

SOMALI DOMESTIC MEDIA MONITORING REPORT

18 – 24 APRIL 2011

STACY TOPOUZOVA

24 APRIL 2011

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 24 April 2011)

- A newly formed administration named Raas Caseer, which controls some part of Bari Region [North Eastern Somalia], has banned officials of the Puntland Administration including MPs and ministers from visiting areas under its control.
- The spokesman for the Raas Caseer Administration, Abdirashid Muhammad Yusuf, told Shabelle officials that the administration held a meeting in the town of Calula in Bari Region and made a number of decisions including one banning officials of the Puntland Administrations from coming into areas under their control. The spokesman said:
- Raas Caseer State is a regional administration formed in line with the federal system of government and is part of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia.
- Puntland officials such as ministers and MPs are not allowed to come into areas under the administration's control without obtaining permission from the relevant authorities.

23 APRIL 2011

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 23 April 2011)

- Fishermen based in the coastal town of Hobyo, Mudug Region [central Somalia] voiced concerns over harassment by foreign warships off the Somali coast.
- The fishermen who spoke to Shabeelle alleged that war planes taking off the foreign ships off the Somali coast often target their fishing boats.

(Source: The New Vision website, Kampala, in English 23 April 2011)

Excerpt from report by Steven Candia headlined "Terrorists plan Easter attack" published by state-owned, mass-circulation Ugandan daily The New Vision website on 23 April

- "Before Ugandans forget the twin bomb attacks that killed over 70 people in Kampala last July, Somalia-based Al-Shabab terrorists are planning another attack over the Easter holiday."
- While releasing the Annual Crime and Traffic Report in Kampala, police chief Maj-Gen Kale Kayihura said their source of information was credible. He assured the public that the police are doing their best to avert the attacks, but that the public should remain vigilant.
- In his Easter message issued later in the afternoon, Kayihura called for vigilance: "Note that as you go about your business, also criminally minded elements are looking for an opportunity to take advantage of you. You should, therefore always be on the outlook for any suspicious person or thing near you".

20 APRIL 2011

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

- The Ministry of Social Affairs expressed serious concerns over the plight of civilians affected by drought in central Somalia regions, and issued a warning to humanitarian aid agencies.
- The regional coordinator for the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia's in charge of social affairs, labor, youth and sports, Shaykh Aweys Shaykh Hadad, held a news conference to address the matter. Hadad alleged that humanitarian aid agencies have failed to provide assistance to the Somali people at the time of need and as such, continued failure will prompt government to ask them to leave the country.

19 APRIL 2011

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

- Reports from Luuq District in southwestern Somalia alleged that the deputy prime minister, who is also the minister of defense, Abdihakim Haji Fiqi, held a meeting with government officials in the district on the continuation of war against Al-Shabab.
- The defense minister urged the commanders of government forces in the district to step up the offensive against Al-Shabab

18 APRIL 2011

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

- The Interior Ministry of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia issued a new order in which it banned the holding of unlicensed demonstrations, political meetings and rallies in Mogadishu.
- Deputy interior minister, Ibrahim Isak Yarowe, held a news conference in Mogadishu and said that the government has completely banned political demonstrations, adding that demonstrations could endanger security in the capital.
- The government warned that any one who failed to obey the order would face the law. The statement of the interior ministry comes at a time when conflicting demonstrations have been held in Mogadishu.

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

- Fighters loyal to Al-shabab Islamic Movement arrested 100 people after conducting operations in Jowhar town. Most of those people who were arrested people shopping in the market and students going to their schools. The reason behind the arrest remains unclear but unconfirmed reports say that the operations appear to be forced conscription after elders of the region rejected a call from Al-Shabab that fresh fighters should be enlisted from Jowhar town. Reports further say that many people have fled their homes for fear of being forced into conscription by Al-Shabab.

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 18 April 2011)

- Telecommunication companies in Galguduud Region, which were taken off air by Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a forces yesterday, continue to remain suspended. The two companies, Hormud and Nation Link could not be received in the town of Matabaan, Guri Ceel and Dhusa Mareeb. Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a forces suspended the operations of these companies and demanded that they each pay some 2,000 US dollars to be used in ensuring security in the area. These companies said they were unable to pay the demanded amount and were as a result taken off air.

17 APRIL 2011

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 17 April 2011)

- At least four people have died and 10 others were wounded after an armed militia raided two mosques in Garsoor locality of Gaalkayo town, central Somalia. Most of the people killed are said to have been prominent Muslim clerics in the region.
- Reports say the armed militia opened fire at Salahudin mosque while people were performing their evening prayers. The militia also raided Faruq mosque during morning prayers.
- The two mosques are said to have been a meeting point for loyal supporters of Al-Shabab Islamic Movement.
- The security committee of Mudug regional government has convened an urgent meeting to discuss the worsening security situation on ground, and called on all groups to observe a cease-fire.