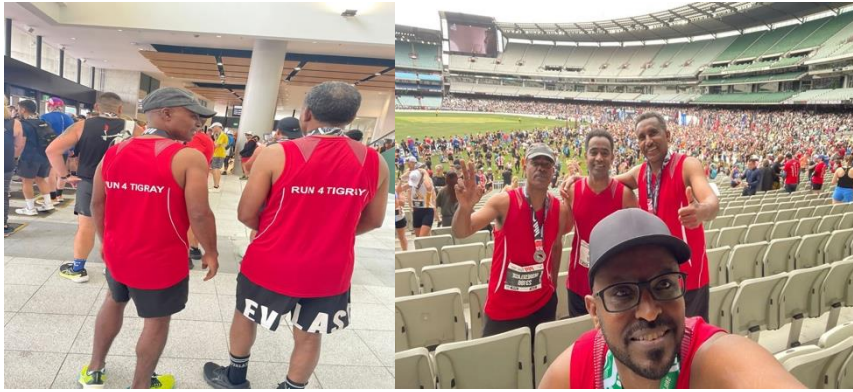


Run for Tigray

On October 15, 2023, the 45th Nike Melbourne Marathon Festival took place, drawing over 40,000 participants in Australia's premier marathon event. Runners got to run alongside some marathon legends. Among them were Tigrian runners, including Gebreselasie Gebru, Girmay Beyene, Dr. Fiseha Teklehaimanot, and Walta Takele, who wore "Run for Tigray" shirts.



The race covered a scenic route, circling Albert Park Lake, passing by Flinders Street Station, offering views of St Kilda beach, and concluding at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG). Mr. Gebreselasie Gebru performed exceptionally

well, completing the 21.1-kilometer half marathon in just 1 hour, 39 minutes, and 37 seconds. The Tigrian runner achievement was met with cheers from supporters, family, and friends who were present at the event. The Tigrain Community in Victoria, Australia (TCAV) felt immensely proud of the Tigrian runner's accomplishment, which symbolised unity and resilience.

The Melbourne Marathon Festival has a rich history and serves as an inspiration for runners and fans. It's more than just a race; it's a demonstration of human determination, community support, and the ability of sports to bring people together. For the Tigrian runners, their "Run for Tigray" shirts carried a message of solidarity and support for the people of Tigray, which has been facing complex challenges. Their participation went beyond a simple race; it was a beacon of hope and unity.



This event in Melbourne, known for its diversity, showcased the power of human spirit and unity. Mr. Gebreselasie Gebru and his fellow Tigrian runners highlighted that running is not just about physical strength but also about the strength of the human spirit. They carried the hopes and dreams of their



community, leaving a lasting impact that reaches far beyond the finish line.