

Somali Domestic Media Monitoring Report
May 3 – 9, 2010
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May 9, 2010

(Source: Radio Voice of Mudug, in Somali 1230 GMT, 9 May 2010)

- “The Al-Shabab Islamic Movement is said to train local fighters in Cadale District of Middle Shabelle Region, southern Somalia” reporter Muhammad Ise wrote
- “[Ise] Officials of Al-Shabab Islamic Movement have today held talks with prominent traditional elders of Cadale District of Middle Shabelle Region, southern Somalia and discussed with them ways of improving security in the region. The two sides agreed to cooperate in implementing the Shari'ah law and work together.”
- The governor of Al-Shabab in Middle Shabelle Region, Shaykh Muse, told Radio Voice of Mudug that “his group would train local fighters in Cadale District”.

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 9 May 2010)

- The Puntland regional administration accused IDPs living in the region of “being behind the killings and explosions.”
- The information minister of the semi-autonomous region of Puntland, Abdihakim Ahmad Guled, accused the internally displaced people living in Boosaaso town “of involvement in the insecurity of the region.”
- He said that “major steps to improve security were raised during the meeting”.
- “IDPs from southern of Somalia were warmly welcomed in Puntland but they were not supposed to cause incidents which are against the stability of the territory.”
- The minister underscored that “Puntland would not be patient for such insecurity from now on.”

May 8, 2010

(Source: AllPuntland.com website in Somali, 8 May 2010)

- Reports from Mogadishu indicate that “there are renewed tensions in parts of the capital where warring sides have been fighting in the recent past.”
- Reports reaching Allpuntland indicate that “the forces of Al-Shabab and Hisb al-Islam forces who are on one side and the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG], AMISOM [African Union's Mission in Somalia] troops and forces loyal to former warlords on the other are now engaged in heightened military activity in a bid by each side to capture the areas controlled by the other”.
- “Al-Shabab Movement has now readied strong forces that will take control of the Dabka Junction in Mogadishu.”
- “There are widespread concerns about renewed fighting in Mogadishu among the public as the conflict has now taken totally different phase given that new sides have joined the battle.”

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 8 May 2010)

- Al-Shabab Islamic Movement arrested 15 farmers in the Lower Shabeelle Region, southern Somalia. Local residents confirmed that “the farmers were arrested after they failed to pay taxes to Al-Shabab.”

- Sources say that “the farmers were mistreated and tortured in the prison.”
- A relative of one the farmers who declined to be named, told the media that “the group denied the farmers enough food”. He stated that “Al-Shabab is harassing local farmers, adding that the group ordered each farmer to pay a monthly tax of thirty US dollars.”

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 8 May 2010)

- “Fighters loyal to the Al-Shabab Islamic Movement have captured Ceel Barde District of Bakool Region, southwestern Somalia”.
- “Hundreds of Al-Shabab fighters took over control of the town without any resistance.”
- “Al-Shabab fighters are reported to have set up bases at the police stations, main checkpoints in the town and other strategic areas.”

(Source: AllPuntland.com website in Somali, 8 May 2010)

- Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a revealed that “the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] with which it recently entered into an agreement has refused to release a consignment of arms that they had been expecting from them.”
- Senior Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a officials who spoke to Allpuntland alleged that “the TFG largely bears the responsibility for the recent capture of many of the areas that were formerly under their control by rival groups”.
- These officials accused the TFG president and the minister of internal affairs of “blocking the implementation of the Addis Ababa agreement and the failure to get the arms they need in fighting Islamist groups in southern and central Somalia regions.”

May 7, 2010

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali, 7 May 2010)

- The Hisb al-Islam administration in Banaadir Region [which includes Mogadishu and its environs] alleged that “it has received information that AMISOM [African Union Mission in Somalia] and the USA are planning to carry out bomb attacks in Mogadishu.”
- The Hisb al-Islam chairman in Banaadir Region, Ma'alin Hashi Muhammad Farah, spoke to the media, while at Dayniile Hospital in Mogadishu, dismissed claims by AU troops that “Al-Shabab and Hisb al-Islam were planning to carry out explosions targeting populated areas, including mosques and markets using 10 different vehicles”.
- The official said that “Hisb al-Islam is aware of plans by AMISOM and the USA to carry out more explosions that would further affect Somali civilians.”

May 6, 2010

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali, 6 May 2010)

- The Transitional Federal Government of Somalia's [TFG] Banaadir Regional Administration alleged that “the World Food Program has agreed to resume the distribution of humanitarian aid in the Region.”
- The Banaadir Regional Administration's Assistant Chairman of Politics and Public Affairs, Abdisalan Dahir Abdalle spoke to the media today and said they have

“appealed to the WFP to resume the distribution of humanitarian aid to residents, a request he said has been accepted by the WFP.”

- The official said the WFP will resume their operations in eight districts adding that they are unable to address the situation in the whole of Banaadir Region at once.

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 6 May 2010)

- A member of the Federal Somali Parliament leveled allegations against AMISOM [African Union's Mission in Somalia], stating that “troops are wrong to shell Mogadishu and accused western nations of plotting the explosions in mosques.”
- Dahir Abdikadir Muse Iiro a member of the Federal Somali Parliament asked armed groups fighting the TFG to “stop carrying out attack in areas that are heavily populated by civilians”.
- He said that he believes “AMISOM troops are in Somalia not on a peacekeeping mission but to rather guard the three top most senior officials in government and called upon them to withdraw from the country.”
- Dahir Abdikadir Muse addressed the explosion in mosques in Mogadishu and Kismaayo, Lower Jubba [southern Somalia] and alleged that “those responsible for it were foreigners and not Muslims”.
- He said that “the mosque explosions were carried out by some western nations who are opposed to the attainment of peace and security in Somalia”.

May 5, 2010

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 5 May 2010)

- “A Somali minister accused insurgent groups of carrying out killings and explosions in Puntland regional administration. The minister of trade, Abdirashid Muhammad Iro, has accused insurgents of being behind the killings and explosions in Puntland”
- Speaking to the media in Mogadishu, the minister said that “insurgents were involved in operations to destabilize Puntland.”
- He believed that “insurgents were responsible for the killings of innocent people, government officials and intellectuals in the regional administration.”

(Source: Radio Simba website, Mogadishu, in Somali, 5 May 2010)

- Hardline Somali Islamist group, Al-Shabab, threatened to “take action against people involved in espionage in the Jubba regions, southern Somalia”, Radio Simba website reported on 5 May.
- Shaykh Abdirahman Hudayfi, a senior Al-Shabab official in southern Somalia said the group "is aware of presence of spies in the region."
- "You can escape today and tomorrow but a day will come when you will get arrested," said Shaykh Hudeyfi, who urged the public against involvement in spying activities.

May 3, 2010

(Source: Radio Voice of Mudug, in Somali 1230 GMT, 3 May 2010)

- Somalia's minister of state for defense, Yusuf Siyad Indha Adde, alleged that the “rift among high-ranking officials of Al-Shabab caused the Mogadishu mosque explosion.”

- The minister of state for defence of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, Yusuf Muhammad Siyad aka Yusuf Indha Adde, alleged that “differences among senior officials of Al-Shabab Islamic Movement had resulted in the mosque explosion in Mogadishu, killing nearly 50 people and wounding dozens others”.
- The minister went on to say that “Al-Shabab was a group that was involved in killings, destruction and chaos in the country and called on residents to be careful about their brutal activities”.

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali, 3 May 2010)

[Unattributed report: "Civilians Trapped by Clashes and Violence, Calls To Cease Fire"]

- Abdi Mahmud Warsame, the commissioner of the transitional government for Hodan district in Mogadishu, called on aid agencies to “help the inhabitants of the area in difficulty as the fighting persists.”
- Warsame added that “most residents of the district left the city over the weekend, but returned due to the absence of even the basic assistance for survival.”
- "They need medicine, food and tents for sheltering", he emphasized.
- Also the special representative of the chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia, Ambassador Boubacar Gaoussou Diarra, condemned the violence in a statement issued in Nairobi. Diarra slammed the entirely unjustified "indiscriminate attacks" against innocent civilians.
- After the statement, another blast hit a mosque in the southern city of Kismaayo, killing one and injuring 10.

(Source: Holy Koran Radio, Mogadishu, in Somali 1530 GMT, 2 May 2010)

- A senior official of the Somali radical Islamist group Al-Shabab, Shaykh Fu'ad Muhammad Khalaf aka Shongolo, accused the US Black Water Organization of being behind the [most recent] mosque blast.
- Speaking to Holy Koran Radio in Mogadishu, he alleged that “the organization had a base in Mogadishu” and accused the Somali Transitional Federal Government of “abetting the US organization in the act.”