

## Mp3 Isaac Haile Selassie - Unite



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Conscious, positive, all-original Ethiopian roots reggae in English and Amharic with beautiful harmonies and melodies that lift your spirits, give you something to think about and make you want to get up and dance. 13 MP3 Songs

**WORLD: Reggae, WORLD: African Details:** In the annals of reggae music and its devotion to the His Imperial Majesty Emperor Haile Selassie, one thing becomes striking by its absence: the lack of Ethiopian voices giving thanks and praise to the Almighty God through the teachings of His Majesty. Now, from Addis Ababa, by way of Southern California, comes a striking new voice whose direct links to the King of Kings are stronger than any other singer and player of instruments this century has known. If that seems hyperbole, consider the fact that Isaac Haile Selassie not only carries the Imperial name, but was, in fact, raised under the supervision of His Majesty. "I have been blessed," recalls the singer from his cozy hillside cottage in Los Angeles, "to have been raised in the care of His Imperial Majesty personally, at his boarding school a few miles from the palace. I used to see him at least once a week throughout my childhood." When Selassie was deposed, Isaac recall sadly, "I felt like I was cut into halves and I had no place in my own land. War and destruction surrounded me. So I decided to walk out of my country through the desert of Eritrea, all the way to the Sudan. My companions and I slept in the daytime and walked in the night, hiding like hyenas. I eventually found my way to Khartoum, Sudan and one day I encountered a group of Ethiopians who were lying in the 120 degree heat under a fan in a small room, listening to Bob Marley on the radio." This initial encounter with Jah music came as a visceral revelation. "His voice sounded like truth, although none of us spoke English and could not understand what he was saying. I'd never heard of dreadlocks or Jamaica or Rasta. I never knew there were these people abroad who loved Selassi I. But the spirit of this man just hit me like he hit the rest of the world with his music." Isaac's debut cd, "UNITE" was chosen as one of the Top Ten releases of 1999 and 2000.

Says Isaac, "Ethiopia's history has been a struggle toward unity during the past millennium. I contribute this music for Ethiopians at home and abroad who starve for peace and unity and for Africans and the rest of the world who pray for happier times to come for all of us."

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