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Understanding Economics in the Context of Prosperity Concept

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Abstract

*This Article is an extract from my newly published book titled **'Ethiopia: From Revolutionary Democracy to Prosperity - The Moral and Philosophical Foundations of a Prosperous Society'**, Pages 108-111; 114. This monograph book, which is available for sale online via [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), documents the foundation of state governance, politics, economy, education and society in Ethiopia in the period between 1991 and 2020. Narratives made in the book are organized into Six (6) parts. Within the domain of the six sections, there are thirty (30) chapters structured on diverse themes: politics, economy, ideology, philosophy, lifestyle, history and education. An extract from the book, this article reflects on the economics of prosperity. Hence, the concept of prosperity defined; the essence of prosperity discussed and the theory (teachings) and practices (development policy) in the context of prosperity was also conceptualized. Summary about the book is depicted in the annex part of this article.*

Keywords: Prosperity, Wellbeing, Happiness, Ethiopia

1. What is Prosperity?

Random House dictionary defines the term prosperity as the flourishing, thriving, good fortune and successful social status². Prosperity is such a sophisticated concept that it can be said of a combined acquisition of all the essentials & characters of an elated life: *moral height, ethical standards, purpose (goal) in life, material acquisition, political stability, social cohesion & harmony, community & cultural vitality, faithfulness in practicing religions*, among others. Prosperity concept is a comprehensive look into human nurtures, both material and spiritual (non-material) fulfillments.

More often than not, prosperity is understood synonymous with wellbeing. In the economics literature, theoretical and empirical evidences on the essence of prosperity are embedded in wellbeing studies. Wellbeing is defined as when people simultaneously experience two states of emotions: the absence of the crippling elements of the human experience – depression, anxiety, anger, fear – and the presence of enabling ones – positive emotions, meaning healthy relationships, environmental mastery, engagement, and self-actualization (Seligman & Csikszentmihalyi, 2000; Seligman, 2011). Extensions to this work have focused on issues of trust within individual/community networks and on the importance of material and spiritual (emotional) capital for people.

All in all, prosperity and wellbeing are inalienable concepts for many reasons. For one, both entails on quality of life (see World Health Organization Quality of Life Group, 1995 and Diener, 2006). Moreover, as in the case of wellbeing, prosperity is determined by material and non-material factors.

² "Definition of Prosperity", Random House, Inc. 09 & Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary. February 2009.

2. The Essence of Prosperity Concept

For long, economic literature has taken for granted material fulfillments analogous to prosperity (wellbeing). However, the practical realities were in contrast to those assertions. In the major capitalist societies of the world, lust for material glory, featured by overconsumption has been a growing phenomenon while happiness level unable to keep track of material acquisition. Overconsumption means consumption level which is justified neither by biological nor by socio-economic considerations (Jackson T., 2008).

In the long term, a significant effect of overconsumption is quality of life deterioration confirmed by wellbeing paradox observed in industrialized countries. This paradox is known as *Easterlin paradox*, named after Richard Easterlin, who discovered the fact in his seminal work published in 1974 which is titled '*Does economic growth improve the human lot? Some empirical evidence from Nations and households in economic growth*'. The then Professor of economics at University of Pennsylvania, Richard Easterlin discovered that at a point in time happiness varies directly with income both among and within nations, but over time happiness does not trend upwards as income continues to grow.

According to *Esterlin Paradox* the sense of happiness doesn't rise proportionally to the increase in income. It results from the fact that beyond a certain level of welfare the further income growth generates additional nonmaterial costs like overwork, stress, permanent hurry, and lack of time to rest and to cultivate family and social relations. When an individual accepts current deficiency of life satisfaction trying to secure their own future and expecting to be happy in retirement thanks to their current sacrifice the "*Deferred Happiness Syndrome*" occurs

Generally speaking, the essence of prosperity lies in three:

The first one is that the very reality that material wealth alone doesn't justify wellness of people. Second, conventional understandings of civilization, often synonymous with material accumulation endangered sustainable society as it violates the rule of nature and harm the moral foundations of societies. Third, the past course of human action disturbed the ecological balance, risking the world of calamities of climate change.

3. Understanding Economy & Economics in the Context of Prosperity

A conventional understanding on the essence of economy entails any activity (production, consumption and exchange) involved in a monetized transaction. On the other hand, the term economy, in its conception with prosperity, is quite different. For one, the focus of economy in prosperity is not limited to material satisfaction, but also spiritual acquisition. More importantly, an economic character involves how people manage a balanced life, where their material and spiritual needs are better served.

According to James Allen (1962), in the context of prosperity, there are seven (7) types of economic resources. These are: *Money, Food, Clothing, Recreation, Rest, Time* and *Energy*. Therefore, the economics of prosperity entails maximizing wellness of people (communities) through optimal allocation on those mentioned seven (7) dimensions of resources, which can be categorized as material and non-material by their virtues.

The end up of optimization is to achieve a **mental economy** - a state of mind economic agents can focus or concentrate on meaningful activities. Accordingly, once economic agents are in such state of mind, they are able to develop the three ingredients of success in material life: free mind, vision, spiritual strength or courage (industriousness). As such, prosperous people are those whose value balancing their material and spiritual needs.

4. The Material aspects of Prosperity

The material aspect of prosperity include people`s access to quality services on basic socio-economic amenities like housing, education and health (Diener, 2006; Camfield and Skevington 2008). Material prosperity entails existence of equal opportunity and freedom of choice to enjoy from the available opportunities in the economy. An ideal economic environment which promotes collective prosperity is one which devises the necessary institutional, legal and bureaucratic system that encourages & incentivize economic agents unleash their full potentials, engage in innovative activities and help them make use of it for the benefit of the society.

The distinguishing feature of a prosperity-led system of economic governance is that it envisions a **balanced economic order**. In the context of prosperity, *balanced order* is a guiding principle in theorizing (teachings) and practicing economic science (devising development policy).

The foundation of this principle is the essential virtues of prosperity concept itself, that can be understood in both dimensions of an ideal economic system, which are **behavioral** (decision makings of economic agents) and **structural** (institutional) aspects of the economic environment.

The need for a balanced look in economic life also necessitated by the need to be pragmatic/realistic in devising economic policies and strategies, which is manifested by development policy that integrates economic theory with prevailing context in the economic environment

More specifically, the underlying issues triggering a balanced economic order stem from the goals & objectives of macroeconomic governance in the context of prosperity, which is realizing sustainable economy & society, as enlisted below:

- Serve the needs of man by virtue of its being a human
- The need to serve the basic necessities of all people irrespective of segmentations based on social class or any form of affiliations
- The need to promote economic fairness while preserving economic productivity
- Interconnectedness (system) of the economic structure
- Promoting a sustainable society which values sustainable consumption
- Help unleash the potentials of factors of production: labor, capital, land and entrepreneurship
- Promoting the innovative/creativity capacity of labor/human capital
- Promoting a vibrant/dynamic economic order rooted on the values of entrepreneurial skills and creativity of human mind

Keeping the right/appropriate balance in the economy may take different aspects of the economic order:

- Across economic activities - *production, consumption and exchange*
- Across sectors of the economy - *agriculture, trade, industry and financial sectors*
- Across ownership status of means of productions like land and capital - *private sector and public sector*

The behavior of economic agents should also adhere to principle of moderation. The pillar point in this regard is molding the behaviors of economic agents in such a way that they would take into account of (being middle way) alternatives while making decisions in their economic transactions, which consists the followings:

- Current consumption vs future consumption (saving);
- Work time vs leisure time
- Self-interest vs altruistic motives;
- Physical exertion vs mental exertions
- Material satisfaction vs spiritual (non-material) fulfillments

All in all, prosperity-led economic governance is principally designed to device the legal, institutional, policy and/or incentive system that promote decent economic standards of citizens; realize a just economic system; realize sustainable economy encouraging ecologically friendly production & consumption order.

5. Non-Material aspects of Prosperity

Some of the non-material aspects of prosperity can be ascribed (by their nature) as psychological, sociological, anthropological and political.

From psychological perspective of prosperity, referring recent developments in positive psychology, well-being of people is understood from two perspectives: hedonic wellbeing (feeling good), but also includes eudemonic wellbeing (functioning well). Hence, Wellbeing is now understood not simply as positive emotions, but, rather, as thriving across multiple domains of life (Easterlin (1974; 1995; 2013)

From sociological point of view, prosperity is defined as the bounty of social harmony. Accordingly, a less prosperous society is characterized by one where people are at risk of deprivation of, not only, material well-being, but also deprived of their social status and unable to fetch out of socio-cultural institutions. A sociological narrative of prosperity focuses on the workings of those institutions and how far people access them to serve their life in many ways.

As such, social relations among family members, friends, and neighbors are important aspects of prosperity. Moreover, socio-demographic, economic, cultural, and political factors are worth considering while conceptualizing wellbeing of people

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ANNEX: SUMMARY ON THE BOOK

Ethiopia: From Revolutionary Democracy to Prosperity

The Moral and Philosophical Foundations of a Prosperous Society

Habtamu Girma Demiessie

January 2021

ABOUT THE BOOK

This monograph book documents the foundation of state governance, politics, economy, education and society in Ethiopia in the period between 1991 and 2020. Narratives made in the book are organized into six (6) sections. Within the domain of the six sections, there are thirty (30) chapters structured on diverse themes: politics, economy, ideology, philosophy, lifestyle, history and education. A particular emphasis of narratives made in the book was inferences on essentials of state, institutions and society in Ethiopia in the past three decades since 1991.

The first part depicts on local and global contexts having great deal of importance in shaping the order of state politics and governance in Ethiopia from 1991-2018. Given economic growth and poverty alleviations were top concerns of global development discourse in the mentioned period, the importance in this regard in shaping development policy and ideological line of Ethiopian government is critically evaluated. The aim is to give fair understandings about the principles of state governance under the rule of Ethiopian People Revolutionary Democratic (EPRDF) rule. Therefore, at the heart of narratives was the concept of developmental state paradigm aligned with local and global dynamics in the spheres of politics and the economy in Ethiopia.

As a matter of fact, state governance and political leadership in Ethiopia has been greatly influenced by the late Prime Minister Meles Zenawi at least in the period under consideration. Hence, with a brief note made on the political biography of Meles, the book tries to infer on the breadth and depth of influences of the leader in defining the fabrics of Ethiopian society.

The next four parts of this book (section two-section five) made a systematic inference on political developments in Ethiopia since 2015.

The year 2015 remarks the beginning of a newer face of world where far-right political groups clinched on state and political power in some of the most powerful countries in Europe and America. Given these countries are at the helm of global leadership, the effect of political dynamics in this regard is felt all corners of the world. As one of the reflections of this change, global infrastructures – be it legal, economic, security - for collective actions and cooperation were seriously damaged.

For instance, the coming into power of Donald J. Trump in America has changed many things in the world for bad. The working principle of Donald Trump - which is *Make America Great Again* – resulted change in the U.S policy on Africa. The US vowed to control the continent which previously dominated by Chinese influence. In the preceding decades, security interest used to be the pillar of U.S foreign policy in its relation with Africa (including Ethiopia). That, however, changed as Trump entered into the White House in January 2017. In this regard, ideological and/or economic interest replaced fighting terrorism a top priority in defining the bilateral relationship between USA and Ethiopia.

Therefore, the book attempts to figure out the underlying reason behind core global incidents in the past and present that has threatened the peace, stability and survival of humanity. Doing so, it forefronts the paradox of our world today, explaining how this so dangerously getting us back to the days of first and second World Wars. The possible way out of the paradox of our world today, which is *mass confusion* was also suggested. As such, the need to appreciate time concept, proper interpretation of history and mature leadership were reflected and discussed.

From global context, the year 2015 was also a defining moment that has uprooted the conventional order in many dimensions. The year marks when United Nations (UN) general assembly approved a new development agenda in lieu of benefiting developing world, called **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. Essentially, SDG is capitalized over the preceding phase of development agenda, the **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**.

Therefore, the essential departure of global development discourse from Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was made, the focus being possible implications of this change to reshaping ideological and political foundations of state governance in Ethiopia.

For instance, as one reflections of this change, sustainability & inclusivity principles were made essential constructs of development policies. Economic policies were set to focus on realizing sustainable development. Moreover development discourses redefined to be human centered. With that, wellbeing and happiness concepts get increased acknowledgements as proper metrics of human progress over Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measure. Hence, the book examined alternative measures of progress of societies. In this regard, Gross National Happiness (GNH), Gross National Well-being, Better Life Index, SPI Social Progress Index and Prosperity Index (PI) were conceptualized, discussed and examined.

So doing, the backdrop of change in system of political and economic governances in Ethiopia in the post-2015 period is critically examined from global contexts.

As a reflection of the new political development in Ethiopia, the country redefined its national vision from **fighting poverty** to being **Africa's Beacon of Prosperity**. Indeed, understanding prosperity concept is very important to learn on the ongoing transformation in Ethiopia and map the future course of the country. As such, the book made ideological critique on the concept of prosperity. The focal point of narratives was the relevance (potency) of prosperity-led political and economic policies from perspectives of foundations and contexts of the fabrics of Ethiopian society. In this regard, the bulk of narratives questions if collective prosperity is somewhat tenable or a mere fantasy.

Moreover, the leadership personality of Abiy Ahmed Ali (PhD) was inferred from a brief sketch into the political biography of the Nobel Winning Prime Minister of Ethiopia. As a derivative of prosperity concept, the leadership philosophy of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, which is MEDEMER (Synergy), is characterized and evaluated from ideological and practical perspectives with experiences in the past three years presented to corroborate inferences.

The book further put forward on the role of education, research and development policies to achieve collective prosperity in the context of Ethiopia. In this regard, the need for reinventing higher education system for a better knowledge management is emphasized. The essence of context based development policies to achieve collective prosperity is also stated and discussed.

The last part of the book, which is Section Six, gives a methodic inquiry on how narratives on key aspects of political economy – *like history, politics, economy, education and security* - shaped the fabrics of Ethiopian society in the past and at present. As such, suggestive notes were forwarded on necessary updates over the dominant narratives to make for a better Ethiopia in the morrow. The book concludes by reflecting on the prospective face of Ethiopia emphasizing on the country's glorious past and sanguine tomorrow.

Finally, the author would like to remind readers that the essays in the book were developed at different times between February 2015 and January 2021. Therefore, while reading, it may take to align time element with the particular issue/topic of address of essays (chapters) to have proper inferences. In this regard, readers can refer the date information (stated in month & year) which is depicted under the title of each chapter.

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January 8, 2021
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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Habtamu Girma Demiessie is assistant professor of Economics at Jigjiga University, Ethiopia. An academic and a writer, Mr. Habtamu **authored 5 books and published more than 70 scholarly works**. His academic & literary works, which can be categorized as original research article, commentary, opinion or view point this part of the books, appeared on well read journals, Newsletters, print media and/or social media outlets in Ethiopia and abroad.

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SUMMARY ON SECTION ONE

THE FOUNDATION OF STATE POLITICS, ECONOMY AND SOCIETY IN ETHIOPIA (1991-2018)

The first section of the book depicts on the ideological foundations of state politics and governance in Ethiopia in the years between 1991 and 2018. The Tigray People Liberation Front (TPLF) has been maker and breaker in the politics and state governance in Ethiopia since 1991. The last three years, however, marked when TPLF experienced a steep decline in the influence curve. As a reflection of a slump in its influence, TPLF has been aggressively reacting against the central government. In the early days of November 2020, TPLF 'dared' a military setback against the Ethiopian army division in Tigray region, where TPLF holds government power.

In response, the federal government forces, in collaboration with the paramilitary and militia forces of regional states of Amhara and Afar waged massive strike against TPLF's forces. The government of Ethiopia has defined the cause of military intervention in Tigray region to '*enforce law and preserve the sovereignty of the country*'. A one month military operation is getting to its end, and TPLF big-wigs are on a run away.

As a matter of fact, TPLF has been shaping essential constructs that define discourses in Ethiopia's political playfield for the past three decades. The doctrine of TPLF political line is based on the concept of revolutionary democracy. Revolutionary democratic principles were governing the courses of politics in Ethiopia by defining some of the most important subjects of political economy like *interpretation of political history of Ethiopia on Marxian notion of class conflicts; partisan view of rights; dominance of identity politics over citizen politics; the dominance of government in the economic order*, among others.

However, there are little evidences so far to consult on revolutionary democratic directions and principles, making inferences on the issue pretty difficult. According to Habtamu (2008), *No one cannot find revolutionary democracy in any of constitutional provisions, nor can you find it across all government policy documents*.

Therefore, to have a fair fetch into the genesis, development and basic tenets of revolutionary democratic concept, it takes to apply essentials of an exploratory study. As such, the book tried to mix a host of techniques and tools as sources of information and inference.

In synthesizing narratives, the book heavily relied on information garnered from a **68 pages booklet prepared by EPRDF polit-bureau as a manual to train its top cadre and leadership in June 1993 (April 1985 E.C³)**. The booklet was an important piece to draw inference on the goals, strategies and tactics of revolutionary democracy in the realms of political, economic, bureaucratic and security governance systems. In addition, various political and policy documents issued by EPRDF and its affiliate organizations were consulted.

³ E.C refers to an abbreviation to a phrase Ethiopian Calendar. Ethiopia has its own calendar, which is different from the Gregorian calendar. The Ethiopian calendar lags seven years (eight years) compared with the Gregorian calendar. For months of the year between September and January, the lag accounts seven years in the calendar. For the rest eight months of the year (January-August), the year difference between Ethiopian calendar and Gregorian calendars is eight.

The author found out that the technique of characterization a good way of drawing inferences and/or conceptualizing ideals of revolutionary democracy. In this regard, the book investigated wider theories in the area of political economy. Related empirical studies and viewpoints articles produced by academic and researchers on Ethiopian politics, economy and state governance were also eyed.

Interviews and commentaries delivered by EPRDF officials at different times that were at the helm of top leadership in state bureaucracy are also subjected to deliberate facts and findings.

More importantly, the views of, Meles Zenawi, the late Prime Minister of Ethiopia, was worth considering both as source of information and make methodic inquiry into the very ideals of revolutionary democracy. Indeed, his role in shaping the course of political, bureaucratic and economic leadership in Ethiopia since 1991 is well understood and documented. To quote some words from Donald Yamamoto, Ambassador of U.S.A to Ethiopia from 2006-2009: “.....*To understand Prime Minister Meles Zenawi is to understand one underlying, the inviolable premise of his leadership philosophy*”. Therefore, this part of the book inferred on the leadership philosophy of Meles Zenawi with a glimpse at the political biography of the leader.

Chapters under Section One of the Book

1. The Genesis, Discourses and Development of Revolutionary Democracy in Ethiopia
2. The Basic Tenets of Revolutionary Democratic Concept
3. The Practices of Revolutionary Democracy in Ethiopia (1991-2018)
4. Understanding Meles Zenawi
5. A Critical Appraisal on Revolutionary Democratic Rule

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SUMMARY ON SECTION TWO

MASS COFUSION - THE AILMENT OF TODAY'S WORLD

Emerging realities in our world remind what has been on the eve of the two World Wars, the worst tragedies of humanity in the modern history of the world. While ideas celebrated as 'modern' and 'enlightened' not to fade again are being threatened; ideas alleged to have caused tension and havocs to prevail across the globe in the past are getting a resurrection from their grave yards. The paradox of today is nothing but the concept behind collective actions and cooperation are either fading or compromised and manipulated to serve the political or economic interests of few groups or individuals. The principle that erects institutions for global causes is eroded, questioning their role and importance for the world peace, stability and collective wellbeing. With the 'good' being portrayed as 'evil' and vice versa, our world is on the brink of 'mass confusion'.

This section of the book attempts to figure out the underlying reason behind core global incidents in the past and present that has threatened the peace, stability and survival of humanity. Doing so, it forefronts the paradox of our world today, explaining how this so dangerously getting us back to the days of first and second World Wars. The possible way out of the paradox of our world today, which is *mass confusion*, was also suggested. As such, the need to appreciate time concept, proper interpretation of history and mature leadership were reflected and discussed.

Chapters under Section Two of the Book

1. The 'Paradox' of Our Time
2. *Trumpism* Instigating Mass Confusion
3. The Fight against Mass Confusion
4. Brave is Time, Not Man'
5. How Time Concept Shapes the Decision Making Behavior of People
6. Time Concept and Shared Value System
7. Why People go 'Irrational'?: *Modeling on How People Decide*

SUMMARY ON SECTION THREE

ACHIEVING COLLECTIVE PROSPERITY: *TENABLE OR A MERE FANTASY?*

This part of the book tries to depict on the moral and/or philosophical foundations of collective prosperity, wellbeing and happiness. The principles of theoretical research govern the methods and tools of making analysis and inferences. In this regard, theories from positive psychology, behavioral & institutional economics, sociology and anthropology were consulted. Narratives start by reviewing the theoretical and empirical literature on the three interrelated concepts: prosperity, wellbeing and happiness. Doing so, narratives investigated which factors are weighing in determining prosperity at individual and collective levels. In this regard, inferences by this book shows that *natural order*, *individualism*, *voluntary simplicity* and *civilization* concepts key variables.

With the benchmark being the conventional narratives/theories, characterizations were made how those concepts appeal to pillars of prosperity concept. While making characterizations on individualism and civilization concepts, the book infers on the drawbacks of the underlying constructs of the conventional understandings. Hence, alternative definitions/perspectives were proposed (hypothesized) in line with the essential characters (virtues) of prosperity. In this regard, the book came up with concepts of individualism-proper, a theoretical contribution of this book, which redefines the concept of individualism that would better suit to ideals of prosperity. The concept of civilization is also redefined where the benchmark depicted to be willingness and ability of people/communities to understand nature and live up with natural order.

This section of the book further introduced alternative metrics of prosperity. The shared value system that would promote collective prosperity is also touched. As such, voluntary simplicity as a shared lifestyle by communities was suggested so as to realize collective wellbeing and happiness. The book concluded by framing the foundations of a prosperous society depicting philosophical lines, moral standards and/or principles that keeps harmony of relationships at all levels and in all departments of life.

Chapters under Section Three of the Book

1. The Essence of Prosperity
2. The Basic Tenets of Prosperity
3. Can We Measure Prosperity?
4. The Moral and Philosophical Foundations of a Prosperous Society
5. Voluntary Simplicity – *Shared Lifestyle Cherished in a Prosperous Society*
6. The Fabrics of Prosperous Society

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SUMMARY ON SECTION FOUR

THE ROLE OF EDUCATION, ACADEMIA & RESEARCH REGIME IN PROMOTING COLLECTIVE PROSPERITY

This part of the book addresses on the role of education, research and development policy to achieve collective prosperity and happiness in the context of Ethiopia. The epicenter of narratives and inferences in this regard focus on the importance of education, research and policy regimes in realizing ***Ethiopia`s national vision of becoming Africa`s beacon of prosperity*** in the coming decade or so.

Chapters under Section Four of the Book

1. The Essentials Values of Higher Education System
2. Redefining Education and Research Endeavors to Make for a Prosperous Ethiopia
3. A Better way for Knowledge Management in Ethiopia`s Higher Education System
4. Development Theory and Practice for a Prosperous Ethiopia: *Why Context Matter*

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SUMMARY ON SECTION FIVE

ETHIOPIA UNDER THE RULE OF ABIY AHMED ALI (PHD): *CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS*

Ethiopia is undertaking massive political transformation with the coming to power of its Nobel peace prize winning Prime Minister, Dr. Abiy Ahmed Ali. The political transformation in Ethiopia is powered by a new leadership philosophy, MEDEMER (Synergy). The new leadership principle is a significant departure from revolutionary democratic concept, the rule of the game in Ethiopian political, economic and socio-cultural scene since 1991. With the new political reform in Ethiopia is a change in the vision of the country from fighting poverty to realizing prosperity. With political development in the country is also a change in the discourses on key elements of political economy like history, national unity, political governance, societal relationships were also changed.

This section of the book examines the backdrops of a new leadership philosophy by the new leader of Ethiopia, Dr. Abiy Ahmed Ali. The concept of prosperity is discussed; the essence of MEDEMER to realize the vision of Dr. Abiy's governance to make Ethiopia *Africa's beacon of prosperity* is also examined. Narratives also evaluated the importance of local and global contexts in achieving prosperous Ethiopia. More importantly, the leadership personality and political biography of Dr. Abiy Ahmed is sketched.

Chapters under Section Five of the Book

1. Don't Look at Abiy; Look at where Abiy is Looking
2. Abiy Ahmed: From Messiah to Captor?
3. The Tale of Two Political Personalities: Lidetu Ayalew versus Abiy Ahmed

SUMMARY ON SECTION SIX

THE WAY FORWARD FOR A PROSPEROUS ETHIOPIA

Under the Sixth section of book, suggestive note on the future of Ethiopian society forwarded. Hence, a methodic inquiry made on how narratives on key aspects of political economy – *like history, politics, economy, education and security* - shaped the fabrics of Ethiopian society in the past and at present. As such, the necessary updates over the dominant narratives so as to realize a prosperous Ethiopia recommended. The book concludes by reflecting on the prospective face of Ethiopia with due emphasis given to the country's glorious past as a springboard for a sanguine tomorrow.

Chapters under Section Six of the Book

1. Teddy Afro – More than a Singer
2. How Better Ethiopians Interpret their History : *Past through Window of Present*
3. Ethiopians are Victims of their Own Elites
4. The End of TPLF Rule Hopes the Resurrection of Ethiopian Values
5. Embracing Integrity - A Better Way for Ethiopians to Achieve Collective Prosperity