

January 7, 2007

መልካም ገና ለሁሉ ኢትዮጵያውያንና ለምስራቅ ኦርቶዶክስ ክርስቲያን ምእመናን

ርሑስ በዓል ልደት ንኹሎም ኢትዮጵያውያንን ናይ ምብራቅ ኦርቶዶክስ ክርስቲያን አመንትን

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL ETHIOPIANS & TO ALL WHO PROFESS THE EASTERN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FAITH

It has now been confirmed beyond all doubt that Jesus Christ was actually born at Bethlehem on January 6 to dawn January 7 and not on December 25. The latter date, according to ancient Egyptians, was the birth date of *Ra* or the Sun, one of the gods that they worshipped. Interestingly, the Egyptians believed that the Sun was born in a stable along with cattle, sheep, and goats.

When Sosigenes, a Greek philosopher brought up and educated in Egypt, revised the Egyptian calendar on behalf of Julius Caesar (hence Julian Calendar), Europeans who adopted the so-called Gregorian calendar and who later became Christians must have juxtaposed the birth date of the Sun and mistakenly began to celebrate Christmas on December 25.

The Ethiopians, Coptic Egyptians, Greeks, Russians, and other Orthodox Christians such as Syrians, Armenians, Serbians, Bulgarians etc. celebrate Christmas on January 7. The credibility of this date is substantiated by recent archaeological findings in Bethlehem, the writings of a contemporary historian by the name Josephus, and by the coincidence of the Haley Comet and the movement of the three wise kings (or shepherds), who brought gifts to the baby Jesus but who may have been astronomers from Ur who were investigating the 'bright star' around the first week of January!

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