

Be part of the change

On January 15, 2012 a meeting was held in London where few members of the National Assembly for Democratic Change who were elected in the last congress in Hawsaa – Ethiopia last month such as Yohannes Asmelash, Tseggai Yohannes, Hamid Omar, Showqi Mohamed Ahmed, and Danial Weldetensae where they provided a summary of the congress.

I came early to get a seat in the front row. The conference started by providing a summary report of the congress in Arabic by Mr. Hamid Omar, after the end of the Arabic report there was prayer break. I was optimistic from what I have heard, but the minute we took the break I got a little disappointed of the crowd, the crowd were about 70 people 85% of them were elder people, two women, and less than 10 young guys.

I was wondering where are the young guys, although I believe that the elder people are the people who started it and they must be part of this change, but the young guys are the ones who are going to carry on the change, therefore they must be involved.

I blame the elder people, they are part of the change because they were born and raised in Eritrea, even though they have left long time ago but Eritrea still is their home. Unlike most of the young generation who was born and grew up in the diaspora, they don't have the homesickness that the elderly have for Eritrea, therefore it's the elderly responsibility to create the bond in the young generation that connects them with their origins.

Even though the elder generation have settled and had families and friends in different countries in the world, for their own kids these countries are their current home, but still those kids should know their roots and origins, and try to help especially when their own people are facing prison, torture, and death under a dictator like in our case in Eritrea.

“A young girl was walking along the beach upon which thousands of starfish had been washed up during a terrible storm. When she came to each starfish, she would pick it up, and throw it back into the ocean. People watched her with amusement.

She had been doing this for some time when a man approached her and said, “Little girl, why are you doing this? Look at this beach! You can't save all these starfish. You can't begin to make a difference!”

The girl seemed crushed, suddenly deflated. But after a few moments, she bent down, picked up another starfish, and hurled it as far as she could into the ocean. Then she looked up at the man and replied,

“Well, I made a difference to that one!”

The old man looked at the girl inquisitively and thought about what she had done and said. Inspired, he joined the little girl in throwing starfish back into the sea. Soon others joined, and all the starfish were saved. - adapted from the Star Thrower by Loren C. Eiseley”

Looking at what the girl did that should inspire every one of us, because even though the girl knew she may not save all the starfishes, she knew she is making a difference to those that she saved.

We don't have to be born and raised in Eritrea to be involved in the change, we don't have to be related

by blood or country to help each other, but lets be like that girl who tried to make a difference as much as she could to save something like a star fish.
Lets all push our-selves, sons, daughters, and others to be part of the change in Eritrea.

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