Religious Leaders, Members of the Ethiopian Government, Ethiopian Patriots and the People of Ethiopia:

It gives me heartfelt pleasure to celebrate Ethiopia’s 80th Victory Day Anniversary. Ethiopia’s victory over invading fascist Italian forces eighty years ago could not have been possible without the sacrifices paid by our gallant Patriots and the diplomatic struggle waged by my grandfather, Emperor Haile Selassie I, to liberate Ethiopia on the international stage. We celebrate this day and pay tribute to our ancestors for the sacrifices they made to assure the territorial integrity, independence, and unity of our people.

Every year, The Crown Council of Ethiopia celebrates Victory Day and commemorates our Patriots. What makes this year’s celebration different for the Crown Council is our ability to celebrate Victory Day with our beloved people in Ethiopia and in other parts of the world through the use of modern technology.

There are many lessons we can learn from our history. We should always remember and be cognizant of the fact that our mothers and fathers galvanized under one national flag and sacrificed their sacred lives to ensure that our people would live in peace, love, freedom, dignity, and honour.

Our ancestors relished in victory because they did not divide along ethnic or religious lines. If we are to properly celebrate Victory Day, and follow in the footsteps of our mothers and fathers, then we must commit to living in harmony, respecting and loving one another.

I thank the organizers on behalf of our Crown Council for their wisdom and foresight in using this very important holiday to bring us together to celebrate in unity.

Happy 80th Victory Day!

May God bless and protect Ethiopia and her people!

HIH Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile Selassie
President, The Ethiopian Crown Council