



# Classical Africa Educational Tour XX

# ETHIOPIA

## The Land of Ancient Kush

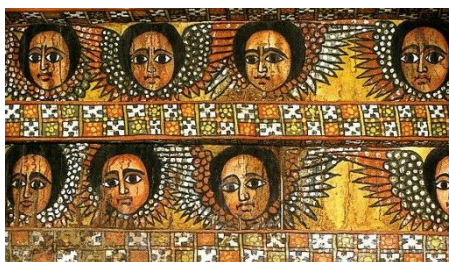
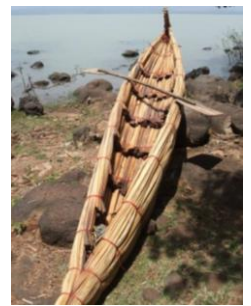
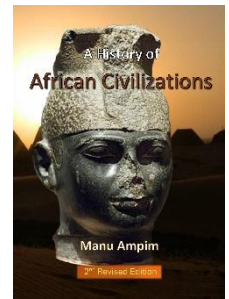


*Personally Escorted by*  
**Prof. Manu Ampim**



**June 24 – July 9, 2025**  
**(16 days)**

**\$4,999.00 FROM WASHINGTON, DC**  
*(All tips and taxes are included)*



**MANU AMPIM** is an historian and primary (first-hand) researcher specializing in Africana Studies. He earned a Masters of Arts degree in History & African American Studies from Morgan State University in 1989. He is the Director of Advancing The Research in Oakland, CA.

**Teaching Career:**

He has taught in the Department of History at Morgan State University (Baltimore, MD), and at San Francisco State University in the Department of Ethnic Studies. Also, Ampim has studied at Oxford University in England, and collaborated on a NASA-sponsored research project, which examined the ancient climate and migration patterns in Africa. Since 2006, Prof.

Ampim has taught History and Africana Studies at Contra Costa College (San Pablo, CA). He also teaches a pioneering 7-Step Primary Research Methodology Course at Advancing The Research.

**Pioneering Field Research:**

For the past 37 years, Prof. Ampim has taken educational tours to North Africa and Central America. In addition, in 1989-1990 he conducted an extensive 13-country research tour to all of the major museums, institutes and libraries throughout America, Europe and Canada, which house ancient Egyptian, Nubian, and Kushite artifacts. Since the 1990s, he has completed various field research projects in Egypt, Nubia, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Kenya, and Uganda to continue his primary research at dozens of indigenous communities and field sites to study ancient African social organization and spiritual culture, observe cultural retentions, document modern forgeries, and to record the vanishing evidence of classical African civilizations in the Nile Valley. His latest mission since 2011 has been to organize the Save Nubia Project (SNP) to help preserve the archaeological sites of ancient Kush and Nubia in the Sudan, which are threatened by the ongoing construction of a series of dams. The SNP collective has helped lead this effort in saving the remains of the classical Kushite and Nubian civilizations in Sudan, and other areas of northeast Africa. Ampim's body of work for more than three decades has earned him the recognition as one of the leading scholars on ancient African culture and contributions to the world.

[www.AdvancingTheResearch.org](http://www.AdvancingTheResearch.org) .

**“The Classics” Reading List:**

- Ampim, Manu, *A History of African Civilizations* (2023).
- Ben-Jochannan, Yosef, *The African Origin of the Major Western Religions* (1970).
- Houston, Druscilla D., *The Wonderful Ethiopians of the Ancient Kushite Empire* (1926).
- Jackson, John G, *Ethiopia and the Origin of Civilization* (1939).
- Jackson, John G, *Man, God, and Civilization* (1972).
- Means, Sterling, *Ethiopia and the Missing Link to African History* (1945).
- UNESCO, *General History of Africa, vol. II: Ancient Civilizations of Africa* (1981).
- Van Sertima, Ivan (editor), *Black Women in Antiquity* (1988).
- William Leo Hansberry African History Notebook* (edited by Joseph Harris), vol. I: *Pillars in Ethiopian History* (1974.)
- William Leo Hansberry African History Notebook* (edited by Joseph Harris), vol. II: *Africa & Africans As Seen by Classical Writers* (1977).
- Williams Chancellor, *The Destruction of Black Civilization* (1971).

**For more information, please contact:**

Advancing The Research  
510-878-7279

[admin@AdvancingTheResearch.org](mailto:admin@AdvancingTheResearch.org)



**TOUR INVITATION**

PRINT LEGIBLY ALL DETAILS AND MAKE ALL MAIL & ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS TO:

**ADVANCING THE RESEARCH (ATR)**

8105 Edgewater Drive, Suite 209 \* Oakland, California 94621

Mr. / Dr.  
NAME Ms. / Mrs.

(NAME AS IT APPEARS ON YOUR PASSPORT)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TEL. NO. (Home): ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

Cell: ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ )

TOUR HOST NAME: Prof. Manu Ampim

TOUR NUMBER: 105-2025B

Yes, count me in. It is understood an invoice is to be sent to me and is to be paid in full sixty (60) days prior to departure. The minimum \$500.00 per person deposit is attached to confirm participation and as credit to the total cost of the tour.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Single Room on Tour \$280.00

PLEASE READ THE TOUR CONDITIONS CAREFULLY, SINCE ENROLLMENT IN AND PAYMENT FOR THE TOUR CONSTITUTES ACCEPTANCE OF THE TOUR CO NDITIONS.



## ETHIOPIA: LAND OF ANCIENT KUSH

**June 24: WASHINGTON / ADDIS ABABA** Depart Washington International Airport via Ethiopian Airlines to Addis Ababa. Meals will be served on board.

**June 25: ADDIS ABABA** Upon your arrival at Bole International Airport in Addis Ababa, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. In the afternoon, you will be taken for sightseeing around Addis Ababa and visit Trinity Cathedral, the Ethnological Museum, and Mt. Entoto with its panoramic view. In the evening, enjoy a welcoming dinner at a traditional Ethiopian restaurant, featuring dancers and musicians representing some of the country's many ethnic groups.

**June 26: ADDIS ABABA / AXUM** Late morning transfer to the airport for your flight to Axum. Axum was the capital of a major kingdom, and one of the oldest African empires which represented a crucial trading point between Africa and Asia for almost a thousand years. Legends narrate in the *Kebre Negast* (Book of Kings) how Axum as early as the 10th century BCE was already the region where the Queen of Sheba resided. Among the notable sights are the astounding array of towering granite obelisks or stelae, the Ezana's stone inscriptions, the stone Throne of the Judges, tombs of the kings, and the Church of St. Mary of Zion, containing crowns of past emperors of Ethiopia. It is in Axum that the Ark of the Covenant is allegedly kept. The well-guarded sanctuary chapel of the Ark of the Covenant is believed to be located there, and the visitor may approach, but never hope to enter. Return to your hotel for dinner and overnight. *Evening lecture.*

**July 27: AXUM** Drive to the Adwa Hills to visit the site where the Ethiopian army defeated the Italians in the historic Battle of Adwa in March 1896. Continue our drive to the Temple of Yeha (8th century BCE), which is the oldest standing structure in Ethiopia. Return to Axum, balance of the afternoon to explore Axum on your own. Dinner and overnight at your hotel. *Evening lecture.*

**June 28: AXUM / ADDIS ABABA** Complete your exploration of the historic region of Axum and visit the granite rock quarries. Afternoon flight to Addis Ababa. Dinner and overnight at your hotel. *Evening lecture.*

**June 29: ADDIS ABABA / BAHIR DAR** Early morning flight to Bahir Dar for a *day trip*. Bahir Dar is on the southern shore of Lake Tana. The Blue Nile originates in Lake Tana, just as the White Nile originates in Lake Nyanza ("Lake Victoria") in Tanzania, Uganda, and Kenya. The two rivers merge together to form the Nile River in Khartoum, Sudan. Enjoy the scenery of the beautiful Lake Tana. Visit the majestic Tis Isat Falls (Smoke of Fire) where the waters of the Blue Nile thunder some 200 feet into a chasm. At Tis Isat Falls climb down to the base of falls for an up-close look and climb back up from the other side. Boat over to the origins of the Blue Nile, and then drive to the Woyito Village to see the production of papyrus boats (tankwas). Afterwards, visit the local market, and if time permits visit the Bezawit Palace (former Palace of Haile Selassie). Early evening return flight to Addis Ababa. Dinner and overnight at your hotel.

**June 30: LALIBELA** Early morning flight to Lalibela. This location is named after the king who in the 12th century initiated construction of the eleven rock hewn churches, which have been hailed a wonder of the world. Visit 6 of the monolithic underground churches at Lalibela. Dinner and overnight at your hotel. *Evening lecture.*

**July 1: LALIBELA / ADDIS ABABA** Visit the remaining 5 churches, all of which date back to the 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century C.E. UNESCO declared these incredible churches as World Heritage Sites in 1978. Afternoon flight to Addis Ababa, and visit the John C. Robinson grave in Gulele Cemetery, and then the Adwa Victory Memorial Museum. Dinner and overnight at your hotel. *Evening lecture.*

**NOTE: Omo Valley** The dozens of indigenous groups in the vast South Ethiopia Regional State are unique and still maintain their traditional culture and beliefs. The Omo Valley itinerary (July 3-7) is flexible which means that if we learn of, for example, a "Bull-Jumping" rite of passage for men coming of age and must be performed before he is permitted to marry, then we will alter our schedule to witness this ceremony. However, we will change only the visitation dates, but keep all the main places of interest.

**July 2: ADDIS ABABA / OMO VALLEY** Early flight to Arba Minch in the south. Drive to the Dorze village and learn about their cultural traditions and economic production from the *enset* plant. The Dorze people are renowned for their exceptional weaving skills and their unique huts, which are shaped like elephants and constructed using bamboo. Afterwards, drive to the Konso village and learn about their renowned stone terrace walls and 18-year age-grade system of governance. Dinner and overnight at your lodge. *Evening lecture.*

**July 3: OMO VALLEY** Drive from Konso to Turmi and visit a Hamar village. Dinner and overnight at your hotel.

**July 4: OMO VALLEY** Drive from Turmi to visit the Kara and Nyangatom villages and meet with a chief and elders, and return to Turmi. *Evening lecture.*

**July 5: OMO VALLEY** Drive to meet the Dasenech children and village. Continue drive to Jinka City. Visit Jinka University and the Wonta Lodge project. Dinner and overnight at your hotel.

**July 6: OMO VALLEY** Drive through Mago National Park to visit a Mursi village. Return to Jinka and visit the South Omo Research Center (SORC). Dinner and overnight at your hotel. *Evening lecture.*

**July 7: OMO VALLEY / ADDIS ABABA** Morning flight to Addis Ababa and visit the huge Mercato Market, then on to the National Museum (where the remains of Lucy and Selam are located). In the afternoon, continue tour of historic Addis Ababa and visit the Shiromeda market. Dinner and *Final evening lecture.*

**July 8: ADDIS ABABA / WASHINGTON, DC** Most of the day at leisure. Evening departure from Addis Ababa on your return flight home. Arrival in Washington, DC the next morning.

**July 9: WASHINGTON, DC** Arrival in Washington, DC early morning local time.

This unique historical and cultural tour of Ethiopia blends the historical sites in the north with a survey of southern indigenous groups in the Omo Valley in the south. The tour is extended to 16 days to maximize the *cultural exchange* with these southern groups.

**(16 days)**

**Visiting 25% more sites and monuments than any other educational tour!**

# TOUR CONDITIONS

**AIR TRANSPORTATION:** All flights will be aboard Ethiopian Airlines (both international and domestic).

**BAGGAGE:** Limited to two normal size suitcases, the weight of which should not exceed 50 pounds. Flight carry-on bags, cosmetic bags, briefcases, and camera cases remain in the personal care of tour members and are not included in the 50 pounds.

**HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:** Two persons sharing a room with separate twin beds and a private bath.

A limited number of single rooms are available at \$280.00 supplemental cost. Confirmation required before departure.

**MEALS – THREE MEALS PER DAY:** Full breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and one non-alcoholic drink per meal.

**SIGHTSEEING:** As detailed in the itinerary, using comfortable and convenient transportation. English speaking escort and local licensed guide. All entrance fees are included when applicable to specified sites.

**TIPS:** Tips associated with portorage at the hotels, meal gratuities, GUIDES and DRIVERS rendering services are included.

**TAXES:** Service charges as imposed by lodging facilities, taxes by local administrations and government authorities on lodging are included on all services rendered to the group. Airport taxes and fuel surcharge are included in the price of the tour and are subject to change without prior notice.

**THE TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:** Expense of passports, e-visa, laundry, wines, liquors, after meal coffee or tea or items not found on the menu, excessive baggage expenses, and all items of a personal nature, plus those not listed as being included in the tour price.



**BOOKING AND CONDITIONS:** A non-refundable deposit of \$500.00 per person is required at the time of booking. **Final payment must be made no later than 60 days prior to departure.** If payments are made less than 60 days, then the flight costs are subject to an increase.

**CANCELLATIONS:** Cancellations must be made in writing. Cancellations made up to 60 days prior to departure, refunds will be made less \$500.00 per person administrative fee and airline nonrefundable deposit. Cancellations made 59-36 days prior to departure will pay an \$800.00 per person administrative fee. Cancellations received 35 days or less prior to departure must pay a charge equivalent to 75% of the cost of the basic tour cost from Washington, DC (or from Addis Ababa if not travelling with the ATR group from Washington, DC).

**NO SHOW- NO REFUND.** Cancellation charges with medical reasons certified by a hospital and accepted by the airlines and suppliers will only be made based on refunds from suppliers and less \$500.00 per person administrative fee. **TRAVEL INSURANCE IS HIGHLY SUGGESTED.** No refunds for services or sightseeing rendered and not used by tour members. In the event departure does not reach the minimum required number prior to departure, Advancing The Research **RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL,** withdraw or change the tour in whole or in part at any time in the event a change is deemed necessary by ATR. The sole obligation of ATR is to refund payments received in connection with changes if not acceptable to tour members.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Advancing The Research (ATR) and its Agents (AMG Tour & Travel Agency) assume no liability or responsibility for any injuries or loss of property, accident, delay, changes in schedule or itinerary or incidental damages, occasioned by circumstances beyond the control of ATR, or by any person or reason whatsoever, including but not limited to default or omission of and by any third party providing services or facilities related to or included in this tour or any part thereof or in arranging for same. The airline carriers, steamship firms and other transportation companies whose services are featured in these tours are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time the passengers are not on board their respective conveyance. The passage contract in use by these companies, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the companies and the purchaser of these tours and/or passenger and ATR assumes no liability or responsibility in connection therewith.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAVEL

*SUBJECT TO CHANGE*

**PASSPORT** – American citizens traveling abroad must have a valid passport. Non-American citizens need to check with ATR for requirements.

**VISA:** Ethiopia – Required. Passengers will obtain their own e-visa (electronic visa) for \$82.00.

**VACCINATION:** None at this time unless traveling from Egypt.

*Tour Planned and operated by:*

### **ADVANCING THE RESEARCH**

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