

# Courageousness vs. Greediness

When we went to war with Italy there was reasons of greed and courage to fight for which is right. This shows Ethiopians pride and devotion to their country.

The main goals for Italy's invasions was to get land for unemployed Italians and get more mineral resources since they were greatly affected by the Great Depression. Also the Treaty of Wuchale had some flaws that the other countries recognized before the war. When they attacked Abyssinia they were unsuccessful at the Battle of Adowa in 1896. The Italians pride was destroyed since they never expected to be defeated by a "backward army" that Abyssinia had. Finally, the Italians remained in Eritrea but Eritrea was not happy that Menelik didn't push the Italians out of their country for good. But after this devastating war, Italian politicians were hard at work to be friends with Abyssinia. Then Mussolini finally got a treaty of friendship for Italy by Haile Selassie in 1928. But little did Haile Selassie know that they were planning an invasion in Abyssinia. Then in December of 1934 Mussolini accused Abyssinia of aggression at an oasis called Wal Wal. Mussolini sent his troops in Somaliland and Eritrea to attack Abyssinia. Then a year later in October the Italian Army invaded Abyssinia!!! The Abyssinian Army couldn't defeat the Italian Army since their weapons were WW1 style not WW2. For the first time, Italy used mustard gas and armored vehicles. Then Addis Ababa, Abyssinia fell to the Italians in May 1936. Next Haile Selassie was removed from the throne and the King of Italy, Victor Emmanuel took power. Then Italy made Somaliland, Eritrea, and Abyssinia unite under the name Italian East Africa. Then Haile Selassie made an impacting speech to the League of Nations in Geneva that we Ethiopians needed international aid. We won't forget Joe Robinson who did help us fight the war against Fascist Italy with the help of the Ethiopian Air Force. Then on June 11, 1936 Graziani replaced Badoglio who commanded forces in the war. Still Ethiopia was resistance to these changes. The Committee of Unity and Collaboration tried to assassinate Graziani which didn't work out but the colonial authorities executed 30,000 young, educated people of Ethiopia. Finally Rome appointed a new governor with more flexible ideas. The Italians sided with the non-Christian Oromo, Somali, and other Muslims wanted to isolate Amhara (people who supported Haile Selassie). Then a revolt broke out in Gojam, involving the young educated people who tried to assassinate Graziani. So the British and Selassie reached an agreement to cooperate with them instead of Italy. So the indigenous people and the resistance army worked with the British in their headquarters and established a plan with Selassie under control. Finally, we kicked Italy out for good in May 5, 1941.

We Ethiopians are poor, but we are smart, self-confident, love our country and resilient to Ethiopian enemies.

From Summra Akale, 7th grader Loganville, GA