



## ALEMAYAN 1985

**Embrace Gratitude Inspire Innovation**

**Alemaya College of Agriculture – Class of 1985**

**40th Anniversary Reunion Program**

**January 17-18, 2026**

**Time Zone:** All times are in Ethiopian Time (EAT)

## *Welcome*

After 40 years, we gather to reconnect, honor those who shaped our journey, remember our departed classmates, and strengthen bonds for the future.

This two-day celebration brings together alumni from across Ethiopia and around the world.

This year, we are honored to recognize three exceptional leaders who profoundly shaped our Alemaya experience: H.E. Ambassador Dr. Mengistu Huluka, Dean of Alemaya College of Agriculture; the late Dr. Beyene Chichaybelu, Dean of the Graduate School and Coordinator of the Gambella/Giloabol Resettlement Program (represented by his wife, Mrs Yalemeshet Weldeamanuel); and Prof. Gelana Amente, Dean of Students. Their dedication as educators, academic advisors, researchers, and mentors helped forge the path we walk today.

We are also honored to welcome Prof. Eyasu Elias, State Minister for Natural Resources and Development, as our keynote speaker. His leadership of the portfolio that encompasses agriculture, natural resource management, and sustainable development—the very sectors to which we have dedicated our careers for the past 40 years—makes his presence especially meaningful as we celebrate our contributions to Ethiopia.

We are grateful to all who have made this reunion possible, and we look forward to sharing memories and charting our path forward together.

**Venue:** EIAR Hall (Day 1) + Kayoland Farm, Lega Tafo (Day 2)

**Format:** Hybrid (On-site + Virtual Participation)

**Target Attendance:** ~80 alumni

**Masters of Ceremony:** Mulu A, Asefa T., Tamirat T.

**Dress Code:**

- **Day 1:** Neat and presentable attire. **NO SHORTS; NO SANDALS**
- **Day 2:** Alemaya Class of 1985 T-shirt, cap, scarf (check the weather and pack a Jacket/coat as needed)

**Optional Activities for Early Arrivals or Extended Stays**

**Before (January 14-16) or After (January 19+) the Reunion**

For those arriving early or staying longer in Addis Ababa, consider exploring:

- **Museums:** National Museum (Lucy/Dinkinesh), Science Museum, Adwa Museum
- **Scenic Tours:** Entoto Mountain/Park, Unity Park, Friendship Park
- **Day Trips:** Debre Libanos Monastery, Mount Zuqualla Crater Lake, The Seven Lakes of Bishoftu (Hora, Bishoftu, Kuriftu, Babogaya, etc.)
- **Shopping & Culture:** Mercato, traditional coffee ceremonies, cultural restaurants (ACOS, TOTOT Kitfo Bet, YESRA SEW KURT BET, etc.)

Arrange independently or coordinate with fellow alumni via the group chat.

**Day 1 – Celebration & Reflection**

**Date:** January 17, 2026

**Location:** EIAR Hall

Time	Activity	Lead/Mod- erator	Notes
08:30 – 09:00	<b>Registration &amp; Network- ing</b>  <b>VIP Guest Reception</b> (simultane- ous)	<b>Registra- tion:</b>  Asefa T. (MC), Teshome A., Kejela G.  <b>VIP Recep- tion:</b>  Executive committee members & Mulu A., Asefa T. Tamirat T. (MC)	<b>Registration:</b> 4 volunteers; registra- tion package (program brochure/badge/ Shirt/Cap/Scarf) distribution; entry music ("Ehedalehu Dire"); Batch anthem; visuals by Melaku A. & Tamirat T.; event banner display  <b>VIP Guests:</b> H.E. Ambassador Dr. Mengis- tu Huluka; Prof. Eyasu Elias; Prof. Gelana Amente; W/o Alemshet
09:00 – 09:30	<b>Registration &amp; Network- ing</b> (contin- ues)	Assefa T. (MC), Teshome A., Kejela G.	Alumni continue arriving and networking
09:30 – 09:40	<b>Opening Ceremony</b>  <i>(Kejela G.)</i>	Teshome A./ Mulu A (MC)	Introduced by Mulu A. => Teshome A.  "We remember our 20+ classmates who are no longer with us, and we celebrate this reunion in their honor."
09:40 – 09:50	<b>Website Walkthrough</b>  <i>(Melaku A.)</i>	Kejela G./ Mulu A. (MC)	Introduced by Kejela G.  10-minute organizational website presenta- tion
09:50 – 10:20	<b>Keynote Address</b>  <i>(Prof. Eyasu Elias, State Minister for Natural Resources and Develop- ment0</i>	Zerihun T./ Mulu A. (MC)	Introduced by ZerihunT.  30 minutes

10:20 – 10:50	<b>Alumni Reflections – Part 1</b>  <i>Group Panel</i>	Assefa T. (MC)	<b>5 Topics:</b> 1. Men’s Dorm Life & Cafeteria — Kebede M. 2. Women’s Dorm Life — Yewubdar H./ Etagegn B./Almaz N. 3. Freshman & Library Life — Sisay L. 4. “Batty/Gendeboy” Memories — Minas T. 5. Assosa Experience — Asefa T./Mosissa W.  All speakers on stage, conversational format
10:50 – 11:50	<b>Recognition Ceremony &amp; Celebration</b>	Mulu A./Asefa T./Tamirat T.(MC)	<b>All Honorees on Stage (Panel Format)</b>  <b>Honorees:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. Ambassador Dr. Mengistu Huluka (Plaque: Asefa T.)</li> <li>• Prof. Gelana Amente (Plaque: Kejela G.)</li> <li>• Dr. Beyene Chichaybelu - Posthumous (Plaque: Tamirat T.→ Mrs. Yalemeshet Weldeamanuel)</li> </ul> <b>Cake Cutting &amp; Champagne Toast</b> Alemayan 1985 Anthem (Chorus lead = Asefa T.)  Logistics: Teshome A./Kejela G.  Stage: 3 chairs, mobility-accessible ( or ramp available)
11:50 – 12:10	<b>Coffee Break &amp; Light Snacks</b>	Teshome A./ Tamirat T. (MC)	Coffee, tea, light refreshments

12:10 – 12:40	<b>Group Photo, Video Shoot &amp; Media</b>	Teshome A./Kedir G./Elias Z./Solomon Abegaz/Tamirat T.(MC)	Photo & Video: Elias Z./Solomon Abegaz./Kedir G  Media coverage: EBS, NBC (pending)
12:40 – 13:40	<b>Lunch (ILRI)</b>	Habtemariam K./Teshome A./Tamirat T. (MC)	60-minute networking lunch  <b>Sponsored by Habtemariam Kassa/ILRI</b>
13:40 – 15:10	Alumni Introduction - Full Group Round Robin – Part 1 (@ILRI)	Mulu A./Tamirat T./Asefa T.(MC)	All 50 in-person attendees introduce themselves sequentially @ ILRI/Lunch table  Format: • Each person stands or comes to mic • 1.5 min per person • Share: Name, department, where you live now, favorite campus or other memory
15:10 – 15:40	<b>Thematic Presentations 1</b>  <i>Education, Research &amp; Government</i>	Mulu A. (MC)	<b>10 minutes each:</b>  1. <b>Academic &amp; Research</b> (Zerihun et al.) — introduced by Mulu A.  2. <b>National/International Research</b> (Melaku et al.) — introduced by Mulu A.  3. <b>Government &amp; Policy</b> (Tamirat T., Kebede et al.) — introduced by Solomon Abegaz.
15:40 – 16:10	<b>Alumni Reflections – Part 2</b>  <i>Group Panel</i>	Assefa T. (MC)	<b>5 Topics:</b>  6. Sports Life in Campus — Adugna K., Beyene G/M., Daniel F/S.  7. Gambella, Assosa & Pawe — Melaku A., Woldeyesus S., Kiros M., Mussie Z.  8. Gambella Experience — Jemal H.  9. National Military Service — Ayele S., Jemal H., Melaku G.  10. [Topic TBD]  All speakers on stage

16:10 – 16:25	<b>Poetry/Kene Presentation</b>  <i>(Asefa T)</i>	Mossisa W./Mulu A. (MC)	Introduced by Mossisa  <i>All ~127 graduates (living &amp; deceased)</i>
16:25 – 16:55	<b>Thematic Presentations 2</b>  <i>Business, NGOs &amp; Technology</i>	Mulu A./ Tamirat T. (MC)	<b>10 minutes each:</b>  4. <b>Consultancy &amp; Entrepreneurship</b> (Kejela G., Teshome A., et al.) — introduced by Teshome  5. <b>Non-profit Organizations</b> (Jemal A. et al.) — introduced by Dereje  6. <b>Technology &amp; Globalization: AI, ICT, Big-data</b> (Mulu A, Tamirat T Melaku A., Adugna K, Asefa C., et al.) — introduced by Zerihun
16:55 – 17:10	<b>Legacy Project Launch/ thoughts</b>  <i>(Kebede M.)</i>	Tamirat T. (MC)	introduced by Tamirat T./ Kedir G.
17:10 – 17:20	<b>Closing Remarks – Day 1</b> <i>(Dereje A)</i>	Adugna K./ Mulu A. (MC)	Introduced by Adugna K.

## Day 2 – Kayoland Farm Celebration

**Date:** January 18, 2026

**Morning:** EIAR Hall | **Afternoon:** Kayoland Botanical Garden/Farm, Lega Tafo

**Dress Code:** Alemaya Class of 1985 T-shirt, cap, scarf

**Hosted by:** Kejela G. at Kayoland Farm

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Lead/Moderator</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>09:00 – 09:45</b>	<b>Reflecting on Day 1 and Planning</b>	Melaku A./Dereje A./Mulu A. (MC)	Debrief highlights from Day 1, EIAR Hall  Note/Minutes By Zerihun T.
<b>09:45 – 10:00</b>	Alumni Introduction Session Virtual Attendees & Late Arrivals – Part 2	Mulu A./Tamirat T./Asefa T. (MC)	All virtual attendees and late arrivals introduce themselves sequentially  Format: • 1.5 min per person • Share: Name, department, where you live now, favorite Alemaya or other memory
<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	<b>Coffee, Breakfast &amp; Networking</b>	Teshome A./Tamirat T. (MC)	Coffee, donuts, light breakfast, EIAR Hall
<b>10:30 – 11:30</b>	<b>Bus Departure to Kayoland</b>  <i>NTO-style bus from EIAR</i>	Tamirat T. (MC), Kejela G., Teshome A.	Head count, board bus, ~1 hour travel
<b>11:30 – 12:00</b>	<b>Kayoland Farm Tour</b>	Kejela G., Tamirat T. (MC)	Botanical garden/Farm exploration
<b>12:00 – 13:30</b>	<b>Traditional Lunch</b>	Kejela G., Tamirat T. (MC), Teshome A.	Fresh goat/sheep meal  <b>Vegan options available</b>  Networking
<b>13:30 – 15:00</b>	<b>Sports &amp; Recreation</b>	Kejela G./Tamirat T. (MC)	Volleyball, badminton, photos
<b>15:00 – 17:30</b>	<b>Campfire &amp; Coffee Ceremony</b>	Tamirat T (MC), Kejela G., Teshome T.	Traditional celebration  Informal networking and storytelling

17:30 – 17:45	<b>Closing &amp; Farewell</b>  Kejela G./Mulu A.(MC)	/Teshome A./Kedir G./ Tamirat T.(MC)	Group photo, safe travels
~18:00	<b>Return Bus Departure</b>	Tamirat T. (MC), Kejela G., Teshome A.	Kayoland → Addis, drop-off coordination

**Special Thanks:**

- Habtemariam Kassa and ILRI for sponsoring Day 1 lunch
- Kejela G. for graciously hosting Day 2 at Kayoland Farm
- All committee members and volunteers for their dedication

**We look forward to celebrating 40 years of excellence together!**

