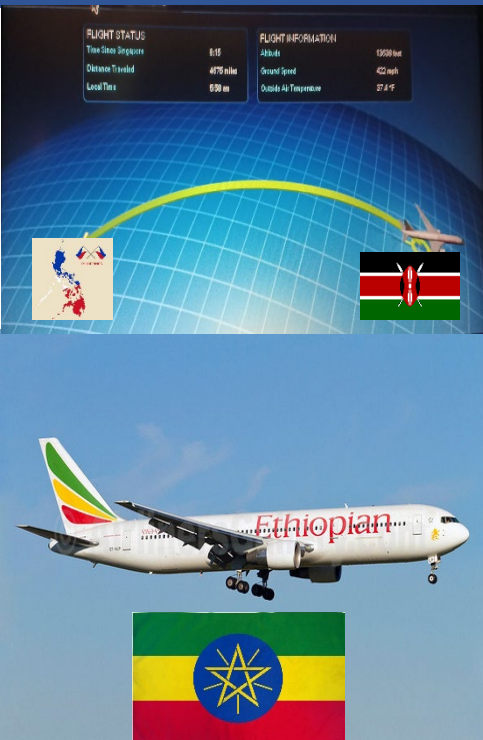




TEAM EAST AFRICA

THE MEJIAS



THE TRANSITIONS

Today, February 8, 2024, marks 1 month of transitions in many areas of our lives. We arrived here in Thika, Kenya on January 8. Our TCM Int'l Director, Ben Anderson, and a few others picked us up in Nairobi International Airport. We are experiencing transitions from Asian culture to East African Culture. At the airport alone, we felt that we are different in many ways: looks, language, and others. In our first week in Kenya, we experienced jet lag from almost 35 hours of travel from the Philippines. For a week, our body clocks were confused. We slept at 9PM, then woke up at 1 or 2AM. Philippine time zone is 5 hours ahead of Kenya. Another transition is living with the locals. While walking across the street from our apartment to the Bible school, some Kenyans identify us as "Chinese". Our experience with the local Kenyan Grace believers was fascinating. The way they worship God is very different from the Philippines. However, with all these new things for us, God is showing His abounding grace, provision and love. We are truly in the Mission Field now. We trust God that He is going to enable us in all necessary adjustments. We, the Mejias, are thankful to everyone who continuously prays and supports us. Your prayers and generosity make our transitions bearable and beneficial to our family and ministry.

SURVEY TRIP

On January 18, 2024, the Survey Team, led by TCM Int'l. Dir. Ben Anderson, with Robert Heath, Peter Kagwi & Reagan, flew to Ethiopia for a week of meetings with our local contacts; Mr. & Mrs. Fikresilase Bogale. They met us at Bole International Airport with yellow roses that represent blessings & success in our trip. During our survey, we have seen many things in Ethiopia. We experienced the country's national religious holiday called **Epiphany** where there were literally thousands of people in procession. For us to understand more about the country; we went to the city library, museum, parks, and the Evangelical Council of Ethiopia to know about the process needed for my family's visas. We praise God for the positive response of the Council. We also checked some language schools and even grocery stores to see some goods & its prices. During our group devotion, the team made a final assessment of our survey trip. It was a **green light** from God for TCM-Ethiopia to be established in the country.



The Target Country: Ethiopia

Population: 126, 223 million

Major Religions:

1. Orthodox Christian: 51 million
2. Islam (Muslims): 41 million
3. Evangelicals: 21 million

National Language: Amharic አማርኛ

Location: East Africa

Land Area: 1.1 million sq kms

Climate: An average of 21-22 degree centigrade (50 degree Fahrenheit)

Currency: Ethiopian Birr
(1 Birr is almost equal to 1 Peso)

Calendar: Ethiopia follows Julian Calendar which consist of 12 months 30 days each, and 13 month of 5 days. (Seven years and 8 months behind Western Gregorian Calendar)

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. The Mejias' successful six months orientation in Kenya
2. Our missionary visas to Ethiopia
3. Wisdom in learning Amharic Ethiopian language
4. Family's good health
5. Strength in coping with Ethiopian culture & provisions for the expensive Ethiopian cost of living.

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