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**THE CROWN COUNCIL OF ETHIOPIA**  
HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ERMIAS SAHLE-SELASSIE HAILE-SELASSIE  
PRESIDENT

**HIH Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Address  
for Ethiopian New Year 2019  
Year of St. Luke the Evangelist**

To all honored and beloved children of Ethiopia around the world, I offer my congratulations on crossing over from the year of St. Mark the Evangelist 2018 to the year of St. Luke the Evangelist 2019. Just as we wished for many things during the last New Year holiday, Ethiopia and Ethiopians have many desires and wishes for this coming New Year as well. As we look back over the past year, we should take pleasure in our successes and learn from our failures. We should all look back at our times of joy and of sorrow, our times of labor and rest, our ambitions and our accomplishments, and be thankful to our Creator for all of them. The holiday of Enqutatash celebrates the return from Jerusalem of the great Makeda, Queen of Sheba, to her realm, when she was welcomed with a gift of jewels from her nobles who were joyous upon her return. This New Year holiday and our unique calendar system of counting years, months, days, hours is part of the great patrimony that has been passed down from our ancestors. It is the special pride of our “Ethiopianess”. We should thank our fathers and mothers, and above all our Creator for this great and special culture that they have bestowed upon us and for which we are famed.

As we pass from one year into the next, it has long been our tradition to contemplate what we have passed through and give thanks to God, and to receive the future with hope and prayer. Above all we would do well to pray to the Almighty to grant peace to our country Ethiopia and our people. War, division and poverty have come hand in hand into the land of Ethiopia and caused us to shed tears and scatter into exile for many years now. We all need to pray for this to end, and for God to restore His peace, love, unity and blessings to us. In these difficult days when the peace of the world is shaken, and the cost of living is particularly high, those of us who are able should come to the aid those who suffer, and those who are not able should help with our thoughts and prayers.

May this New Year be one of peace, health and renewal for our country Ethiopia and her children, and all the world. May Almighty God Bless the Year of St. Luke 2019, and may he cross us all over to the next year.