



Tears of Joy: The Wedding of Titi Reda

Tsgab “Titi” Reda was wedded to Iyob Asgede Hagos on October 23, 2005 at the Ethiopian Orthodox Kidane Mihret Church in Denver, Colorado. Their wedding coincided with the anniversary of Abune Aregawi, one of the founders of monastic life in Ethiopia. The Church was completely packed during the morning hour service and so was the Performing Arts of the Convention Center where the reception took place in the evening.

Although there were fifty huge round tables with ten chairs each to accommodate the invited guests, the hall of the performing arts center was packed with over five hundred people.

The Denver organizing committee that was assigned for the wedding event did a marvelous job in the division of labor and overall hosting performance. The hosts were dressed in traditional Ethiopian white attire, and so were the women who gave additional flavor to the colorful event and preservation of Ethiopian tradition.

When the Bride and Groom arrived at the reception hall, they were preceded by an entourage of friends of the bride and groom, i.e. the bride’s maids and the men of the groom. The bride’s maids were dressed in yellow

green and the men were wearing tuxedos with black shirts and yellow green ties that perfectly matched the costume of the women. Interestingly, the yellow green costumes and ties blended with the magnificent green tiny and countless florescent lights on the ceiling of the Hall that also resembled like twinkling flashing lights from the heavenly skies.

Before the bride and groom arrived, however, a troupe dressed in Ethiopian 'warrior' hero attire with their swords and trumpet paraded and danced and entertained the invited guests. Soon, they were joined by the bride and groom group and danced in concert till the floor was shaken with tremor from the dances of the pounding feet, and as a result the wedding cake was bouncing due to the waves coming from the epicenter.

Titi was absolutely gorgeous. With her magnificent bridal costume, she looked like a swan floating on a quite and serene lake. So was the groom, who maintained the pace and aura of his beloved bride. Once the bride and groom settled down, Ato Haile, the chair of the organizing committee, officially announced the celebration; dinner was served and the festivities began. The food, accompanied by Ethiopian beer and wine (*Suwa* and *Mies*) was incredibly delicious and the invitees seemed to have joyfully indulged in doing justice to the food. After the food was eaten heavens went loose by the music and dances, and this phenomenal performance continued till 1 am.

Intermittently announcements, accompanied by soft music, were made and a poem that praised the bride and groom (see poem in Tigrigna below) was read. Following intermission, the bride and groom with their entourage, descended on the floor to dance; and here took place a blend of tradition (those dressed with Ethiopian costumes) and modernism (those who were wearing tuxedos and suits). This was also a moment of joy and tears. In the middle of the dance, the bride and groom got so many hugs and kisses from their immediate families and close friends, and then Titi broke with tears; she could not help it and she got very emotional; she was drenched by her own tears, flowing incessantly on her cheeks, but these were definitely tears of joy. Understandably some of the immediate family members also became emotional and wept, but these too were weeps of joy. Throughout the emotional momentum, the groom was brave and composed, although at times he seemed to have succumbed to the chorus of tears. Instead, he was whispering and dispatching words of comfort (so it seemed) to his bride. His courage paid off! The swan was no longer soaked with tears and she began to smile again. The tears of joy abruptly stopped but the joyful celebration continued. What a magnificent wedding; the wedding of Titi Reda.

IDEA congratulates Tsgab “Titi” Reda and Iyob Asgede Hagos for their wedding and wishes them a happy, prosperous, wealthy, and constructive life.

እዮብን ጽጋብን ብጠባይ ሕቡራት ብመልክዕ ምሱላት
ናይ ሰብ ኩሉ ዓርኪ ምሩቓት
ሎጚ ሓደ ኮኑ ተዋህዶ ምርዑዋት

እዮብ ብዓል ግርግ ረኽብካያ ንጽጋብ መዓር ወለላ
ኩሉ ሰብ ዘፈትዋ እንኮላይ ንጽላላ
ኣነውን my favorite ዘብላ

ቲቲውን ረኽብኪ ሰብኣይ ንኹሉ ዘብል ሃረር
ናይ ኮምፕተር ሊቕ ናይ ሶፍትዌር ኢንጂነር*

ወይ ናትኩም ነገር ብጣዕጚ ዝገርም
እንታይ'ዩ ብልሓቱ ከም'ዚ ኢሉ ዝገጥም
ሰብ ገሪምዎ ተበለ ትሒም ትሒም**
ስለዘፈትወኩም እምበር ኣይኮነን ኢሉ ህልም

ጽጋብ እዮብ ጠባይኩምን ኣካይዳኹምን ዘሐብን
ዝተመነናዮ ኮይኑ ኣሎ ብናታትኩም ብይን

ፈታዊኹም ኩሉ መጺኡ ካበዩ ሃገሩ
ካብ ጩፍ ናብ ጩፍ ዕድሜኹም ኣኸቢሩ
ርሑስ ጋጣ ንክብል መኸሩ
ንሰኻትኩም ባዕልኻትኩም ምስክሩ

ወይ ሎም ዘበን ደስ ዘብል መርዓ ደንቨር
ከም ግዙፍ መጽሓፍ ዝሸፈኑ ገበር
ኣንቢብካ ዘይጸገብ ናታትኩም ነገር
ብዓንተውኡ ፈሊጥናዮ ኔርና ኢና ንክይንዳናገር

ጽጋብን እዮብን ሓደ ምስሊ
ሎጚ ተሓንጻጸ ርክብኩም ብዕሊ
ኣብ ቕድሚ ኩሉ ዓለም ዓላሊ

አዴታት ዓልላ አቦታት ዓልሉ
አብ ሓጎስ መርዑት ተኻፈሉ
ናይ ሳራን አብርሃምን ይግበረልኩም በሉ።

*እዚ አካል ናይ'ዚ ግጥሚ'ዚ ብአጋጣሚ ከይተነበ ተዘለሉ ሓሊፉ

**እዚ “መዓስ እዮም ዝምርዓዉ” ኢልካ ምህንጣይ ማለት እዩ

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