

# Ethiopia

**Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia/  
Ityop'iya Federalawi Demokrasiyawi Ripeblik**

**James A. Crumpacker**, Area Coordinator

**Jerry R. Richardson**, Superintendent

**Population:** 74,800,000

**Area:** 426,371 sq. mi.

**Capital:** Addis Ababa

**Languages:** Amharic, Tigrigna, Orominga, Guaragigna, Somali, Arabic, English

**Religions:** Islam, 45-50%; Ethiopia Orthodox, 35-40%; animist, 12%

**Missionaries appointed to Ethiopia:** Louis and Martha Johnson

Originally called Abyssinia, Ethiopia is sub-Saharan Africa's oldest state. Its Solomonic dynasty claims descent from King Menelik I, traditionally believed to have been the son of the queen of Sheba and King Solomon of Israel. Modern Ethiopia emerged under Emperor Menelik II in 1896. On September 12, 1974, Emperor Haile Selassie was deposed and Ethiopia was proclaimed a Socialist state. Drought and famine has marked the nation's recent history.

The reorganized church in Ethiopia has 6,000 constituents, 121 ministers, and 92 churches and preaching points.