

Somalia Domestic Media Monitoring

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Headlines

- Al-Shabaab Insurgency Continues; Hypocrisy over the Ostensibly pro-Sharia Group Exposed
- Top Al-Shabaab Officials Becoming a Security Priority
- Fighting Breaks Out in Kismayu
- War of Words Continues over Jubbaland Conference

Top al-Shabaab Officials Becoming a Security Priority

Top al-Shabaab official captured in Bosaso

Sabahi Online (Foreign Media), June 5, 2013

http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2013/06/05/newsbrief-01

- Puntland security officials wounded and captured a suspected al-Shabaab official in a shootout that also killed a civilian
- The suspect is the alleged chief of al-Shabaab's assassin ring, Amniyat, said Puntland regional Minister of Security Khalif Isse Mudan
- Mudan said that at the time of the arrest, the suspect was with other suspected al-Shabaab members who are now being pursued by police.

Somalia's Al-Shabaab Is On The Defensive, But Its Leader Is Still At Large

Somaliland and Times (Pro-Somaliland Media), June 8, 2013

<http://www.somalilandtimes.net/sl/2013/593/8.shtml>

- Across Somalia, the noose is tightening on al-Shabaab. The radical Islamic militia, which once controlled almost all of Mogadishu and southern Somalia, is on the defensive these days as it steadily loses ground to Western-backed forces
- Al-Shabaab's decline over the past two years is linked to the invading Kenyan troops in southern Somalia and an African military coalition in Mogadishu
- Ahmed Abdi Godane, the shadowy and reclusive leader of Somalia's biggest terrorist group, has a United States \$7-million bounty on his head and even his family is not safe pressure

Al-Shabaab Insurgency Continues; Hypocrisy over the Ostensibly pro-Sharia Group Exposed

Fighting Between Federal Govt Troops and Alshabab At the Outskirts of Baidoa.

Shabelle (Independent Media), June 4, 2013

Accessed from: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201306040982.html>

- Federal government officials of Somalia in Bai region says that they have killed al-Shabaab guerilla fighters at the outskirts Baidoa city
- The colonel said that al-Shabaab fighters tried to attack government troop's envoy but they retaliated back and killed several al-Shabaab fighters between Baidoa and Gof Gadud
- The colonel added that the region where the fighting occurred is in the safe hands of the federal government troops

Al Shabaab Display Kenyan Hostages in Main Square

Garowe Online (Pro-Puntland Media), June 3, 2013

http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/Somalia_Al_Shabaab_display_Kenyan_hostages_in_main_square_printer.shtml

- Two Kenyan hostages were displayed in a public square in Jilib 113 KMs north of Kismayo.
- The two Kenyans were allegedly taken hostage last month when Al Shabaab fighters attacked a border post killing five.
- Witnesses of the public display who spoke to media said that the two hostages were in dire conditions
- Last September, Kenyan and Somali forces took the lucrative port of Al Shabaab in the lower Jubba region, their main source of income.

Recent Crimes By Al-Shabaab Show Contempt for Sharia

Sabahi Online (Foreign Media), June 4, 2013

http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/features/2013/06/04/feature-01

- Al-Shabaab militants have carried out a string of brutal attacks and crimes against civilians in recent weeks -- kidnapping, beheading and robbing Somalis in complete disregard of the sharia law the group purports to uphold
- Al-Shabaab's punishments are arbitrary and hypocritical, as militants found guilty of crimes do not have to suffer the prescribed punishments; militants have also launched reprisals against Somali civilians, including kidnapping or beheading relatives of officials from Gedo and Hiran

- In Hiran, al-Shabaab has been issuing orders that have no relation to sharia so its members can get away with robbery and adultery, said Hiran police chief Colonel Isaaq Ali Abdullahi.
- Al-Shabaab's judges do not possess a full understanding of Islamic jurisprudence and the tenets of a fair and impartial justice system, he said. Their judgements are invalid because they are politically motivated, vengeful and based on a complicit justice system, he said.
- Neither sharia law nor international law sanctions kidnapping, El Waq district commissioner Sahal Malim Ali said. In combat, wartime rules of engagement apply to captured enemy combatants, but holding civilians as captives is an unjust, illegitimate and unacceptable tactic for exerting pressure, he said.

Fighting Breaks Out in Kismayu

Raskamboni, Tribal Militias Battle in Kismayo

Sabahi Online (Foreign Media), June 7, 2013

http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2013/06/07/newsbrief-02

- Heavy fighting broke out in Kismayo involving the Ras Kamboni militia and members of a rival militia, various Somali news sources report
- Fighting erupted when the Raskamboni militia barred tribal militia leader Iftin Hassan from meeting with Somali Defence Minister Abdihakim Haji Mohamud Fiqi.
- Two people died and two were injured

Raskamboni Spokesman-the Fighting in Kismayu Is Between al-Shabaab and Raskamboni

Shabelle (Independent Media), June 8, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/22106/>

- The spokesman of the Raskamboni militia group Mr. Abdi Nasir Serar talking to BBC said that the fighting in Kismayu is between Alshabab and his group the Raskamboni.
- Mr. Serar said that they will end the fighting once they wipe out the Alshabab Islamists out of the region.
- The fighting broke out on June 7th when two self-appointed “presidents” of the southern Jubaland region battled against each other
- Troops loyal to Ahmed Mohamed Islam (Ahmed Madobe) attacked Iftin Hassan Basto who also claims to be the president of the region.

War of Words Continues over Jubbaland Conference

Politicians accuse Farole of fueling clannish clashes in Somalia

Shabelle (Independent Media), June 4, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/politicians-accuse-farole-of-fueling-clannish-clashes-in-somalia/>

- Politicians and former parliamentarians of the transitional parliament accused the president of Punt land state of fueling clannish clashes in the Juba regions.

- Bot Abdulle Magan who served in the transitional parliament alleged that Farole and Ahmed Madobe (a former Islamist leader who is now the leader of Raskamboni militia group) were planning to sell valuable national resources to Kenya and other foreign countries.
- The Puntland leader recently announced his support for Ahmed Mohamed Islam (Ahmed Madobe) as the president of Jubaland. The federal government has rejected the claim and termed the self-election as illegal according to the federal constitution

Bare Hiraale: Puntland president should stop interfering with Jubaland issues.

Shabelle (Independent Media), June 6, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/bare-hiraale-punt-land-president-should-stop-interfering-with-juba-lands-issues/>

- The President of Jubaland Mr. Bare Adan Shire (Bare Hirale) has warned the Puntland leader to stop the blind interference in the Juba regions as this problem was between the federal government and the people living in the Juba regions
- Mr. Bare said Mr. Farole of Puntland was instigating clan and sub clan clashes in the region
- The President's words come as the internal rifts in the Juba regions widen as political analysts blamed the Puntland president of stirring up more problems in the region.

Puntland VP alleges Federal Gov't is supporting conflict in Kismayo

Garowe Online (Pro-Puntland Media), June 9, 2013

http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/Somalia_Puntland_VP_alleges_Federal_Gov_t_is_supporting_conflict_in_Kismayo.shtml

- Puntland Vice President Abdisamad Ali Shire accused the Somali Federal Government (SFG) that they had a part in the 2 day clashes that led to over 15 dead in Kismayo
- The comments by the Puntland Vice President reiterate the same statements made by Jubaland Spokesman Abdinasir Seraar and Jubaland Vice President Gen. Abdullahi Ismail Fartaag who accused the SFG of funding and equipping fighters to destabilize security in Kismayo.

Dialogue the only avenue for peace in Kismayo

Sabahi Online (Forieng Media), June 10, 2013

http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/features/2013/06/10/feature-01

- Residents, traditional elders and government officials across Somalia are urging militias feuding over control of Kismayo to put down their arms and come to the negotiating table to resolve outstanding issues and ensure innocent lives are spared
- The violent standoff broke out on Friday (June 7th) after Raskamboni militias loyal to Sheikh Ahmed Mohamed Islam Madobe reportedly barred militia leader Iftin Hassan Basto from a meeting with Somali Defence Minister
- On Sunday, Kismayo's traditional elders were able to broker a cease-fire between the warring factions, ending the violence and returning city to relative calm,
- Raskamboni spokesman Abdinasir Serar blamed the federal government for meddling and supporting former warlords in the region.

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