Aknaw Gemechu Moticha

(1920 – 2013)

Aknaw Gemechu was born from his father Fitawrari Gemechu Moticha and his mother Ilmitu Boruu in 1920 (approximate birth year) in a village called TuluMera district of Cheliya current Western Shewa Zone, Oromia State. After finishing his reading and writing lesson at local Orthodox Church, he joined Menelik Elementary School in Addis Ababa. He attended the Elementary School up to 4th grade then he discontinued his study because of the death of his father. At the elementary school he learned mathematics, reading, and writing of Amharic language.

After the death of his father, he returned to his village to help his mother in managing farming activities that his father has left.

Later, he moved to Bako City and learned the country law and court procedures. The court hired him as a local judge. After serving few years, he won the national parliamentary election and he moved to Addis Ababa.

Upon completion of the four-year term (1959-1963), he lost the next election and get hired as district judge in Ambo. While working as a judge there, he competed for another term of parliamentary election, and he won for the second time. He moved again to Addis Ababa with his entire family and served his four-year term (1969 – 1973). After completing his term in parliament, he competed for another round of election, and he lost that election to Zewge Boja another competitor around Ambo area.

He was offered as a Higher Court Judge at the end of his term in the parliament. However, he rejected the offer and moved to his village called Guto three hours walking distance from Bako.

In 1974, Ethiopian Revolution removed Emperor Haile Silase. The Dergue confiscated all urban and rural land he has. He finally remains with small farming lot in his village and suffered more abuse from local peasants and they robed his household property by mob.

He overcome all that tragedy and after many years of rural settlements, he moved to Bako city with his family. The city administration returned to him his old urban house where he resided until his death by the age of 93.

He was remembered by his good knowledge of law, impromptu speech, local leadership, and his people skill. Today, he survived by his last wife Desie Wirtu and eleven children from different wives.