country as a political mission from France (he was a Capuchin from Italy), and he could sleep in a house belonging to Dejazmach Wibe. Massaia rested a day there before continuing southward.
[G Massaja, Mes trente-cinq années ..., Paris, vol I (orig. Italian ed. 1885) p 176-177]
An area with much cultivation of cereals.
[Guida 1938]
A German diplomatic mission passed there in late April 1905 on their way home via Tigray and Eritrea. At the southern edge of the Mai Tsalo plateau they measured altitude 3239 m. They were headed softly downwards towards another high mountain Abier with several peaks which they thought looked like a knights' castle in Germany.
[F Rosen, Eine deutsche ..., Leipzig 1907 p 455]
- HFF31 Mai Tsebari (with rock-hewn church) 13/39 [x]
see under Geralta churches - northern
- HFD06 Mai Tsebri, see May Tsemre
- HFD06 Mai Tsemri, see May Tsemre
- HF... Mai Tsemu (Maitsemu) 14/38 [Ad]

	(centre in 1964 of Tach Asgetse sub-district)		
HFE74c	Mai Turkuts (Mai Turcuz) (spring) 2050 m	14/38	[+ Gu]
HFE74	Mai Uaro 14°17'/38°53' 1717 m, north of Adwa	14/38	[WO Gz]
	Mai Uaro, see also May Dairo		
??	Mai Uecc (compare Amharic <i>wich</i> = outside)	../..	[Gu]
HFE73	Mai Uollel, see May Wellel		
HFF62	Mai Wahiz (British camp in 1868)	14/39	[18]
	The scientist W.T. Blanford, accompanying the British expedition, was at Mai Wahiz in the second half of March 1868.		
	"Just south of the camping-ground of Mai Wahiz, a conspicuous basalt dyke crosses the road. It is curved, but has a general north-west strike. Trap dykes, as a rule, however, are rare throughout the country traversed. Some fragments of iron ore, evidently containing manganese and resembling psilomelane, were here met with, evidently derived from the sandstone, being only a peculiar form of the ferruginous bands which occur so frequently in it.		
	About four or five miles south of Mai Wahiz there is a small sandstone scarp, down which the road descends to a lower plain, chiefly consisting of metamorphic rocks."		
	[Blanford, Observations on the geology ..., London 1870 p 61]		
HFE36	Mai Weri (Mai Ueri) 1405 m	13/39	[+ Gu]
	With a bridge in the 1930s.		
	[Guida 1938]		
HEU..	Mai Wewe (village in Tigray)	13/39	[n]
	On 7 June 1988 Derg government forces destroyed Mai Wewe.		
	[Africa Watch 1991]		
HET77c	Mai Woroke (=May Werki?)	13/39	[x]
	(with rock-hewn church Maryam & abandoned cave church Gebre Menfes Kidus)		
	Maryam is at 2 hours walk west of Gijet (Djibiet).		
	"-- dans le bas district du Cheli. Hypogée à plan irrégulier. Piliers carrés. Hautes arcades formant la façade ouest." [Sauter 1976]		
	Mentioned by Ruth Plant in Ethiopia Observer XVI no 1 1973 p 43 with plan.		
	Gebre Menfes Kidus is in the lowlands of Cheli.		
	"Accès difficile. Grotte abandonnée. Voûte naturelle close par un mur vers l'extérieur."		
	[Sauter 1976]		
	Mentioned by Ruth Plant on page cited above.		
HFD06	Mai Zebrid, 1150/1160 m	13/38	[Gu]
	With water at all seasons.		
	[Guida 1938]		
HDB28	Maia, see Maya		
HEA74	Maia 11°32'/35°12' 759 m	11/35	[WO Gz]
HFF33	Maianesti 13°53'/39°39' 2516 m, west of Atsbi	13/39	[Gz]
HFF82	Maibera	14/39	[x]
H...	Maiche Geralta sub-district	13/39	[Ad]
	(centre in 1964 = Adi Amdai)		
HEU12	Maichew, see Maychew		
HCR27	Maigudo, see Mai Gudo		
HFE45	Maikintal, see May Kinetal		
HFF31	Maikudi, see Meakudi		
HFE85	Maila (Ma'ila) (peak) 14°18'/38°54' 2159 m	14/38	[Gz]
	north of Adwa		
HF...	Mailbo (sub-district & its centre in 1964)	14/39	[Ad]
HES12	Mailko sub-district (Mailco ..)	12/37	[+ Ad]
	(centre in 1964 = Gedebge)		

HET07	Mailomin, see Mai Lomin		
HF...	Maimsham (sub-district & its centre in 1964)	14/38?	[Ad]
HFE29	Maio (Maiu), see Mayu		
HEU42	Maira, see Mayra Amba		
HCK90	Maisai (Maissai) 07°14'/37°35' 1690 m	07/37	[Gz]
HEU12	Maitchew, see May Chew		
HFD06	Maitemre (Maitsemri), see May Tsemre		
HFD47	Maitsemu, see May Tsimu		
??	Maitsha (corruption of Macha/Mecha?) Region described by James Bruce in the 1770s as a flat country on both sides of the river Abay, uninhabited except for Oromo who had occupied lowland at the foot of the Aformasha mountains. Maitsha was wet and marshy, so mostly ensete was cultivated there. Ibaba was the capital of Maitsha and according to Bruce one of the largest towns of its time. [Pankhurst 1961 p 116, 147]	../..	[Pa]
HFE19	Maiu (Amba Maiu) 13°43'/39°17' 2657 m north-west of Mekele	13/39	[WO Gz]
JDC22	Maiu, see Mayu		
JDH82	Maiugeri, see Mayujeri	09/40	
	<i>maja</i> (O) 1. hyena; 2. dried dung		
HDJ34	Maja 09°22'/36°59' 1983 m, west of Haretu	09/36	[Gz]
JEA23	Maja (Magia) (area) <i>Majangir</i> (<i>Masango</i>), a very homogenous ethnic group in the south-west, studied in the 1960s by Jack Stauder. They live by slash-and-burn cultivation in a rain-forest where there are tsetse flies. [Donald Levine]	11/40	[+ WO]
texts	J. Stauder, <i>The Majangir: ecology and society of a Southwest Ethiopian people</i> , Cambridge and New York 1971, from a research project Oct 1964-Oct 1966; B. Hoar & L. Robbins, <i>A report of a study of the Masango people of the Godare river and a collection of some of their legends</i> , (U.S. Peace Corps) 1967; about 15 pages, mimeographed; M. Popp, 20th century history of land use and settlement patterns in Majangir, <i>in</i> 15th Int Conf of Ethiopian Studies 2003.		
HES69	Maje (national park camp)	13/38	[Br]
HEM11	Majelli (Magelli, Madscl), see Weyra Beret	11/39	[+ Gu WO]
HDE43	Majesso (Maggesso) (area)	08/38	[+ WO]
	majete: <i>majite</i> (A) kind of shrub or small tree, <i>Grewia mollis</i> ; <i>majete</i> (A) my larder, my alcove		
HDU55	Majete (Majetie, Iruf Kolemo) 10°27'/39°51' 2429 m	10/39	[Gz WO]
HDU85	Majete (Majite, Majiti, Majetie) 10°44'/39°50' (with sub P.O. under Dessie) (centre in 1964 of Gemza sub-district) Unesco selected Majete as location for a Community Teachers Training Centre. 32 Ethiopian trainees, of which 9 accompanying husbands also as trainees, went to the area on 16 March 1957 together with 2 Unesco and 14 Ethiopian staff. No building for the project existed in Majete and for several weeks trainees and staff were in Jarra at the main road in a partly reconditioned Italian-constructed building, put at disposal by the Highway Authority. This ten-room building had not been used since the liberation. Toward the middle of April they moved to quarters in Majete village and to its five-	10/39	[MS Po Ad]

classroom elementary school.

A Unesco expert brought a machine for making stabilized soil blocks, the first ever used in Ethiopia. The blocks had one part of cement to twelve parts of soil, and buildings for the project could be constructed more rapidly in this way.

There was an 18-months training period, and after that the trainees in September 1958 could be sent to the provinces, to open new first grade schools together with adult classes. [United Nations Oct. 1957]

The Training Centre had 39 male students in 1958 and 34 in 1960.

The Swede Torgil Ringmar (b 1915) arrived to Ethiopia for Unesco in March 1959, together with his Russian-born wife Nadja (b 1926 original spelling Nadeschda) who was a nurse. They stayed 1960, and Ringmar later became administrator of the Swedish volunteer corps. A clinic at Majete was operated around 1960 by Unesco.

In a large earthquake in 1961 Majete was completely destroyed and Kara Kore was heavily damaged.

[P Gouin]

Early on the morning of 2 June 1961 occurred the main disaster of a series of earth tremors in the Majete and Kara Kore area. Five people were killed in Majete and some injured. Also buildings of the Community Development Training Centre were extensively damaged /soil-block walls were not resistant to tremors/.

About 600 people camped about 35 km away from Majete but they were later moved to a relief camp nearer to their former homes.

Over 5,000 people were made homeless in the whole area of Kara Kore-Majete, so a relief campaign was started by the Red Cross and by others, and donations were collected also through July.

The Emperor inspected works on site around 20 June and said that 16,000 metal sheets would be made available for constructing new villages.

Majete is located at the foot of a mountain. Local authorities thought it would be wise to reconstruct villages at lower levels with less risk for landslides.

[Ethiopian Herald]

Swedes discussed a project for reconstruction through the Ethio-Swedish Institute of Building College, but it was not carried out.

The primary school of Majete in 1968 had 166 boys and 54 girls, with 4 teachers.

An elementary school building constructed of concrete elements and with Swedish assistance through ESBU was completed around 1970.

[SIDA 1971]

The spelling used by the post was MAJETE around 1974.

texts R. Garraud & Ruth Imru, Community development training at Majete, *in* Ethiopia Observer vol II 1958 no 9 p 301-303;

Development Training School, *in* Eth Obs vol II no 10 p 335-343, 351 longer article on the same subject;

I. Wachtmeister, Från det sjudande Afrika, Sweden 1960 p 55-64 chapter "Ett FN-projekt i vildmarken".

picts Ethiopia Observer 1958 no 9 p 301 drawing of the compound of the Community Development Training School;

ditto no 10 p 335 furniture making at the school;

I. Wachtmeister, Från det sjudande ..., Sthlm 1960 p 41 houses in the village, p 80 work in the village

JDN82c **Majete** (on map of 1901: Medjetie), ca.10°40'/40°05' 10/40 [x 18]

old market place east of mountain Abuye Meda and south of lake Hayk

Its market was unusual in the mid-1800s in that instead of being held in the open country it was surrounded by palisades and could only be entered by a gate guarded by the local authorities.

It was estimated by Alamanni that around 1890 at the Majete market there were sold

annually 48,000 oxen, 16,000 cows, 19,000 goats, and 38,000 sheep.

maji (O) upper grinding stone;

Maji (Dezi, Dizi as they call themselves), a sub-division of the ethnic group of Gimira-Maji numbering 21,075 (in 1984?).

The Maji were subdued by the Shewans in 1898.

text G. Chiomo, I Magi (Masi) nell'Etiopia del sudovest, *in* RSE 1(1941) p 271-304, Roma.

HCA88 **Maji** (Magi) (mountain & area) 06°09'/35°36' 2481 m 06/35 [Gz Mi]

A deposit of kaolinite occurs in Maji and has been analyzed. It has a high content of iron, which prevents its use without beneficiation.

[Mineral 1966]

/A little before 1909?/: "It was Sir George Clerk who descended the Abyssinian hills with a large following of Abyssinians, in pursuit of an Abyssinian pillager who had been raiding the whole country. Sir George was alone, as the representative of the British Government, in the midst of at least a thousand Abyssinians."

"When his party arrived in Toposa /in Sudan?/, the soldiers at once started raiding slaves, as is their custom. Sir George heard of this. He immediately visited every tent in camp, seized the captives, and set them free to return to their homes.

All this he had to do personally, as he had no British subjects with him. Moreover, on his return to Maji, from which place he had started out, he heard that there were still some raided slaves in the band. Now the way to Maji lies up a steep hill, and the narrow trail runs along the knife-edge crest of a ridge. It is stated, and the statement is very likely true, that he sat down on this trail with his rifle across his knees, took each slave as he passed him, and sent them all home."

[H Darley, *Slaves and ivory*, London (1926)1935 p 17-18]

The governor /Dejazmach Damtew?/ left Maji in 1909 when Emperor Menilek had suffered a serious stroke and might die /which did not really happen until 1913/.

"-- when the ruler of one district is transferred to another, he must leave, accompanied by all his people, including soldiers, and servants, shopkeepers and traders, men, women and children. They depart all together on one day, having first done their best to loot the whole district thoroughly, and carrying off with them everything removable, alive or dead."

"-- the main object of the Abyssinians was to secure as many Shangallas as possible, for disposal as slaves in the Northern territory, and together with them, of course, all the livestock in the country. This would leave the usual desert for the new-comer, who, faced with famine, would be compelled to resort to further raiding in order to keep his people alive till the crops could be reaped."

"Raids, constant and repeated, take place, and in many cases whole tribes are exterminated. It must also be remembered that no chief receives pay, and he must make his expenses out of his district, and not only so, but he is obliged to pay taxes also in kind to the Central Government, or else will be compelled to vacate his post."

[Darley p 64-65]

1910s "Major Darley, who visited Maji in 1909, and again in 1919, reported a serious worsening in the interval. Mr. Hodson, the British consul in this area in the following years, describes Ethiopian policy there as wholly destructive -- Official reports from the Sudan Government stated in 1923 that extensive raids were being made by Ethiopians upon the tribes between Maji and the Sudan border in the course of which the frontier was violated -- In 1932, again, the Sudan Government reported that the Tid and Tirma negro groups of Maji province were being so harried by Ethiopian soldiery that they were fleeing into the Sudan and the British consul had stopped the soldiers pursuing them there. These conditions continued during the next two years."

"Proclamations from Addis Ababa reforming slavery or the *gabar* institution were completely ignored in these regions. On the very eve of the Italian war the British

minister reported that conditions of disorder and oppression in this region were as bad as they could be."

"There were over 4,000 families around Maji itself /in 1909? and/ in 1919 there were not more than forty."

[Darley p 36]

"In January, 1919, I /Major L.F.I. Athill/ was sent with a remarkable pioneer, Major Henry Darley, to a place called Maji -- /There had been/ a fight between Abyssinian and Sudanese troops, in which three Sudanese officers and several men were killed. Major Darley and I were sent with three Abyssinian commissioners to investigate and to try to prevent further friction."

"/The town of Maji/ marks the limit of organised serfdom. Petty officials may claim to administer the country further west, and do effectively maintain a *regime* of oppression over wide areas in that direction. The natives, however, shun contact with them as far as possible -- The population has dwindled until thousands of acres once under cultivation are now abandoned --"

"-- we had to point out on the ground the position of the provisional frontier. We decided to start southwards with donkey transport, as we were going into a tsetse fly area. -- taking with us twenty-one donkeys, only ten of our Abyssinians, and fifteen locally engaged Swahilis. The latter were part of a numerous clan of outlaws and poachers who have settled in Maji and who make their living by raiding Uganda and the Sudan. -- In spite of our protests, the Abyssinians insisted on taking with them a mob of useless soldiers, women, and little boy slaves -- of whom several died before we regained the plateau a month later."

"We now followed the eastern foot of a low escarpment -- After three days we crossed the route followed by Austin and Bright in 1901. Here we had the luck to round up a convoy of twenty donkeys bringing back poached ivory from the Sudan. -- We had no means of carrying water -- /Two guides/ reported that heavy rain had fallen in the Dodinga hills -- Four hours' marching brought us to a low hill where a tiny trickle of water was welling out of the rock. -- The country we crossed is nearly all black cotton soil. When rain has fallen on it it becomes a bog, almost impassable to man and absolutely to pack transport. On the other hand, the water in the river-beds rapidly dries up, and then no practicable amount of digging will reach water. -- Donaldson-Smith, confronted in 1895 by the same problem as ourselves, was driven back by drought -- /An old Toposan man/ was the first British subject we had met during a march over 140 miles of British territory."

[Athill in Darley p 191-207]

1920s "The British Consul at an Abyssinian town named Maji proceeded with representatives of the Abyssinian Government to a Sudanese Government mountain station named Dodinga, 120 miles from the Abyssinian frontier, to discuss, we understand, the relations of Abyssinians to their neighbours -- The British Consul was detained at Dodinga on other business, and the Abyssinians returned to their own country alone. En route, they are said to have swept the area over which they travelled clear of human and animal domestic life."

[Kenya Observer, Nairobi 13 May 1925, cited by Darley]

1930s "Thams expedition no. 5", absent from Addis Abeba May 1930-March 1931, did the first real prospecting for minerals in the south-west, passing Jimma over Maji to lake Turkana. European members were Robert Hesse (who being German could remain in Ethiopia into the Italian time), Hungarian Martin Wider, Dane Kaj Hansen, and Norwegian Thor Amdahl. They do not seem to have reported any areas worth exploiting. After the visit to Addis Abeba by an anti-slavery commission under Lord Noel Buxton in 1932, a slavery bureau was set up with an Englishman, Mr. de Halpert, to act as adviser. In 1933 a strongly critical report was sent in by the British consul in Maji on the oppression of the *gabars* by Amhara soldiery, and the depopulation of large tracts of country through raids, fear, and unrest. These criticisms were endorsed by de Halpert, who had resigned as adviser and, with the emperor's consent, made a trip through one of the worst districts of the Maji province.

[Christine Sandford, Ethiopia under ..., London 1946 p 60]

F. de Halpert wrote from observations in 1934: "The country is a hot plain out of which rise mountainous blocks upon which the people live. The headquarters of the government is on Maji mountain, and the groups of Maji natives living upon it were reduced to such absolute subjection by the soldiers that it little mattered whether they are called slaves or *gabars*."

"If Maji *gabars* fell behind in their payments -- they or their children might be sold as slaves, and there was a constant drain, especially of children, from the mountain. When Getachew's soldiers left Maji in 1933 they took over 1,000 Maji natives with them. The population of the mountain therefore fell sharply, until, of the large population inhabiting the area earlier in the century, only a few thousand remained."

"Two neighbouring groups resisted similar spoliation by the Amharas by force of arms, and both of these by 1935 had thrown off all government control. Still another section had taken refuge with Dejazmach Taye further north, and had joined with other refugees and bandits in making his province their headquarters for kidnapping and selling slaves. In 1929 Captain Holland, consul at Maji, wrote that the principal slave market in Ethiopia was in Taye's territory."

[M Perham, The government of Ethiopia, (Oxford Univ. Press) 1948 p 331-333]

"Even then the emperor did not allow himself to be hustled into any hasty and superficial remedy. Going to the root of the matter he added the province of Maji to his list of model provinces, subject to direct administration. He recalled the existing governor, bade him withdraw all his soldiery to meet the Italian menace from the north, sent down as governor a young man of good family whom he knew and trusted, and gave him the most active assistance possible in the person of Lij Alemayou Tenna, who had been director of the Slave Bureau, when Mr. de Halpert was adviser. Finally he appointed an Englishman with long experience of, and residence in the country /Dan Sandford/, as adviser to the new governor, with special duties towards the suppression of the slave traffic."

"The plan succeeded beyond all expectation. Six months only was accorded to the new experiment before the storm of war rolled westwards and ended their efforts. But in those six months an incredible improvement had been wrought in the aspect and morale of the local inhabitants."

Colonel D.A. Sandford also wrote so in a private memorandum, Slavery in Abyssinia, 1938.

[Christine Sandford p 61]

1941

"Cave *Bey* and Captain Whalley /in January 1941/ stood on the Boma plateau at Towoth Post with the Equatorial Corps, facing Major Gobatto and the 2nd *Gruppo*, based at Maji. Whalley's string of urgent reports to Khartoum had died down. Groups of would-be rebels had come and, finding no arms or ammunition available, had gone back into the interior. But it seems that permission was at last given for Whalley and his men to cross the frontier. The post of Eribo was attacked on the 25th. But it was very difficult country." Inside Kenya a newly-raised KAR Brigade was intended also to thrust towards Maji. Over a thousand Turkana tribesmen had been raised and armed, and the commander Brigadier Owen finally had a force of somewhere near 3,000 men. Across the frontier on the Ethiopian side lay a few *banda* of the Maji group but above all the ferocious Merille tribesmen, who with their allies the Donjiro were blood enemies of the Turkana. The Merille and Donjiro were 4,000 rifles strong and on good terms with the Italians. "This was tribal warfare in all its traditional glory." The British force did not have much luck in the beginning, and by 12 February 'peace talks' had been opened with the Merille.

[A Mockler 1984 p 318-319]

About the time of the entry of the Emperor in Addis Abeba in May 1941, Captain Whalley from the Sudan side entered Maji, while the Merille still blocked the King's African Rifles from the Kenya side.

[Mockler p 381]

After the return of the emperor to Ethiopia, a law to restrain and reduce slavery was issued 27 August 1942. The High Court, presided over by a British judge, went on circuit

through those provinces having the worst reputation for practices connected with slavery. More than two hundred cases were tried.
[Christine Sandford p 61-62]

- texts A.W. Hodson, *Seven years in Southern Abyssinia*, London 1927;
A.W. Hodson, *Journeys from Maji, Southwestern Abyssinia*,
in Geographical Journal (London), vol 78 1929;
C. Viezzer, *Diario di una carovana di missione geo-mineraria di Bonga-Magi-Tirma nell'Ovest etiopico*, (Materia prime ... dell'Impero) 1938.

HCA88 **Maji** (Majji, Magi) 06/35 [Gz Ad WO Gu]

(Ger: Madschi, Fre: Madji)
06°12'/35°35' 2104/2258/2430 m
(with sub P.O. under Jimma)
Centre in 1964 of awraja and of Mehal Maji wereda.
Within a radius of 10 km there are at km
10E Gelkam (Ghelcam, Galcam) (village) 1236 m
5S Siski (Sischi) (village) peak 2500 m nearby
10SW Tiyaki (Tiachi) (mountain) c2400 m
4W Bangal (Gara Bangal) (mountain) 2413 m
5W Kersi (Chersi) (village)
6NW Gobi (village) 1846 m
9N Bahr (village with small lake)
?? Vor (Uor) (high plateau and village) 1488 m

- 1900s /1909? starting from Sudan/ "-- we arrived at the edge of the Boma plateau; and, across a large river called the Keibesh, our guide pointed out, in the distance, the position of Maji, the rumoured outpost of the Abyssinians, and even then noted as the home of the slavers and robbers who still infest the country between there and the Nile."
"On we trudged, until we arrived at last under the almost precipitous cliff on which stands Maji. Here a few of the aborigines of the country met us, scared, humble, and absolutely naked."
"Night drew on. It was bitterly cold, and sleep was difficult, for, besides the low temperature, we did not know how our future hosts would receive us."
"-- reaching a plateau on the top, we saw stretched before us a small army of about a thousand Abyssinians, all clothed in white -- I rode forward to introduce myself. -- Approaching to within about a hundred yards, and seeing that the soldiers were beginning to handle their rifles in what appeared to be a somewhat nervous manner, I slipped off my mule, and went forward alone."
"Arriving at the spot where the chiefs stood, it was not difficult to pick out their leader. I addressed myself to him, and said 'Jambo!' -- He answered me in like manner -- we all sat down on the grass by the road-side, and had a chat -- Then we rode into the town of Maji --"
"I was shown a house for myself, and huts for my boys, and for some days I had a good rest -- Of course we were rather like prisoners for the first month or so, until the chief had received a reply to the report which he sent to his feudal superior, some fifteen days' journey away; but I sold some of my ivory at a fair price, so we had money, and paid our way without difficulty."
"Maji was -- a lovely place -- It has a cool climate, and the rough country was clothed with short grass, and bracken fern. There was an abundance of food for both man and beast, and wheat, barley, potatoes, and maize were all plentiful. The head chief was away in Addis Abeba, but he was expected back shortly. He had been called to the capital by Menelik --" After six weeks a permit arrived from /Ras Welde Giyorgis?/, and Darley's group was allowed to proceed to Addis Abeba if they wished to do so.
[H Darley, *Slaves and ivory*, London (1926)1935 p 17, 24-27]
After a hunting trip "I had to get back somehow to Maji -- I sent a letter to the Governor of Maji, asking him to send me a hundred Shangallas to help me with my loads. He

acceded to my request and the Shangallas came into camp one evening. Next morning they each seized a tusk, went off at full speed, and I never saw them again."

"When I arrived, ten days later, at Maji -- I found the ivory quite all right. They had brought it safely to the governor, and he had put it all into his store house."

Darley thought that this governor was a very good man and writes his name Dejzmatch Dumti (=Damtew?). When Darley met him again his servants were tying up loads and the Dejzmatch seemed to be leaving for good. He did not tell Darley openly what he knew that Emperor Menilek was seriously ill, and the governor may have thought that he was dead. There was some unrest in the Maji area.

[Darley p 54-57]

"On the fourth day after my arrival at Maji the Abyssinians left, headed by their governor. Such a sight is given to few men to see. Four to five thousand fighting men, together with their women, children, servants, and slaves, horses and mules,, cattle and sheep, all descended the hill on which Maji stands, in one long line. -- It brought vividly to mind the account of the flight of the Children of Israel from Egypt."

"From the top of Maji hill, a distance of nearly two day's journey can be seen, for the timber along the road has nearly all been cut down. Watching the slow progress of this mighty throng,, we could see that the moment they left the environs of the town of Maji they were attacked by the Shangallas, who attempted to regain possession of their women and children."

"I heard afterwards the Abyssinians had literally to fight their way all through the dense forests with which this part of the country is clothed, during a fifteen days' march, until they arrived in the territory of Jimma, whose governor had not been removed, and where they at last found safety."

"It was evening before the last of this caravan dropped down the hill, and we were left alone. A town of several thousand inhabitants was left standing empty. -- After nightfall, however, the chief robber of the country paid us a visit, accompanied by his armed guard."

"Naturally, we thought he meant mischief, but I set him down before my last bottle of whisky, and kept him covered until he had, by himself, almost finished it. Even now I do not really know what he came back for, and I am certain that when he left me he did not know either! His men placed him carefully on his mule, and they all trooped off together."

[Darley p 70-72]

"For over a month we rested undisturbed, but away from the hill on which Maji was perched all was fire and sword. Bands of Shangallas wandered about in every direction, burning Abyssinian houses, and looking for fugitives, so it was impossible to leave our refuge."

[Darley p 80]

"The new governor -- was named Dedjasmach Beru, and he was what is called an 'educated' Abyssinian. He had been to Paris, and St. Petersburg with -- Count Leontieff, and his idea of the British Government was of the poorest description. His only idea of governing was to get money. He and his people -- were all robbers."

After Birru's arrival a proclamation was read which started: Oh, you people of Turkana, Karamojo, and Suk.

"All these countries mentioned are in British territory, most of them over a hundred miles beyond the border, and it was now patent that Beru had left Addis Abeba under orders to occupy them. "

Fitawrari Alata, chief adviser of the new governor, fetched Darley to see Birru, who received him with a guard of honour and great politeness. "-- he had been sent -- with orders to take over the whole of the country as far as Mount Elgon, and the Suk country, and that he and his people did not know the road, as they were new comers. Would I therefore consent to act as their guide?" A fortnight later, after Darley had left Maji going to Addis Abeba, he learnt that King Edward of England was dead, so the Ethiopians thought it would be all confusion with the British.

[Darley p 83-92]

After more than three months in Addis Abeba, Darley went south again "with forty mules, piled high with trade goods of every sort, besides my dollars and my cartridges -- It transpired that Dedjasmach Beru had sent his right hand man Alata from Maji, with orders to kill me if he met me in the bush. Here, to his disgust, he met me in Jimma, which is another king's territory." A court case against Darley was arranged by Alata, with King Abu Jifar as judge. A fortnight later, Alata was ordered to go to Addis Abeba, and Darley to go on to Maji.

"It soon became evident that Dedjasmach Beru was not going to leave Maji until after my own departure, and, as he seemed anxious to see me safely off the premises, I packed up without much bother and marched off, making across the Boma plateau --"

Four of Birru's men went with Darley for about six days and then left him. "The moment they were well out of sight, I wheeled due West, and made for the desert -- got safely down the Boma escarpment, and right out on to the plain without trouble. My extraordinary good fortune followed me, for a heavy rainstorm washed out all my tracks, and so I knew the Abyssinians would have some difficulty in finding me."

A little later Birru received orders to go to Addis Abeba and explain his intended raid on British territory to a court which included the British Minister. This court broke up in disorder. "Dedjasmach Beru died suddenly that night. They said of consumption. I expect it was."

[Darley p 119-127, 147-148, 150]

In 1919: "The town of Maji is the last typical *Ketemma* with its triply stockaded *gibbe* or palace, its circular church, its market-place, its crowds of loafing soldiers, and its innumerable brothels. It also marks the limit of organized serfdom."

[Athill in Darley p 202]

Dejazmach Birru Hayle Maryam was governor 1910-1911. His son Fitawrari Desta was governor 1911-1922. His successor was Dejazmach Mekuriya. Dejazmach Getachew Abate and Dejazmach Mengesha Yilma (governors in 1926 and 1932) were keen traders in bonded labour.

[12th Int. Conf. of Ethiopian Studies 1994 p 700]

British consul Holland died there in 1929 and was buried in Maji town.

1930s

A post office was opened within the period 1923-1932. The *receveur* of the post office was Ato Eshete around 1931. The post used spelling MADJI at that time, which points to French influence, even if the foreigners in Maji were mainly British. There was a mission station of the United Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A. and there was also an Italian religious mission.

Around 1935 the Governor of Maji Province was Dejazmach Debebe, a descendant of Negus Wolde Giyorgis /and resident in Shewa Gimira?/.

Ras Getachew Abate, former diplomat to Paris and Rome, was resident Governor in Maji. There was a British Consul, and at one time Major Whalley held that post.. There was a customs post and a telephone station.

In mid-1935 before the Italian attack on Ethiopia, Fitawrari Zewde Ayele (appointed in August 1935), the adviser Colonel Dan Sandford and Lij Alemayu Tana (former secretary-general of the Slavery Department) commenced a major reform of Maji's administration.

[12th Int. Conf. p 701]

The Emperor appointed a reforming governor to Maji. Although he arrived there only after the Italians had begun their invasion, under firm and humane administration good results were soon reported.

[Perham 1948 p 230]

Sandford had to flee for the Italians in 1936 and escaped to Lokitaung in northern Kenya.

[Shirreff and others]

Maji town was occupied by the Italians on 18 March 1937.

Post office of the Italians was opened on 21 February 1938 (or 22 February?).

Its cancellations read MAGI * GALLA E SIDAMA.

A landing strip for aircraft was used at Balti.

- There were over 3,000 inhabitants. *Commissariato dei Mági e Sciúro*, post, telegraph, infirmary, shops. The former British consulate was a group of well constructed *chiqa* buildings.
An earlier *Missione della Consolata* station had been destroyed. A new/??/ one had chapel, school, workshops and cultivations.
[Guida 1938]
- 1940s "Major Glen Hall Cain from Australia served in Ethiopia with the Sudan Interior Mission. -- Later -- he served with the Pioneer Corps of the Sudan Defence force. Early in 1940, he entered Ethiopia as an Intelligence Officer. Reaching Maji in May, after the decisive takeover of this Italian outpost, the Pioneers moved northward where they joined at Shewa Gimera with the clean up forces coming southward --"
[R N Thompson, Liberation .., Canada 1987 p 227]
- 1950s Maji town was awraja centre at least 1956-1980.
Sub-province Governor of Maji awraja 1958-1967 was Lieut.-Colonel Kebede Tesemma (b 1912), self-educated but 2nd in command in the Kagnew Battalion in Korea in 1952.
- 1960s Dr. Marion at the American mission hospital in Maji in March 1967 reported a case of trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness, usually transmitted by the tse-tse fly).
The primary school in 1968 had 139 boys and 52 girls, with 5 teachers.
American Mission school had 139 boys and 35 girls, with 6 male and 3 female teachers (two of these foreign).
The junior secondary school then had 29 male and 2 female students in grades 7-8, with three teachers (Ethiopian).
- 1990s Around 1995 Maji town was capital of the Maji Zone of the SNNPRS federal entity (Southern Nations).
Served by Tum (Tume) airport, see this name. Around 1997 there were EAL domestic flights to Addis Abeba, Jimma, Mizan Teferi, Tepi.
- HCA67 Maji & Goldiya awraja 06°00'/35°30' 06/35 [Gz Ad]
(centre at least in 1964-1980 = Maji)
Because of drought the Emperor in November 1965 sent a modest sum of money for food aid in Maji.
- Maji zone, cf Bench-Maji zone ../.. [n]
In 1996 it was combined with Bench zone into the Bench-Maji zone, with Mizan Teferi as its capital.
- majirr: *majiir* (Som) deviate, turn something forcibly
- HBM25 Majirr (area) 03/39 [WO]
?? Majo (in Kefa province) ../.. [x]
The American Mission had a clinic there (-1955-).
- GDE15 Majok 08/33 [WO]