



Dr. AZ Habtewold



Dr. Assegid Habtewold, known as “AZ,” is an international leadership expert who is committed to raising world class leaders of the 21st Century. His own leadership journey began in Ethiopia as a youth and youth leader in the '90s. Though he was born and raised in one of the poorest villages in Ethiopia, his passion was becoming a leadership author, coach, speaker, and facilitator. For the past more than 10 years, Dr. AZ has been inspiring, equipping, and empowering leaders from diverse industries and cultures.

On top of documenting his own leadership journey for more than two decades, he has been studying successful leaders and organizations, producing videos, writing many blogs, books, and designing & delivering leadership programs for emerging, middle, and senior leaders in the US and overseas. Dr. AZ recognizes that everyone is a candidate to become a world class leader and that journey requires passing through 3 important stages of leadership development. The 21st C societies and organizations desperately need leaders who lead themselves, initiate & implement change, and spearhead transformations at various levels successfully. Dr. AZ's stage-by-stage leadership development programs below aim at raising world-class leaders who enable their communities & organizations to tap into the opportunities the 21st C presents and overcome the challenges it poses:

1 Emerging Leaders

The 21st C communities & organizations are in desperate need of new generation emerging leaders who have the right mind set, the necessary skills and character set to tap into the opportunities the century presents & overcome its challenges.

2 Middle Leaders

Middle leaders can become either the strongest or weakest link in any given organization. Both the top leadership & leaders at the front cannot become effective without middle leaders who excel in leading from the middle successfully by engaging all stakeholders.

3 Senior Leaders

Becoming world-class organization & society cannot be achieved without world-class decision makers. It is impossible without having executives who master initiating and implementing organizational and cultural transformations at various levels.

SERVICES

Dr. AZ offers the following services for leaders at the above three stages of development in order to empower them succeed at each stage in order to transform their life, profession, organization, and community by becoming world-class in what they do.

- One-on-one and Group Coaching
- Keynotes & Motivational Speeches
- Programs

Go to our website www.world-classleaders.com to learn more about the available services.

Suggested questions for interview:

- What are the main differences between leaders of the 20th and 21st C?
- Who from the past and contemporary leaders do you consider world-class?
- Who is your role model world-class leader?
- What are the challenges to attain world-class leadership?
- What it takes to become world-class?
- Who are the beneficiary from your leadership programs?
- How do your programs empower leaders to become world-class?

PUBLICATIONS

Below are the 6 books Dr. AZ has published so far:

1. **Redefining Leadership**
2. **The 9 Cardinal Building Blocks for Continued Success in Leadership**
3. **Soft Skills That Make or Break Your Success**
4. **The Highest Level of Greatness**
5. **Unchain Your Greatness**
6. **Overcoming 1st Timer Syndrome**

BIOGRAPHY

From humble beginnings, Dr. AZ grew up in one of the poorest villages in Ethiopia. He was the 1st in his family to graduate from college. His mother never went to school, and his dad didn’t graduate from high school. They didn’t have an indoor toilet as they grew up. They had to use an outdoor toilet and take a shower once per week in the kitchen. Nonetheless, abject poverty didn’t stop him from dreaming big, becoming the best in what he does.

AZ moved to the United States in 2005 and began his leadership journey as an immigrant struggling to adapt to the new culture and system. The mind set, skills set, and character set he had been developing since the early 90s as a youth and student leader, and manager of a research team while working for an international research institute in the early 2000 while still in Ethiopia enabled him to quickly overcome the cultural shock and other challenges he faced as a stranger in the new culture.

The leadership attributes he had developed also empowered him to make successful professional shifts. AZ earned his first degree in Veterinary Medicine in Ethiopia. He did his Master’s in Computer Science once he came to the US, and ultimately capped his formal education with Doctor of Strategic Leadership. Making a shift from a science background into a totally different field- Leadership, was tough, to say the least. Because of the resilience he had developed, he could make a successful transition. He now serves leaders in world-class organizations both in the US and overseas.

AZ became a sought-after leadership speaker, coach, and trainer continuing to this day to provide leadership programs for some government agencies, major corporations, and community organizations. He dedicated his life to inspire everyone to believe that they are born to lead, and leadership is their birthright. He is committed in helping leaders become world-class by continually inventing new models, creating powerful tools, and practical strategies and tactics.

Though we all desire to succeed and take our life, career, organization, and society to the next height, only few consciously and proactively develop the right mindset, the necessary skillset, and character set at the leadership stage we’re in. Very few venture out to bring change and transformation within their organizations and communities. What is more? Few organizations and communities are intentional to develop their organizational and leadership capacities to become world-class in this highly integrated and competitive world of the 21st C. These few understood that they aren’t just competing locally. They realized that they cannot survive, let alone thrive, unless they’re committed to produce world-class products and services. To compete globally and remain the best, they determined to invest in raising world-class leaders throughout their organizations as they pass through the 3 important stages of leadership development.

Dr. AZ finds it unfortunate to witness individuals with great potential unable to step up and those who stepped out settle for average. He believes that this unnecessary tragedy created only by a lack of understanding of what it takes to go from follower to leader, and from ordinary to world-class. Those few who became world-class leaders were like everyone else, ordinary, before starting their rewarding journey toward becoming world-class with undeniable impacts. They also left plenty of footprints that allowed them to experience a major transformation during their lifetime, from a local champion to undisputed world heavyweight champion, raising successors, and leaving legacy.

That is why Dr. AZ, who is a transition & transformation strategist, has made it simple and easy for anyone who desires to become world-class. He designs and delivers stage-by-stage leadership development programs that aim at raising world-class leaders. AZ is the author of six books. He produces a TV show- Pick Yourself Up, which airs on MMCTV channel 16. The show inspires, equips, and empowers underdogs in the US and around the world to become world-class in what they do.

Dr. AZ, is committed to inspire, equip, and empower individuals, teams, organizations, and communities that vowed to become world-class in what they do. He designs and delivers world-class programs for:

- **Team Leads,**
- **Supervisors and Managers,**
- **Executives and CEOs,**
- **Entrepreneurs,**
- **Government and Non-profit leaders**
- **Youth, Women, and Community leaders.**

CONTACT INFORMATION

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