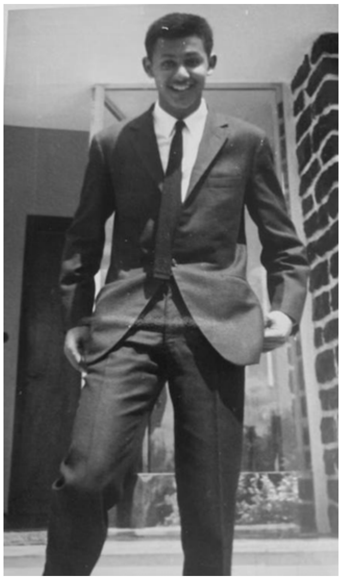
የኢትዮጵያ ዘውድ ምክር ቤት

THE CROWN COUNCIL OF ETHIOPIA

His Imperial Highness Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile-Selassie
President



On the Passing of H.I.H. The Duke of Harrar

A Statement from the Crown Council of Ethiopia

ዜና እረፍት።

ልዑል ወሰንሰገድ መኮንን ኃይለሥላሴ መስፍነ ሐረር በ74 ዓመት እድሜያቸው ከዚህ ዓለም በሞት መለየታቸውን እያሳወቅን የተሰማንን ታላቅ ሐዘን እንገልፃለን።

ልዑል ወሰንሰገድ (ፖል) መኮንን ከአባታቸው ከልዑል መኮንን ኃይለሥላሴ መስፍነ ሐረር እና ከእናታቸው ከልዕልት ሳራ ግዛው ሰፋኒተ ሐረር በነሐሴ 15፥ 1939 ዓም በአዲስ አበባ ተወለዱ። ልዑል ወሰንሰገድ የግርማዊ ቀዳማዊ አፄ ኃይለሥላሴ እና የግርማዊት እቴጌ መነን አስፋው የልጅ ልጅ ነበሩ። በ10 ዓመት እድሜያቸው ልዑል አባታቸው ስላረፉ ልዑል ወሰንሰገድ የሐረር መስፍንነት ማዕረግ ተቀብለዋል። ልዑል ወሰንሰገድ በታላቅዋ ብሪታንያ በሚገኘው ሚልፊልድ እና በሲዊዘርላንድ የሚገኘው ሌይሲን አሜሪካን ትምሕርት ቤቶች ትምሕርታቸውን ተከታትለዋል። በ1967 ዓም ደርግ የዘውድ ስርዓትን በገለበጠ ጊዜ ልዑል ወሰንሰገድ ከሌሎቹ ንጉሣውያን ቤተሰቦቻቸው ጋር አብረው ታስረው በ1982 ዓም ተፈተዋል።

ልዑል ወሰንሰገድ ባለ ነጻ አስተያየት እና ሁሉን አስተዋይ ነበሩ። እንደ ዘመናቸው ትውልድ ተራማጅ ፖለቲካዊ አስተሳሰብ ነበራቸው። ለተቸገረ ሰው የነበራቸው ርህራሄ በኢትዮጵያ ሕዝብ ልዩ ፍቅር እንዲያገኙ አድርገዋል። በትውልዳቸው ምክንያት ብቻ ለረጅም ዘመን እስራት ደርሶባቸዋል። ከተፈቱ በኋላም የዛን የችግር እና ስቃይ ዘመን በትሕትና እና በዝምታ በልባቸው ይዘው ቆይተዋል። ገና በልጅነታቸው ግርማዊ ጃንሆይ ከፍተኛ ሃላፊነት ቢሰጧቸውም፥ በደርግም ዘመን ከባድ የስቃይ ሸክም ችለው ቢኖሩም፥ በማንኛውም ወቅት ትሕትናቸው፥ ተጫዋችነታቸው እና በሰው የመወደድ የነበራቸው ስጦታ መቼም ተለይቷቸው አያውቅም።

የልዑል ወሰንሰገድ ባለቤት ኮኒ ክዋቭ ለረጅም ዓመታት በደስታ አብረው ማሳለፋቸው እያስታወስን፥ ለሳቸው እና ለልዑል ወሰን ሰገድ ወንድሞች ለልዑል ሚካኤል መኮንን፥ ልዑል ተፈሪ መካንን፥ እና ልዑል በእደማርያም መኮንን እግዚአብሔር ጽናቱን እንዲሰጥልን እና በዚህ ከባድ የሐዘን ግዜ በጸሎታችን እንደ ማይለዩ እናሳውቃለን። ነፍሳቸውን በዐጸደ ገነት እንዲያኖርልን እንመኛለን።

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of His Imperial Highness the Duke of Harrar, Prince Wossen Seged Makonnen Haile Selassie (August 22, 1947 - November 10, 2021) after a long illness. His Imperial Highness was 74.

Prince Wossen Seged, (commonly referred to as “Paul”) was born in Addis Ababa, on the 21st of August, 1947 to Their Imperial Highnesses Prince Makonnen Haile Selassie and Princess Sara Gizaw, the Duke and Duchess of Harrar. He was thus a grandson of His Imperial Majesty Emperor Haile Selassie I and Empress Menen Asfaw of Ethiopia. After the death of his father Prince Makonnen in May 1957, Prince Wossen Seged succeeded as Duke of Harrar just a few months before his 10th birthday. Prince Wossen Seged attended Millfield School and Gordonstoun School in the United Kingdom as well as the Leysin American School in Vaud, Switzerland. He was among the members of the Imperial family to be imprisoned by the Derg regime following the overthrow of the monarchy in 1974 under harsh conditions and was released in 1989. Many of us in exile in the diaspora worked to free him and the other prisoners in our family for years without success.

Prince Wossen Seged had an independent mind and a keen sense of observation. Like so many of his generation, he was politically a progressive. He always had a place in his heart for the less fortunate among us, which made him popular with the Ethiopian people. He paid the price of imprisonment solely because of the accident of his birth. After his release, he carried the pain of those years with quiet dignity. He had been given responsibility by His Majesty at a young age. This and his suffering under the Derg must have been a great burden to him. But his personality and charisma never diminished. His humility and personal charm were infectious to all who knew him. He lived an exceptional life.

We remember his wife Connie Quave for the years of life they shared together. Our prayers in these difficult days ahead are with her and his brothers, Prince Mikael Makonnen, Prince Tafari Makonnen, and Prince Beede Mariam Makonnen. May God comfort them and the entire Imperial family, and may He rest the soul of Prince Wossen Seged in paradise.