

Getie Gelaye, PhD

Lektor for Amharic and Senior Lecturer of African Oral Literature,
Department of African and Ethiopian Studies, Asia-Africa Institute,
University of Hamburg, Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1 (Ost), 20146 Hamburg, Germany
Tel.: +49-(0)40-42838-5679; Fax: +49-(0)40-428385675
E-Mail: getie.gelaye@uni-hamburg.de ; ggelaye@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.aai.uni-hamburg.de/afrika/Studieren.html>

PROFILE

As a cultural anthropologist, folklorist and literary expert, I have accumulated several years of teaching, researching, publishing, project developing, conference organizing supervising and consulting experiences in the areas of African languages and cultures, oral tradition, popular culture, musical performance, digitization of African oral literatures, poetic genres, music traditions, comparative study of African praise poetry and songs. My area of research focuses on literary and socio-cultural heritage and history of Northeast Africa, analyzing Ethiopian literary and poetic genres, resistance poetry, applied folklore and tourism, culture and development, promotion of African indigenous knowledge and oral heritage, multicultural and multilingual education, cultural diversity and creativity, migration and integration in Europe. I traveled widely and participated actively at international conferences, symposiums, experts' network, and scholarly events. My personal skills are my ability to work on complex issues, my communication skills, team spirit, flexibility, as well as social and intercultural competences.

EDUCATION

- March 2001 **Ph.D.** African Languages and Cultures (specialization: Ethiopian Studies), Institute of African Studies, Faculty of Oriental Studies, Hamburg University, Germany. Dissertation: *"Amharic Oral Poems of the Peasantry in East Gojjam: Text, Classification, Translation and Commentary"* (*magna cum laude*).
- August 2000 **Certificate:** 1st Ford Foundation Summer Institute, *"Incorporating Africa's Oral Heritage and Indigenous Knowledge into a Changing World"*, African Studies Program, Indiana University, Bloomington, USA.
- July 1994 **M.A.** Social Anthropology, College of Social Sciences, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia. M.A thesis: *"The Social Life of Yetnora Agricultural Producers' Co-operative and Its Reflections in Amharic Oral Poetry"*.
- July 1988 **B.A.** Ethiopian Languages and Literature, Institute of Language Studies, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia. B.A thesis: *"Allegory and Symbolism in Amharic Novels"*.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Amharic (mother-tongue) English and German (fluent), Ge'ez or Old Ethiopic (basic)
- French (elementary), Tigrinya (elementary)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATION

- International Advisory Board, Journal of Amharic Language Development, Bahir Dar University, since 2016
- Elected Member of the International Society for Epic Studies, since 2012
- Fellow of the African Studies Center Community (The Netherlands), since 2012
- International Advisory Board, **AFRIKA** Ankara University Journal of African Studies, 2010
- Associate Member, Finnish Folklore Fellows, since 2010
- International Society for the Oral Literatures of Africa (**ISOLA**), since 1998.
- Ge'ez Frontier Foundation, since 2003.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2018 Co-organizing the Ethiopian Music Performance and Cultural Event and presenting a paper at the International Conference: “*Maqdala 150*” *An Academic-Cultural-Touristic Experience*” to be held at the University of Gondar, <http://www.maqdala150.org/index.html> 10-13.4.2018.
- 2017 Co-organizing the First Workshop: “The Teaching of Amharic in Germany”, 1-2 Feb.2018.
- 2016 Co-organizing and Presenting the Scientific Film: “GUZO the Search for the Origins of Music in Ethiopia”, with Professor Dr. Tiago Pinto (University of Weimar), which was selected by the German UNESCO National Commission at the 11th Session of UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Conference, 27 November – 2 December, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- 2016 Co-organized the International Workshop: “Performing Traditions, Traveling Narratives, Living the Diaspora”, 9-10 December at the Asia Africa Institute, University of Hamburg: <http://oralityworkshop.com/> (together with Professor Dr. Jan van der Putten).
- 2016 Invited Speaker, International Workshop: “Multilingual Locals and Significant Geographies before Colonialism”, SOAS, University of London, 16-18 June.
- 2016 Invited Speaker, presentation of the Film: “GUZO-NORTH: The Search for the Origin of Music Ethiopian, University of Music Franz Liszt Weimar, 6 June.
- 2016 Co-organizer and paper presenter, Music and Intangible Cultural Heritage in Ethiopia, Symposium, organized in collaboration with Bahir Dar University, and Franz Liszt Music University Weimar, Bahir Dar, 14-23 January, Scientific Team and Coordinator of the GUZO-Film and Music Project in Bahir Dar and Gondar (with Professor Dr. Tiago Pinto).
- 2015 „*Emmahoy Amete Maryam, die Nonne Qene - Meisterin im Kloster Felege Gennet* Hl. Giyorgis in Bahir Dar, Äthiopien”, Lecture delivered to the Annual Meeting, Tabor Society, Heidelberg.
- 2015 Co-organizer and paper presenter 6th Annual Conference: Association of German-Ethiopian Students and Alumni (DAESAV): „*Äthiopien – zwischen Tradition und Moderne*“, Asia-Africa Institute, University of Hamburg, 30 -31 October.

- 2015 Co-organizer and Paper presenter, "Second International Conference on Azmari in Ethiopia", Abbay Research Center for Culture and development, Bahir Dar University, 9-10 October.
- 2015 Academic Partnership, MA Curriculum Development between the University of Hamburg and the Universities of Bahir Dar and Debre Markos: **DAAD-Fact Finding Mission**, 18-29, July
- 2015 Visiting Scholar, 14 – 25 February, Rudi Scheidt School of Music, The University of Memphis and Rhodes College USA, delivered a series of lectures on Ethiopian Music and Musical Tradition.
- 2014 Co-organized the "Africa-Meets-Asia: Orality and Performance in *Kabary* and *Kora*", 28 April, University of Hamburg (with Professor Dr. Jan van der Putten).
- 2014 Invited Speaker, "International Conference: "Preservation of Ethiopian Cultural and Literary Heritage: Focusing on Manuscripts and Indigenous Knowledge" organized by Haddis Alemayehu Institute of Cultural Studies, Debre Markos University, 1-2 March, Ethiopia.
- 2013 Public Lecture: The teaching of Amharic and Ethiopian Culture in Germany, 1 August, Faculty of Humanities, Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia.
- 2013 Co-organized: "Africa Unity Week" in association with the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Organization of African Union (OAU) in Hamburg, 17-26 May.
- 2012 Invited Speaker, "International Summit on Epic Studies", organized by Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), Beijing, China, 17-18 November.
- 2012 Invited Speaker, "International Workshop on Documentation and Preservation of Ethiopian Cultural and Art Heritage", Haddis Alemayehu Cultural and Research Institute", Debre Markos University, Debre Markos, Ethiopia, May 19, 2012.
- 2012 Co-organizer, "From Ambivalence to Acceptance" 1st International Conference on *Azmari* in Ethiopia", Center for World Music (CWM), University of Hildesheim, Germany, 6-8 January.
- 2012 Co-organizer and Invited Speaker at the Conference "Stammeskämpfe, Hungersnot und Piraterie" organized by the State Agency for Civic Education of Hamburg, 23 February.
- 2012 Co-organized: "Africa Day in Hamburg" – in collaboration with IMIC e.V Hamburg, 24-26 May.
- 2011 Organized Kenyan Students' Group Study Tour to the Institute of Asian and African Studies, DAAD-Program, University of Hamburg, 1-4 November.
- 2011 Invited Speaker, Ethiopia and Ethiopians, Yesterday to Today - 1991 to 2011: Symposium on Regime Change and Operation Solomon, Harry Truman Institute, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, 16-21 May.
- 2010 DAAD-Short-Term Lecturer, Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia, September 1- October 20.
- 2010 Fellow Participant, Folklore Fellows Summer School, Lammi, Finnish Literature Society and Folklore Archives of Helsinki University, Finland, 1-8 August.
- 2010 Visiting Scholar, Department of African Languages and Cultures, University of Warsaw, Poland, 23-30 May.
- 2010 Visiting Professor, Center for Africa Studies, Ankara University, Turkey, 1-30 March.
- 2009 Founding member and Coordinator of the International Project Initiative: Abbay Research Center (ARC) for Cultural and Development Studies, established at Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia.
- 2009 Research Visit, Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia; February- March.
- 2008 Visiting Fellow, African Studies Centre, Leiden University, Holland, 3 February - 31 March.
- 2006 Visiting Scholar, African Studies Program and Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, Indiana University, Bloomington, USA. September 15 - October 15.

- 2006 *Professeur invité*, (with the title of *Maître de conférences*), *Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales* (EHESS) Paris, France. 1-31, March.
- 2005 Visiting Scholar, Socrates/Erasmus Mobility Teaching Program, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), UK; 1-15 March.
- 2004 Visiting Scholar, Socrates/Erasmus Mobility Teaching Program, *Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales* (INALCO) Paris, France; February 2- March 8.
- 2003—Present: *Lektor* for Amharic and Senior Lecturer of African Oral Literatures. Department of African and Ethiopian Studies, Asia-Africa-Institute, Hamburg University.
- 2003 Research Fellow, *Istituto Italiano per l’Africa e l’Oriente*, (IsIAO) Rome, Italy, February 1 - April 30.
- 2002 Researcher and Part-time Lecturer of African Languages and Literature, Institute of African Studies, Faculty of Oriental Studies, Hamburg University, April 1 - September 30.
- 2002 Invited Speaker, African Studies Program, Indiana University, USA, “*International Conference African Dialogues: Oral Heritage and Indigenous Knowledge*”, 10 - 12 May.
- 2001 Co-organizer, International Conference on Literacy Programs, UNESCO Institute for Education (UIE) Hamburg, Germany, “*The Making of Literate Societies Revisited*”, 5-7 November.
- 2001 Consultant and Researcher, UNESCO Institute for Education (UIE), Hamburg, 1 May - 30 November.
- 1996-2000 PhD Researcher, Institute of African and Ethiopian Studies, Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Hamburg.
- 1994-1995 Lecturer, Department of Ethiopian Languages and Literature, Institute of Language Studies, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia.
- 1993-1995 Coordinator of Amharic for Foreigners Unit, Department of Ethiopian Languages and Literature, Institute of Language Studies, Addis Ababa University.
- 1993–1995 Amharic Instructor and Translator, United States Information Service (USIS), and Embassies of the USA and France, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- 1990–1993 Assistant Lecturer, Department of Ethiopian Languages and Literature, Institute of Language Studies, Addis Ababa University; Ethiopia.

EXAMINATION AND PARTICIPATION IN MA & PHD THESES COMMITTEE MEMBER

- 2015 Asnakech Demissie: “Analyzing Amharic Lyrics Discourses on Abbay River and Their Roles: Socio-Cultural Perspectives”, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia (PhD, Examiner).
- 2015 Alemayehu Negash: “Conceptualization of Gender Equality in Amharic The Case of Amharic Speech Community in Minjar Shenkora District” Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia (PhD, Examiner).
- 2015 Abreham Alemu Fenta, “*Ethnicity and Local Identity in the Folklore of the South-western Oromo of Ethiopia: a Comparative Study*” VU University Amsterdam (PhD Examiner).
- 2012 Sary Schröder: „Populärmusik in der Republik Sudan: eine Studie zu Musikstilen und Musikkultur am Beispiel der Konurbation Khartum“ (PhD, Examiner).
- 2009 Dirk Bustorf: “Die Silte, Gechichte und Geschichte Beschreibung eine muslimische Geschellschaft in Süd-West Äthiopien” (PhD, Examiner).
- 2008 Valery Kolev: “Lorenz Jensen und seine amharische Korrespondenz (MA thesis, Co-advisor and 2nd Reviewer)

- 2005 Tsega Endalew: "Inter -Ethnic Relations on a Frontier: Mätäkkäl (Ethiopia), 1898-1991. (PhD, Examiner).
- 2004 Birgit Matausch: "Die Kunst der Ambiguität. Indirekte Kommunikation im historischen Äthiopien und ihre Reflektion in den amharischen *Aläqa* Gäbrä -Hanna Geschichten", (PhD, Examiner).
- 2003 Aleksandra Soloducha, „Die Bezeichnung der Körper im Amharischen“ (MA thesis Examiner).

ANNEX

PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS AND MONOGRAPHS

- 2015 (with Peter Wasamba), *Survival and Transformation of African Poetic Genres and Music Traditions* (a book volume that contains 12 selected articles, in preparation).
- 2011 (with David Evans and Alula Pankhurst), *Culture and Development for Amhara Region: Proceedings of the International Workshop on the launching of Amhara Region Culture and Development Research Center (ARCDRC)* organized at Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia; 30 October, 2009. Bahir Dar University Press, Bahir Dar.
- 2006 (with Elisabeth Biasio), *Heilige und Helden. Äthiopiens zeitgenössische Malerei in traditionellen Stil. (Saints and Heroes: Ethiopian Contemporary Paintings in Traditional Style.* Verlag Neue Zürcher Zeitung und Volkerkundemuseum der Universität Zürich. (Translated Amharic and Ge'ez texts of paintings into German)
- 2001 *Amharic Oral Poems of the Peasantry in East Gojjam: Text, Classification, Translation and Commentary.* LIT Verlag. Muenster-Hamburg-London.
- 2000 *Peasants and the Ethiopian State: Agricultural Producers' Cooperatives and their Reflections in Amharic Oral Poetry, A Case Study in Yetnora, East Gojjam, 1975-1991.* LIT Verlag. Muenster-Hamburg-London.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2017 "Analyzing the Amharic Letter of Emperor Tewodros II" Proceedings of International Conference: "Maqdala 150" An Academic, Cultural and Touristic Experience (forthcoming).
- 2016 "Amharic Praise Poems Composed in Honor of Emperor Tewodros II (1855-68)" in: *Ethiopian Renaissance Journal of Social Sciences and the Humanities.* (forthcoming).
- 2015a Review of Elias Yemane. (2004). Amharic and Ethiopic Onomastics: A Classic Ethiopian Legacy, Concept, and Ingenuity. In: *Ethiopian Renaissance Journal of Social Sciences and the Humanities.* Vol.2, No.2, p.93-97.

- 2015b “Local Names and Technical Terms for Amharic Poetic Genres in Ethiopia”, in: Uta Rester, (*et al eds.*). From the Tana River to Lake Chad Research in African Oratures and Literatures in memoriam Thomas Geider, Köln: Rüdiger Köpe Verlag, p.
- 2014 “Why Don’t We Study, Preserve and Promote Our Cultural and Art Heritage?” Proceedings of International Conference on the Documentation and Preservation of Ethiopian Cultural and Art Heritage Debre Markos University, p. 1-31.
- 2013 “Connecting the Ethiopian Diaspora with their Root Back Home: Azmari Dejen Manchilot in Israel”, in: Wolfgang Bender, Getie Gelaye, Andreas Wetter (eds.): *From Ambivalence to Acceptance. Proceedings of the First International Conference on Azmari in Ethiopia.* (forthcoming).
- 2012 “Amharic Praise Poems Composed in Honor of Emperor Yohannes IV (1872-1889)” *International Journal of Ethiopian Studies*, Vol. VI, Number 1 & 2, 115-133.
- 2011 “The Teaching of Amharic in Germany”, in: Delombera Negga and Alain Rouaud, (eds.), *Etudes éthiopiennes L’enseignement de l’amharique.* INALCO, Paris.
- 2009a “Amharic Praise Poems Related to Emperors Tewodros II and Yohannes IV” in: Svein Ege (*et al eds.*). *Proceedings of the 16th International Conference of Ethiopian Studies 2-6 July 2007.* Trondheim. (Vol. 4, p.1349-1363.
<http://portal.svt.ntnu.no/sites/ices16/Proceedings/Forms/AllItems.aspx>
- 2009b “Amharic Oral Poetry Composed and Recited in Response to Agrarian Policies and Local Conflicts in Ethiopia” in: Thomas Bearth (*et al eds.*). *African Languages in Global Society / Les langues africaines à l’heure de la mondialisation / Lugha za Kiafrika kwenye enzi ya utandawazi Papers read at the Symposium “Text in Context: African Languages between Orality and Scriptuality”*, University of Zurich, October 18–20, 2001 /. Koeppel Verlag. pp. 63-76.
- 2007 “Songs and Blessings of the *Amina* in Gojjam”, *Annales d’Ethiopie.* Vol. 23, (with accompanying CD). Paris, DEBOCARD, pp.17-44.
- 2006 “Amharic Praise Poems of Däjjazmch Bälay Zälläqä and the Patriots of Gojjam During the Resistance Struggle Against the Italian Occupation of Ethiopia, 1936-41” in: Siegbert Uhlig, (ed.). *Proceedings of the 15th International Conference of Ethiopian Studies in Hamburg.* Wiesbaden. Harrassowitz Verlag. pp. 587-597.
- 2005 “Ethiopian Contributions to the Study of Amharic Oral Poetry” in: Heinrich Schoeller and Stefan Bruene, (eds.) *Auf dem Weg zum Moderne Äthiopien Festschrift in Honor of Bairu Tafla on His 65th Birthday.* Muenster. LIT Verlag. pp. 95-107.
- 2004a “European Contribution to the Study of Amharic Oral Poetry” in: Verena Boell (*et al eds.*). *Studia Aethiopica in Honour of Siegbert Uhlig on the Occasion of his 65th Birthday.* Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, pp. 405-412.
- 2004b የሼህ ሁሴን ጅብራል ትንቢታዊ ግጥሞች (The Prophecy Poems of Sheikh Hussien Jibril), available online: <http://web.missouri.edu/~asfawa/gelaye4.pdf>
- 2002a “Text Analysis of Children’s Songs in Amharic” in: Theda Schumann, (*et al., eds.*). *Aktuelle Forschungen zu afrikanischen Sprachen.* Koeln. Koeppel Verlag. pp. 291-305.
- 2002b “የጎጃም ገበሬዎች እና ፖለቲካዊ ግጥሞቻቸው” [The Peasants of Gojjam and Their Political Poems Composed after the Change of Government in Ethiopia in 1991] in: Baye Yimam, (*et al eds.*). *Ethiopian Studies at the End of the Second Millennium: Proceedings of the 14th International Conference of Ethiopian Studies.* Addis Ababa. Addis Ababa University Press, Vol.

- 3, pp. 2044-2058.
- 2001 "Social Change and Local Politics: The Peasants of Gojjam and Their Reflections on Contemporary Issues in Amharic Oral Poetry" in: Russell H. Kaschula, (ed.). *African Oral Literature: Functions in Contemporary Contexts*. Cape Town. New Africa Books. pp. 206-220.
- 2000a "Fieldwork on Contemporary Amharic Oral Poetry in East Gojjam, Northwest Ethiopia" in: Abebe Kebede (ed.). *Addis Ababa University Scholars Alumni Scholars Network Association Online Newsletter*. Vol. 2, No. 2, 1-8.
- 2000b "Peasant Poetics and State Discourse in Ethiopia: Amharic Oral Poetry as a Response to the 1996-97 Land Redistribution Policy". *Northeast African Studies*. Vol. 6, No. 1-2, pp. 171-206. http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/northeast_african_studies/v006/6.1gelaye.pdf
- 1999 "Contemporary Amharic Oral Poetry from Gojjam: Classification and a Sample Analysis". *Aethiopia. International Journal of Ethiopian Studies*. Vol. 2, 124-141.
- 1998 "Semantic Analysis of Amharic Kinship Terms in Gojjam: An Anthropological Approach". *AFRICA Rivista trimestrale di studi e documentazione dell'Istituto italiano per l'Africa e l'Oriente*. Vol. 53, No. 1, pp. 71-92.

PAPERS PRESENTED AND CONFERENCES ATTENDED

- 2012 "Qärärto" and "Fukkära": 'Warriors' Songs' and 'Heroic Recitals' – Undocumented Poetic Traditions in Ethiopia", International Summit on Epic Studies, 17-18 November, Beijing, China.
- 2012 "የባህል እና የሥነ ጥበብ ቅርሳችንን ለምን አናውቀውም? ለምን አናጠናውም? ለምንስ አንጠብቀውም?" [tra. "Why Don't We Study, Preserve and Promote Our Cultural and Art Heritage?"] International Workshop on Documentation and Preservation of Ethiopian Cultural and Art Heritage organized by Haddis Alemayehu Cultural and Research Institute, Debre Markos University May 19, 2012, Debre Markos, Ethiopia.
- 2012 "Connecting the Ethiopian Diaspora with their Root Back Home: *Azmari* Dejen Manchilot in Israel", 1st International conference on *Azmari* in Ethiopia, 6-8 January, Center for World Music (CWM), University of Hildesheim, Germany.
- 2011 "Collection and Research of Folklore in Ethiopia", The Harry Truman Research Institute, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, 17-18 May.
- 2011 "The Musical and Poetic Traditions of the *Azmari* in Ethiopia" Center for World Music (CWM), University of Hildesheim, Germany, 5 April.
- 2010 The Need for Establishing Graduate Program in Folklore and Ethnomusicology at Bahir Dar University, Paper presented at the MA Curriculum Review Workshop organized by the Faculty of Humanities, Bahir Dar University, 16 October.
- 2010 "The Poetic Traditions of *Azmari* in Ethiopia", Department of African Languages and Cultures, Warsaw University, Poland, 24 May.
- 2010 "The Teaching and Learning of Amharic Language and in Germany", paper presented at the International Colloquium, "L'enseignement de l'amharique en Europe", INALCO, Paris, 7-8 January.
- 2009 "Amharic Praise Poems Composed in Honor of Emperor Yohannes IV (1872-1889). Paper presented at the II. Äthiopistisches Forschungskolloquium, organized at the Seminar für Semitistik und Arabistik Freie Universität Berlin, 18-19, December.

- 2009 "Documenting Two Endangered Ethiopian Poetic Genres", paper presented at the 17th International Conference of Ethiopian Studies (ICES), Addis Ababa University, 1-5 November, Akaki Campus.
- 2009 "Music and Poetry in Ethiopia", and "Children's Games and Songs in Amharic", Lecture and presentation delivered at the Ethiopian Heritage Camp, organized by African Cradle, Inc., Mission Springs Conference Center, California, 30 July- 3 August.
- 2009 "The Study of Folklore, Its Application and Job Opportunities in Ethiopia", Lecture delivered at Bahir Dar University, Faculty of Humanities, 2 March.
- 2008 "Cultural Heritage and Ethiopian Poetic Tradition", special lecture and presentation, organized by Ethiopian Arts Forum. Morgan Arts Center, Berkley, USA, 3 August.
- 2008 "Poetic Genres in Ethiopia", lectured delivered at Alitash Kebede Gallery, Los Angeles, USA, 7 August.
- 2008 "Amharic Poems Preserved in *Nazionale Bibliotheca Academia dei Lincei, Rome*", paper presented at the 7th International Conference of the International Society for the Oral Literatures of Africa (ISOLA) University of Salento, Lecce, Italy, 11 - 15, June.
- 2008 "Orality, Power and Rural Politics: A Study of Resistance Poetry in Northeast Africa". Paper presented at the African Studies Centre Lunch Seminar, University of Leiden, The Netherlands, 18 March.
- 2008 "Local Names and Technical Terms for Poetic Genres and Narratives in Amharic" Paper presented at the African Oral Literature, New Media and Technologies, Experts Conference, INALCO, Paris, 3-4 April.
- 2007 16th International Conference of Ethiopian Studies (ICES), Trondheim, Norway, 2-6 July, 2007. Paper presented: "Amharic Praise Poems Related to Emperors Tewodros II and Yohannes IV".
- 2006 "*Qererto* and *Fukkera*: Two Favorite Poetic Genres in Ethiopia". Paper presented at the weekly Tuesday Noon-Talks Lectures, African Studies Program, Indiana University, Bloomington, 10 October 2006.
- 2005 "Amharic Resistance Poems Composed and Recited by the Patriots of Gojjam against the Italian Occupation of Ethiopia in 1936-41". Paper presented at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, March 10.
- 2004 5th International Society for Oral Literature in African (ISOLA) Conference, University of Gambia, 15-17 July 2004, Banjul, The Gambia. Paper presented: "*Qererto* and *Fukkera* as Forms of Praise and Protest among the Rural People in Northwestern Ethiopia".
- 2003 15th International Conference of Ethiopian Studies, Hamburg University, 21-25 July 2003, Hamburg, Germany. Paper presented: "Amharic Praise Poems of Dejjazmach Belay Zelleqe and the Patriots of Gojjam during the Italian Occupation of Ethiopia: 1936 - 1941".
- 2003 Co-organized the 15th International Conference of Ethiopian Studies (21-25, July) with Professor Siegbert Uhlig and other Colleagues and Staff of the Department of African and Ethiopian Studies, Hamburg University, Germany.
- 2003 International Conference "Language, Power and Society: Orality and Literacy in the Horn of Africa" organized by the Department of African Languages and Cultures, SOAS, University of London, UK, 16-18, July 2003. Paper presented: *Amina* (Wondering Singers) and Their Songs and Blessing Speeches in Gojjam: Performances and Themes".
- 2002 African Dialogues: "Oral Heritage and Indigenous Knowledge, International Working Conference", 10-12 May 2002, African Studies Program, Indiana University, Bloomington

- (USA). Paper presented “Amharic Protest Poems of the Peasantry Composed and Recited in Response to Agrarian Reforms, Land Reform Policies and Local Conflicts in Amhara Region, Northwest Ethiopia”.
- 2001 International African Symposium; “Text in Context: African Languages Between Orality and Scriptuality”, 17–20 October 2001, University of Zurich, Department of General Linguistics, Zurich (Switzerland). Paper presented “The Role of Amharic Oral Poetry and Songs in Contemporary Rural Politics in Ethiopia”, University of Zurich, Switzerland.
- 2000 14th International Conference of Ethiopian Studies, 6–11 November 2000, Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, Paper presented: “The Peasants of Gojjam and Their Political Poems” (Ethiopia).
- 2000 14. *Afrikanistentag* (14th German Africanists Conference), 10–14 October 2000, University of Hamburg, Institute of African and Ethiopian Studies, Hamburg (Germany). Paper presented “Text Analysis of Children’s Songs in Amharic”.
- 2000 17th Annual Meeting of the German Forum Typography, 19–21 May 2000, Hamburg (Germany). Paper presented “Performances and Texts of Children’s Songs in Amharic”.
- 2000 4th African Language Teachers’ Association (ALTA) International Conference, 13–15 April University of Pennsylvania, African Studies Center, Philadelphia (USA). Participated as one of the five panelists in the “Teaching and Learning about African Languages” Workshop. Paper presented “Teaching and Learning Amharic”.
- 2000 5th Annual Midwest Graduate Students’ Conference in African Studies, 31 March – 2 May Indiana University, African Studies Program, Bloomington (USA). Paper presented: “Peasants and Local Officials in Ethiopia: The 1996-97 Rural Land Redistribution Policy and Responses of the Peasantry in Amharic Oral Poetry”.
- 1998 3rd International Conference on African Oral Literature, 21–23 October 1998, University of Cape Town, Department of African Languages and Literatures, Cape Town, South Africa. Paper presented: “The Peasants of East Gojjam and Their Responses to Local Politics and Administration in Amharic Oral Poetry”.
- 1998 5th Biennial European Association of Social Anthropologists Conference, 4–7 September, Johan Wolfgang Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Paper presented: “Doing Fieldwork in a Native’s Community: Ethiopian Peasants and Their Responses to Contemporary Local Politics in Amharic Oral Poetry”.
- 1998 Symposium: Documentation and Analysis of African Oral Literatures, 17 December 1998, University of Hamburg, Institute of African Studies, Hamburg Germany. Paper presented: “Local Politics and Administration as Depicted in Amharic Oral Poetry”.
- 1996 Seminar on African Languages and Literatures, 10 October 1996, Department of Africa, SOAS, University of London, London (England). Paper presented “An Outline of a Research Project on Amharic Oral Poetry in Ethiopia”.
- 1994 Organized (together with 3 Faculty) the 8th Annual Conference of the Institute of Language Studies (ILS), Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 23–25 October.
- 1992 “Introducing to the Languages of Ethiopia” paper presented at the *Seminar fuer Afrikanische Sprachen und Kulturen*, University of Hamburg, 11 July 1992, Hamburg, Germany. In connection with the Group Study Tour of Graduate Students’ of Addis Ababa University made to the Institutes of African Studies and Departments of Social Anthropology in Germany.

FELLOWHIPS, AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2016 Hamburgische Wissenschaftliche Stiftung, Financial Support to organize the international workshop on Orality, Performance and Diaspora Studies, 9-10 Dec.
- 2016 Federal Foreign Office of Germany and University of Music Franz Liszt Weimar, Collaborative Music and Film Project GUSO-NORTH-The Search for the Origin of Ethiopian Music, 14-23 Jan.
- 2015 The University of Memphis and Rhodes College, USA to deliver a series of lectures, 14-24 Feb.
- 2015 DAAD-Fact Finding Mission: Establishing Academic Partnership with Ethiopia, 18-29 July.
- 2014 Debre Markos University (DMU), financial grant to present a paper and participate at the international conference organized 1-2 March.
- 2012 Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) financial grant to present a paper at the International Summit on Epic Studies, 17-18 November, Beijing, China
- 2011 Volkswagen Foundation (Hannover), financial Support to co-organize: "From Ambivalence to Acceptance": 1st International Conference on Azmari in Ethiopia, held at the Center for World Music, University of Hildesheim, 6-8 January
- 2011 The Harry Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, financial support to participate at the International conference, and to visit and deliver lectures at the Folklore Department.
- 2010 Short-Term Professor, awarded by the DAAD to organize seminars and teach courses at the Folklore Program, Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia, 1 Sept.- 20 Oct.
- 2010 Finnish Literature Society and Folklore Archives, financial grant to participate at the 8th Folklore Fellows Summer School, Lammi, Finland, 1-8 August.
- 2010 The Scientific and Research Council of Turkey, (TUBITAK) financial award to teach courses and organizes seminars for the MA students at the Center for African Studies, Ankara University, 1-30, March.
- 2010 INALCO and University of Bologna, travel grant and financial support to participate at the International Colloquium organized at INALCO (Paris), 7-8 January.
- 2009 DAAD, Financial support to participate at the 17th ICES, organized by the Institute of Ethiopian Studies, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia, 1-5 November.
- 2009 African Cradle Inc., (Palo Alto, California), travels grant to present papers and participate at the Ethiopian Heritage Camp, organized at Mission Springs Conference Center, USA, July 30-August 3, 2009.
- 2008 Ethiopian Arts Forum (EAF), San Francisco, USA, travel grant for presentation and lectures on "Poetic Genres, Literary Traditions and Cultural Creativity in Ethiopia" Morgan Arts Center, Berkeley and Alitash Kebede Gallery Los Angeles (1-15 August).
- 2008 African Studies Centre, Leiden University, The Netherlands. Visiting Fellowship; 3 February – 31 March.
- 2008 *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft* (DFG), German Research Association, financial support to present a paper and attend the 7th International Conference of the International Society for the Oral Literatures of Africa (ISOLA), University of Palento, Lecce, Italy, 11-15 June.
- 2007 *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft* (DFG), German Research Association, financial grant to present a paper and attend the 16th International Conference of Ethiopian Studies (ICES, 2-6, July), held in Trondheim, Norway.

- 2006 The Senate of Hamburg University and Office of International Programs, Indiana University; Visiting Scholar Position, African Studies Program and Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, Indiana University, Bloomington, USA. 15 September – 15 October.
- 2005 *Ministre de l'Education Nationale, de l'Enseignement superieur et de la Recherche*, for Visiting Professor position to lecture and carry out research at EHESS and Centre for African Studies, Paris, France; 5-31 March.
- 2005 Hamburg University (Socrates/Erasmus Mobility-Teaching Program), Hamburg/London, financial support for a two week visiting scholar at the School of African and Oriental Studies (SOAS), University of London, UK; 7-22 March.
- 2004 Hamburg University (Socrates/Erasmus Mobility-Teaching Program, Hamburg/Paris, financial support for a two week visiting scholar stay at the *Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales* (INALCO) Paris, France to deliver a series of Lectures/ Presentations; 20 February-5 March.
- 2003 Center for African Studies and SOAS, University of London, UK, financial support to present a paper at the International Workshop on “Language, Power and Society: Orality and Literacy in the Horn of Africa” organized by the Department of African Languages and Cultures (SOAS) and Center for African Studies, University of London, UK, 16-18, July.
- 2003 *Istituto Italiano per l’Africa e l’Oriente* (IsIAO), Rome, Italy Scholarship award to carry out library and archival research on historical sources and Amharic oral poetry referring to the Ethiopian resistance struggle against the Italian occupation in 1936-1941, at the Italian Institute of African and Oriental Studies, Rome, Italy; 1 February–30 April.
- 2002 Ford Foundation and the Department of Education, USA. Invited speaker “International Conference, African Dialogues: Oral Heritage and Indigenous Knowledge,” African Studies Program, Indiana University, Bloomington, 6–20 May.
- 2000 Ford Foundation and African Studies Program, Indiana University, USA. Grant award being a selected participant at the four-week Summer Institute: “Incorporating Africa’s Oral Heritage and Indigenous Knowledge into a Changing World”, organized by the African Studies Program, Indiana University, Bloomington, 7 July–9 August.
- 2000 African Studies Program, Indiana University, USA Financial support to participate at 5th Midwest Graduate Students’ Conference in African Studies, IU, Bloomington and to carry out library and archival research, 28 March – 16 April
- 2000 *Akademisches Auslandsamt* (Hamburg University Foreign Students’ Office), Germany, financial support to complete my Ph.D. dissertation, 1 April – 30 June.
- 1996 *Johanna und Fritz Buch-Gedächtnisstiftung* (Hamburg), Germany, financial award to conduct library and archival research at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London and British Library, 6–20 October.
- 1996 *Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes* (German Peoples Research Foundation), Germany, International Summer Academy, Neubeuern Palace, Southern Germany 11–24 August 1996.
- 1995 *Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst* (DAAD), German Academic Exchange Service, scholarship awarded to pursue my PhD, University of Hamburg, October 1995 – March 2000.
- 1992/93 Swedish Agency for Research Cooperation with Developing Countries (SAREC) Sweden, financial support to carry out field research on Amharic oral poetry in East Gojjam for my MA thesis in Social Anthropology, 1 October 1992– February 2 1993.
- 1992 *Cooperazione Universitaria Italia*, Italy, financial support for writing a project

proposal and carrying out preliminary fieldwork for my MA thesis in Social Anthropology, Addis Ababa University, September – October.

1992 *Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst* (DAAD), German Academic Exchange Service, financial award for a group study tour to the various African Studies Institutes and Ethnology Departments in Germany, 23 June – 15 July.

1990/94 Addis Ababa University, School of Graduate Studies, Ethiopia, sponsored my graduate study in Anthropology, 1 September 1990 – 23 July 1994.

FURTHER COMMITMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY SERVICE

-Jan. -Oct. 2016 Deputy Chairman of the NGO, Hamburger mit Herz, e.V.
Since 2015 support African Refugees and Migrants in Hamburg

-Since 2015 Voluntary work for Eritrean Refugees in Hamburg;
developed a special course: *Migration aus Afrika Kommunikation in Hamburg, Sprachwerkstatt: Deutsch-Tigrinya/Amharisch*, at Asia-Africa Institute, University of Hamburg.

-Since 2015 co-organize the Seminar for African Refugees: *“Werten und Normen Vermittlung”* in co-operation with Landeszentrale für politische Bildung Hamburg.

-Since 2014, Secretary of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, St. Kidanemehiret, Kirchenbauverein, e.V. Hamburg

-2007-2010 served the Ethiopian Church Congregation in Hamburg as Secretary and Board Member.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION

Co-organized with the Intercultural Migration and Information Center (IMIC) AFRICA DAY in Hamburg, 23-25 May, 2012.
Organize the Ethiopian Educational Discussion Forum in Hamburg, since 2010.

MENTORSHIP

Advise and Assist African Children and Youth in collaboration with *TopAfric* in Hamburg, since 2013.

COMPUTER

Proficient in Windows XP, Microsoft Office, Internet Skills, Digitization

ACTIVITIES

Traveling, singing songs, biking, playing football.