

Somalia Domestic Media Monitoring

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Headlines:

- Prime Minister survives assassination attempt after his motorcade attacked by Al-Shabaab near Qoryole
- Shabelle employees urge British Gov't to question Minister of Nat. Security over 'abuse of power'
- Minister of Information calls for journalists to stay alert and protect themselves
- Blasts hit buses in Kenyan capital, casualties feared
- Government troops battle Ahulusunna Waljamaaca forces in Gedo

[Prime Minister survives assassination attempt after his motorcade attacked by Al-Shabaab near Qoryole](#)

May 8, 2014 Shabelle News (Independent Domestic Media)

- The Somali Prime Minister's convoy was raided today by Al-Qaeda affiliated Al-Shabaab terrorist group, near the Qoryole town outskirts. The Prime Minister or any of his Ministerial delegation were unharmed in the attack, but one vehicle was reported to have been destroyed.
- Abdiweli Sheikh Ahmed, the Prime Minister left Marka at around noon today in a several vehicle convoy en route to Qoryole when the fleet of vehicles was attacked.

- The Al-Shabaab insurgents ambushed the first vehicle leading the convoy at the border of Qoryole resulting in a violent retaliation by the Somali National Army and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) eliminating the terrorists and resuming travel to the town.
- Upon arrival in Qoryole, a physical conflict erupted between Al-Shabaab Islamists and co-allied AMISOM and Somali National Army soldiers resulting in severe fatalities, although the precise numbers have not been specified.
- Mr. Ahmed was taken to a safe haven within the town being guarded by AMISOM commanders and troops. It is still unclear whether he will continue with his tour of Qoryole or return to Mogadishu. The Prime Minister yesterday departed the capital city and headed to Marka for a two-day trip before cutting it short and leaving for Qoryole.

Shabelle employees urge British Gov't to question Minister of Nat. Security over 'abuse of power'

May 7, 2014 Shabelle News (Independent Domestic Media)

- The management and employees at Shabelle Media Network are calling on the British Government to question the Somali Minister of National Security about the reasons he ordered government troops to ambush Shabelle Media Network's compound last year. We call on the government to ask him a few questions whilst he is in the UK regarding the attack he made on Shabelle base.
- Approximately 36 of Shabelle's staff were arbitrarily arrested at the Crimes Investigation Department (CID) on 26th October 2014 after government troops stormed the compound at that time and arrested the employees.
- A discreet security force from the government, stormed the outlet's base in Mogadishu and broke equipment and furniture which led to Shabelle TV being offline since 2013. Since then, the government has not compensated Shabelle Media Network for the theft of the equipment.
- Speaking at a ceremony on 6th May to celebrate Shabelle Media Network's 12th anniversary held in Mogadishu, several politicians including senior officials commended the network for their relentless efforts in the 12 years of operation.
- The current Minister of Information Mustaf Sheikh Ali Dhuhulow spoke at the ceremony yesterday (6th May) and highlighted some of the difficult obstacles Shabelle Media Network has overcome in 12 years, including the capricious harassment of employees in 2013.
- The President of the Somali Federal Republic Hassan Sheikh Mohamud commended and honored the difficulties the management and staff went through, with over 12 journalists and media workers being killed.
- Shabelle Media Network calls on the British Government to demand serious answers from the Minister of National Security on the reasons he ordered a top-security force to storm a media base, which is against press freedom. The act was condemned internationally.

Minister of Information calls for journalists to stay alert and protect themselves

May 7th, 2014 Shabelle News (Independent Domestic Media)

- Speaking at a ceremony in which Shabelle Media Network celebrated its 12th anniversary yesterday in Mogadishu (6th May), the Minister of Information Mustaf Sheikh Ali Dhuhulow cautioned the management of the network not to send their reporters and other staff to dangerous places.
- Mr. Dhuhulow said that the lives of journalists are priceless although they are required to provide detailed and accurate news reports to the society/community.

- “As the Minister of Information, I sincerely believe that journalists need to be protected and that Shabelle radio plays an important part in communication with the society.
- Somalia is among of the worst countries to be a journalists, and countless number of media workers have been killed (52) since the outbreak of the civil war In 1991, in which 12 were working for Shabelle Media Network.

Blasts hit buses in Kenyan capital, casualties feared

May 5th, 2014 Shabelle News (Independent Domestic Media)

- Two buses driving on a busy highway in the Kenyan capital Nairobi were struck by explosive devices on Sunday, ripping a huge hole in one of the vehicles.
- A Reuters reporter saw blood and broken glass next to the two buses that were about 1 km from each other heading out of town.
- There was no word on casualties and no immediate claim of responsibility but Kenya has blamed similar attacks on the al Qaeda-linked Somali group al Shabaab, which killed at least 67 people at the Westgate shopping mall in Nairobi last September.
- Four people were killed on Saturday when attackers threw an explosive device at passengers at a bus station in Mombasa, and also targeted a luxury hotel in the coastal city.
- Police spokesman Masoud Mwinyi confirmed that there were two separate explosions targeting two buses along Thika Super Highway, which connects the capital to the outskirts of the city. Mwinyi had no immediate comment on the number of casualties.

Government troops battle Ahlusunna Waljamaaca forces in Gedo

May 5th, 2014 Shabelle News (Independent Domestic Media)

- At least 3 people were killed and another 10 injured after a battle erupted between the Somali National Army and Ahlusunna Waljamaaca forces in Beledxawo.
- The clash was intense and was provoked when the Somali National Army attacked the religious militia.
- The Gedo regional governor Mohamed Abdi Kalil reported to Shabelle that the fight was due to the district commissioner of Dolow.Somal