

Somalia Domestic Media Monitoring

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Headlines:

- IJF appeals for Release of Somali Journalist Jailed in Ethiopia
- Soldiers given Death Penalty in Mogadishu
- Al-Shabaab Base in Gedo Region Attacked
- Radio Shabelle to Participate in International Conference in Brussels
- Hassan tells Somalis “This is the time to decide your destiny”

“IJF appeals for Release of Somali Journalist Jailed in Ethiopia”, *Shabelle News* (Independent Domestic Media), March 11, 2014

- The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) has stated that the guilty verdict and prison sentence given to veteran Somali journalist, Mohamed Aweys Mudey, is unacceptable and appealed to Ethiopian authorities to quash his sentence and release him with immediate effect.
- According to IFJ affiliate, the National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ), Mudey has been sentenced to 27 years in prison under Ethiopia’s Anti-terror law. Ethiopian prosecutors reportedly accused him of having information on Al-Shabaab operations in Ethiopia and charged him for participating in terror activities.
- The NUSOJ says he did not have a lawyer or family member with him during his trial, while at least three people detained with him at Ethiopia’s Crimes Investigations Sector (CIS), saw him being badly tortured and having difficulties with walking.

- “We are dismayed at this unbelievably severe ruling against the respected veteran journalist, Mohamed Aweys Mudey, who is not guilty of any crime,” said IFJ President Jim Boumelha. “The charges against him are ludicrous and we urge the relevant authorities in Ethiopia to release him immediately and unconditionally.”

Soldiers Given the Death Penalty in Mogadishu, Shabelle News (Independent Domestic Media), March 11, 2014

- 3 soldiers from the Somali Federal Government’s Forces were killed today in the arena of the Police Academy in Mogadishu after the Military High Court received news of their actions and then after sentenced them the death penalty.
- The convicted soldiers today were Mohamed Omar Adow (Mana Boolyo) who was found guilty of killing a journalist named Mustaf Hussein between Haawo Abdi and Afgooye in the Lower Shabelle region, Yahya Sheikh Abdullahi and Hussein Ali Ahmed who were security guards for the Members of the Somali Parliament and killed another officer in the Wadajir district.
- It is not the first time the Military High Court sentenced the death penalty at soldiers that have been found guilty in a case.

Al-Shabaab Base in Gedo Region Attacked, Shabelle News (Independent Domestic Media), March 11, 2014

- According to news from Baardheere in the Gedo region under control by Al-Shabaab, report that this morning soldiers from the Somali Federal Government and the Kenyan Defence Forces under AMISOM attacked a base belonging to Al-Shabaab in Taraakoo, approximately 55km east of Baardheere.
- It was also said that almost 10 battlewagons specifically designed to carry extremely heavy weapons left early in the morning from their military base in Faafax-Dhuun and headed towards Taraakoo.
- No-one has reported any casualties during the attack against Al-Shabaab in Taraakoo of the Gedo region.

Radio Shabelle to Participate in International Conference in Brussels, Shabelle News (Independent Domestic Media), March 11, 2014

- The Director of Radio Shabelle in Mogadishu who is presently in Rome the capital city of Italy, spoke the BBC Somali Service and briefly described the event involving journalists from all around the world will be held in Brussels, Belgium.
- “Our invitation to that ceremony highlights our efforts and the difficulties we have overcome, and it’s not the first time we have been rewarded for this. If you remember in 2010, Shabelle Radio received a prize from Reporters Without Borders recognizing it for its international standards.” Said Director Abdi Mohamed Ismail (Abdi Cuud)
- The Director of Radio Shabelle Mr Abdi Cuud on the other hand explained of the recent ceremony in Rome that Shabelle participated and that he was representing the Somali

journalism society by mentioning the complications Somali journalists face everywhere, and of the journalists killed in Somalia.

“Hassan tells Somalis “This is the time to decide your destiny”, Shabelle News (Independent Domestic Media), March 10, 2014

- The ongoing military operation against extremists in Somalia is providing local communities with the opportunity to decide their destinies, His Excellency President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud said today.
- Meeting regional governors in Villa Somalia with H.E. Abdullah Godah Barre, Minister of Interior and Federalism, the President emphasized now the military campaign was underway there was no going back.
- The President said beyond the shorter term military action, the government had a clear, ambitious agenda.
- “Our plan is to review the constitution, implement federalism and build democracy so that by 2016 there will be national elections. In order for us to reach that goal, local administrations have to be seen to be promoting good governance, providing public services and ensuring we give opportunities to allow people to make an informed decision about their future. We want the local people to see the peace dividend – above all the value of government and good governance.”
- The President was speaking ahead of his visit to Japan. The regional governors were Hussein Ali Weheliye of Galgadud, Abdi Adam Hosow of Bay, Abdi Jinow Alasow of Middle Shabelle, Hassan Mohammed Hussein of Banadir, also Mayor of Mogadishu, and Abdulkadir Mohammed Nur of Lower Shabelle.