

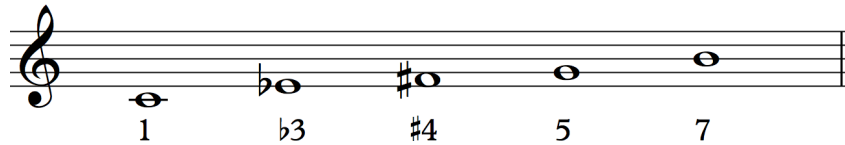
Common Ethiopian Pentatonic Scales or Qenet (ቅኝት)

By Chris Frangou

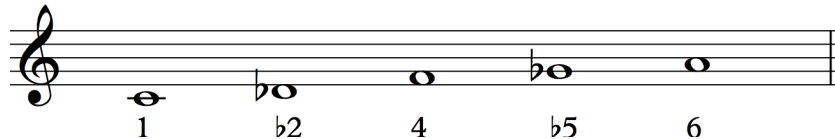
Qenet (ቅኝት) is the name for the pentatonic scales and modes utilised in Ethiopian music. The following document outlines some of the more common qenet and variations. Typically these scales are placed into four main categories, Anchi Hoye (አምባሰል), Bati (ባቲ), Ambessel (አምባሰል) and Tezita (ቲዝታ). The qenet here are notated off a C tonic and the notation is accompanied with scale degree numbers.

Anchi Hoye (አምባሰል)

Version 1

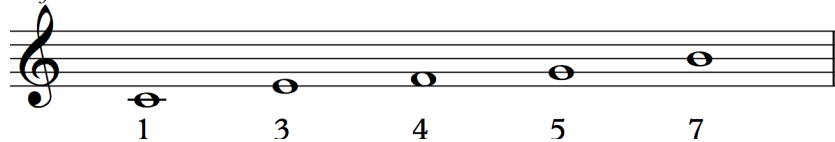


Version 2

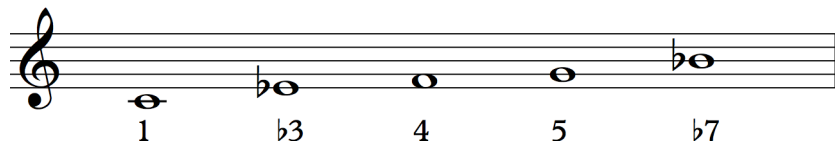


Bati (ባቲ)

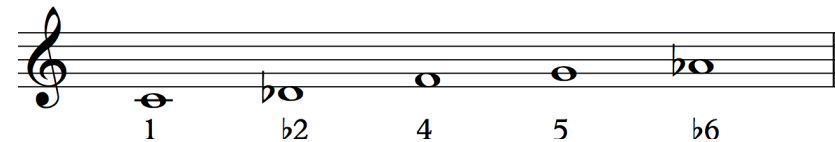
Major



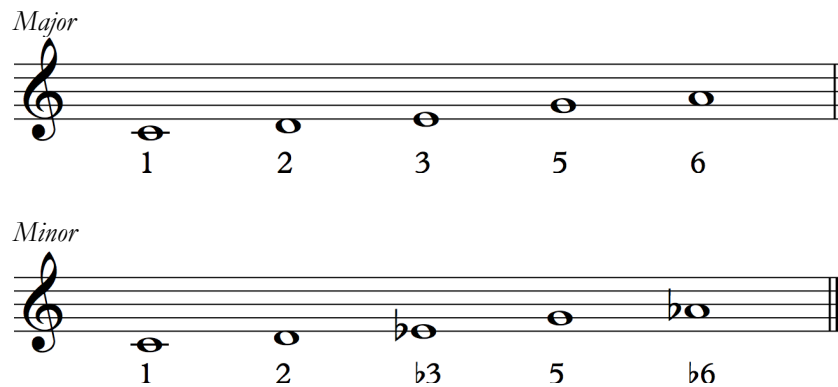
Minor



Ambessel (አምባሰል)



Tezita (ተዝታ)



References & further reading:

Abate, E 2009, 'Ethiopian Kiñit: Analysis of the formation and structure of the Ethiopian Scale System', paper presented to International Conference of Ethiopian Studies, Trondheim.

Teffera, T 2013, 'Canvassing Past Memories through Tezeta', *Journal of Ethiopian Studies*, vol. 46, pp. 31-66.

Weisser, S & Falceto, F 2013, 'Investigating Qenet in Amhara Secular Music: an acoustic and historical study', *Annales d'Ethiopie*, vol. 28, pp. 299-322.