

RASTAFARI IN COVENANT

HYMANOT

Month of the Lion's Seal

(2nd – 31st December 2020)

Amos 3:7-8

Isaiah 55:11

Jeremiah 1:9-10



ST TEKLA HYMANOT

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Hail Jah! Rastafari! Haile Selassie !! and Hymanot blessings to one and all!

We are now into this new season, the second month of our heritage calendar year and it is the month that we call Hymanot, which in Amharic means 'Faith'.

Hymanot is also described as the month of the Lion's Seal and it is declaring that we are now in the time of strong faith, of lion's faith. The apostle Paul says in Ephesians 6:10, "*Finally my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.*"

To be strong in the Lord is to be strong in faith so as Paul commands, it is time to be strong in faith and so, may this Hymanot blessing manifest itself upon a one.

This season of Hymanot is founded on a man of strong faith, **the great Ethiopian saint Tekla Hymanot who restored the Solomonic dynasty** to rule Ethiopia in 1253 AD (according to the King's list timeline) by crowning Yakuno Amlak, King of kings.

The saint also prophesied that this dynasty would rule the world. In this prophesy he mentioned the special king who through his anointing would rule for 43 years. His Imperial Majesty Emperor Haile Selassie 1st, the last ruling emperor of Ethiopia, ruled for 43 years 314 days. Rastafari!

We now take a brief look at Jah works and the legends that are told about the life of this great saint.

ST TEKLA HYMANOT

Introduction

Ethiopia was ruled from the time of the last ruler of the 3rd dynasty, the Queen of Sheba, Makeda and her generations (of the sons and seed of King Solomon of Israel, Root of David) right up to the King of kings of the 7th dynasty Del Naad of Aksum for 1,933 years (according to the Kings list) There was a brief interruption of 60 years before Del Naad's reign as the non-Christian Queen Gudit usurped the throne and ruled for 40 years.

The king of kings Del Naad became the last king of Solomonic descent to rule as King of kings before the sovereigns of the Zagwe dynasty took over and ruled Ethiopia for 333 years (Kings list)

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Prophecy must be Fulfilled

Need we remind ourselves that prophecy must be fulfilled and that the sons of Solomon, Root of David, had to eventually rule Ethiopia again to the glory of Christ and His eternal Kingdom according to Holy Scripture:

“Princes shall come out of Egypt;

Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God.” (Psalm 68:31 KJV)

The Lord has sworn in truth to David;

He will not turn from it:

“I will set upon your throne the [c]fruit of your body.

If your sons will keep My covenant

And My testimony which I shall teach them,

Their sons also shall sit upon your throne forevermore.” (Psalm 132:11-12)



Seal of the Restoration of the Solomonic Dynasty

Ganneta Maryam Church, believed to have been built by Yakuno Amlak

First let us say that the sovereigns of the Zagwe dynasty, the 8th dynasty of Ethiopian rulers should be respected as covenant kings of Ethiopia. The Zagwe dynasty produced one of the all-time great kings of Ethiopia, Lalibela, who is venerated in the Orthodox Church of Ethiopia.

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Lalibela is known for the famous rock churches in Ethiopia. Eleven churches in all were built, with the help of angels, according to legend, and is one of the wonders of the world, declared as a heritage site in 1978.

Yet prophecy had to be fulfilled with the restoration of the Solomonic dynasty. This was eventually sealed with the influence of St Tekla Hymanot who according to tradition, persuaded the Zagwe ruler(s) that the Solomonic dynasty must be restored.

The Book of the Riches of the Kings

(St Tekla's prophecy and anointing Yakuno Amlak as king)

Here is the account recorded in the Ethiopian book of the Riches of the Kings as an angel gives St Tekla Hymanot a command from God saying:

"...thou shalt take Yakuno Amlak and anoint him with thy hand so that he may be king over all kings and that he alone may reign over the whole world. And not all the kings who shall reign after him shall be anointed with this oil but only those who are of the seed of Jacob, the righteous man and him that shall arise after the seed of Jacob as kings in the days of the seven thousand, two hundred and sixtieth year of the world; and the days of the years of him that shall thus rule as king shall be three and forty years.

And unto thee shall Yakuno Amlak give from his kingdom a man who shall be unto thee as a son (or servant) and if there be any who shall act deceitfully against this ordinance of thine and shall attempt to inherit the kingdom, he shall be accursed. And behold, I have revealed the secret things of God to thee and do thou hesitate not but anoint Yakuno Amlak king. And when the angel of God had said these things unto him, he went up into heaven and our Father Tekla Hymanot of honourable name, having heard these words from the mouth of the angel, anointed Yakuno Amlak king and sent him off to the war.

The Honour of the Saint

Tekle Hymanot or Takla Haymanot (Ge'ez: ተክለ ሃይማኖት, takla hāymānōt, modern tekle hāymānōt, "Plant of Faith"; known in the Coptic Church as Saint Takla Haymanot of Ethiopia; c. 1215 – c. 1313) was an Ethiopian saint and monk mostly venerated by Ethiopians as a hermit. He has an ecclesiastical title, Lik Papas (Ge'ez Title for the bishop with a higher rank than the other bishops, but a lower rank than the Archbishop or Patriarch) who founded a major monastery in his native province of Shewa. He is significant for being the only Ethiopian saint popular both amongst Ethiopians and outside that country. Tekle Haymanot "is the only Ethiopian saint celebrated officially in foreign churches such as Rome and Egypt."

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His feast day is August 17, and the 24th day of every month in the Ethiopian calendar is dedicated to Tekle Haymanot.



His Birth

Kidnapping of Egzi'e Haraya by King Matalomi's soldiers

Tekle Haymanot was born in Zorare, a district in Selale which lies on the eastern edge of Shewa. He was the son of the priest Tsega Zeab (ጾጋ ዘኡብ) ("Gift of Faith") and his wife Egzi'e Haraya ("Choice of God"), who is also known as Sarah; Tekle Haymanot was born after his parents, who had failed to have children, pledged their firstborn to God.

During his youth, Shewa was subject to a number of devastating raids by Matolomi, the pagan king of Damot, which lay beyond the Jamma River. One of Matolomi most notorious predations was the raid which led to the abduction of Egzi'e Haraya; she is said to have been reunited with Tsega Zeab through the intercession of the Archangel Michael when Matolomi found out that they were escaping he threw a spear which turned from them to his direction and killed him.

On the 24th of Kiahk, "Sarah" gave birth to a beautiful son and called him "The happiness of Sehioun", or "The happiness of the churches". There were many miracles done by him; like when he talked when he was only 3 days old. He was baptized on his 40th day.

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LEGENDS OF THE SAINT

Miracle of Provision

After a year and a half, there was a terrible famine that his parents couldn't make the following feast for Michael the Archangel. One day, the mother was praying to God so that she could do something for the feast of the Archangel.

While she was carrying her baby, he wiped her tears and pointed to the kitchen where some flour in a plate were present. He put his hands in the flour and it poured and poured, that the mother gathered every container she had in the house. And the same happened with the ghee, oil, and honey. This was on the 12th of Baramhat. God also



gave him the gift of studying the psalms and the Holy Bible.

His Consecration as a Deacon

Consecration of Tekla Hymanot

One night Michael, the Archangel appeared to Pope "Kyrillos" of "Ethiopia" in a dream and told him that the next day a dark coloured man would go to him and would kneel before him. That man had a blessed son, and he was chosen for heaven and he was great before God. "Consecrate him as a Deacon, then leave him go peacefully", he said.

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After this was done while the father and the son were returning, the son asked a group of people for a place to spend the night. One of the people in the group insulted him and hit him without cause. The son shouted asking the help of the Archangel and the man was greatly harmed.

The son couldn't bear that because he was full of the Holy Spirit, and he prayed for the man to be cured and the angel cured him, so he believed in God and all his friends and family.

While the son and the father were getting back, (after spending the night at "Amhara") their water was finished and the food became less; so, the saint prayed aside, and God then created a spring so they could drink from it.

The saint's parents wanted him to get married, but he refused because he dedicated himself completely to God. So, they accepted, but the girl stayed with them at their home (according to the traditions at these countries), but she stayed a virgin as that was her wish.

THE MEASURE OF STRONG FAITH

With the coronation of His Imperial Majesty, Jah has deposited in I n I Rastafari the measure of strong faith. This month of Hymanot follows and reflects strong faith in the person of the great Ethiopian Saint Tekla Hymanot. This Saint, who was strong in the Lord and in the power of His might, was instrumental in the restoration of the Solomonic dynasty and its increase to the glory of God.

Glory be to Jah for we are in the times of blessings for I n I to be sealed with the Lion's Seal of being:

"...strong in the Lord [empowered through your union with Him] and in the power of His might [that strength that His boundless might provides]" Ephesians 6:10 AMP



The Lion of the Tribe of Judah Has Prevailed!

JAH! RAS TAFARI! HAILE SELASSIE II!

Tabot Rastafari Ministries
Hymanot 90HIM 1st Glory ~ Ras Mahitema Selassie
6th Hymanot 90HIM / 7th December 2020

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