

2013-01-15

Fråga-svar

Eritrea, Etiopien. Skolgång

Fråga

Inkom 2012-12-18

1. Vilken årskurs börjar de skolan i Eritrea?
2. Hur lång är en årskurs?
3. Kan man som 15-åring börja skolan från början?
4. Kan man kallas till militärtjänstgöringen på grund av att man ej klarar en årskurs?
5. Kan man gå skola i Etiopien utan tillstånd?

Svar

Eritrea

1. Utbildning är officiellt obligatorisk för barn mellan sju och 13 år.
2. Grundskoleutbildning börjar vid sju års ålder och varar i fem år.
3. Gymnasieutbildning, med början vid 12 års ålder, varar i upp till sex år, varav en första cykel på två år och en andra på fyra år.
4. Elever som nått det sista året av gymnasiet krävs närvara i årskurs 12 på militärt och pedagogiskt läger. Studenter som inte närvarat detta sista år har inte fått examen och inte kunnat delta i prov som leder till högre utbildning.
Enligt uppgift finns även läger för elever som "inte är så smarta".
Om det visar sig att en elev inte kommer att ta examen på gymnasiet kan myndigheten skicka eleven till annat militärt läger innan avslutad gymnasieutbildning.

Storbritannien. Home Office, *Country of Origin Information Report*.
Eritrea, 2011-08-17:

[sid. 39]

"9.18 The British Embassy in Asmara, in a letter dated 1 April 2010, provided the following information, obtained from Eritrean sources: "Officially, the Eritrean Ministry of Defence runs the military/national service programme. However, in practice other ministries are involved in the assignment of people to national service positions in ministerial dependencies...when students finish school in the Sawa military/school camp, they are automatically assigned to either military service, another type of national service or further education, and are given the relevant documents to that effect at that time. Other Eritreans are forcefully brought into military/national service as a result of round-ups or house searches. Military service or national service call-up documents are not issued to these individuals and they are not informed in advance that they have to undergo military/national service...in principle, individuals have no choice about their military/national service assignment though some may be able to influence where (e.g Asmara). Individuals are generally arbitrarily transferred by their commanders or supervising officers. There are no standard rules with regard to such transfers." [10a. Foreign and Commonwealth Office (United Kingdom) www.fco.gov.uk a Letter dated 1 April 2010, from the British Embassy in Asmara, about national service and exit from Eritrea]"

[sid. 95]

"22.15 Europa World Plus, undated, accessed on 4 February 2011, stated that:
"Education is provided free of charge in government schools and at the University of Asmara. There are also some fee-paying private schools. Education is officially compulsory for children between seven and 13 years of age. Primary education begins at the age of seven and lasts for five years. Secondary education, beginning at 12 years of age, lasts for up to six years, comprising a first cycle of two years and a second of four years." [24. Europa World Plus <http://www.europaworld.com/pub/>
Eritrea section (subscription access only) Copyright Routledge 2003-2010 Date accessed 4 February 2011]

US Department of State, *2010 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices*
- *Eritrea*, 2011-04-08:

sid. 18

"During the year there have been reports that schools have separated students whose families include liberation "fighters" and students whose families do not include "fighters." Students whose families include liberation fighters are sometimes only required to serve five months or less in the military and are often assigned to prized

places in technical colleges, freeing them of indefinite military service. Students whose families do not include a liberation fighter often serve indefinite military service with no opportunity for higher education.”

Sid. 27

“The government required all students who reached the final year of secondary school to attend grade 12 at the Sawa military and educational camp in the western section of the country. Students who did not attend this final year did not graduate and could not take examinations that determined eligibility for advanced education. The remote location of this military boarding school, security concerns, fear of abuse, and societal attitudes reportedly resulted in many female students not enrolling for their final year and attempting to leave the country. However, women could earn an alternative secondary school certificate by attending night school after completing national service. Many students elected to repeat grades or dropped out of high school after the 11th grade to avoid forced conscription into the Sawa military education. There were reports of discrimination between students whose parents were liberation fighters and students whose parents were not fighters in the form of better living accommodations, shorter terms of national service, more frequent approvals for temporary leave from military training, and greater opportunities for study.”

sid. 29

“...Students at Sawa were typically 18 years old or older, although a fair percentage were as young as 16 years old. The initial three months of school were spent undergoing military training. Students who received poor grades in high school had, in the past, been sent to the Wi'a Military Camp in lieu of being allowed to complete the academic year.

The law prohibits the recruitment of children under the age of 18 years into the armed forces; however, in practice children under the age of 18 were conscripted by their forced attendance at Sawa. It was not known if rebel groups within the country recruited soldiers under the age of 18.”

International Crisis Group (ICG), *Eritrea. The Siege State*, 2010-09-21:

sid. 10

The indefinite nature of the Warsai Yikalo campaign has crushed morale, especially among the young. Sawa and everything it represents have come to be loathed by successive generations of school-leavers, for whom there are no opportunities for advancement, only the prospect of indefinite assignment to military duty. The resulting militarisation, moreover, reflects and in turn reinforces the frequently disastrous conviction that all the nation's problems have a military solution. EPLF/PFDJ members dominate state institutions. From the early 1990s, all the main ministries – defence, interior,

education, health, labour – have been headed by leading ex-fighters. Many of the lower rungs in the administrative structure have likewise been occupied by tegadelay.⁵⁴"

sid. 15

"One of the main causes of this crisis is a disastrous tertiary education policy. In recent years, the government has effectively closed the University of Asmara and replaced it with colleges outside the capital that are run in the fashion of military camps.¹³²"

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"...The party has also become involved in political education, to expand the ranks of its cadres. The PFDJrun "cadre school" in Nafka is one of the institutions that has largely replaced conventional higher education.¹³³"

Awate.com, *Education not Incarceration: Build Schools not Prisons*, 2010-06-04:

"With the moving of the final year of all high schools to Sawa (military training grounds) in 2003, the closure of the University of Asmara in 2006, and the Nazi'esque crackdown on academic freedom, the right to education has never been so absent from Eritrean life."

Human Rights Watch (HRW), *Service for Life. State Repression and Indefinite Conscription in Eritrea*, 2009-04-16:

Sid. 3

"...Since 2003 all secondary school students must complete their final 12th grade year inside Sawa military camp, effectively starting their military training."

Sid. 50

"Conscription from school

The preferred method of the Eritrean government is to conscript students into national service straight from school, unless they are continuing higher education. To this end, the final year of secondary school was moved to Sawa military camp in 2003. This 12th grade takes place only in Sawa, under military authority, and incorporating military training.

Although many 12th grade students are 18 years old, or less, some are older because they take longer to finish high school.¹⁸⁹ Each round or intake of students incorporates 8,000 to 9,000 students.¹⁹⁰ Once they are in the camp, however, military service effectively starts then and there. A teacher whose national service involved teaching in Sawa told Human Rights Watch, "The students could not study. They were always being forced to leave the class for some kind of military service."¹⁹¹ A former student said he did not even enter 12th grade but was ordered straight into national service in July 2007 even though he was less than 18 years old.¹⁹²

National service is deeply unpopular, especially because new recruits know that there is no prospect of it ending. Students have started escaping from Sawa camp during their 12th grade year without completing school.¹⁹³ Escape is no mean feat, because, as described above, Sawa is in effect a huge prison. Those who made it described braving machine gun fire, barbed wire fences, and several days of walking through the desert without food and water.¹⁹⁴ Some students, aware of their fate once they reach 12th grade have begun to deliberately fail classes so that they can remain in the lower grades.¹⁹⁵ Government awareness of this practice has been to simply pull anyone of military age—18 and above—out of school altogether, even though it is normal for some students to take extra years to finish school because they are poor or work on family farms. Several students described being taken to a military camp under false pretences.¹⁹⁶

Sid. 51

“Wi’a is reportedly the camp where the “not so clever” students go. If it appears that a student will not graduate high school anyway, then the government will send him to Wi’a even before he has finished. One former student who was sent to Sawa explained, “In school, if you are absent more than two weeks, you get sent to Wi’a—for whatever reason.

Sawa is supposed to be for educated people. If you get kicked out of school, you are not fit for education anyway, so you go to Wi’a.””

Sid. 56

“It is not just conscripts who are providing cheap labor for the benefit of military leaders. Prisoners are regularly employed and school children are made to work during their school holidays. The national program for school children is called Mahtot. For two months during the break, children in 9th grade and above must report to work camps where they, “plant trees, clean houses, pick cotton and help with other agricultural projects,” in the words of one student.²²⁶ Normally the children stay in schools in the area. During the two months their compensation is 150 Nakfa (\$9) for their family; the fee is euphemistically called “soap money.”²²⁷”

UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC), *Consideration of reports submitted by states parties under article 44 of the convention : Concluding observations: Eritrea*, 2008-06-23:

sid. 8

"Torture and degrading treatment

40. The Committee is seriously concerned over the information that children, including those in high schools, are victims of torture, cruel and degrading treatment by the police and military. In particular, the Committee expresses concern at information indicating detentions and ill-treatment directed against children who seek to avoid military service."

Etiopien

5. Flyktingar i flyktingläger har fått tillgång till skolgång och hälsovård. För dem utanför lägren har inga rapporter om diskriminering kunnat beläggas. Tillstånd till högskolor och medicinsk behandling har getts till eritreanska flyktingar.

International Organization for Migration (IOM), *Country Fact Sheet Ethiopia*, 2012-06-01:

sid. 19

"However, according to the new education system, pre-school covers three years education, primary grade covers grades 1-8 in two cycles. The first cycle covers grade 1 to 4 and the second cycle covers grade 5 to 8. And secondary grade covers grades 9 – 10, 11-12 (Preparatory) and 10+1 and 10+2 Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET)."

sid. 20

"9.1.1 Types of schools

Besides the Governmental Schools in Ethiopia, which are operated by Regional Education Offices, Ministries of Education, Public Health, Agriculture, Transport and Communications, Universities and Colleges etc., there is also a number of Non-Governmental Schools like Private Schools, Religious Missions Schools, Orthodox Church Schools, Foreign Communities Schools and different Organizations Schools:..."

sid. 21

"Despite the fact that some Non-governmental Organizations have set up vocational training centers, it is possible to suggest that their impact in upgrading sustainable lives of the beneficiaries was minimal because of their limited capacity and concentration on training fields that are highly saturated and competitive."

"9.3 Foreign Diplomas and needed Documents for Returning Students

9.3. Primary and Secondary Students:

- a transcript and a letter from the school the student was attending

9.3.2 University or College Students:

- a letter of enrolment from the institute they were attending
- a transcript and list of courses already taken during the course of enrolment at the university or college in the host country
- an official recognition of the Degree or Diploma by the Ministry of Education of the host country as well as by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- an Authentication of official recognition of the Degree or Diploma by the Ministry of Education in Ethiopia

- Foreign students must provide the academic certificates required by the institution concerned....
- The Higher Education Department may grant equivalence to other secondary school-leaving certificates in individual cases. All foreign students must cover their living expenses.
- Entry regulations: Visas; financial guarantee. In addition, all foreign students, including ECOWAS citizens, are required to secure resident permits for the period of their stay.
- Health requirements: Students must present a health certificate.
- Language requirements: Students must be proficient in English at TOEFL level."

US Department of State, *2011 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices*
- *Ethiopia*, 2012-05-24:

Sid. 25

"Some college students reportedly were pressured to pledge allegiance to the EPRDF to secure enrollment in universities or postgraduation government jobs.

According to multiple credible sources, teachers and high school students in grade 10 and above were required to attend training at their schools on the subject of revolutionary democracy and EPRDF policies on economic development, land, and education. After the training attendees reportedly were routinely provided with EPRDF membership forms; as a result, some students were under the impression that they needed EPRDF membership to gain admission to university in the future."

Sid. 31

"In August the government announced an out-of-camp policy for Eritrean refugees, a change to its previous requirement that all refugees remain in designated camps, most of which were located near the borders with Eritrea, Somalia, and Sudan, unless granted permission to live elsewhere in the country. Prior to this new policy, such permission was given primarily to attend higher education institutions, undergo medical treatment, or avoid security threats at the camps. The policy permitted Eritrean refugees to live outside the three camps located in the north of the country. The policy provided more freedom of movement to Eritrean refugees and eased the burden of providing services within the camps. ..."

sid. 45

"...As a policy primary education was universal, tuition-free, and compulsory; however, there were not enough schools to accommodate the country's youth, particularly in rural areas. The cost of school supplies was prohibitive for many families, and there was no legislation to enforce compulsory primary education."



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Källförteckning

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