# Libya Domestic Media Monitoring Report Covering June 21– 27 By Richard Hinton

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- From state news, accusations continued throughout the week of NATO attacks on civilians in Libya
- Government spokesperson distanced the rebels from Libyan people and associated them with recent civilian casualties caused by NATO bombing
- Qadhafi speech states "we all want to die as martyrs."
- Unidentified speaker delivers call to arms, associates enemies with "Jews" and affirms intention to be martyred or victorious
- Women's "suicide" fighting squad declares intention to expel traitors
- Justice Secretary responded to ICC warrant for arrest of top officials by accusing ICC of collusion with NATO
- A Facebook page carried a dehumanizing verbal attack in response to a video of blacks declaring their support of Qadhafi
- Human Rights Watch report finds that cluster munitions were used by Libyan forces over city of Misrata

## **State Media**

20 June 2011

Source: JANA

The agency reported that, following the strikes on civilians on the 19 June, NATO had struck at civilian defense and rescue crews in Sabha, killing 4 crew members and injuring 10.

20 June 2011

Source: Al Jamahiriyah TV

Libyan government spokesman Musa Ibrahim gave a speech condemning western leaders and NATO, while also blaming the rebels for recent civilian casualties.

"Shame and dishonour, shame and dishonour on those traitors and agents who cheaply sold their conscience to the enemy of their nation and religion. They mistakenly think they are immune and powerful while they are [regarded as] fugitives before the Libyan people. They will forever remain as such.

What answer do you have, you traitor agents? You who are giving the coordinates of houses and neighbourhoods to the enemy of our nation, the enemy of Islam."

22 June 2011

Source: Al-Jamahiriyah TV

Al-Qadhafi gave a speech indicating that he will not negotiate for peace or bargain. He also addressed NATO saying that the country has its back to the wall with nothing to lose, "We no longer want to live. We want to die. It is better for us to die than live with your jets flying overhead. We all want to die as martyrs. We wish to incite you [enough] so you can strike us with atomic bombs and be done with. We are not afraid. We are not looking for life or survival."

24 June 2011

Source: Al-Jamahiriyah and Al-Libiyah TV

The channels broadcast an anti-Western diatribe in which an unidentified speaker warned against cooperating with "Jews and Christians [nasara - Koranic term that may be taken pejoratively]". He said that fathers and grandfathers had defended Libya, and that now 100 years later "Jews, Nasara and Italians want to occupy our country [...] We will fight, we will challenge anyone who even thinks of touching this land."

He said that training to use weapons to join the "jihad" was a duty, and he condemned US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's comments on the Libyan army (reference to rape allegations), an "army that carries the Koran".

"We will be martyred or we will be victorious," he said, noting that he was quoting Al-Qadhafi. "The gates of heaven are open."

26 June 2011

Source: Al-Jamahiriyah and Al-Libiyah TV

Live video from the "General meeting of Tripoli's women" showed a number of women and some men addressing a predominantly female crowd. A representative from the "Tripoli Women's Fighting Squad" said: "We announce that we have set up suicide squads for the expulsion of the traitors who have run away and collaborated with the enemy, and we will not rest until we catch Abd-al-Rahman Shalgam and the Pharaoh "Abu Shanna" [a mocking name for NTC Chairman Mustafa Abd-al-Jalil]".

27 June 2011

Source: Al-Jamahiriyah TV

Libyan Secretary of the General People's Committee for Justice Muhammad al-Qamudi commented on the International Criminal Court (ICC) warrant for the arrest of Qadhafi, his son, Saif al-Islam Gaddafi and Abdullah al Senussi, a spy, for crimes against humanity with respect to the use of violence in crushing popular demonstrations in the country. He questioned the legitimacy of the court and denounced it as a cover for NATO aggression which leaves superpowers sheltered.<sup>1</sup>

## **Opposition/Non-State Media**

(Unable to retrieve information)

### Other Media

22 June 2011

Source: Facebook group Al-Manara Media (http://goo.gl/Kffkq)

Old videos showed what they said were "mercenaries" dancing in support of Al-Qadhafi in Kufrah before its "liberation", and another old video of them regrouping outside Tripoli.

Facebook comments about them were negative, calling them Al-Qadhafi's "monkeys and rats"; many used the term "nigger" and some went as far as to accuse "HIV-positive niggers" of infecting "free" Libyan women via rape.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The warrant alleges that Qadhafi and his son "conceived and orchestrated a plan to deter and quell by all means the civilian demonstrations" resulting in the killing of Libyan civilians in February 2011. (http://www.telegraph.co.uk/)

24 June 2011

Source: AllAfrica.com (http://allafrica.com/stories/201106280293.html)

The site carried a Human Rights Watch report on the use of cluster munitions by Libyan forces over the city of Misrata. The report explains that Libya did not sign the Convention on Cluster Munitions which bans their use.