

Hailemariam Desalegn Boshe

Former Prime Minister of Ethiopia



Hailemariam Desalegn Boshe was born on 19th July 1965 in Areka, Southern part of Ethiopia. Married to Roman Tesfaye, they have three daughters, Sosina, Yohana and Bitsit.

He is a politician who served as the 2nd Executive Prime Minister of Ethiopia from 2012 to 2018 for six years. He previously served as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2010 to 2012. He was appointed as Prime Minister and Chair of the ruling party EPRDF in September 2012. He also served as the Chairperson of the African Union from 2013 to 2014.

Hailemariam received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Addis Ababa University In 1988. He subsequently worked as a graduate assistant in Arba Minch University. After two years of working in this capacity, he won a scholarship to Tampere University of Technology in Finland, where he earned a master's degree in Hydraulic, Water Supply and Sanitary Engineering. Upon his return to Ethiopia, he served in different academic and administrative capacities, including the Dean of the Water Technology Institute, for 13 years. He also earned an MA in Organizational Leadership at Azusa Pacific University, California, USA.

Hailemariam served in the Government in different positions including as the President of the SNNPRS (Southern Nations and Nationalities and People's Regional State) for five years; Chairman of SEPDM; Member of the House of People's Representatives; Social Affairs and Civic Societies Mobilization & Participation Special Advisor to the PM; and Government Chief Whip, with a Ministerial portfolio.

Hailemariam is accredited for the country's continued rapid and double-digit economic growth, and for working in cooperation with neighboring countries to bring about Sustainable Economic growth and peace and security in the region of the Horn of Africa. He is very much Known for his desire to strengthen democracy in the country and for his greater belief in co-existence. The country's sustained economic growth, the implementation of Growth and Transformation Plans, the out-setting of major projects like different industrial parks for aggressive industrialization drive, Hydroelectric power Dams (including Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam), Railways, Improved urban and rural roads are among his remarkable works.

Hailemariam Desalegn resigned from being both Ethiopia's Prime minister and chairman of the country's ruling coalition to open up the country for more democratic reforms by energetic young leaders. His resignation makes him the first leader to do so in the country's history and an example for the whole Africa where it's unusual to see leaders voluntarily stepping down from power.