

Somalia Domestic Media Monitoring

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Headlines:

- **Al-Shabaab Ambushes on Government Bases in Mogadishu**
- **Al-Shabaab Arrests Dozens in Middle Shabelle Region**
- **Prominent Elder Murdered in Afgoye District, Lower Shabelle Region**
- **Two-day Workshop on Inclusive Plan for Special Needs of the Disabled People in Education**
- **Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmed Visits Defense Ministry and Jazeera Training Camp**
- **Hotel in Somali Capital Hit by Car Bombs**
- **Bulo Burde Residents Flee Al-Shabaab Oppressive Rule**
- **Journalist Adan Kimsayu Freed**
- **Puntland Presidential Candidates' Guards Torture Somali TV Reporter**
- **Rival Clans Relocate Illegal Road Barriers at Different Locations at the Lower Shabelle Region**

Al-Shabaab Ambushes on Government Bases in Mogadishu

[December 29, 2013 Shabelle News \(Independent Media Network\)](#)

- According to local residents in Mogadishu, Witnesses say heavy fighting broke out between Somali Federal Government troops and Al Shabaab militants in Yaqashid and Huriwaa districts in Banaadir region.

- The deadly battle took place at Jiro-Garoob and Suuqa Xoolaha suburbs located in the two districts respectively after Al Shabaab militants launched an ambush attack on bases manned by Somali troops.

Al-Shabaab Arrests Dozens in Middle Shabelle Region

[January 1, 2014 Shabelle News \(Independent Media Network\)](#)

- Credible sources confirmed to Shabelle radio that Alshabab militants arrested some civilians who were suspected to be working with agencies which were burned from the the region which is entirely controlled by the militants.
- The arrested people are estimated to be ten and are said to be working for the international Red Cross and Red Crescent (ICRC) society and the Red Crescent.
- The arrests occurred at Buale and Sako towns which are two of the major towns in the middle Juba region.
- However, Alshabab previously banned some aid groups from areas in their control claiming that they work as under cover intelligence for their opponents.

Prominent Elder Murdered in Afgoye District, Lower Shabelle Region

[December 28, 2013 Shabelle News \(Independent Media Network\)](#)

- A renowned Somali elder Sultan Abdikadir Sultan Balile was last night shot several times by unknown gunmen Shabelle reports.
- The incident occurred early Friday evening at the heart of the town as confirmed to Shabelle radio by the residents of Afgoye district and the offenders escaped easily from the murder scene as told by an eye witness who requested anonymity for security reasons.
- It took almost an hour for government troops to arrive at the scene whereby they conducted security operations at the nearby suburbs leading to arrest of several people.
- The murder of the well-known elder was condemned by Ali Ganey, A Member of Parliament residing from the lower Shabelle region who spoke to Shabelle radio via the phone.

Two-day Workshop on Inclusive Plan for Special Needs of the Disabled People in Education

[January 1, 2014 Dalsan Radio \(Independent Domestic Media\)](#)

- With the support from GCE and the collaboration with the MOE, the CSOs, education stakeholders, education umbrellas, and national youth, women, and disability support organization, today Education For All Somalia (EFASOM) has successfully started a 2-day workshop on Inclusive Plan for Special Needs of the Disabled People in Education that will end tomorrow.

- To ensure that no child is denied admission in mainstream education, to ensure that every child would have the right to access school and no child would be turned back on the ground of disability, the focus is the inclusion of children and youth with disabilities in mainstream education institutions

Security Heightened in Mogadishu

January 1, 2014 Dalsan Radio (Independent Domestic Media)

- Security in the Somalia's capital Mogadishu has been intensified for fear of attacks from the Al-Shabaab militia group.
- Heavy presence of Somali security personnel can be seen patrolling the major streets in the capital Mogadishu.
- Special Forces were also deployed to secure government buildings, presidential palace, Mogadishu municipality headquarters, Mogadishu harbor and Aden Abdulle international airport.
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- Last night armed gunmen suspected to be Alshabab members broke into a wedding ceremony and destroyed the musical instruments while forcing the participants to disperse without causing major harm.

Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmed Visits Defense Ministry and Jazeera Training Camp

January 1, 2014 Dalsan Radio (Independent Domestic Media)

- The Prime Minister of the Federal Government of Somalia Abdiweli Sheikh Ahmed made his first visit to the Ministry of Defence on New Year's Day.
- The Prime Minister toured the Ministry of Defence and viewed equipment of the Somali security forces before meeting with the Minister of Defence, Chief of Defence Forces and other senior military officers to discuss the ongoing re-building and modernisation of the Somali security forces and future operations against Al-Shabaab. The Prime Minister then visited Jazeera Military Training Camp to speak to more than 800 new Somali National Army recruits.
- The Prime Minister, said: "I thank the officers, soldiers and recruits of the Somali security forces for their brave service, hard work and commitment to our country. They serve their country despite the limited resources at their disposal and are an example to all of us.
- He also stated "2014 will be the year of success in destroying the terrorists that only want to bring indiscriminant violence and instability to Somalia. Alongside our AMISOM partners we will continue to make progress in liberating areas of Somalia still under Al-Shabaab control".

Hotel in Somali Capital Hit by Car Bombs

January 2, 2014 [Shabelle Media \(Independent Domestic Media\)](#)

- Two car bombs have exploded outside a hotel in the Somali capital Mogadishu, killing at least eight people.
- The blasts were at the Jazeera hotel close to Mogadishu's airport, which is popular with Somali politicians.
- Reports say the blasts were followed by exchanges of fire between security forces and the attackers.
- The Somali Islamist militant group al-Shabab, who were driven out of Mogadishu in 2011, have said they carried out the attack.
- Four members of the security services were among the dead, including one senior officer, the deputy interior minister told the BBC's Somali service.
- Police officer Mohamed Warsame told the AFP agency that the second bomb went off as security services were trying to help the victims of the first blast.
- The Jazeera hotel was also targeted in December 2012, when President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud was staying there. At least seven people died in that attack.

Bulo Burde Residents Flee Al-Shabaab Oppressive Rule

December 26, 2013 [Sabahi \(Foreign Media\)](#)

- Residents of Bulo Burde have grown increasingly concerned about al-Shabaab tactics after the militants started cracking down on existing rules regarding residents' clothing, hairstyles, leisure time and access to information.
- For the past two months, al-Shabaab militants have been harassing youth they say are "dressing like infidels", residents in Somalia's Hiran region told Sabahi.
- On a regular basis, al-Shabaab members roaming the streets round up anyone not abiding by the groups' strict dress code, according to Ismail Mohamed, a 28-year-old who fled Bulo Burde in November.
- Mohamed, who used to own a general store in Bulo Burde, said he relocated to Beledweyne hoping to rebuild his life there in peace.
- Back in Bulo Burde, he said, anyone wearing long pants and what the militants consider tight or fashionable clothing is targeted. They are taken to al-Shabaab headquarters where they receive a lecture, have their pants shortened on the spot, are stripped of their shirts and have their hair shaven.
- Al-Shabaab also forbade residents from using smartphones and destroyed television sets in people's homes to cut them off from international news, said Hassan Mohamed, 54, an elder from Bulo Burde.
- "Many times I found out that the group gathered youth in private venues to convince them that anyone who does not follow the practices of the group is an infidel," he said. "I spoke with some of the young people who were being influenced in that manner, one of whom was my nephew, and I was able to make him understand that al-Shabaab's ideology is flawed and one that he could not accept." Claims Mohamed.

- Traditional elder Yasin Elmi, 60, said the people of Bulo Burde have not reaped any of the benefits associated with governance based on Islam, as al-Shabaab claims to provide.

Journalist Adan Kimsayu Freed

December 25, 2013 Dalsan Radio (Domestic Media)

- Journalist Adan Kimsayu who was detained without trial by Juba land administration in Kismayu has been freed. Speaking exclusively to the Radio Dalsan reporter in the area Adan said his well and happy about the return of his freedom.
- Adan said he didn't encounter any problem while in prison and thanked Juba land prison department for the warm reception. An association that brings together journalists from the Juba land has been involved in the release of journalist Adan Kimsayu who was arrested earlier this month for undisclosed issue.
- Juba land administration has not revealed the main reason behind the arrest of the journalist and cannot be reached for comments.

Puntland Presidential Candidates' Guards Torture Somali TV Reporter

December 25, 2013 Garowe Online (Domestic Media)

- As Puntland state in northern Somalia braces up for the most hotly contested presidential election, Presidential contender's guards subjected torture and what appeared as death threats to Somali TV reporter in the capital Garowe on Wednesday morning, Garowe Online reports.
- Mahad Abdi Ali who works for UK-based Somali channel-SOMSAT was seized by soldiers guarding a building that houses Presidential candidate, Mohamed Abdinur during a meeting.
- The local reporters who gathered at Somali Broadcasting Corporation (SBC) compound have condemned Puntland Presidential contenders for running counter to the constitution and silencing the independent media.
- Over ten Presidential contenders were holding special meetings at Nur's house when the torture occurred according to fellow journalists.

Rival Clans Relocate Illegal Road Barriers at Different Locations at the Lower Shabelle Region

December 28, 2013 Shabelle Media Network (Domestic Independent Media)

- Two rival clans who have been fighting each other at the lower Shabelle region for the past 1 month have renewed the rivalry yet again days after Top Government officials visited the volatile zone for intermediations talks between the two clans.
- Symptoms of the rivalry have emerged after the 2 opponents have restarted relocating the newly eradicated illegal road blocks at the different strategic roads in the region.

- Imam Omar Ma'alim who participated in the intermediation talks between the clans has warned the owners of the illegal road blocks to renounce these habits which he revealed as the root cause of the recurring inter clan fighting in these regions.