

SOMALI DOMESTIC MEDIA MONITORING REPORT
16 – 23 MAY 2011
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22 MAY 2011

(Source: Horn Cable TV, Hargeysa, in Somali 1900 GMT, 22 May 2011)

- Human rights bodies in Somaliland have accused the government of violating press freedom, arresting journalists and imposing restrictions on media, Somaliland TV station Horn Cable reported on 22 May.
- The body added that journalists have been intimidated and arrested in recent months. Somaliland government was asked by the human rights bodies to allow media houses and journalists perform their duties according to freedom of speech and media freedom, without intervention, said the TV station.

21 MAY 2011

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 21 May 2011)

- The Somali Transitional Federal Government security forces have reportedly "arrested three journalists" working for Somalia's Royal TV in Mogadishu, reports privately-owned Radio Gaalkacyo on 21 May 11.
- The journalists are said to have been arrested while on duty and "covering a programme" at the Presidential Palace in capital on 18th May 2011, as confirmed by the director of the TV in Mogadishu. The reason behind their arrest is unknown as the government has not commented on the arrest of the journalists.
- Royal TV representative in Mogadishu, Faysal Ali Muhammad, has "appealed" to the government to release the journalists immediately, adds the Source.

19 MAY 2011

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

- A major demonstration in opposition to Somaliland's breaking away from the rest of Somalia was today staged in the town of Baran, [disputed] Sanaag Region [northwestern Somalia]. The demonstration opposing the Somaliland's proclamation of independence from the rest of Somalia was today staged in the town of Baran and was attended by various section of the population including women and children as well as scholars in the region.

17 MAY 2011

(Source: Somali Puntlandpost website in Somali 17 May 2011)

- An Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a court has handed several sentences to four individuals accused of stealing arms from the group. Three of the four individuals were sentenced to 10 years imprisonment by the Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a court.
- A senior Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a commander in Cabuud Waaq, Galguduud Region, told the media the four individual had taken off with arms belonging to the group two years ago.
- According to the judge at the Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a court, the four men admitted to the crimes they have been accused of, three of them were handed a 10-year sentence whereas the other one got a five year jail term.

- This is the first time that the Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a court has handed such a sentence.