

# Data set: historical and ethno-linguistic maps covering Western Tigray (1607-2014)

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Ortelius & Vrients, 1608 (various editions, Mercator, Huygen, Ortelius, Hondius, Bertius, 1596-1637)

Very poor locational accuracy; see relative position of Chilcut, Tigre-mahon, Bagamidri. Note also the erroneous mapping of Blue Nile and Atbara that were assumed to meet again upstream, creating the “Island of Meroé” which persisted in maps for a century. Same geography was used in numerous maps at the time. Such maps with poor accuracy were not used in the meta-analysis (see Table 1).

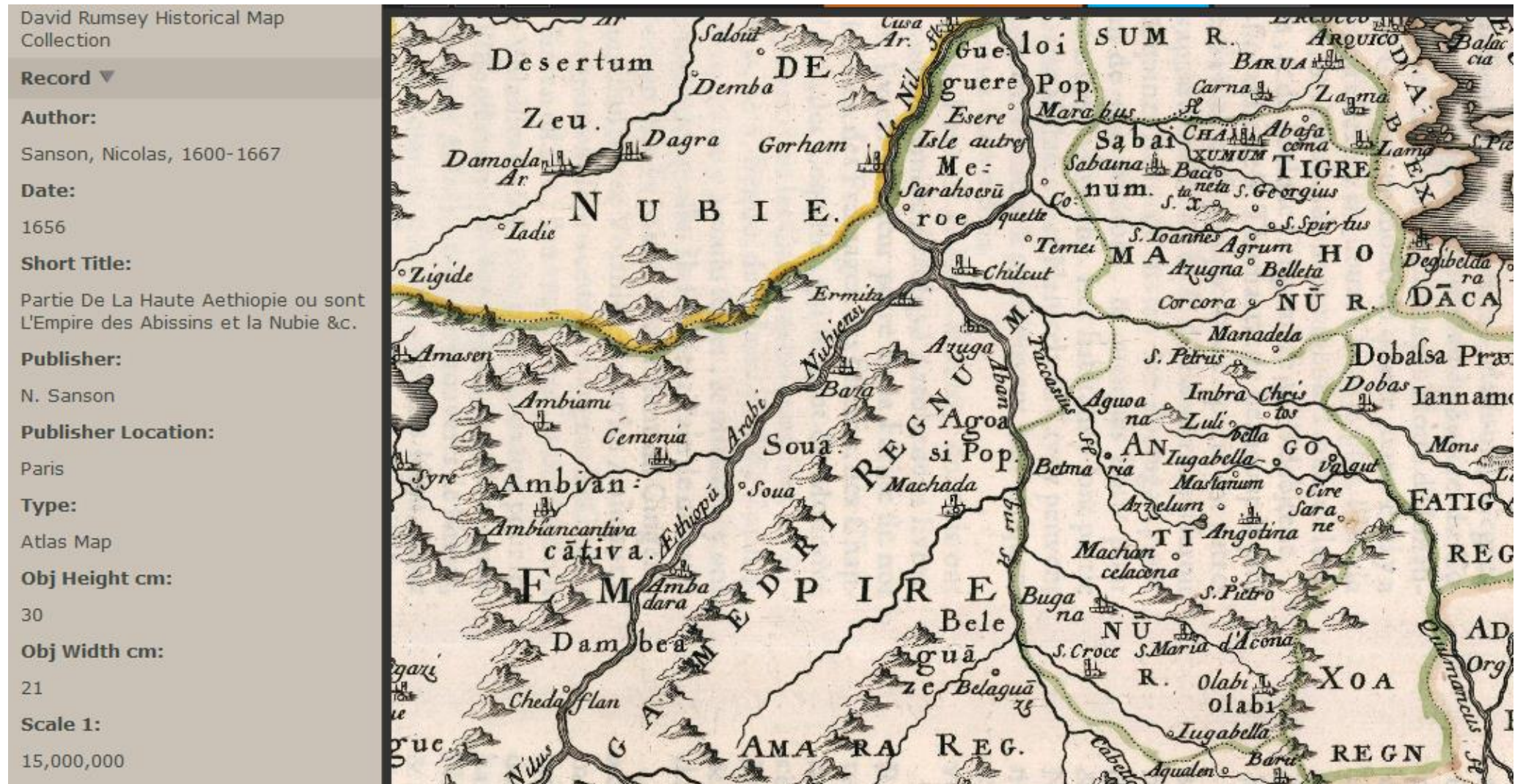


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~275785~90048763:-125--Abissinorum->



Sanson, 1656

Mercator's map, with boundaries drawn; large Begemedri Regnum, up to Meroe; small Tigre Mahonur. Same important locational inaccuracy as the previous maps; note the large Meroe island (which is in reality a large peninsula between rivers (1))



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~294868~90065866:Partie-De-La-Haute-Aethiopie-ou-son>



## Boisseau &amp; Jollain, 1659

Many locational inaccuracies (see Amasen, Syre); boundaries not drawn.

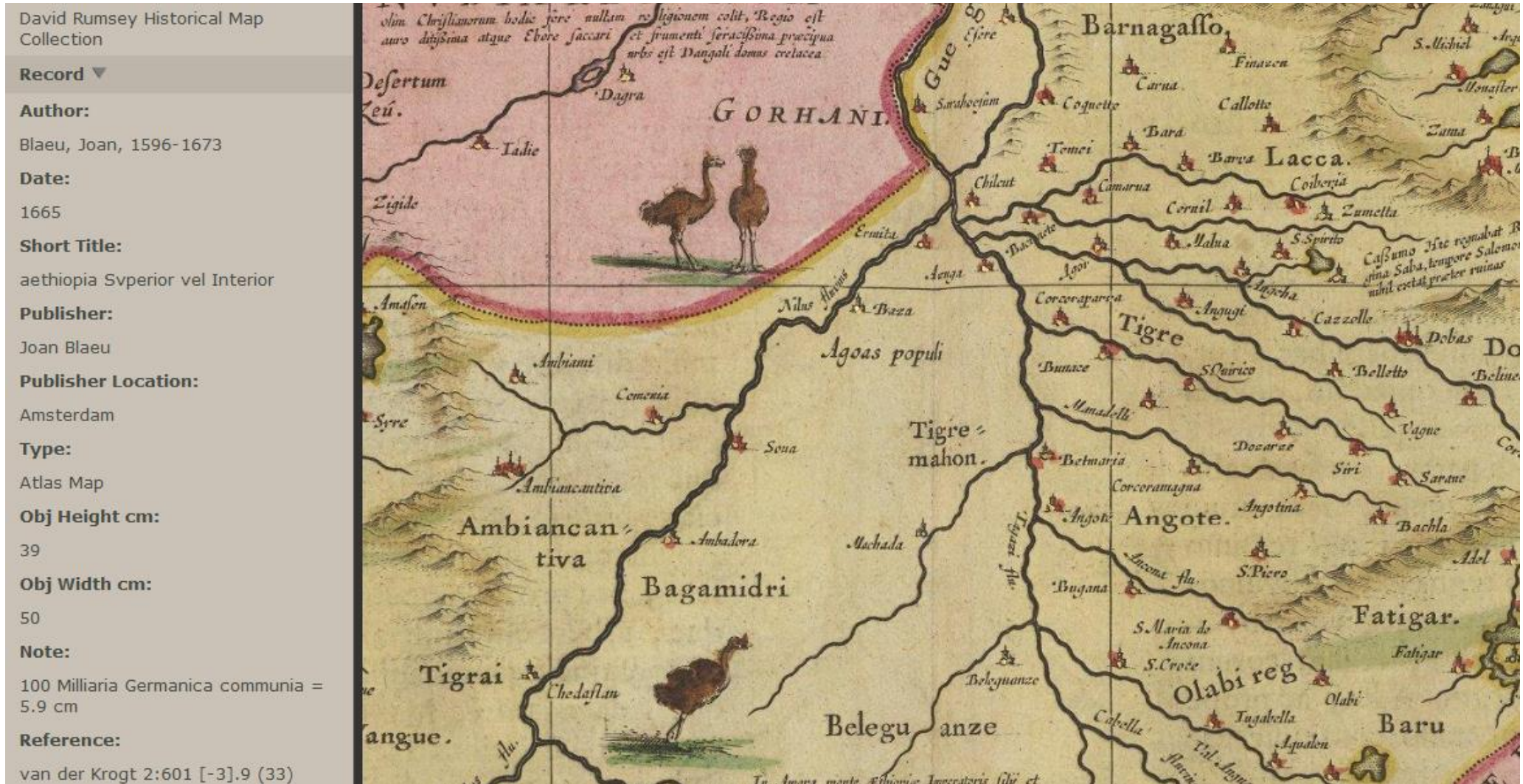


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~305808~90076154:Le-Royaume-Abyssin->



## Blaeu, 1665.

Largely based on Ortelius. Very poor locational accuracy; see relative position of Tigre, Chilcut, Tigre-mahon, Bagamidri. West of Bagamidri there is a non-identified "Tigrai".



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~282839~90054346:aethiopia-Ssuperior-vel->



## Morden & Cockerill, 1680

Numerous locational inaccuracies; internal boundaries not drawn.

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

### Record ▼

#### Author:

Morden, Robert, approximately  
1650-1703

#### Author:

Cockerill, Thomas, active 1674-1702

#### Date:

1680

#### Short Title:

(Ethiopia) Text: Of Æthiopia.

#### Publisher:

Atlas in Cornhill

#### Publisher Location:

London

#### Type:

Text Page

#### Type:

Atlas Map

#### Obj Height cm:

20

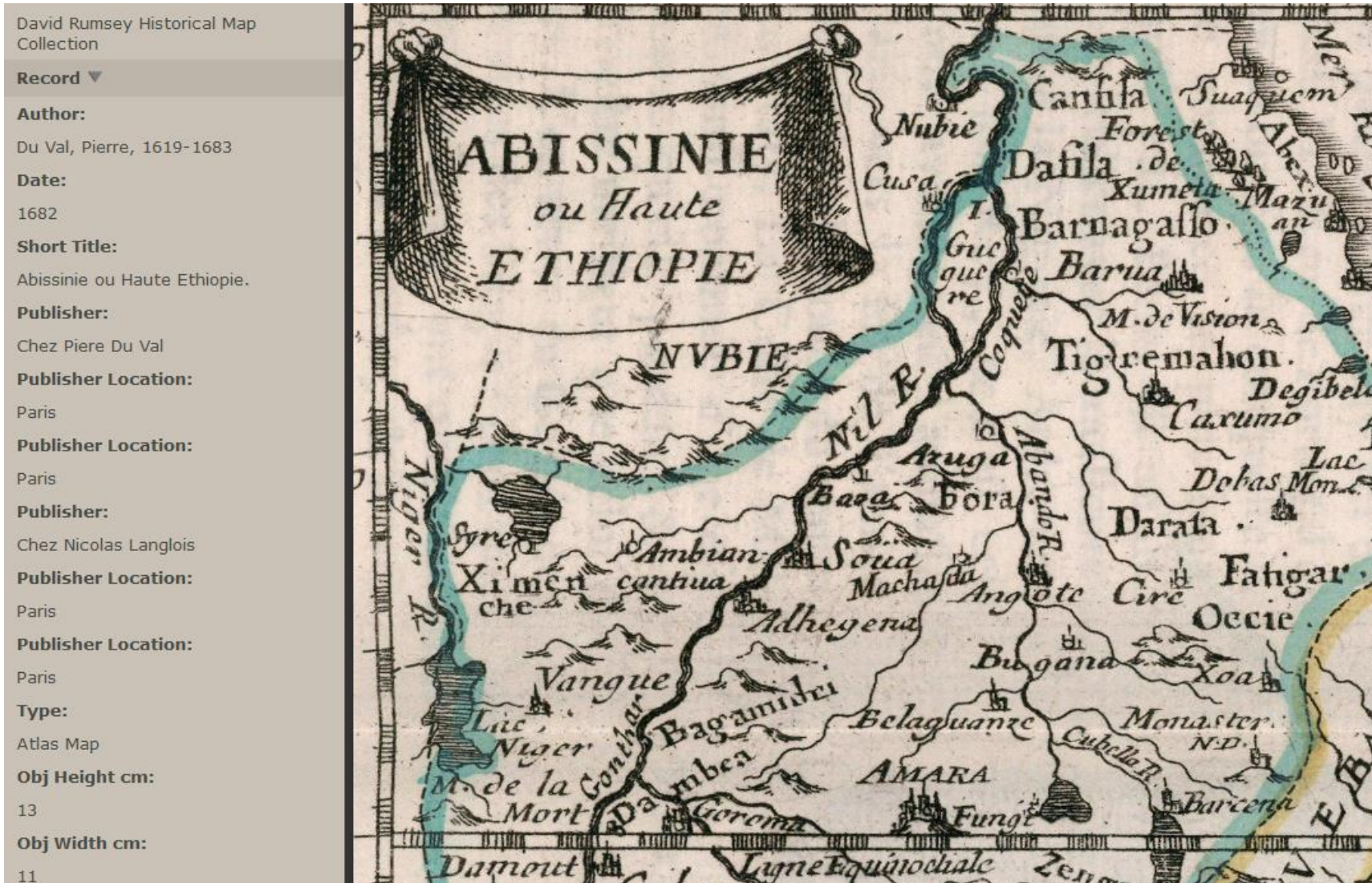


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~335450~90103132:-Ethiopia--Text--Of-%C3%86thiopia->



## Du Val, 1682

Numerous locational inaccuracies; internal boundaries not drawn.






<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~315847~90084676:Abissinie-ou-Haute-Ethiopie->



Ludolf & Gorgoryos, 1683

Besides Bagemder and Tigre, there are separate Midra Bahr and Semen (including Walkajit).

Title	lobi Ludolfi, Habessinia seu Abassia, presbyteri lohannis regio
Description	lobi Ludolfi, Habessinia seu Abassia, presbyteri lohannis regio perperam dicta ad exemplum tab. chorographicae P. Balth. Tellezii quanta fieri potuit diligentia formata correctis multis nominibus male scriptis; plurimisque locis passim insertis ex Gregorii Habess. fida relatione, illorum situ non ubique aequo certo / Christianus Ludolfus J. filius delineavit ex autographo parentis, anno Christi 1683
Date	between circa 1683 and circa 1690
Source	<a href="#">10.3931/e-rara-13437</a>  : Info: <a href="#">Kartenportal.CH</a> 
Creator	Hiob Ludolf (1624-1704) Christian Ludolf Pieter Schenk Gerard Valck
Permission (Reusing this file)	<div><div><div><b>BASEL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY</b></div></div><div><p>This image is from the collection of the <a href="#">Basel University Library</a> and has been published on <a href="#">Wikimedia Commons</a> as part of a cooperation with <a href="#">Wikimedia CH</a>.</p> <b>WIKIMEDIA CH</b></div></div>



[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/59/UBBasel\\_Map\\_1683-1690\\_Kartenslg\\_Mappe\\_252-62\\_Habessinia\\_seu\\_Abassia.tiff](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/59/UBBasel_Map_1683-1690_Kartenslg_Mappe_252-62_Habessinia_seu_Abassia.tiff)

[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=22](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=22)



## Manesson-Mallet, 1683 (similar in 1685)

Quite good relative position of hydrography. Size of lettering tends to indicate hierarchy in territorial control. "Tigre" spans Tacaze R. and includes "Samen" (smaller lettering).



### Title

Empire des Abyssins.

### Creator

Manesson-Mallet, Allain, 1630?-1706?

### Place of Publication

France

### Date

1685

### Coverage-Spatial

Africa, Eastern

### Type

Cartographic material

### Dimensions

14.7 x 10.3 cm.

<https://digital.library.illinois.edu/items/573c6910-e947-0133-1d3d-0050569601ca-1#>

<https://www.biblio.com/book/empire-abyssins-mallet-allain-manesson/d/1342920520>



## Coronelli, 1695 (also 1692 and 1693)

Borders of Kingdoms of Tigre and Bagemeder and surrounding princedoms, including Walkajit; without hierarchy. Tigre Regno extends southwest of Tekeze.

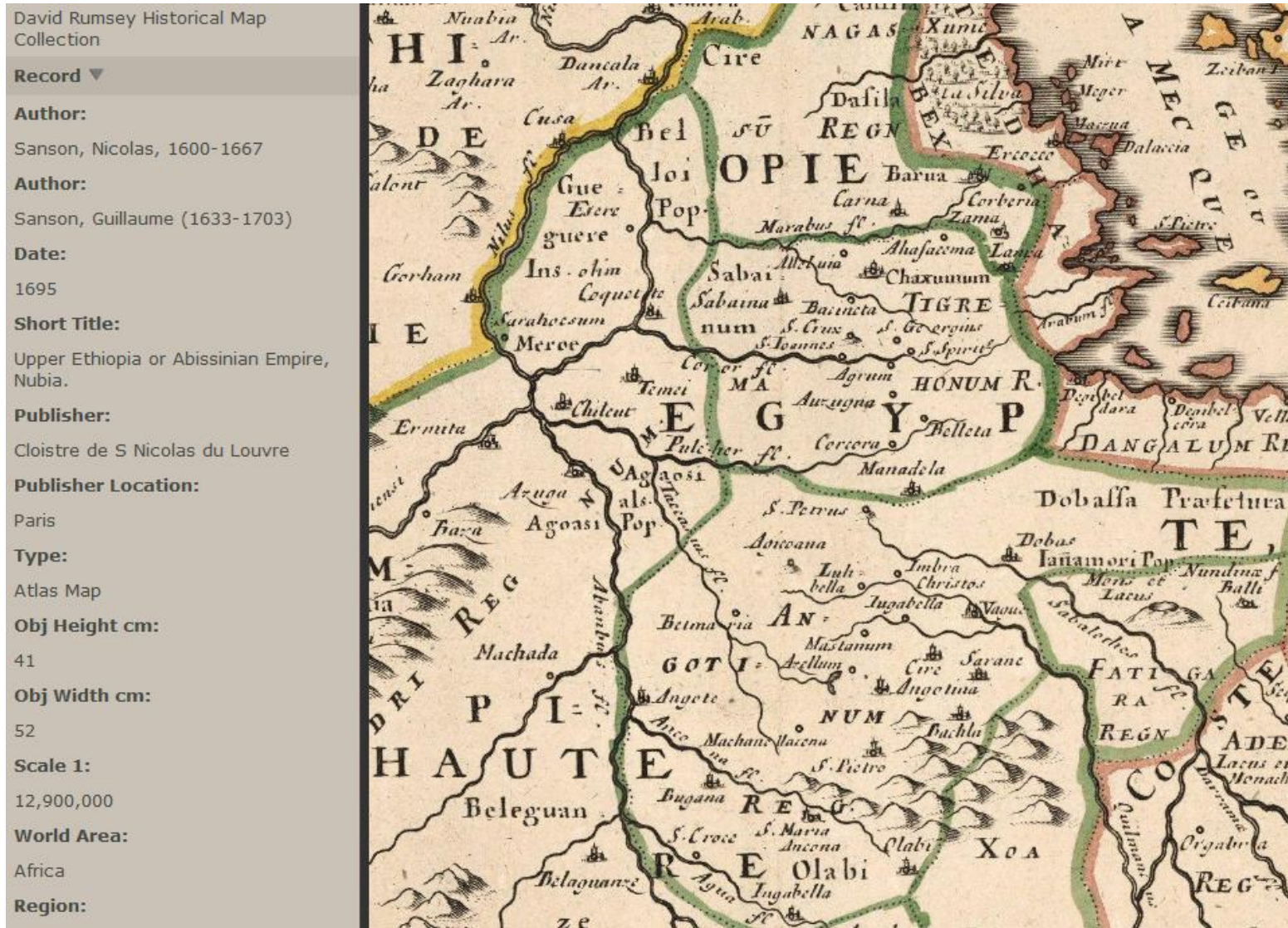


Part of a larger work called Atlante Veneto. <https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~283026~90055440:53--Abissinia-https://www.raremaps.com/gallery/detail/68133/atlane-veneto-coronelli>



## Sanson & Sanson, 1695

Very poor locational accuracy; the “Island of Meroë” is again represented.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~280886~90053724:Upper-Ethiopia-or-Abissinian-Empire>



## de L'Isle, 1707

Border is drawn well south of Simien Mts; Olcait in “Royaume de Tigre”.



### MAP

### Map of Egypt, Nubia, Abyssinia, etc..

Carte de l'Egypte, de la Nubie, de l'Abissinie &c.

French cartographer Guillaume de L'Isle (1675-1726) was admitted into the Royal Academy of Sciences when he was 27 years old and subsequently became the first person to receive the title Premier Géographe du Roi (principal geographer to the king). He was one of the most important cartographers of the early 18th century and a major figure in making Paris a center of cartographic science....

**Contributor:** L'isle, Guillaume De - Desrosiers, Active



**Date:** 1707

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2021668731/>

Lobo & de Almeida, 1707

Many of Ortelius' elements still present; strong distortion of the projection in the eastern part.



Date	1707
Source	<a href="#">African Studies Centre Leiden</a>  
	Library African Studies Centre, Leiden (the Netherlands)
Author	Jeronimo Lobo (1595–1678), Manuel de Almeida (1580–

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Africa\\_1707\\_Lobo.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Africa_1707_Lobo.jpg)

[catalogue.leidenuniv.nl](https://catalogue.leidenuniv.nl) University Library, Closed Stack 5, 1392 H 6



## Chatelain & Gueudeville, 1719

Clear boundary, to the south of the Simien Mts.

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

Record ▾

Author:

Chatelain Henri, 1684-1743

Author:

Gueudeville, Nicolas

Date:

1719

Short Title:

Tome VI. No. 3. Pag. 7. Carte  
Particuliere de L'Egypte

Publisher:

L'Honore & Chatelai

Publisher Location:

Amsterdam

Publisher:

Freres Chatelain

Publisher Location:

Amsterdam

Type:

Atlas Map

Obj Height cm:

45

Obj Width cm:

57

Scale 1:

11,700,000



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~324696~90093924:Tome-VI--No--3--Pag--7--Carte-Parti>



## Bowen, 1747

With internal borders. “Kingdom of Tigra” extends well south of Tekeze; Olcait part of “Kingdom of Tigra”.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~2593~280009:Nubia-&-Abissinia->

[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=39](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=39)



## de Vaugondy, 1749

"Roy<sup>e</sup> de Tigre" (Kingdom of Tigray) expanding widely on both sides of Tekeze River. The river is named Atbara on the map, but topology and location of place names Siri and Axom indicate that this is the Tekeze River. Southern border of Tigray is near to Gondar.



**Hope** COLLEGE

### Nubie, Abissinie, et Cote d' Ajan

#### ARTIST

Gilles Robert de Vaugondy (French, 1688 – 1766)

#### DATE

1749

#### MEDIUM

hand-colored engraving on laid paper

#### DIMENSIONS

Plate : 7 x 7 5/8 in. (17.78 x 19.37 cm)

Sheet : 8 1/2 x 11 in. (21.59 x 27.94 cm)

#### CREDIT LINE

Gift of Neal and Elizabeth Sobania

<https://providence.hope.edu/index.php/Detail/objects/5536>



## Bonne, 1782

Boundary Tigré/ Dembea-Bagameder runs well south of Tekeze; Tselga = Aykel as border town. Similar map in 1780, but without borders.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~20493~540091:Nubie,-Abissinie->



## Pitteri, 1784

Tigre border with Guender and Bagameder outlined; all are part of Abissinia. Border well south of Simien.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~295461~90066605:La-Nubia-ed-Abissinia>



## Bruce, 1790

Separate territorial units Tigre, Begemder, Waldubba, Walcalt...



## Exploring historical maps of the Horn of Africa

Home Maps Help

Chart of the Arabian Gulf... (James Bruce - 1790)



[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=51](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=51)



Dunn, 1794 (similar in 1786)

Borders of Tigr in line with de l'Isle. "Oscait" part of Tigre



## A map of Abyssinia and Nubia

TYPE OF RESOURCE  
cartographic

GENRE  
Maps

DATE CREATED  
1786

DIVISION  
Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division

AUTHOR  
Dunn, Samuel, d. 1794

PUBLISHER  
Sayer, Robert, 1725-1794

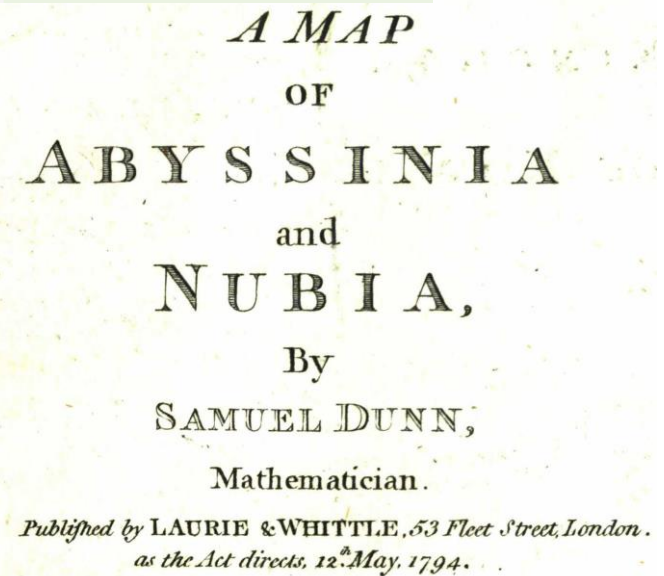
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IMAGE ID  
5207430

PERMALINK  
<https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/1dd15940-857d-0132-6513-58d385a7b928>

[Copy](#)



<https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/1dd15940-857d-0132-6513-58d385a7b928>



## Cassini, 1798

Tigre border with Guender and Bagameder outlined, south of Semen; all are part of Abissinia.

David Rumsey Historical Map Collection

Record ▾

Author:

Cassini, Gio. Ma. (Giovanni Maria),  
1745-approximately 1824

Date:

1798

Short Title:

(17) La Nubia ed Abissinia.

Publisher:

Calcogr. Camerale

Publisher Location:

Rome

Type:

Atlas Map

Obj Height cm:

35

Obj Width cm:

48

Scale 1:

7,000,000

Note:

Relief shown pictorially. Includes decorative title cartouche and bar scale. In Volume III.

Country:

Nubia

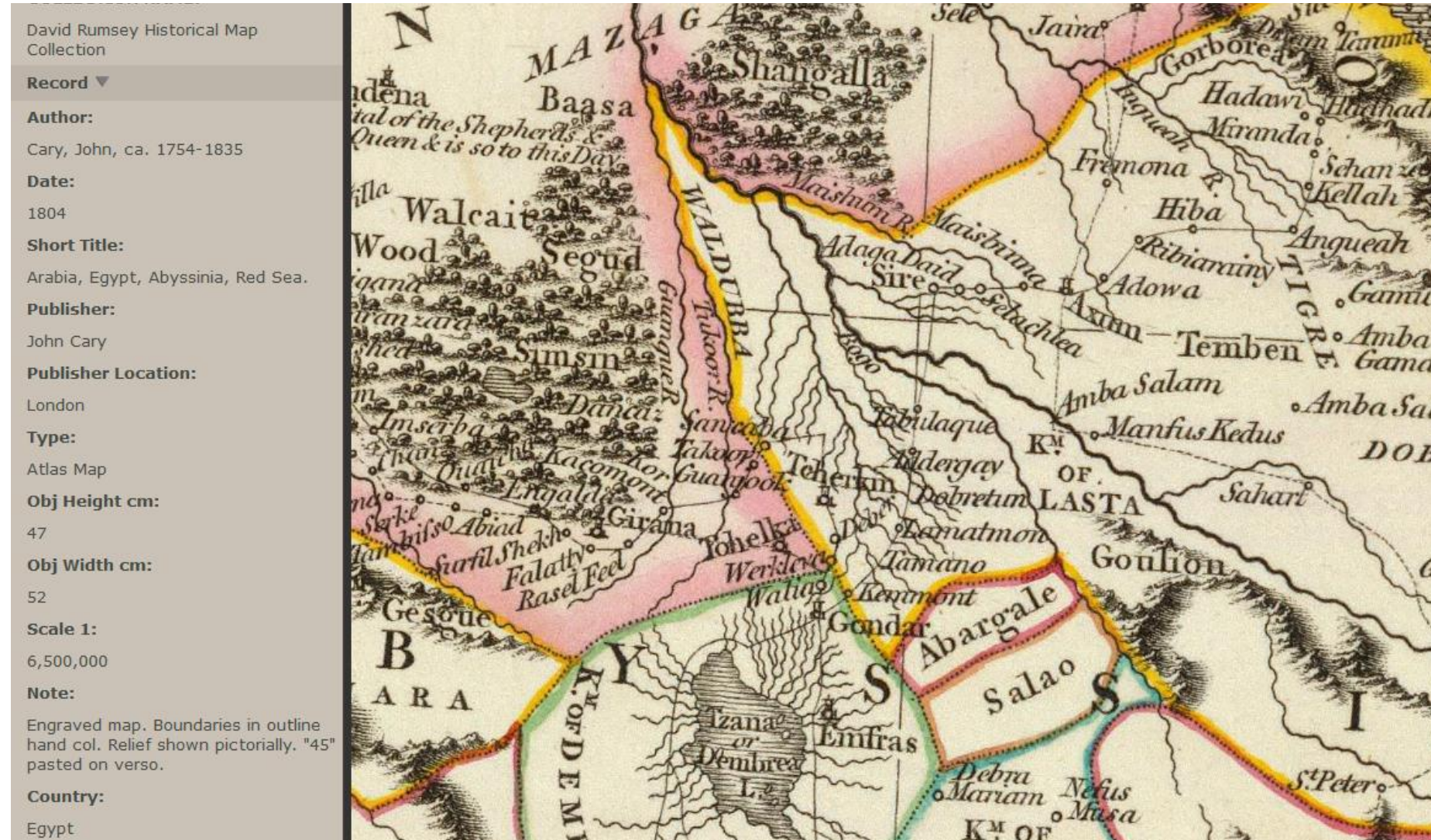


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~325604~90094516:-17--La-Nubia-ed-Abissinia->



## Cary 1804

Border is south of Simien; Walcalt part of Mazaga.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~21540~640032:Arabia,-Egypt,-Abyssinia,-Red-Sea->



## Pinkerton, 1814

No territorial hierarchy shown. Three intermediate pryncdoms are mapped between Tigre and Begemder; Walcail not part of Abyssinia.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~3834~370026:Abyssinia,-Nubia-&c->



## Salt, 1814

Large Dembea; Large Tigre (including Simien, Waldubba); Walkayt separate.



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Map of Abyssinia and the Adjacent Districts (Henry Salt - 1814)



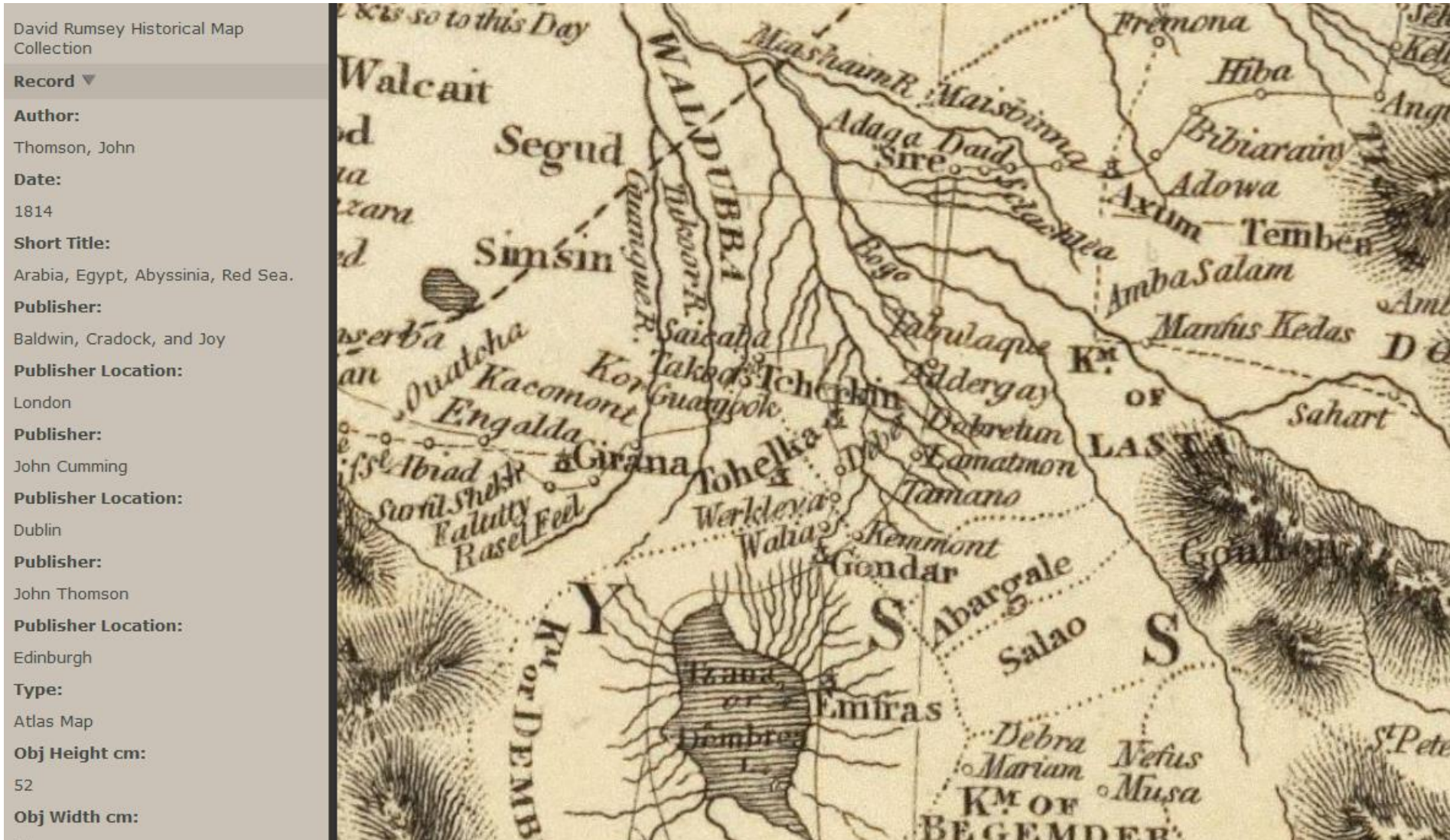
[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=23](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=23)

DATA SET: HISTORICAL AND ETHNO-LINGUISTIC MAPS COVERING WESTERN TIGRAY - 27



## Thomson, 1814

Numerous internal boundaries without hierarchy; Walcalt part of Mazaga.

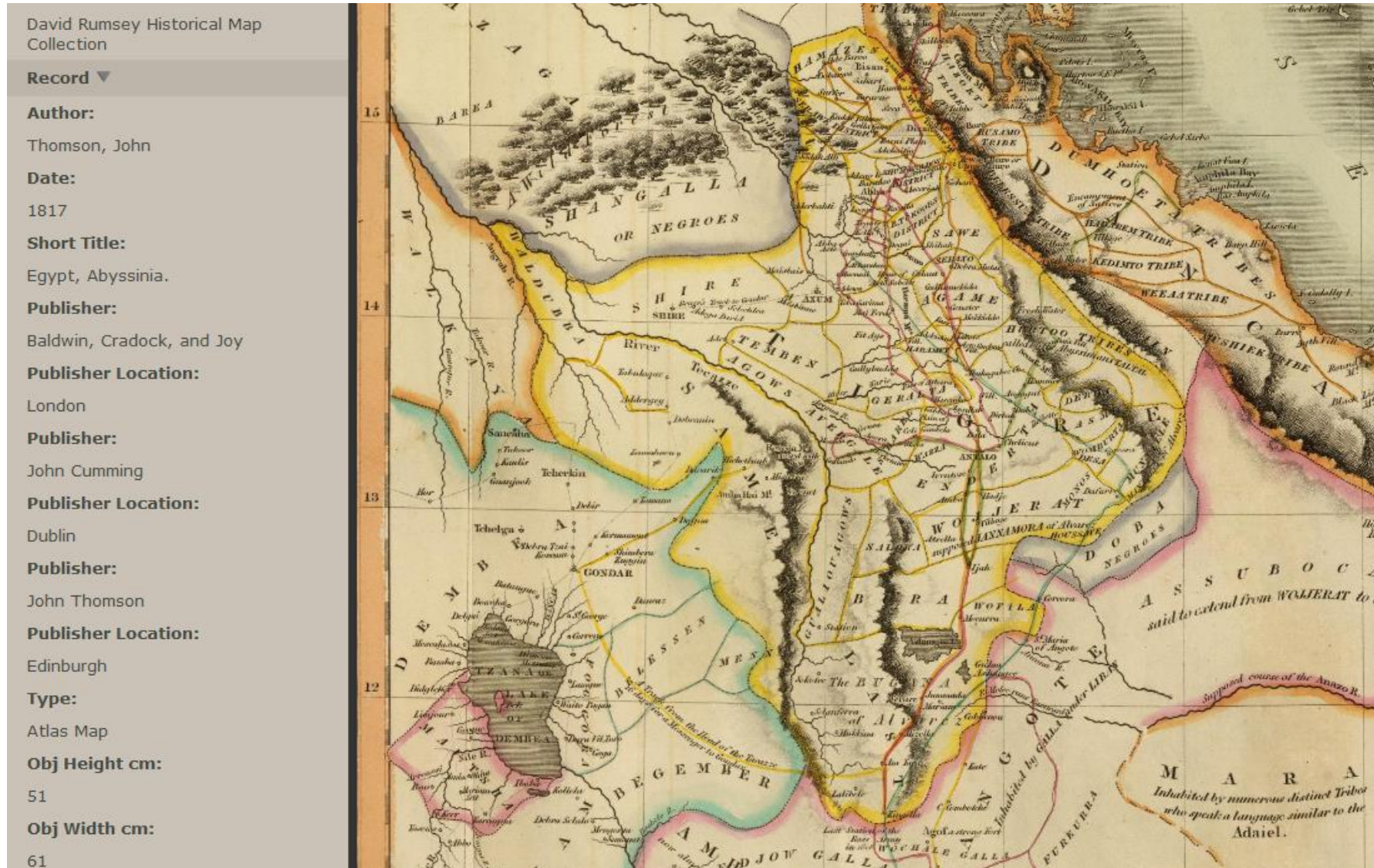


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~28370~1120799:Arabia,-Egypt,-Abyssinia,-Red-Sea->



## Thomson, 1817

Clear delimitation of Dembea, Walkaya and Tigre, which extends west of Tekeze River.

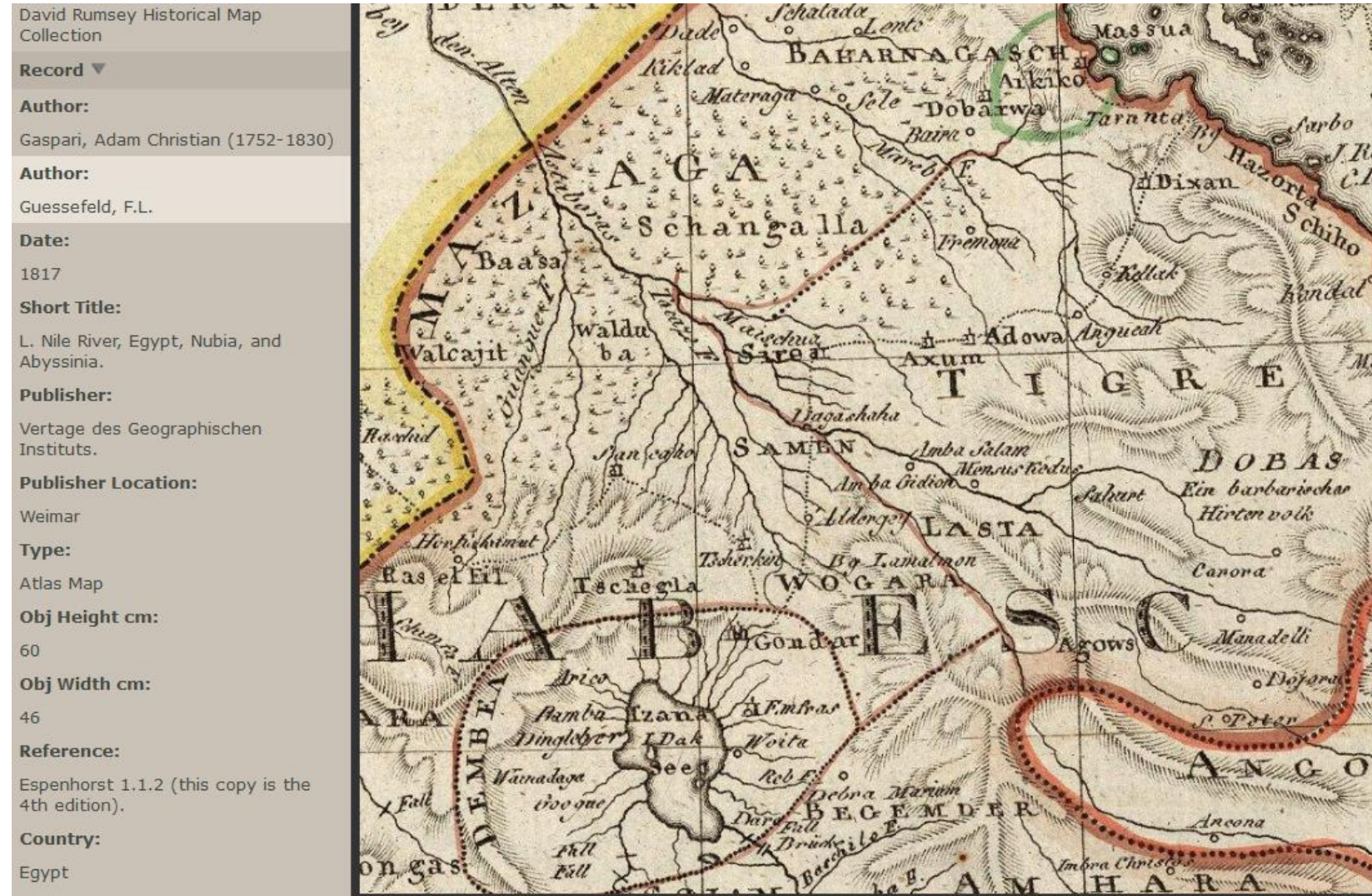


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~28373~1120802:Egypt,-Abyssinia->



## Gaspari & Guessefeld, 1817

Large territories between Tigre and Begemder, including Walcajt.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~276124~90049316:L--Nile-River,-Egypt,-Nubia,-and-Ab>



## Borghi, 1818

Abyssinia, without internal boundaries.

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

### Record ▼

#### Author:

Borghi, Bartolomeo, 1750-1821

#### Date:

1818

#### Short Title:

Supplemento alle Carte d'Asia ed  
Africa cioè l'Arabia la Nubia l'Abyssinia.

#### Publisher:

Nella Stamperia Granducale

#### Publisher Location:

Florence

#### Type:

Atlas Map

#### Obj Height cm:

22

#### Obj Width cm:

29

#### Note:

Engraved political map of  
northeastern Africa (including the  
region of Nubia and Abyssinia  
[present-day Ethiopia]) and the  
Arabian Peninsula, with hand-colored  
outlines delineating boundaries. Title



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~339860~90108067:Supplemento-alle-Carte-d-Asia-ed-Af>



Arrowsmith, 1825

Internal borders without hierarchy.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~233965~5509786:Abyssinia>



## Vandermaelen, 1827

Numerous names of "princdoms", no Tigray or Amhara, no boundaries.

David Rumsey Historical Map Collection

Record ▼

**Author:**

Vandermaelen, Philippe, 1795-1869

**Date:**

1827

**Short Title:**

Sennaar. Afrique 25.

**Publisher:**

Ph. Vandermaelen

**Publisher Location:**

Bruxelles

**Type:**

Atlas Map

**Obj Height cm:**

48

**Obj Width cm:**

62

**Scale 1:**

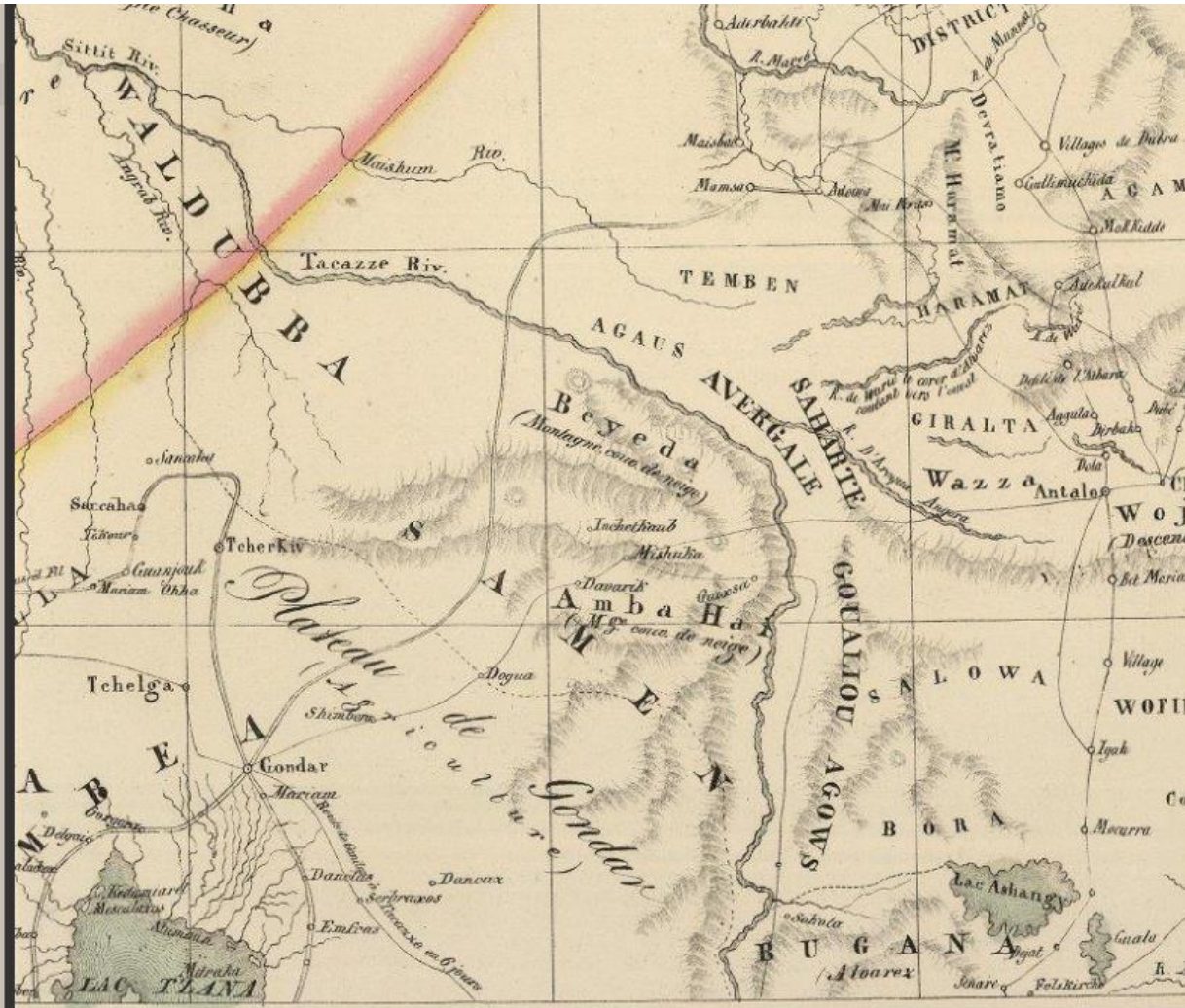
1,641,836

**Note:**

Hand col. lithographed map. Relief shown by pictorially; depths by soundings. Prime meridian: Paris. Covers parts of Sudan, Ethiopia and Eritrea.

**Country:**

Ethiopia



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~25205~90090253:Sennaar--Afrique-25->



## Brue, 1828

Dotted lines representing borders, across the Simien crestline

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

Record ▼

Author:

Brue, Adrien Hubert, 1786-1832

Date:

1828

Short Title:

Afrique, septentrionale.

Publisher:

A. Brue

Publisher Location:

Paris

Type:

Atlas Map

Obj Height cm:

37

Obj Width cm:

54

Scale 1:

15,000,000

Note:

Hand colored engraved map. Relief



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~33953~1170106:Afrique,-septentrionale->



Hall, 1830 (similar in 1828)

No internal borders

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

Record ▼

Author:

Hall, S. (Sidney)

Date:

1830

Short Title:

Nubia, Abyssinia.

Publisher:

Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown and  
Green

Publisher Location:

London

Type:

Atlas Map

Obj Height cm:

53

Obj Width cm:

51

Scale 1:

5,100,000

Note:

Engraved map. Boundaries hand col.  
Relief shown by hachures. Also  
numbered XXXIX.

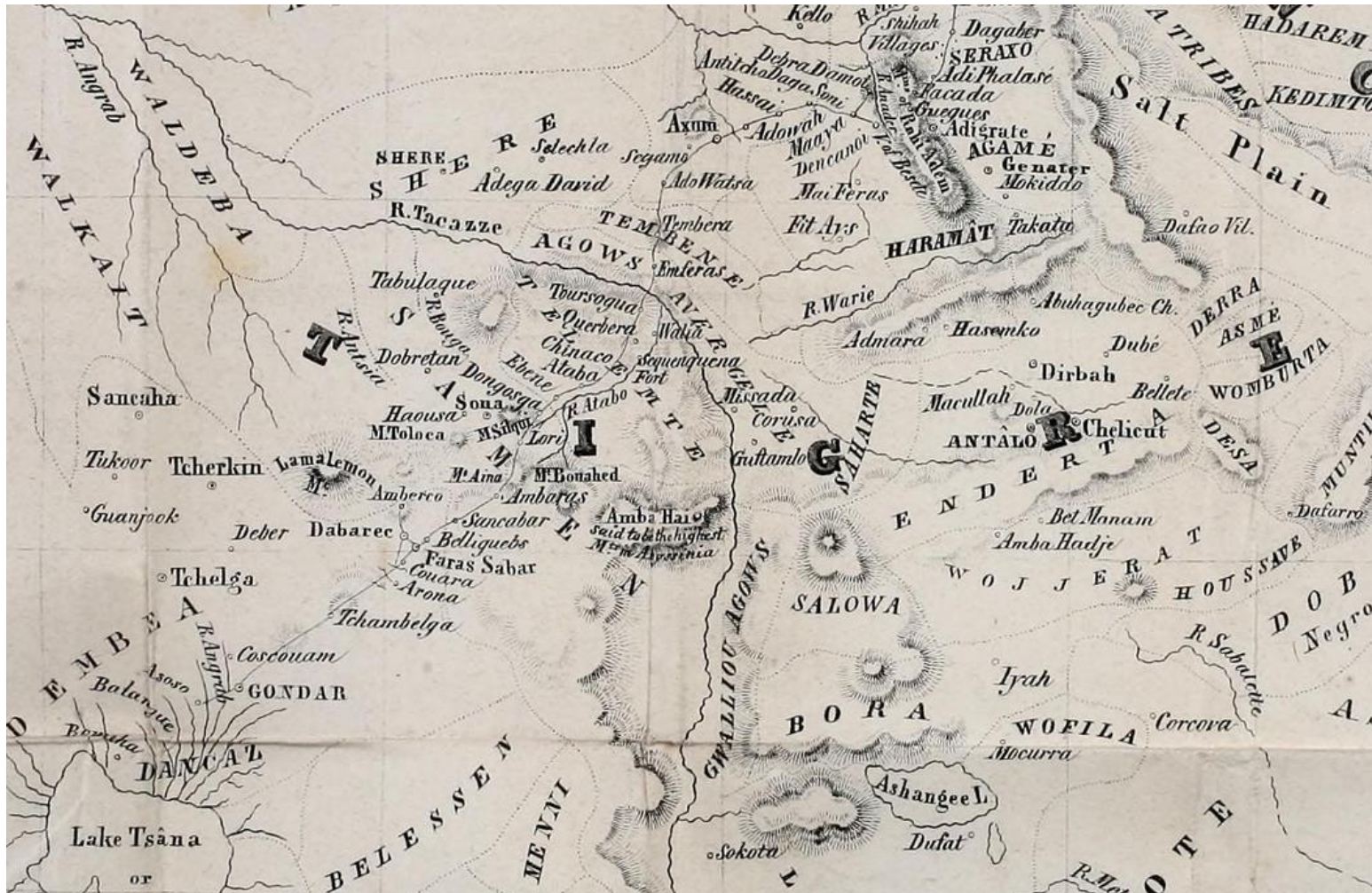


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~21817~670050:Nubia,-Abyssinia->



## Gobat, 1831

Gobat's book and map refer to the period of his active travel in Abyssinia (1830-1832). Numerous internal boundaries; positioning of lettering TIGRE hints at territorial control including "Samen" and likely also "Walkait".



**Smithsonian**  
Libraries

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## Journal of three years' residence in Abyssinia

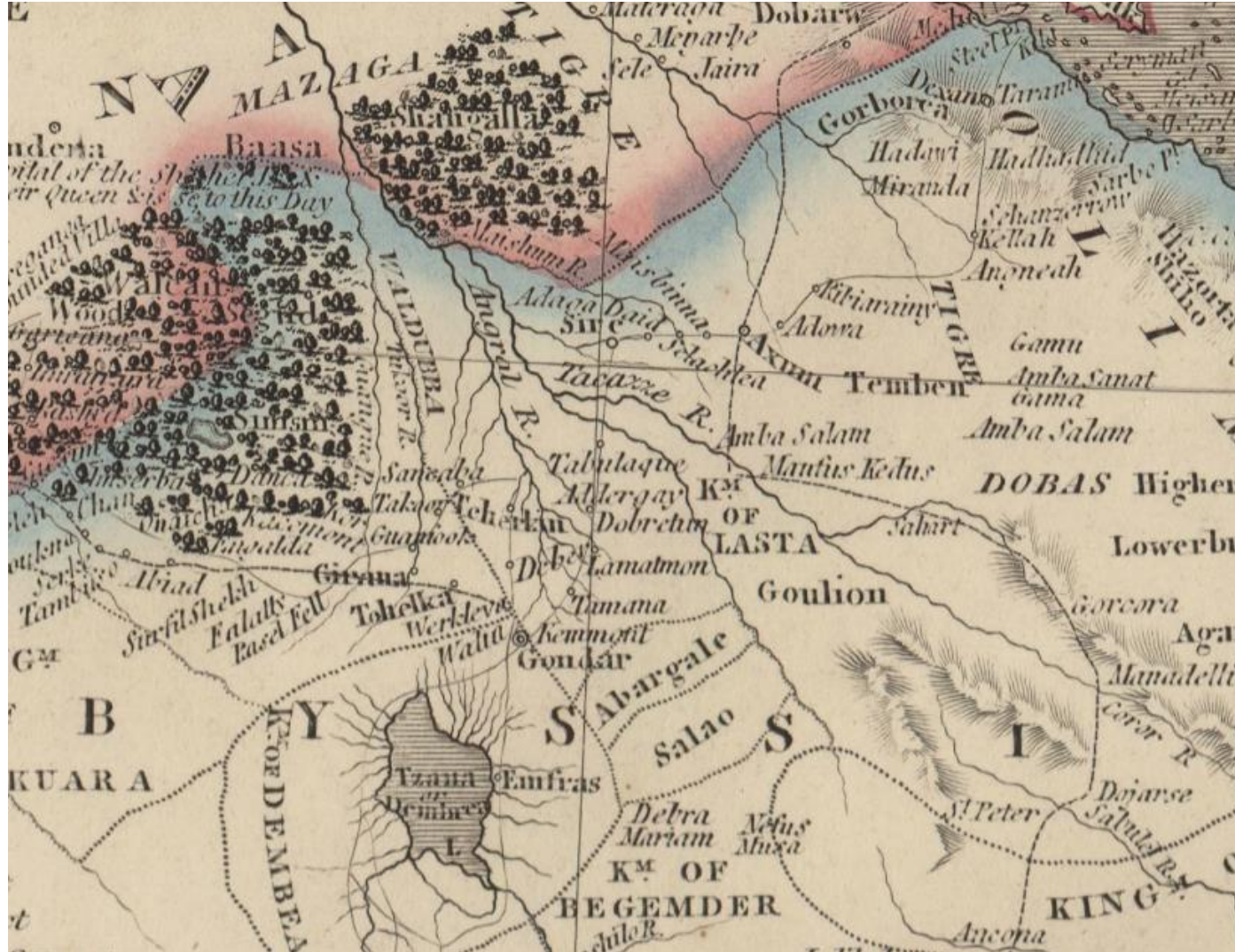
[Gobat, Samuel](#); [Clark, Sereno Dickenson](#); [Baird, Robert](#)  
M.W. Dodd, 1850

<https://library.si.edu/digital-library/book/journalofthreeye00goba>



## Lizars & Lizars, 1831

Map displays borders, without hierarchy; numerous smaller entities; Walcait is mapped as part of Mazaga



### MAP

#### Arabia: With the Adjacent Countries of Egypt and Nubia.

Arabia : with the adjacent countries of Egypt & Nubia

William Home Lizars (1788-1859) was a Scottish engraver and painter and the son of the engraver Daniel Lizars. This map appears identical to the one engraved by Daniel, which appeared in The Edinburgh Geographical and Historical Atlas published by John Hamilton in 1831. It is plate 47 of the atlas. Relief is shown by hachures, and scale is indicated in British statute miles. The...

**Contributor:** Lizars, Daniel - Lizars, W.H. (William Home)

**Date:** 1831

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2021668729/>



# Arrowsmith, 1832

Clear boundary, south of the Simien crestline

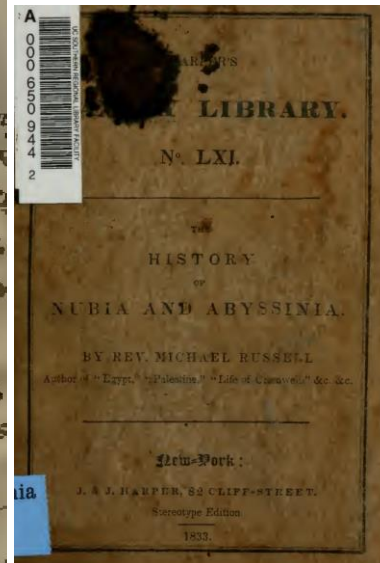


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~33873~1170025:Nubia,-Abyssinia->



Russell, 1833

No internal borders shown.



<https://ia800309.us.archive.org/17/items/nubiaabyssiniaco00russ/nubiaabyssiniaco00russ.pdf>



## Brue & Picquet, 1834

Internal border Amhara-Tigré runs well south of Tekeze R.

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

Record ▼

Author:

Brue, Adrien Hubert, 1786-1832

Author:

Picquet, C.

Date:

1834

Short Title:

Afrique, septentrionale.

Publisher:

C. Picquet

Publisher Location:

Paris

Type:

Atlas Map

Obj Height cm:

37

Obj Width cm:

54

Scale 1:

16,000,000

Note:

Hand colored engraved map. Relief shown by hachures. Includes inset of Cape Verde. Prime meridian: Paris. In embossed seal: Propriete acquise en 1835



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~35065~1180690:Afrique,-septentrionale->



## Combes & Tamisier, 1838

Numerous smaller territories with boundaries, and three main territories, Tigré, Semen and Amhara (boundaries do not allow to ascertain affiliations).

### Carte de l'Abyssinie, du pays des Galla, de Choa et d'Ifat (Combes et Tamisier - 1838)

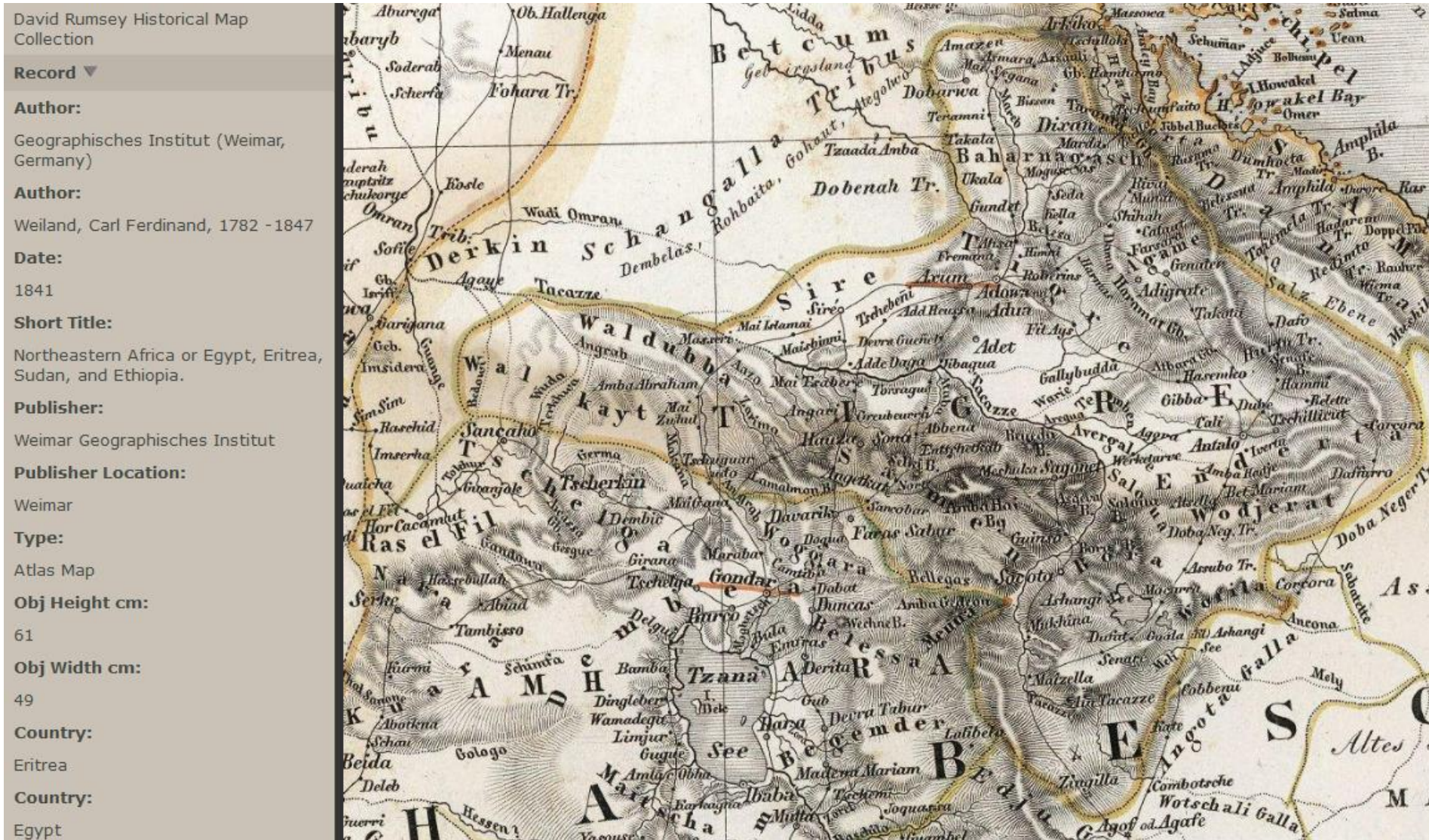


[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=44](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=44)



## Weiland, 1841

Internal border well south of Tacazze. Walkayt part of Tigre.

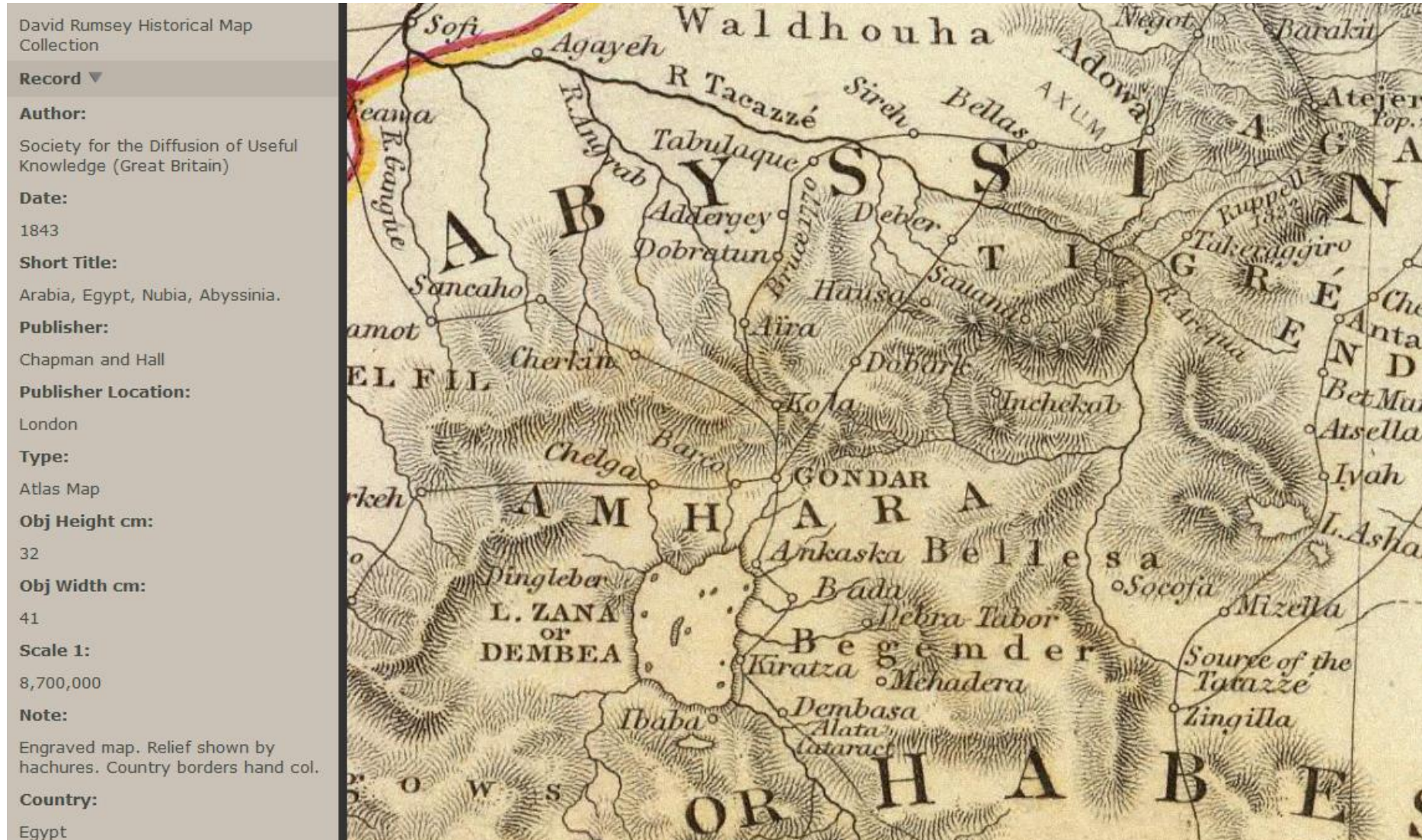


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~280071~90053341:Northeastern-Africa-or-Egypt-Erit>



## Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge (GB), 1843 (also in 1865)

No internal borders drawn; lettering Tigré across Tekeze and Amhara north of Lake Tana, suggesting a border over Simien.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~20915~530016:Arabia,-Egypt,-Nubia,-Abyssinia->



Mc Queen & Isenberg, 1844

No boundaries; naming Tigre and Amhara suggests boundary is on Tekeze; Walkait a bit to the west. Data collection: 1839-1842 (see <https://www.abebooks.com/first-edition/Journals-Rev-Messrs-Isenberg-Krapf-Missionaries/30494935218/bd> )



## Exploring historical maps of the Horn of Africa

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### Karte von Abessinien (James Mc Queen - 1844)

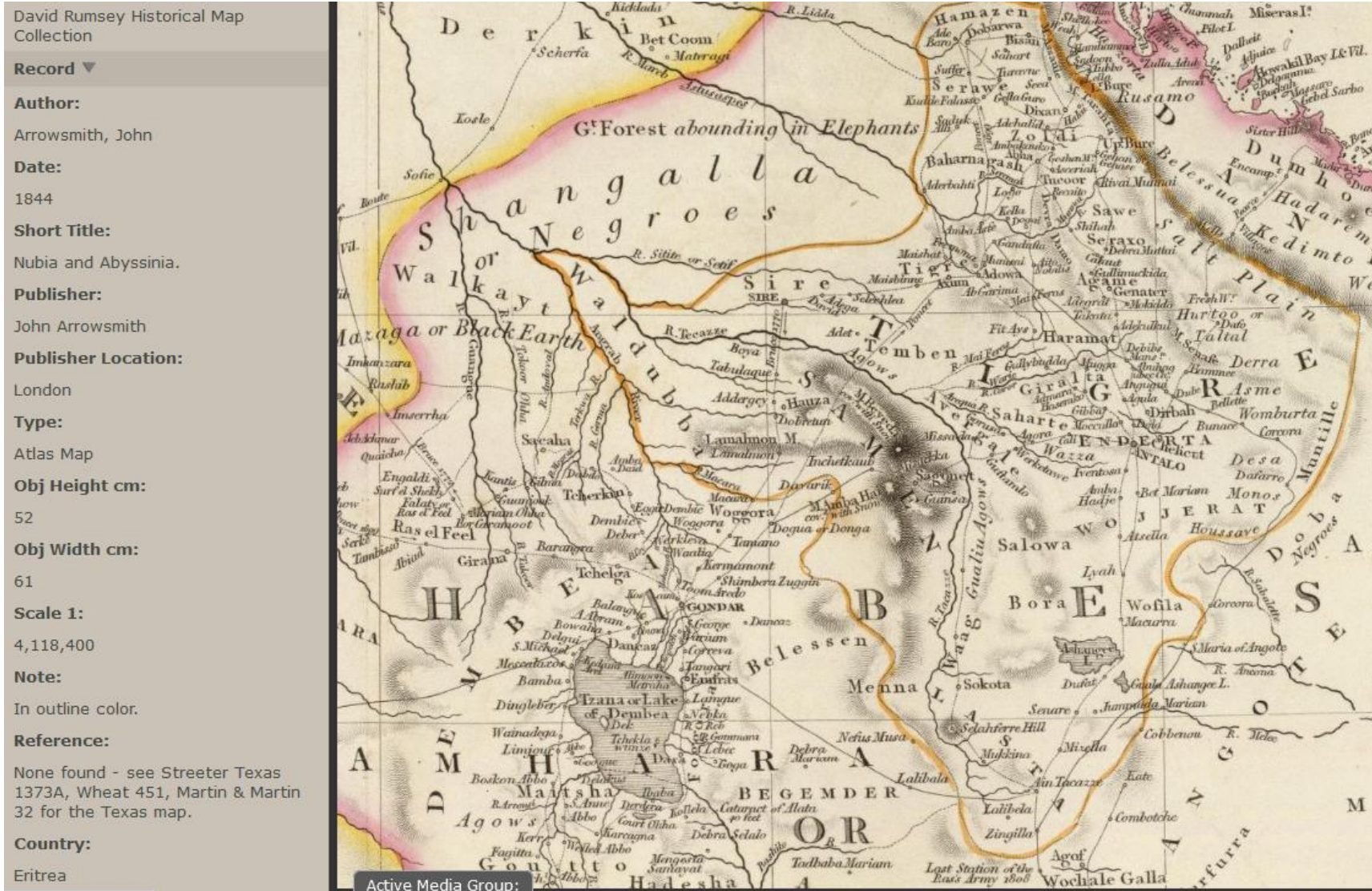


[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=24](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=24)



## Arrowsmith, 1844

Tigre-Amhara border well to the SW of Tekeze; Walkayt undefined (part of Shangalla?)



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~2740~260025:Nubia-and-Abyssinia->



## Radefeld, 1844

Clearly drawn boundaries; Walkayt in Tigre

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

Record ▼

Author:

Radefeld, Carl Christian Franz,  
1788-1874

Date:

1844

Short Title:

Nubien, Habesch, Kordofan, Darfur.

Publisher:

Bibliographischen Instituts

Publisher Location:

Hildburghausen

Type:

Atlas Map

Obj Height cm:

31

Obj Width cm:

36

Scale 1:

6,300,000

Note:

Engraved map. Boundaries hand col.  
Relief shown by hachures. "Meyers  
Handatlas No. 48." Prime meridians:  
Ferro and Paris.

Country:

Ethiopia

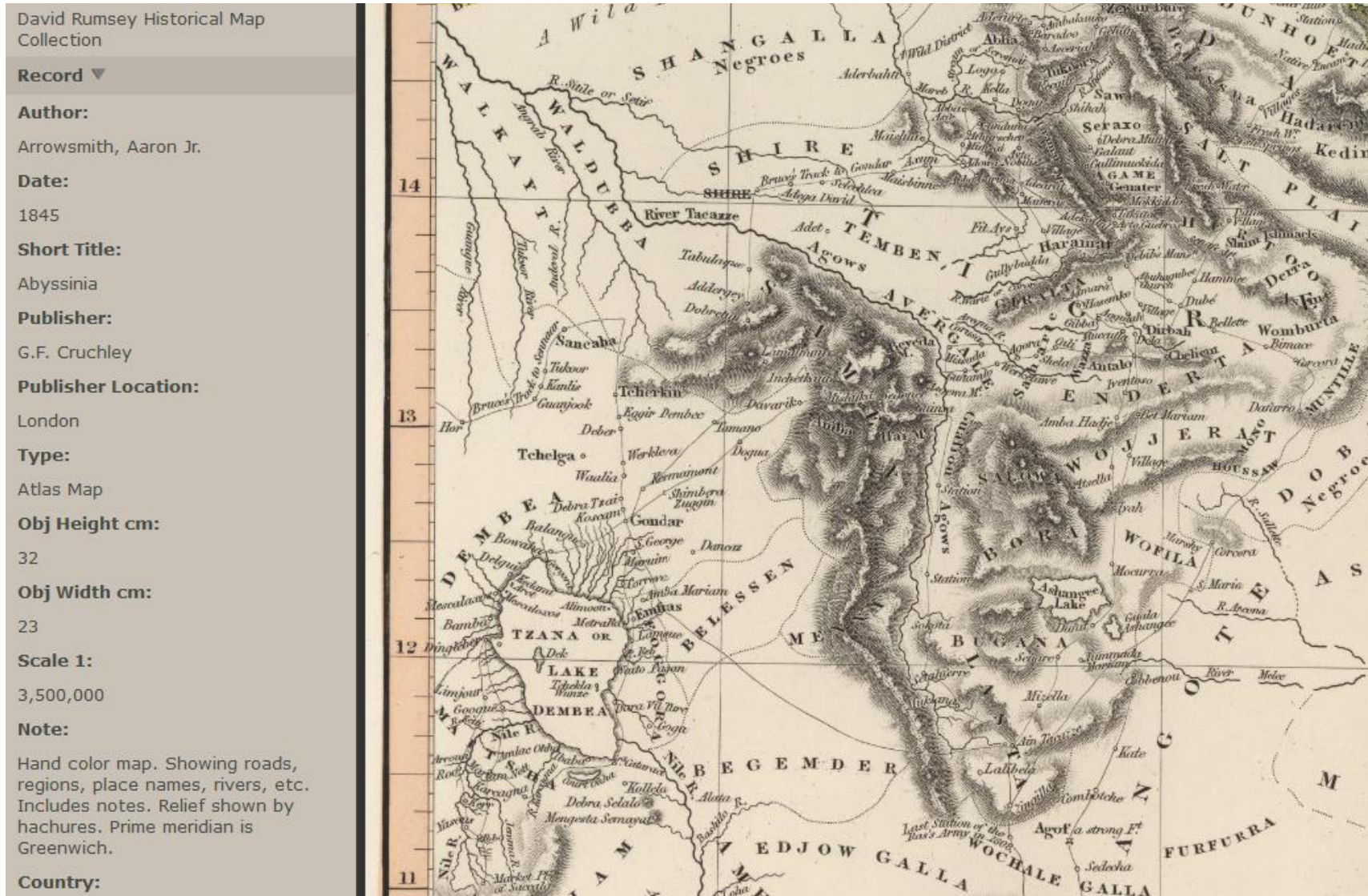


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~21270~690036:Nubien,-Habesch,-Kordofan,-Dارفur->



## Arrowsmith, 1845

Intermediate territories (Simen, Walkayt, ...) between Tigre and Begemder. Same borders as 1844 but hierarchy in territorial control not shown

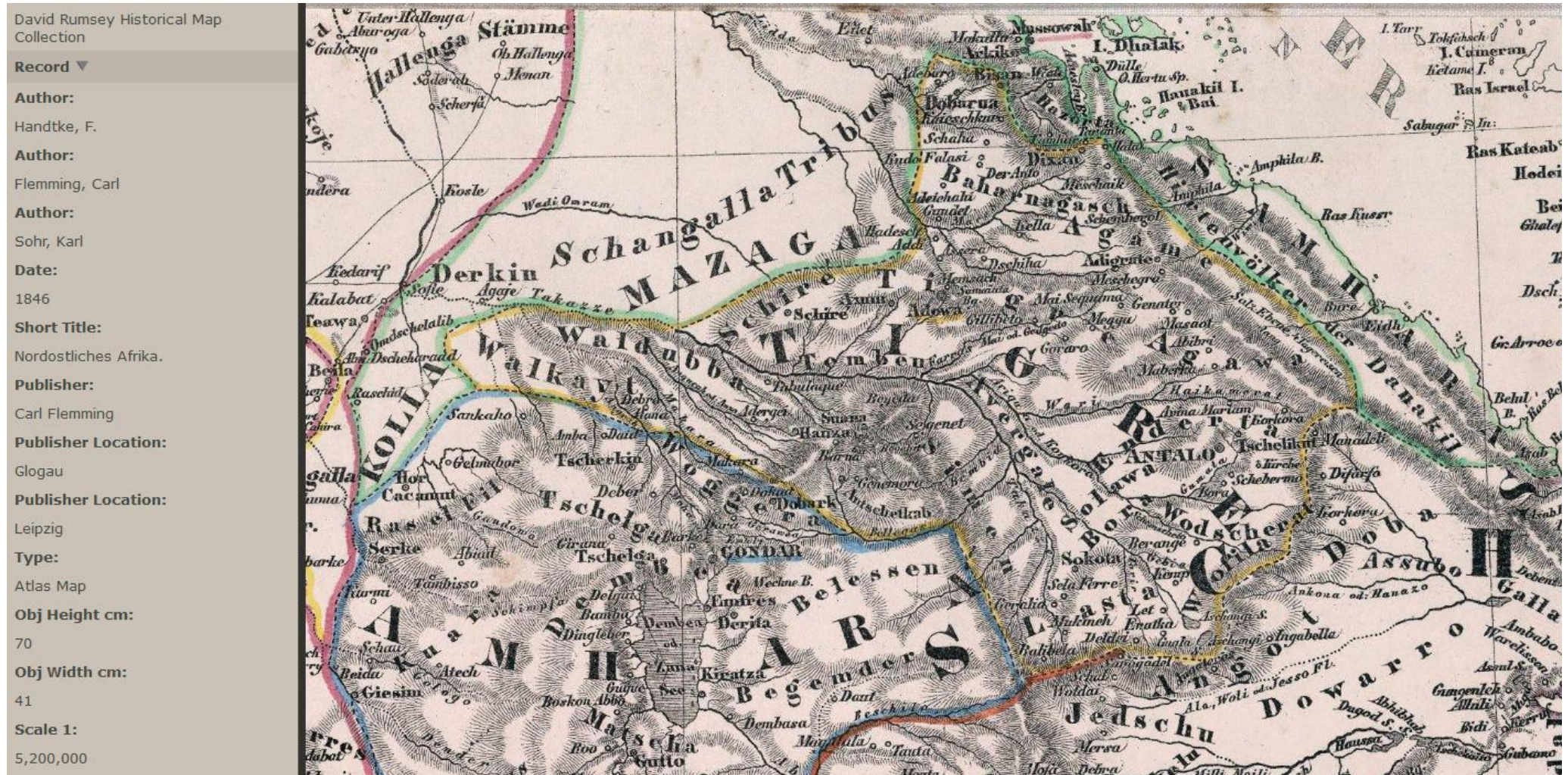


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~253458~5518898:Abyssinia>



## Handtke, 1846 (also 1851, 1855)

Borders Amhara-Tigre outlined; Walkayt and Simen in Tigre



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~304175~90074736:Nordostliches-Afrika->

<https://www.digar.ee/arhiiv/nlib-digar:429790>



## Lefebvre, 1847

No borders drawn, position of lettering Amhara and Tigre may suggest a border on Tekezze R.

### Carte générale d'Abyssinie (Théophile Lefebvre - 1847)

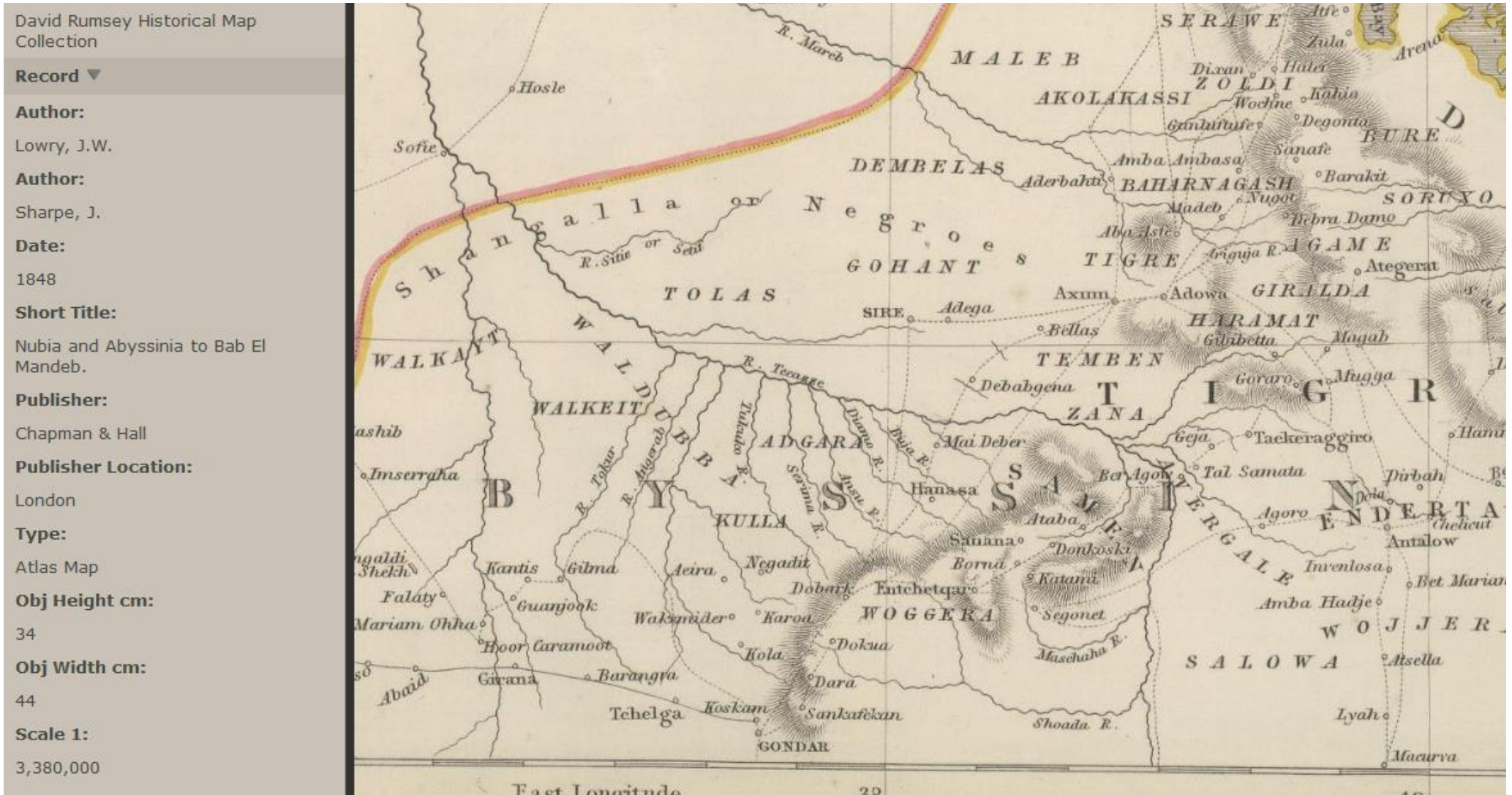


[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=21](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=21)



## Lowry, 1848

Internal boundaries not mapped

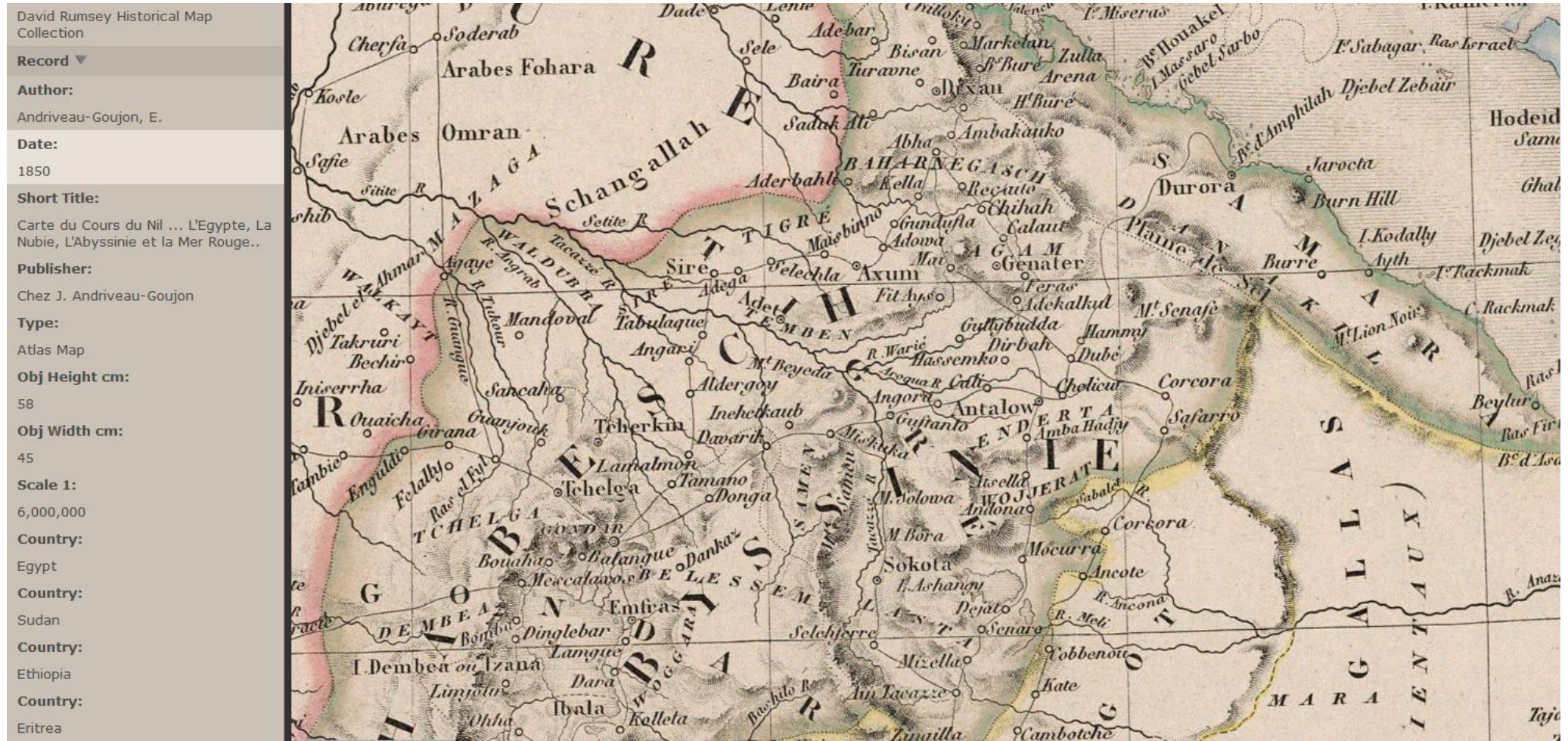


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~37507~1210498:Nubia-and-Abyssinia-to-Bab-El-Mande>



## Andriveau-Goujon, 1850

Habesch with Gondar and Tigre, border in thin dotted line, across Simien. Walkayt part of Mazaga.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~283026~90055440:53--Abissinia->



## Stieler, 1851 (also 1853)

No internal borders; lettering Tigré spans both sides of Tekeze R.

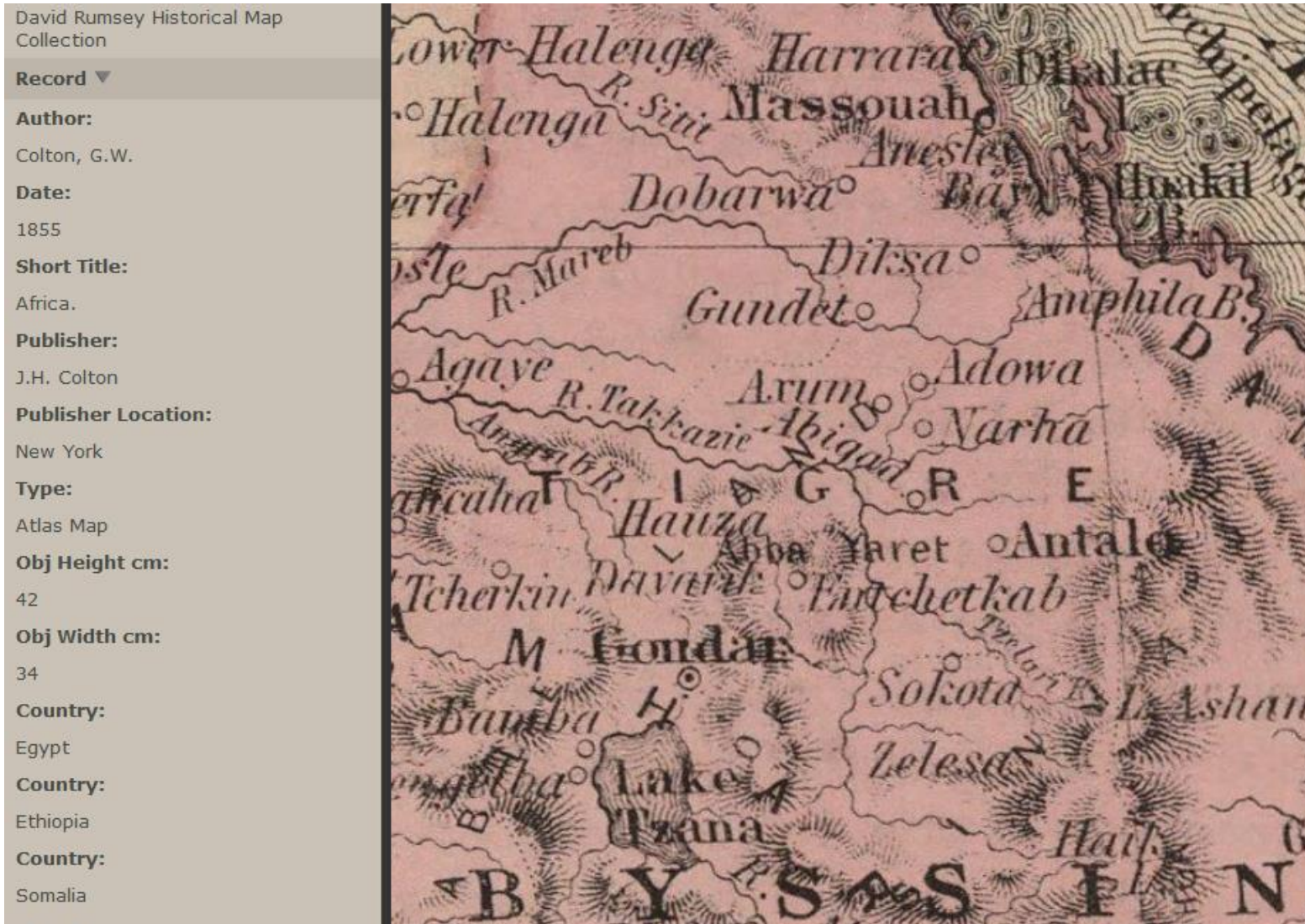


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~244056~5513687:Mittel---und-Nord-Afrika---North-an>



Colton, 1855 (very similar in 1866, 1874)

No internal borders, lettering Tigre spans both sides of Tekeze

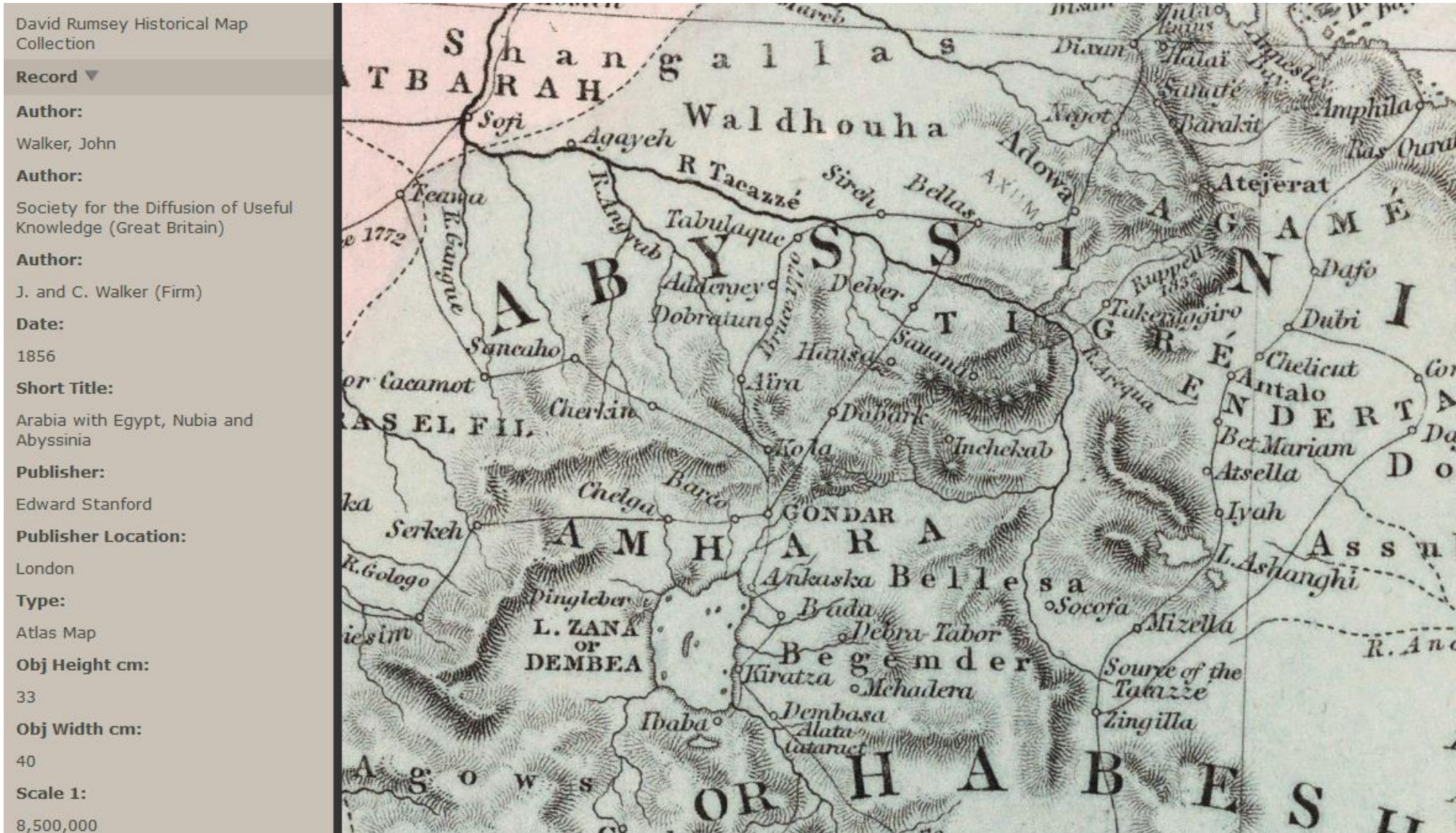


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~308930~90078654:Africa->



## Walker, 1856

No internal borders drawn; lettering Tigré across Tekeze and Amhara north of Lake Tana, suggesting a border over Simien



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~292734~90063977:Arabia-with-Egypt,-Nubia-and-Abyssi>



## Marmocchi, 1858

Abissinia (internal boundaries not drawn)



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~296942~90068532:4--La-Nubia-e-L-Abissinia->



## Petri, 1859

No internal boundaries

David Rumsey Historical Map Collection

**Record ▼**

**Author:**  
Petri, Girolamo

**Date:**  
1859

**Short Title:**  
Tav. CXI. Pref. Tripoli -- Vic. Egitto ed Arabia -- Egitto per i Copti -- Abissinia.

**Publisher:**  
Tipografia della Reverenda Camera Apostolica

**Publisher Location:**  
Rome

**Type:**  
Atlas Map

**Obj Height cm:**  
49

**Obj Width cm:**  
64

**Scale 1:**  
9,000,000

**Note:**  
Hand-colored, engraved map showing the apostolic vicariates of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Tripoli and Abyssinia. Text in delicate script circling land.

<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~328696~90097202:Tav--CXI--Pref--Tripoli---Vic--Egi>



## Johnston, 1861

Tigre and Amhara as main subunits of Habesh; border not drawn

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

### Record ▼

#### Author:

Johnston, Alexander Keith, 1804-1871

#### Date:

1861

#### Short Title:

Nubia, Abyssinia.

#### Publisher:

William Blackwood & Sons

#### Publisher Location:

Edinburgh

#### Type:

Atlas Map

#### Obj Height cm:

46

#### Obj Width cm:

58

#### Scale 1:

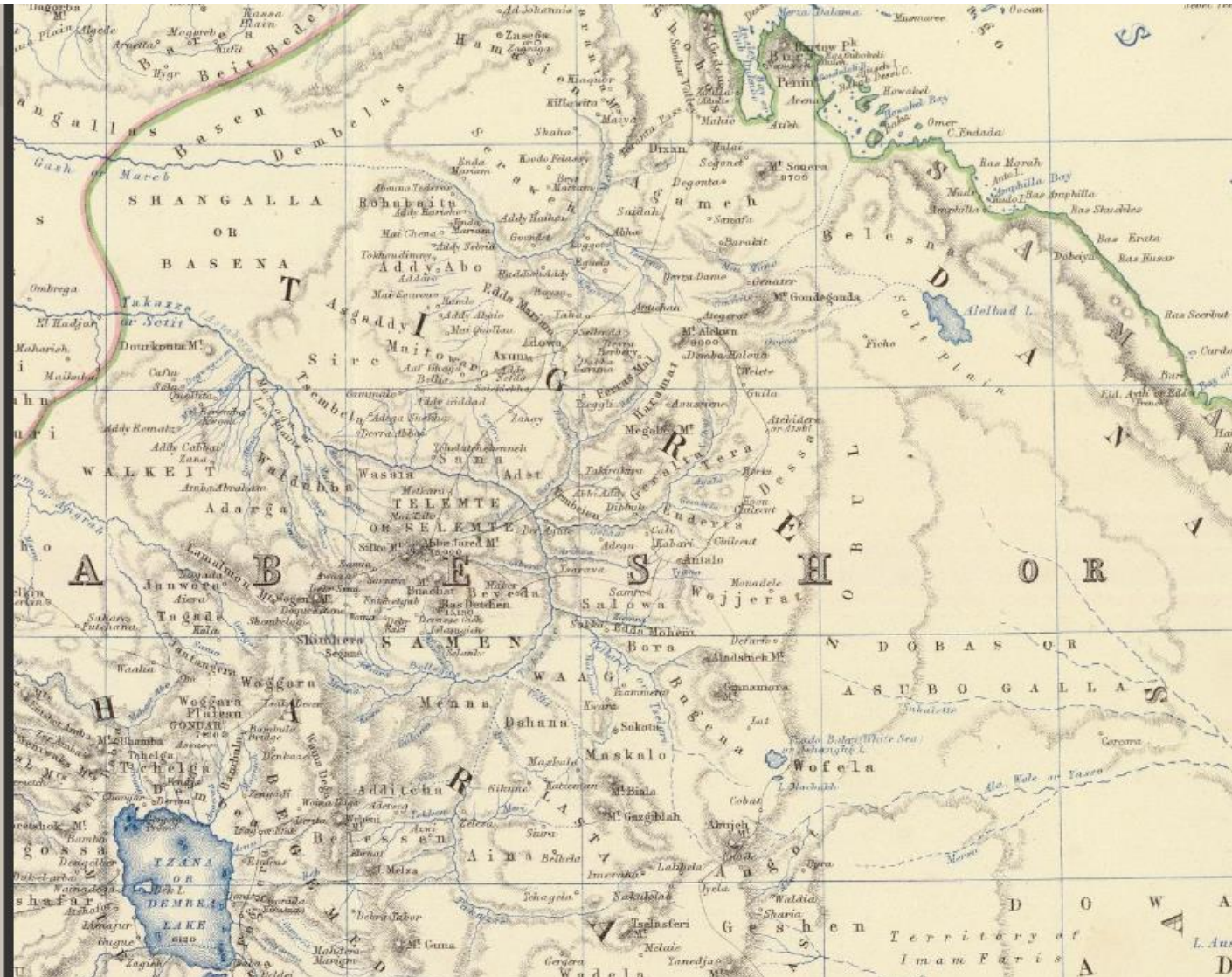
2,854,868

#### Note:

Engraved map. Boundaries hand col.; hydrography printed in blue. Relief shown by hachures. "Keith Johnston's general atlas 40."

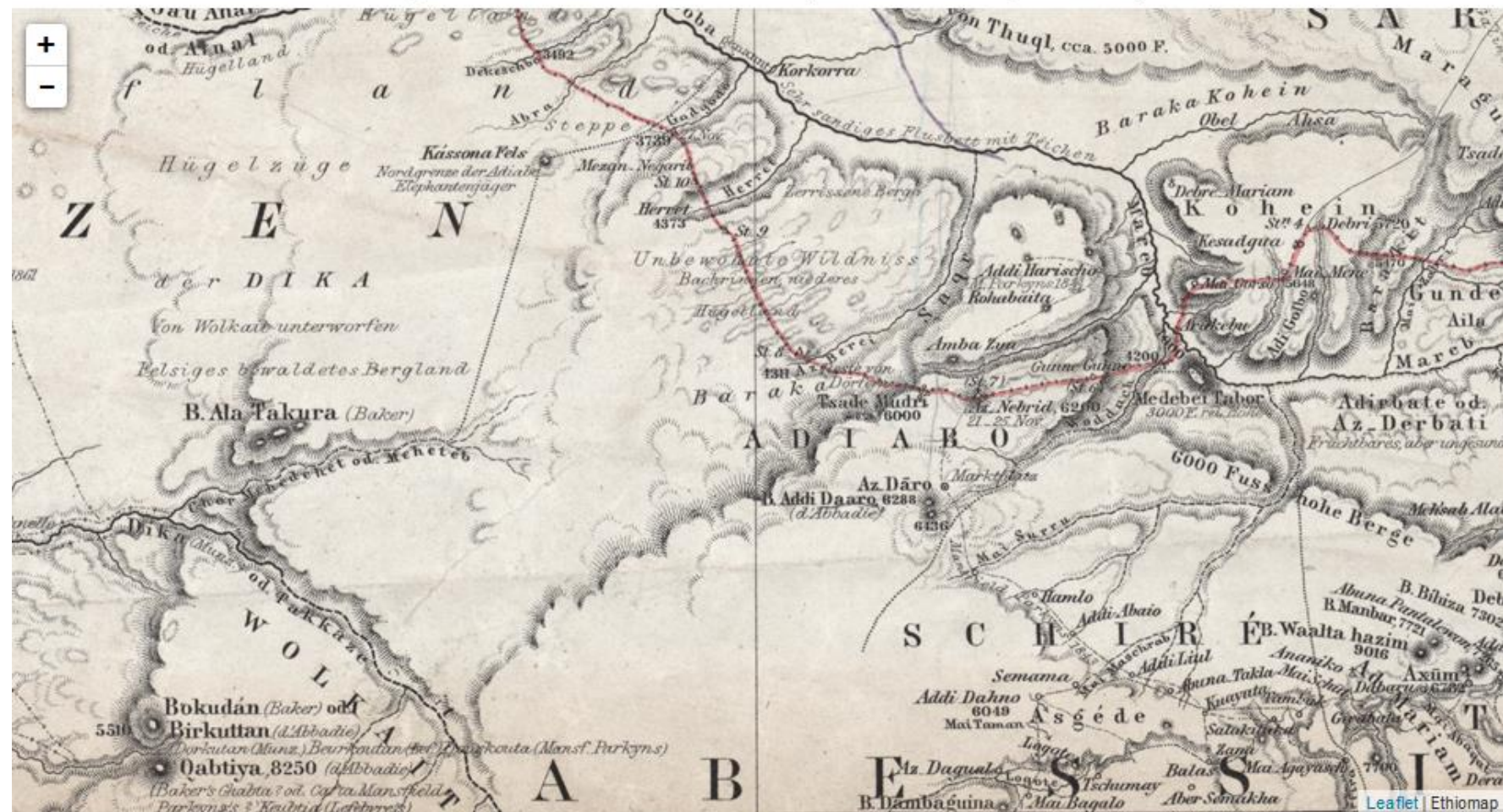
#### Country:

Ethiopia



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~21335~620035:Nubia,-Abyssinia->



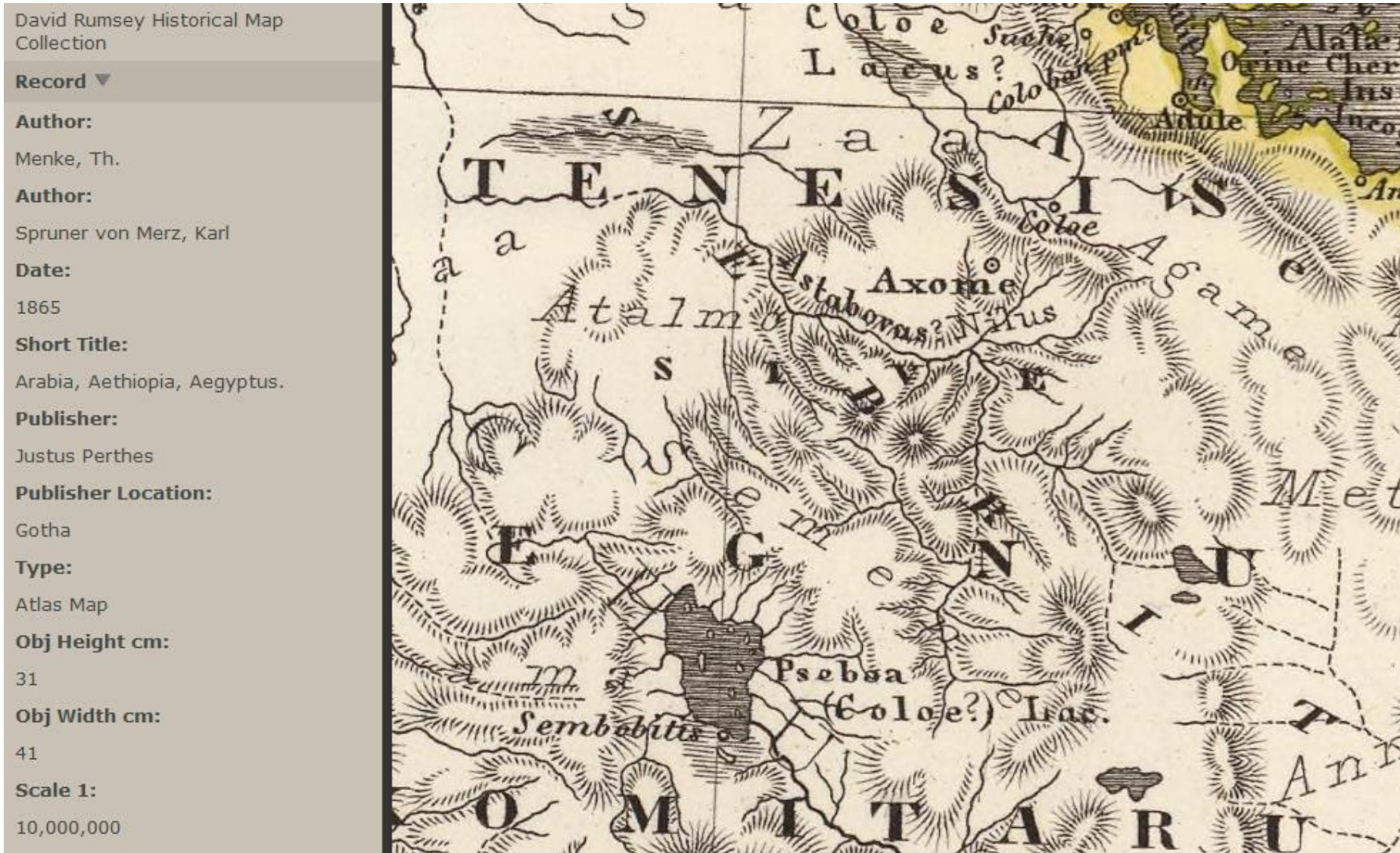


[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=42](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=42)



## Menke & Spruner von Merz, 1865

No internal boundaries

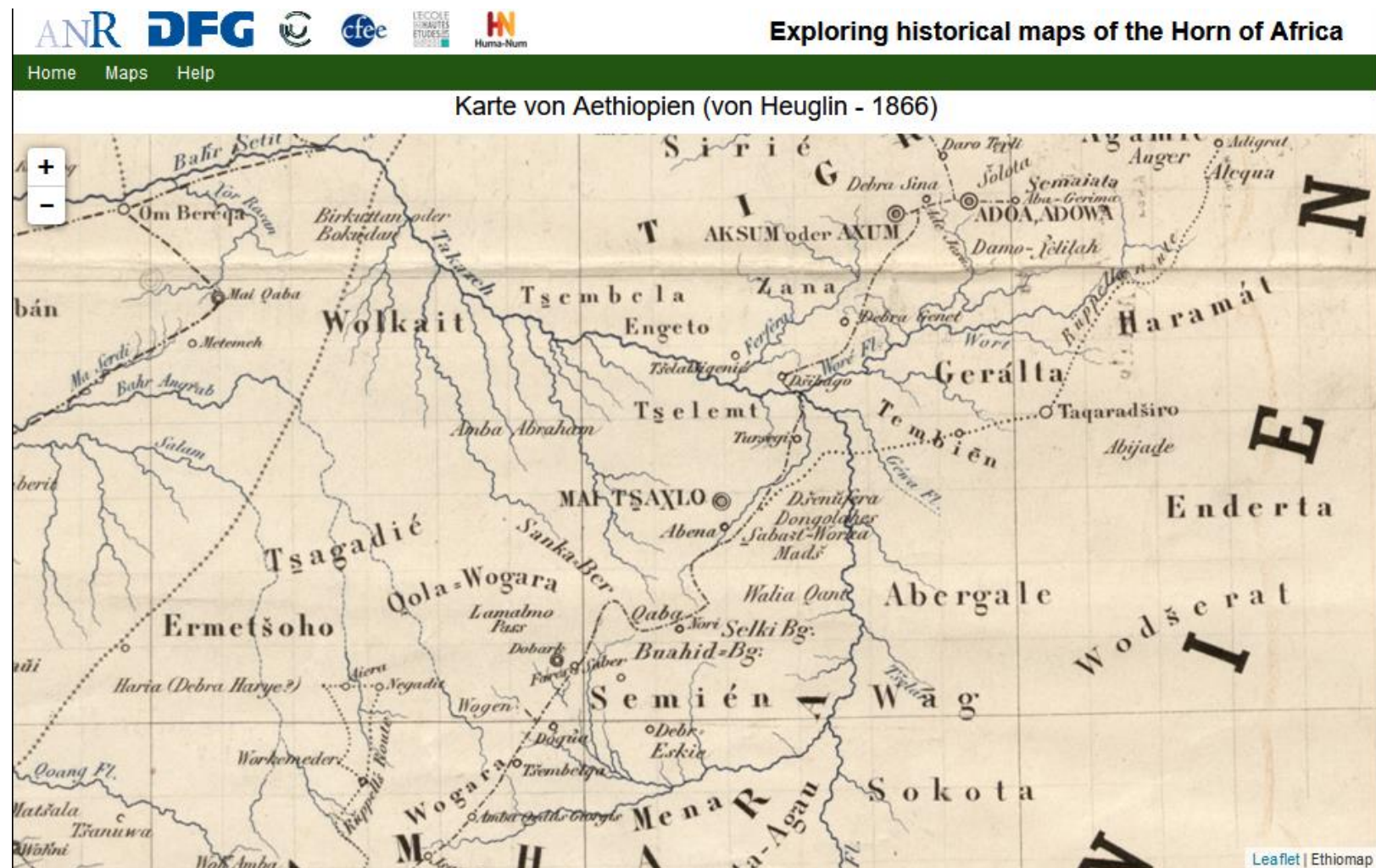


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~34744~1180357:Arabia,-Aethiopia,-Aegyptus->



## Von Heuglin, 1866

No borders shown between Amhara and Tigríe. Names are clearly written with Tigrinya accents including Ermetšoho, Ṭselemt, Ṭsagadié, Mai Ṭsaxlo, May Qaba, Dogu'a, Qola, etc. The geographic descriptions suggest these regions have been under Tigray at the time.



[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=52](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=52)



Beke, 1867.

Lettering at highest level: Abyssinia. Next: Tigre, Waag or Lasta. Third level: Wolkait, Waldabba, Begemdir, Dembea, etc. Internal borders not drawn.



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Results

**BOOK**  
**The British captives in Abyssinia**  
Beke, Charles T.  
London : Longmans, Green, Reader, and Dyer  
1867



## D'Abbadie, 1868

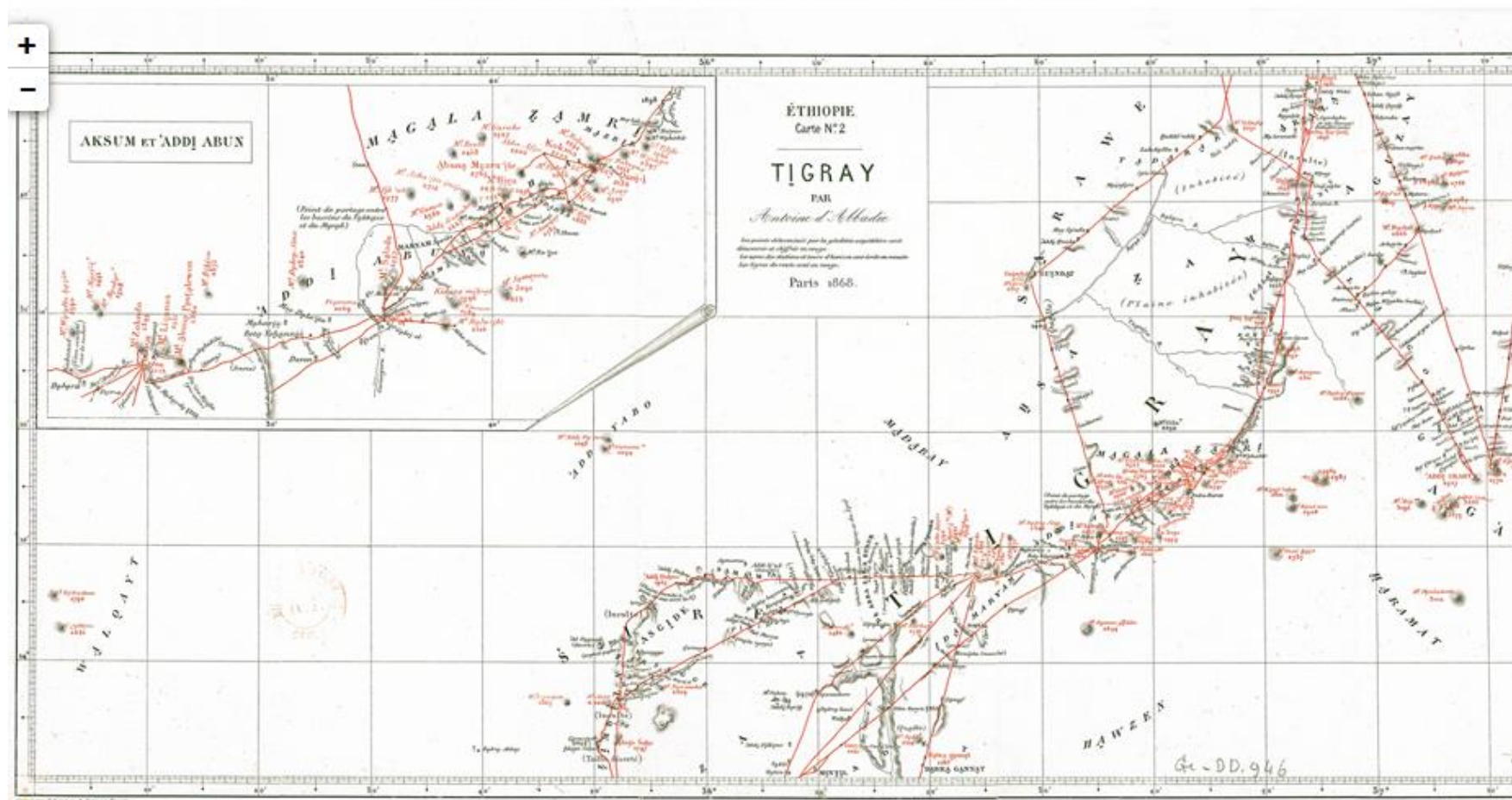
Maps 2 and 3, no borders shown; Walquayt suggested as part of Tigray



## Exploring historical maps of the Horn of Africa

Home Maps Help

### D'Abbadie n° 2 - Tigray (Antoine d'Abbadie - 1868)



[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=12](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=12)



## Petermann, 1868

No borders shown; coloured lines are itineraries

ANR

DFG



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DE  
GEOGRAPHIE

Huma-Num

### Exploring historical maps of the Horn

Home Maps Help

#### Originalkarte von Central-Abessinien (A. Petermann - 1868)

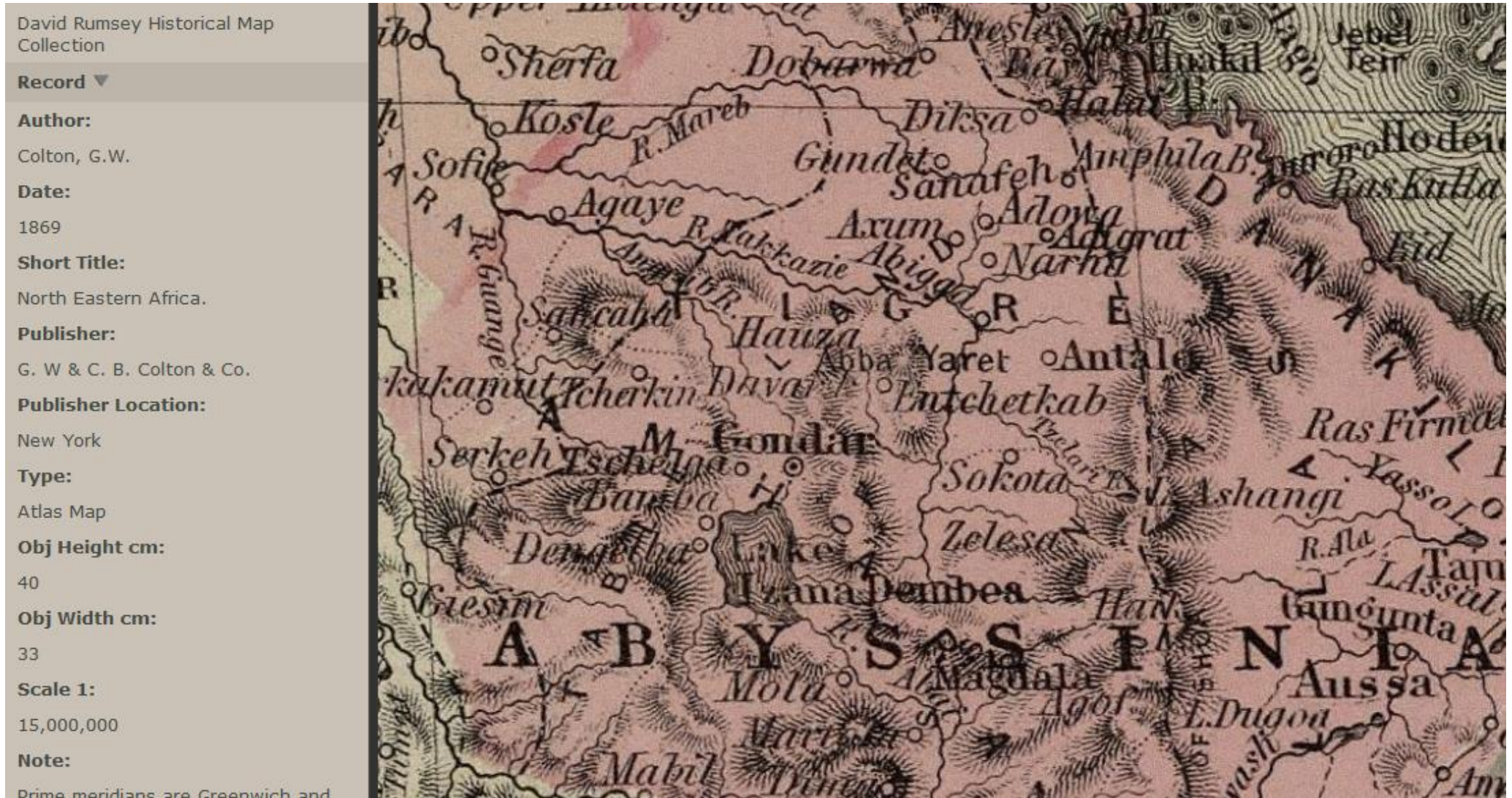


[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=36](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=36)



## Colton, 1869

Thin dotted line as border, well south of Tekeze R.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~209210~5004023:North-Eastern-Africa->



## Fullarton, 1872

No internal borders. Letterings Tigre and Amhara both are close to Tekeze, probably indicating that it was considered the border

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

Record ▼

**Author:**

Fullarton, A. & Co.

**Date:**

1872

**Short Title:**

Countries In The Northern Tropical  
Regions of Africa.

**Publisher:**

A. Fullarton & Co.

**Publisher Location:**

London and Edinburgh

**Type:**

Atlas Map

**Obj Height cm:**

47

**Obj Width cm:**

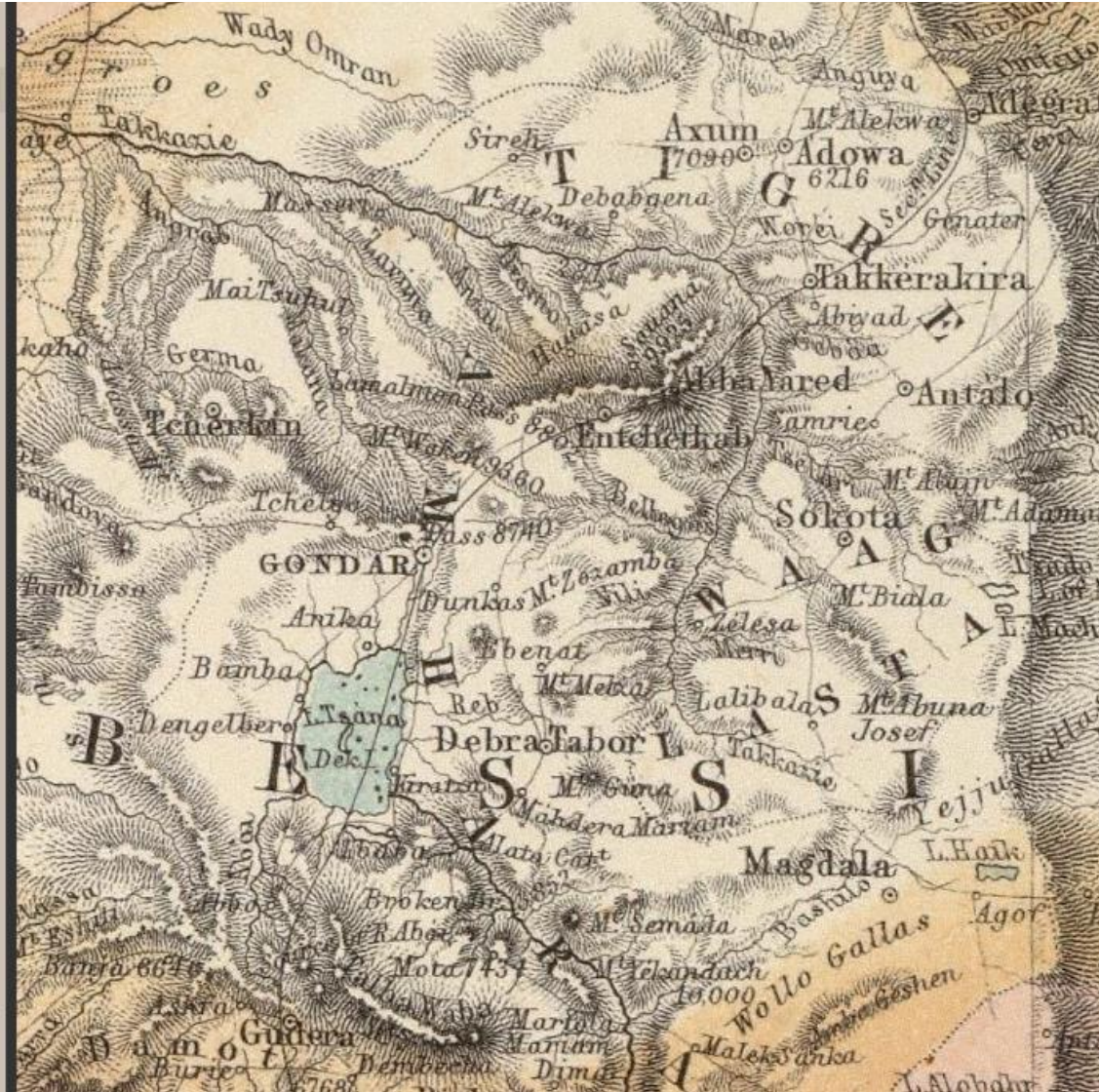
32

**Scale 1:**

Various

**Note:**

In full color. Two maps include: 1.  
Abessinia (sic) and the Adjacent  
Countries. Constructed by Augustus  
Petermann, F.R.G.S. Engraved by G.H.  
Swanston. 2. Map of Part of Central  
Africa According to Clapperton,  
Denham, Richardson, Barth, Vogel &



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~3462~400032:Countries-In-The-Northern-Tropical->



Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge (GB), **1872**

No internal borders drawn

**Author:**

Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge (Great Britain)

Date:

1872

Short Title:

Arabia with Egypt, Nubia, and Abyssinia.

**Publisher:**

Edward Stanford

**Publisher Location:**

London

Type:

Atlas Map

Obj Height cm:

38

Obj Width cm:

43

Scale 1:

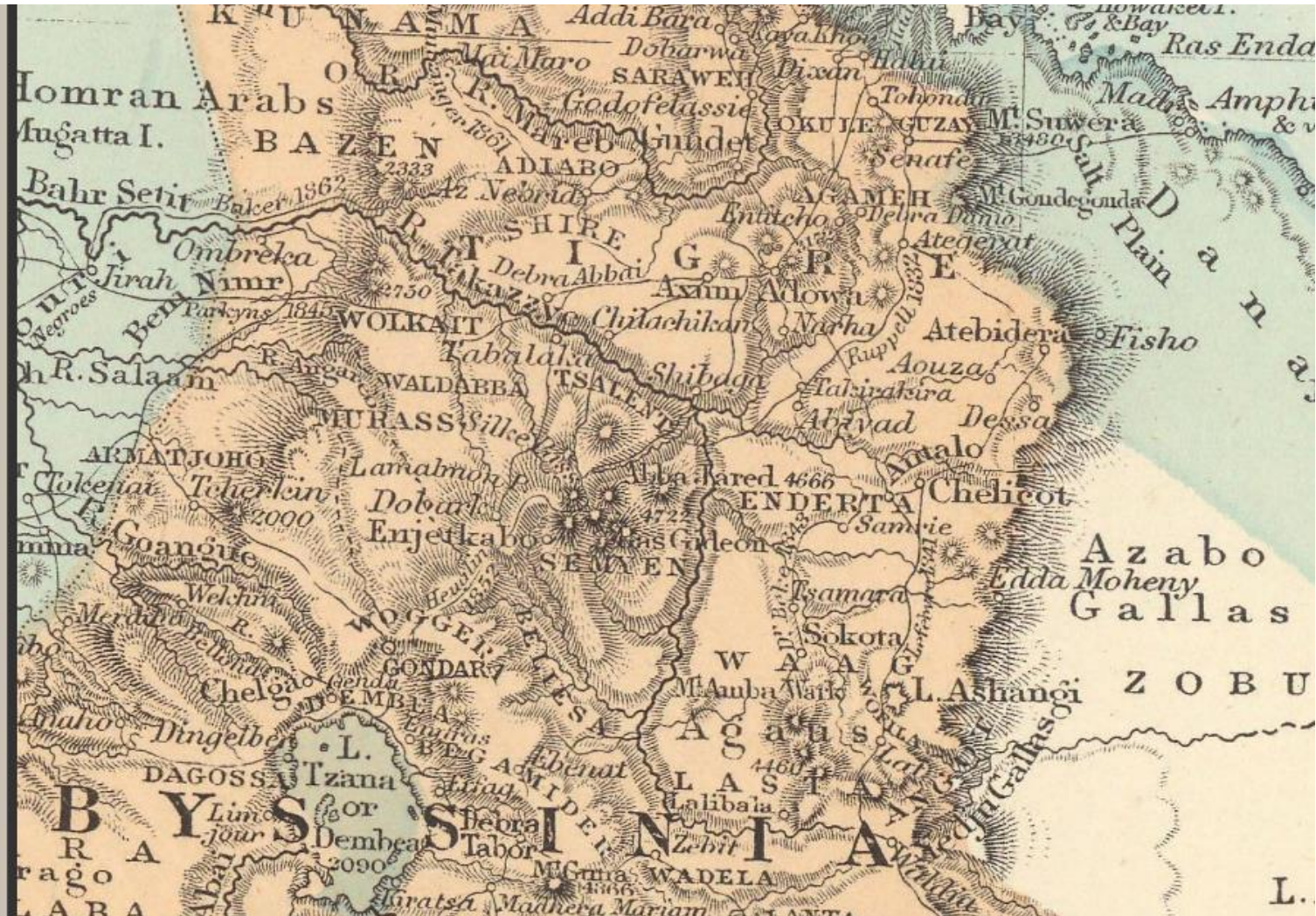
8,400,000

**Reference:**

cf P3559.

Full Title:

Arabia with Egypt, Nubia, and Abyssinia.

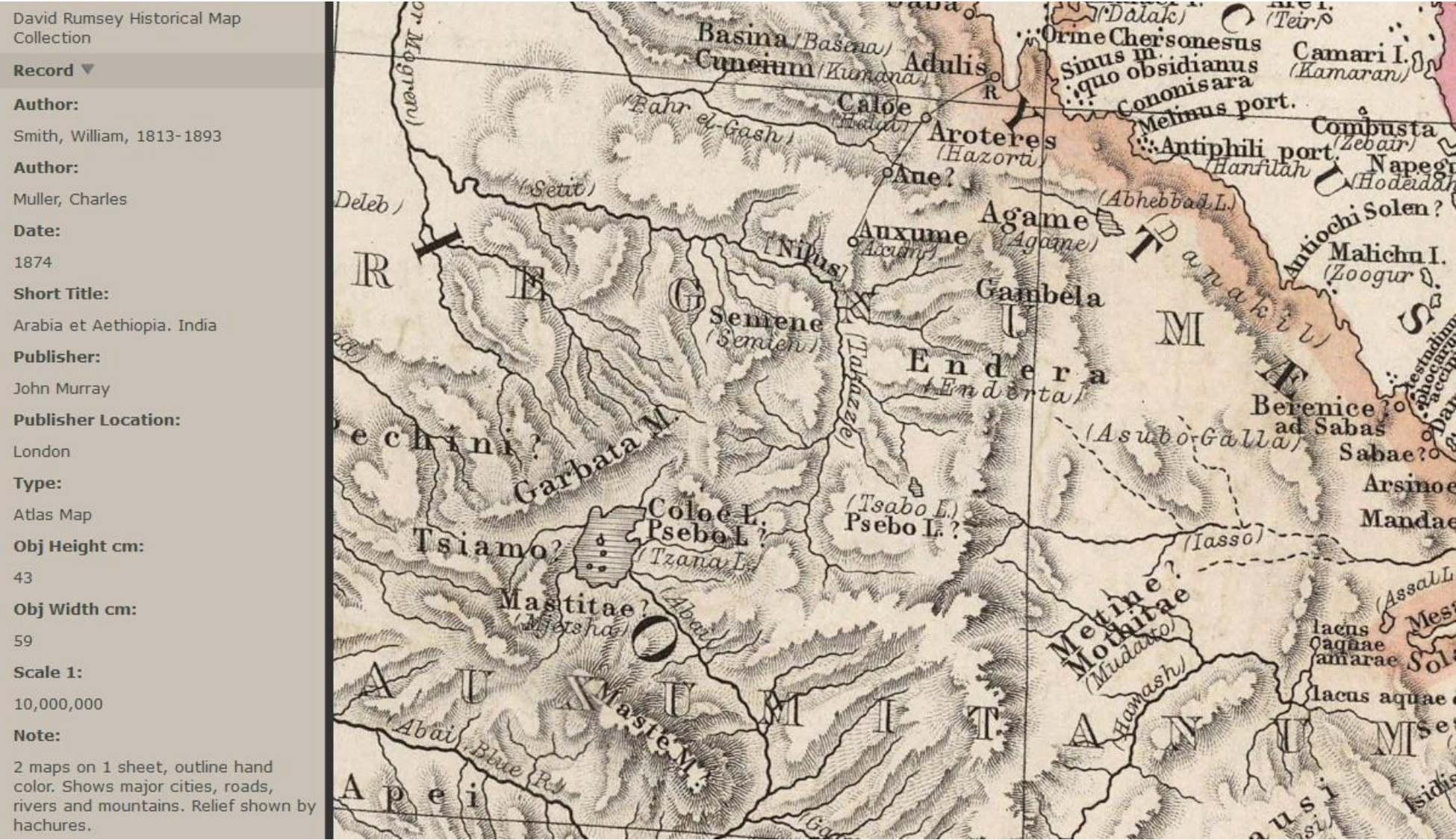


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~337962~90105928:Arabia-with-Egypt,-Nubia,-and-Abyss>



Smith & Muller, 1874

Without boundaries

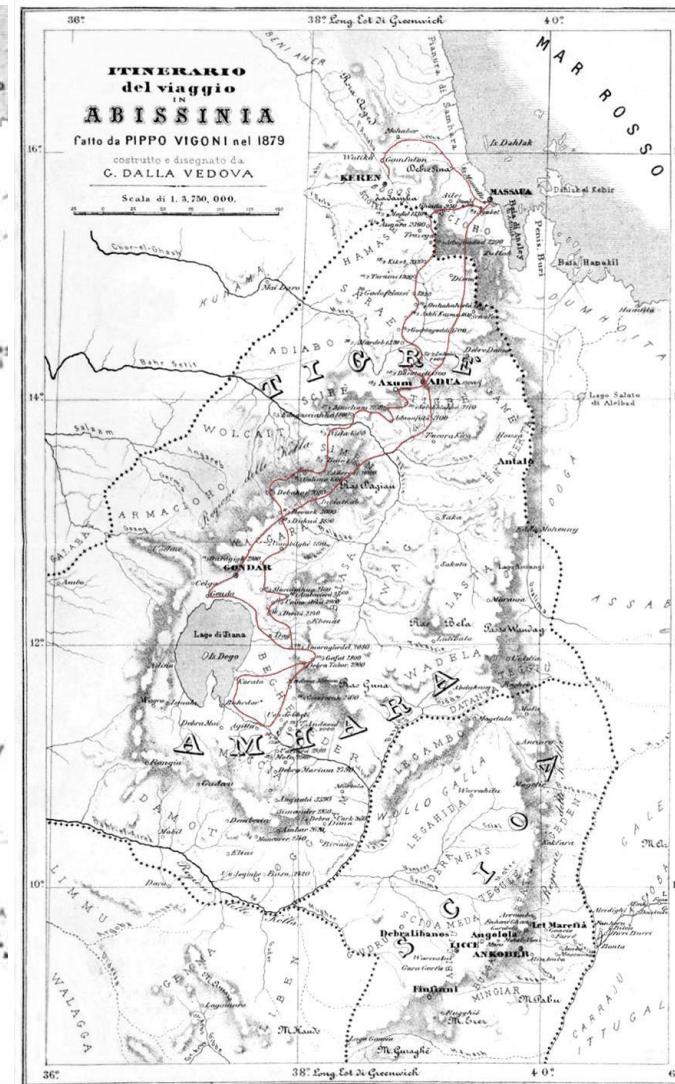
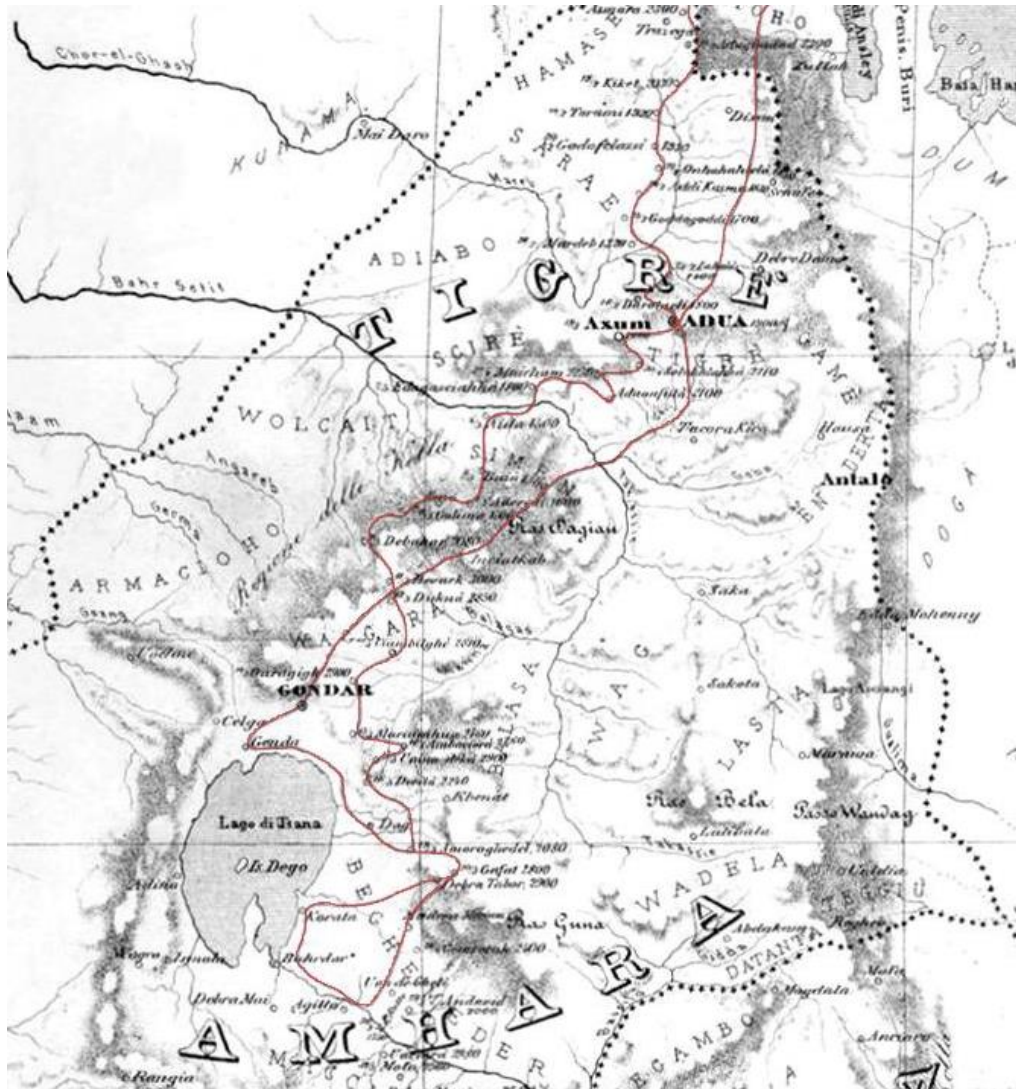


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~315602~90084335:Arabia-et-Aethiopia-->



## Vigoni, 1879

Border Tigré-Amhara not represented. Red line is itinerary.



[https://books.google.be/books?id=xVFrasFe\\_YOC&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false](https://books.google.be/books?id=xVFrasFe_YOC&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false)

DATA SET: HISTORICAL AND ETHNO-LINGUISTIC MAPS COVERING WESTERN TIGRAY - 68



# Johnston, 1879

No internal boundaries

## COLLECTION NAME:

David Rumsey Historical Map Collection

## Record ▼

## Author:

Johnston, Alexander Keith

## Date:

1879

## Short Title:

Upper Nubia and Abyssinia.

## Publisher:

W. & A.K. Johnston

## Publisher Location:

Edinburgh

## Type:

Atlas Map

## Obj Height cm:

47

## Obj Width cm:

60

## Scale 1:

2,854,868

## Note:

Countries and districts outlined in color. Relief shown by hachures. Four scales.

## Country:



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~37189~1210166:Upper-Nubia-and-Abyssinia->



Dye, 1880

Wolkait part of TIGRE, which stretches across R. Takazza; according to lettering, border AMHARA-TIGRE runs approx. over the top of Simien Mts



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Moslem Egypt and Christian Abyssinia; or, Khedive, in his provinces and beyond their American Staff.

William MacE DYE

New York : Atkin & Prout, 1880.

Details I want this

**Title:** Moslem Egypt and Christian Abyssinia; or, military servi  
in his provinces and beyond their borders, as experienced by t

**Author:** William MacE DYE

**Publication Details:** New York : Atkin & Prout, 1880.

**Language:** English

**Identifier:** System number: 001021918

**Physical Description:** xvi, 500 pages ; (8°)

**Shelfmark(s):** General Reference Collection 9061.ee.8.

**UIN:** BLL01001021918

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c5/DYE%281880%29\\_p519\\_Map\\_of\\_NORTH-EASTERN\\_AFRICA.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c5/DYE%281880%29_p519_Map_of_NORTH-EASTERN_AFRICA.jpg)



## Andree, 1881

Internal boundaries not shown

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

Record ▼

### Attributed Author:

Andree, Richard

### Date:

1881

### Short Title:

Die Nilländer.

### Publisher:

Velhagen & Klasing

### Publisher Location:

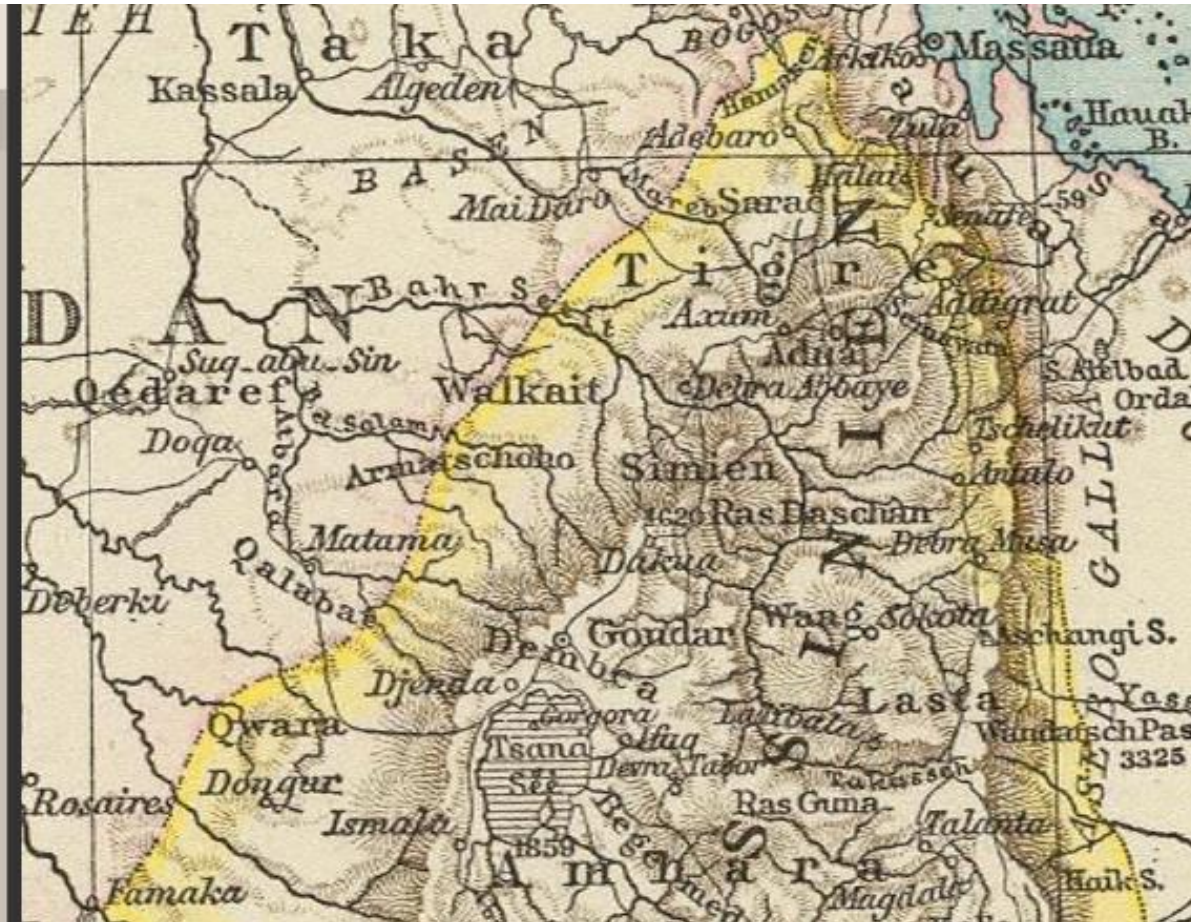
Leipzig

### Type:

Atlas Map

### Obj Height cm:

37



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~30816~1150754:Die-Nillander->



## Blackie, 1882

Internal boundary not drawn

David Rumsey Historical Map Collection

### Record ▼

#### Author:

Blackie, W.G.

#### Date:

1882

#### Short Title:

Sudan and Ethiopia.

#### Publisher:

Blackie & Son

#### Publisher Location:

London

#### Type:

Atlas Map

#### Obj Height cm:

37

#### Obj Width cm:

26

#### Scale 1:

6,600,000

#### Country:

Sudan

#### Country:

Eritrea

#### Country:



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~272644~90046422:Sudan-and-Ethiopia->



## Letts, 1883

No internal borders shown

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

Record ▼

### Author:

Letts, Son & Co.

### Date:

1883

### Short Title:

Arabia, Egypt, Nubia, Abyssinia.

### Publisher:

Letts, Son & Co.

### Publisher Location:

London

### Type:

Atlas Map

### Obj Height cm:

35

### Obj Width cm:

42

### Scale 1:

8,870,400

### Note:

Colored map. Relief shown by hachures and spot heights. Shows cities, British consulates, vice-consulates and consular agents, roads, railroads, rivers, etc. Includes statistical tables.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~31449~1150405:Arabia,-Egypt,-Nubia,-Abyssinia->



## Habenicht, 1885 (similar in 1887)

Boundary Amhara-Tigre not drawn; Italian territory not outlined



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~317143~90086028:Sektion-6->

[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=37](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=37)



## Colton, 1886

No internal boundaries drawn; most of the Tigre lettering established southwest of Tekeze; Wolkait clearly in Tigre

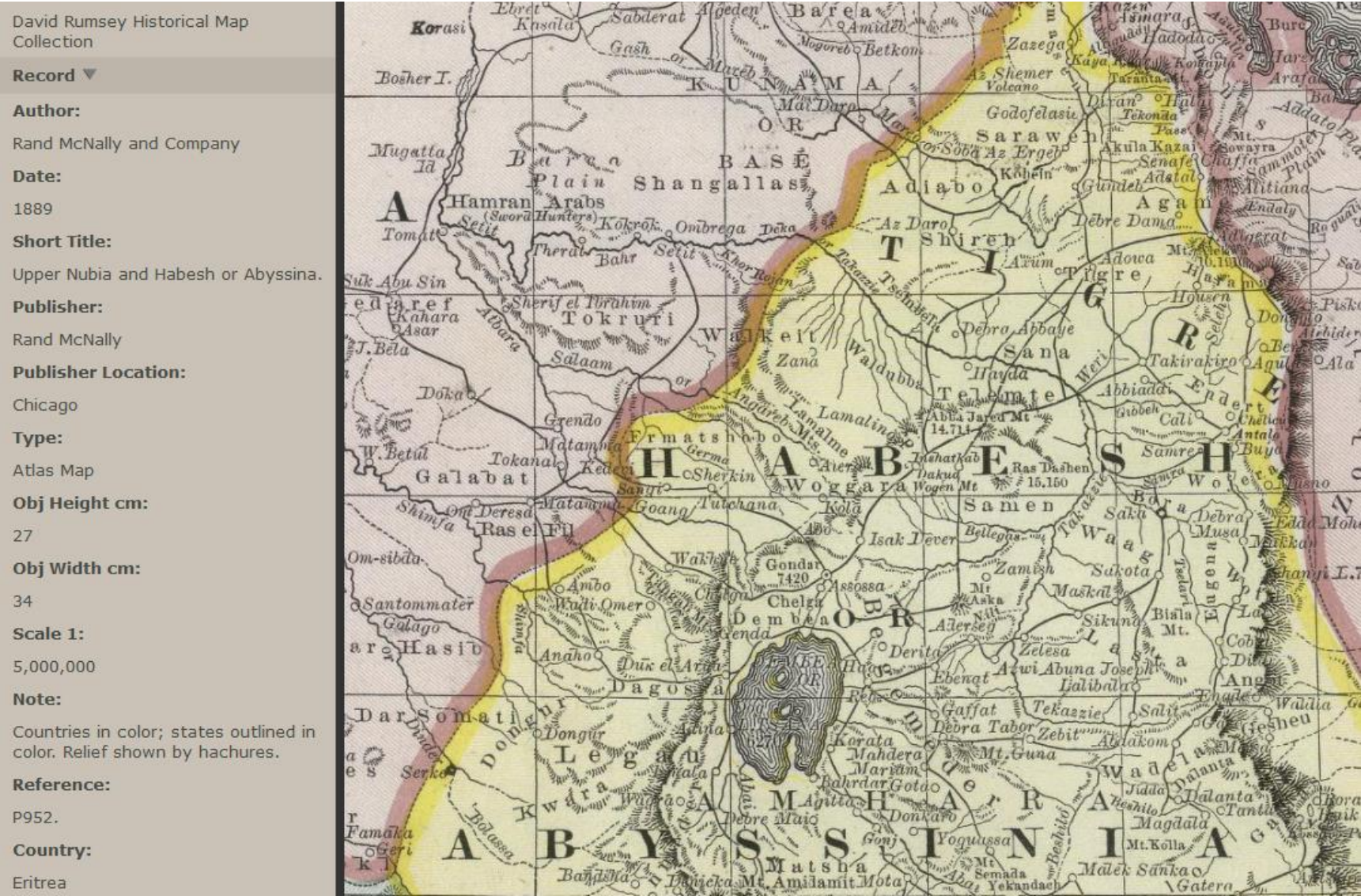


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~209908~5003708:North-Eastern-Africa->



Rand McNally, 1889

No internal boundary



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~37470~1210344:Upper-Nubia-and-Habesh-or-Abyssina->



## Habenicht, 1891

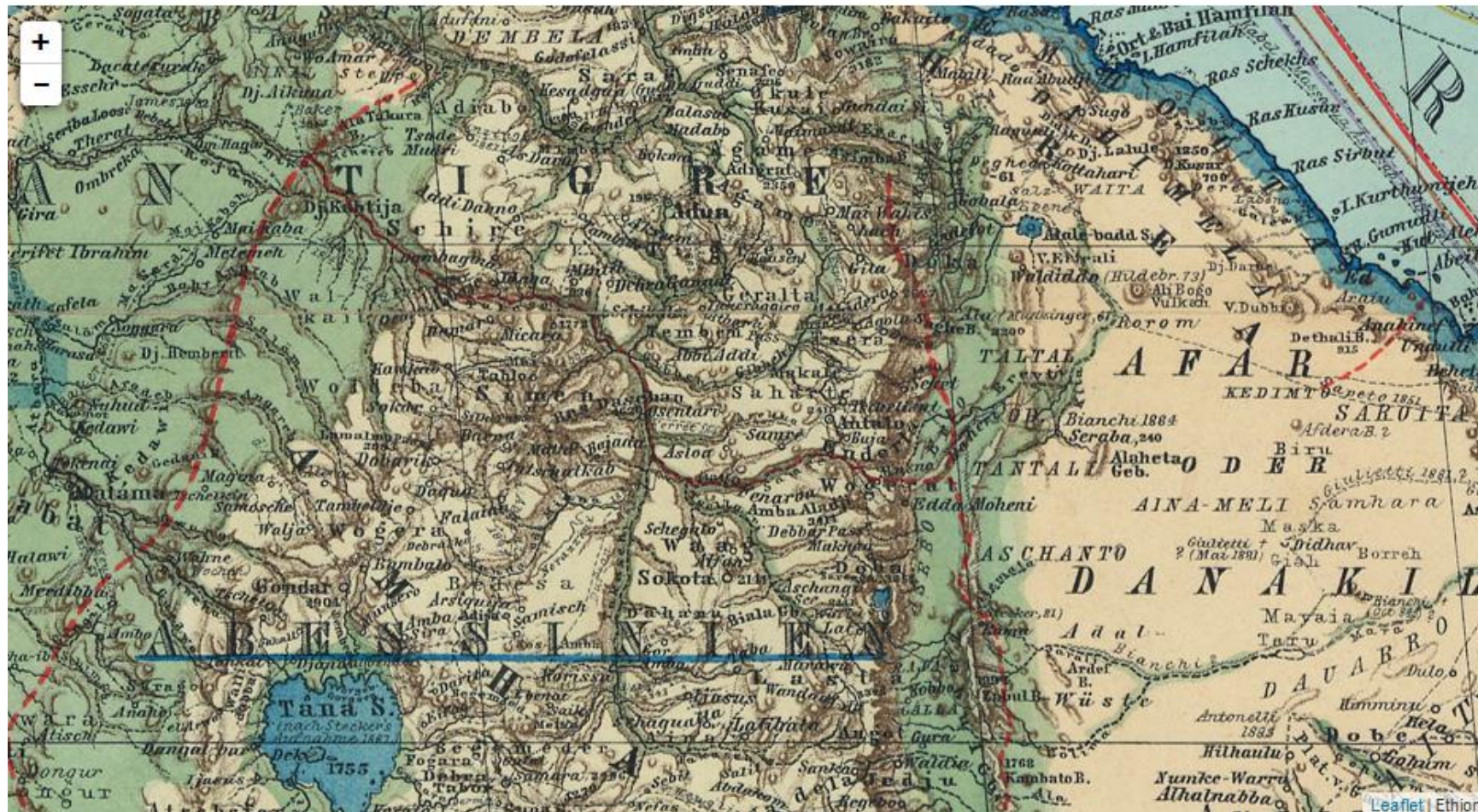
Border Amhara Tigre drawn on Tekeze R. in red colour.



## Exploring historical maps of the Horn of Africa

Home Maps Help

### Justus Perthes' Afrika (Habenicht - 1891)



[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=2](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=2)

DATA SET: HISTORICAL AND ETHNO-LINGUISTIC MAPS COVERING WESTERN TIGRAY - 77



# Johnston, 1893

In a 50- year record of atlas maps (1861-1911), this Johnston map in one instance places the border on Tekeze

David Rumsey Historical Map Collection

Record ▼

Author:

Johnston, Alexander Keith

Date:

1893

Short Title:

Upper Nubia and Abyssinia.

Publisher:

W. & A.K. Johnston

Publisher Location:

Edinburgh

Type:

Atlas Map

Obj Height cm:

47

Obj Width cm:

60

Scale 1:


2,854,868

Note:

Countries and districts outlined in color. Relief shown by hachures. Four scales.

Reference:

cfp6269 (1894 ed.).



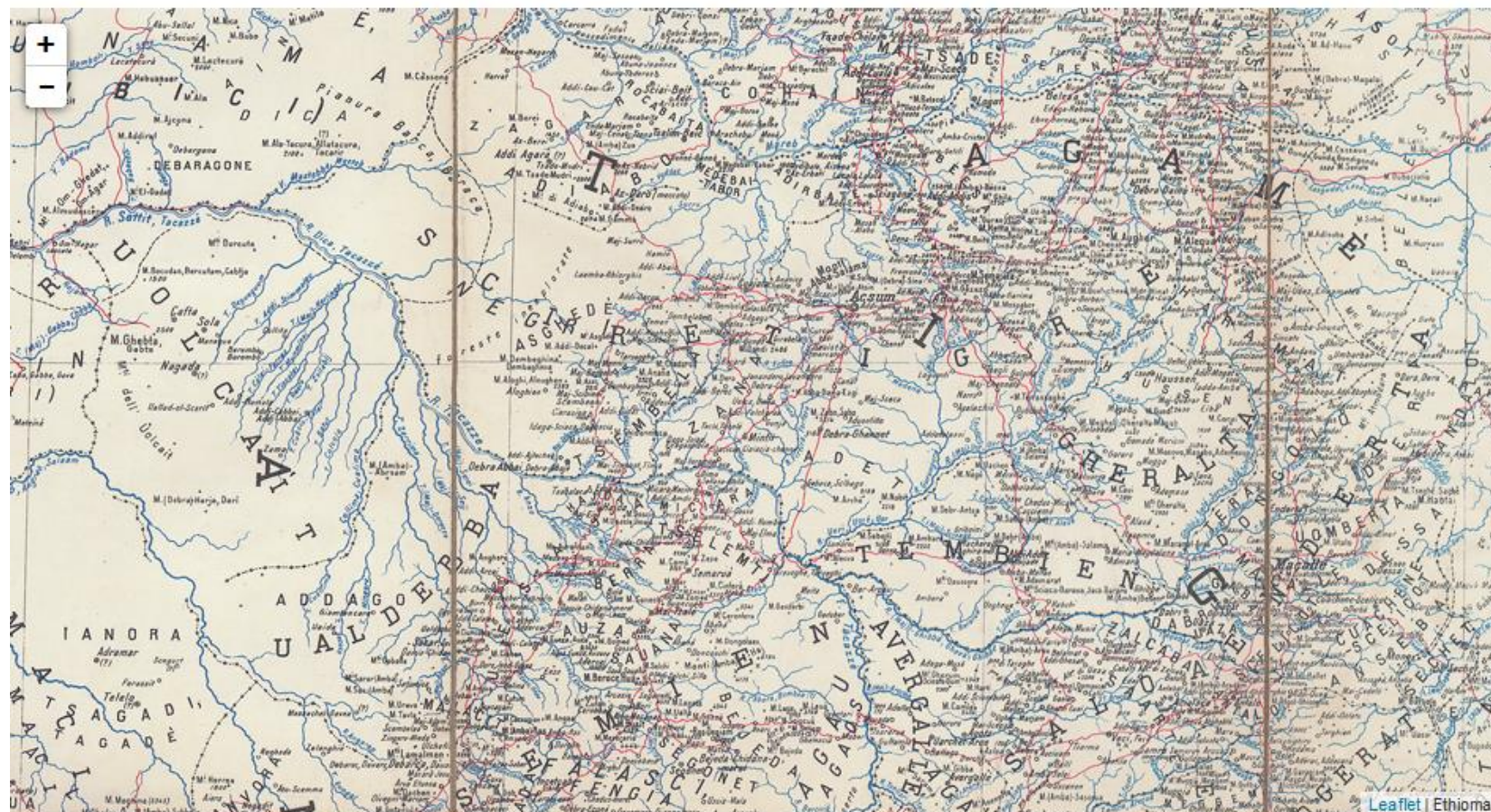
<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~37991~1211004:Upper-Nubia-and-Abyssinia->



# De Chaurand, 1894

Internal border Amara-Tigre drawn on Tekeze (+.+.+ line); 1892 version does not display borders

## Carta dimostrativa dell'Etiopia (3 - Gondar) (De Chaurand - 1894)



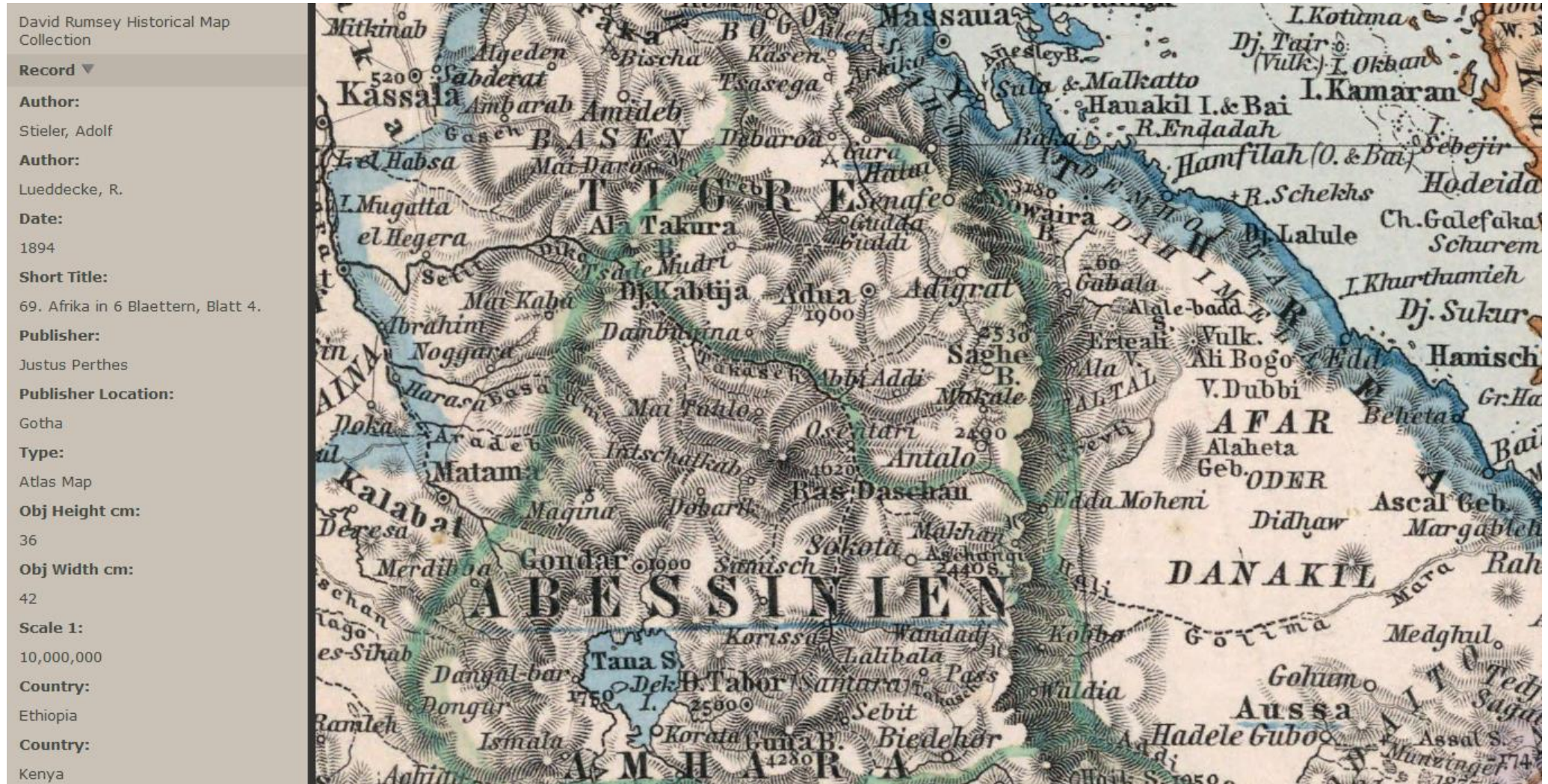
[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=61](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=61) <https://www.loc.gov/resource/g8330m.g2009578530/?sp=3>

[https://www.igmi.org/carte-antiche/digitale\\_300\\_dpi/carta-1617469319.3](https://www.igmi.org/carte-antiche/digitale_300_dpi/carta-1617469319.3)



## Stieler & Lueddecke, 1894

Internal border Amhara-Tigre on Tekeze R., but inconsistent. Italian territory not mapped.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~319981~90088877:69--Afrika-in-6-Blättern,-Blatt-4->



## Andree, 1895

Tigre and Amhara as main subunits of Abyssinia; border not drawn. Italian possessions not outlined

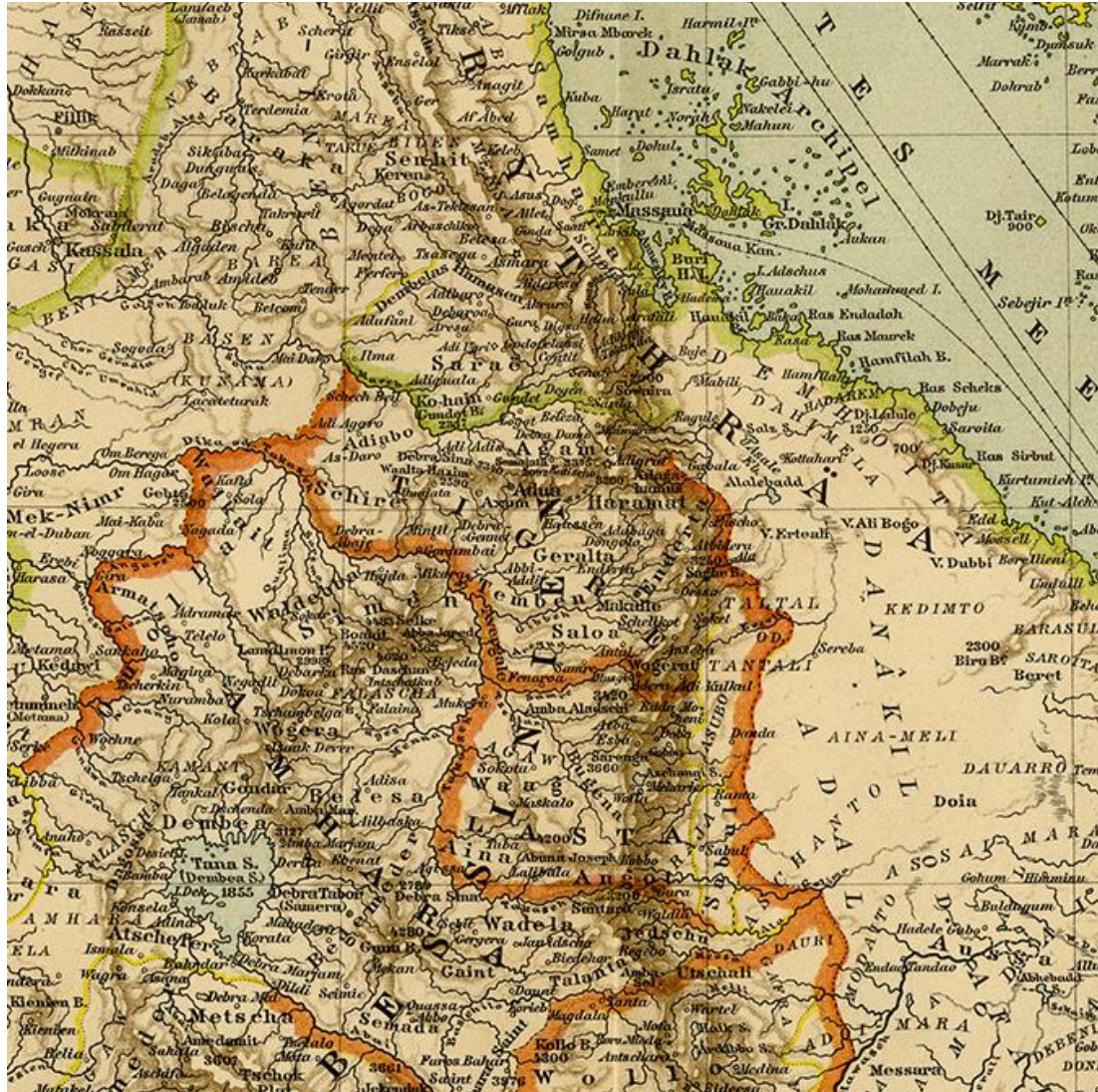
This is a detailed historical map of Abyssinia (modern-day Ethiopia) from 1895. The map uses color shading to represent elevation, with green for lower areas and brown/yellow for higher terrain. It shows numerous rivers, lakes, and mountain ranges. Major cities and towns are labeled, along with various tribal or regional names like Shire, Temen, and Wogara. The map includes a scale bar at the bottom left indicating 10,000,000 units. A small inset map in the bottom right corner shows the location of Abyssinia within the continent of Africa.

<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~30738~1150672:Africa-NE->



## Brockhaus, 1895 (similar in 1905)

Border Amhara-Tigre drawn on Tekeze River



<https://pictura-prints.com/product/antique-map-africa-arabia-eritrea-ethiopia-meyers-1895/> This map is available at many commercial sites. So far it could not be retrieved from a formal repository.



## Bergamo, 1896

Border drawn on F. Tacazze; Ualcait mapped as part of Amhara



<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b77590920/f1.item>

{ BnF Gallica

TOUTES NOS SÉLECTIONS PAR TYPES DE DOCUMENTS

### Carta dei possedimenti e zona d'influenz...





## Rand McNally, 1897

No internal borders

**Record** ▼

**Author:**  
Rand McNally and Company

**Date:**  
1897

**Short Title:**  
Abyssinia, surrounding countries.

**Publisher:**  
Rand McNally

**Publisher Location:**  
Chicago

**Type:**  
Atlas Map

**Obj Height cm:**  
32

**Obj Width cm:**  
46

**Scale 1:**  
6,450,000

**Note:**  
Col. map. Relief shown by hachures and spot heights. Indexed. "Rand, McNally & Company's" in margin.

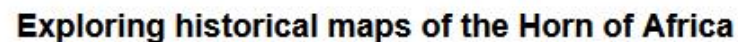
**Country:**  
Eritrea

**Country:**

<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~20367~550109:Abyssinia,-surrounding-countries->



No internal boundaries; position of Tigre and Amhara lettering suggests Simien is the boundary



Afrique - F° 29 - Gondar (Lannoy de Bissy - 1897)

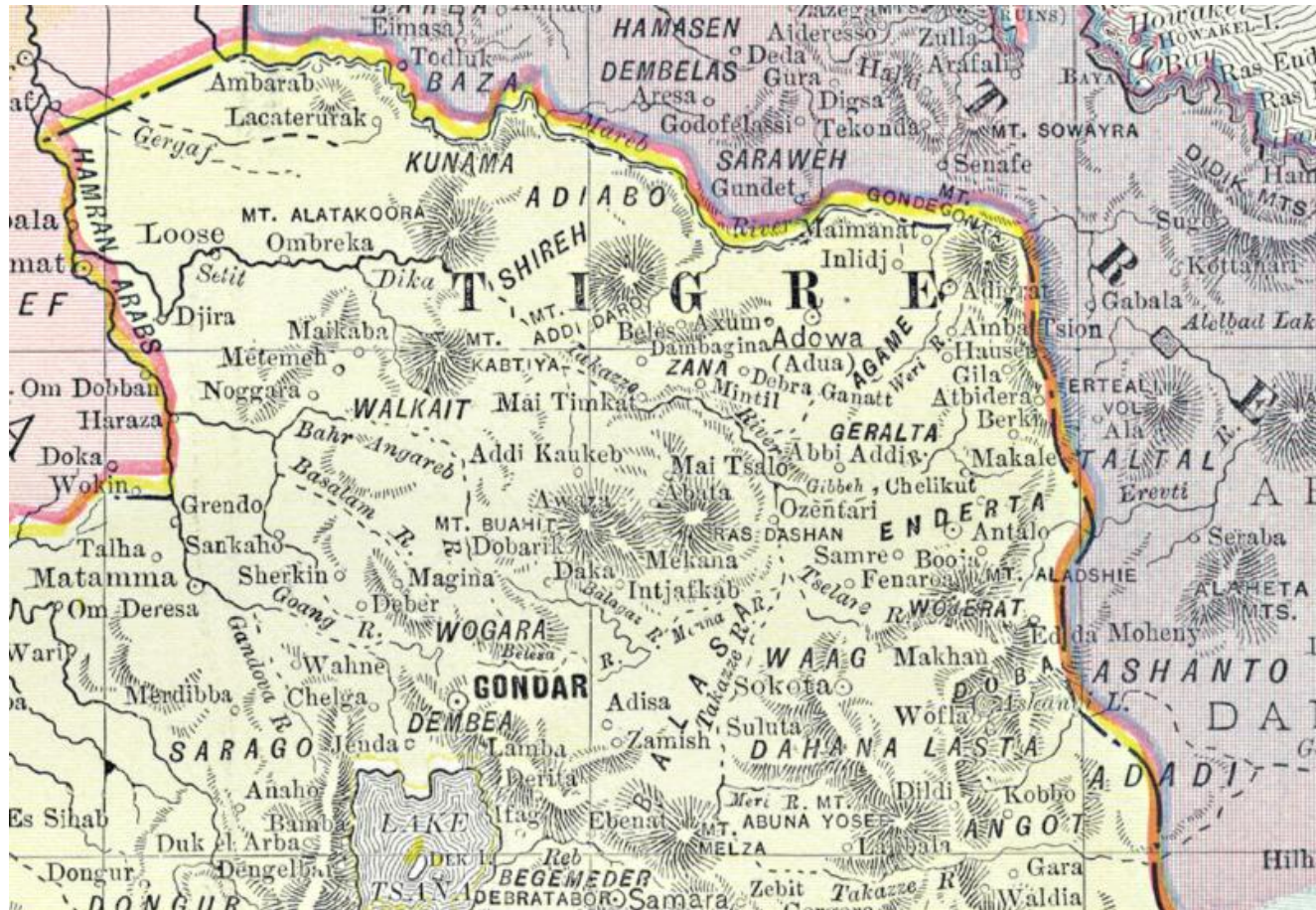


[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=30](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=30)



Rand McNally, 1898


No internal boundaries shown, lettering Tigre across Tekeze River



Please email [digicc@library.illinois.edu](mailto:digicc@library.illinois.edu) if you have comments or questions relating to this item.

## Descriptive Information

**Title**  
Abyssinia and the Surrounding Countries

**Creator**  
Rand McNally and Company 

**Place of Publication**  
United States

**Date**  
1898

<https://digital.library.illinois.edu/items/33747e30-e946-0133-1d3d-0050569601ca-d#>

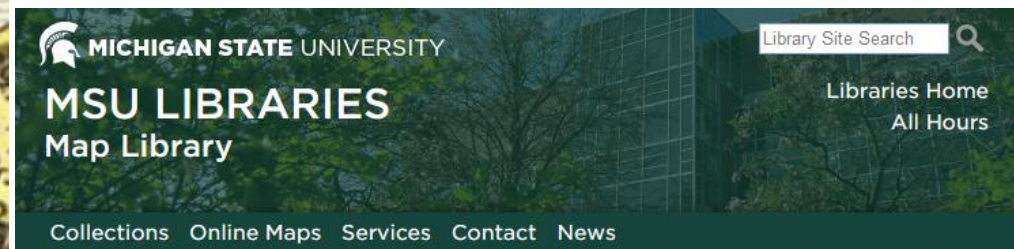


## Larousse, 1898

Lettering TIGRE across the whole northern Ethiopian highlands



<https://lib.msu.edu/branches/map/MSU-Scanned/Africa/AE25L35-1898/>



### Scanned Maps

Introduction to  
Scanned Maps  
World  
Africa

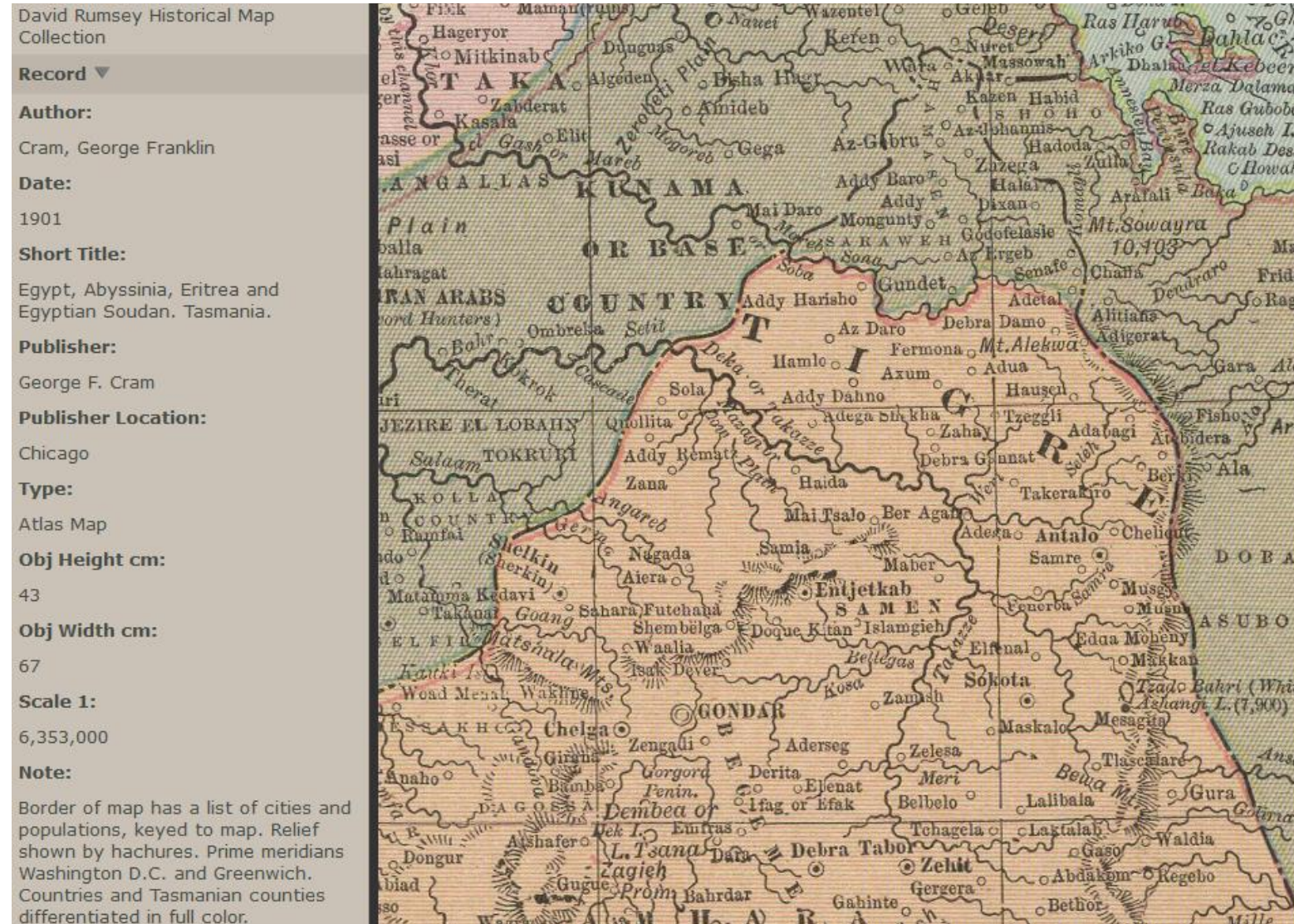
### Carte Generale de l'Afrique

In *Nouveau Larousse Illustré: Dictionnaire universel encyclopédique*, publié sous la direction de Claude Augé. Paris, Librairie Larousse. 1898-1904.



## Cram, 1901 (similar in 1889 and 1893)

Internal borders not drawn

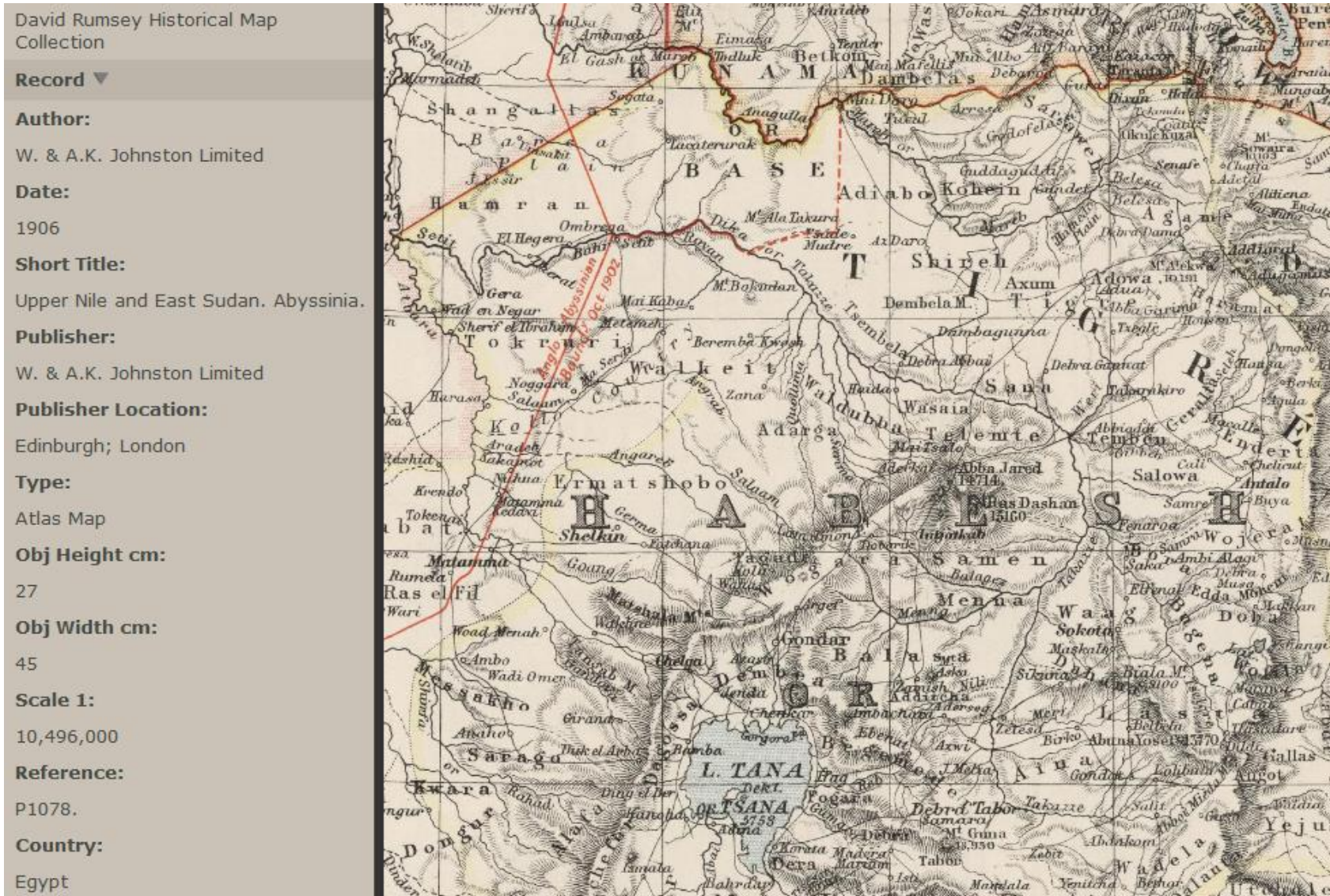


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~213586~5501058: Egypt,-Abyssinia,-Eritrea-and-Egypt>



## Johnston, 1906

Tigré-Amhara border not shown. Eritrean border according to Ethiopian claims.

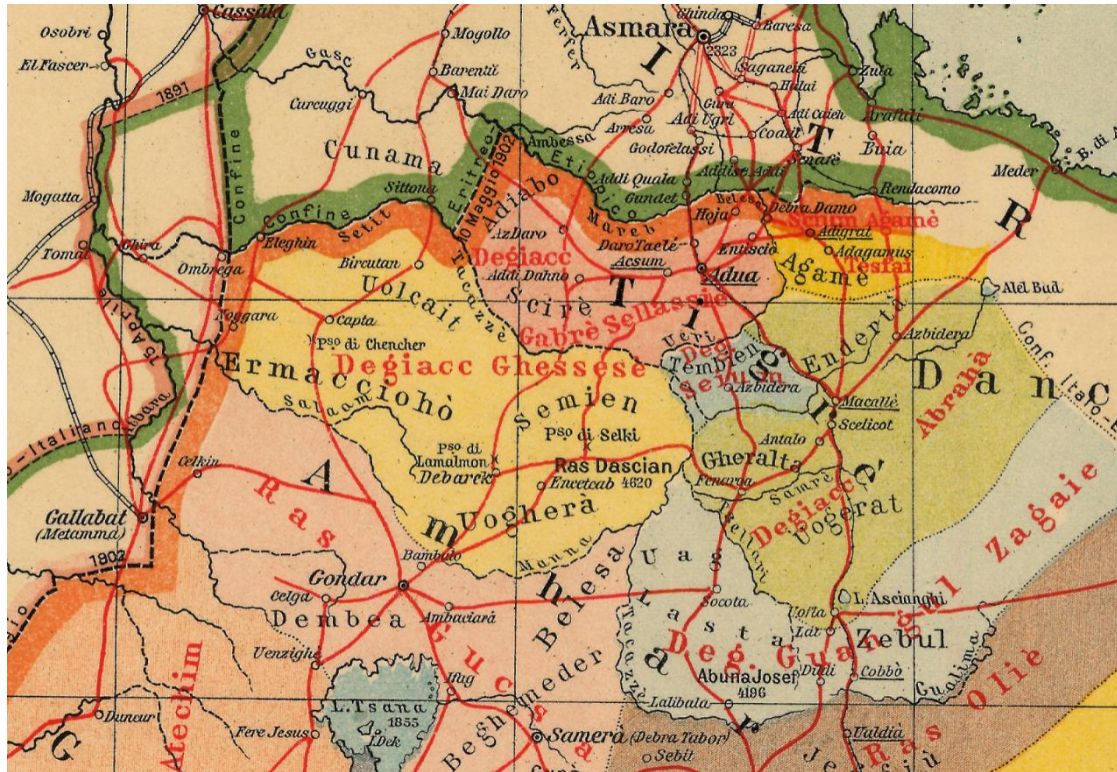


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~238158~5511391:Upper-Nile-and-East-Sudan--Abyssini>



## Rossetti, 1907

Within the map series, there is this particular moment in time where emperor Menelik has cut Tigray in half a dozen of territories, the northern part bartered to Italy and the other princedoms directly tributary to him.



<https://collections.lib.uwm.edu/digital/collection/agdm/id/10634/>



American Geographical Society Library

Home > American Geographical Society Library Digital Map Collection > Schizzo Dimostrativo della situazione politica

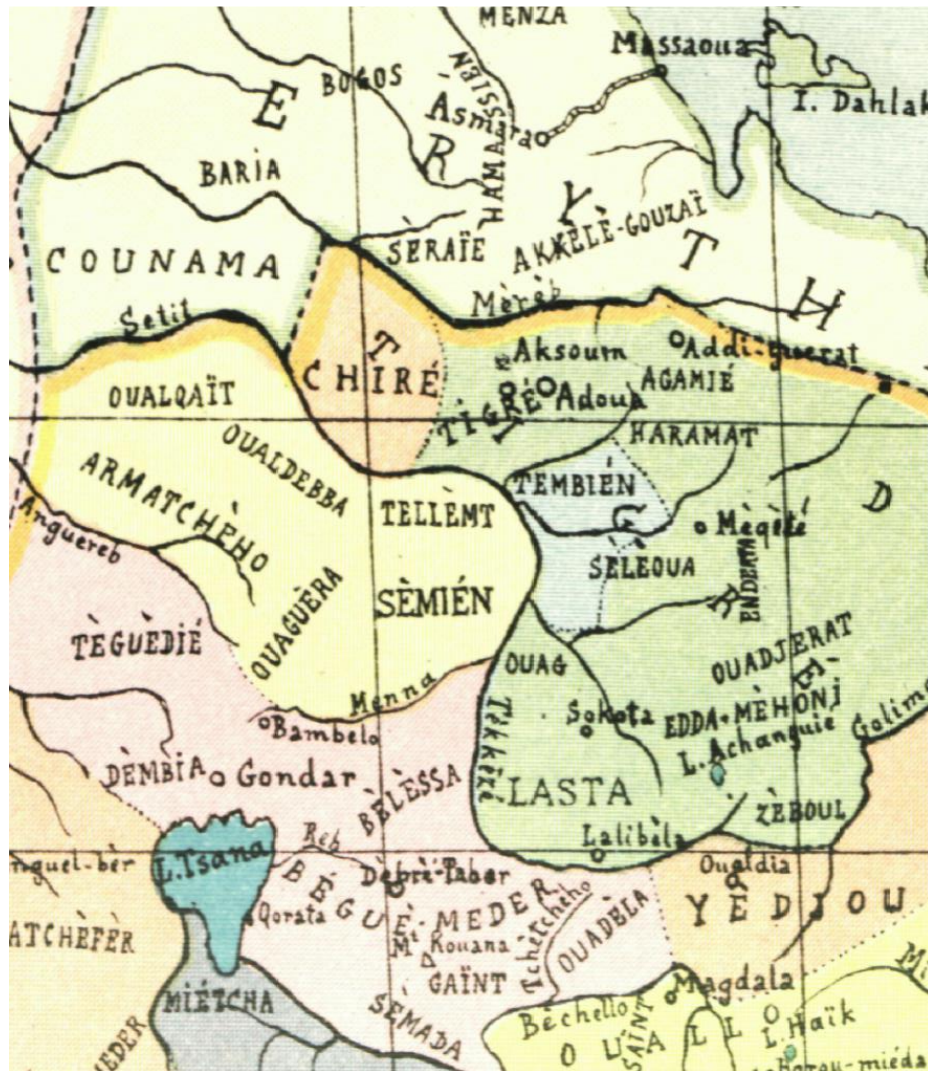
Schizzo Dimostrativo della situazione politica nell'Africa Orientale / Ist Geogr. Dott. G. de Agostini & C.





## Guèbrè Sellassié, Tèsfa Sellassié, De Coppet, 1909

This is based on the work of Menelik's chronicler Guèbrè Sellassié. Though published in 1930, the map refers to the period of Menelik's reign, more precisely 1909. Many elements taken from Rossetti (1907). At the position of the current Western Tigray, there were districts Oualqaït, Sèmién, etc., intermediate between Tigré and Béguè-Meder.



Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur

## CHRONIQUE DU RÈGNE DE MÉNÉLIK II ROI DES ROIS D'ÉTHIOPIE

Traduite de l'amharique  
PAR  
TESFA SELLASSIE

Publiée et annotée  
PAR  
MAURICE DE COPPET  
ANCIEN MINISTRE DE FRANCE EN ÉTHIOPIE.

## ATLAS

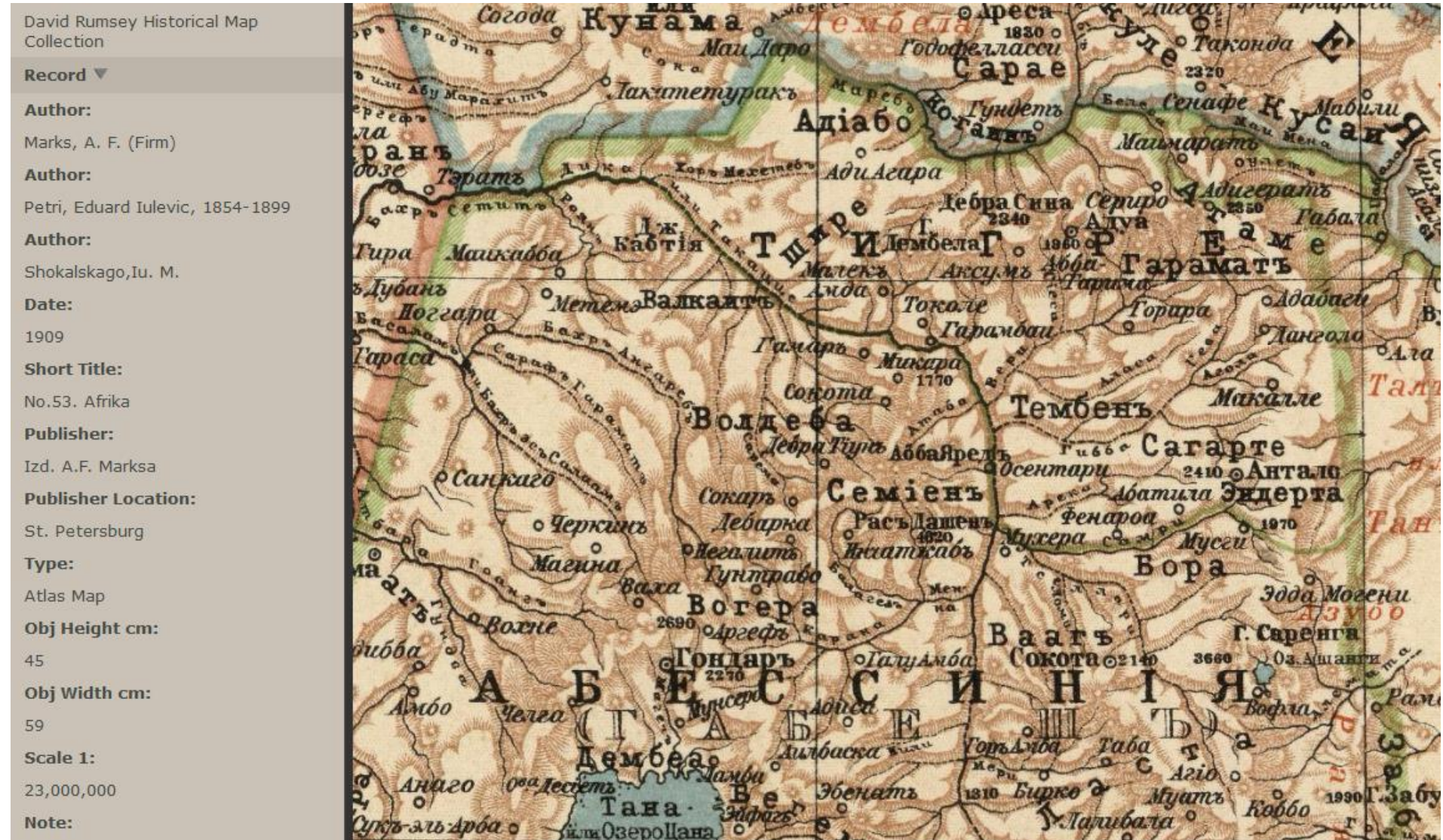


[http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/digital/collections/cul/texts/ldpd\\_10249517\\_000/ldpd\\_10249517\\_000.pdf](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/digital/collections/cul/texts/ldpd_10249517_000/ldpd_10249517_000.pdf)



## Petri & Shokalskago, 1909

Border on Tekeze, in green colour



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~255796~5520039:No-53--Afrika>



# Johnston, 1911

Tigré-Amhara border not shown. Eritrean border drawn according to Ethiopian claims.

David Rumsey Historical Map Collection

Record ▼

Author:

Johnston, W. & A.K.

Date:

1911

Short Title:

Upper Nubia and Abyssinia.

Publisher:

W. & A.K. Johnston

Publisher Location:

Edinburgh

Type:

Atlas Map

Obj Height cm:

47

Obj Width cm:

60

Scale 1:

2,854,868

Note:

Countries outlined in color. Relief shown by hachures. Three scales.

Reference:

cfp6269 (1894 ed.).



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~37127~1210668:Upper-Nubia-and-Abyssinia->

DATA SET: HISTORICAL AND ETHNO-LINGUISTIC MAPS COVERING WESTERN TIGRAY - 93



## Rand McNally, 1912

No internal borders; lettering Tigre spans across Tekeze

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

Record ▼

Author:

Rand McNally and Company

Date:

1912

Short Title:

Abyssinia.

Publisher:

Rand McNally and Company

Publisher Location:

Chicago

Type:

Atlas Map

Obj Height cm:

41

Obj Width cm:

30

Scale 1:

6,399,360

Reference:

P3637b.

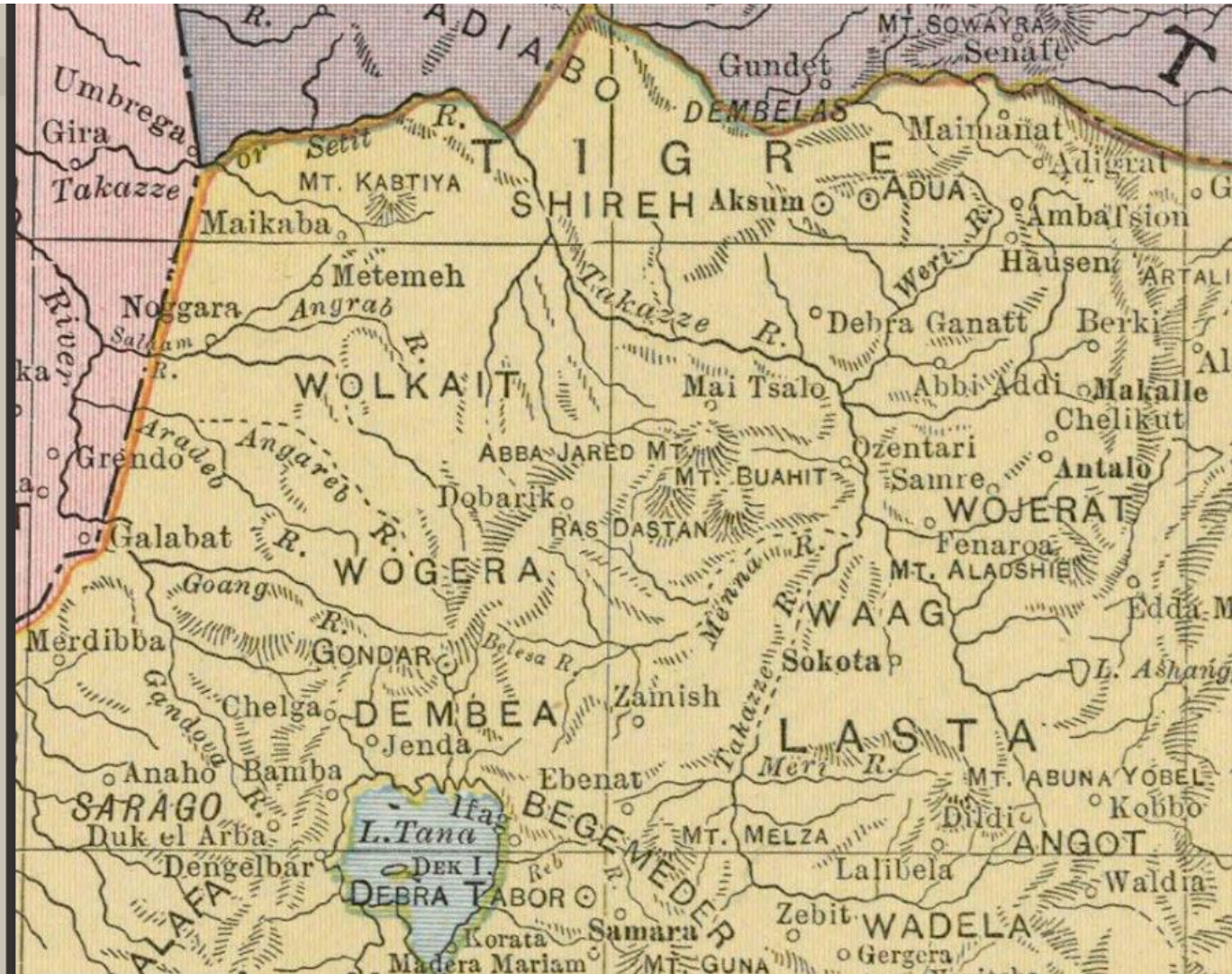
Country:

Ethiopia

Country:

Djiouti

Country:

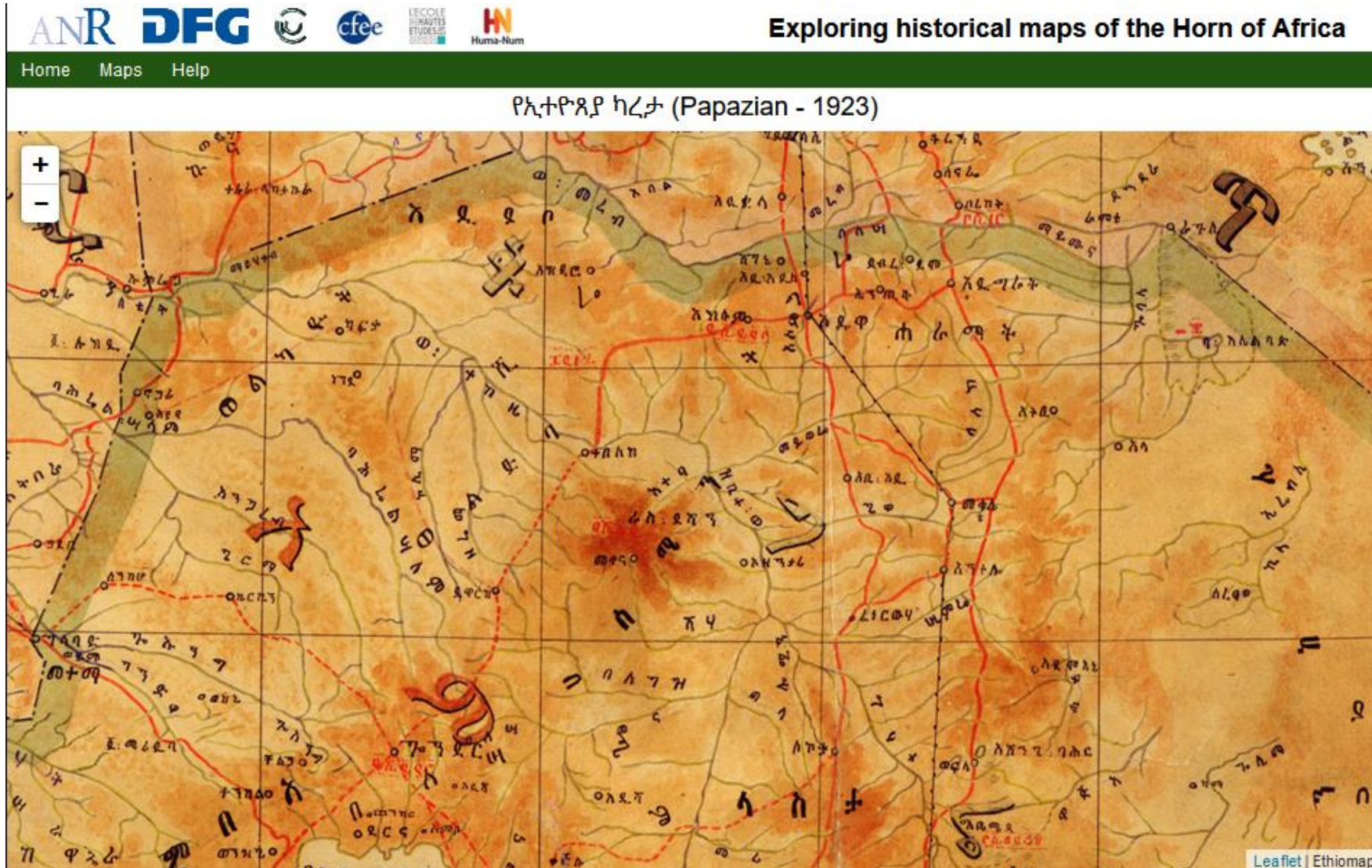


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~308634~90078214:Abyssinia->



## Papazian, 1923

Tigre and Amhara as main subunits; border not drawn. Eritrean border according to Ethiopian claims.

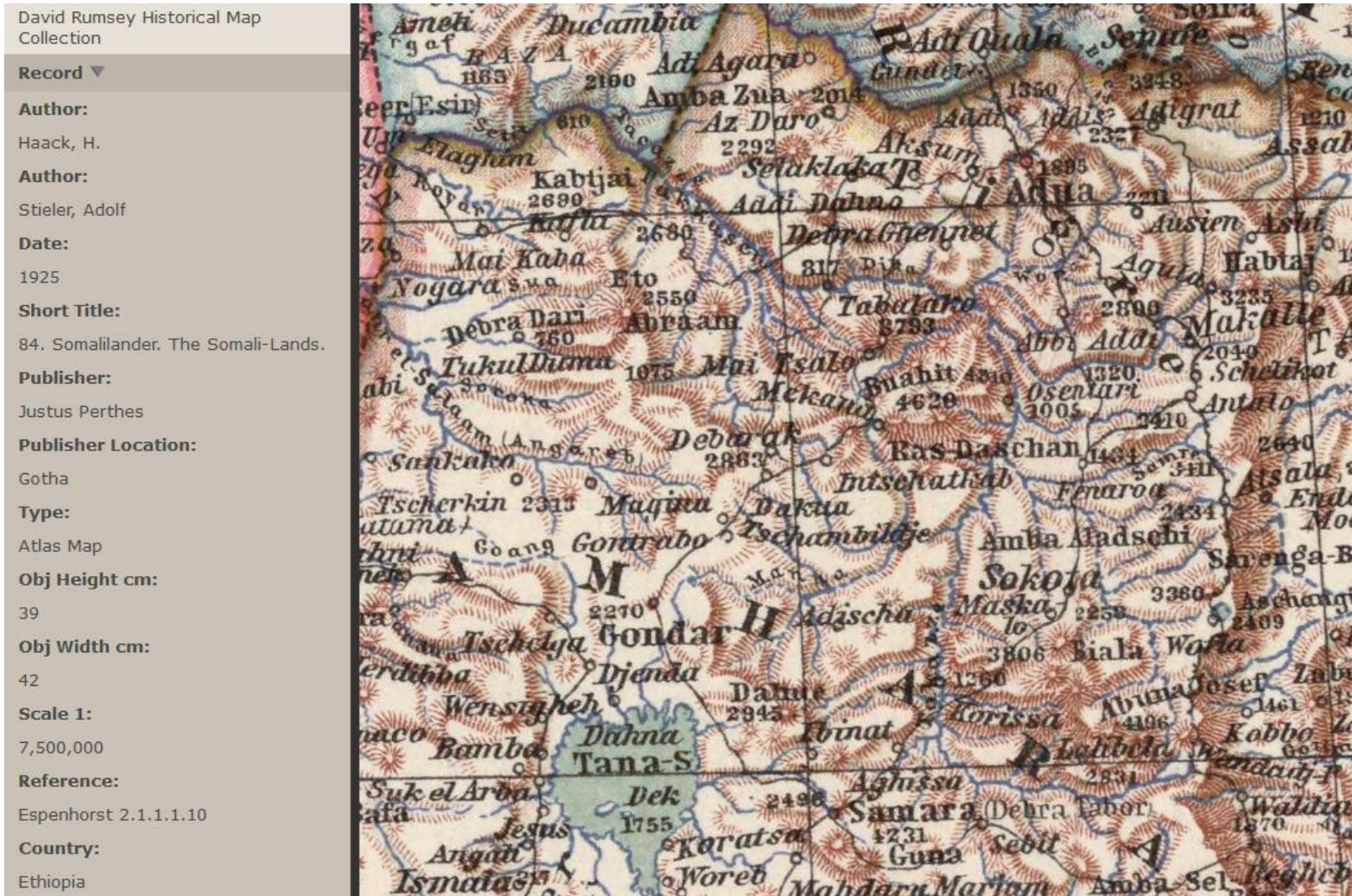


[https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id\\_article=9](https://ethiomap.huma-num.fr/public/?id_article=9)



## Haack & Stieler, 1925

Internal border not shown; Eritrean border according to Italian claims

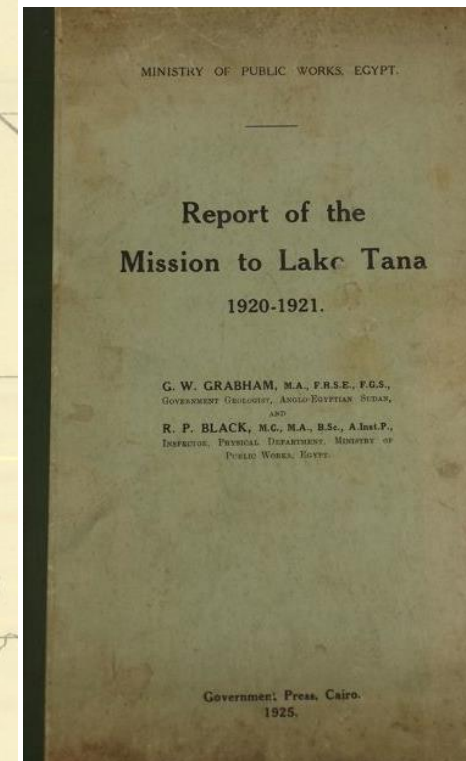
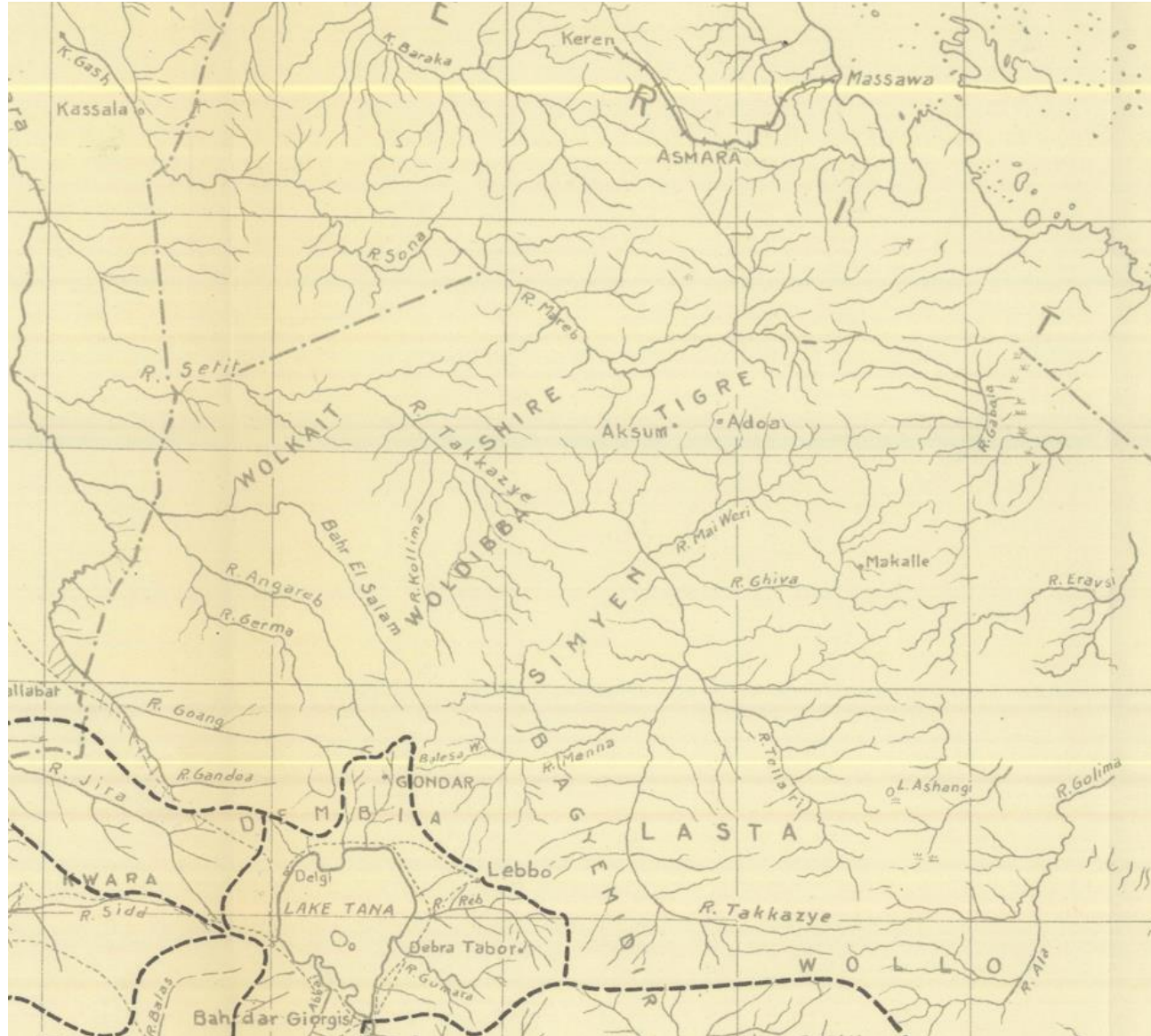


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~265654~90040053:84--Somaliländer--The-Somali-Lands->



## Grabham & Black, 1925.

Border with Eritrea according to Ethiopian interpretation; internal boundaries not drawn. (The dotted lines represent major catchments of the Blue Nile basin).





## Dardano, 1925

No border drawn



**English:** Africa Orientale - Carta dimostrativa fisico-politica costruita / redatta e disegnata da Achille Dardano, Ministero delle Colonie. Ufficio studi e propaganda

1925



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українська | বাংলা | עברית | +/-

Achille Dardano (1870–1938)   

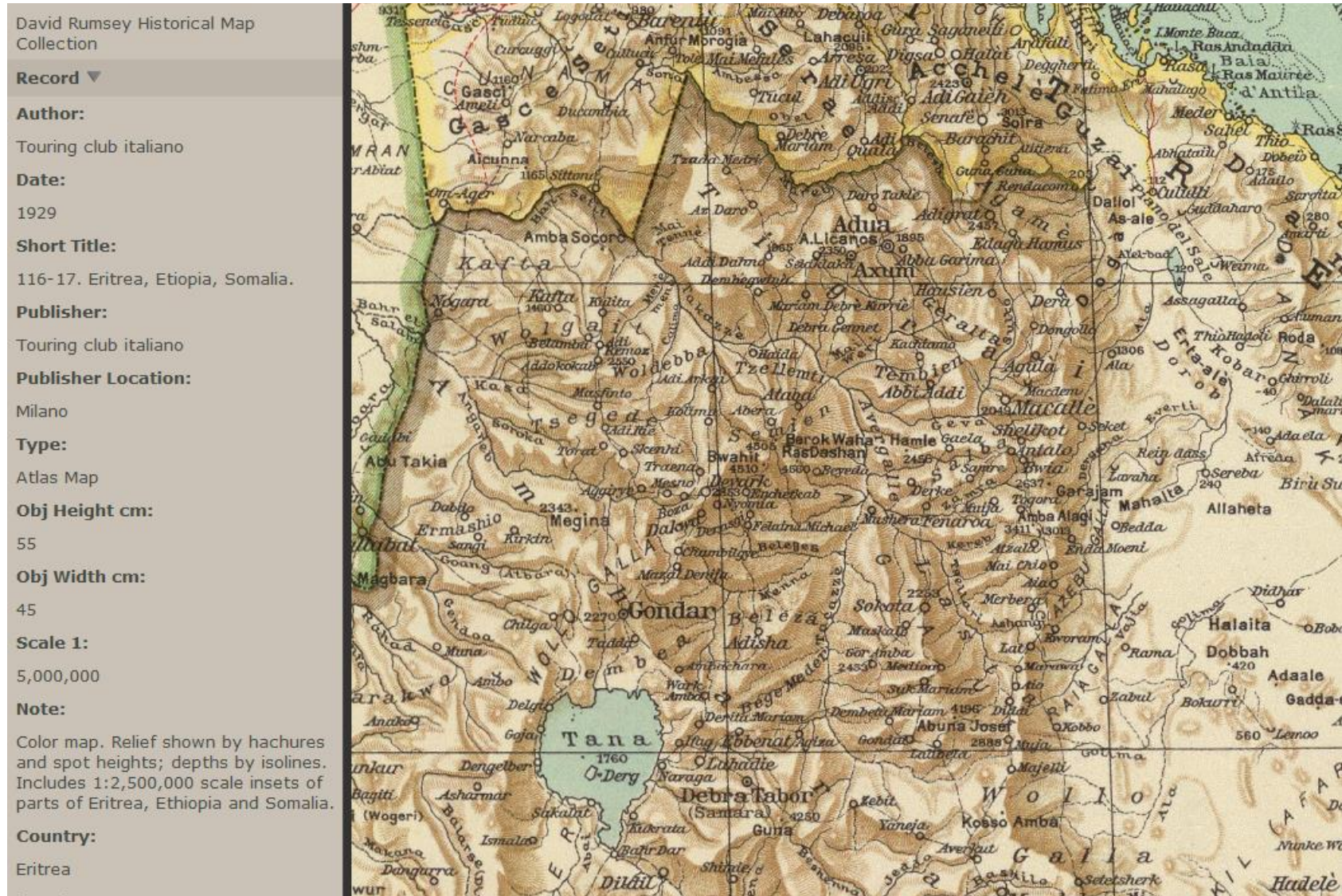
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:1925 - Africa Orientale - Carta dimostrativa fisico-politica.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:1925_-_Africa_Orientale_-_Carta_dimostrativa_fisico-politica.jpg)

<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b53064995t>



## Touring Club Italiano, 1929

Tigray and Amhara as subunits of Ethiopia; border not drawn. Italian possessions outlined with border along Italian claims.



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~31884~1151211:116-17--Eritrea,-Ethiopia,-Somalia->



## IGMI, 1935

“Carta del Tigray”, one map on two sheets, before Italian occupation



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Carta del Tigray Everything

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**Carta del Tigray / Istituto Militare Geografico.**  
Istituto geografico militare (Italy)  
[Firenze] : Istituto Geografico Militare, 1935.

**Details** [I want this](#)

**Title:** [Carta del Tigray](#) / Istituto Militare Geografico.  
**Author:** [Istituto geografico militare \(Italy\)](#)  
**Subjects:** [Tigray Region \(Ethiopia\)](#) -- Maps; Maps;  
[Dewey: 912.634](#)  
**Publication Details:** [Firenze] : Istituto Geografico Militare, 1935.  
**Language:** Italian  
**Description:** Contents: Om Ager -- Adua.  
**Identifier:** System number: 018941675  
**Notes:** Relief shown by hachures and spot heights.  
**Physical Description:** 1 map on 2 sheets : colour ; 108 cm x 55 cm; Scale 1:400,000  
**Shelfmark(s):** Cartographic Items Maps X.13823.  
**UIN:** BLL01018941675

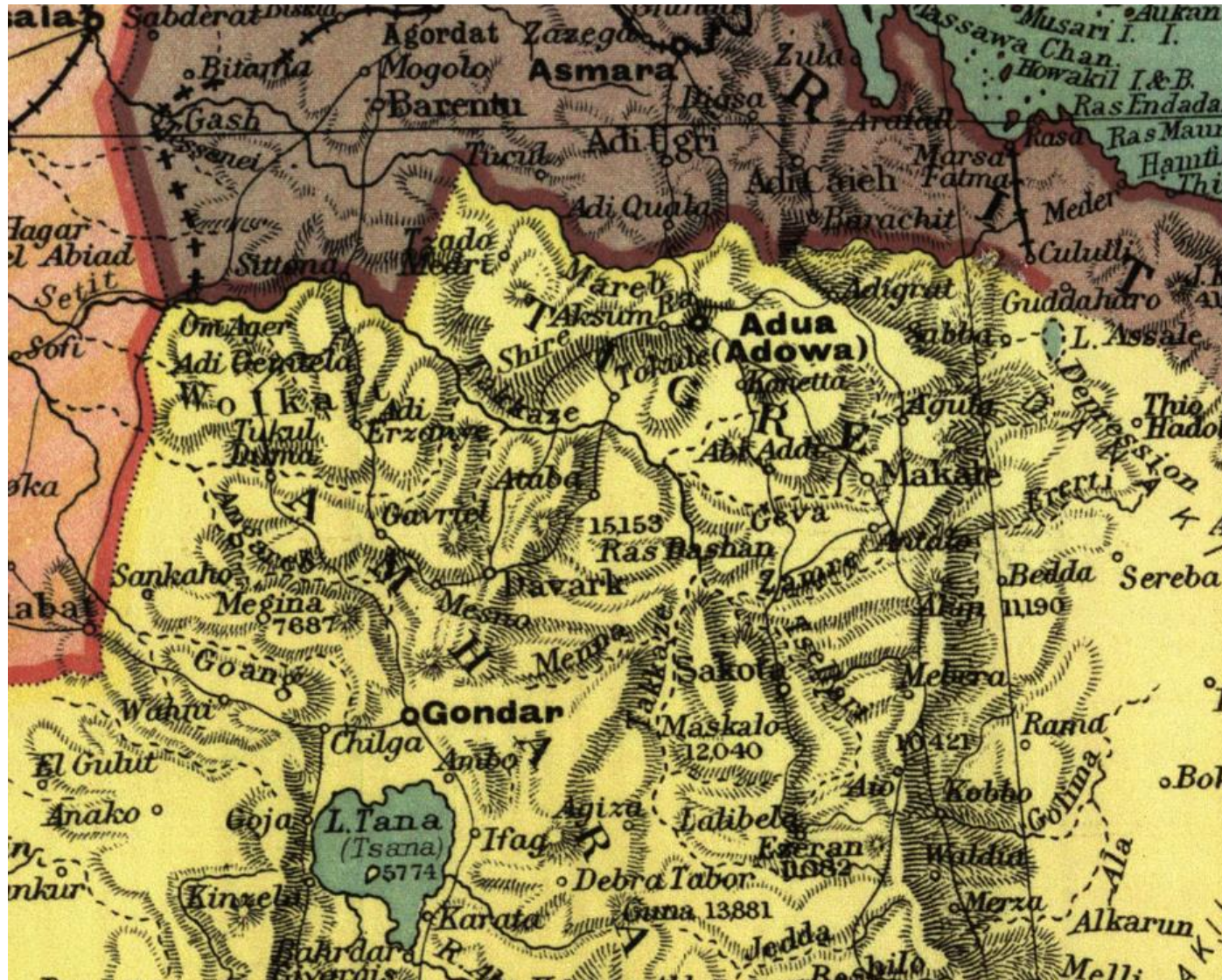
<http://explore.bl.uk/BLVU1:LSCOP-ALL:BLL01018941675>; [https://search.nls.uk/permalink/f/sbbkgr/44NLS\\_ALMA21433089100004341](https://search.nls.uk/permalink/f/sbbkgr/44NLS_ALMA21433089100004341);  
[https://www.igmi.org/en/carte-antiche/colori\\_a1/carta-1617469408.27](https://www.igmi.org/en/carte-antiche/colori_a1/carta-1617469408.27) and [https://www.igmi.org/en/carte-antiche/digitale\\_300\\_dpi/carta-1617469408.75](https://www.igmi.org/en/carte-antiche/digitale_300_dpi/carta-1617469408.75)

DATA SET: HISTORICAL AND ETHNO-LINGUISTIC MAPS COVERING WESTERN TIGRAY - 100



## The Daily Telegraph, 1935.

No internal borders shown. Similar map published in 1935 by The Times.

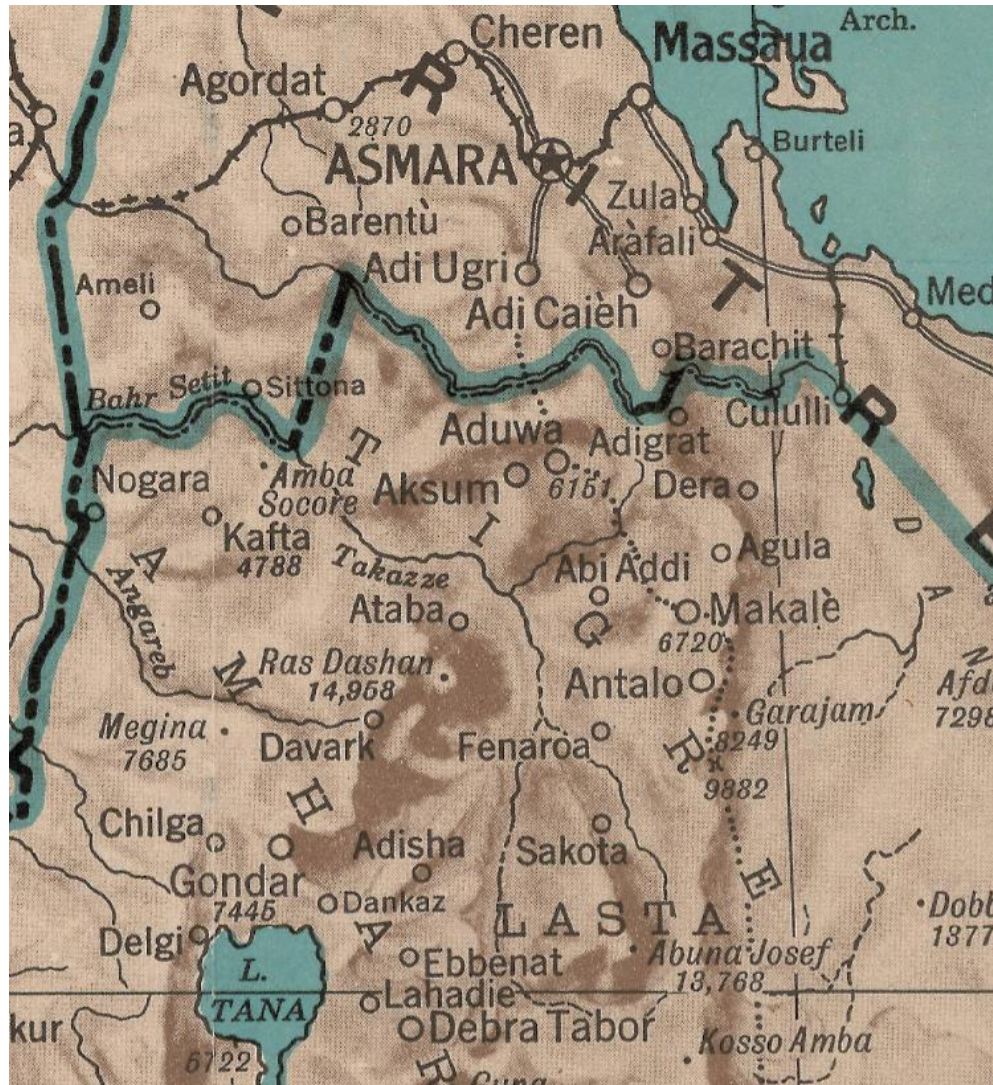


(map from private collection)



## Hammond, 1935

No internal boundaries displayed



Map of Ethiopia and adjoining territories

Ethiopia 1935

1935

C.S. Hammond & Co. Inc.

Ethiopia -- Maps

Africa

Ethiopia

Includes 2 inset maps, location map and population comparison diagram.

cartographic image

Still Image

Color

1:6,336,000

American Geographical Society Library - Maps

351 A-[1935]

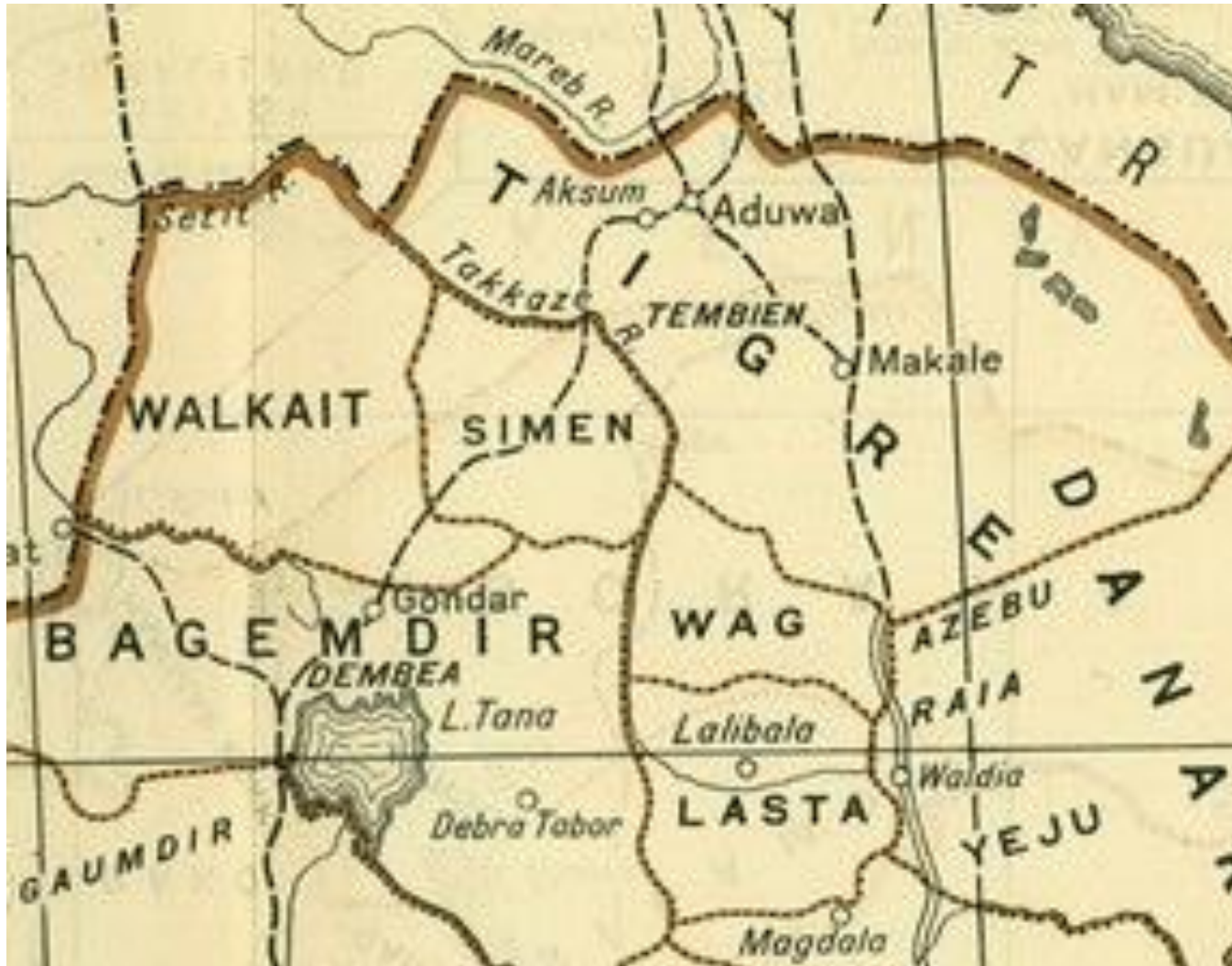
American Geographical Society Library, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

<https://collections.lib.uwm.edu/digital/collection/agdm/id/10629/>



Perham, 1935

1935 situation, published in 1948. No direct border between Bagemdir and Tigre.

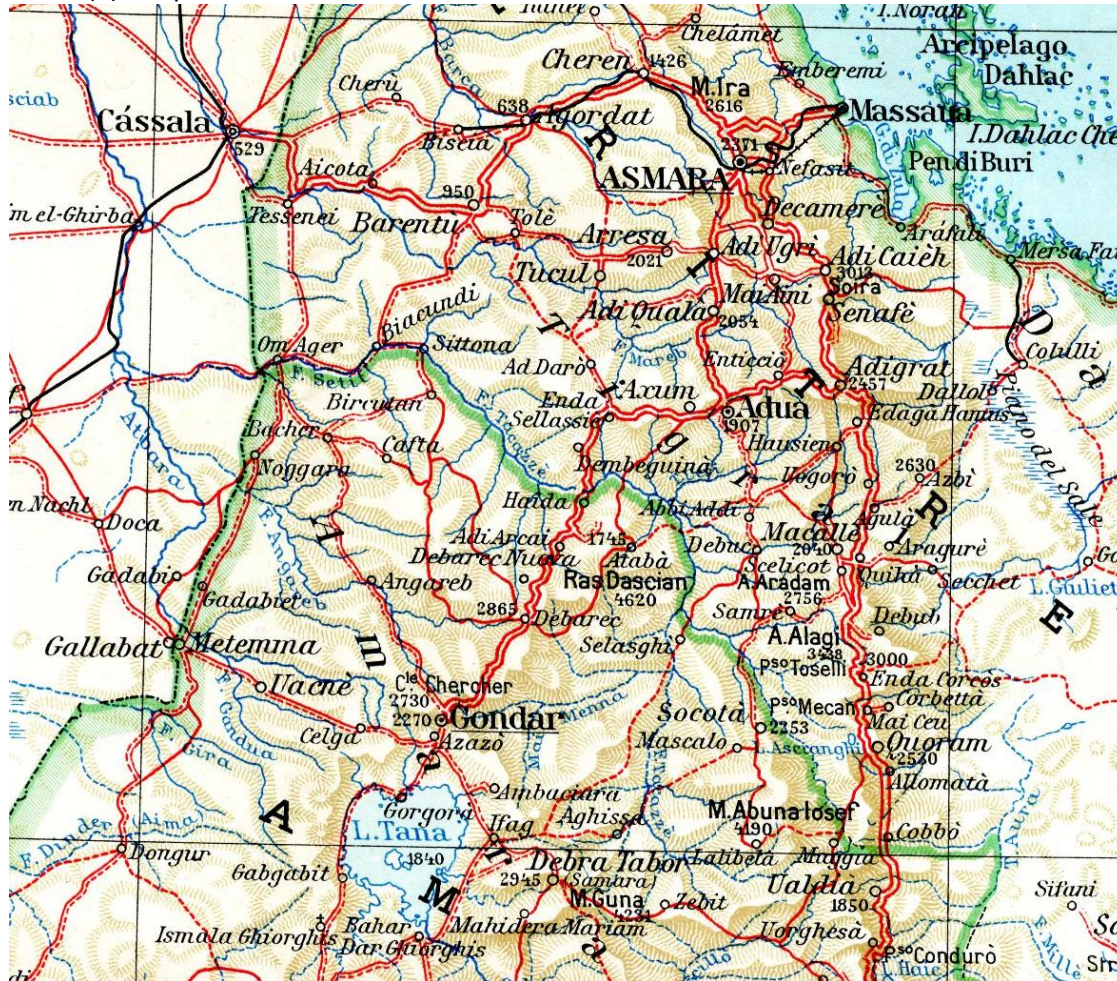



Perham M.F., 1948. The government of Ethiopia. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 481 p. (Own scan)



## Consociazione Turistica Italiano, 1938

Widely published map. For a period of five years (1936-1941), most parts of the Horn of Africa were included in “Africa orientale Italiana” (AOI). Within this AOI, the Eritrean southern frontier lost its status of international boundary, as Eritrea was attached to Tigray, becoming a province of the newly formed AOI (2). The administrative borders are clearly represented on this map. Border between Eritrea/Tigray and Amara follows the Tekeze River. Numerous Italian maps published in 1936-1938 by IGMI but also by media display this course of the border between “Amara” and “Eritrea”. This situation was also reproduced on British/South African topographic maps of Ethiopia in the 1940s (3). Maps in 1939-1941 show a different situation.




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BOOK

**Africa orientale italiana.**

Touring club italiano.

1938

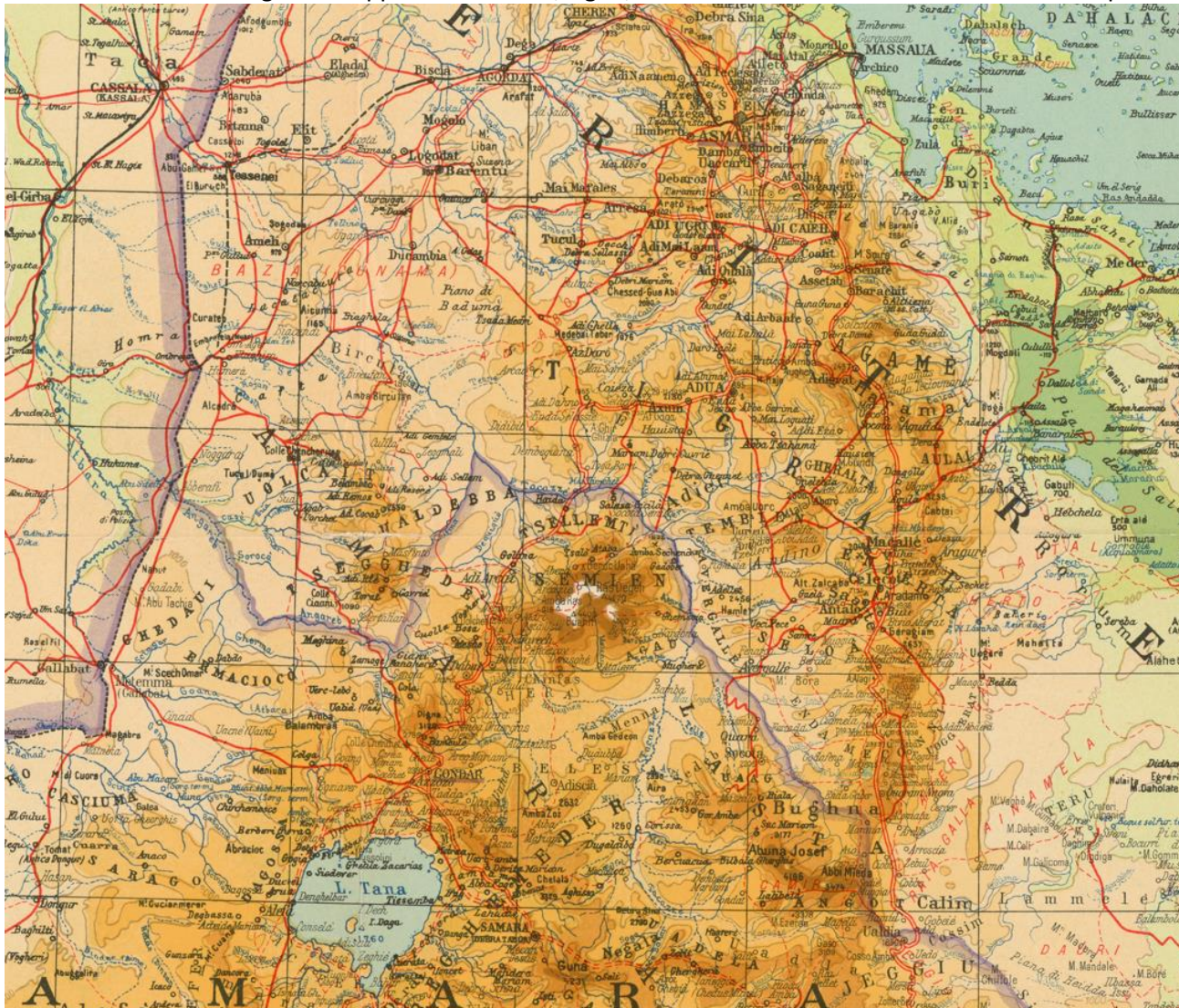
Shelved Under: Touring club italiano.

[https://catalyst.londonlibrary.co.uk/discovery/fulldisplay?docid=alma990004461790206436&context=L&vid=44LON\\_INST:LondonLib&lang=en&search\\_scope=MyInst\\_and\\_CI&adaptor=Local%20Search%20Engine&tab=Everything&query=any,contains,africa%20orientale%20italiana%201938&offset=0](https://catalyst.londonlibrary.co.uk/discovery/fulldisplay?docid=alma990004461790206436&context=L&vid=44LON_INST:LondonLib&lang=en&search_scope=MyInst_and_CI&adaptor=Local%20Search%20Engine&tab=Everything&query=any,contains,africa%20orientale%20italiana%201938&offset=0)



## Ministero dell'Africa Italiana, 1939

On 1 July 1939, the Italian coloniser made an administrative rearrangement: “Setit-Angareb” (Uolcait) was included again with Eritrea/Tigray (Gov. Gen. Decree on 1 July 1939) (4-6). As of the second half of 1939, the change in administrative border between “Governo Eritrea” and “Governo Amara” is clearly represented on the Italian maps. Welkait and surroundings are mapped with Eritrea/Tigrai; Tselemti and Dima included in Amara. Compare to next page, and De Agostini, 1941.



Africa orientale Italiana : carta dimostrativa fisico-politica / Ministero Dell' Italiana ufficio studi servizio cartografico. Costruita, redatta e disegnata di:  
Achille Dardano

Dardano, Achille \*1870-1938\*

Italia / Ministero dell'Africa Italiana / Ufficio Studi

3. ed. aggiornata al 31 dicembre 1938-XVII

1:2.000.000

Italian

Bergamo : Istituto Italiano d'Arti Grafiche, 1939

1 Kt : mehrfarb ; 95 x 112 cm

Nebent.: Carta fisico politica dell' Africa orientale Italiana

Kart. C 6510<3>

Unter den Linden - Requesting/Consulting in the Maps Reading Room  
contact

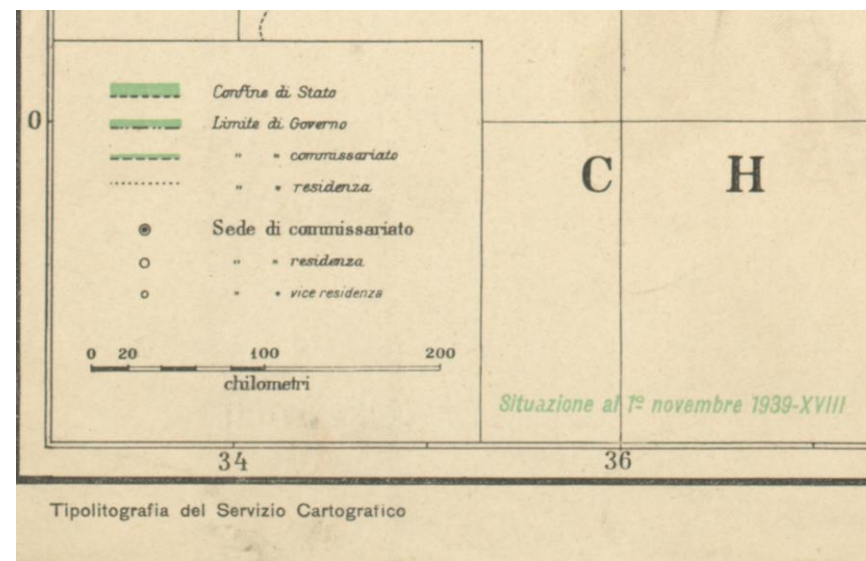
<https://stabikat.de/DB=1/LNG=EN/CLK?IKT=12&TRM=392452332>

DATA SET: HISTORICAL AND ETHNO-LINGUISTIC MAPS COVERING WESTERN TIGRAY - 105



## Ministero dell'Africa Italiana, 1940

Administrative borders clearly represented. Welkait and surroundings (the hexagon north of Lake Tana) mapped with Eritrea/Tigrai; Addi Arcai district, including the current Tselemti and Dima woredas, is included in "Amara". Boundaries as of November 1939, published in 1940.



**Libreria:** Libreria Grandangolo di Salvarani Paolo e c. sas (Italia)



**Soggetti:** Storia e politica - colonie - Geografia viaggi esplorazioni - Prodotti

**Peso di spedizione:** 1.000 g

### Note Bibliografiche

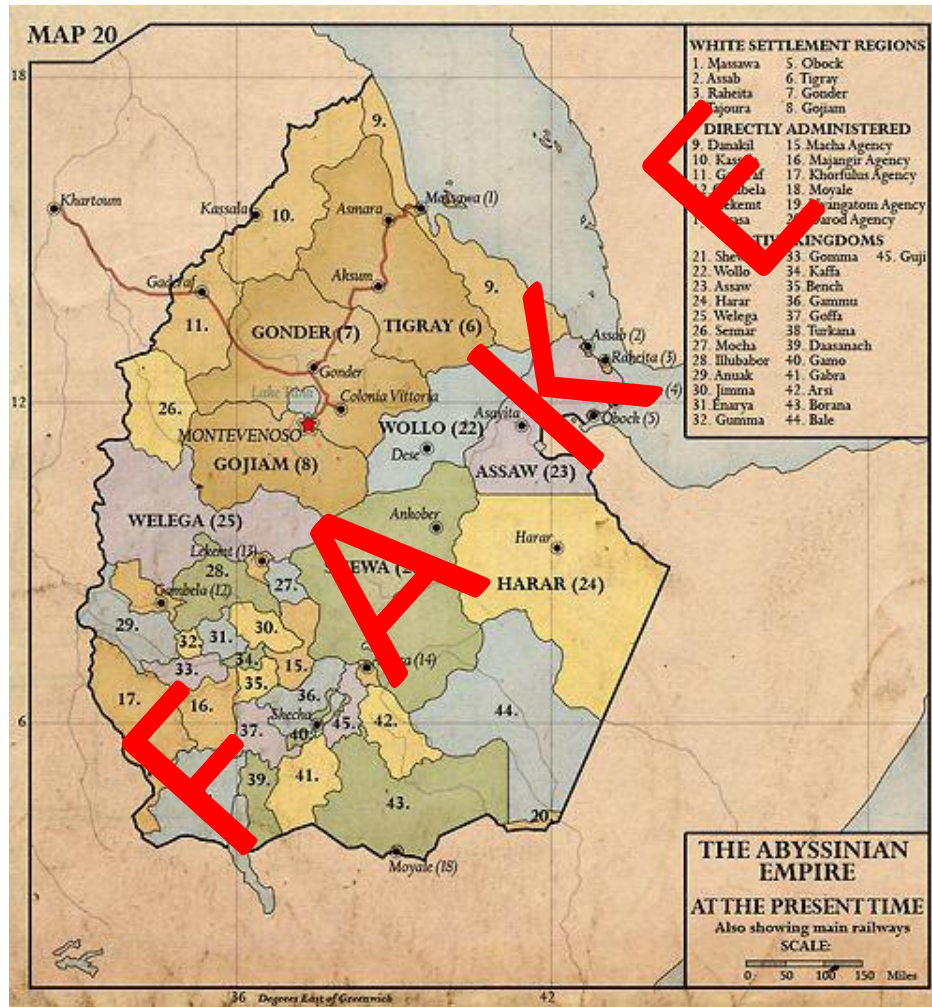
Carta geografica, CIRCOSCRIZIONI AMMINISTRATIVE Dell'Africa orientale Italiana N 743 - 1940-XVIII Tipolitografia del Servizio Cartografico, 1940, cm 64x56, grande carta geografica ripiegata, legenda al margine inferiore. Condizioni di conservazione Esemplare in discrete condizioni con tracce d'uso, normali pieghe con alcuni strappi restaurati (vedi foto), angoli con pieghette e angolo sup destro mancante, margini con piccoli strappetti e qualche macchietta, per le condizioni vedi foto. Ministero dell'Africa Italiana ufficio studi servizio Cartografico SC03.D14963F blu

<https://www.maremagnum.com/libri-antichi/grande-carta-circoscrizioni-amministrative-africa-orientale/163503214>



## Thomasten, ca. 1940 – fake map

Not used in meta-analysis.



This map is often posted on social media as evidence that the Gonder-Tigray border has been on Tekeze since the time of the Abyssinian empire. The map shows numerous flaws. See non-existent “white settlement regions”, “Montevenoso”, “Colonia Vittoria”, railways and encroachment onto Sudan and Djibouti. The map is fake; it was created in 2009. Source is Ed Thomasten, a believer of Alternate History: <https://www.deviantart.com/edthomasten/art/Empire-of-Abyssinia-c-1940-145811981>. Colleagues fake mappers discuss the creation here: <https://www.deviantart.com/edthomasten/art/Empire-of-Abyssinia-c-1940-145811981>



## De Agostini, 1941

Administrative border clearly represented. "Uolcalt" and surroundings mapped with Eritrea/Tigrai; just east of it, Tselemti and Dima are mapped with the then Italian Amara province



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Sign in to get complete results and to request items

1 Results

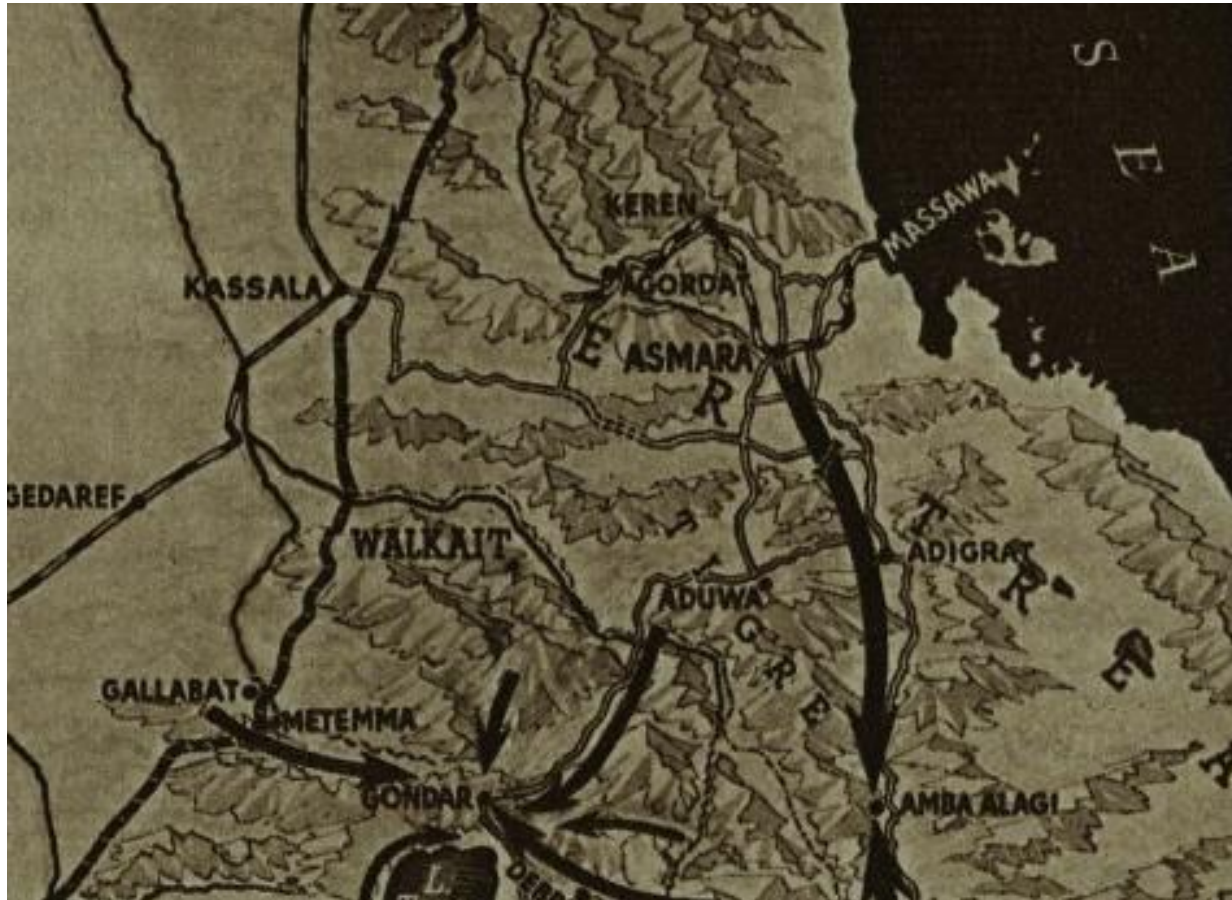
1  
MAP  
Dalla cirenaica all'Etiopia, Egitto e Sudan  
Anglo-Egiziano.  
Istituto geografico De Agostini.  
1941  
Available at Earth Sciences & Map Library  
Earth Science/Map Collection Map Case B  
(G8330 1941 .I8) >

[https://search.library.berkeley.edu/discovery/fulldisplay?docid=alma991024063599706532&context=L&vid=01UCS\\_BER:UCB&lang=en&search\\_scope=MyInstitution&adaptor=Local%20Search%20Engine&tab=Everything&query=any,contains,39146267&offset=0](https://search.library.berkeley.edu/discovery/fulldisplay?docid=alma991024063599706532&context=L&vid=01UCS_BER:UCB&lang=en&search_scope=MyInstitution&adaptor=Local%20Search%20Engine&tab=Everything&query=any,contains,39146267&offset=0)



## HMSO, 1942

The maps in this book about the British warfare against the Italian army in Ethiopia reused the borders drawn on the 1938 Italian maps, and, hence, put the border between Eritrea/Tigre and Amara on Tekeze River.



<https://search.iisg.amsterdam/Record/293356>



## De Agostini, 1952

Border on Tacazze.

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

Record ▼

Author:

Instituto Geographico di Agostini

Date:

1952

Short Title:

Northeast Africa.

Publisher:

Instituto Geographico di Agostini

Publisher Location:

Novarra

Type:

Atlas Map

Obj Height cm:

41

Obj Width cm:

55

Scale 1:

10,000,000



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~212786~5500703:Northeast-Africa->



## Bayer, 1953

Internal borders not drawn

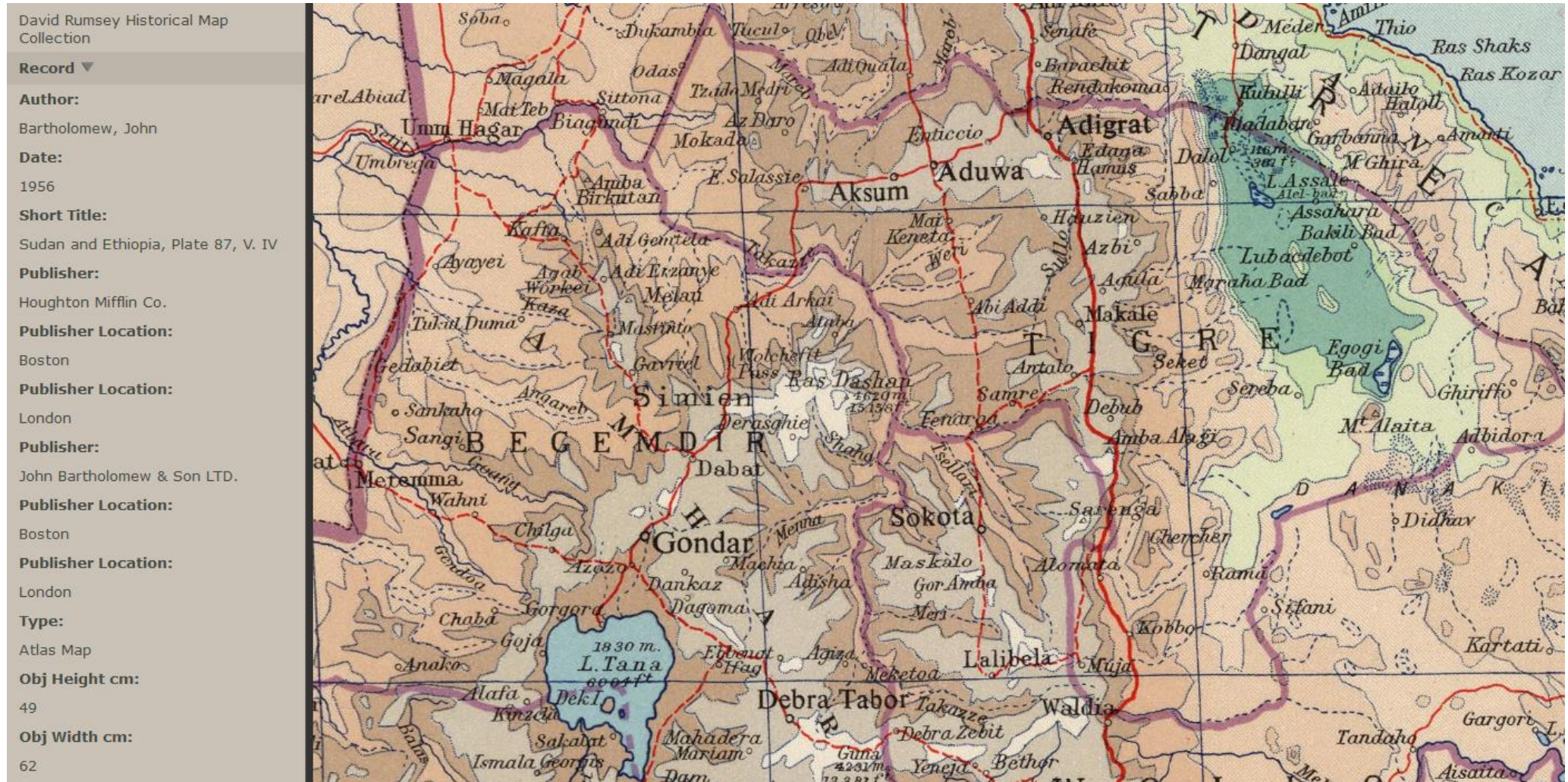


<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~218067~5504025:Northeast-Africa->



## Bartholomew, 1956

Border on Takazze; Kobbo and Muja included in Tigre



<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~225488~5506192:Sudan-and-Ethiopia,-Plate-87,-V--IV>



## National Geographic Society, 1963

Border Bagemder/Tegre on Takkaze

### Africa, Countries of the Nile

Afrika, landen van de Nijl 1 : 7920000

Afrika, landen van de Nijl, Egypte, Libië, Soudan, Ts  
Ethiopië, Somalië, Kenia, Oeganda, Centraal Afrika  
Republiek, DR Congo, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi,  
Jordanië, Saoedi-Arabië

56

Sheet Number

Undefined

Serial Number

Undefined

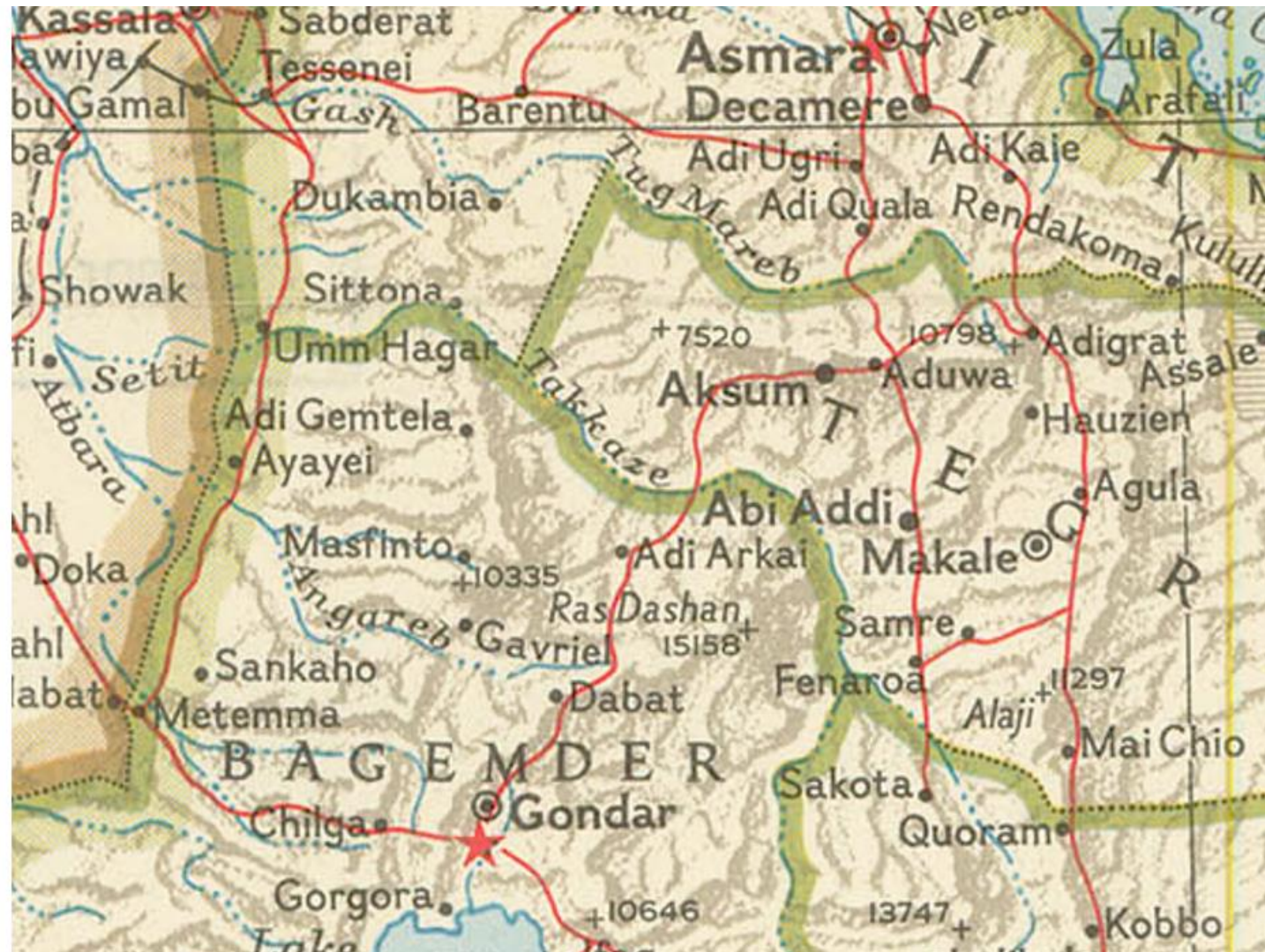
Edition

National Geographic Society

Publisher

1963

Washington D.C.



<https://www.atlas.ugent.be/items/5071>



## USSR, 1967

Border Begemder/Tigre on Tekeze

David Rumsey Historical Map  
Collection

Record ▼

Author:

USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist  
Republics).

Date:

1967

Short Title:

170-171. Africa, Equatorial. The  
World Atlas.

Publisher:

USSR

Publisher Location:

Moscow

Type:

Atlas Map

Obj Height cm:

47

Obj Width cm:

66

Scale 1:

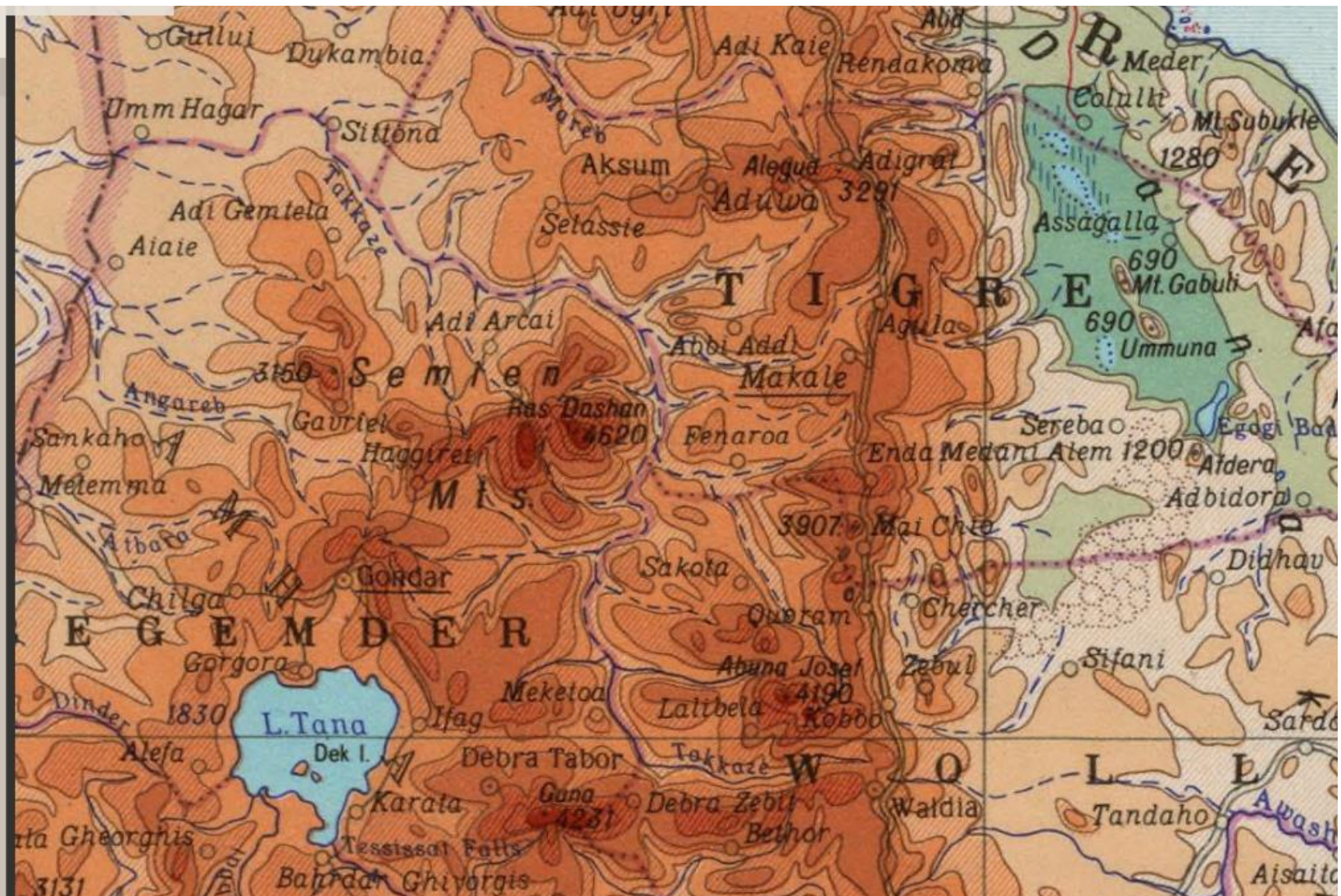
7,500,000

Country:

Central African Republic

Country:

Ethiopia



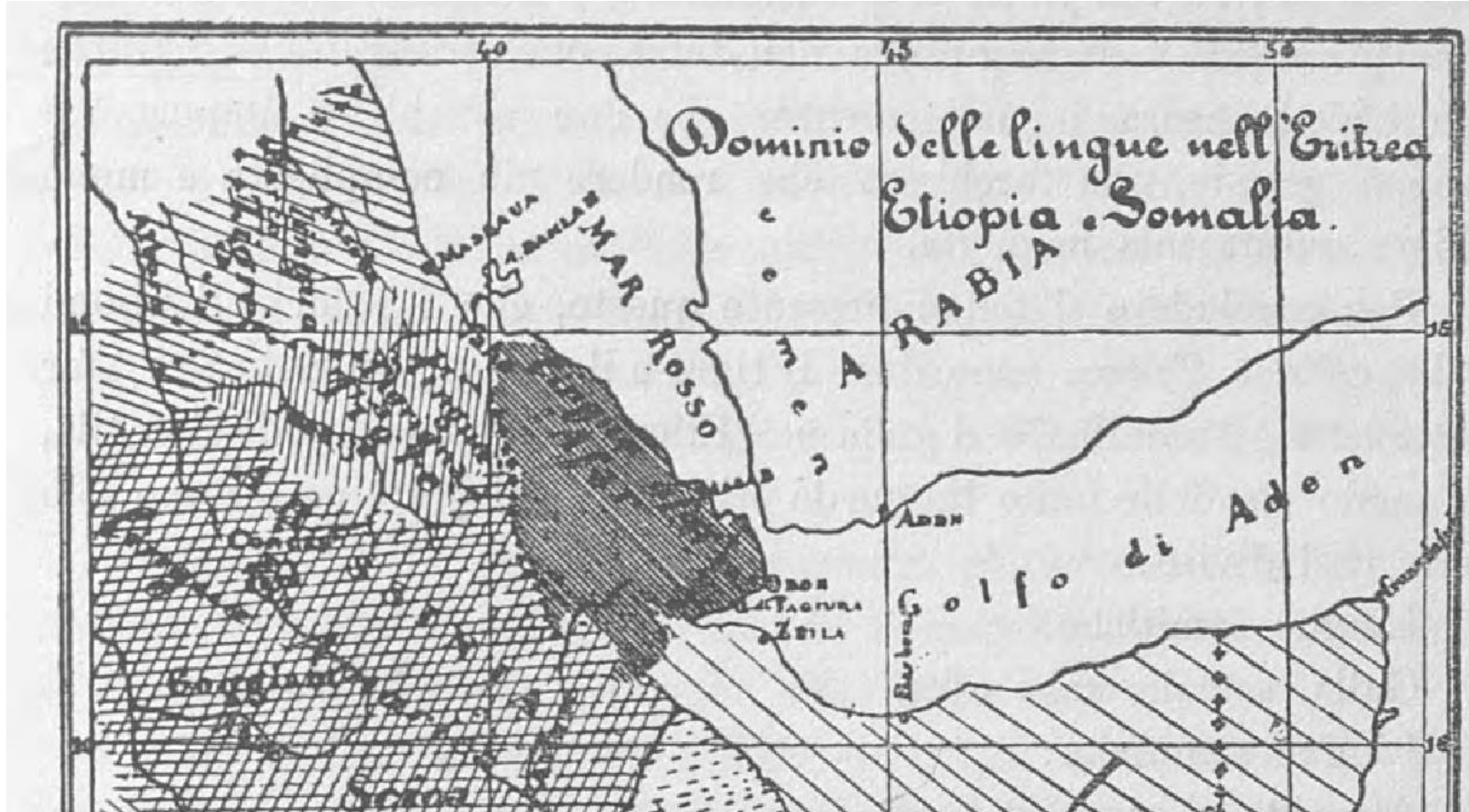
<https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY~8~1~208346~3001988:170-171--Africa,-Equatorial--The-Wo>



## ETHNO-LINGUISTIC MAPS

Wolynski, 1903: Dominio delle lingue nell'Eritrea, nell'Etiopia e nella Somalia

"Tigrigna" (pattern with vertical lines) spans across Tekeze River.

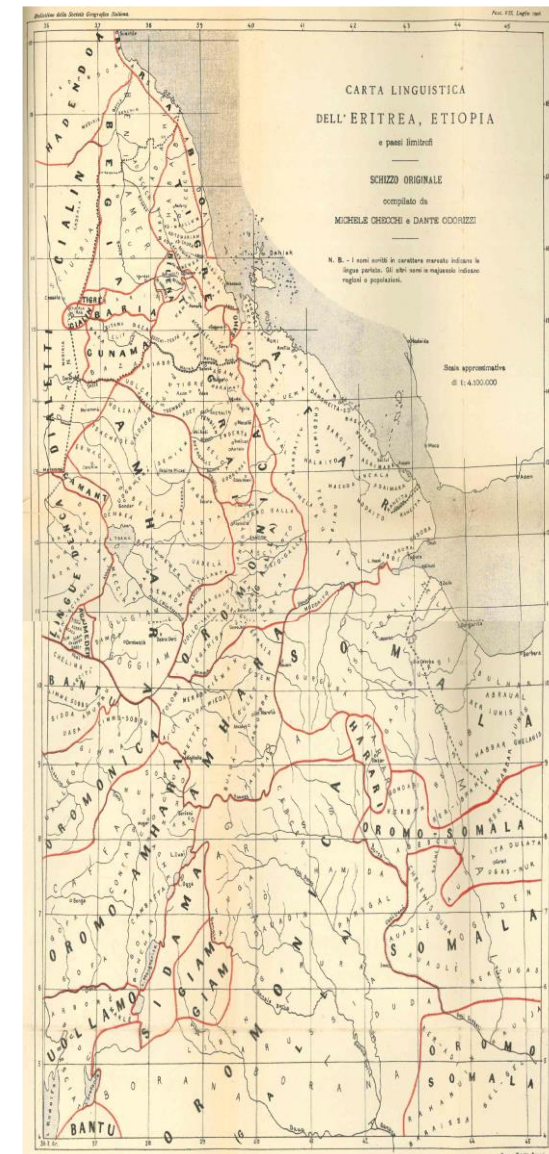


Wolynski, D., 1903. Glottologia coloniale. Lingue e dialetti parlati nell'Eritrea, nell'Etiopia e nella Somalia. *L'Italia Coloniale*, 4 (1): 1-18.

[http://sebinaol.unior.it/sebina/repository/catalogazione/documenti/Wolynski\\_Glottologia%20coloniale%20\(84531\).pdf](http://sebinaol.unior.it/sebina/repository/catalogazione/documenti/Wolynski_Glottologia%20coloniale%20(84531).pdf)



# Checchi and Odorizzi, 1906. Language map of Eritrea and Ethiopia



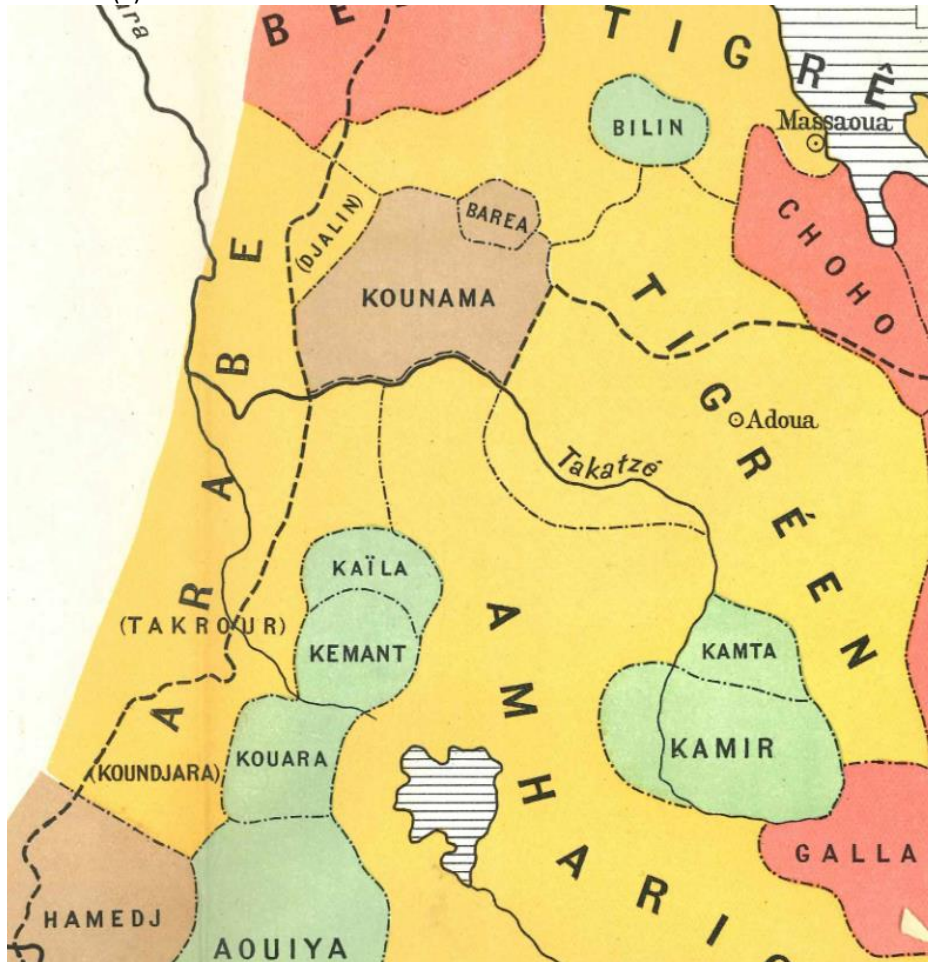
Checchi, M., Odorizzi, D., 1906. Carta linguistica dell'Eritrea, Etiopia et paesi limitrofi. Bolletino della Societa Geografica Italiana, 43 (2).

Republished in colour in 1912.



## Montandon, 1909. Langues de l'Éthiopie groupées d'après les affinités ethniques des peuples qui les parlent

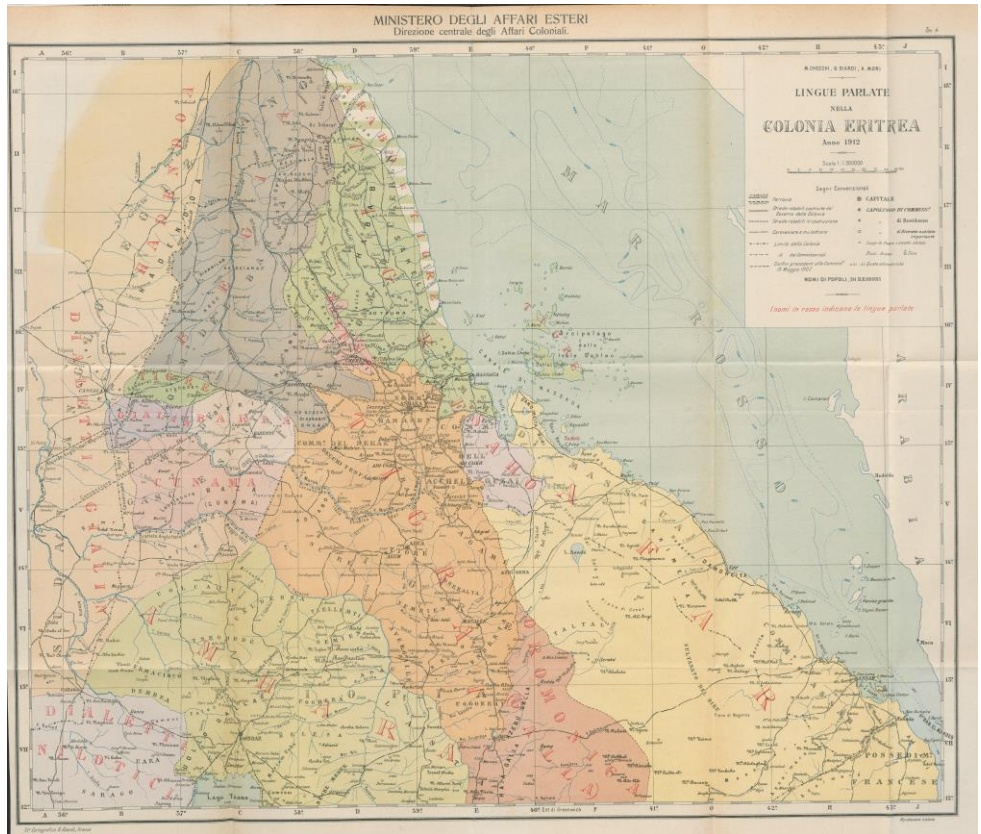
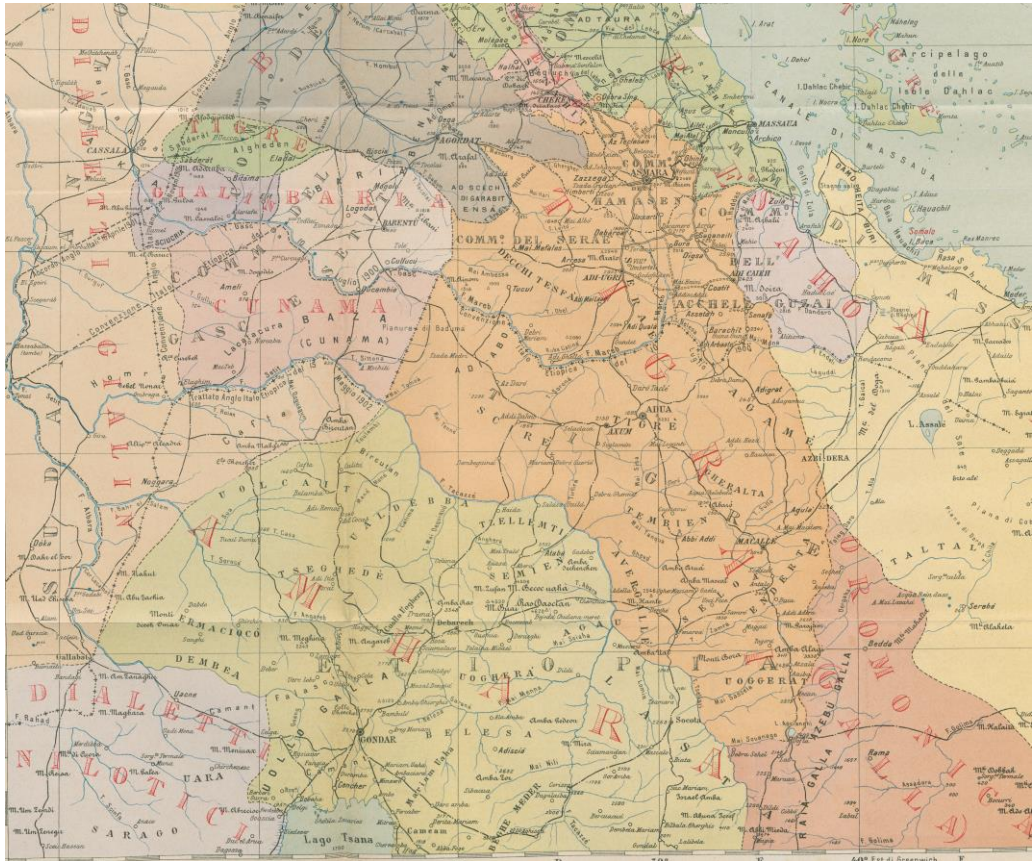
Montandon's fieldwork was in 1909 to 2011 in southern Ethiopia (the current Bench-Maji zone); he did not visit Western Tigray. Montandon used anthropometry as a main investigation method – his work includes photographs of people maintained against their will by *ascaris* so that measurements could be done. He ended up as one of the leading antisemitic intellectuals in France (7).



Montandon, G., 1913. Au Pays Ghimarra. Récit de mon voyage à travers le Massif éthiopien (1909-1911).



## Checchi, Giardi & Mori, 1912. Languages spoken in Eritrea



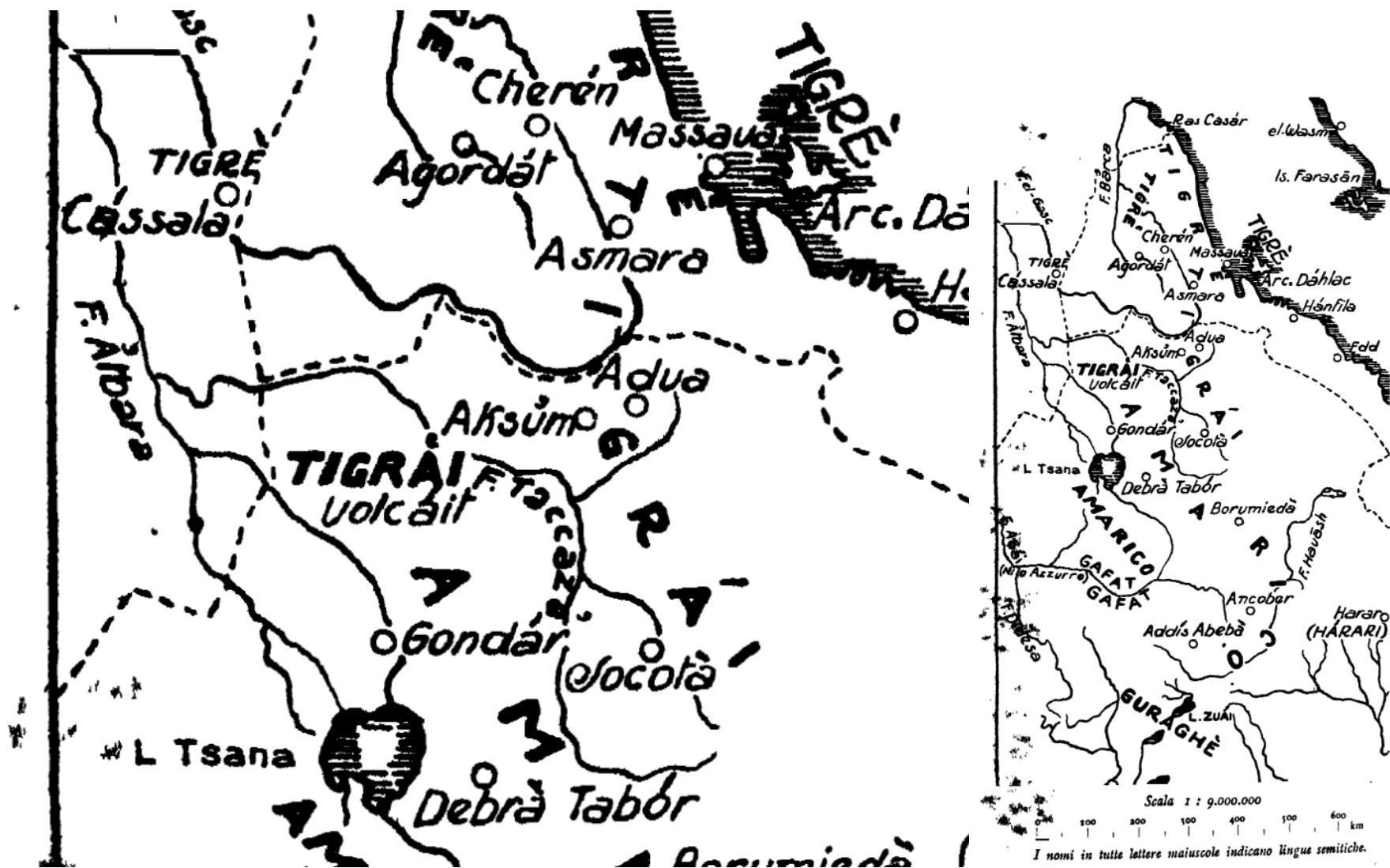
This map shows use of arabic dialect (Gialin or Cialin), well into the current Western Tigray. It republishes the outlines by Checchi & Odorizzi (1906)

Conti Rossini, C., 1912. Uno sguardo all'Etiopia settentrionale e alle regioni limitrofe nei rispetti linguistici. Rivista Coloniale, 2: 349-353. Map drawn by M. Checchi, G. Giardi, A. Mori.



## Conti Rossini, 1921: Lingue semitiche d'Etiopia

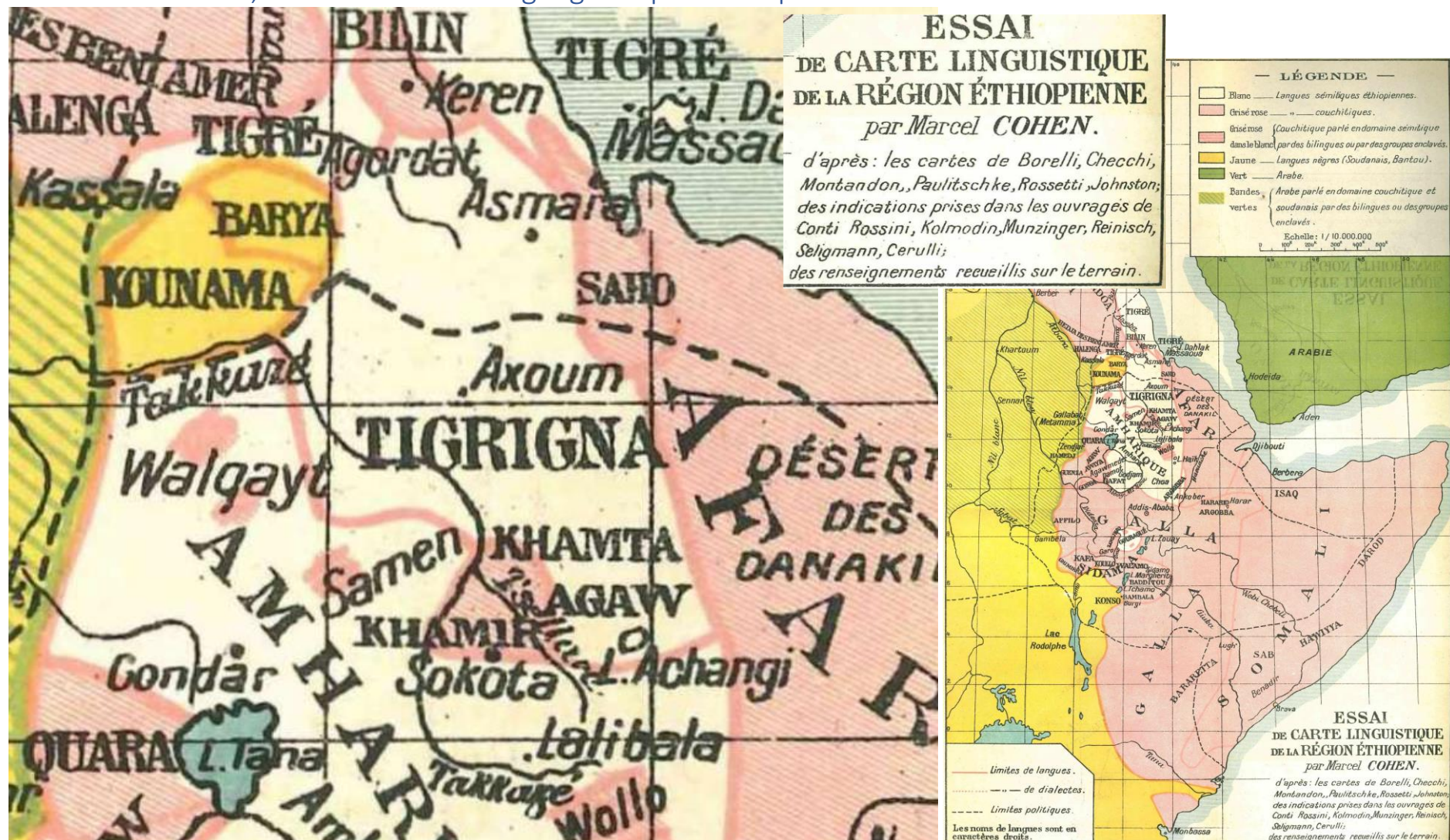
Names in bold capital letters indicate extent of Semitic languages in Ethiopia. Tigrai language stretches west from Tekeze River up to the Sudanese border , including Uolcail.



Conti Rossini, C., 1921. Le lingue e letterature semitiche d'Etiopia. *Oriente Moderno*, 1: 169-176. In contrast to the previous map, drawn by other authors, here Conti Rossini reports his own findings. <https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.318622>



# Meillet and Cohen, 1924. Tentative language map of Ethiopia



Meillet, A., Cohen, M. (eds.), 1924. Les langues du monde. Paris : Librairie Ancienne Edouard Champion.

Here, Marcel Cohen maps Welkait as Amharic speaking with Falasha inclusions, and Tigrinya in Tsellemti. The same map is also redrawn in his 1936 book.



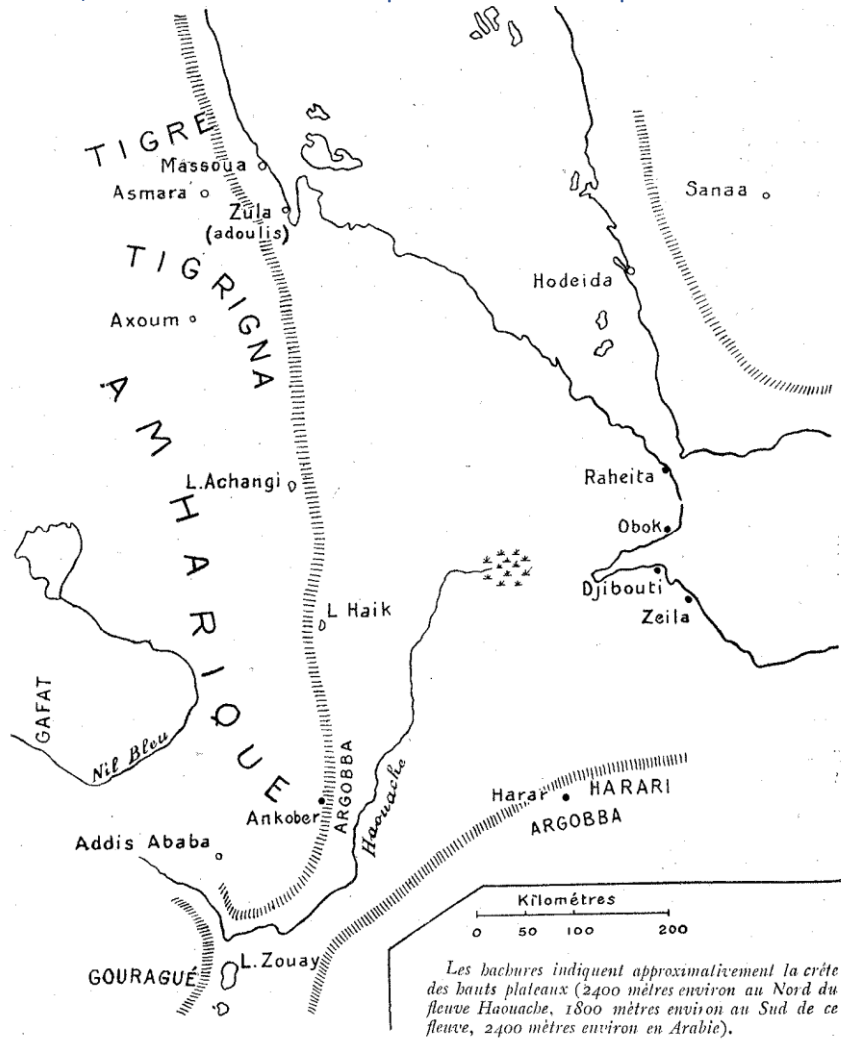
**Schizzo dimostrativo delle lingue d'Etiopia**

<b>TIGRAI</b> - Lingue semitiche	<b>Caffa</b> - Lingue Sidama
<b>Agau</b> - " alto-cuscitiche	<b>CUNAMA</b> - " Nilotiche
<b>Beja</b> - " del gruppo Beja	<b>Sciaco</b> - " d'incerta
<b>GALLA</b> - " basso-cuscitiche	classificazione

Mapping style and extent of languages are in line with Conti Rossini's 1921 map.



Cohen, 1931. Sketch map of the Ethiopian Semitic languages

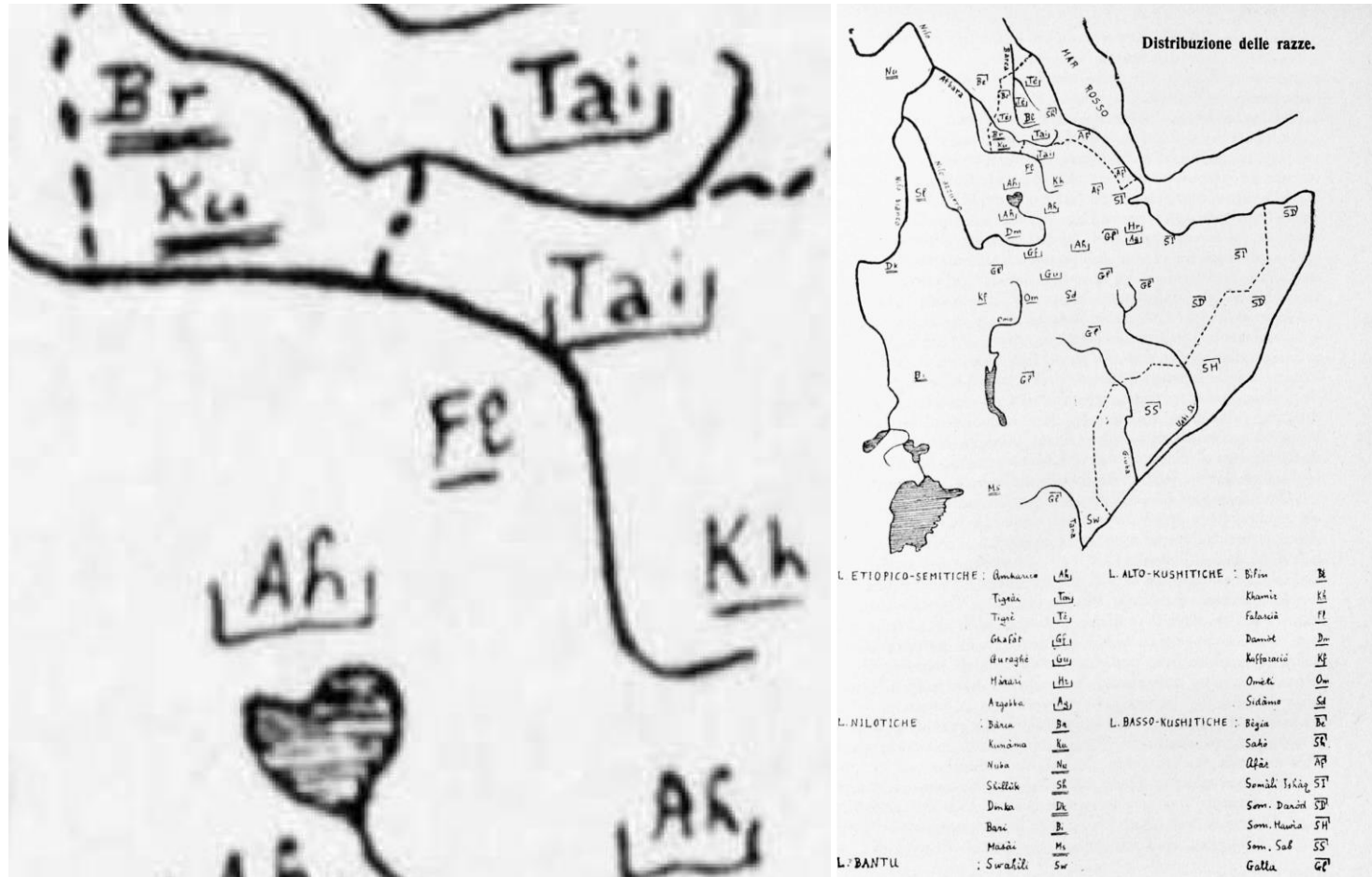


Cohen, M., 1931. Etudes d'éthiopien méridional. Paris: Geuthner.



## Ducati, 1931. Distribuzione delle razze

No information on Western Tigray; Falasha people in Simien Mts.



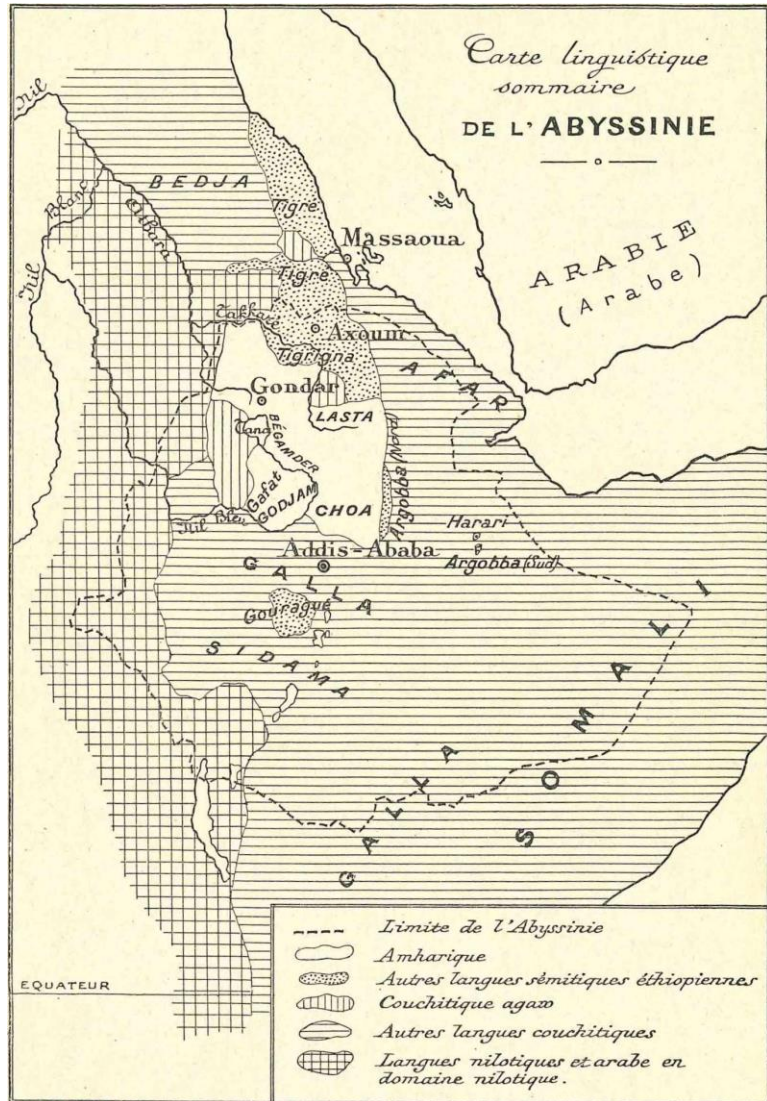
Quite generalised map; from north to south, the Mereb River, the Eritrean border, the Tekeze River and Lake Tana may be used as reference.

Ah = Amharico; Tai = Tigrai; Br = Baria; Ku = Kunama; Fl = Falascia; Kh = Khamir

Ducati, B., 1931. Stirpi camitiche e idiomi dell'Africa italiana. Rivista delle colonie italiane, V: 767-782.



Cohen, 1936. Sketch map of the languages in Abyssinia



Cohen, M., 1936. Traité de langue amharique. Paris : Institut d'Ethnologie.

Note that this reproduces the Meillet & Cohen (1924) "tentative" map



## Ellero, 1939-1940. Ethnographic fieldwork

The notebooks of ethnographer Giovanni Ellero, holding field notes from Welkait, have been published as a book by Professors Dore, Mantel-Niečko and Taddia: “I Quaderni dal Wälqayt” (L’Harmattan Italia, 2005) (4).

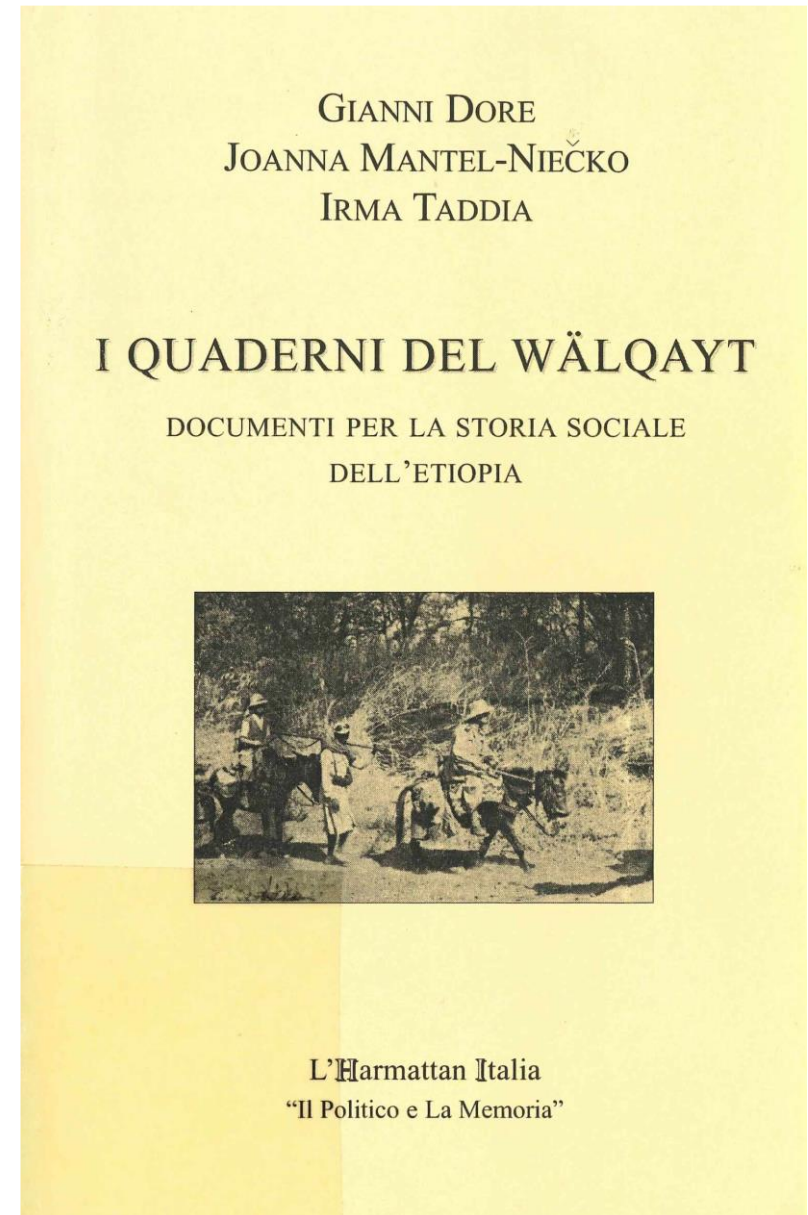
Ellero was in Welkait in 1939-1940, where he was district administrator as part of the Italian occupying administration. He was taken prisoner by the British in 1941; his wife Pia Maria Pezzoli typed and organised the field notes when Ellero was prisoner and at the same time administrator in Eritrea under the supervision of S.F. Nadel SPO. In 1942 he was transferred to South Africa as prisoner of war, but he perished when the boat on which they travelled was sunk by the Japanese marine.

For his fieldwork, Ellero visited all villages of Welkait, and also part of Kafta. For every village he noted (among many other details) the number of inhabitants, the origin of the first inhabitants of the village, and the genealogy of how the inhabitants were related to the founders of the village. Language(s) practiced, religion, cropping system, and sometimes tales, habits and customs were also recorded. Ellero did not draw a language map, but his inventory is exhaustive. The notebooks included hand-drawn maps of all sub-districts visited (Fig. E1).

In almost all studied villages, the inhabitants remembered that, many generations earlier, their forefathers had migrated from a specific place of origin in the Tigray highlands; some villages were also inhabited by descendants of slaves, especially in the eastern plains (“Mezega Uolcalt”). In all villages, the people were reported to speak Tigrinya, with mostly passive knowledge of Amharic. Those who were literate wrote in Amharic; Ellero mentions the reason: all communication with the administration was in Amharic. The descendants of slaves had forgotten their original language, and all practiced Tigrinya for daily communication. However, the priests commonly preached in Amharic, as was common all over Ethiopia at the time.

Some examples:

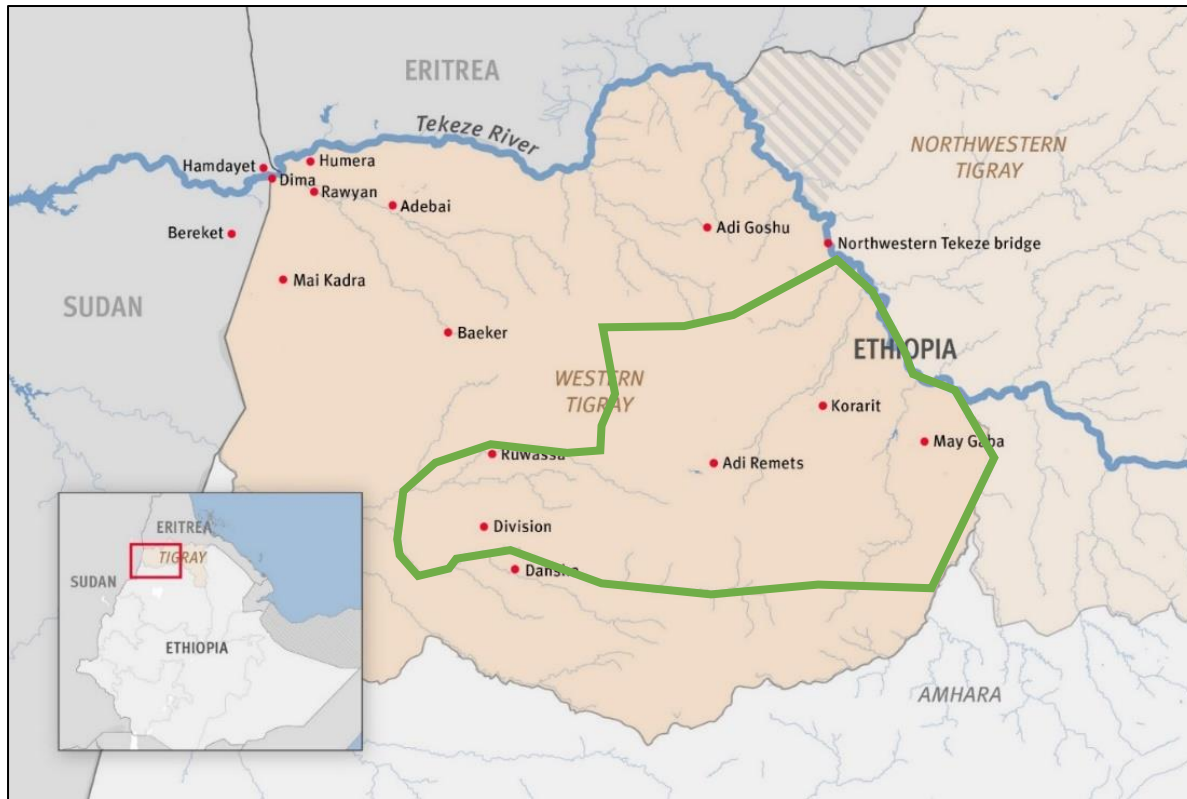
(113-114) Belamba: “they speak Tigrinya, but Amharic is also understood. They write in Amharic due to the fact that the commanders were Amhara, and because Amharic is the official language”.











*Fig. E2. Welkait in 1939-1940, according to Ellero's field notes (Fig. E1; generalised borders of Welkait in green colour). Here, every village was visited at the time by Ellero and his team; everywhere Tigrinya was the mother tongue; Amharic was understood and used at variable degrees. Base map © Human Rights Watch & Amnesty International, 2022 (8).*



Pages 204-208 of the *Quaderni* hold a list of 116 place names with their etymology, obtained by Ellero and his translators. The etymology of most place names is of Tigrinya origin. Some exceptions for Addi Tinno (Oromo for a short person), Zua (Falasha), Batua Mariam (bible), .... In the whole list of place names, there are no locations that in 1939 held a name of Amharic origin. More specifically, among the 116 place names, there are

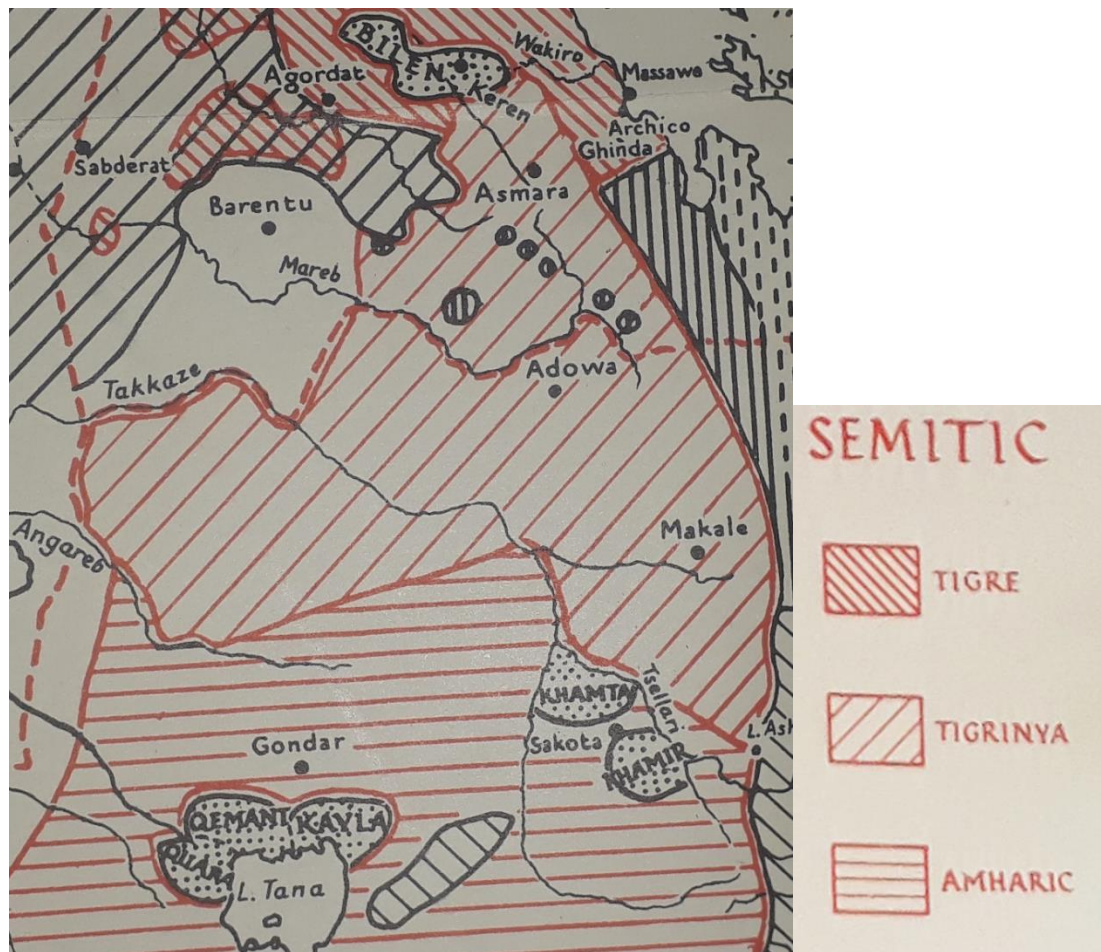
- 76 (more than half) locations named Addi ...
- 12 locations named Mai ...
- Selassa Aini (T: ሰላሳ ዓይን) – thirty eyes
- Seleste Codo (T: ስለስተ ኮዶ) – three fig trees, most probably *Ficus sur* (9)
- Agam (T: አጋም) – vernacular name for the shrub *Carissa edulis* (9)
- Edaga Hamus (T: ዕዳጋ ሃሙስ) – Thursday market
- Lahalai Uollel and Tahatai Uollel (T: ላዕለዋይ ዎለል; ታሕተዋይ ዎለል) – upper and lower part of Uollel village; the word “Uollel” according the inhabitants indicates a plain with a lot of grazing cattle
- Gual Emba (T: ዓል እምባ) – daughter of the mountain, typically used for a village on a hill, adjacent to a larger mountain
- Chessad Daga (T: ክሳድ ዕዳጋ) – market place on a mountain pass
- Chetri (T: ክትሪ) “Kettri”, river narrowing, by analogy used for mountain pass. See also current use of “ketri” for check dam.
- Many other place names, similarly transpiring the symbiosis between people and place may be discovered in the “Quaderni”, pp. 204-208.

In our understanding, this is the most detailed field investigation that has been done in the area by an ethnographer.



## Bryan, 1948. Map of Semitic and Cushitic languages.

The southern border of the Tigrinya-speaking area is drawn as a straight line between the Angareb and Takkaze Rivers. Simoons (1960) draws it slightly curved. Bryan (1948) explicitly mentions that the strip to both sides of the southern border of Tigray is often a transitional (bilingual) zone.



Semitic languages in red colours, Cushitic languages in black colours. Broken red lines represent international borders.

Bryan, M.A., 1948. The distribution of the Semitic and Cushitic languages of Africa. International African Institute & Oxford University Press.



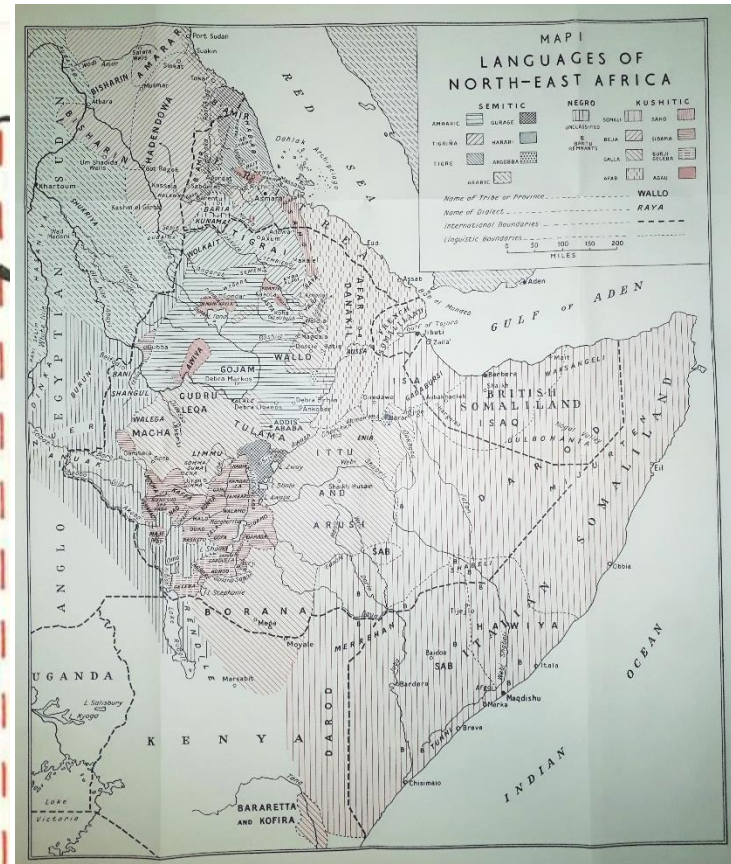
Perham, 1948: Language map of Ethiopia



Perham M.F., 1948. The government of Ethiopia. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 481 p.



Wolkait is mapped as Tigrinya dialect.

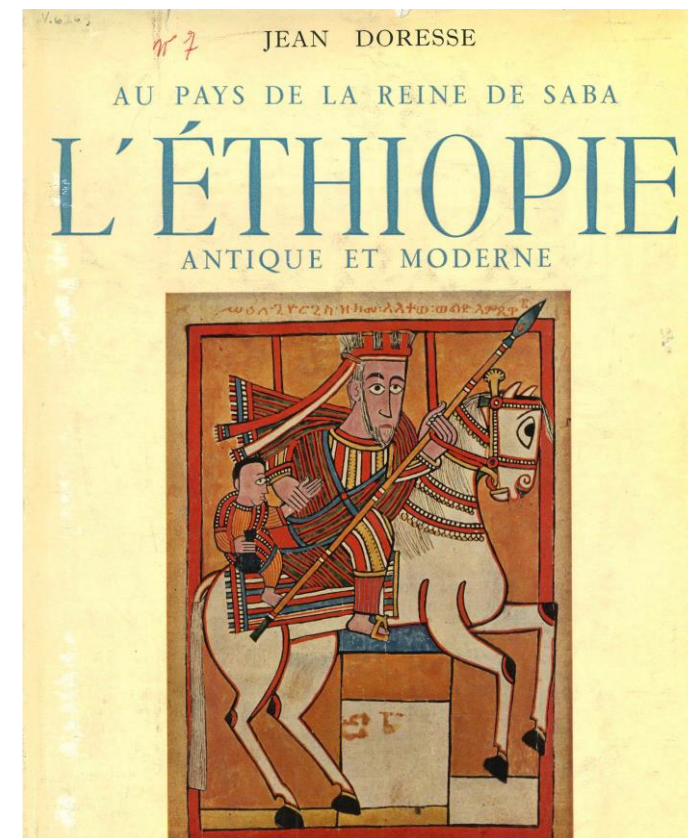
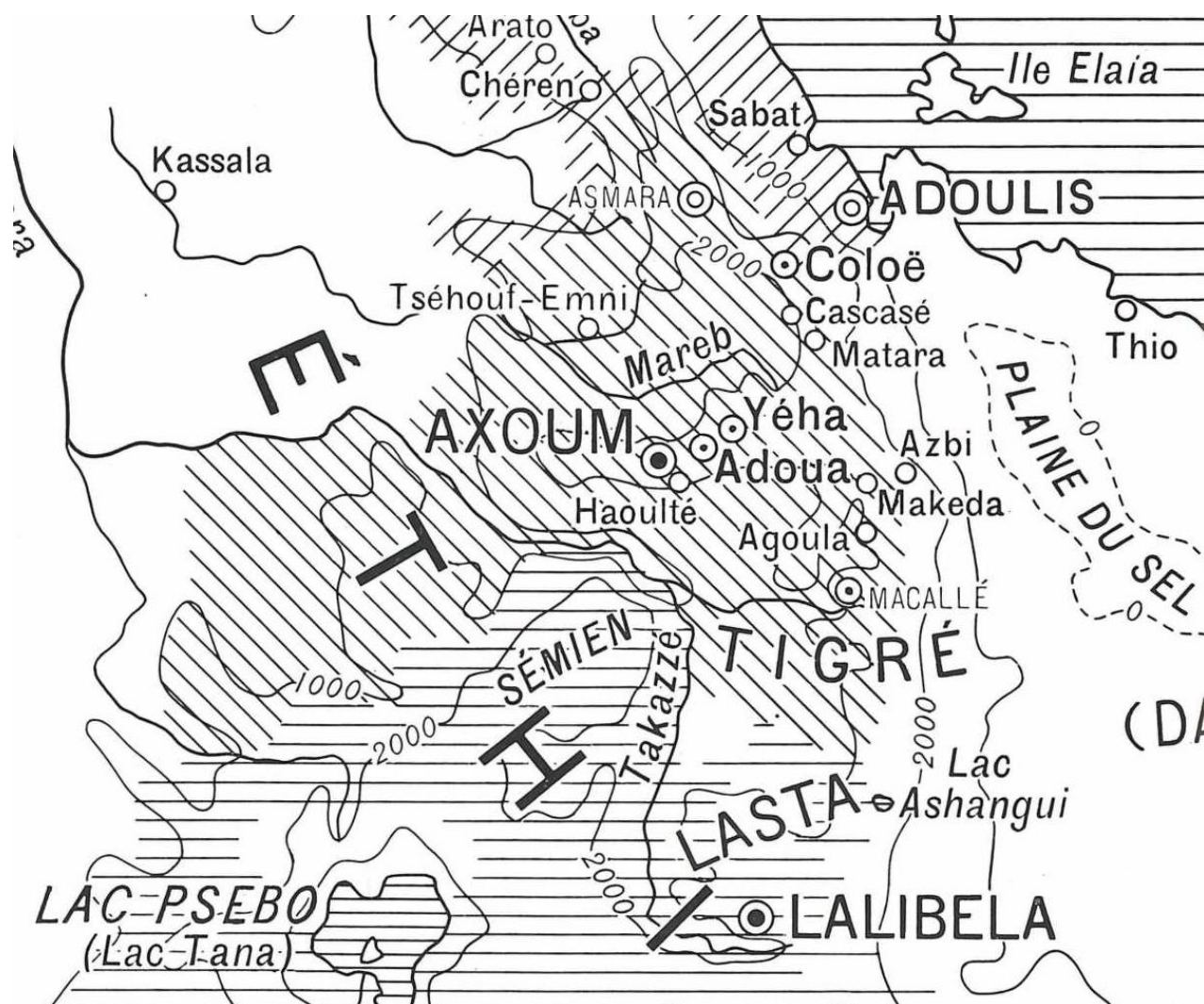


DATA SET: HISTORICAL AND ETHNO-LINGUISTIC MAPS COVERING WESTERN TIGRAY - 131



## Doresse, 1956. Semitic languages in Ethiopia.

Doresse does not indicate the sources used to prepare this map, that shows Tigrinya spoken in the current Western Tigray, as well as south of it in the lowlands of Aramachiho up to the banks of Atbara River near Metemma. Contour lines with 1000 m interval in thin lines; rivers in thicker lines.

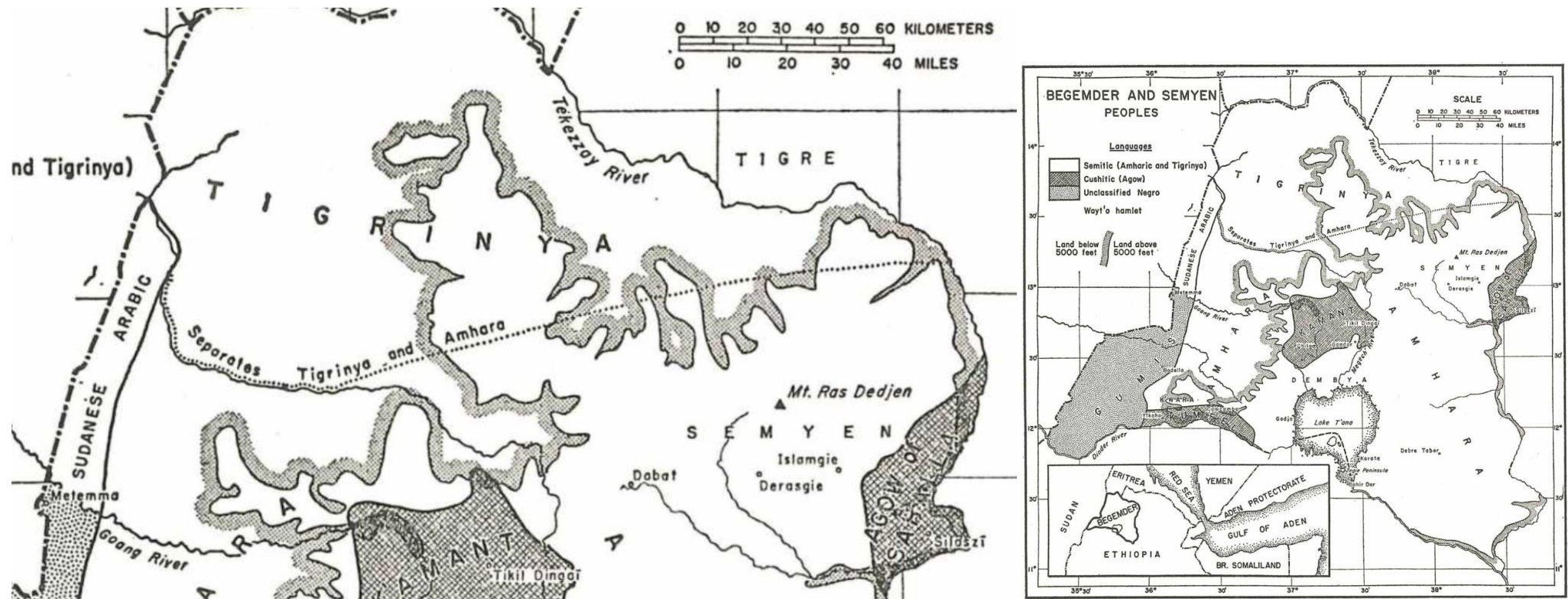


Doresse, J., 1956. Au pays de la reine de Saba – L'Ethiopie antique et moderne. Paris: Albert Guillot



Simoons, 1960. Begemder and Semyen, peoples.

Tigrinya/Amharic language boundary drawn on a map displaying the political boundaries as they were in 1960. The northern one third of the then Begemder province inhabited by Tigrinya speakers. This fits closely with the current legal border between the Tigray and Amhara Regions.

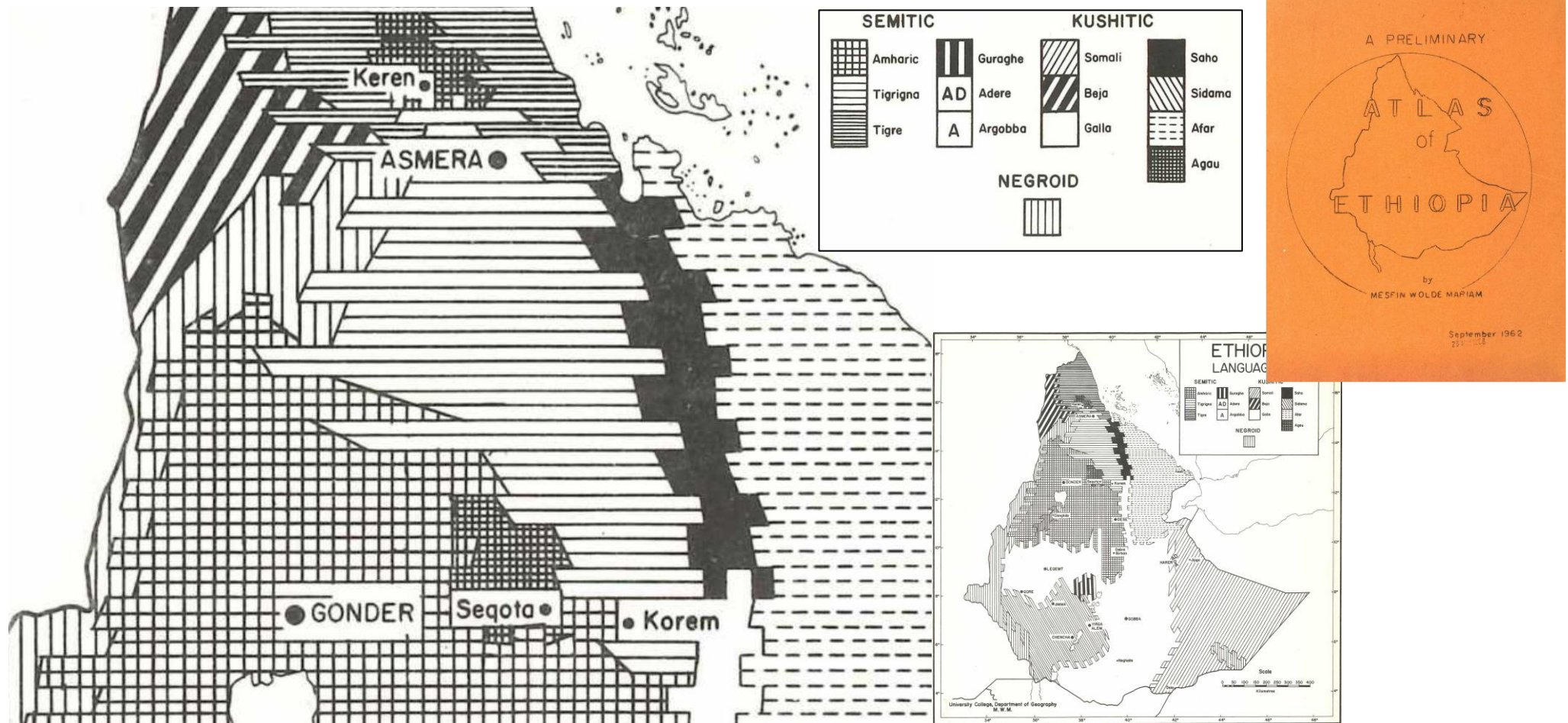


Simoons, F.J., 1960. Northwest Ethiopia : peoples and economy. Madison (Wis): University of Wisconsin Press



## Mesfin Woldemariam, 1962. A preliminary atlas of Ethiopia: Languages.

Source for language distribution not mentioned. Explanatory note with this map: "The attempt here is merely to show the distribution of the various language families and the major languages of each family. This is not because of any attempt to conceal the fact that there are many more dialects than are shown on the map but because an attempt has been made to avoid details and pretense to accuracy. For a better understanding and assessment it is necessary to look at this map with that of population density; otherwise one may fall easily into error". A similar note was written with the map of religions. Mesfin seemed to do a large effort to highlight Orthodox Christian and Amhara dominance of Ethiopia, what may downplay the significance of this map, which gives a minor place to the Tigrinya language in the area north of Gondar.

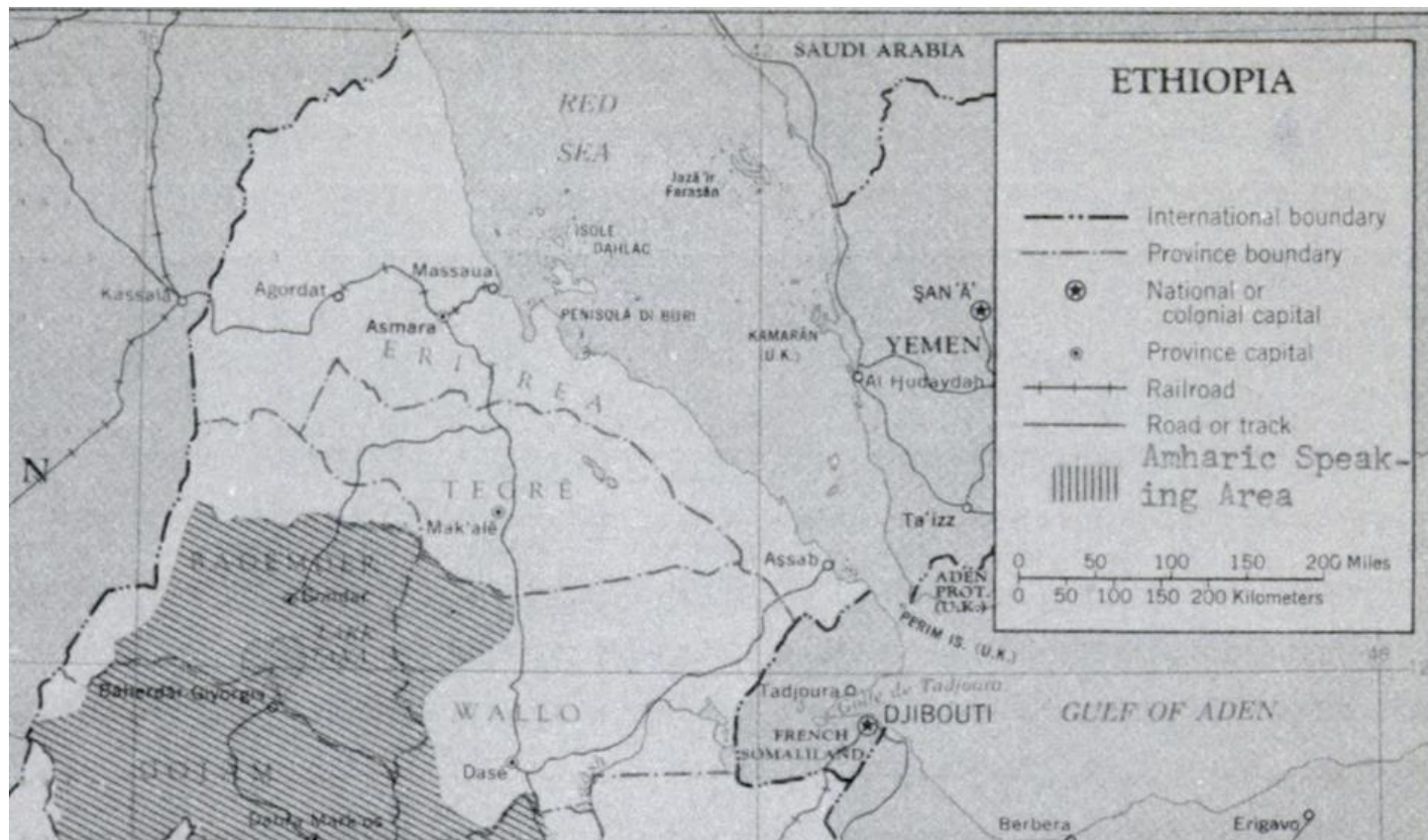


Mesfin Woldemariam, 1962. A preliminary atlas of Ethiopia. Addis Ababa.



Obolensky, Debebow, Mulugeta, 1964. Amharic speaking area

On this map, the northern part of the then Bagemder province is displayed as non-Amharic speaking area. That area corresponds to the current Western Tigray, as well as Tselemti and Dima woredas in Northwestern Tigray.



## AMHARIC

**BASIC COURSE**  
**Units 1 - 50**

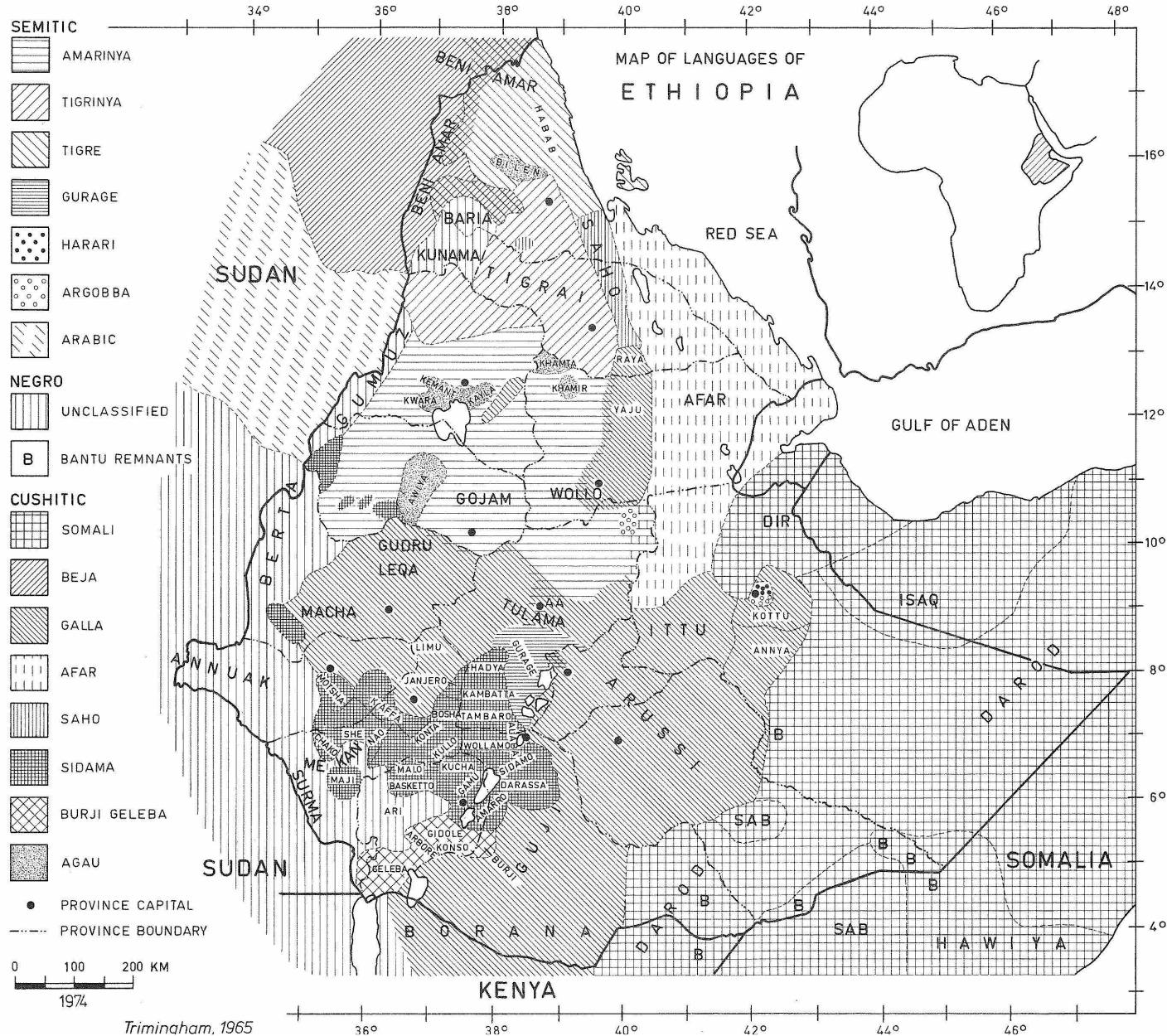


SERGE OBOLENSKY  
DEBELOW ZEELIE MULUGETA ANDUALEM  
**FOREIGN SERVICE INSTITUTE**  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

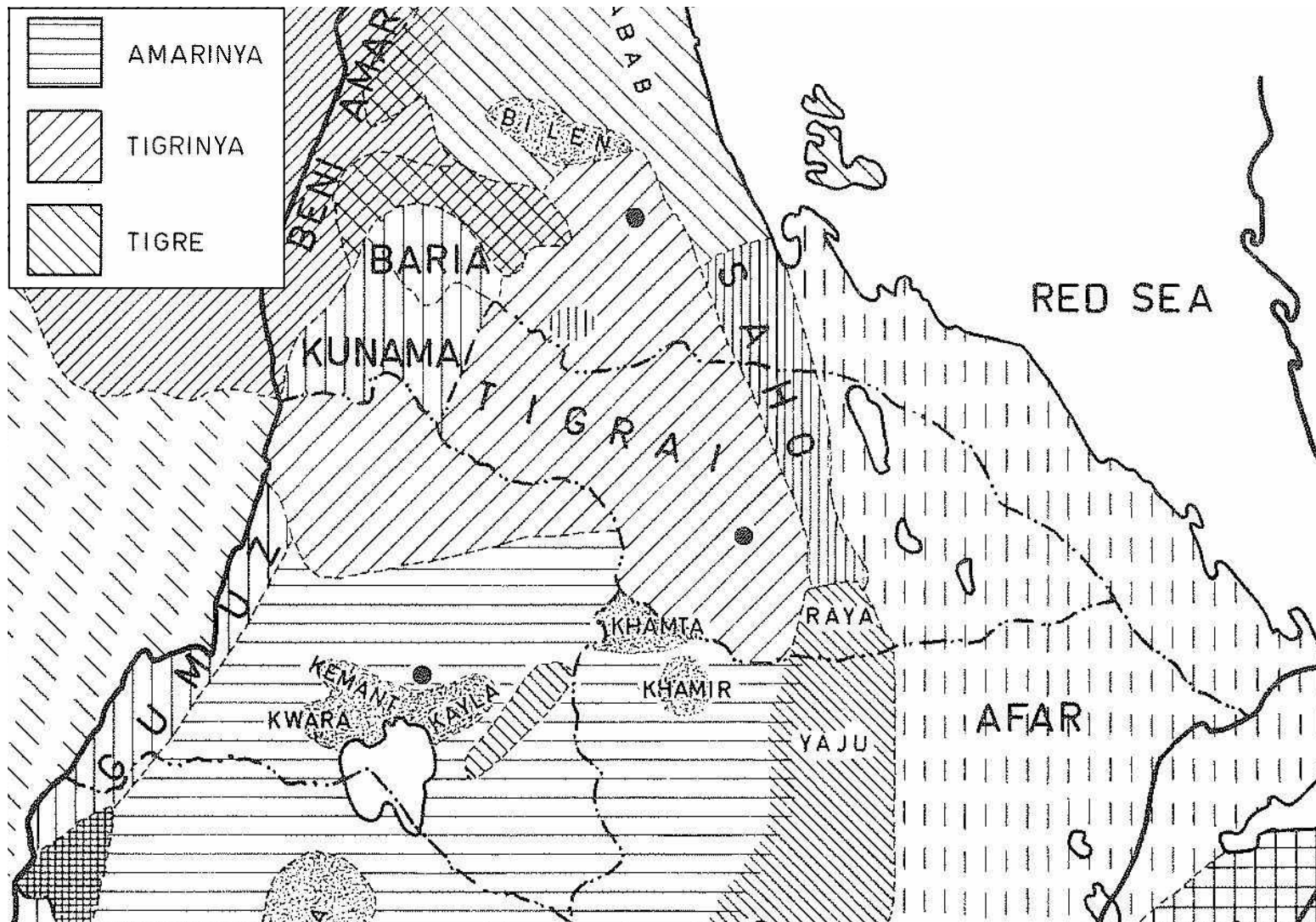
<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.31210007315870&view=1up&seq=17&q1=map>



Trimingham, 1965: Map of provinces and ethno-linguistic settlement patterns in Ethiopia, republished by Westphal (1974)







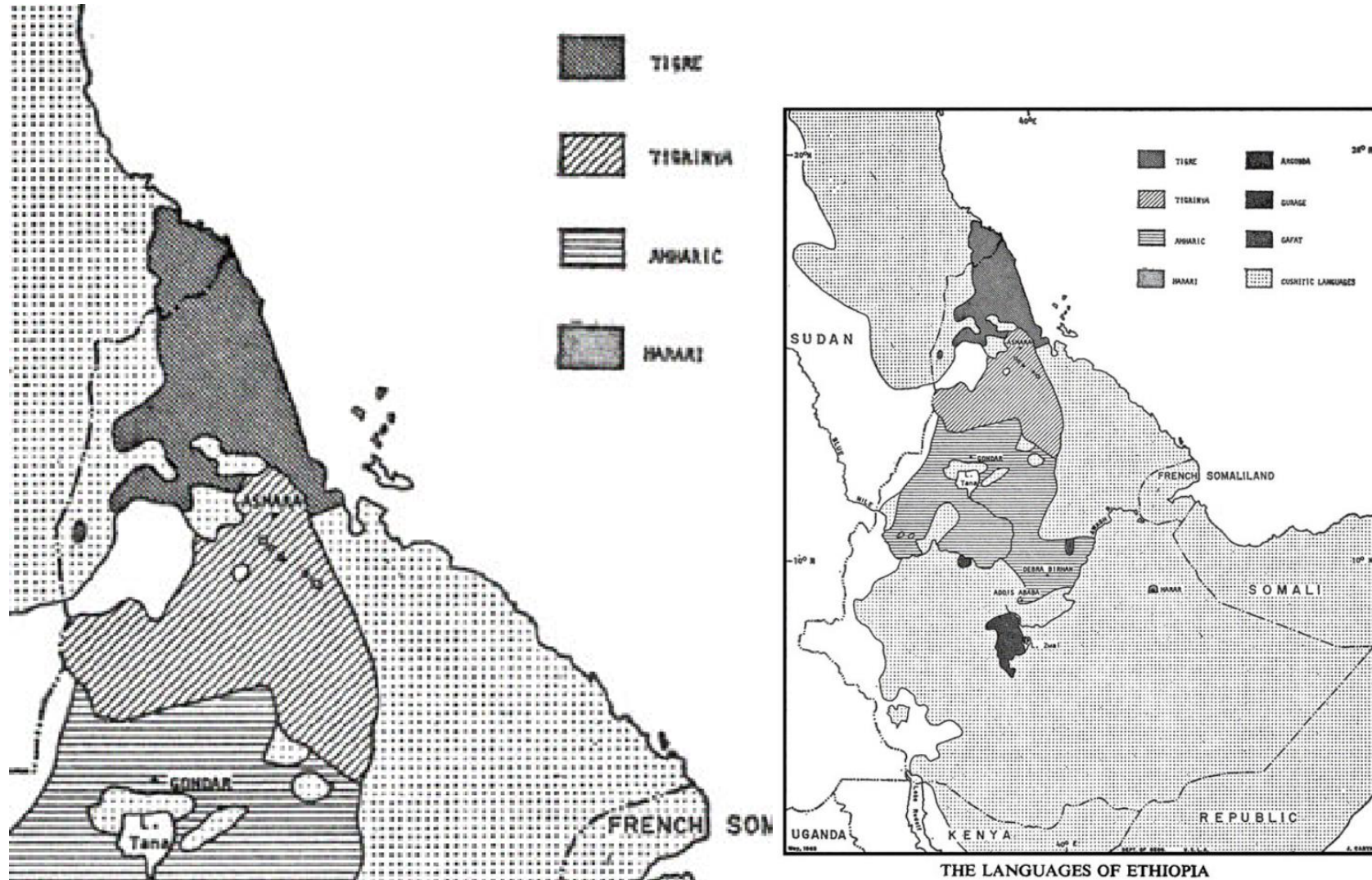
Excerpt of: Trimingham, 1965. Map of provinces and ethno-linguistic settlement patterns in Ethiopia, republished by Westphal (1975)

Trimingham J.S., 1965. Islam in Ethiopia. London: Frank Cass & Company.

Westphal E., 1975. Agricultural systems in Ethiopia. Wageningen: Centre for Agricultural Publishing and Documentation. 278 p.



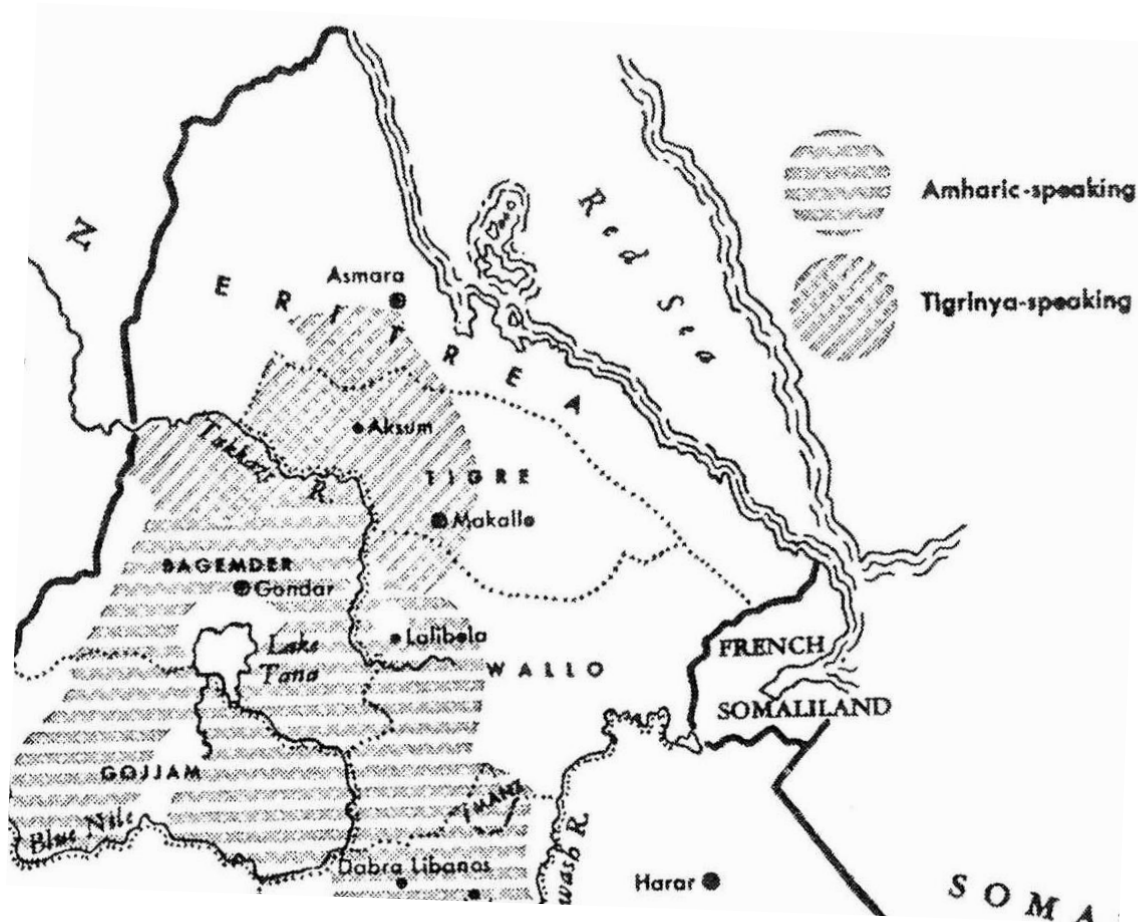
Tigrinya language extends from East to West up to the Sudanese border



Leslau, W., 1965. An annotated Bibliography of the Semitic languages of Ethiopia. De Gruyter Mouton. <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783111657325>



## Levine, 1965. Amharic- and Tigrinya-speaking areas in Ethiopia

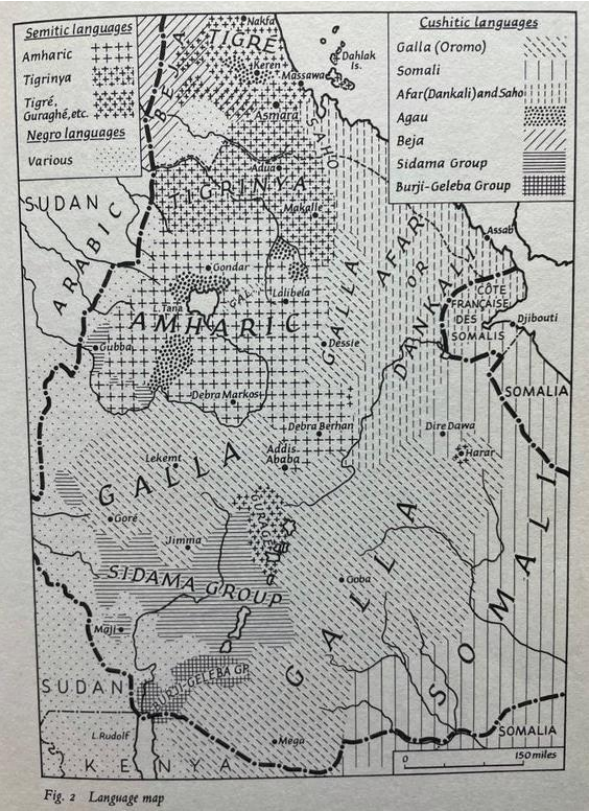
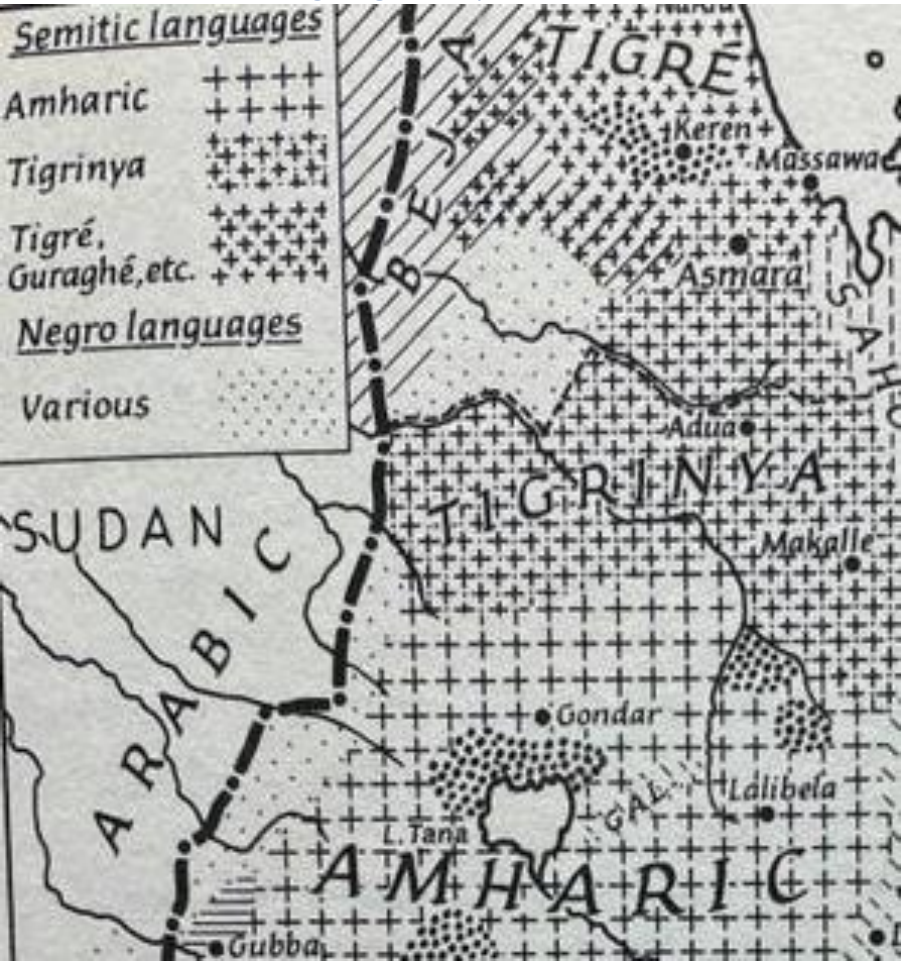


Levine, D., 1965. Wax & gold – tradition and innovation in Ethiopian culture.

Note: there is a contradiction in this work between the map, and a footnote that places the ethnic border on the Tekkeze river. In a later work (1974), Levine maps the language border on the River. Levine is “unique” in the sense that he reproduces the “Cohen 1920s” vision up into the 1970s, despite ethnographic fieldwork around 1940 (Ellero) and 1960 (Simoons)



Buxton, 1970. Language map

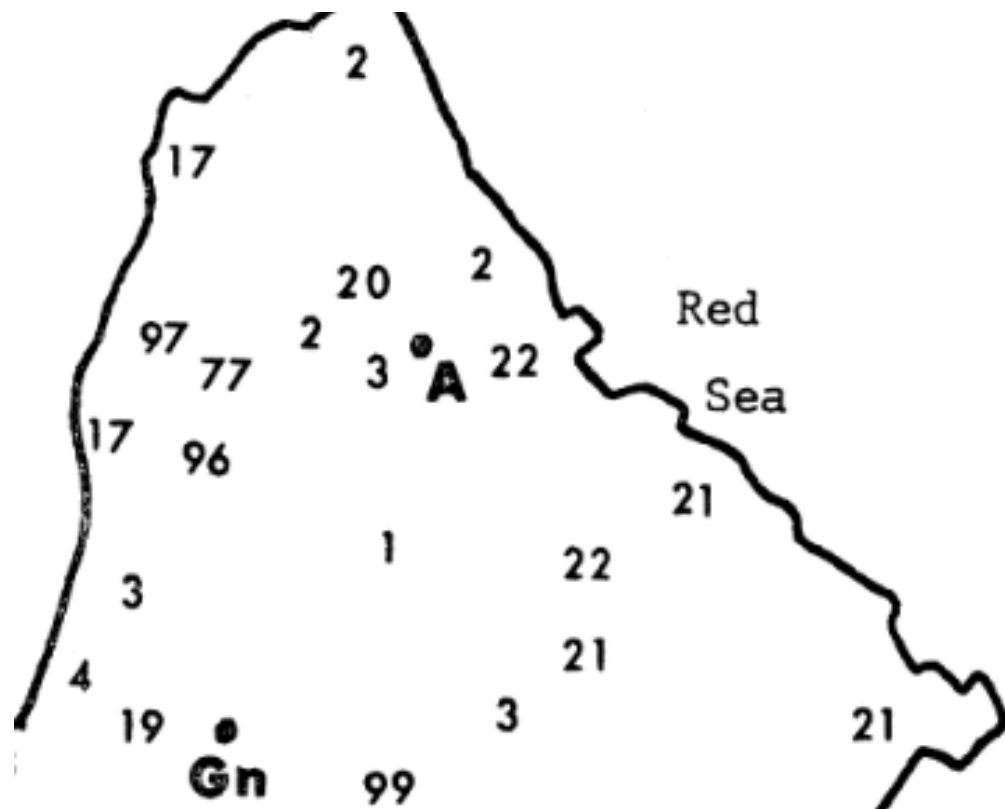


Buxton, D.R., 1970. The Abyssinians. Praeger Publishers.

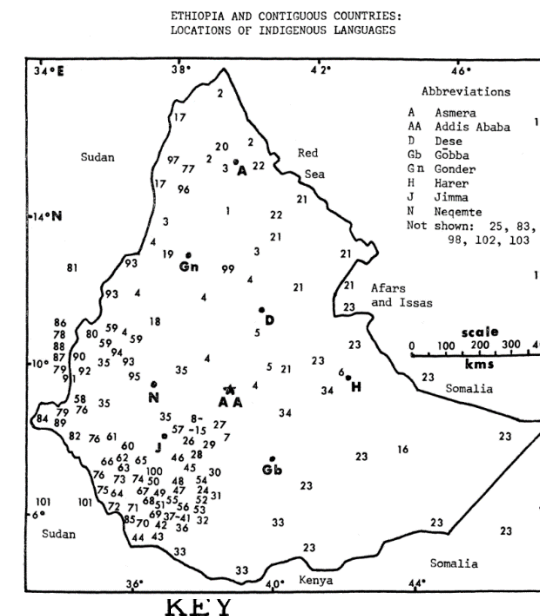


## Bender, 1971. Locations of indigenous languages

Very generalised map; 3 for Tigrinya in Western Tigray



Abbrevia	
A	Asmera
AA	Addis
D	Dese
Gb	Göbba
Gn	Gonder
H	Harer
J	Jimma
N	Neqemte
Not shown:	
98,	



### Language

### No.

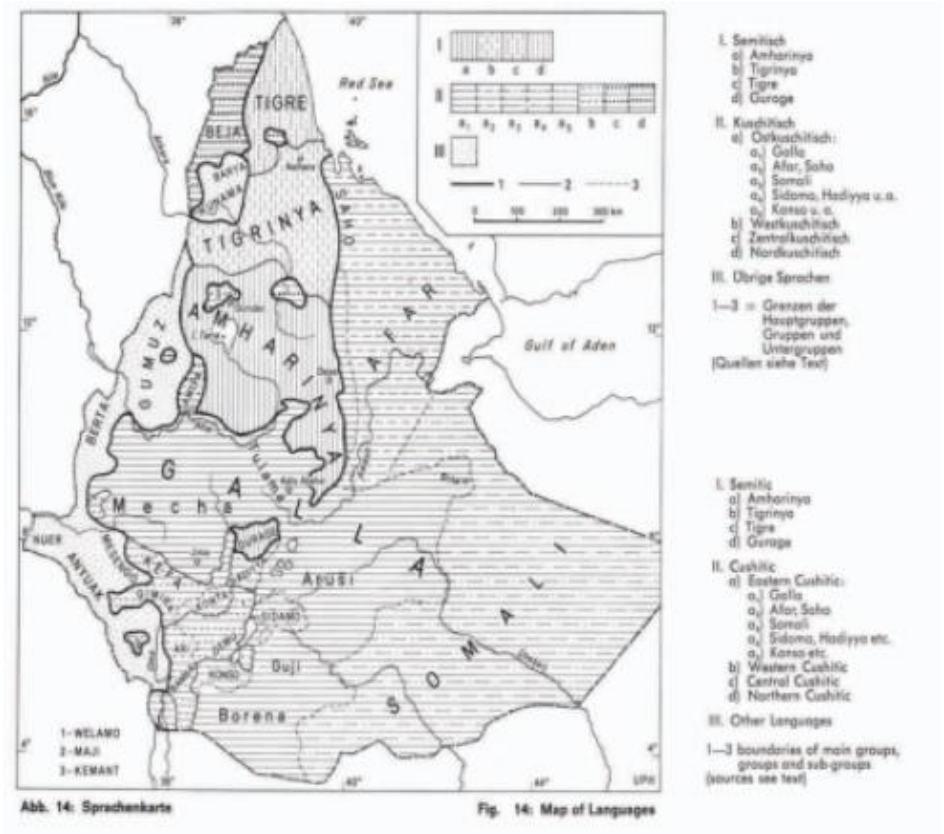
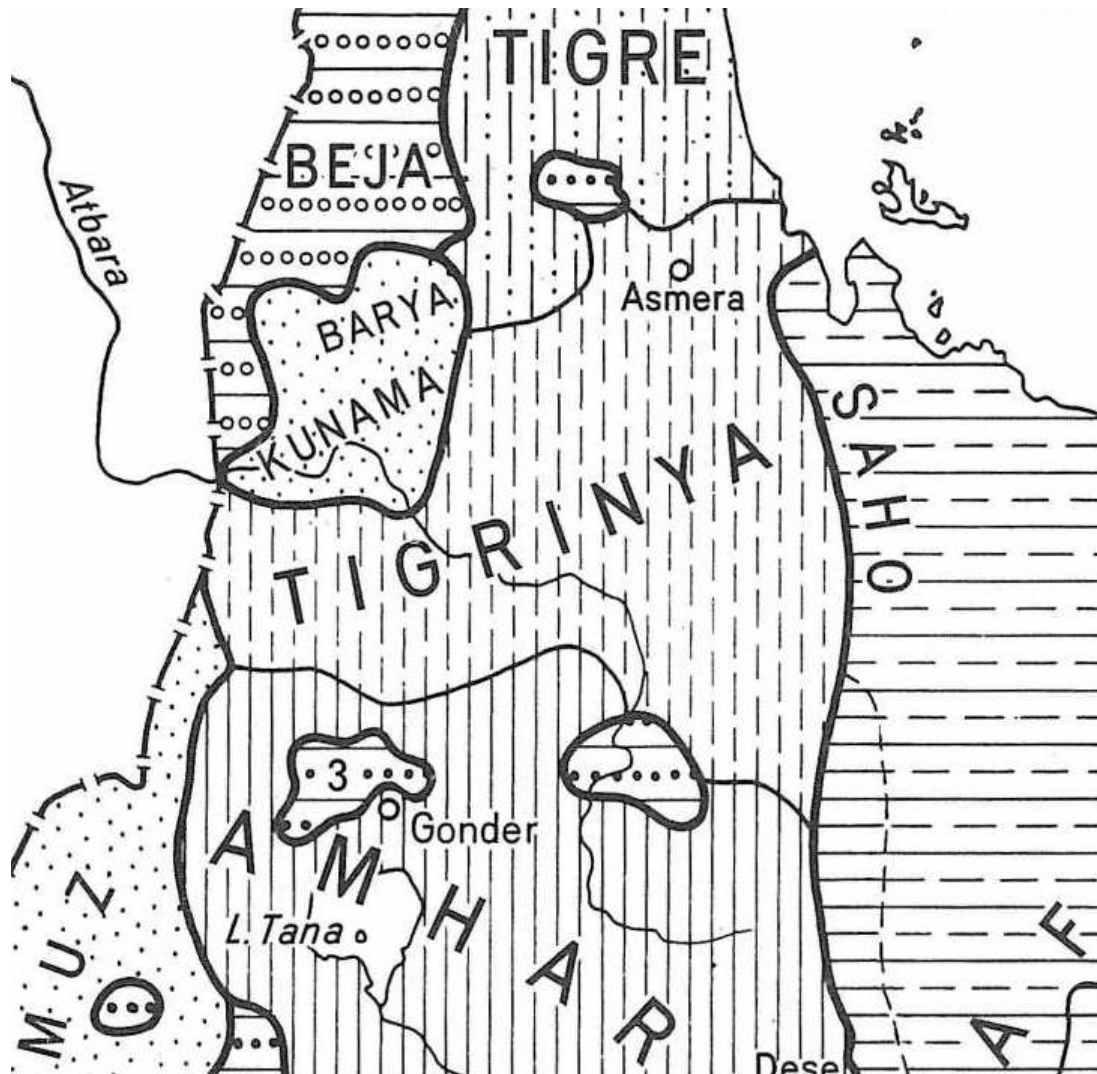
1. Geez
2. Tigre
3. Tigrinya
4. Amharic

Bender, M.L., 1971. The Languages of Ethiopia: A New Lexicostatistic Classification and Some Problems of Diffusion. *Anthropological Linguistics*, 13 (5): 165-288. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/30029540?seq=1>



## Kuls, 1972: Map of languages

Tigrinya language with full East-West extent up to the Sudanese border, across the Tekeze River.

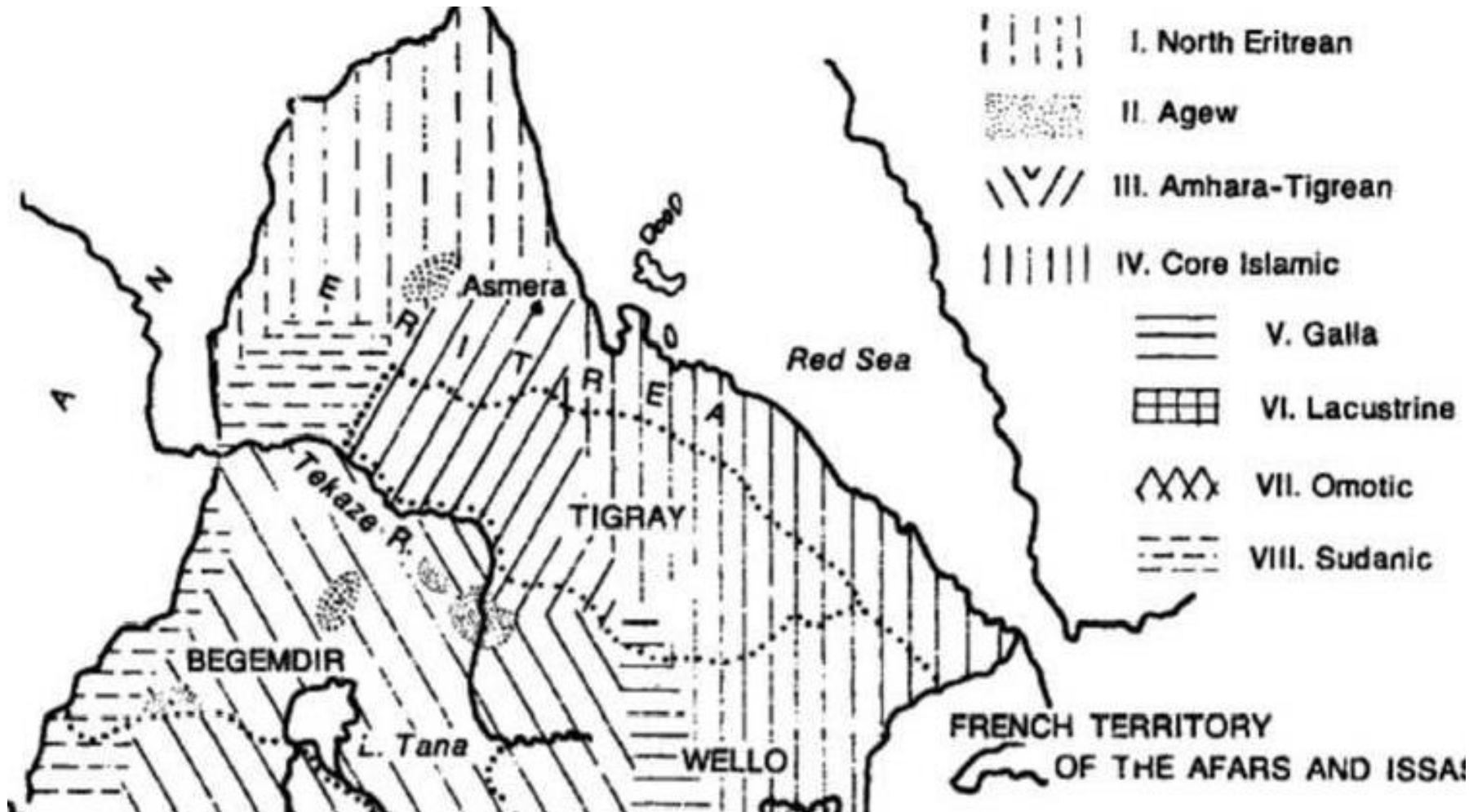


Schaller, K.F., Kuls, W., 1972. Äthiopien-Ethiopia. Eine geographisch-medizinische Landeskunde / A geomedical monograph. Geomedical monograph series, Heidelberg Akademie der Wissenschaften Math.-nat. Springer-Verlag Berlin, Heidelberg, New York.



## Levine, 1974: Language map

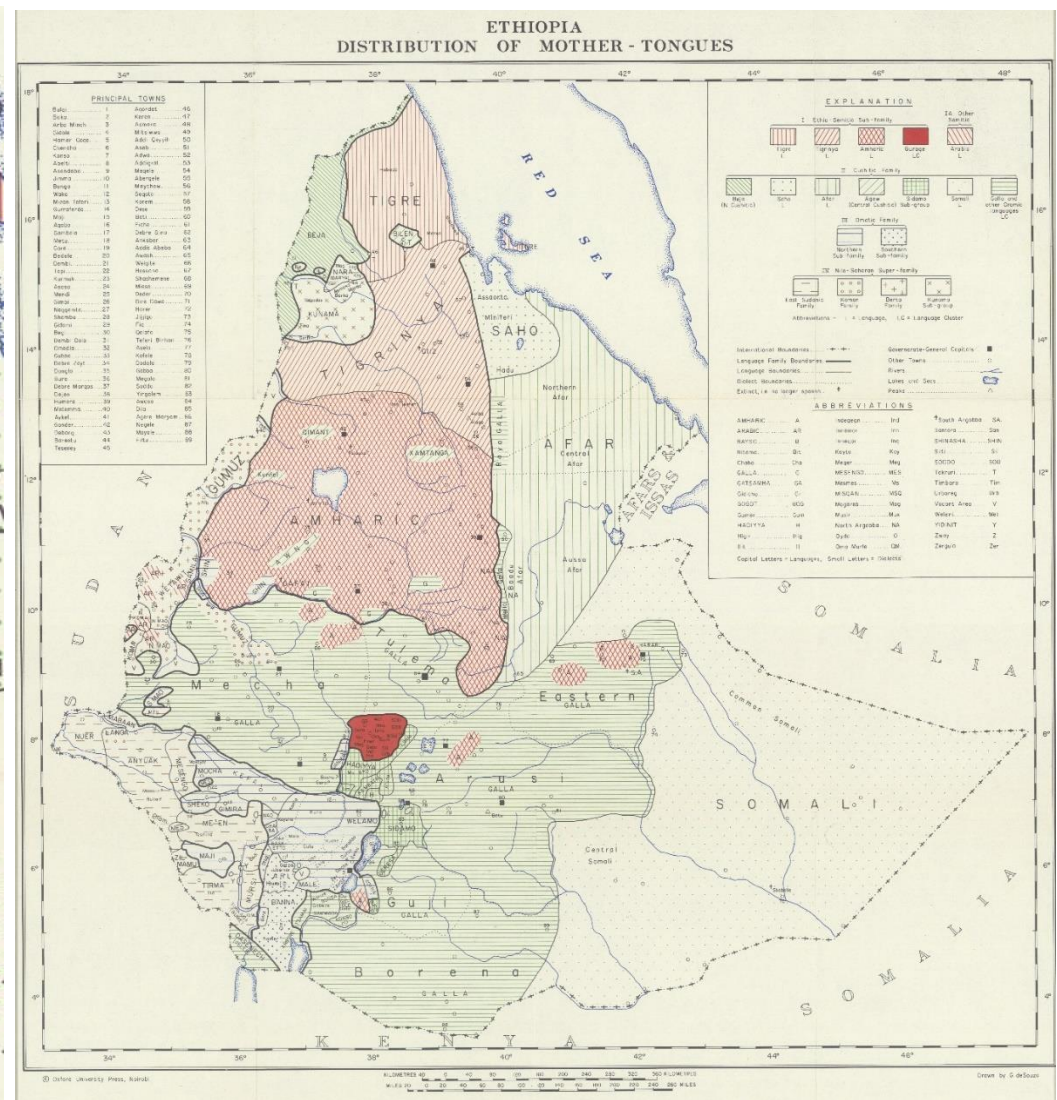
Besides an extent of Amhara language that is out of phase with all other language maps (pages 115 to 151), Levine's map holds numerous other inconsistencies. Tigre or Gurage are absent from the legend; dozens of Cushitic and Omotic ethnic groups as well as Gurage are lumped as "lacustrine"; Afar and Somali are merged into "core Islamic"; Amhara and Tigrean proposed for merger...



Levine D., 1974. Greater Ethiopia: The Evolution of a Multiethnic Society. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.



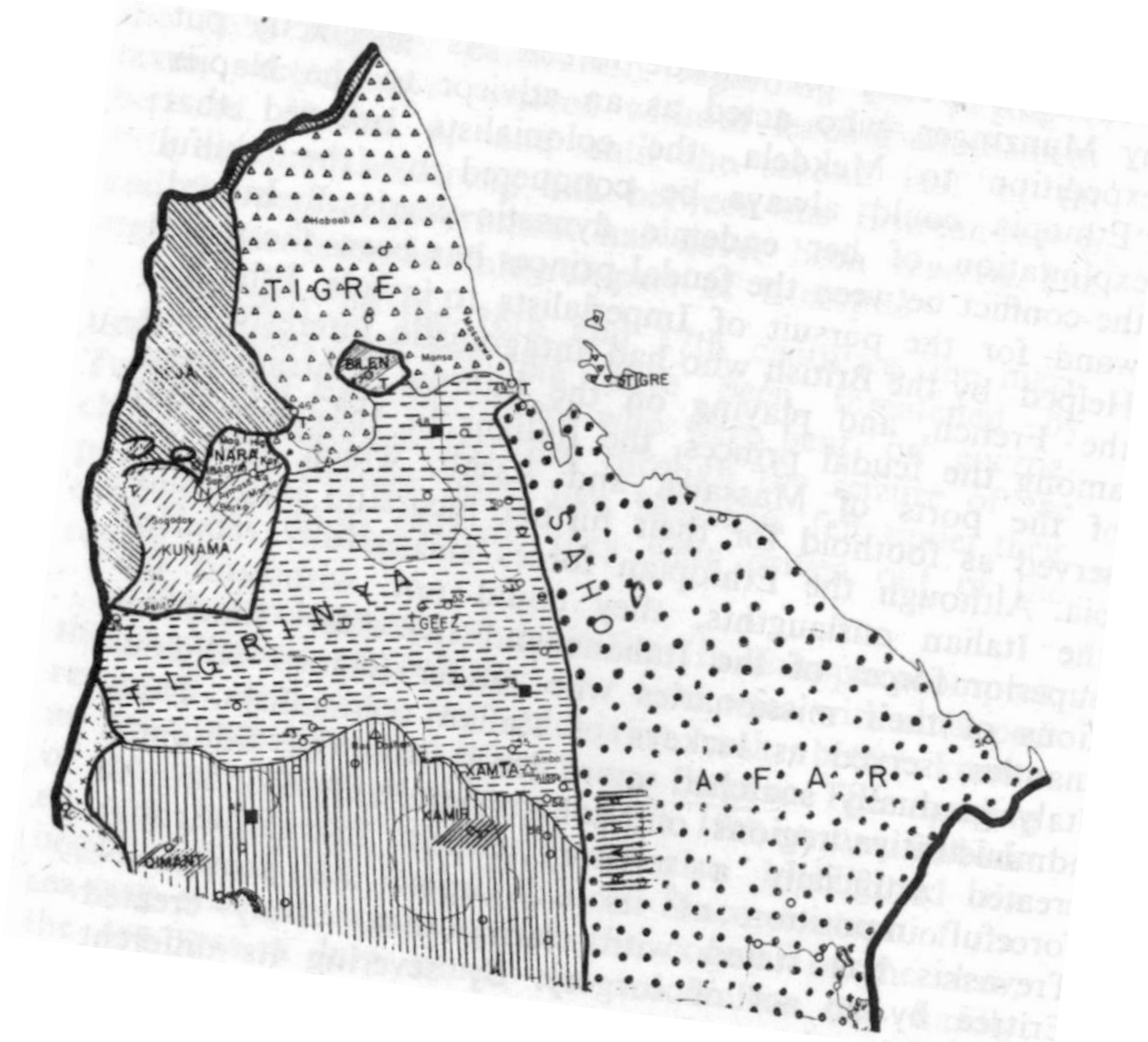
The current western Tigray mapped as Tigrinya-speaking, with Kunama along the shores of the lower Tekeze River. Localised “T” at Humera (39) for Tigruri, people of West African origin who settled along their pilgrim route to Mecca (10).



DATA SET: HISTORICAL AND ETHNO-LINGUISTIC MAPS COVERING WESTERN TIGRAY - 144



DERG, 1977. Distribution of nationalities in Northern Ethiopia.



## THE ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION

and

## THE PROBLEM IN ERITREA

Ethiopian Revolution Information Center

P. O. Box 2549 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

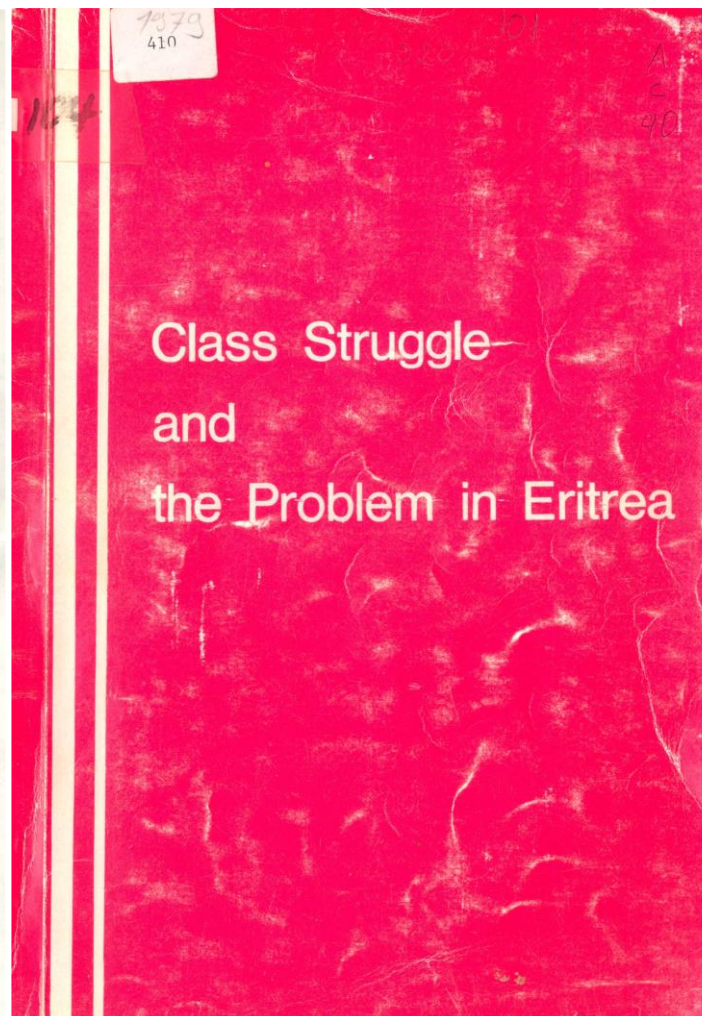
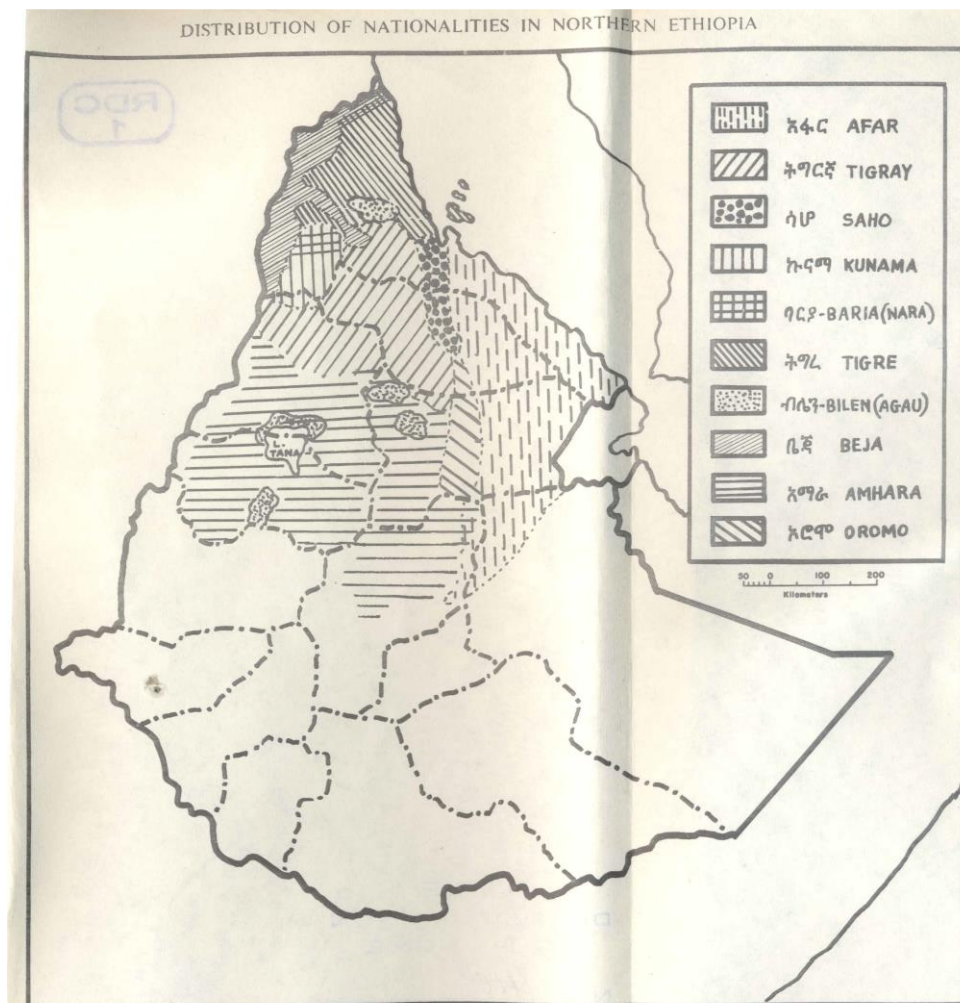
July, 1977

Ethiopian Revolution Information Center, 1977. The Ethiopian Revolution and the Problem in Eritrea. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. 24 p.



## DERG, 1979. Distribution of nationalities in Northern Ethiopia.

Tigrinya language area is mapped on both sides of the Tekeze River, reaching up to the Sudanese border. According to several occurrences in the book, at that time the Tigrinya language was spoken in areas that pertained to the Derg period provinces of Eritrea, Tigray, Gondar and Wollo. Areas mapped as Tigrinya-speaking correspond to the current extent of the Tigray region plus central Eritrea.

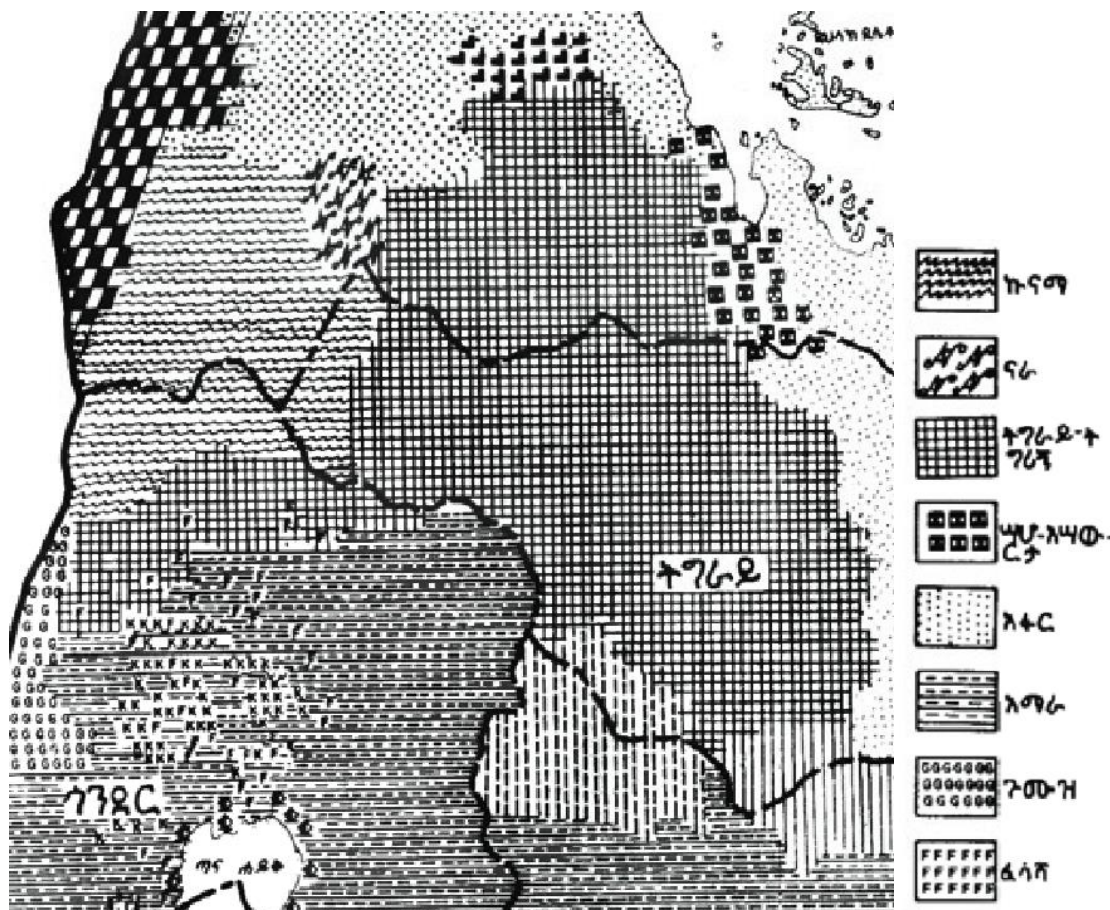


Ethiopian Revolution Information Center, 1979. Class struggle and the problem in Eritrea. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. 139 p., map.



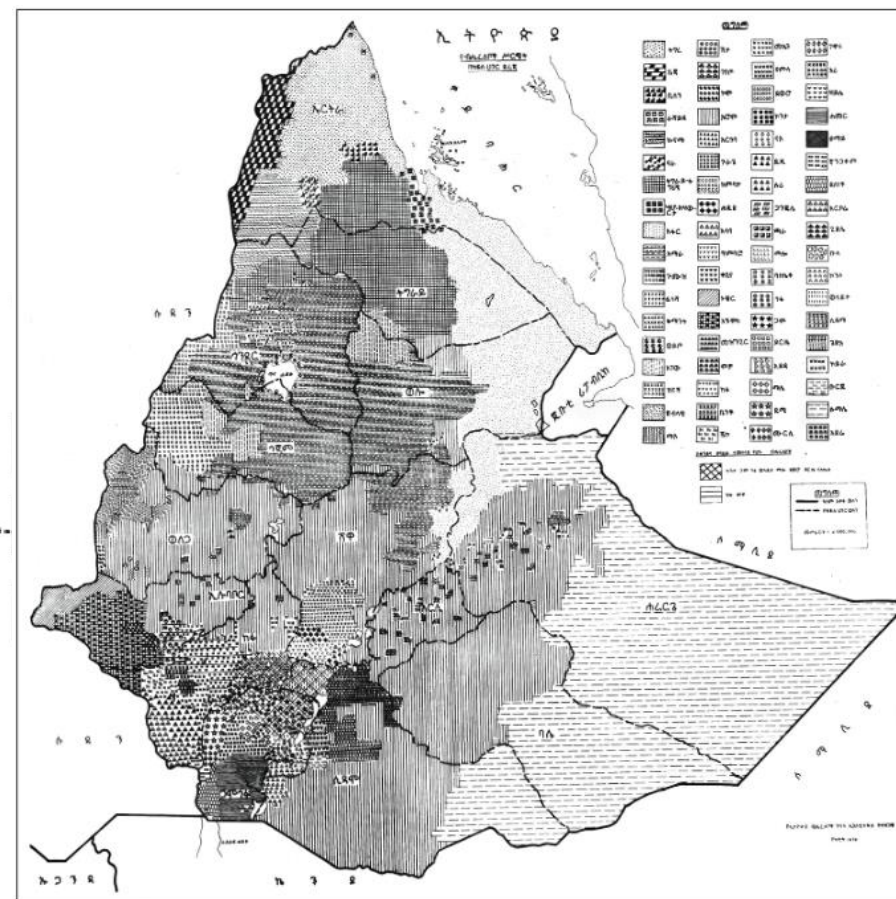
Institute for the Study of Ethiopian Nationalities, 1985. Catalogue and map of Ethiopian nationalities.

According to this map, the ethnic groups in Western Tigray are Tigrayans and Kunama. Kunama area does look rather too wide; compare to Bender et al., 1976. Small letters F for small groups of Falasha. Like on many language maps, in the extreme western part of the Tigrinya-speaking area, the latter borders with the Gumuz-speaking area.



Legend, starting from the top: Kunama, Nara, Tigray-Tigrinya, Saho, Afar, Amhara, Gumuz, Falasha.

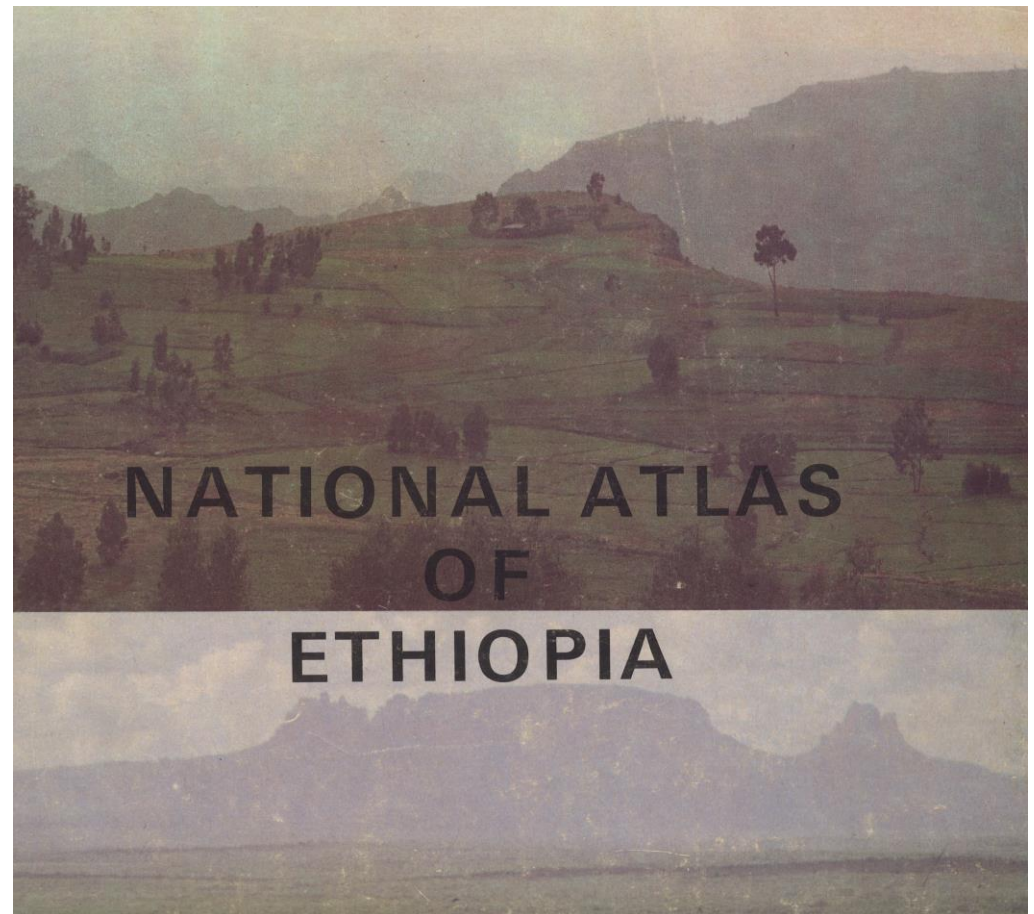
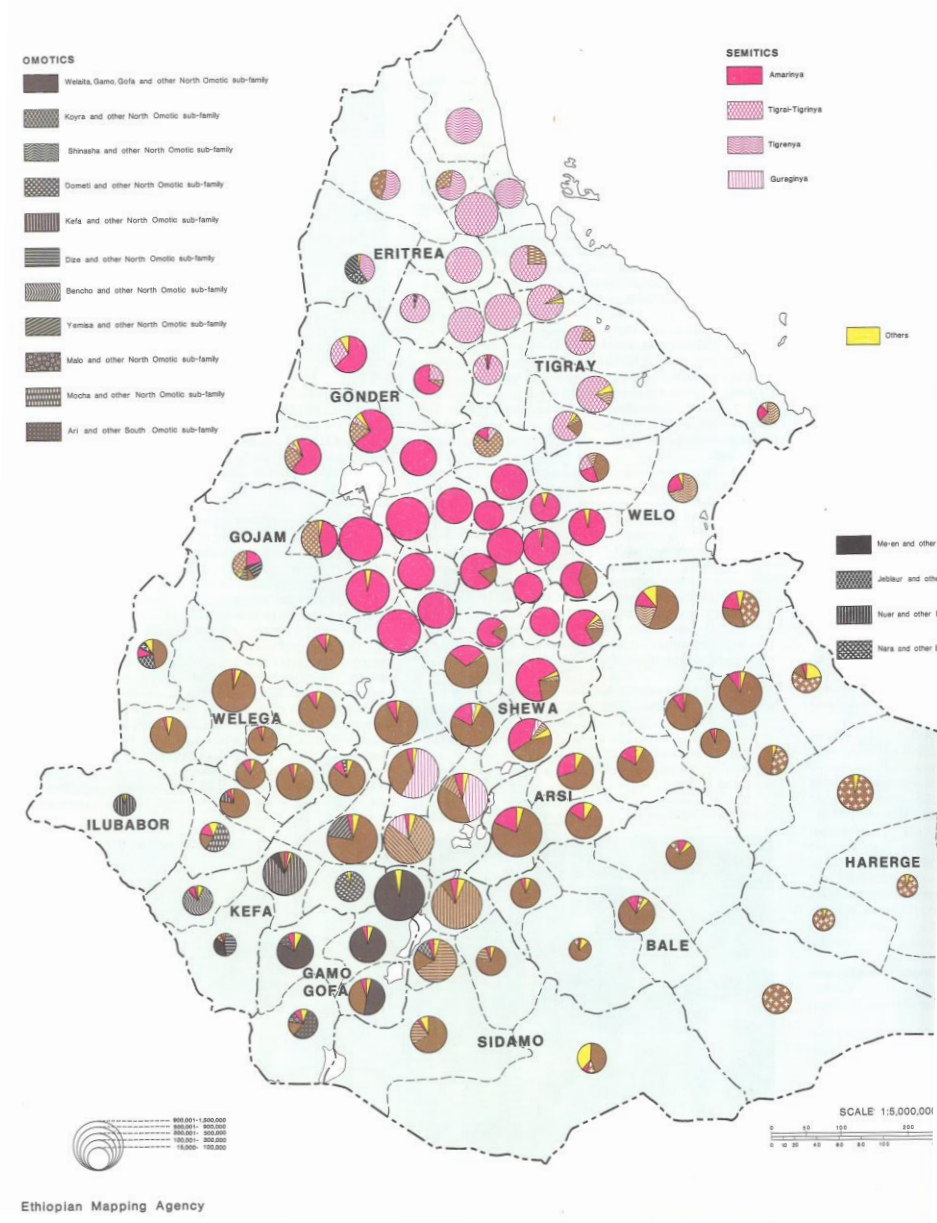
Map was republished by Mulatu Wubneh, 2017. Ethnic Identity Politics and the Restructuring of Administrative Units in Ethiopia. International Journal of Ethiopian Studies, 11 (1 & 2): 105–38. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26586251>.





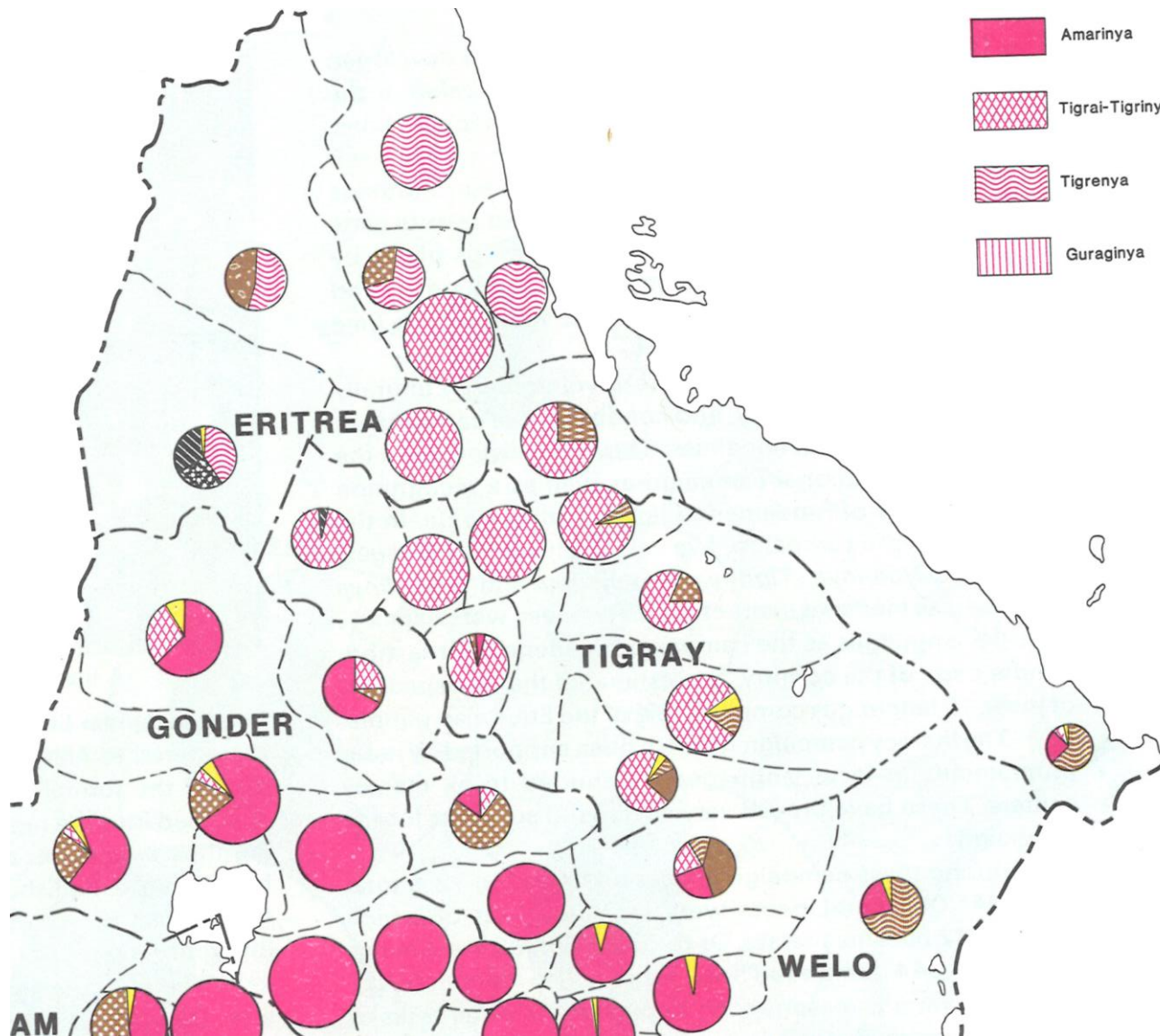
## EMA, 1988: National Atlas of Ethiopia - Languages

### NATIONAL ATLAS OF ETHIOPIA





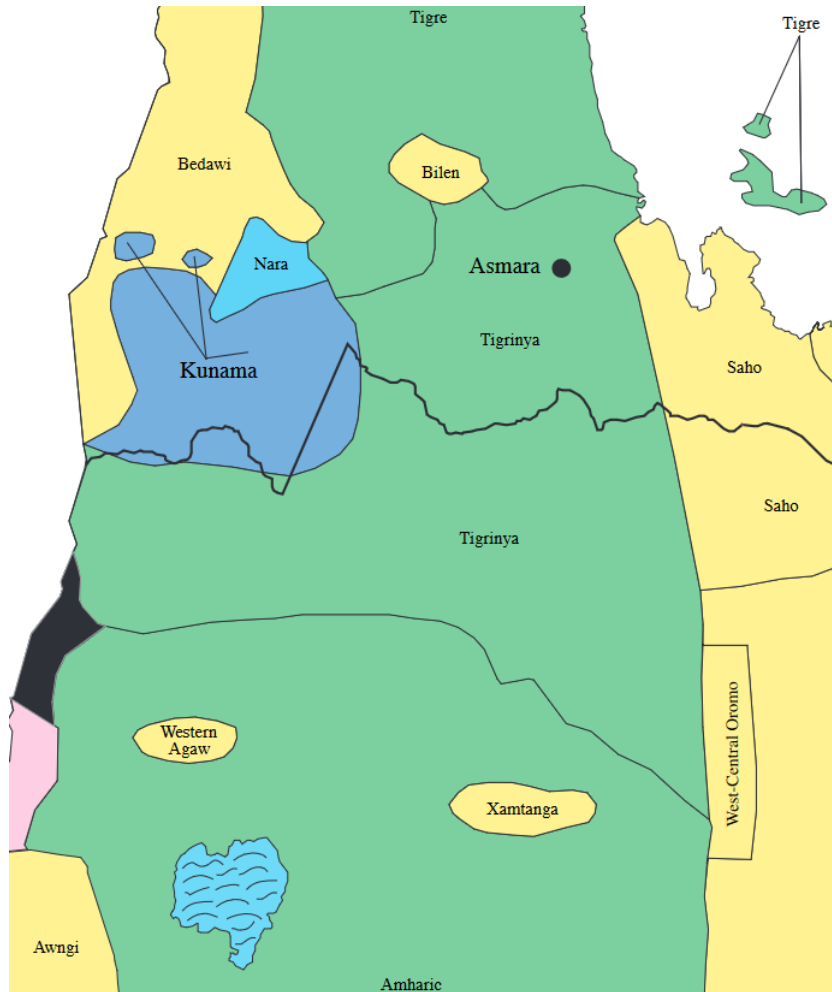
The map in the 1988 National Atlas of Ethiopia actually does not represent a spatial distribution of languages, but pie charts of census results at the level of *awrajas*, an intermediate administrative level at the time. Details in the zone of interest show large shares of Tigrinya speakers in the northern *awrajas* of the then Gonder province. The ethnic groups are not homogeneously “mixed” in each *awraja*, rather the Tigrinya speakers occupied the northern part of the two northern *awrajas*. Contrast to Trimingham’s (1965) map.





## SIL Ethiopia, 2005. Languages of Ethiopia, Eritrea and Djibouti

Border lines quite generalised. Black colour for uninhabited area; in reality this in these areas there is shifting cropping by Gumuz who also displace their settlements regularly (11, 12).



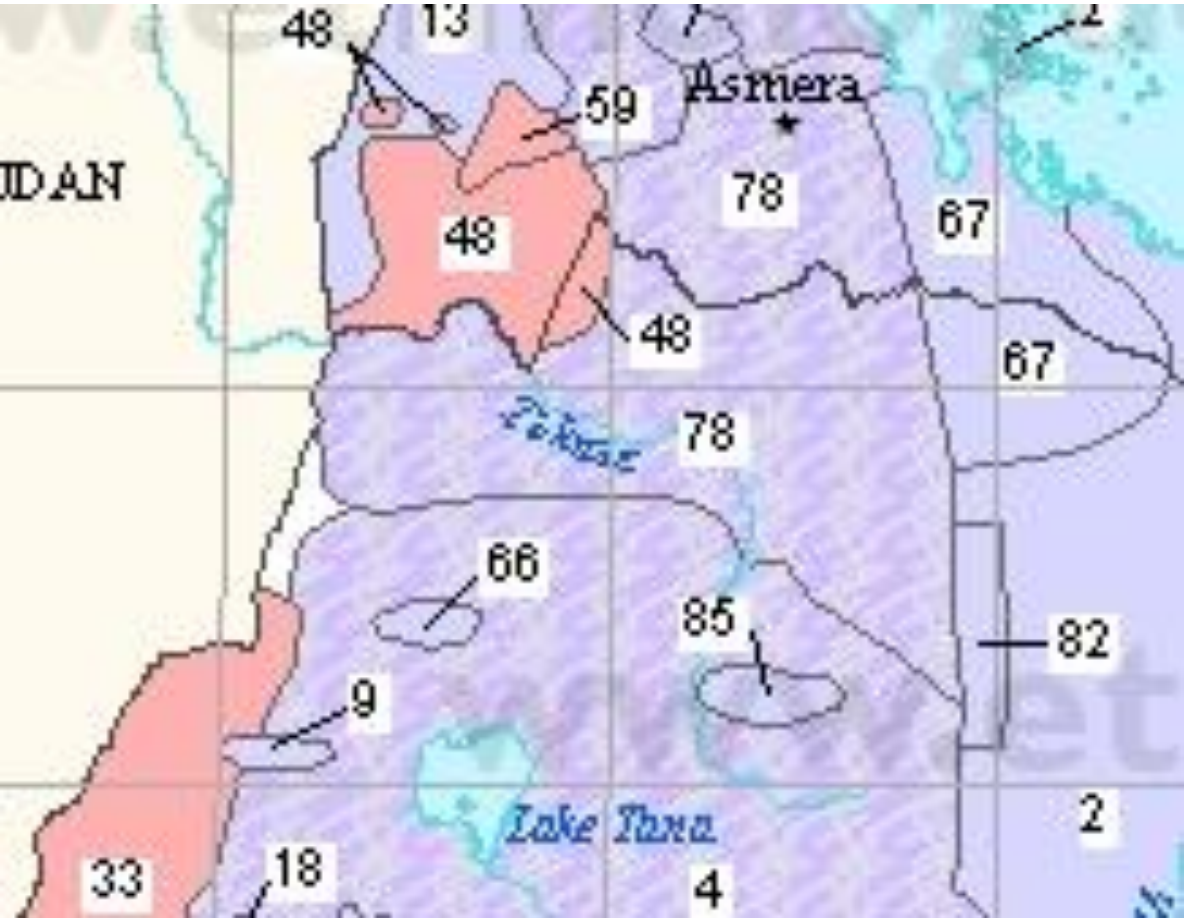
<https://silethiopia.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/Language-Map-30.03.2005.pdf>


SIL International is an evangelical Christian non-profit organization whose main purpose is to study, develop and document languages, especially those that are lesser-known. SIL Ethiopia was founded in 1973 as a non-profit organization.






Ethnologue, 2009

Legend: 78 for Tigrinya, 2 Afar, 4 Amharic, 33 Gumuz, 48 Kunama, 66 Qemant Agaw, 67 Saho, 82 Oromo and 85 Xamtagna Agaw



 **Ethnologue**  
Languages of the World

Menu  

Ethiopia  [Print](#)

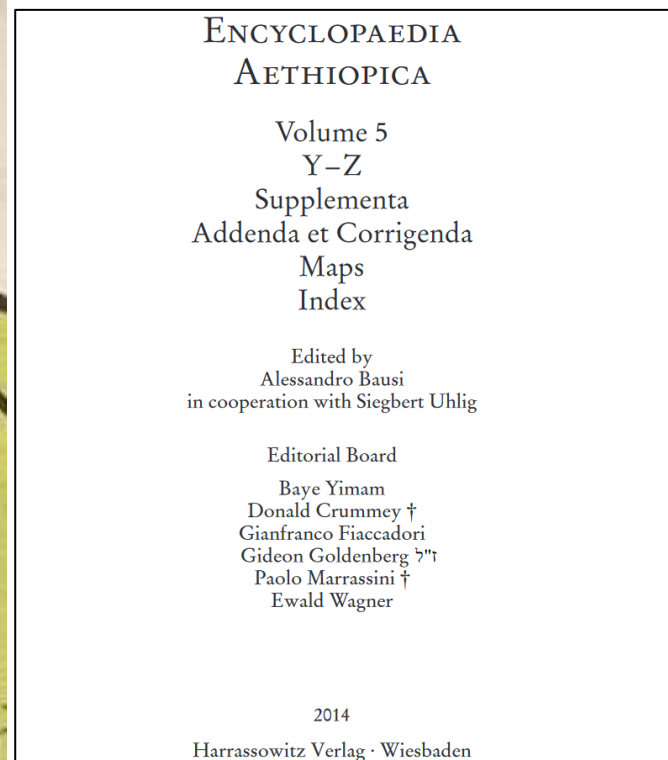
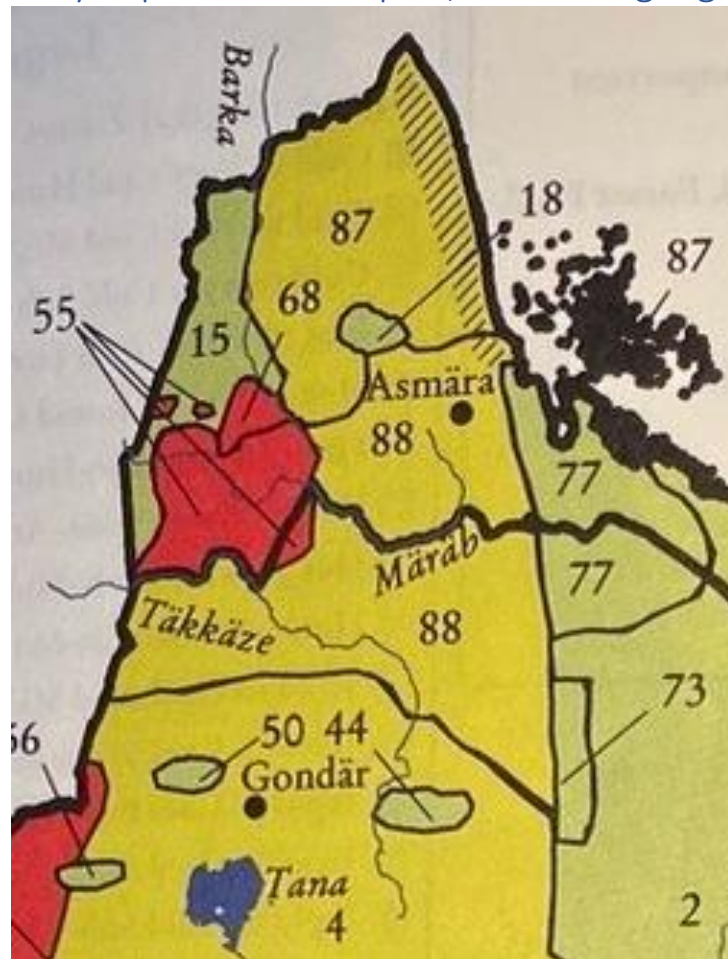
COUNTRY	LANGUAGES	STATUS	MAPS
Official Name	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia		
International Conventions	ACHPR (1998), CPPDCE (2008), CSICH (2006), ICCPR (1993), UNCRPD (2010)		

[http://www.ethnologue.com/show\\_map.asp?name=ET](http://www.ethnologue.com/show_map.asp?name=ET) (behind paywall)

Map retrieved from: Tekabe Legesse Feleke, 2021. Ethiosemitic languages: Classifications and classification determinants, Ampersand, 8: 100074.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.amper.2021.100074>.





2 Afar, 4 Amharic, 55 Kunama, 73 Oromo, 77 Saho, 88 Tigrinya. The editors do put a caveat on the language map saying that it shows a “necessarily schematic representation of language borders. The reader should be aware that these borders only ideally mirror the multi-ethnic and linguistic realities of the respective areas on the ground and do not take into account the natural fuzziness of these boundaries” (p.592)

Schulz, M., Sernicola, L., Bustorf, D., Martinez d’Alos-Moner, A., Meckelburg, A., 2014. Maps - Languages of Ethiopia and Eritrea. In: Bausi, A., Uhlig, S., Encyclopaedia Aethiopica (Vol. V). Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.



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12. Kuls W. Land, Wirtschaft und Siedlung der Gumuz im Westen von Godjam (Äthiopien). *Paideuma* 1962;8(1): 45-61.