

SOMALI DOMESTIC MEDIA MONITORING REPORT
14 – 20 MARCH 2011
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20 MARCH 2011

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 20 March 2011)

- Al-Shabab mujahidin movement accused Kenya of taking part in the heavy fighting that broke out in Doblai District, close to the Kenyan border.
- The spokesman, Shaykh Abdiaziz Abu Mus'ab, stated that Kenyan troops took part in the fighting, adding that the Kenyan forces have been shelling Doblai town since last night.

19 MARCH 2011

(Source: Horn Cable TV, Hargeysa, in Somali 1900 GMT, 19 March 2011)

- The Somaliland government announced that it would deport illegal ethnic Ethiopian Oromos.
- Many displaced people and refugees are living in various regions of Somaliland, including the Ethiopian Oromos who beg in the streets of main towns of Somaliland.
- "As the Ministry of Interior, our plan is to deport the Oromo people. We know that the Oromo people are a burden on security, health and employment in the country. The ministry has decided to appoint a commission that would be responsible for the deportation of the Oromos back to Ethiopia," said the director-general.

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 19 March 2011)

- A Somali MP accused Amisom [AU troops] of shelling civilian populated areas in Mogadishu and not performing.
- MP Abdifitah Ibrahim Abdirashid said that AU peacekeepers in Mogadishu are not serving the purpose as to they were deployed to Somalia.
- The MP has also accused Amisom of barring the civilians from accessing social services by closing main roads of Bakaaraha Market.

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 19 March 2011)

- Thousands of Somali refugees fleeing from the conflict in Libya where some Somali nationals were earlier killed have now arrived in refugee camps in Tunisia.
- Kristina Georgieva who is the European Union's Commissioner for International Cooperation, humanitarian aid and Crisis Response has said up to 150,000 refugees have arrived in temporary camps established by the UNHCR in areas along the border between Libya and Tunisia.

(Source: AllPuntland.com website in Somali 19 March 2011)

- The Somaliland administration in [disputed] town of Laas Caanood, Sool Region [northwestern Somalia], issued a number of new directives following recent tensions in which the administration's officials and senior commanders of the Somaliland forces were killed.

- Somaliland police commander in Sool Region imposed a number of new orders on residents including the barring of any demonstrations against the administration and curfew on the town which starts from 2000.

18 MARCH 2011

(Source: Radio Voice of Mudug, in Somali 1130 GMT, 18 March 2011)

- The Islamic administration of Al-Shabab in Kismaayo town, the provincial town of Lower Jubba region, called on all students in the town to be ready to fight alongside the group against Transitional Federal Government of Somalia forces.
- Shaykh Ali Ya'qub, the spokesman of Al-Shabab in Kismaayo was among the officials who spoke to the residents.
- He stressed the need for the people of the region to join the ongoing fighting, saying that it is time for Muslims to fight.

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 18 March 2011)

- The former chairman of the dismantled Islamist faction of Hisb al-Islam, Shaykh Hasan Dahir Aweys has today admitted that Al-Shabab recruited young children to fight alongside the group in their efforts to oust the Transitional Federal Government forces and AU peacekeepers.
- Speaking to the media in Mogadishu, Shaykh Aweys said that the purpose of recruiting young children by Al-Shabab is to train them and teach them the holy war and how fighting the enemy is very important to the Muslim world.

14 MARCH 2011

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 14 March 2011)

- The Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] said that it is headed for the localities of Garbahaarey, Baardheere and the whole of Jubba regions [southwestern Somalia] which are currently under the Al-Shabab Mujahidin Movement's control.
- The spokesman for the TFG forces in Ceel Waaq, Gedo Region, Ahmad Mahmud Abdi Arab, told Shabelle that government forces were heading to Jubba regions which are currently controlled by the Al-Shabab Movement.