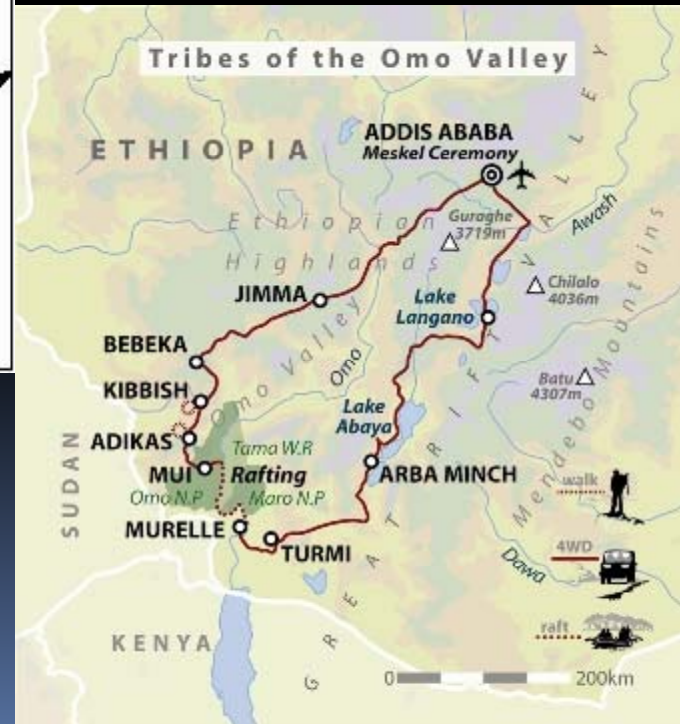
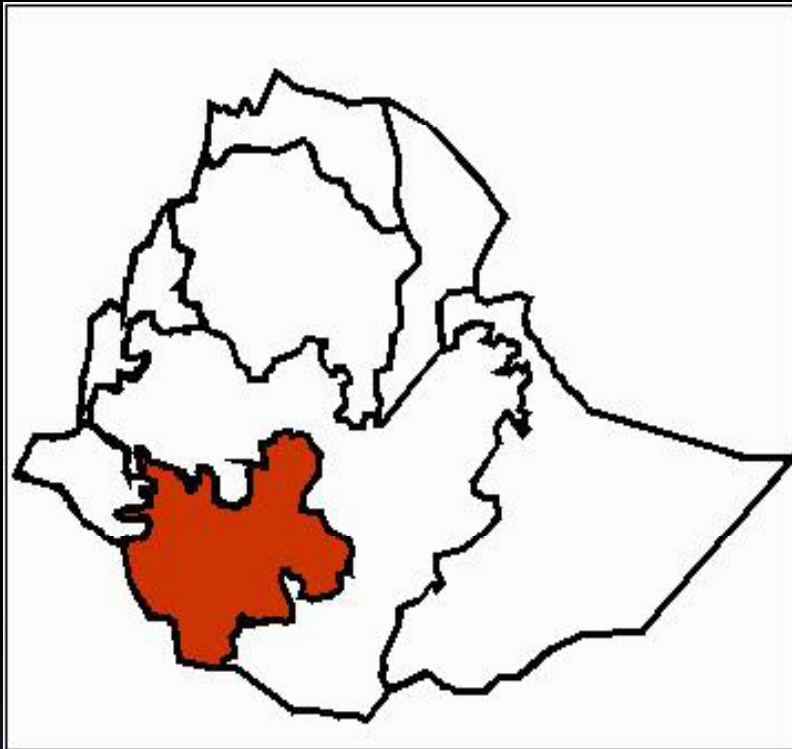




ARBAMINCH

LOCATION



NORTH OMO

- Is a Zone in the Ethiopian Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR).
- This zone is named for the Omo River.
- North Omo is bordered:
 - ✓ on the south by Dehub Omo,
 - ✓ on the west by Keficho Shekicho,
 - ✓ on the northwest by the Oromia Region,
 - ✓ on the north by Kembata Alaba and Tembaro,
 - ✓ on the northeast by part of the Oromia Region,
 - ✓ on the east by the Bilate River which separates it from Sidama and another part of the Oromia Region, and
 - ✓ on the southeast by the Amaro and Dirashe special woredas.
- The administrative center of North Omo is Arba Minch.

POPULATION

- The Semien Omo Zone was established in 1987 by the Derg.
- It has 3,741,304 inhabitants.
- 8.5% of its population are urban dwellers.

Ethnic groups	No of population in %
Welayta	44.17
Gamo	26.65
Kullo	10.15
Goffa	9.12
Basketo	1.87
Konta	1.86
Amhara	1.84
Others	4.34

LANGUAGE

- Welayta spoken as the first language in North Omo.

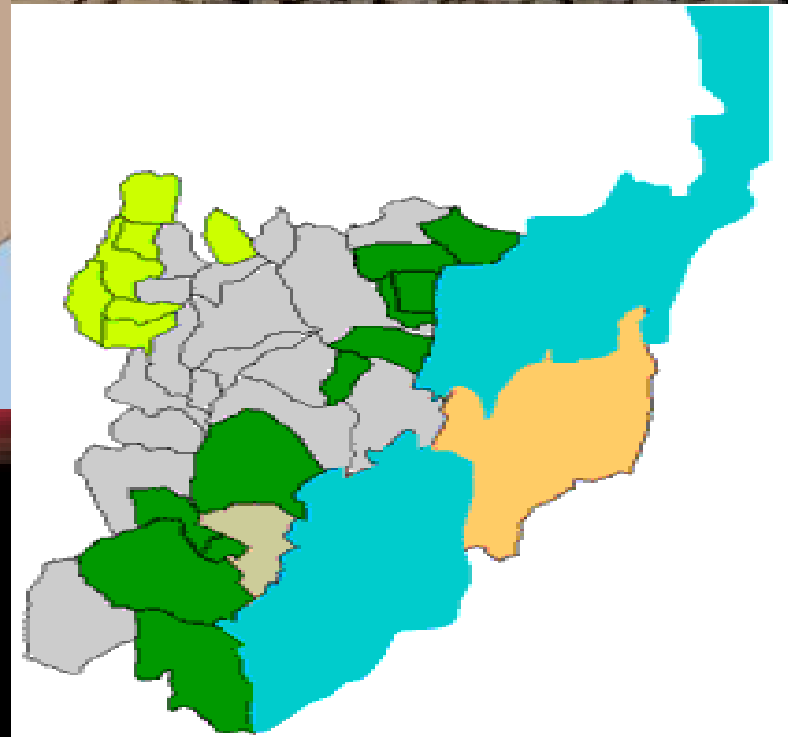
Language	Amount in percentage
Welayta	44.27
Gamo	25.88
Kullo	10.22
Gofa	8.86
Amharic	2.27
Basketo	2.14
Konta	1.8
others	4.56



■ RELIGION

Religion	Amount of followers in percent
Orthodox Christians	39.02
protestants	35.75
Catholics	2.88
Traditional religions	18.58

Sun set in arbaminch



Sun set in arbaminch

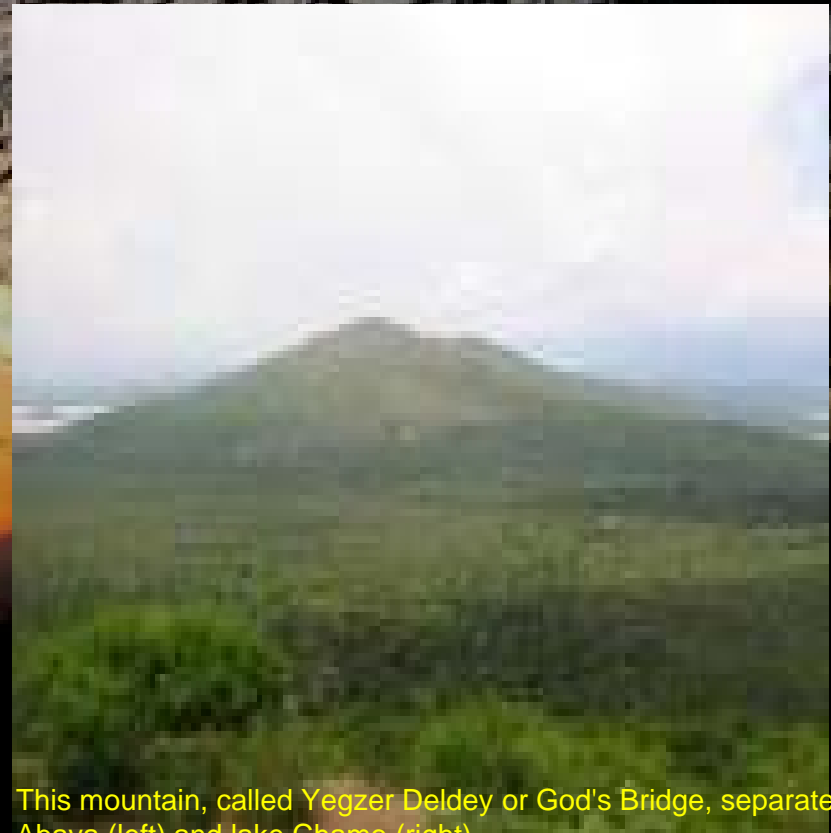
ARBAMINCH

LOCATION:

- Arba Minch is located in the south-eastern part of the new north omo region just at the west of the lakes Abaya and Chamo.
- the town has an elevation going from about 1300m(sikella) to about 1500m (shecha).

REASONS FOR LOCATION:

- Location between the two lakes, to get easy transport connections with sidamo and towards Addis Ababa.
- The relatively flat land, suitable for buildings and for airport.
- The existence of tef plantation in the southern part of the chamo lake with easy transport by boat.



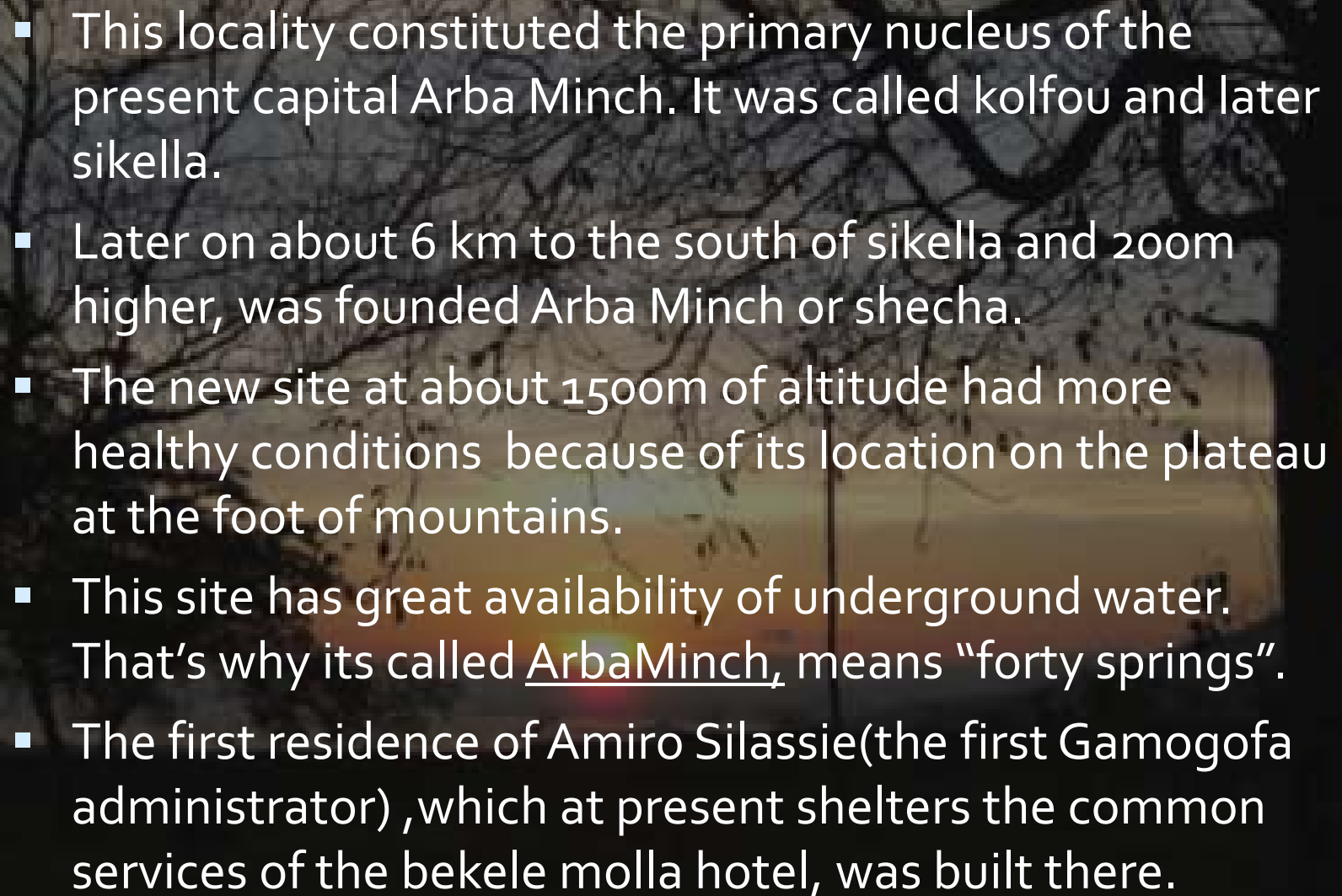
This mountain, called Yegzer Deldey or God's Bridge, separates lake Abaya (left) and lake Chamo (right)

Sun set in arbaminch

HISTORY

- Arba Minch is the capital of north omo region.
- The old capital was chench. It had very problematic connections with the territory due to:
 - Its location (the town is located on the plateau and has an elevation of about 2800m.)
 - Its poor condition of the access roads and of connections with the airport.
- Because of this and related reasons the people started to move from the old capital to lower areas.
- The choice of the site was connected with the existence of a French farm on the area. Around which the people start to build their own "tukuls".

Sun set in arbaminch

- 
- This locality constituted the primary nucleus of the present capital Arba Minch. It was called kolfou and later sikella.
 - Later on about 6 km to the south of sikella and 200m higher, was founded Arba Minch or shecha.
 - The new site at about 1500m of altitude had more healthy conditions because of its location on the plateau at the foot of mountains.
 - This site has great availability of underground water. That's why its called ArbaMinch, means "forty springs".
 - The first residence of Amiro Silassie(the first Gamogofa administrator) ,which at present shelters the common services of the bekele molla hotel, was built there.

POPULATION

- ArbaMinch has 93,813 inhabitants.
- Concerning the migration movements; there is a seasonal fluctuation from rural areas during the harvesting periods of the nearby state farms.

ETHNIC GROUPS

- the dominant ethnic groups of arbaminch are Gamo and komso people. Other groups are Amara, Woleita, Tigri.



TOPOGRAPHY

- The town lies on two topographically different places known by the name of sikella (north) and shecha(south) which are about 4kms apart.
- Shecha is situated at the foot of genta mountains of a relatively high area.
- Sikella lies on a uniform lying flat topogrphy.which is affected by frequent flood hazards.
- Altitude of the town ranges from 1200 to 1500m.



CLIMATE

- Arba Minch is located in the boundary between the “moist sub humid” and the “humid” regions of Ethiopia.
- Other studies also say that, based on altitude, rainfall and temperature the town may fall under woina dega climatic zone.

RAIN FALL

- The rainy months are nine from March to November.
- The big rains fall during the periods April- May and September- October, while December, January and February are relatively dry.

WINDS

- During the rainy months the main winds blow from south.
- From November to march the main directions of the winds are from E to W in the morning and from S to N in the afternoon.

Sun set in arbaminch

ECONOMY

- The economy depends on agriculture(include croc- farm and fish production) ,commerce ,handicraft ,and other non agricultural products.
- The major agricultural products are:
maize,barely,tef,enset,banana,papaya,mango,cotton,and sorghum.
- A crocodile farm is located in the south-western bank of the Abaya, lake some kilometers from ArbaMinch.
 - PRODUCTION PROBLEMS
 - Illegal trade
 - Knowledge of fish stock in both lakes
 - Employment fluctuation.
 - Bad work condition of fisherman.
 - Bad connections with the town.



Croc -farm



Market day



The road to Arba Minch is lined with papaya, banana and mango trees

CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL

- Mud or "chika", wood, "korkorro", some times hollow concrete block.
- The most familiar house is tukul.
- The non-industrial materials used for this typology are mainly brought from sikella (the earth) and from chenchä or wolytasodo (the wood).

RELIGIONS

- the dominant religions are orthodoxes about 85%, muslims 10%, catholic 5%.



Sun set in arbaminch

- ROAD
- the street pattern is grid and organic



SUMMARY

city	climate	topography	Construction material	religion	economy	Street pattern
arbaminch	Humid	plateau	Mud,grass,brick and wood	Orthodox christian,catholic and protestant	Agriculture and commerce	Grid and organic