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Eritrean Mekseb Debesay claims Stage 1 of Tour of Rwanda

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*Rwanda's Hadi Janvier tops general classification



Eritrean Mekseb Debesay arrived ahead of the rest to claim the first stage of **Tour of Rwanda**, with three more Eritreans following him closely as he crossed the finishing line in Ngoma district.

The Eritrean who rides for **Team Bike Aid** finished ahead of his Moroccan counterpart Mouhssine Lahsaini, who he is competing with for the **UCI Africa Tour** continental honours.

Lahsaini found himself falling behind the chasing pack as Debesay set out to finish strong on the 96.4Km stage from Kigali to Ngoma.

"I did not have a particular strategy but as we approached the finish line, I decided to sprint because everyone was sprinting towards the finish. My efforts paid off. I cannot explain how happy I am," an elated Debesay said

Rwanda's Hadi Janvier remains ahead of the rest on general classification, retaining the yellow jersey for the second day in a row.

The second stage of Tour of Rwanda 2014 will be on Tuesday as riders prepare the first mountainous challenge in the Northern Province.