

Women Empowerment for a Sustainable Growth



A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 📌

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 🖈

ET Lucies controlled the skies on November 19, 2015



The daughters of Lucy controlled the skies on November 19, 2015, flying an all women operated flight from Addis Ababa to Bangkok.





Reception event at the VIP Lounge

ET Lucies of the sky operated the flight fully on ground and in the sky from flight deck crew members and Cabin Operations to Airport Operations; Flight Dispatcher; Load Controller; Ramp Operations; Baggage Handling; Flight Planning; Cargo Handling; On-board logistics; Aviation Safety and Security; Ticket Offices; Catering; Air Traffic Controllers and Global Call Center. Ethiopian senior female executives graced the event onboard the flight.



ET Lucies controlled the skies on November 19, 2015



Reception event at Bangkok



Departure from Addis Ababa





ET Lucies controlled the skies on November 19, 2015



This historic flight was aimed at crystalizing Ethiopian corporate conviction of "Women Empowerment for a Sustainable Growth" on the eve of our 70 year Anniversary.

Arrival from Bangkok





Ethiopian Signs MoU with Office of the First Lady and 'Ye Enat Weg' Charity Organization to feed school Children who need Help



Ethiopian Airlines and Office of the First Lady of Ethiopia and 'Ye Enat Weg' Charity Organization signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on November 13, 2015 to implement a school feeding program in selected primary schools in the Addis Ababa City Administration. The general purpose of this program is to augment the ongoing education quality assurance initiatives by decreasing the drop-out rate and enhancing active participation of students in the teaching and learning process.

Ethiopian hosted Her Majesty The Queen Mathilde of Belgium







Ethiopian Aviation Academy Graduates 201 Aviation Professionals



Ethiopian Aviation Academy graduated 24 pilots, 96 aviation maintenance technicians, 37 cabin crew and 44 marketing professionals at a ceremony held at Ethiopian Headquarters on 03 November 2015. The graduates include nationals from Rwanda.





The training equipped the graduates with sufficient theoretical and practical knowledge to qualify them in their carrier as Aviation professionals.



Ethiopian and Airbus conducts Test Flight of Airbus A350



The world's newest, most modern and efficient aircraft, the Airbus A350 XWB (extra-wide body), made its East African debut to Addis Ababa's Bole International Airport on November 11, 2015.

Its visit is a precursor to the delivery of Ethiopian Airlines' first A350-900 aircraft in the second quarter of next year and it will be the first Africa's first A-350 service.





As part of its ongoing fleet expansion and modernisation strategy, Ethiopian Airlines has ordered a fleet of 14 of the all-new midsize long range A350-900s which mark the carrier's first ever Airbus purchase.



Ethiopian Received Airline of the Year Award for the Fourth Year in a Row from AFRAA



Ethiopian Airlines, is pleased to announce that it has been named for the fourth year in a row as the Airline of the Year by the African Airlines Association (AFRAA) at its 47th Annual General Assembly held between 8 and 12 November 2015, in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo.

Ethiopian won Employer of Choice Award



Ethiopian Airlines is pleased to announce that it has won Employer of Choice 2015 award by Careers in Africa in an eventheld on Tuesday November 19, 2015 at Sandton Hilton hotel.

Ethiopian was crowned Employer of Choice 2015 in the categories of Local Attractiveness and Aviation, Logistics and Shipping. Winners are identified solely by the data from Careers in Africa Employer of Choice, making it a truly independent selection of those who make an impact that resonates across the global African talent pool.

MoU signed with CAE for Sale And License Agreement For the CAE Simfinity™ B777-300 ER Virtual Maintenance Trainers ("VMT")



Mr. Tewolde GebreMariam, Group CEO of Ethiopian Airlines & Mr. Nick Leontidis, President Civil Aviation Training Solutions signing the MoU

Signing of the SALE AND LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR THE CAE SIMFINITY™ B777-300 ER Virtual Maintenance Trainers ("VMT") classroom to Ethiopian Airlines. Virtual Maintenance Training is a type of training method that includes computer-based interactive 3D simulations of virtual equipment that replicates the actual real life aircraft. It safely teaches technicians the procedures to properly service, repair, and maintain equipment in addition to teach pilots how the different systems of the aircrafts work. This will enable Ethiopian Aviation Academy in its effort to modernize and give best quality training services to technicians and pilots.

Courteous visit of CEO of Star Alliance at Ethiopian Head Quarters

TAP & Ethiopian Airlines start Code Share Services between Lisbon and Addis Ababa





A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

TAP, Portugal's leading airline and Ethiopian Airlines, the largest African airline, both Members of Star Alliance, have started code-share services between Portugal and Ethiopia as of November 24, 2015. These flights are made available for bookings through both carriers own websites – at www.flytap.com and www.flyethiopian.com - as well as via the worldwide reservations systems.



Press Clippings

4 | HEADLINES

The Reporter, Saturday, November 14, 2015 Vol. XX No. 1001 **AFRAA honors Ethiopian**



Air China makes maiden flight to Ethiopia's capital

Air China, one of China's biggest airlines, on Monday made its maiden flight to Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia, which has become the second destination of the airline in Africa, next to South Africa.

With its launching flight, Air China touched down at the Bole International Airport in the capital of the East African country, which is seat for headquarters of the African Union (AU) and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) among other international and regional organizations.

With this new route, Air China will make thrice a week flights between Beijing and Addis Ababa.

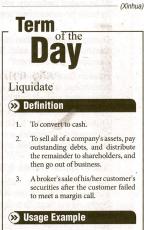
The launching flight of the Airline with Airbus A330 was accorded warm welcome during its landing at Bole Airport by officials and staff members of the Ethiopian Airports Enterprise, the Ethiopian Airlines, Air China and also diplomats among others.

The new route of Air China between Beijing and Addis Ababa came few days after the launch of maiden flight between Beijing and Johannesburg in South Africa few days back. Tewolde Gebremariam, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Ethiopian Airlines Group, told Xinhua on the occasion that the launch of flights between Beijing and Addis Ababa by Air China would be both cooperation and "friendly" competition between Ethiopian and Air China.

Reiterating that both Air China and Ethiopian are members of the Star Alliance, the CEO said the two airliners would cooperate in

the spirit of Star Alliance as Air China flies to 225 domestic destinations in China while Ethiopian does to 50 destinations in Africa.

"It is going to be both cooperation and competition; we call it a friendly competition. So, we are very happy that Air China has chosen Addis as its hub in Africa," said Tewolde.



I was ready to liquidate, so we could see some hard cash instead of whatever it was we had before.

Ethiopian, TAP start code-share services between Lisbon, Addis Ababa

Ethiopian Airlines, the largest African airline and TAP, Portugal's leading airline, both members of Star Alliance, have started code-share services between Portugal and Ethiopia as of November 24. These flights are made available for bookings through both carriers' own websites - at www.flytap.com and www.flyethiopian.com - as well as via the worldwide reservations systems.

The code-share agreement between the two airlines includes services operated and marketed by both carriers via connecting flights to African and European destinations. With this agreement, the two airlines will combine the strength of their respective networks in Europe and in Africa to offer customers convenient and seamless connectivity options when traveling between Portugal and Ethiopia as well as access to Ethiopian and TAP's operated flights with diverse and improved service options. As Star Alliance carriers, frequent flyer program members of the two airlines are already earning and redeeming miles on each other's flights.

Additionally, Ethiopian and TAP have reciprocal frequent flyer benefits, including lounge access. (Press Release)

www.there

TRADE

Air China Launches Direct Flight to Addis

Air China launched direct flights from Beijing to Addis Abeba three times a week, starting on Monday November 2, 2015, said Wondim Teklu, communications director of the Ethiopian Airports Enterprise. In its opening flight, the Chinese Airline touched down at Bole International Airport on Monday carrying some 300 passengers. The Beijing-Addis Abeba flight will be the airline's second to Africa after it successfully launched its Beijing-South Africa route on Friday, October 30, 2015. The airline operated Airbus 330 on its maiden flight to Addis Abeba, having ordered 100 aircraft from Airbus to facilitate its Beijing-Addis Abeba flight. The direct flight from Beijing is anticipated to have positive impact, facilitating the export and import of commodities and enhancing friendly relations, said Wondim.

Publication: The Ethiopian Herald, November 1, 2015.

The Reporter, Saturday, November 7, 2015 Vol. XX No. 1000 1000

By Kaleyesus Bekele

Airbus A350 to conduct demo flight in Addis Ababa

be a rival of the aft. The A350 fa a's A350-900 will have 346 : The A350XWB aircraft was certified by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) at the 2009 Dubai Air show price of the 12 A350s is 2.9

us aircraft ... hiopian environmes... s Addis Ababa has a high elev... s you are at high altitude you have we airplanes with very good take-off ormance. The A320, A330, and A350 ~-boolube best take-off performance -- when you do that they ~- urber off ~- off

ircraft have idly suited t." Rao told

HEADLINES 7

worth some \$950 billion, according to a Boeing forecast.

China signs \$17 bln deal to buy 130 Airbus planes

hina signed a deal to buy 130 planes from Airbus Group SE worth 157 billion, firming up rchase options announced earlier s year and intensifying the ra's ed dominate what's projected to come the world's biggest aircraft rket.

ar 17, No. 882 Sunday November 1, 2015

market. The agreement for 30 twin-aisle A330 and 100 single-aisle A320 planes was signed Thursday during a Beijing meeting between Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Airbus said in a statement. The purchase was among a number of deals signed at the meeting.

signed at the meeting. Airbus and Boeing Co. are competing to carve up the Chinese aircraft market, expected to become the world's largest over the next two decades. China's economic growth and the emergence of budget 'airlines are making air travel affordable to more people,

prompting carriers such as Air Chine Lid, and China Southern Airlines Co. to expand their fleets. "Chinese demand for travel is growing and China will need more plans to meet that demand," said Shukor Yusof, founder of Endau Analytics consultancy in Singapore. Foreign Plants The 30 A306 from uncertaint the

The 30 A330s firm up options taken in June, when China announced an order for 45 of the wide-body aircraft plus options for 30 more. The follow-on order will help Airbus

The follow-on order will help Aribus bridge the gap as it moves from the existing A330 model to a variant will more fuel-efficient engines that will enter service in 2017. The planemaker announced plans last December to cut monthly production to six A330s a month by 2016, from 10 now, as it transitions to the newer model. An order for 30 more planes means five months of work for the A330 line. Boeing won an order last month for 300 jets from Chinese carriers and lessors. The company said at the time it would soon open its first Chinese plant for 737 single-aisle planes.

Booming Market Chinese airlines will need 6,330 new planes in the next 20 years,

Airbus shares rose as much as 2.5 percent to 61.13 euros and were up 0.8 percent to 11.3 euros and were up 0.8 percent at 12.04 pm. in Paris. The stock has surged 4.5 percent this year, valuing the company at 4.4 billion euros (\$S1.) billion). China has encouraged foreign planemakers to expand their local footprints as its own fledging arrospace industry takes shape. Airbus assembles A3208, most of which go to the Chinese market, at a factory in Tangin. They twise flating an agreener will Chinese subscripts to bill a completion earter for A330.

worth some \$950 billion, according to a Boeing forceast. China's growing deritand also is attracting interest from Russia on a wide-body plane that would compete with Boeing and Aithus test. Russia's United Aircraft Corp. and Commercial Aircraft Corp. of China, Khown as Comae, are discussing as work plan building con emonandum of understanding signed in May 2014, Russian Deputy Industry Minister Andrey Boginsky said ar lier this year. China will become the word a biggest air travel market by 2034, with one in five passengers traveling to, from or within the country Absochations aid in April. About the Intermitional Air Transport Association said in April. About week, or according to IATA. By 2020, 13 Chinase airlines will bare nove then D0 chanes in their

week, or according to IAIA. By 2020, 13 Chinese airlines will have more than 100 planes in their fleets, up from six carriers as of November 2014, the CAPA Centre for Aviation said last year. China Southern is Asia's biggest carrier by fleet size with over 400 planes, which moved more than 100 million pacement last wear. million passengers last year.

(Bloomh



Press Clippings

Ethiopian Airlines adds new breed to its fleet

"[Buying] B in the early the biggest the first in the world. A same leaders 777 200 LR our leadershi Africa and se to Japan to t 787 Dreamlin

Ethiopian

to purchase

Airbus aircraft

with 4.2 bln USD





Ethiopian Aviation Academy **Graduates 201 Aviation Professionals**

Ethiopian Aviation Academy, the largest aviation academy in Africa, a full ICAO TRAINAIR Plus member and IATA authorized global training center, is pleased to announce that it has graduated 24 pilots, 96 aviation maintenance technicians, 37 cabin crew and 44 marketing professionals at a ceremony held at Ethiopian Headquarters on 03 November 2015. The graduates include nations from Rwanda. The training equipped the graduates with sufficient theoretical and practical knowledge to qualify them in their carrier as aviation professionals.

On the occasion, Group CEO Tewolde GebreMariam Ethiopian Aviation Academy is the bedrock of the airline's success. "Self-sufficiency in training of all aviation services expertise right from the inception of our business has been one of the major success factors of Ethiopian Airlines. That is why we have invested huge amount of time, energy and money for the expansion of our Aviation Academy to meet the demand for trained aviation expertise of the 21st century and to set the standard in high-level quality education demanded by the aviation profession," he said.

(Ethiopian Airlines)



አየር መንገዱ ኤር ባሶችን ይረከባል

ዳግም ከበደ

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የዝግጅት ክፍላችን ያነጋገራቸው የደንበኞች ጉዳይ ማርኬቲንግ ማኔጀር ዶክተር ማሪ ላሎ እንደነለጹት፤ እያንዳንዱ አውሮፕላን 300 ሚሊዮን ዶላር ያወጣል። ከሌሎቹ የኤር ባስ አውሮፕላዮች በስፋቱ የሚታወቅ ሲሆን 25 በመቶ የነዳጅ ፍጆታን ከመቀንሱም ባሻንር የከርበን ዳይአከሳይድ ልቀቱም አነስተኛ ነው። እንደ ማርኬቲንግ ማኔጀሯ ፖለፃ ኩባንያው

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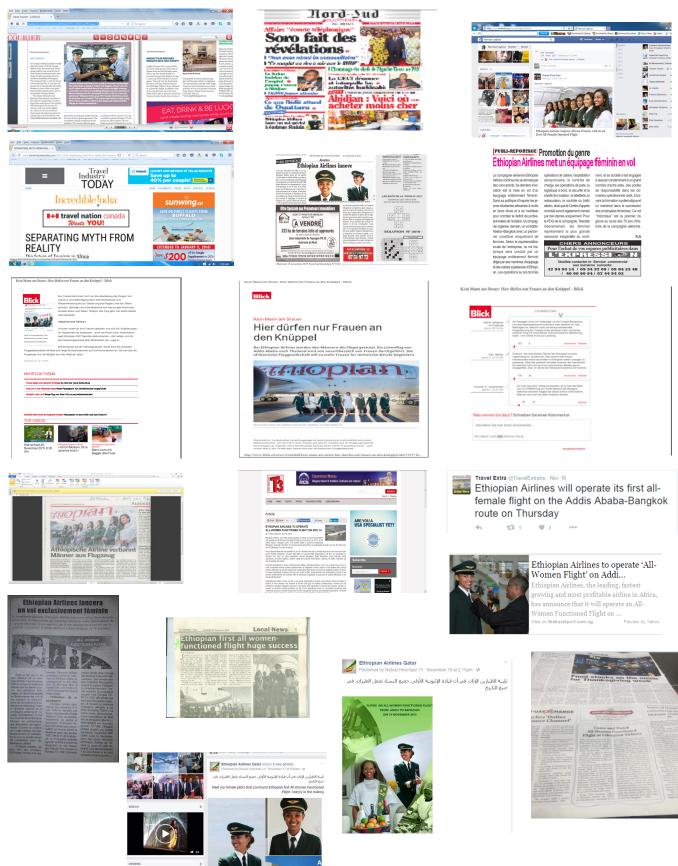
のとろ አንደሚያመለከተው፤ አየር መንገዱ በ 2025 ዓ.ም የአፍሪካ ቀዳሚው አየር መንገድ ለመሆን የ15 ዓመት የረጅም ጊዜ እቅድ ነድፎ እየተንቀሳቀስ ይንኛል።

Ethiopian sponsors school feed programme





Press clippings



Airlines-Qatar-771393356283015//hef-chi#

Some of the coverage attended on Ethiopian All-women functioned flight

Traveler 24

http://traveller24.news24.com/News/ethiopian-airlines-all-women-flight-makes-tongueswag-20151119?isapp=true

Travel magazine

http://www.travel-magazine.be/nl-be/Aviation News/TargetModuleID/1754/NewsDetailItemID/25666

http://travel360benelux.com/ethiopian-airlines/ethiopian-airlines-eerste-airbus-a350-xwb-en-afraa-awards/

Link: http://woleshadare.com/history-beckons-as-ethiopian-airways-plans-all-women-flight-nov-19-2015/?utm_ campaign=shareaholic&utm_medium=yahoo_mail&utm_source=email

Kuwait Times

http://www.timeskuwait.com/Times_Come-and-watch-all-women-functioned-flight-at-Ethiopian-Airlines

VOA

http://www.voanews.com/content/ethiopian-airlines-first-all-female-crew/3064016.html

TRO

http://travgram.travelresearchonline.com/images/travelgram/pressrls/ethiopianpressrls111815.htm

http://www.aww.com.au/latest-news/news-stories/all-women-ethiopian-airlines-operated-flight-23275

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w5ElxcrE3dA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVnhZMu7uqk

Irish Times

http://www.irishtimes.com/business/transport-and-tourism/road-warrior-all-female-ethiopian-flight-easyjetintroduce-ffp-marriott-buy-starwood-1.2433208

Her.ie

http://www.her.ie/life/ethiopian-airlines-to-make-history-this-week-as-flight-to-be-fully-operated-by-women/265394

Travel Trade News

https://thetravelnewsblog.wordpress.com/2015/11/16/ethiopian-make-history-with-their-first-all-female-operated-flight/

Ethiopian Airlines to operate 'All-Women Flight' on Addis Ababa – Bangkok Nov 19 | The Travel Port

http://woleshadare.com/history-beckons-as-ethiopian-airways-plans-all-women-flight-nov-19-2015/?utm_ campaign=shareaholic&utm_medium=yahoo_mail&utm_source=email

Kuwait Times

http://www.timeskuwait.com/Times_Come-and-watch-all-women-functioned-flight-at-Ethiopian-Airlines

http://www.aww.com.au/latest-news/news-stories/all-women-ethiopian-airlines-operated-flight-23275

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w5ElxcrE3dA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVnhZMu7uqk



Some mentions of Ethiopian on the World Wide Web (WWW)

Ethiopian Airlines announces all-women functioned flight ...

Ethiopian Airlines has announced that it will operate an a ll-women functioned flight on the Addis Ababa – Bangkok route. This flight is aimed at crystalising ... Yahoo Finance India · 11/18/2015 Ethiopian Airlines operates first all female flight | IFA ...

(ShareCast News) – **Ethiopian Airlines** made history last week by sending an all-female flight crew from the capital city of Addis Ababa to Bangkok, Thailand, as the ...IFA Magazine $\cdot 11/26/2015$

Ethiopian Airlines to operate all-women functioned flight ...

Ethiopian Airlines to operate all-women functioned flight on Nov 19 By T₃ News Network, Nov 18, 2015. **Ethiopian Airlines**, one of the leading **airlines** in Africa has $...T_3 \cdot 11/18/2015$

Ethiopian Airlines starts all-women operated flight ...

Ethiopian Airlines is pleased to announce that it will operate an all-women functioned flight on November 19, 2015 on the Addis Ababa - Bangkok route. This historic ... E TN Global Travel Industry News • 11/16/2015 Ethiopian Airlines inspires African Women with its 1st ...

Tomorrow, on November 19 2015, **Ethiopian Airlines** will make history with its first ever female-only operated flight on the Addis Ababa, Ethiopia ...Bella Naija · 11/18/2015

Ethiopian Airlines to operate all-women functioned flight ...

Ethiopian Airlines to operate all-women functioned flight on Nov 19 By T₃ News Network, Nov 18, 2015. **Ethiopian Airlines**, one of the leading **airlines** in Africa has $...T_3 \cdot 11/18/2015$

Ethiopia: Flowers Get a Rosy Ride - allAfrica.com

Ethiopian Airlines (ET) has offered a discount to **Ethiopian** Horticulture Exporters using its cargo service. The offer came in response to the loss the ...AllAfrica \cdot 23 hours ago

Ethiopian Airlines inspires African Women with its 1st ...

Tomorrow, on November 19 2015, **Ethiopian Airlines** will make history with its first ever female-only operated flight on the Addis Ababa, Ethiopia ...Bella Naija + 11/18/2015

Ethiopian Airlines wins Employer of Choice Award | Ethiosports

Ethiopian Airlines, the largest, fastest growing and most profitable airline in Africa, is pleased to announce that it has won Employer of Choice 2015 ... Ethio Sports $\cdot 11/25/2015$

Kenya: Ethiopian Airlines to Operate All-Female Flight ...

Ethiopian Airlines will be operating an all-female flight crew for the first time in its history on Thursday, November 19, 2015. AllAfrica \cdot 11/23/2015

Ethiopian Airlines To Operate Flight Fully Handled By ...

Ethiopian Airlines is about to make history by operating a flight fully handled by women on the Addis Ababa – Bangkok route. According to Yahoo, that ... MadameNoire · 11/18/2015

My Republica - Ethiopian Airlines craft to airlift ATF to ...

KATHMANDU, Nov 30: **Ethiopian Airlines** is all set to airlift Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) from Monday. According to Nepal Oil Corporation (NOC), **Ethiopian Airlines** has ...Republica · 1 day ago <u>Ethiopian Airlines Launch First All-Female Crew Flight ...</u>

Ethiopian Airlines has launched its first ever flight operated by all-female crew between Addis Ababa and Bangkok Thailand. The most profitable African carrier had ...AFKinside \cdot 11/20/2015

SAS debuts new cabins; all-female Ethiopian crew; KLM ...

SAS debuts new cabins Scandinavian Airlines System, which has been upgrading its cabins since January, brought planes with the new cabins into service from Japan Times $\cdot 11/24/2015$

CEO: Ethiopian Airlines plans to grow A350 fleet to 25 ...



Ethiopian Airlines Makes History with an All-Women Flight Crew

ADDIS ABABA (HAN) November 19, 2015. Public Diplomacy & regional Security. By: Hadassah Egbedi. Yesterday, **Ethiopian Airlines** celebrated women by dispatching its ...geeskaafrika.com · 11/20/2015

All-Female Flight Crew a First for Ethiopia Airlines

ADDIS ABABA— **Ethiopian Airlines** is dispatching its first-ever flight operated by an all-female crew. The flight was scheduled to depart for Bangkok ...Voice of America • 11/18/2015

Ethiopian Airlines wins Employer Choice Award

Accra, Nov. 30, GNA - **Ethiopian Airlines**, the largest, fastest growing and most profitable airline in Africa, has won the Employer of Choice 2015 award by ...Modern Ghana · 13 hours ago <u>Ethiopian Airlines makes history with all-female flight ...</u>

Courtesy Online Ethiopia. **Ethiopian Airlines** dispatched its first-ever flight operated by a crew that is all female to Bangkok on Thursday. Women filled ... Pakistan Today \cdot 11/21/2015

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Ethiopian Airlines, Africa'slargest carrier, wants to buy 10 narrowbody planes and isconsidering Canada's Bombardier and Brazil's Embraer jets among others ...Reuters · 11/24/2015 Ethiopian Airlines all-women flight makes tongues wag ...

Ethiopian Airlines proves women are quite capable of flying without any men around.traveller24.news24.com \cdot 11/19/2015

Africa's largest carrier, Ethiopian Airlines, plans to ...

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ETHIOPIAN Airlines has re-established its route from Durban to Addis Ababa and is eyeing opportunities in cargo freight. The first commercial flight on the ...bdlive.co.za $\cdot 11/24/2015$

Ethiopian airlines begins all-women operated flights ...

Ethiopian Airlines said it will operate an all-women functioned flight on November 19, 2015 on the Addis Ababa - Bangkok route. The **airlines** said Monday inen.starafrica.com \cdot 11/16/2015

Ethiopian Airlines to operate All-Women Crew flight from ...

Ethiopian Airlines will operate an All- Women functioned flight on the Addis Ababa – Bangkok route on November 19, 2015. This exceptional service in ...Nazret · 11/17/2015 Ethiopian Airlines Operates All-Women Functioned Flight

Ethiopian Airlines, the leading airline in Africa, will today operate an all-women functioned flight on the Addis Ababa-Bangkok route. The historic flight ... Modern $Ghana \cdot 11/19/2015$

Ethiopian Airlines to order 10 narrow-body planes, eying ...

MONTREAL (Reuters) - **Ethiopian Airlines**, Africa's largest carrier, wants to buy 10 narrowbody planes and is considering Canada's Bombardier and Brazil's Embraer jets ...7 News Yahoo · 11/24/2015 Africa's largest carrier, Ethiopian Airlines, plans to ...

Ethiopian Airlines plans to double its fleet between now and 2025. **Ethiopian Airlines**, Africa's largest carrier, wants to buy 10 narrowbody planes and is ...cnbcafrica.com \cdot 11/24/2015

Ethiopian Airlines makes history with all female crew ...

Ethiopian Airlines have made history with a flight crewed entirely by women. The carrier said it chose the all-female crew because it wanted to promote the ...Stuff \cdot 11/24/2015

Ethiopian Airlines To Operate All-Women Flight Friday ...

The **Ethiopian Airlines** said it would operate an All-Women flight on its Addis Ababa-Bangkok route on Friday to crystallise its corporate conviction empowering women ...government.leadership.ng · 11/18/2015



What's up @ ET in November, 2015 ΕΤΗΙΟΡΙΑ

In this page, we will be promoting Ethiopia's nine inscribed world heritage sites that are recorded under UNESCO World Heritage lists. In this issue, we present to you the ancient city of Axum

Axum



The ancient city of Axum is located in Tigray National Regional State. It is about 1,025 kilometers North of Addis Ababa.

The falls obelisk with a height of 33 metres is the tallest obelisk carved out of a single stone. The 24 meter high obelisk is still standing and the other one with a height of 27 meters was cut in to three parts and taken to Rome in 1937 and returned back to Axum in 2005. They are all regarded as one of the finest examples of engineering from the height the Axumite Empire, due to its historical value, Axum and its archeological sites were included in the list of world heritage sites in 1980.

Founded perhaps 500 years after the downfall of Yeha, together with its Red Sea port, Adulis which were abandoned suddenly – probably in the sixth century AD as the result of an invasion from Arabia. Protected by the mountains of northern Tigray, Axum survived and kept on having a big influence on the imaginations and spiritual lives of many Ethiopians.

A small and lowly town surrounded by dry hills, modern Axum does not easily show the evidence of the splendors of its glorious past. Its drab breeze-block houses, roofed with corrugated iron, look little different from those of any other highland settlement and its people seem remarkable only for their impassive stoicism. Part buried, however, but also part exposed, the extensive traces of noble building with large stone foundations are found there side by side with the ruins of even more impressive structures: temples, fortresses, and rich palaces. Adding substance to ancient legends of fire-breathing monsters and testifying to the lost truths embedded in myths and fables, the bones of bygone eras protrude everywhere through the soil. Even today, long-buried hordes of gold, silver and bronze coins are exposed by heavy downpours of rain.

Axum, was a great commercial civilization trading with distant lands, among them Egypt, Arabia, Persia, India and Ceylon. To countries such as these the ancient Axumites exported gold, ivory, rhinoceros-horn, hippopotamus hide and slaves, and imported all kinds of textiles – cottons and silks.



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