

RasTafari

VIBES

Joseph Patterson

**Defiance & Dignity:
Stories of Jamaica's Unsung Heroes**

**HONORING THE VOICES THEY
TRIED TO SILENCE**

AUGUST 2025

HIM Haile Selassie I

Haile Selassie I, King of Kings, Lords or Lords, Conquering Lion from the Tribe of Judah, was the grandson of the Queen of Sheba—Makeda—the ruling monarch of the ancient Ethiopian Empire.

Long before patriarchal reigns, Sheba was governed by women—wise, sovereign, divine. That lineage shifted only when Ras Makonnen's son, Tafari Makonnen—later crowned Haile Selassie I—ascended the throne, uniting the Solomonic and Sheban bloodlines.

The Queen of Sheba, revered across time and traditions, famously journeyed across great distances to meet King Solomon—wisest man of his age and direct descendant of King David, a man after JAH's own heart. From this divine union came a royal bloodline that still lives through I&I—the Rastafari nation.



HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY
HAILE SELASSIE I

The Royal Ethiopian Trust



Karen A Francis MEd

I started this publication to bring historical perspective to the West Indian peoples — to tell the story of our presence on this land long before the arrival of colonial powers. The trod of Africans across Jamaica's hills and into the Caribbean, North and South America predates their seizure and exploitation of our lands and our people. Though books were burned, buildings destroyed, and landscapes altered beyond recognition, our history was never erased — only hidden.

From the migrations out of Southern Africa into the mountains of Eastern Jamaica, North & South America to the cultural imprints left along the way, the evidence of melanated peoples life and lifestyles still calls to be remembered — and now, revealed.

As the truth of our peoples' presence in the West — before colonialism — comes to light, it is vital that we document today's unfolding events. This is the bridge between our former glory, our fall from God's grace, our present reality, and our return to Glory. This pivotal moment in history cannot be left for others to interpret or distort. We must tell our story ourselves, in real time, from our own perspective.

This space was created to welcome everyone — from seasoned storytellers to young writers, from fluent readers to those still finding comfort with the written word. The writing is clear, simple, and accessible, yet every piece is rooted in deep research, lived experience, and Divine alignment. Through interactive media — video, audio, and digital storytelling — even the most reluctant reader will find a way in. In the tradition of scribes and seers, I write for readers and non-readers alike, and I invite you to walk this journey with me.

So, share your voice. Contribute your cultural and historical anecdotes, your spiritual insights, your community happenings, your health wisdom, and your business visions. Submission guidelines are at the end of this publication.

This is frontline journalism — stories written by the people, for the people.

Welcome to RasTafari Vibes.

Blessed Love,
~Empress Zaria

**THE GLOBAL VOICE OF THE RASTAFARI, ETHIOPIAN WORLD
FEDERATION & AFRICAN UNION 6TH REGION DIASPORA**

Lead Editorial

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Africa Rising (Stories Across Africa)

Caribbean Chronicles (Headlines across the Caribbean)

Haile Selassie/Empress Menen (Life & Teachings)

Ethiopian Orthodox/Coptic Church (New & Updates)

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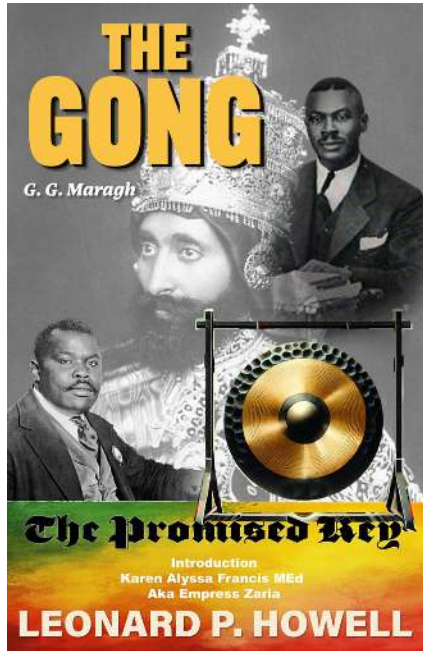
Youth & Culture Spotlight

RasTafari Mansions (News, Updates, Quotes, Teachings)

African Union (News & Updates)

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Leonard Howell

The RasTafari story in Jamaica begins not with one, but two towering figures—each holding distinct visions of Africa, redemption, and liberation: Leonard Howell and Marcus Garvey. Howell embraced Emperor Haile Selassie I as the Living God, declaring that “Ethiopia and Jamaica are one.”

Why was Leonard Howell arrested by the Jamaican Government



Marcus Mosiah Garvey

Garvey, on the other hand, championed a political vision—a Back to Africa movement rooted in racial uplift, industrial self-reliance, and repatriation. Both men lit fires that would shape the spiritual and cultural revolution known today as the RasTafari Movement.

Why was Garvey Arrested by Jamaican Government



Joseph Patterson and his wife Charlet Patterson

It was HIM Haile Selassie I speaking before the League of Nations in 1936 who issued the now famous warning, "today it is me, tomorrow it will be you." He spoke these words as Fascist Italy invaded Ethiopia in clear violation of International Law, while the League failed to act.

That same warning is being echoed today by Joseph Patterson, leader of Jamaica's third political party, the United Independents' Congress (UIC). Like Selassie I, Patterson challenges us—as a free and sovereign people—to rise in defense of our sovereignty when it is under threat.



Joseph L Patterson



Patterson, much like Leonard Howell before him, may never be officially honored by the Jamaican government as a National Hero. Yet, he remains one of Jamaica's unsung champions—working tirelessly for the rights and freedoms of his people. As a husband, father, returning resident, and public servant, Patterson has chosen the same path of service and sacrifice that all true heroes have walked.

Make no mistake—the life of a hero rarely feels heroic. It is a lonely, grueling journey, far removed from titles and pomp. For a Jamaican hero, it often means standing in direct opposition to the oppressive “Babylon system.” This resistance lies at the heart of Rastafari philosophy and is the very foundation of reggae's cry to Chant Down Babylon.



In that spirit, Patterson advocates self-reliance, self-governance, and self-determination. His bold decision to lead a protest in defiance of government restrictions during the pandemic—restrictions that crushed livelihoods and coerced personal medical decisions—was an act of resistance to tyranny. History has since vindicated concerns about the vaccine's risks, yet no remedy or compensation has been offered to those harmed.



This is not new. The Jamaican state has repeatedly used force against its own citizens in moments of dissent—from police brutality against Peter Tosh for confronting political leadership, to the destruction of Pinnacle, the self-sustaining community founded by Leonard Howell. The same deep-rooted corruption Patterson now confronts is what led to Marcus Garvey's arrest for sedition, simply for exposing judicial misconduct.

Today, after three years, the courts still refuse to rule on Patterson's wrongful arrest and human rights violations, while cases involving questionable enrichment by the Prime Minister are resolved in mere days. The imbalance is glaring.



And just as the League of Nations ignored Selassie's appeal, the modern international community—UN bodies, human rights organizations, and global watchdogs—turns a blind eye to these abuses. No sanctions. No intervention.

Patterson's warning mirrors Selassie's: If my rights can be violated, so can yours. The question remains—when will we, as Jamaicans at home and abroad, stand up for our rights? When will we become the heroes of our own story?

Joseph Patterson is a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) and leader of Jamaica's third political party, the UIC invites Jamaicans at home and abroad to Be Bold and Vote for the UIC.

For communication with the UIC, Visit
www.UICJamaica.com

For comments on this article, email
empress@empresszaria.com.

A campaign poster for Joseph Patterson, leader of the United Independents' Congress (UIC) in Jamaica. The poster features a photo of Patterson waving. Text includes: "JOSEPH PATTERSON THE MAN WITH THE PLAN", "NEW SYSTEM", "NEW LEADERSHIP", "NEW JAMAICA", "MAKE JAMAICA NICE AGAIN!", a list of promises (100% YOUTH EMPLOYMENT, BETTER WAGES & LESS TAXES, LAND REPARATION & DECENT HOUSING, SAFE, CLEAN & ORDERLY SOCIETY), the UIC logo, a QR code, and contact information (876-293-0812, www.UICJAMAICA.com).

JOSEPH PATTERSON
THE MAN WITH THE PLAN

- NEW SYSTEM
- NEW LEADERSHIP
- NEW JAMAICA

MAKE JAMAICA NICE AGAIN!

- 100% YOUTH EMPLOYMENT
- BETTER WAGES & LESS TAXES
- LAND REPARATION & DECENT HOUSING
- SAFE, CLEAN & ORDERLY SOCIETY

UIC
UNITED INDEPENDENTS' CONGRESS

876-293-0812
www.UICJAMAICA.com

The cover of "The Ambassador's Pen" magazine, dated 22nd May 2025. It features a portrait of Ibrahim Traore in military uniform with a red beret. The text includes: "The AMBASSADOR'S Pen", "22nd May 2025", "The Revolutionary Edition", "The Progress of IBRAHIM TRAORE", and "The Ptist Isaac Institute of Holistic Knowledge".

The AMBASSADOR'S Pen
22nd May 2025
The Revolutionary Edition

The Progress of IBRAHIM TRAORE

The Ptist Isaac Institute of Holistic Knowledge

HAILE SELASSIE I METAVERSITY

Haile Selassie I MetaVersity (HSIM) is a pioneering Virtual Reality space where education and innovation converge in the MetaVerse.

As the first and largest immersive learning environment of its kind, HSIM offers a dynamic platform for teaching and learning, integrating cutting-edge virtual and augmented reality technologies.

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A Case for English for Industry at Teaching Colleges across Jamaica.



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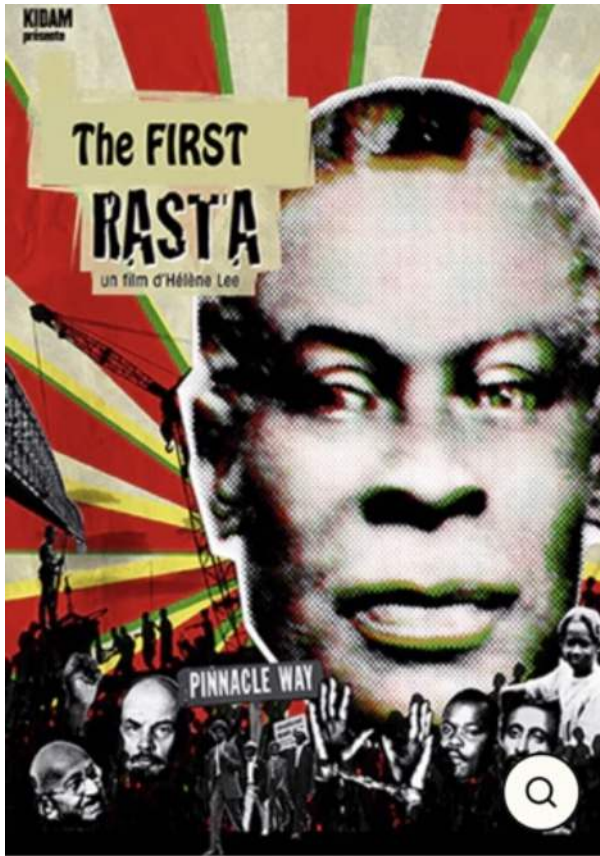
 This course combines American English training, career guidance, and industry-recognized certification to help teachers and their students access international freelance markets.

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Learn More Here

Meet RasTafari's Founder & Unsung Hero

Who is Leonard Howell



Why the Jamaican Government saw Howell as a threat.



Listen to my interview with the daughter of Leonard Howell, Katherine Howell as she shares the shocking revelation of how, Pinnacle, the property owned by her father, was stolen and by whom.

Why Subscribe to the RasTafari VIBES?

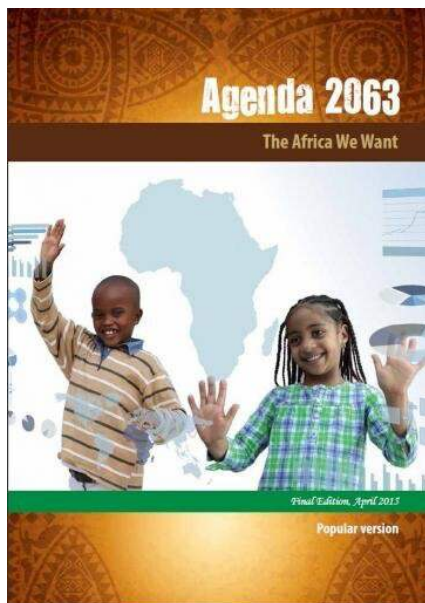
In the shifting landscape of Information, RasTafari Vibes is emerging—not just as an Ezine, but as a living archive of this prophetic moment.

We are here to memorialize and amplify the role that H.I.M. Emperor Haile Selassie I and His children, the RasTafarians of Jamaica, continue to play in the liberation of global consciousness

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Empress Zaria



 News & updates from Rastafari and indigenous nations

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 What does it mean to be a Rastaman—then and now

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BY SWANI KEELSON JUNE 25, 2025

In many postcolonial African states, sovereignty is often asserted through symbols before it is realized through governance. The performance of autonomy—via flags, alliances, military attire, and revolutionary slogans—frequently stands in for actual reform.

Burkina Faso's expulsion of French forces and embrace of new global partners suggests a desire for decolonial sovereignty.

But these symbolic actions occur amid internal contradictions: vast regions outside state control, continued extremist violence, and more than 6.5 million people in need of humanitarian aid.

A state may declare itself sovereign through posture and rhetoric. But unless sovereignty is experienced through inclusion, redistribution, and accountability, it remains only a sign.

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The Cuban Revolution will keep on fighting, says prime minister Cruz

Marrero Cruz reaffirmed loyalty to the ideas of the Apostle José Martí, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, and Army General Raúl Castro, a continuity rooted in faithfulness to the principles of the Revolution.

He recalled the words of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro in his first speech in Havana after the triumph of the Revolution in 1959, when he warned that the path would not be easy and prepared the people for the challenges ahead.

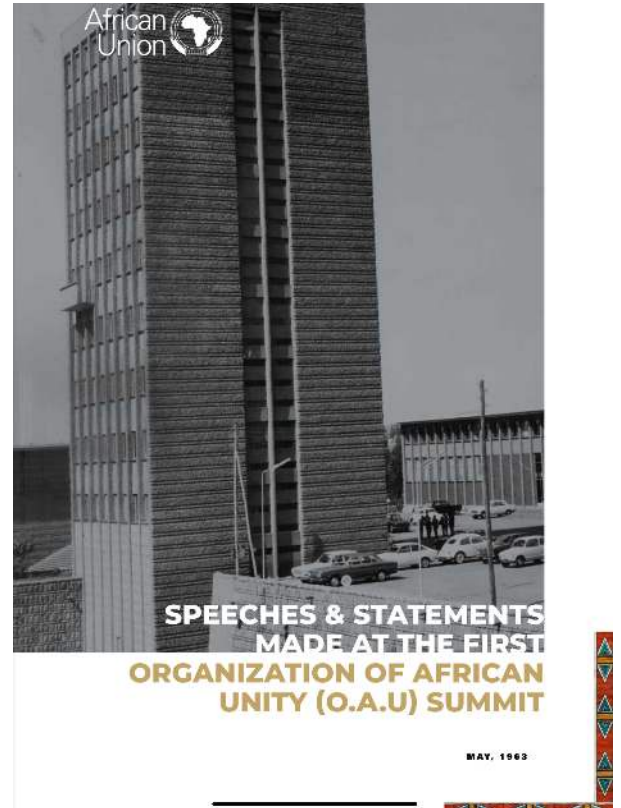
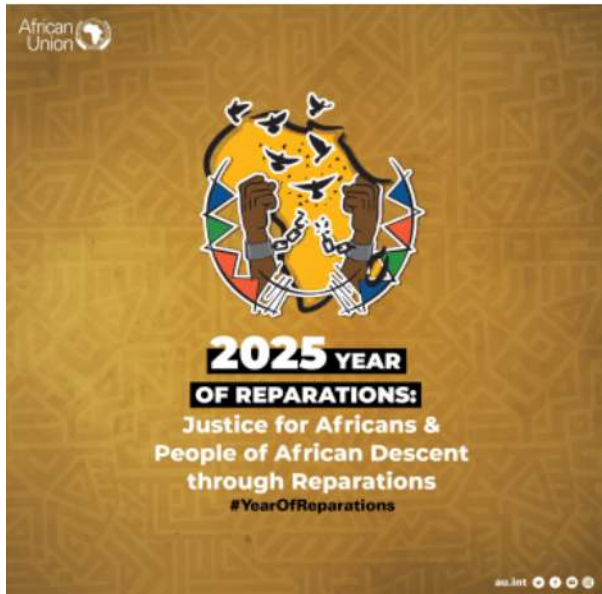
The prime minister paid tribute to the Cuban people for their understanding, maturity, and revolutionary spirit in the face of hardships, as well as their readiness to defend the Revolution on all fronts.
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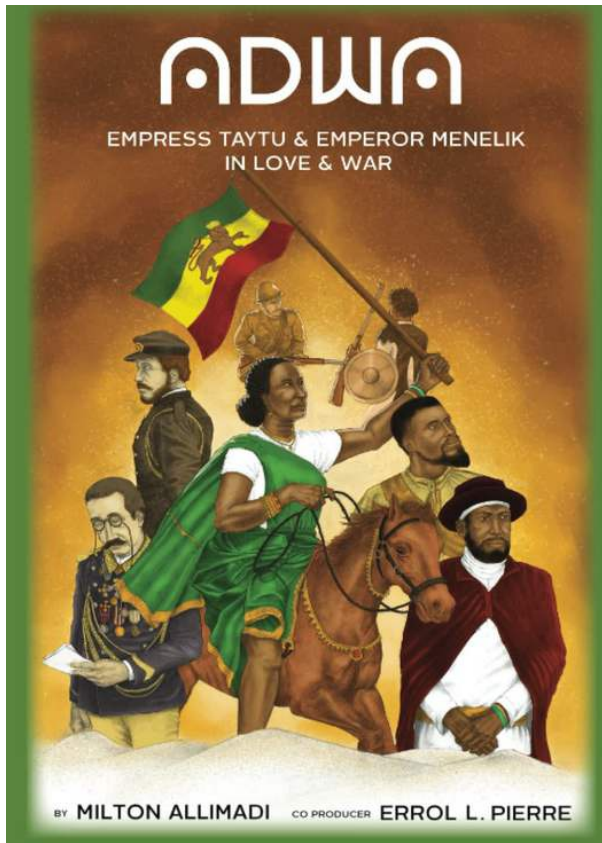


Africa News Online



Sponsor A School Garden in Jamaica





By Milton Allimadi (Author), Errol L. Pierre (Author)

How Empress Taytu and Emperor Menelik led their nation to victory and annihilated an invading Italian army at the Battle of Adwa on March 1, 1896 and secured Ethiopia's independence. Purchase Milton Allimadi's ADWA: Empress Taytu & Emperor Menelik in Love & War.

Morenga Detox

Morenga Bitters is made with Morenga leaf and other herbal extracts. It helps to purify the blood and improves general health conditions. Used for blood pressure, diabetes, acid reflux and hypertension. Improves digestion, reduces fat, and improves sexual function. Click pic for more



👊 Top 10 Black-owned Businesses in Indianapolis You Should Look At

Black-owned businesses represent cultural diversity and support for minority and discriminated groups of society. They are promoted to give their businesses a chance to feel equal and provide opportunities for their growth.

Moreover, they are not just places to dine in or shop your heart out. They preserve the culture of the black people and society, which is lost somewhere in modernity. These businesses are the go-to spots for the people living around these areas. Click to continue reading





Dr. Devon Taylor
Jamaica's Unsung Hero
Protector of Jamaica's Beaches

[Www.JABBEM.org](http://www.JABBEM.org)

It ain't easy to fly from the USA to Jamaica every couple of months to attend court in defense of Jamaican's access to their beaches. Although deserving of it, this unsung hero's title doesn't begin with "Dr. The Most Honorable" Devon Taylor nor will his image be added to the list of National Heroes but his sacrifice, in the defense of Jamaican's access to beaches, is worthy of that most sacred title.

The dictionary defines the word "Honorable" as, acting with integrity, honesty, and fairness, and to consistently uphold strong moral principles.

Honesty involves treating people with respect, keeping ones word, and standing up for what is right, even when it is difficult. An honorable person is trustworthy, reliable, and acts with transparency and a sense of what is just.

Advocating for Justice is not a work for the weak, it requires significant sacrifice with little or not hope of fortune and fame.

The Hero's Journey doesn't guarantee recognition during ones' lifetime; it is the work that was faithfully carried out despite these facts, that is the reward.

In my revealing interview with Dr Taylor, he shared his why.



Haile Selassie I JAH RasTafari church issues call for travelers to boycott Jamaica's hotels until Beach Control Act Repealed

RasTafari VIBES

Become a part of history. Tell Your Story

RasTafari Vibes is a Pan-African e-publication amplifying the voices, visions, and values of the global Rastafari movement, EWF members, and African Union Diaspora communities.

We provide timely, culturally relevant content focused on liberation education, regenerative culture, history, youth development, arts, business, spirituality, and global solidarity.

OUR AUDIENCE

We serve a diverse and growing readership from: Region Audience Reach Estimate Caribbean 300,000+ North America 250,000+ Africa (esp. Ghana, Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Africa) 200,000+ Europe (UK, France, Italy, Germany) 150,000+ Latin America 50,000+ Global Diaspora 1.2 million+ potential reach Demographics: • Ages 18–65+, culturally conscious, community-oriented • Educators, small business owners, cultural creatives, activists, students • Strong engagement with faith, sustainability, health, repatriation, and African history

“The liberation of the African mind starts with the control of African media.”
— Adapted from Walter Rodney

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- Diaspora Youth & Education (4-H, MetaVersity, Writing Workshops)
- Conscious Business & Culture
- Events, Festivals, and Cultural Diplomacy
- Holistic Health, Herbal Living & Indigenous Knowledge
- Diaspora Repatriation & Africa-Caribbean Relations

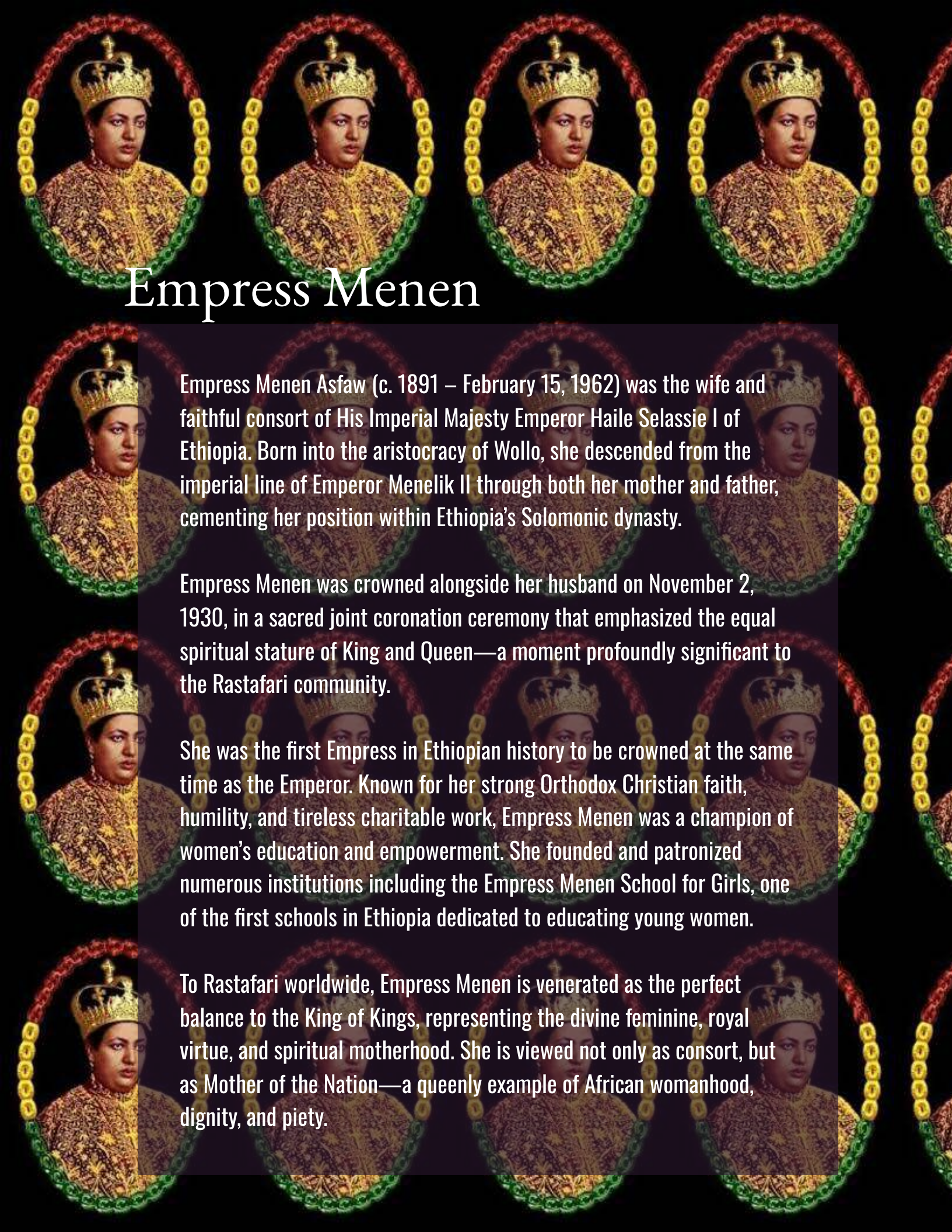
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Empress Menen

Empress Menen Asfaw (c. 1891 – February 15, 1962) was the wife and faithful consort of His Imperial Majesty Emperor Haile Selassie I of Ethiopia. Born into the aristocracy of Wollo, she descended from the imperial line of Emperor Menelik II through both her mother and father, cementing her position within Ethiopia's Solomonic dynasty.

Empress Menen was crowned alongside her husband on November 2, 1930, in a sacred joint coronation ceremony that emphasized the equal spiritual stature of King and Queen—a moment profoundly significant to the Rastafari community.

She was the first Empress in Ethiopian history to be crowned at the same time as the Emperor. Known for her strong Orthodox Christian faith, humility, and tireless charitable work, Empress Menen was a champion of women's education and empowerment. She founded and patronized numerous institutions including the Empress Menen School for Girls, one of the first schools in Ethiopia dedicated to educating young women.

To Rastafari worldwide, Empress Menen is venerated as the perfect balance to the King of Kings, representing the divine feminine, royal virtue, and spiritual motherhood. She is viewed not only as consort, but as Mother of the Nation—a queenly example of African womanhood, dignity, and piety.