

# UNIT 5

## Patriotism

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- explain the meaning of patriotism.
- understand the relations between patriotism and citizenship.
- identify actions or practices that can damage patriotism.

### 5.1 Patriotism

#### 5.1.1 The Meaning of Patriotism



Picture 5.1. Representatives of different Nations, Nationalities and Peoples

- How do you explain the idea of patriotism in regard to this picture? Explain it.

Identity proverbs, jokes, poems, songs and the like which express patriotism in your village and share these to your classmates.

For example, with love we build a country.

Knowledge is a means for peoples respect or reputation.

Skill is a means of proud

ምሥሌ፤ በፍቅር ሀገር ይሠራል፤  
በዕውቀት ሕዝብ ይከብራል፤  
በጥበብ ይከራል።

Patriotism is about loving one's country. There is a difference even among the members of a family in characteristics, physical appearance or way of practicing doing things. However, there is understanding, tolerance, love and mutual respect among themselves. They also understand that they have equal rights and responsibilities. This situation is also true to citizens of our country, which has diversification of language, culture, religion and tradition. It is stated in the constitution clearly that the Nations, Nationalities and Peoples of Ethiopia have equal rights to life. The sovereign and internationally recognized state of Ethiopia is equally the home of all different Nations, Nationalities and peoples of the nation. As a result of these factors, Nations, Nationalities and Peoples of Ethiopia are living together with love, tolerance, mutual understanding and respecting one another.

#### Activity 1

Discuss the following questions in class:

1. What does patriotism mean?
2. Why do we love our country?

#### 5.1.2 How Patriotism is Expressed?



Picture 5.2. Students on work

- What do you understand from picture 5.2?

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### Father Sirbamo and Docho's neighbourhood children

Father Sirbamo lives in 'Sefere Selam' area. Sefere Selam is a place in Hawassa town located at around 'Atena Terra' children of 'Sefere Selam' like Ato Sirbamo, and they call him 'Guche'. Father Sirbamo was one of the Ethiopian soldiers in the 1935/36 fighting against the Italian invasion. 'Guche' Sirbamo is a heroic person who lost one of his legs in battle field. 'Guche' Sirbamo is the grandfather of Docho. Docho is 14 years old boy who has great love to his grandfather. Docho has friends called Eyob, Yasin, Tedesse, Daniel and Zemzem. Docho and his friends like to chat with 'Guche' Sirbamo after their return from schools. The following passage is their conversation.

**Zemzem** - Guche, why is one of your legs sick?

**Guche** - You see! This leg is not sick. But I lost it when I was fighting against Italian invaders to free my country.

**Zemzem** - Guche, does that mean you love your country very much?

**Guche** - There is nothing above a country.

**Tedesse** - Guche, how can we express that we love our country?

**Guche** - Well, that is good question. Loving country starts from loving of community, respecting families, showing good behaviour to neighbouring people, keeping the environment clean, giving priority to education and proper handling of private and common properties are some of good qualities of loving one's country.

**Yasin** - Guche, is it bad if I become a soldier like you?

**Guche** - It is good idea. However, keeping the security of your country is not only at the battle field. If you advice very disturbing children in the community, and also if you are trying to be a

model person in your village, these are also good qualities of protecting the security of one's country. This way you can show that you really love your country.

**Daniel** - Guche, how about when an enemy invades our country? What shall we do?

**Guche** - Daniel, our enemy is not only the invaders in the case of invasion; all citizens are responsible to protect their country. But our main enemy is hunger and poverty. Currently, since poverty is our number one enemy, everyone has to fight against it.

**Eyob** - Guche, but how can we fight against poverty?

**Father** - We can do this by educating oneself and by being a hard working person; and also through proper handling of public and government property. For example, when you see a water pipe broken, it is good to inform to the concerned body. Do not hit street light bulbs; and keep your environment clean. These are some of the responsibilities that are expected from you.

**Docho** - Guche, today onwards, we will love our country and we shall keep our promise. We shall also put your advice into practice.

**All the children together** - Yes Guche, we shall keep our promise!!!!

**Guche** - Very good children. Now I am happy. Be a hard working student since you are the hope of the nation's future!!

### Activity 2

Based on the above conversation, answer the following questions:

1. Based on Guche's and Docho and his friend's discussion, what does patriotism mean?

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2. Mention additional good qualities of patriotism.
3. A border of our country is kept by military and people together. Likewise, if we all keep resources from wastage, it helps to reduce poverty. Discuss on those two points with your class friends.

If you really love your country, you have to show it in practice. And this is patriotism.

A patriotic person has to show his/her own patriotic feeling in practice. The following good qualities of loving one's country, is expected from a patriotic person:

- Feeling proud of our country and working hard for its development.
- Contributing something for people.
- Avoiding practices that will damage the nation.
- Respecting others language, culture, belief and opinion; promoting toleration and peaceful co-existence.
- Putting all efforts together and work hard in order to reach to the level of industrialized countries.

### 5.2 Bad Practices that can Harm Patriotism

- What kind of message do the following Amharic sayings transfer? Discuss.
1. ከራስ በላይ ነፋስ
  2. “እኔ ከሞትኩ ሠርዶ አይብቀል”
  3. የአባትህ ቤት ሲዘረፍ አብረህ ዝረፍ
  4. ጉቦና ሌባ በር አይወድም።

#### Abrar Kesto

Tabor primary school is known by producing active students. The school has ranked first for last three consecutive years. It is known not only for student achievement but also by the good character of students. Abrar Kesto is one of the students in the

school. Unlike other students, Abrar Kesto is known not only by his bad performance but also that he is problem maker in the school. His father, Ato Hayilu, teaches in Tabor primary school. Because of this considering that nothing will happen to him, Abrar destructs properties of the school. For example, he tears some pages from library books that his father lend; he was also found stealing 8th grade exam paper from his father and sell it to students; it was understood that one day he even gave a stolen exam paper to his niece. It was known that he was also stealing students' property from the class. Once upon a day, it was approved that Abrar has broken water pipe of the school and electric bulb.

Furthermore; he was very careless about keeping his school environment safe that when he saw cattle destructing garden plantation of school compound he did not report to the director. This situation made his classmates worried very much and they agreed to inform the case to the school director.

### Activity 3

Based on the passage, answer the following questions:

1. Discuss on the faults of Abrar Kesto that his classmates agreed to inform to school director.
2. Mention three possible reasons for the weakness of teacher Hayilu, the father of Abrar Kesto.
3. Discuss with your instructor whether the bad practices of Abrar Kesto can damage patriotism or not?

### 5.3 The Meaning of Common Properties

#### 5.3.1 Common Properties at Home

- Can you mention some of the common properties of your family or your village people?

Common properties are instruments which give service to more than one person or for group of

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persons. Common properties are mainly serving not only the interest of individuals but also the interest of people.

In addition to privately held properties, people also use common properties too. For example, they are instruments giving services to all family members. There are common instruments at home such as clothes, books, cooking materials, etc. These common properties have to be held by all family properly. If some of the family members are careful while others are careless in handling these common properties, it disturbs family peace. Maintenance or replacing by purchasing new material will cost further money to the family. Therefore, every family member has to give proper attention to the family's common properties.

### Activity 4

Answer the following questions:

1. What does common property mean?
2. Mention some commonly used properties at your home.

### 5.3.2 Common Properties in School

- Mention some common properties at school.

'School is a centre for human development.' This is a common slogan hang on the wall of many schools. Of course school is a source of wisdom and skills. There are a number of common properties in schools. Every student has individual and common responsibility over handling of common properties. If chairs and tables are broken, it becomes the problem of whole students. If toilets are not properly held, every student who uses the toilet can have a health problem. And this will be a cause for family and government to spend further money for treatment. If a classroom is not clean, it affects the learning process. As the school is a centre which integrates the youth of yesterday, today and tomorrow, therefore, everyone has to handle common properties of schools properly.

### 5.3.3 Necessary Cares for Common Properties

- Why is it necessary to have a proper care for commonly used properties?

Commonly used properties at home are provided by parents. Community and school properties are provided by government and public. Government uses taxes for this purpose. Everyone has to handle these properties properly and neatly. If a container of garbage is not properly held, it leads to disturbance of health in society. If electricity, telephone, water pipe lines are damaged because of carelessness, it hurts the people. As we are poor, such unnecessary wastages can affect our country's economy. Hence, everyone has to handle commonly held properties properly. Not taking care of such properties is also illegal.

### Activity 5

Answer the following questions:

1. Mention four of your private properties.
2. Mention at least three commonly used properties of your community. How are the properties kept?
3. If there are broken materials in your school, discuss with your instructor on its damage to the school.

## 5.4 Ending Poverty and Backwardness

### 5.4.1 Expressions of Poverty and Backwardness

ልጅ “አንጆራ! አንጆራ!” እናት “የለም! የለም!”

ድንኳን ክፉ ነው ጠግቦ መብላት የለም።

(Popular poem about poverty)

- Discuss how the above popular poem expresses poverty.

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The meaning of poverty is when people are not getting basic needs such as clothes, food and shelter. Backwardness is when a poor country is not reaching the levels of the developed countries in terms of material production, leadership, and standard of people's life.

Now, based on the above concept, give as many examples as possible about poverty and backwardness and discuss on it.

1. Ethiopia is one of the poorest countries in the world. One of the basic reasons for our poverty is that we are not working hard. Poverty always makes you to dependent on other countries. Poverty makes you to look for help from others. Poor people are exposed to and easily attacked by man made and natural disasters. If you look at your family or people around your village, you will notice that because of poverty some children are not going to school. The children also lack proper nutritional food. Backwardness and poverty stricken society lead miserable life and is easily attacked by diseases.

### Activity 6

Answer the following questions:

1. Some children are not going to school because of poverty. How do they pass their time?
2. Mention at least three problems of backwardness.

### 5.4.2 Measures to end Poverty and Backwardness

- Discuss on possible measures to resolve the problem of poverty and backwardness.

The only way to depart from poverty and backwardness is to develop the culture of hardworking. To reach higher level of development, job creativity and commitment to work are important. The emerging public motivation for work has to be continued. Policies and strategies of the government of Ethiopia are also motivating citizens for work.

There are findings which indicate that our country economy will reach better stage of development in near future. Good policies and strategies are meaningless by themselves if there is no peoples' work motivation.

### Activity 7

Answer the following questions:

1. Mention about three developmental practices of your community.
2. Can you indicate at least two fast developmental examples in our country?

### 5.4.3 Humanitarian Service

- What does a humanitarian service mean? Discuss.
- Discuss on the contribution of humanitarian organizations services in your community.

### Exemplary Humanitarian Service

There was a young boy in a country. There is railway along the living place of the boy. Every passenger knows that boy because he always greets them being along the railway. Particularly all the rail drivers know him well that sometimes they give him some little gifts. One morning, the boy was shocked by what he saw. He saw the bridge of the railroad broken down. The train arrival time is approaching. He knows that if the train driver is not informed before the train comes to the bridge, everyone is going to die. Hence, he started to wait for the coming of the train by holding his red shirt by his hand. As soon as the train reached, he started to wave his shirt and was running with it by saying "please stop! The bridge has broken!" However, the driver and passengers did not know about it. They only greeted him by waving their hands. Though the boy continued to run with the train and was shouting to stop the train, no one understood his problem. But still, the boy was running and knocking at the train to stop it. As he was running and knocking at the

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train, suddenly he fell down and the train crushed him to death. All of a sudden, the driver stopped the train and irritated by the performance of the boy. But later, when the driver realized the case, he surprised that the boy had lost his life in order to save the life of the passengers.

(This is an exemplary story told in a number of countries.)

Humanitarian service is an attempt based on self-initiation to help others. Humanitarian service is interest based responsibility for everyone. No one may order us to give humanitarian service. However, for the sake of help and support, we may give humanitarian service to our people. A person can give humanitarian service to the needy ones in his community. A student can also give a humanitarian service in order to support his school.

### Activity 8

Based on the passage, answer the following questions:

1. What kind of good lesson can we learn from the above passage?
2. What would have happened if the boy did not do that action?
3. As mentioned in the story, good individuals like the boy in the story commit even their life in order to save the lives of others. Do you give humanitarian service in your community within your capacity? Discuss.
4. Discuss with your teacher about a humanitarian service and about the possible areas you can give such services in your community.

## 5.5 Citizenship

ሰው በሃገሩ፣ ሰው በወንዙ  
ቢበላ ሃር ቢበላ መቅመቆ፣  
ይከበር የለም ወይ ማንነቱ ታውቆ

- Discuss with your instructor on the message of the above public poem.

Citizenship is a legal membership of a given country. A citizen of a country has to be governed by rules and laws of the state. As any citizen has constitutional rights, the citizen is also expected to fulfill her/his responsibility properly. A citizen is also expected to participate in any national issues. The citizen has to keep away herself/himself from actions that can damage the people or nation. If there are people that can damage the nation this way, a citizen should resist them strongly. If problems happened in such a situation, it is important to report to police office or to the concerned body.

### Activity 9

Answer the following questions:

1. What is citizenship in general? What is the role and responsibility of an Ethiopian citizenship in particular?
2. "Rather than asking what my country has done for me, it is better to say what I have done to my country." What is the message of the above saying?

## 5.6 National Flag

### 5.6.1 The Meaning and Necessity of National Flag and Anthem



Picture 5.3. Students on flag ceremony

- What do you understand from the picture?

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### Misho and his Friends

Misho and his three friends are grade five students in Nigist Furra primary school. Due to violation of school rules and regulations, they were punished frequently. Especially, in every morning in flag ceremony, they are known by disturbing the occasion. Sometimes even while students are singing national anthem, they sing other songs to disturb the occasion. On other days they are giggling at students who are lined up in a ceremony and were causing disturbance knowingly. By frequent observation of such bad behaviours of students, the head of the council of Civics and Ethical education, tried to talk with them. He explained that national flag and anthem are the expressions of sovereignty and dignity of a country. He told them that because of patriotism and national flags and anthems, a number of successes were achieved. He mentioned that how our fathers and forefathers used flags and anthems while sacrificing their lives in different war field to maintain the territorial integrity and sovereignty of our country. He also explained them that when a flag is used at sport computations and other international occasions, it has deep meaning to the audiences.

After such serious discussions, those four students regretted of what they were doing. They promised not to commit such mistakes for the second time. They also agreed to ask an apology before all students of the school during the flag ceremony.

The national flag of a country has a number of deep meanings. For example, it inspires and motivates citizens to work hard together towards the development of their nation. The national flag indicates independence, heroism, cooperation, sovereignty and dignity of a country.

During the bad and good history of the country, the Ethiopian people have shown the close links between the nation and its flag. There were bad government systems in the past. Although the people hate these government systems, they loved the flag of the country and even fought against the oppressors and declared freedom. The people of Ethiopia also fought back against the foreign invaders successfully too.

When a national flag is used in schools, government and non-governmental institutions, religious centers, in Embassies of Ethiopia in a receiving state, big state meetings, sport occasions, etc., and when it is accompanied by national anthem, it has a great patriotic and national feeling.

When the national anthem which indicated popularity, possession of unique cultures by nations, nationalities and peoples and endowment of natural and historical heritages, it has the power to initiate the emotion of citizens.

### Activity 10

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

1. What have you understood from the bad actions of the four students at flag ceremony?
2. Are there such students in your school? If yes, what kind of problems are they doing?
3. What have learned from the practice of Civics and Ethical Education club?
4. What has to be done in your school in order to have a better flag ceremony?

### Activity 11

Discuss on the following questions:

1. What do we mean when we say a flag represents a nation?
2. Write a poem or a short essay on the following title and show to your friends

**'THE FEELING I HAVE EXPERIENCED WHEN I SEE THE ETHIOPIA FLAG CELEBRATED IN VICTORY.'**

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## Summary

In this unit, you have learned about patriotism. Patriotism develops by effective performance at home, community and schools levels. Bad practices that can damage patriotism have also mentioned in detail. Every person regardless of religion, culture and language has to respect one another. In order to be free from poverty and backwardness through

promoting justice and equality, it is important to work hard and proper handling of common properties.

It is indicated that citizenship is the legal membership of a country. Every citizen has not only to claim for his/her rights but also fulfill his/her responsibilities. Every citizen has a responsibility to respect the national flag and anthem ceremony.

## Key Words

<b>Sovereignty:</b>	Free country with international recognized rights, privileges and dignities
<b>Bribe:</b>	Unfair advantage that has gained by illegal ways
<b>Public poems:</b>	Popular sayings or poems passed from generation to generation. Their authors are unknown
<b>Patriot:</b>	A hero who has fought for his country's sovereignty or a person who is very effective in his/her working area
<b>Tax duty:</b>	Money collected from either salary or trade activities and implemented to promote social services
<b>Policy:</b>	Rules and regulations for effective implementation of objectives
<b>Strategy:</b>	Implementation guidelines of a policy
<b>Public media:</b>	Radio, Magazines, Television, Newspapers which are information sources

## Unit Review Exercises

Do these review exercises in your exercise book.

### I. Write "True" if the statement is correct and write "False" if the statement is incorrect

1. Cultures of Nations, Nationalities and Peoples should be treated equally.
2. Citizens may die but a state continues to exist.
3. The victim of property wastage in our school is government only.
4. Bribe is the best and shortest way to be a rich person in wrong way.
5. Poverty is when people are not getting basic needs such as clothes, food and shelter.
6. Flag represents a nation.



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## II. Match words or phrases under column 'A' with correct items of column 'B'

- | A                      | B                                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1. Independent state   | (A) A practice carried out by selfish action |
| 2. Citizenship         | (B) The identity of people                   |
| 3. Bribe               | (C) Unfair advantage that is got illegally   |
| 4. Humanitarian action | (D) Membership of a country                  |
| 5. Culture             | (E) Sovereignty                              |
| 6. Natural Resource    | (F) Minerals                                 |
|                        | (G) Self-initiation to help other            |

## III. Choose the correct answer for the following questions

- Which one of the following do not describe the equalities of Nations, Nationalities and peoples of Ethiopia?  
(a) Disrespecting of their culture  
(b) Promoting discrimination  
(c) Support Ethnocentrism  
(d) All of the above.
- A citizen of a country  
(a) Respects the constitution of state  
(b) Ensured his/her democratic rights  
(c) Has to fulfill his/her responsibility  
(d) Has to respect others right  
(e) All of the above can be answer.
- Which one of the followings should not be common property?  
(a) Desk of a school  
(b) Television at home  
(c) Sharp instrument that cuts fingernails  
(d) Photo camera of a family  
(e) Water pipe of the community.
- Which one of the following can be a bribe?  
(a) A reward for outstanding student  
(b) Payment with a legal receipt  
(c) Employment through blood relationship  
(d) Employment by job experience  
(e) All of the above.

## IV. Copy the following questions on your exercise book and fill the correct answer on the space provided

- When we say our country is sovereign, it is to mean that our country is\_\_\_\_\_.
- Peoples of our country should get equal \_\_\_\_\_ from their countries resource.

## V. Give short answers for the following questions

- What is citizenship?
- What does commonly used properties mean?
- How is patriotism expressed?