

IN MEMORIAM

DR ANDUALEM DAGNE



Dear Members of the IHPBA Community,

It is with deep sorrow and a heavy heart that we announce the passing of our esteemed colleague, Dr. Andualem Dagne, a dedicated, humble, and hardworking young HPB surgeon from Ethiopia.

Dr. Andualem was born in 1988 in Bure, a town in western Gojam, Ethiopia. After completing his primary and secondary education, he joined Jimma University for his undergraduate medical studies, achieving one of the highest scores ever recorded in the medical program's history and graduating with a gold medal. Following his graduation, he joined Bahir Dar University as a lecturer, where he balanced his love for teaching, research, and practicing medicine. He later pursued postgraduate surgical training at Bahir Dar University, excelling as the top scorer in his class upon completing his general surgery training in 2019. His dedication to the community was evident through the surgical services he provided in various hospitals.

After serving for two years as a general surgeon, driven by a relentless pursuit of knowledge, Dr. Andualem undertook sub-specialty fellowship training in Liver, Gallbladder, and Pancreas surgery at Addis Ababa University's Black Lion Hospital, graduating as a sub-specialist in 2023. He distinguished himself as the outstanding fellow of his batch and was honored as the best fellow of the year by his surgical residents. His commitment to excellence was further exemplified by the numerous trainings he attended in countries such as Germany, England, India, and Turkey. Upon completing his HPB fellowship, he returned to Bahir Dar University to serve the community and mentor medical students, surgical residents, and colleagues. Dr. Andualem was a dedicated, humble, and hardworking academic surgeon, beloved by all who knew him.

Married to Mrs. Bezawit Girma in the Great Debre Roha Saint Lalibela Monastery in 2013, Dr. Andualem was a devoted father to his two daughters, aged eight years and five months, and his five-year-old son. Tragically, on February 1, 2025, Dr. Andualem was brutally murdered while driving from the hospital to his home at the age of 37. It has taken time for us to come to terms with his untimely passing. His loss is a tremendous blow to our community, his students, patients, and, most importantly, his family. His contributions to the field were immense, and his dedication to patient care, research, and education was unparalleled. Dr. Andualem meant a great deal to us and was the hope of HPB surgery for Ethiopia.

His sudden and tragic death in February 2025 has left a void that can never be filled. Dr. Andualem's legacy, however, will live on through the countless lives he touched and the significant contributions he made to the medical community. On behalf of the International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (IHPBA), we extend our deepest condolences to Dr. Andualem's family, friends, and colleagues. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Yoseph Solomon (HPB Surgeon)
His Friend and Colleague