

Statue of Haile Selassie unveiled at African Union

12th February, 2019



The African Union (AU) has unveiled a statue of Ethiopia's Emperor Haile Selassie I at its headquarters in Ethiopia's capital city Addis Ababa. The emperor served as King of Ethiopia from 1930 to 1974. The statue was created in

recognition of the role Haile Selassie played in the creation of the Organization of African Union (OAU) in 1963. He had a vision to free all African countries from colonialism and create strong and free independent countries on the continent. Speaking at the inauguration of the OAU, he said: "May this union last 1,000 years." The OAU lasted for 39 years before it changed into the African Union in 2002. The AU continues Haile Selassie's vision of achieving greater unity between African nations.

Emperor Haile Selassie I was born in 1892 into an Ethiopian family that traced its roots back to King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba three thousand years ago. He was a highly influential figure in contemporary Ethiopian history. He was a skilled politician on the international stage during a time of great turmoil. He helped lead Ethiopia to become a charter member of the United Nations. Ethiopia remained a country that was never colonized. Haile Selassie is revered in the Rastafarian religion. Around one million Rastafarians around the world consider him as a messiah who came to Earth to spread the word of God. The 1973 famine in Ethiopia led to his eventual removal from the throne.

Sources:
newbusinessethiopia.com / ethiopiaobserver.com / wikipedia.org

Writing

Africa will be the strongest continent in the world in 50 years. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

statue / capital city / emperor / role / vision / colonialism / continent / union / 2002 / roots / influential / history / politician / turmoil / religion / messiah / word / throne

True / False

- a) A statue of Haile Selassie was unveiled at the U.N. in New York. T / F
- b) Haile Selassie became King of Ethiopia in 1930. T / F
- c) The Organization of African Union was created in 1963. T / F
- d) The Organization of African Union lasted for 39 years. T / F
- e) Haile Selassie was born in the early 20th century. T / F
- f) Haile Selassie's family roots go back to the Queen of Sheba. T / F
- g) Ethiopia was colonized for over 100 years. T / F
- h) A famine in 1986 led to Haile Selassie losing power. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. unveiled | a. self-governing |
| 2. served | b. ousting |
| 3. creation | c. discovered |
| 4. independent | d. worked |
| 5. unity | e. respected |
| 6. traced | f. revealed |
| 7. influential | g. chaos |
| 8. turmoil | h. harmony |
| 9. revered | i. establishment |
| 10. removal | j. powerful |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What do you know about Haile Selassie?
- c) What would it be like to be a king or queen?
- d) How great a politician would you be?
- e) Who is your country's most influential figure?
- f) What do you know about Rastafarianism?
- g) What do you think Africa will be like in 50 years' time?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the A.U.?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. at its headquarters in | a. recognition of the role |
| 2. The statue was created in | b. influential figure |
| 3. He had a vision to free | c. in Ethiopia |
| 4. May this union | d. Ethiopia's capital city |
| 5. Selassie's vision of achieving greater unity | e. Ethiopian history |
| 6. traced its roots | f. last 1,000 years |
| 7. He was a highly | g. Rastafarian religion |
| 8. in contemporary | h. all African countries |
| 9. revered in the | i. between African nations |
| 10. The 1973 famine | j. back to King Solomon |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you know about the African Union?
- What do you know about Ethiopia?
- Who is your country's greatest ever leader?
- Why was there colonization in the world?
- Is there still colonization in the world?
- What is your favourite country in Africa?
- What advice do you have for the African Union?
- How much unity is there among African countries?

Spelling

- at its eaeudatrshr
- The eprermo served as King of Ethiopia
- in ioeornnigt of the role
- independent countries on the iotetcnnn
- the aiannotrugi of the OAU
- achieving greater ntiuy
- a highly fuinleali figure
- during a time of great iulrtmo
- a country that was never elinodocz
- consider him as a maishse
- The 1973 anfemi in Ethiopia
- his evnatleu removal from the throne

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. d	3. i	4. a	5. h
6. c	7. j	8. g	9. e	10. b

Role Play

Role A – Statue of Unity

You think the Statue of Unity is the world's best statue. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their statues. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): the Statue of Liberty, the Venus de Milo or the Easter Island Moai.

Role B – Statue of Liberty

You think the Statue of Liberty is the world's best statue. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their statues. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): the Statue of Unity, the Venus de Milo or the Easter Island Moai.

Role C – Venus de Milo

You think the Venus de Milo is the world's best statue. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their statues. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): the Statue of Liberty, the Statue of Unity or the Easter Island Moai.

Role D – Easter Island Moai

You think the Easter Island Moai are the world's best statues. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their statues. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): the Statue of Liberty, the Venus de Milo or the Statue of Unity.

Speaking – Statues

Rank these with your partner. Put the best statues at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| • Statue of Liberty | • Tian Tan Buddha |
| • Statue of Unity | • Christ the Redeemer |
| • Rodin's Thinker | • Michelangelo's David |
| • Venus de Milo | • Easter Island Moai |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	T	d	T	e	F	f	T	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.