



Have you ever thought of the role played by songs in your life?



Abbay is an Ethiopian name for the Nile river



# THE SONGS OF THE NILE: FROM A'BAY TO THE GERD

Abbay

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# Narratives; Songs before the GERD

National treasure

Physical beauty

**The homeless river**

**The lost river**

**The deaf river**

Eradicating poverty

**The building of the home**

ገጽ ገጽ	<b>Abbay, Abbay,</b>
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	The nation's greenery,
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	The nation's treasure,
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	Singing outside of his nation,
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	It sang out of tune,
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	Abbay having lived without a benefit,
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	For how long would the tale be told:
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	That Abbay the homeless wanders:
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	Not having a place to rest its debris

ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	<b>Abbay, water of the river! You are not humane</b>
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	You do not listen to our plea:
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	“we are thirsty; we are hungry”
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	You down-streaming water,
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	neither you hear their call
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	Tell us, what you find in the
ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ ገጽ	Egyptian cities dear

# Songs after the beginning of the construction of the GERD

Thankful river,  
The faithful river,  
The reuniting River

The hope,  
**Homecoming River**  
**The answer**  
**The reuniting project**  
Way out from poverty,  
The benefit-sharing  
Collaboration

□□□□□ □□□ ... □□□ □□□	Let the lamentation end .... let it end
□□□□ □ □□...	Time for thanks giving,
□□□□□ □□□ ... □□ □□□ □□□	Let the lamentation end ..... say let it end
□□□□ □ □□	time for thanks giving
□□□ □ □□ □□ □□□ □□□□ □□□□	Abbay has started a journey in renaissance

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**Hey diaspora! Please, get together and return to your country as Abbay did**  
**Abbay that raised me calling upon me**  
**I hastened and returned with our river**

❖ **pride**

❖ **Renaissance**

❖ Engineering wisdom

❖ A higher place

❖ **The reassurance**



# Takeaway Messages

- Songs about the Abbay/the Nile and the GERD portray that the river is not just a river and the dam is not mere water infrastructure,

Instead, there are embedded emotional and symbolic constructions that conquer the public space and political space.

- Therefore, emotional, cultural, and symbolic aspects of the rivers and water infrastructures need to be taken into account.