



## OBTAINING DOCUMENTS FROM ERITREA

Often, there are occasions when an Eritrean refugee or asylee is asked to provide official state-issued documents from Eritrea in order to process requests, particularly petitions to have a family member join the individual in the U.S.

The regime in control of Eritrea demands that members of the Eritrean Diaspora pledge allegiance to the government and provide financial support in the form of a 2% tax on net income. In the U.S., this pertains to all of Eritrean origin, be they refugees, asylees, asylum seekers or naturalized U.S. citizens. Unless in good stead with the government, including up-to-date payment of the tax, the individual is not eligible to receive official documents, such as birth certificates, marriage certificates, school transcripts, etc.

A refugee must often have to rely on secondary evidence for verifying family relationships. For example, members of the Eritrean Orthodox church often have a child baptized within a few weeks after birth, and baptismal certificates may include the child's birth date as well as names of parents and child. Sworn statements by family members or friends that they have personally observed the individuals in question together as a family, or have attended the wedding of those claiming to be spouses, or witnessed a baptism with the family members together, can serve as secondary evidence. DNA testing may also be necessary to establish parental identity when children are requested to join a parent.

If not in compliance with regime requirements, the alternative to get official documents is for the individual to complete the infamous "Form of Regret" (attached) in order to receive official documents, or to travel to Eritrea. This requires providing personal information which facilitates leverage on the individual by the regime. Once the individual signs this item, he/she is required to provide W-2 and IRS1040 returns in order to verify income and to track home and employment addresses.

Obviously, the refugee is not normally willing to comply with completing this document, and cannot in good conscience be required to do so.

***The America Team for Displaced Eritreans***

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**ፎርም ምሕትት ኢሚግራሽናውን ዜግነታውን አገልግሎት**

1. ምሉእ ስም \_\_\_\_\_ ጾታ \_\_\_\_\_
2. ምሉእ ስም ከም ፓስፖርት \_\_\_\_\_
3. መብቆል ዓዲ \_\_\_\_\_ 4. ዕለት ልደት \_\_\_\_\_
5. ቁጽሪ ኤርታራዊ ወረቆት መንነት \_\_\_\_\_ ዝተዋህበሉ ቦታ \_\_\_\_\_
6. ስም አደ \_\_\_\_\_
7. ካብ ሃገር ቅድሚያ ምውጻእካ/ኪ አሃዱ/ስራሕ \_\_\_\_\_
8. ካብ ኤርትራ ዝወጻእካሉ/ክሉ ምኽንያት \_\_\_\_\_
9. ካብ ሃገር ንምውጻእ ዝተጠቀመካሉ/ክሉ ቦታ/ድብ \_\_\_\_\_
10. ዝወጻእካሉ ዕለት \_\_\_\_\_
11. ድሕሪ ካብ ኤርትራ ድሕሪ ምውጻእካ/ኪ ዝነበርካዮ/ኪዮ ሃገራት በብዕለቱ \_\_\_\_\_
12. ናብ ዝተጠቐሱ ሃገር ንኸትኡ/ትዊ ዝተጠቐልካሉ/ክሉ ሰነድ መገሺ እንተሃልዩ ናይ መን ሃገር'ዩ፤ \_\_\_\_\_
13. ሕጂ ኣብ ዘለኻዮ/ኸዮ ሃገር ዘለካ/ኪ ስራሕ \_\_\_\_\_
14. ህልው ኣድራሻ፡ \_\_\_\_\_
15. ካብ ሃገር ድሕሪ ምውጻእካ/ኪ ዝፈጽምካዮ/ኪዮ ጉቡኣት \_\_\_\_\_

እነ ስመይ ኣብ ላዕሊ ተጠቒሱ ዘሎ ዜጋ ካብ ኣቐዲመ ዝሃብኩዎ ሓበሬታ ቅኑዕ ምጅኑን ሃገራዊ ጉቡኣይ ብዘይምምላእ ብዝፈጸምኩዎ በደል ተጣዒሰ ግቡእ መቅጻዕቲ ኣብ ዝተወሰነለይ ክቐበል ምጅኑይ ብክታመይ የረጋገጽ።

ክታም \_\_\_\_\_ ዕለት \_\_\_\_\_

ንበዓል መዚ ዝምልከት	
ርእይቶ ዝምልከቶ በዓል መዚ	
_____	
_____	
_____	
ስምን ክታምን በዓል መዚ _____	
ዕለት _____	
ቆንሰላዊ ቤ/ጽ፡ ከተማ _____ ሃገር _____	

Translation Made and Certified by The America Team for Displaced Eritreans

The "Form of Regret" or "Taesa" -- ብዕሳ

Immigration and Citizenship Services Request Form

1. Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_
2. Full Name as it appears in passport \_\_\_\_\_
3. Village of origin \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_
5. Eritrean Identity No. \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Issuance \_\_\_\_\_
6. Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_
7. Your Unit/work before you left the country \_\_\_\_\_
8. Reasons for Leaving the country \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Place/ border you used to leave the country \_\_\_\_\_
10. Date you left \_\_\_\_\_
11. Countries you have been to including the dates of stay in these countries after you left Eritrea \_\_\_\_\_
12. If you used Travel Documents to enter these countries, what country did you get them from? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Your job in the current country of residence \_\_\_\_\_
14. Current Address: Country \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_
15. National obligations you fulfilled after leaving the country \_\_\_\_\_

I, whose name is the above-stated citizen, hereby confirm with my signature that all the foregoing information which I have provided is true and that I regret having committed an offence by failing to fulfill my national obligation and that I am willing to accept the appropriate measures when decided.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

<u>For Official use</u>	
Official's recommendation _____ _____ _____	
Name and signature of the official _____	Date _____
Consular Affairs office: Country _____	City _____

NB. Cancellation and deletion not accepted