

## THE ORDER OF CORONATION

The crowns of the King of Kings and of the 'Iteghe (Empress), and all other Coronation ornaments and objects<sup>1</sup> shall be placed<sup>2</sup> in the Church<sup>A</sup> found within the walls of the Royal Palace<sup>B</sup>; and after the monks, senior priests<sup>3</sup> and Bishops<sup>4</sup> who came from each province have prayed the proper prayers there for two full weeks, when seven days<sup>5</sup> remain until the Coronation Holiday<sup>C</sup>, the *Bejirond* (Treasurer)<sup>6</sup> shall go to the Church of St. Giyorgis<sup>7</sup>, and shall have all the ornaments for the Coronation Ceremony of the King of Kings and the 'Iteghe carried by the great Officials - the Guards of Honour<sup>D</sup> escorting him in before and after, on the right and left<sup>8</sup>.

The Leader of the Church<sup>E</sup>, gathering the clergy together, shall receive him in the Church compound singing: “*We glorify the Lord 'IGZI'ABHER<sup>9</sup> the Glorified, Who deserves glory<sup>10</sup>*”.

The ornaments befitting the ceremony of the King of Kings' Coronation are the following<sup>11</sup>:

- 1) Sword with the sheath adorned with gold and precious stones.
- 2) Royal sceptre<sup>F</sup>.
- 3) Orb<sup>12</sup>.

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*A - bete krestyan || B - bete menghest-u ghebì || C - zewdu be'al || D - kibr zebennyotch || E - 'aleqa || F - Literally in Ge'ez: “Rod of the Kingdom”, betre menghest. ||*

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- 4) Ring set with diamonds.
- 5) Two golden spears.
- 6) Royal garment<sup>A</sup>.
- 7) Crown<sup>B</sup>.

Then:

- 8) A gold-bound Holy Bible<sup>C</sup> <sup>13</sup>.

The ornaments assigned to the *'Iteghe* are the following:

- 1) Ring set with diamonds.
- 2) Royal garment.
- 3) Crown<sup>14</sup>.

On that same day, seven Royal perfumed unguents<sup>D</sup> shall be blended and made into one<sup>15</sup> holy oil<sup>E</sup>, within the horn of unction<sup>F</sup> <sup>16</sup>, that shall go to the Church together with the Coronation ornaments. The priests<sup>17</sup> appointed for this duty, having received all the ornaments from the *Bejirond* for the Coronation ceremony, shall put them in order on a sacramental table<sup>G</sup> <sup>18</sup> aptly prepared within the Holy of Holies<sup>H</sup> <sup>19</sup>.

Forty-nine officiants<sup>I</sup> chosen from among the priests and monks, being in groups of seven at seven points in the Church, shall recite every single day forty nine Psalms of David for all the seven days preceding the solemnity<sup>20</sup>.

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*A* - Literally in Ge'ez: "Garment of the Kingdom", *lebse menghest*. || *B* - *zewd* || *C* - *metzhaf qdus* || *D* - *'afewate menghest* || *E* - *qb'a qdus* || *F* - *qerne qb'u* || *G* - *Terepeza* || *H* - *meqdes* || *I* - *kahinnat* ||

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