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LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Communicated to the  
Council and Members  
of the League.

C.452.M.268.1936.VII

Geneva, October 23rd, 1936.

TELEGRAM FROM H.M. HAILE SELASSIE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

London, October 22nd, 1936.

Request you to convey the following to the States Members of the League of Nations: With reference to our communication regarding the admission of the Ethiopian delegation the public authorities whom we have empowered to administer the Empire of Ethiopia in our absence have telegraphed to us the following appeal for communication to the League of Nations: "We have received Your Majesty's telegram of September 26th. It is perfectly true that the Imperial Government remains sovereign throughout Western Ethiopia, where it is at present discharging its duties peaceably with diligence, supported by the strength inspired by its complete confidence in the League of Nations. We learn, however, that Italy, our aggressor, has sworn to terrorise and pitilessly exterminate the Ethiopian people through the strength of her air force, and to wipe out the Western Government. Large forces of troops are also on the march. Without resources and without sufficient arms we cannot maintain our resistance. Is a peaceful people which loves its independence and has placed its whole trust in the League of Nations to be abandoned to its aggressor and to be exterminated by poison gas and bombs? The blood of this terrorised people calls out for justice to the Almighty and to the League of Nations and are confident that its cry will be heard. We earnestly beg Your Majesty to ask the League of Nations to consider the cause of Ethiopia urgently in a spirit of justice and to grant her its aid. We implore Your Majesty to renew your appeals to the League.

Gambela, October 16th, 1936, BITWODED WOLDE SADIK.  
RAS IMRU."

HAILE SELASSIE I,  
Emperor.

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## Selassie at Geneva

By MARCUS B. CHRISTIAN

THEY could have stayed the iron hand of Might  
And fought for right, down to the earth's last man;  
But louder voices brayed into the night,  
So jackals ended what the League began.  
Now suave-voiced diplomats drone on and on;  
Geneva's air is rife with fear and hate;  
While at the council-table fights alone  
The fallen Emperor of a member State.

Pile lies on wrong, and ring the curtain down  
Upon the closing scene of this last act;  
The King of Kings now yields his ancient crown  
To those who signed the Non-Aggression Pact,  
As weaker nations vanish one by one....  
Blow, bugles! Armageddon has begun!

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### Haile Selassie I and the League of Nations

**Top: Emperor of Ethiopia, Haile Selassie I, Addresses the League, 1936**

Geneva, Switzerland: International News Photo

**Bottom left: Telegram from H.M. Haile Selassie to the Secretary-General of the League of Nations (October 23, 1936)**

Geneva, Switzerland

**Bottom right: Selassie at Geneva by Marcus B. Christian (Opportunity Magazine, July 1938)**

New York, NY