



## WOVEN INTO THE TAPESTRY

### HOW FIVE WOMEN SHAPED ETHIOPIAN HISTORY

#### About the Book:

*Woven into the Tapestry: How Five Women Shaped Ethiopian History* offers a rich combination of history and art celebrating the contributions of five extraordinary women: Queen Ahyewa, Makeda (the Queen of Sheba), Queen Eleni, Queen Taytu, and the British activist Sylvia Pankhurst. Each of these determined leaders lived through crucial moments in Ethiopian history as they intersected with larger world events, from the spread of Christianity to the Second World War, and each was instrumental in shaping Ethiopia's historical trajectory in ways previously neglected by historians. This book demonstrates the lasting impacts of policies adopted, implemented, and orchestrated by these powerful women who dedicated themselves to the cause of a nation when they were needed most.

Joining the words of emeritus professor in history Tekeste Negash, author of several books on Ethiopian culture and history, with the lush tapestries of art historian and tapestry artist Berit Sahlström, this book brings to life Five Women and takes readers on a journey through the long history of Ethiopia, a nation that has forged and maintained its independence in the face of often staggering adversity.

Beginning with Ahyewa's fateful decision to adopt Christianity as the faith of her people, through the rise of a nation under the legendary Queen of Sheba, the building of an empire through Eleni and Taytu's fight for survival against the onslaught of European colonialism during the Scramble for Africa, to Pankhurst's tireless advocacy for postwar independence, this book spans centuries while remaining focused on the immense contributions of five truly remarkable women.

#### Book Detail:

**Author:** Tekeste Negash, Ph.D.

**Tapestry by:** Berit Sahlström, Ph.D.

**Format:** Paperback; 8"x8"; Maps, tapestry, illustrations

**Pages:** 139+

**ISBN:** 978-1-59-907119-0 (Paperback)

**Pub. Date:** March 2016

**TSEHAI Publishers**  
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# TSEHAI Book Details

## Blurb:

*Woven into Tapestry* is a dazzling, illuminating, and profoundly moving account of the history, religion, and culture of Ethiopia, demonstrating how women not only influenced Ethiopia's history but made it. This book will be of interest to a broad audience, from scholars well aware of its subjects to those coming upon this material for the first time. —Theresia de Vroom, author of *The Lady Vanishes: Fantasies of Female Heroism in Shakespeare's Last Plays*

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## About the Authors:

This project is the result of several years of collaboration between emeritus professor in history Tekeste Negash and art historian and tapestry artist Berit Sahlström. Now a citizen of Sweden, Tekeste Negash was born in Ethiopia and has published several books on Ethiopian history, education, and culture. Swedish-born Berit Sahlström has published works on Ethiopian and African contemporary political art and has had her tapestries commissioned by both public and private institutions. A sampling of her work can be viewed on her website, [www.beritsahlstrom.se](http://www.beritsahlstrom.se).

Tekeste and Berit share the goal of bringing the stories of these five remarkable women and their roles in the long history of Ethiopia, a nation that has forged and fought for its independence in the face of staggering adversity, to the people of Ethiopia and Eritrea and their worldwide diasporas. It is hoped that through this work that future historians will be inspired to further research the very prominent roles women have played throughout the history of Ethiopia.