

The Volunteer Experience: “Visit Eritrea and experience the day to day life.”

Written by NUEYS Admin

Friday, 23 August 2013 09:10 - Last Updated Friday, 23 August 2013 09:18

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Date Release, March 14 2009 By NUEYS Staff



These were the words of Abeba Michael. Abeba is a young Eritrean who lives in Sweden. Abeba spent 6 months with NUEYS working in the Foreign Affairs Department; she also spent a significant amount of her time volunteering at the orphanage in Asmara. Excerpts:

Q: Abeba, let's begin our discussion by you telling me about yourself: Where were you born, where did you grow up, and what you do in Sweden?

A: I was born in Asmara in 1988 but I moved to Sweden with my mother when I was eight months old and I have lived there ever since.

Q: Is this your first visit to Eritrea?

A: The first time I came to Eritrea was in 1992 and the second time was in 2001. I was very

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young at the time so I hardly remember any of it.

Q: Right. What do you do here now?

A: I'm working at NUEYS Foreign Affairs Department and when I am not there I am spending my time with my family and trying to get to know the country better.

Q: How do you find your voluntary work here?

A: So far it's been very good. The people at NUEYS are very nice and have made my stay there very pleasant.

Q: Do you have any message for the youth in the Diaspora?

A: When it comes to the youth that have lived most of their lives abroad, I would advise them to come to Eritrea by themselves to see and experience the day-to-day life because at the end of the day their Eritrean background is a very big part of them and something they should acknowledge and discover.