

DHAXALREEB
Dayr, Sebteember - Noofember 2010

Kayd Somali Artist and Culture Presents
Somali Week Festival

London, 23-31 October
Oxford House, Derbyshire Street E2 6HG

2010

Xidnada 2aad Tirsiga 2aad - Sebteember - Noofember 2010 -- ISSN 2074-028X



www.redsea-online.com/dhaxalreeb | e-mail: dhaxalreeb@redsea-online.com

Dhaxalreeb - ISSN 2074-028X

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Dhaxalreeb waa warside sannadkii soo baxa dhowr jeer oo kusoo baxa qaabab kala duwan:

Dhaxalreeb (Warsida ka hadla aqoonta, dhaqanka, fanka iyo suugaanta) waxa uu soo baxaa sannadkii afar jeer. Gu', Dayr, Xagaa iyo Jiilaal. Tirsigani waa kii Dayrta 2010 ka, waxaana uu u gaar yahay Toddobaadka Fanka iyo Suugaanta Soomaalida, Landhan 23-31 Oktoober 2010.

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Soo saare / Publisher:

Ponte Invisibile Edizioni
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About us

Kayd has evolved from a group of individuals that coordinated the Somali Week Festival in 2007, (which brought together some of the greatest Somali artists and opinion-makers such as Hadraawi, Gaariye, Abdiqays and Hasan Ganey to London to present their work and engage with other artists and the general public) into an organization that coordinates regular artistic and cultural events in the Horn of Africa and Europe.



Redsea-Online promotes culture of reading and writing and encourages the building blocks of in Somaliland society by exploring issues and themes such as correctness, freedom, tolerance, righteousness, equality in the Somali context, while learning also from other cultures trough reading and exploring literature.

Kayd and Redsea-Online promote Somali culture, tolerance, citizenship and freedom of expression through art and culture in the UK and in Somaliland. We aim to contribute to the creation of a culture of tolerance and an appreciation of the diversity of Somali cultures through education, promoting writing and reading, performances, festivals, debates and discussions. In the UK Kayd works with the communities from different Somali regions to deliver the Somali Week Festival as well as book launches and events, outside the festival.



Somali Week Festival

Kayd's Somali Week Festival is an annual event, which promotes Somali Art and Culture through a combination of poetry, literature, music, film and discussion workshops. Somali Week is a well established national and international festival within the Somali community in London.

Maanso: Beeqaaq

Waxa curisey Yaasmiin Maxamed Kaahin

Bismillaahi waa qawl
Hadal lagu bilaaboo
Barakadiisa gaarkiyo
Baaxaddiisu weyntee
Anna baabka maansada
Ku Bilaabay heestee
Barihii tacliintiyo
Ilayskii barbaartee
Cilmi baaxad weyniyo
Barashada aqoontee
Addoomuhu bayaanshiyo
Buugaagta kaydkaa
Qalimada la boobee
Noo bidhaanshay samahow
Jaamacow bal iga gunud
Barta aan u jeediyo
Biyo dhaca ujeedada.

Dhaayihii basaasiyo
Maskaxdii balaadhneyd
Mugdigi ku baahee
Bilic tirey garaadkii
Soo baano maan odhan
Barashada dhulkeenii
Boqool dheer umaan gelin.

Boholyowga xiisaha
Baalaha Hargeysiyo
Beertii jaceylkiyo
Boodhari agtiisii
Soo bariido uma marin
Ilayn waan bukaayoo
Ku bariisan maayee
Burco iyo nugaaliyo
Buurhii Sanaagiyo
Baradii udgoonkee
Beeyadu ku taalliyo
Ceerigaabo iyo Badhan
Banankii saraar iyo
Buuhoodle maan tegin
Bilicdiyo nabaadkiyo
Biligiyoo nimcada taal
Tiiyoo barbaartii
Barxad laysu soo baxay
Batar ay ka tumayaan

Bilcantii haweenkuna
Caws aad u bilaniyo
Harar kala baxsheenoo
Beesha geesigeedii
Baalaha ka deyeyaan.
Naftu way buseeshoo
Bari kuma nagaannine,
Baalaha kaleetiyo
Boorama docdeedii
Beeraha wajaaloo
Ku bariistay mayayoo
Canab wada bislaadiyo
Badarkiyo gallaydii
Baalahaysa saaroo
Baliyada xareedii
Burqanayso daafaha
Sidii berri samaadkii
Barqo dharag la joogoo
Duleedkiyo bustaanada
Beeray la tumayoo
Basra iyo ugaasaba
Baarka guudka loo fidhay
Saddex qeyd bidhaanloo
Bafto looga tolay iyo
Boqorkiyo dhaclihii
Basar ugu hagaajoo
Sidii boqorad taaj xidhan
Billigtooda laafyaha
Baxsanaanta jaahood
Bidhaantoodu wacan tahay
Baarigii halyeyguna
Boqolkii halaadiyo
Sange orodkad boodiyo
Bunduq iyo rikoodhiyo
Baarqab reerka soo tubay
Bedelkoodu duco yahay
Baro hoos qabowiyo
Lagu bineeyo raas wacan .

Bilicdaa la yaabka leh
Baale daymahoodii
Indhii barafku daashaday
Hadba baal kamay dayin.
Hadraawa ku baaqoo

Barta yidhi ardaagoo
Ballantiisibay beeqaaq ka
curatee.

Jaamacow bu' deediyo,
Biyo godonta maansada
Beydkow dambeeyiyo
Aan bidhaansho dulucdee
Bellad aan ku faaniyo
Dhul balaadhan oo weyn
Beero loo dalxiis tago
Dur-dur iyo baliba loo
Beeshu nabad qab taaloo
Bello laga ducaystiyo
Baas kaleeto uu jirin
Baradaad ku ababtiyo
Waa baadi soocaa
Halka lagu badhaadhee
Ku ballaadhsa noloshoo
Babbaay iyo muusiyo
Inta baal cunno liyo
Aan beerno dalagee
Kanada iyo Berlin
Baydkaaga maahee
Bilic wanaag hargeisiyo
Bada xeeligeediyo
Berbera aad ku hoyatee
Ibnu baladadeenaa
Beesha caalam joogtana
Baaqi hadraawiyo
Beeqaaqna gaadh sii
Barradood ku soo hoy.



SOMALI WEEK FESTIVAL 2010 PROGRAMME

Kayd Somali Arts and Culture, in collaboration with Redsea-online, Ocean Somali and other Somali and Somaliland Communities, are proud to present the annual Somali Week Festival at Oxford House, Bethnal Green, East London. The festival is part of Black History Month and will run from Saturday 23rd to Sunday 31st of October. The festival offers the best of Somali arts and culture, both old and new, presenting a mix of events including poetry, literature, drama and panel discussions.

Theme of Somali Week 2010: **'Tradition and Modernity'**

For the last two years each Somali Week Festival has been dedicated to a specific theme. In 2008 the theme was 'Gobannimo', a Somali word with no direct English equivalent that encompasses independence, freedom, and sovereignty and collectively bears some parallel to the concept of 'citizenship'. Throughout the festival we sought to explore the facets of the term 'Gobannimo', including concepts of independence, freedom, personal responsibility. Last year, the theme was 'Censorship', and sought to explore the relationships between creative expression, censorship and self-censorship.



The 2010 festival will be examining the topic of 'Tradition and Modernity'. Once more we will use a range of artistic events to look at the complex and important ideas



around these concepts. A number of highly esteemed international guests will take part, including poets, writers and playwright. Participating artists will include both those perceived to be working with more 'traditional' Somali art forms such as our highly-prized poetry and those expressing themselves through more 'modern' forms such as novels and essays. There will also be performances by and discussions with international and local artists working in other disciplines. Throughout

the week, we will encourage all who take part in these events to examine their own relationship to modernity and tradition in these diverse art forms.

The 2010 festival will provide a great opportunity to meet with Mahamed Ibrahim Warsame ‘Hadraawi’, Amina Abdilahi, Ahmed Saleebaan Bidde, Boon Hirsi and Ahmed Ibrahim Awali. We are also delighted to have two remarkable Somali women showcasing their latest fictional works: Yasmeen Maxamuud from the USA, and London’s Nadifa Mohamed. Nadifa will present and discuss her book, *Black Mamba Boy*, and Yasmeen will introduce her work, *Nomad Diaries*.

This year we are proud to host the first-ever collaboration between the London-based music collective The Grand Union Orchestra and a range of Somali musicians during the festival. We hope you will join us and enjoy the festivities throughout the week!

EVENTS

Saturday, 23rd October
Launch, Poetry & Discussion
6:00pm - 10:00pm
Fee: £10

This year’s festival will be opened by the Deputy Mayor of London after which the theme will be introduced by Mahamed Ibrahim Warsame ‘Hadraawi’, one of the greatest living Somali poets. Hadrawi will be joined by the renowned lyric composer and playwright, Ahmed Saleban Bidde, who will narrate some of his work, followed by a panel discussion and Q&A. The evening will conclude with another of our visiting artists, Amina Abdilahi, who is a remarkable female contributor to Somali performing arts.



Sunday 24th October
Togdheer Abroad Foundation Workshop
1:30pm - 3:30pm
Free

Togdheer Abroad Foundation (TAF) is a registered charity, founded in 2005 by a group of young Somalilanders living in the UK. It aims to bring young Somalilanders together to create a shared vision and collective contribution in empowering the most disadvantaged groups in Somaliland. TAF believes in the philosophy of “every little helps” and fosters a self-reliant approach. The membership of TAF has increased from a few to over 180 members in seven different cities in UK and is still growing today. This workshop will focus on the history of the charity, its structure and different committees. We will discuss on-going projects in connection with Mandhaye Mental hospital. This conference will be an opportunity to discuss future aspirations with its members as well other interested members of the public. Main speakers will be Suldan Mahamoud Haji Hussein, Mohamed Ibrahim Warsame (Hadraawi) and Dr Abdilahi Bikolo.

Family Entertainment: Children's Day
3:30pm – 6:00pm
Fee: £2 Children, £5 Adults

Family and children's day will showcase young and talented performers such as Abdi Bahdoon (aka Book of Rhymes) and Samira Ali. The afternoon will also be packed with exciting children's activities such as entertainment by clowns from Magic For All Occasions and Somali traditional storytelling by Ismail Aw-Aden. We are also pleased to announce that Saynab Dahir will introduce her new language learning book: Daadah: Learn Somali Book 1. This book is the first in the series, part of a well structured, programme of study, which has been designed to teach the skills of reading and writing Somali to learners from a broad age range. Bring your children along to this wonderful fusion of poetry, clown performances, children's stories and language support.



A Day of Pure Poetry

6:00pm – 10:00pm

Fee: £5

A day of pure poetry with interviews and Q&A will feature two well-known poets and composers, Hadraawi and Ahmed Saleebaan Bidde from Somaliland along with our own Asha Mahamuud Yuusuf “Asha Luul”, Abdirahman Abees and others.

Chair: Rashid Gadhwayne.



Monday, 25th October

Book Presentation and Panel : Marginalisation and Social Exclusion of the ‘Gabooye’

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Free (ENGLISH)

This session will tackle one of the major issues facing contemporary Somali society starting with a discussion of the new book *Hiil or In Defence of (Hayb-sooco)* by Hassan Abdi Madar. Published by Redsea.online/Ponte Invisible, this book addresses the marginalisation and social exclusion of the ‘Gabooye’ communities. Discussions will touch on concepts of citizenship and human rights and the tensions between those committed to a conservative adherence to tradition and those pushing for change in Somali society.

Panel participants: Said Jama Hussein, Sheikh Mahamoud Sheikh Dalmar, Yasmin Mahamoud and others.

Chair: Nadifa Mahamed.



Monday, 25th October

Book Presentation and Discussion : 'Environmental Crises'

8:00pm - 10:00pm

Free (ENGLISH)



This session will present Ahmed Ibrahim Awale's debut book, *Qaylo-dhaan Deegaan/Environment Crises*, a collection of essays in Somali and English, which focus on the Somali environment. It is published by Redsea-online/Ponte Invisible. Following a presentation by the author, there will be a roundtable discussion on the environment and the effects of climate change.

Panel participants: Ahmed Ibrahim Awale (the author), Mohamoud Ibrahim (Secretary of the Somali Ecological Society), and others contributors.

Tuesday 26th October

A play: *Utub Jacayl*

6:00pm – 10:00pm

Fee: £10



An evening with *Utub Jacayl (Child of Love)*, this play is written by London-based playwright, Ali Seenyo. He will be expanding on the ideas of the 'traditional' and the 'modern' in terms of migration, love, clan revenge and family disputes with humour and a musical performance.



This will be a hugely entertaining event, with a cast of Nimco Yasiin, Jookhle, Faynuus, Ceerigaabo, Qaboojiye, Bacado, Jaajomow, and others.

Wednesday 27th October

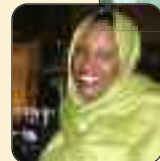
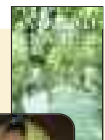
Women's Literature

6:00pm – 10:00pm

Fee: £5 (ENGLISH)



We are proud to present significant developments in internationally published writing in the works of two Somali women authors: Yasmeen Maxamuud (U.S.A.) and Nadifa Mohamed (U.K.). This session will discuss Nadifa's recent book, *Black Mamba Boy* (published by Harper Collins) and Yasmeen's *Nomad Diaries* (published by Nomad House Publishing).





Both books are written in English, each of these publications connects well with both Somali and non-Somali audiences. After their presentations (in English), we will enjoy performances from London-based Somali female musicians, including Nimco Yasin and Nimco Degan.



Thursday 28th October
6:00pm – 7:30pm
Anglo-Somali Society Event
Fee £7.5 (ENGLISH)

The Anglo-Somali Society will hold a public meeting featuring Ibrahim Isse and Mohamed Aden of the Somali Youth Forum, speaking on Somali educational achievements. The poet Bootaan will then present some of his contemporary and London-focused poems with Rob Inglis providing English versions.

Panel Discussion: ‘Somaliland: What Next?’
8:00pm - 10:00pm
Fee: £5 (ENGLISH)

The Republic of Somaliland unilaterally declared independence from Somalia in 1991, after a brutal war resulted in the collapse of the Somali Democratic Republic. Somaliland has since embarked on a home-grown process of bottom-up reconciliation and statebuilding, and successfully held elections for the head of state, the lower house of parliament and local councils. However, it has yet to receive international recognition. This session, co-organized with Somaliland Focus UK, will offer perspectives from leading academics and activists discussing, ‘Somaliland: What next?’.



Panel participants: Dr. Anna Lindley (SOAS, Author: *The Early Morning Phone Call: Somali Refugees’ Remittances*), Dr. Michael Walls (UCL), Mark Bradbury (Author: *Becoming Somaliland*), Dr. Mohamed Rashiid Sheikh Hassan (Candidate for vice president for UCID Party) and others.

Chair: Steve Kibble

Friday 29th October
The Culture and Arts of Djibouti with Boon Xirsi
6:00pm - 10:00pm
Fee: £10



This evening will focus on the art and literature of Djibouti. Our London-based Djiboutian artists such as Kaltuun Ba'adio, Hananteeye, and Anab Ismail will be accompanied by the great comedian Boon Hirsi, who is visiting us for the first time.



Saturday 30th October
Literature Day
2:00pm - 6:00pm
Free

Redsea-online.com Cultural Foundation, in collaboration with Somali Week Festival, present a day of literature, featuring a series of new books published and distributed by Ponte Invisibile (redsea-online.com). We will invite Somali authors to present and read from their work and to be available to meet informally with the audience. Authors include Rashid Sheikh Abdillahi 'Gadhwayne' (Adduun iyo Taladii) and Yuusuf Cabdille Cisman 'Shaacir' (Tolow Colka Jooja Maansadii Salaan Maxamed Xirse Salaan 'Carrabay').



Adduun Iyo Taladdii : This is a new book by scholar, social scientist, and literary critic Rashid Sheikh Abdillahi 'Gadhwayne', which touches on the essence of citizenship. A work inspired by his great sense of social responsibility, *Adduun iyo Taladdii* enlightens the reader on the work of four great Somali poets whose writings discuss the building blocks of society in their explorations of freedom, tolerance, and equality. He also adds his own thoughts on the themes of freedom and responsibility in the latter half of the book, exploring their true normative, ethical, and moral meanings in the Somali context. Thus, in this collection of essays 'Gadhwayne' deals with different aspects of citizenship, which are interconnected and compliment each other.



Tolow Colka Jooja

(Presenting the Legendary Somali Poet Salaan 'Carabey'):

Yusuf Shaacir is a well known poet and collector of poetry. In this publication, *Tolow Colka Jooja*, he presents the fascinating life and poetry of the legendary Somali poet Salaan 'Carrabey'. The masterpieces presented in this collection include *Tolow Colka Jooja*, *Abaal-Laawe (Afku wuxuu la xoog yahay)* and *Lukaansi*. The 'Sooyaal Series', of which *Tolow colka jooja* is the second book, is dedicated to collecting and preserving classical Somali literature. The first publication in the series, published last year, was *Suugaanta Nabadda iyo Colaadda (Anthology on War and Peace)*, edited by Rashid Sheikh Abdillahi 'Gadhwayne'.



Other books to be presented at this event include *Bangiyada Islaamka* by Said Ali Shire (Buuh publications); *Taxanaha Isbar aqoonta kombiyuuterka* (Ponte invisible – redsea-online) presented by Abdalle Osman Shafey, *Garta Dhaqanka* by Cabdisalaan Maxamed Xirsi 'Caara-dhuub'; *The Mourning Tree* by Mohamed Barud Ali (Ponte invisible - redsea-online), and *Daadaah: Learn Somali Book 1* by Saynab Dahir among others. The literary day will be coordinated by Jama Musse Jama, founding president of Redsea-online.com Cultural Foundation, and Editor in chief of its publishing arm, Ponte Invisible.

Saturday 30th October

Fusion Night: Music, Fusion and Film Documentaries

6:00pm - 10:00pm

Fee: £5



At this fusion event we will present the Somali fashion stylist, Normode, with the theme around 'How to be a proud Somali and look modern!'. We will also show two short documentaries: *Jannaalle* produced by Sahan and a new documentary film discussing youth and citizenship in Somaliland produced by Cabdiraxmaan Yuusuf Arten. The evening will conclude with very special live music: a collaboration between the London-based music collective The Grand Union Orchestra and a number of Somali musicians and vocalists, including Abdifataah Yare.



Sunday 31st October

Halabuur Members Share Their Talent!

2:00pm - 6:00pm

Fee: £5



This event will bring all visiting artists together in a showcase of their work along with UK-based artists from Hal-abuur members including Saado Isse Isman, Mawliid Adan Aydiid (Qolqol), Faysal Awcabdi Ambalaash, and Abdi Good Abees. This event will also provide a great opportunity to meet with very special guests, Mahamed Ibrahim



Warsame 'Hadraawi' and Ahmed Saleebaan Bidde. Everyone will have the opportunity to relive many of the highlights from the week and audience members will have a chance to ask the artists questions about their work.



Chair: Cabdillaahi Cawed Cige

Music, Music and Music

6:00pm - 10:00pm

Fee: £10

We will conclude the 2010 Somali Week Festival with musical performances from Zaynab Cige, Ikraan Arale and beloved singer and performer Amina Abdilahi and more.



*if you need further information and/or updates about the program please visit our website:
www.kayd.org or email: ayan_mahamoud@kayd.org or call 07903712949.*

BIOGRAPHIES OF VISITING ARTISTS

Mahamed Ibrahim Warsame 'Hadraawi'

Mahamed Ibrahim Warsame 'Hadraawi' is one of the greatest, most cherished and respected Somali poets and philosophers. Born into a nomadic family in Togdheer region of Somaliland, he went to live with his uncle at an early age and grew up in Aden, Yemen. Hadraawi moved to Mogadishu in late 1960s. During this time, most of his work focused, like others at that time, on the theme of love. In these high days of romance, Hadrawi produced poems like "Todobaadan Midhabley" and songs such as, "Baladweyn", "Jacayl Dhiig Malagu Qoray?", "Hooyooy", "Cajabey, Cajiibey". One could write a whole book about each song and poem as they all have their own story. The songs of this era have been sung by the greatest Somali singers like Hassan Adan Samater, Mahamed Mooge, Haliima Khaliif Magool, Mohamed Saleban and many others.



This decade of Romance in Somali arts came to an end after Maxamed Siyaad Barre's regime had been in power for only three years. In the 1970s, Hadraawi's artistic productions evolved to address more social and political themes. During this time Hadraawi co-wrote the landmark political play "Aqoon iyo Afgarad" with Gaariye, Siciid Saalax and Musse Abdi Elmi.

He also became occupied with the Siinlay chained poems, which attracted over twenty other poets to take part (Somalis have a tradition of poetic series in which several poets hundreds of miles away from each other participate, and Siinley is one of the most known chains). All of this and two other plays put Hadraawi at odds with the Barre regime. When a young woman (Asha Jamac Diiriye was the only female poet who participated in that poetic chain) from Djibouti joined the chain; she encouraged Hadraawi to continue fighting against the inequalities in society. Asha sent Hadraawi the flag of Somalia, a sword and piece of cloth symbolizing the need to fight for Somali cause. When Barre discovered this, concerned that people from throughout the Somali regions were coming together to oppose him, he put Hadraawi in jail for five years (from 1973 to 1978). The significance of his jail term was not that he was the only political prisoner but that people from all over the Somali regions (even those against Hadraawi's political ideas) appealed to the government for his release.

Barre promised he would release Hadraawi at the condition that Hadraawi would apologise in writing, express remorse and ask for amnesty. However, Hadraawi declined and refused to respond. In contrast with other prisoners, who underwent intense physical punishment, his punishment was psychological: he was transferred to a small village with a couple hundred people whose local language he did not understand; he could only communicate with the prison officer and the village mayor. Hadraawi sometimes teased these two that they were also in prison but the only difference was that he knew he was in prison, while they didn't.

After his release, Hadraawi remained quiet for the next two years and people began to think that he had become intimidated and silenced if not corrupted. However, it was a time of serious contemplation for Hadraawi, which gave birth to one of the most significant political chain poems in Somali society; "Daaley" of which he was one of the main writers. Over 50 artists contributed to this chain poem and it caused significant ideological division amongst Somali poets and thinkers.

In 1982, Hadraawi left Mogadishu to join the opposition group the Somali National Movement (SNM) which was based in Ethiopia. It was there that he wrote his main political poems; actually he wrote some of them while he was still in Mogadishu but, because of the regime's strict rules, he could not perform or recite in public. Among the best known of Hadraawi's political pieces of that period include "Dalaley", "Hanbaber", or "Hargeysi ma Toostay", "Bulsho", "Sirta Nolosha" and many others. He became a voice for the opposition and the oppressed. While his poetry was banned by the government, his poems still managed to reach to everyone's household. But it was in 1992 that Hadraawi produced his masterpiece, 'Gudgude', in which he explains the society through his eyes, his motivations, aspirations and political ideas for the future. Hadraawi poured all of his energy and ideas into this hundreds of lines of poetry!



That same year, Hadraawi moved to London, England where he spent a few years. His experiences in London caused a noticeable shift in Hadraawi's consciousness and it is in London that we came to know the new Hadraawi - a Hadraawi that is more expressive in his attachments and candid in the significance of his faith. The new Hadraawi is also disappointed in all political ideologies of the world (left, right, socialism, liberal, etc.), and is now promoting a traditional way of life for the Somali society. Here he produced the long and fascinating poem, "Dabo Huwan", which builds around an ancient word to describe 'life'. The work he has since produced offers many explorations of this idea, influenced strongly by his beliefs, Somali nomadic heritage and his faith.

The ongoing civil war in Somalia became a great pain for Hadraawi. To show his solidarity with those in need, Hadraawi went on a peace march throughout different cities of Somalia ravaged by the civil war in 2004. What was one-man's walk became a march of tens of thousands of Somalis who followed Hadraawi from city to city. When Hadraawi was asked what motivated him to perform this march, he explained that he needed to console his consciousness with this reality: "I know those who are suffering are counting on me, so I want to be able to say to myself 'I did not abandon them when they were in need'."



Although no one can claim to understand the genius and complex mind of Hadraawi, we can say he has been the most influential Somali artist in his time. Hadraawi now lives with his wife Hodan in Buro and teaches at the University of Buro. One of his latest poems "Dhul Gariir" raises awareness about the situation of the Gabooye, highlighting the ill treatment of this stigmatized group. Hadraawi condemns the discrimination and human rights abuses committed against the Gabooye communities. Another recent poem he wrote was about the hopelessness of Somali men who abuse the use of Qaat and the social implications of it.

Kayd is thrilled to be hosting Hadraawi, also nicknamed 'Geed', this year again. In Somali tradition 'Geed' means tree. In nomadic lands, trees do not belong to anyone, and whoever is in need can sit down and relax under the shade of a tree. We hope you will come and join us, to welcome this humble but great human being and relax in the shade of his artistic beauty.

Ahmed Saleebaan Bidde:

Ahmed Saleebaan Bidde is one of the greatest contemporary contributors to Somali theatre and song writing. Bidde has been active as a playwright, songwriter and poet since the 1960s. Other prominent poets and writers such as Hadraawi acknowledge Bidde as the most prolific of Somali song-writers. He is considered 'the modern Elmi Bodhari' as he has created almost all of the love songs in popular plays in addition to stand-alone songs. Bidde, unlike other Somali love song writers, is deeply explicit and descriptive in his love stories of famous fictitious couples.



Hadraawi once said that any love song whose author is unknown was most likely written by Bidde. Hasan Ganay, another great Somali poet, alleged that not a single day passed by without Bidde creating a song or story.

Bidde was the father of the band called 'Onkod' which went on to produce the biggest stars of Somali theatre including the late Qalinle, Xarrago, Kinsi Haaji Aden, Sahra Mire and many more.

Ahmed Saleebaan Bidde wrote more than 40 plays in his long career as playwright. Some of his plays include:

- Alla Aammin ma iisho which was his real debut as a major playwright and was so successful that the performance group formed a new band of the same name as the play.
- Murugo iyo macaan, which includes the famous song, "Sidan Walaal, Sahal Walaal, Sidaa".
- Jeel iyo Jacayl, which includes the song "Sida Ubaxa Waaberiga ama Uduga Saxansaxada".
- Jacayl Waakane Kaley, which includes the song "Aan Damaq Jacayl"
- Laanta Sare iyo Laaca Aragtaye, Laaga ma og Tahay?, which includes the song "Maxamed! Maxamed! Magooleey!" performed by two of the most famous Somali singers, Magool and Mohamed Mooge.
- Waa jacayl kala waalan iyo Wejiyaal is Xusuusta, which includes the song, "Ma Boqreen Hadraawiba, Beerlula ma sheegeen..." performed by the exquisite Kinsi Haaji Ahmed.
- Dadku Waa Isku Muuq, Hadana Waa Kala Maan, which includes the song, "Warsan iyo Weedhsan ii soo Wacee".
- Garashaa Garab Wayday, which includes, "Maad Nasin Naftayda".
- Dadku Waa Gobe, waayahaa Gabay, which he produced in 2000.

Bidde has written a great number of songs which we cannot enumerate, however some of the most well known include: "Sida Geed Caleen Leh" performed by Mohamed Ahmed Kuluc, "Waalaysu Soo Noqon" performed by Mohamed Ali Cigaal, "Hadduu Nugulku Doogsado" performed by Sahra Ahmed, "Weligaaba Baydh Baydh" performed by Hibo Nura, "Xaggaaga Markaan u ciirey", performed by Kinsi Haaji Ahmed, "Garayskaga Gacanta haw Celin" performed by Baxsan and "Onkod Roobku ma daayo" performed by Cabditahliil.



Amina Abdullahi:



Amina is a very talented singer and actress who was born in Borama, Somaliland and joined the arts movement in the early 1970s. Her contribution to Somali theatre is most notable for the fact that she began working at a time when it was not socially acceptable for women to be on stage. Amina a pioneer among female entertainers, singers and actress, who challenged the perception of women artists by featuring in many plays, including, 'Musiibadu Adduunyada Iyada u Macallina', 'Bidaari Sibiq Bay Kugu Gashaa', 'Beeneey Waa Run'.

Amina has sung numerous duets with the big male stars of the Somali theatre performers. Some of her well known songs include "Waa shax laba geyaana", "Ha canaan waligaa, ha ceebaynin waa ugub", "Geyiga iyo adigana midba gees ka daawada" (with Samatar); "Anbabaxaye socodkaa" (with Cigaal); "Daan bari adoo yaal" (with Samatar); "Jamaal quruxsan" (with Kuluc); "Masciideed"(with Cabdinaasir Macallin) and many more.

Amina lives in Borama with her family.

Hussein Hersi Adib (Boon Hirsi):

Hussein Hersi Adib, (aka Boon Hirsi) is a prominent Somali comedian and actor. He was born in 1955 in Hargeysa and joined the performing arts in 1975, after he discovered his unique talent.

Over much of his career, Boon Hirsi worked in the Hargeysa Theatre and collaborated with great comedians and actors like Mecaad Miiggane and Huryo.

Boon Hirsi has also performed numerous solo acts, successfully entertaining audiences for hours on end. With an ever expanding portfolio of funny sketches and plays, his fan base never tires of his wit and humour. He is the inventor of catch phrases like 'Dhag dhagaati!' and could be considered 'the Somali Mr Bean'. Although, he is not mute like Mr Bean, Boon does not need to speak in order to make audiences laugh; his presence, facial expressions and acting are hilarious entertainment for the crowds.



When he lost his sight a couple years back, it was a great shock to all of those who know him and considered him as part of their households. Therefore, Somali Week Festival is particularly delighted to welcome Hussein Hersi Adib 'Boon Hirsi' to this year's festival so we can extend our appreciations and reiterate our view that 'disability is not inability', just like Boon has shown us all.

Yasmeen Maxamuud :

Yasmeen Maxamuud is a writer, storyteller and community activist, born in the mid 1970s in Erigaabo, the capital city of the Sanaag region. This fast growing city was home to Haaji Aden Af-qalooq (1871-1986) who was one of the most influential poets and nationalists during colonial times. Erigaabo lies at the bottom of Surud mountain, about 2670 ft above sea level and is surrounded by beautiful natural views like Mount Daallo.

Although Yasmeen left her home town at a young age, she grew up to become a brave and wonderful storyteller. Yasmeen moved to the United States in the early 1990s, and has now lived there most of her life. Unlike some of the Somali female writers who made headlines in the West for their highly unbalanced

criticisms of the Somali community and culture, her first novel, *Nomad Diaries* (NomadHouse, 2009), is described as “gracefully and radiantly above other publications”.



Daallo Mountains



Erigaabo 2010

Yasmeen spent four years writing *Nomad Diaries*, conducting lengthy interviews to collect the voices of different women in her community. Currently, Yasmeen is the Executive Director of Bridging Communities, a non-profit organisation which works mainly with people of Somali origin, in Encinitas, California. Yasmeen Maxamuud is a gifted storyteller and brave woman who embark on a challenging mission in order to document a past many Somalis would rather forget, and brings it to life in a dignified and

rational manner. Yasmeen lives happily with her husband in the US. Somali Week Festival is excited to have this remarkable woman as one of our visiting artists in 2010 and welcome her to present her book to British audiences for the very first time.

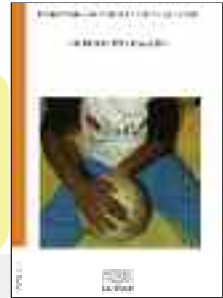
Ahmed Ibrahim Awale:

Ahmed Ibrahim Awale is the author of *Qaylo-dhaan Deegaan/ Environment Crises*, a collection of essays in Somali and English, which focus on the Somali environment.

Ahmed was born in a location close to Gacan Libaax Mountain in Sahil Region of Somaliland. He spent his early years in pastoral life and had later acquired his primary education in Adadley. He continued his higher education both inside the country and elsewhere and later specialised in the field of environment. The author is a development worker based in Somaliland with over twenty years of experience in the NGO sector and is currently heading Candlelight for Health, Education and Environment, prominent local organizations in Somaliland.

Latest books in Curisyo Series

Curisyo (essays) is a collection of books directed by Jama Musse Jama and published by Ponte Invisibile (redsea-online.com) which seeks to promote works in the Somali language that encourage citizenship and responsibility.



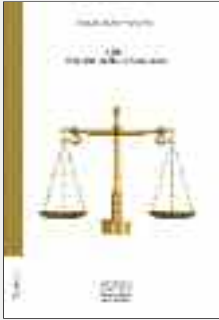
Adduun iyo Taladdii:

A Collection of Essays about Citizenship by Rashid Sheikh Abdillahi 'Gadhwayne', 2010, Ponte Invisibile, Pisa, ISBN 88-88934-16-2 (Curisyo 4), 160p.

Adduun iyo Taladdii is the new book by scholar, social scientist, and literary critic Rashid Sheikh Abdillahi 'Gadhwayne', which touches on the essence of citizenship. A work inspired by his great sense of social responsibility, Adduun iyo Taladdii enlightens the reader on the work of four great Somali poets whose writings discuss the building blocks of society in their explorations of freedom, tolerance, and equality. He also adds his own thoughts on the concepts of freedom and responsibility in the latter half of the book, exploring their true normative, ethical, and moral meanings in the Somali context. Thus, in this collection of essays 'Gadhwayne' deals with different aspects of citizenship, which are interconnected and compliment each other.

Adduun iyo Taladdii is the fourth and latest book in the Curisyo Series and no other book is more at home in the Curisyo Series than the work of Rashid Sheikh Abdillahi 'Gadhwayne' as the series aims to publish works in the Somali language that encourage citizenship and responsibility.

Hiil: Waayaha Dadka la Hayb-sooco (In Defence) by Hassan Abdi Madar, 2010, Ponte Invisible, Pisa, ISBN 88-88934-15-4 (Curisyo 3), 148p.



Hassan Abdi Madar's Hiil: Waayaha Dadka la Hayb-sooco (In Defence) is an important book that deals with one of the major issues within Somali society: the marginalisation and social exclusion of the 'Gabooye' or 'Midgaan' communities. The author discusses the complex sets of issues faced by these people and how they have been subjected to varying forms of discrimination within different Somali communities and sub-cultures. Hiil discusses their position in Somali clan structure, their vastly differing degrees of social integration and various levels of political participation. In this work, Madar analyses both the historical and contemporary political and social position of

these stigmatised and socially excluded communities. He details their struggle for civil rights with perspectives from leading 'Midgaan' poets and intellectuals on how they see their own situation, and also how others from the Somali community have contributed to their ongoing struggle for equal rights. The author compares their plight to that of other discriminated groups around the world and searches for ways to bring these patterns of discrimination to an end. Hiil is the third book of Curisyo Series.

Hassan Abdi Madar has authored several books including a recent collection of poetry and commentary entitled Somali Poetry and Human Rights.

Qaylo-dhaan deegaan / Environment in Crisis by Ahmed Ibrahim

Awale, 2010, Ponte Invisible, Pisa, ISBN 88-88934-13-8 (Curisyo 2), 212p.



This book is comprised of a series of thirty essays in both Somali and English with a focus on environmental crises in the Somali regions. Over the past thirty years, scores of the books, essays and analytical studies have been written by scholars on elements of the Somali people's life, embracing social, political and economical elements in a comprehensive manner.

However, Ahmed I. Awale's new book is the first of its type to deal with the highly important issue of environmental disasters, particularly looking at the impact of resource depletion on those whose livelihoods depend on these resources for their survival. Combining academic research with reflections from traditional knowledge, personal philosophies and faith, this book is accessible to a wide range of readers with an interest in Somali culture, the flora and fauna of the Somali regions, and the environmental challenges facing the people who live there. Qaylo-dhaan deegaan / Environment in Crisis is the second book of the Curisyo Series.

Tolow Colka Jooja:

Maansadii Salaan Carrabey- A Legendary Somali Poet by Yusuf Shaacir, Ponte Invisible, Pisa, ISBN 88-88934-10-3 (Sooyaal 2), 160p.

Yusuf Shaacir is a renowned poet and collector of poetry. He writes poetry in the old traditional forms whilst simultaneously discussing contemporary issues. In this publication, Tolow Colka Jooja, Yusuf Shaacir captures the fascinating biography and incredible artistic gems of Salaan Carrabey, whose poetry was produced more than a century ago. The poems of Salaan Carrabey, such as “Tolow Colka Jooja”, “Abaal-Laawe” (Afkuxuu la xoog yahay) and “Lukaansi” are a unique contribution to Somali arts and culture, and will be of interest to anyone with an interest in Somali poetry.

The legendary status of Salaan Carrabey is characterised by the breadth of his subject matter, his empathetic composition style and his masterful use of language. Literary critics suggest that even two or three of his poems suffice to illustrate his status as one of the greatest Somali poets of all time.

Tolow colka jooja is the second book in the ‘Sooyaal Series’, which is dedicated to collecting and preserving classical Somali literature. The first publication in the series, published last year, was Suugaanta Nabadda iyo Colaadda (Anthology on War and Peace), edited by Rashiid Sheekh Cabdillahi ‘Gadhwayne’.



Black Mamba Boy by Nadifa Mohamed, 2010, HarperCollin, ISBN: 0-00-731574-0 (UK edition).

Black Mamba Boy is the compelling first novel by Nadifa Mohamed based on a fictionalized version of her father’s epic boyhood journeys. Beginning in 1935, it narrates the tragic disintegration of ten-year-old Jama’s life in Aden around the time of his mother’s death to his subsequent voyage home to Somaliland and beyond as his determined quest to find his father and fortune takes him through Djibouti, Eritrea, Sudan, Egypt, Palestine, and finally across the Mediterranean to the UK. Everywhere he turns, Jama is confronted with all forms of hardships: from acute poverty to the brutality of Mussolini’s rule in East Africa, prison life and malaria to desert wandering. And yet he is driven, by the love of his parents, a promise to his wife and the sheer tenacity of the human spirit. Mohamed’s heart-wrenching characters and captivating descriptions of life in the Horn of Africa and aboard the Runnymede Park offer a window of insight into the human side of history during those dark days. And yet, we are ultimately uplifted by the enduring bonds of family, and the kindness of friends and Jama’s compassion for others who cross his path.



Nomad Diaries By Yasmeeen Maxamuud
Nomad House publishers, 2009

Nomad Diaries tells the fictitious story of Nadifa and her family while they lived in Mogadishu and later on in Minneapolis (where they immigrated as refugees). Through Nadifa and her family, the author exposes the many challenges refugees face once they arrived in an alien country. The book highlights the complications of emigration and tackles a range of other social and cultural issues such as polygamy, marital infidelity and abuse including rape.

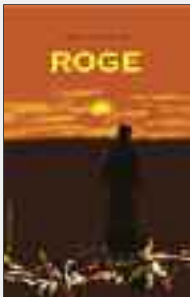
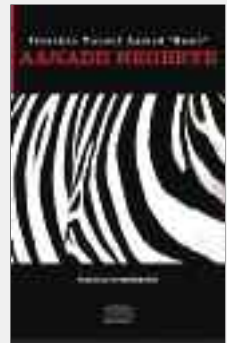


Although the characters of Nomad Diaries face numerous hardships, Nadifa and her granddaughter, Idil, manage to accomplish their goals, a testament to their resilience and a hopeful theme in the story.

Redsea-online.com Activities and Events to Promote Reading and Writing:

In 2003 with "A note on My Teachers Group: news report of an injustice" writing by Jama Musse the president of redsea-online and my co-coordinator; the idea of the book was to provide a vivid glimpse of the struggle for freedom and what freedom means to our young generation

In 2005 redsea-online published the Cirsankayeedh series of Somali novels. Ladh (2007), Aanadii Negeeye (2007) and Roge (2009) by two Somali writers opened a new window for our literature. The idea behind this series was to develop creative writings and culture of reading in Somali language within our youth



In 2007, redsea-online published Gobannimo bilaash maaha! ("Freedom is Not Free!"). The idea behind this publication was to explain to ordinary citizens the significance of Article 32 of the Somaliland constitution, which "guarantees the fundamental right of freedom of expression and makes unlawful all acts to subjugate the press and the media". The book became part of a wider campaign in conjunction with Somaliland human rights groups for freedom of expression.

In 2008 redsea-online.com founded Hargeisa International Book Fair collective book reading; meeting with national/international authors; yearly literary award for young writers. in 2008 the motto of HIBF was "Give me books, and not bombs" ; in 2009 in (Partnership with Ilays and Kayd)"The power of the written word" , 2010 again with Ilayd and Kayd; we wanted to give a further message, and our motto was "haddii aad i jeclaatay, hadiyad iiga dhig buug!" which roughly translates "if you love me, give me a book as a gift".

Mooge Festival and Hargeysa International Book Fair 2009



In Somaliland, Kayd is inspired by the notion of nationhood. Kayd hopes to encourage and promote democratic values and the role of citizens in nation-building. The organisation focuses on issues around equality, active citizenship, in particular the role of youth. The aim of Kayd in Somaliland is to encourage shared history, which could be used to create and strengthen the new national identity of its inhabitants, based on integration, the rule of

law, and tolerance. Through its projects, Kayd encourages people to explore and discuss their ideas about citizenship and personal responsibility because it believes that it is through dialogue (as opposed to lecturing) that we can be challenged and touched in our thinking and evolve. As in all its activities, Kayd seeks to promote an appreciation of the richness of Somali culture and heritage in Somaliland.

Kayd's first project in Somaliland was the 2009 Mooge Festival conducted in collaboration of with Ilays and Redsea-online.com. The Mooge festival is named after Mohamed Mooge, who was an influential Somali musician. The 2009 festival focused on the theme of censorship, where artists (from many different backgrounds) came together to express their views on the topic, exploring the challenges of censorship. The festival called intellectuals to re-engage with young people; urged artists, writers, journalists and the society as whole to unite; and inspired young people to think about the notion of citizenship. The festival sought to link the different regions of Somaliland together by inviting and facilitating a dialogue between them.





The 2009 Festival was a great success – a total of 12,000 people participated over its course through a series of performances, events and debates which included 18 separate events with 3 sessions each day. The Festival's departure point was that important changes are achievable, whether in beliefs, attitudes to social development, economic improvement and political awareness. The Festival invited over 60 different artists to share their expertise in using their art to examine and challenge what they perceive as censorship and its

effects – there were also 10 visiting artists including Hodaydi the king of Somali lute and Kuluc.

Kayd's second project in Somaliland was the Hargeysa International Book Fair, also conducted in collaboration of with Ilays and Redsea-online.com. The overall aim of the fair is to display books, both from local writers and abroad, in order to encourage members of the public to browse, read, engage with authors, and be inspired to buy books. The impact of the this projects was huge there is now several Readers Clubs established in urban areas (Hargeysa, Boorame, Buro, Shiekh, Gabiley, Eerigaabo, Laas-anod and Barbara) which, we hope they will play a considerable role in promoting reading and writing in Somaliland. The secondary aim of the Fair is also to bring local writers, as well as those from the Somali inhabited regions and Diasporas to promote there work among Somaliland population and to present their recent work, to sign their books and talk to visitors.



A crucial part of the Book Fair is to announce winning stories from a short story competition that gives literary awards to young and / or emergent writers – the competition's aim is to stimulate creative writing amongst young people and those who wish to express themselves.

In projects surrounding the festival, Kayd's focus has been on youth: to provide young people with knowledge about their culture and new channels to explore it independently; to develop themselves in their way of thinking; to give them a chance

to make up their own minds about things. Hargeysa International Book Fair is not a stand alone project it is part of range of other activities that Kayd and redsea-online.com have collaborated on to promote a culture of reading in Somaliland society and to nurture the ethical foundation of society by exploring issues and themes such as correctness, freedom, tolerance, righteousness, equality, in the Somali context, while learning also from other cultures through reading and exploring literature. The 2009 Hargeysa International Book Fair attracted more than 12,000 people



3rd Hargeysa International Book Fair and 2nd Mooge Festival 2010



The Hargeysa International Book Fair and Mooge Festival again this year was co-organised with Ilays and Redsea-online.com and was supported by Local Somaliland NGO's, Universities and youth organisations. The Festival explored the theme of 'Citizenship' in its many facets. The theme was introduced by the "Somali Shakespeare", Mahamed Ibrahim Warsame Hadrawi and we presented, surveyed and

discussed through the Fair written literature dealing with the wider issues concerning citizenship. Over the course of the discussion, young people were encouraged to think about their ideas of citizenship on both artistic and personal levels. We had the input from many nationally and internationally celebrated artists, writers, poets and other thinkers. These included Nadifa Mohamed (author of Black Mamba Boy), Jama Musse Jama (from our partner organization redsea-online.com), Dr Saleban (Amoud University of Borama) Dr. Bulhan (President of the University of Hargeysa), Dr. Ahmed Hussein Isse (President of Abaarso College), Saiid Jama Hussein (Vice-Chair of Somali Pen), Dr. Adan Yusuf Abokor Shukri (Progressio), Dr Fadal (Somaliland Independent Scholar Group), and Abdullahi Xaaji (Producer of Djibouti National TV) among others.



In particular, this year the Hargeysa International Book Fair and Mooge festival have fostered great momentum in the revival of Somali culture, and in fact, they have become the

main cultural activities in Somaliland. Participation in these events was mainly from the youth population, and exceeded our expectations. The cultural productions poetry, lyrics, theatre and other art forms were beyond imagination

Hargeysa International Book Fair and Mooge festival

By Nadifa Mohamed

I had not felt any trepidation at returning to Somaliland for the 3rd Hargeysa International Book fair and Second Mooge Festival until I had crossed the tarmac of Djibouti airport and had my first sight of the aircraft transporting me there.

It was a 1950's Topolov with scorched, scrap metal on its wings and four forlorn propellers. The interior was even less heartening: beside the exit were faded Cyrillic instructions on a dusty panel of switches as large as those on a space station, a mish-mash of multicoloured seats, one half of a seatbelt, a comically tiny ledge for storage.



The Russian pilot climbed into the plane on a ladder that he hauled up behind him, propping it against the toilet before closing the exit and barricading it with suitcases and pushchairs.

The portly Djiboutian air steward offered a quick prayer rather than pretend there were any lifejackets, oxygen masks, inflatable slides to complicate our voyage, this plain would either land fortuitously in Hargeisa or it would take us deep into the black of the hereafter. A passenger across the aisle called home to say a quick goodbye as we taxied out of the steamy heat of Djibouti. Babies cried, old women moaned, I fanned myself frantically and imagined the pilot twisting levers and reaching with his short legs for the exact place that kick-started this banger.

Somehow the rattling, geriatric plane hopped into the blue sky, the air vents hissing and spitting cool oxygen into our faces as we rose above the rocky, ochre desert. These one-prayer-minimum flights connect an African Shangri-la, a country dreamed into life, to the real world beyond the clouds. The plane felt as if it were only held up and driven on by the concerted will of the passengers.

After the collapse of Air Somalia, a fleet of private, locally-owned carriers have emerged, defined by a particularly Somali kind of chutzpah; give us your weary and fatigued planes they say and we will make some kind of profit out of them.

Every summer thousands travel on these planes to Hargeisa, Mogadishu, Berbera bringing books, medical equipment and their own homesick souls.

This was my third trip to Hargeisa in six years but for the first time I felt at home driving out of the airport and into the ever-growing city, I stretched my feet and drank in the cold, drizzly breeze, relieved to have left behind the materialistic hell of Dubai and the sad poverty of Djibouti. Although, Hargeisa is undoubtedly poor, I think it is also true to say that it is a city made by the poor for the poor; they build their homes and businesses where they please and make the 4x4's manoeuvre around them and their goats. There is an orderly chaos to Hargeisa that I love, a carnival atmosphere so different to the rigid functionality of London: to the left a goat clambering up a streetlight to reach the top leaves of a fire-blossomed tree, to the right a naked man chewing qat by the side of the street, up ahead a herd of cows sauntering across the road.



The morning of my talk, the first of the festival programme, was one of dark clouds, thunder, lightening and cascading rain. We milled around the Mansoor hotel around pots of Somali tea. 'Somalis do not like rain' I was told 'they are frightened and will stay inside until it's stopped.' I expected a small crowd when it was finally safe enough to get on the road, perhaps my uncle, a few cousins and the literary hardcore of Somaliland. At Guriga Shaagalaha, the colonial-era meeting house hosting the festival, a crowd of maybe two thousand waited, braving the wild weather that had collapsed the marquee roof. To my complete surprise the majority of festival attendees were teenagers and young adults, some of whom pulled out creased poems from their jean pockets and proffered them to me for my professional opinion.



I met writers from Mogadishu who somehow manage to not only write but also publish their work despite the gunfire and mortars. 'When one neighbourhood gets too noisy, I just move on to the next one' Abdi said, as I held a copy of his love story. Reading groups from Burao, painters from Hargeisa, playwrights from Djibouti- the book festival was an opportunity for creative-minded people from the area to exchange ideas, encourage each other and enjoy the work that has been produced

from our communal experience. It was an incredible privilege to attend the book festival especially during the post-election euphoria in July and I want to extend my immense gratitude to Ayan Mahamoud, Jama Musse Jama and Daniel De Simone for organising such a celebration of life and human creativity.

Nadifa Mohamed born in Hargeisa in 1981, she moved to London In 1986 where she is also educated. Nadifa went to Oxford to study History and Politics and she finally returned to Hargeisa, now in the new Republic of Somaliland, in 2008. This article is her experience in 2010, when she took part in Hargeysa international Book Fair to present her Novel "Black Mamba Boy" (published by Harper Collins) to the young Somaliland readers. Nadifa lives in London and is currently working on her second novel.



Faysal Aw-Cabdi Canblaasha

Dhamays, 18/09/2009

Dhawaaq gabay cabdoow waayadaa waanigii dhigay e
Ma dhaqaajin maansooyin kii dhumucda waynaaye
In kastoon dhab uga aamusoon daayay dhihiddeeda
Wax uun dhiiga kiciyaa jiroo dhibay naftaydiiye
Bal aan kuu dhambalo waayadaa waad dhursugayseene.

Dhadiggaba dhamaantii haddaan dheehday badankooda
Haddii aan dhex maray suuqyadoon dumarka
dhuudhaafay

Kolkii aan dhankaas iyo dhankaas xaafadaha dhaafay
Waxaan dhugasho eegaba markaan dhiirri ugu meeray
Anigoo ka soo dhoofa'yoona helin mid dhay'daasa
Ayuun bay dharaar soo mudh tidhi dhoolla qurux lay e.

Dherer keedu waa meel dhexaad dhumucna buuxdaaye
Dhaban keedu waa curub Intuu dhiibsan yahay nuurka
Dhaqaaq socodka miisanka wacan dheeli laga waayay
Dharka xidhad hubqaadkay haween quruxda dhaafsiisay
Waa dhal awliyaad odhanaysaa dhaabadday tahay.

Cid dhibtiyo cid dhiiftiyo ma arag cadaw dhirbaaxdiiye
Cid dhiidiyo cid dhalan dhoolisiyo Dhoohne laga raw ye
Dhaka faar cid gaadhsiisa iyo nacab umay dhixine
Wali waa dhalaan oo goshii hooydaw dhabahe
Dhulkii ay ku dhalatay xarago laafya dhufataaye
Dhigashada tacliintay duruus buug ku dhurataaye
Faral kuna ma dhaafiyo sujuud eebbe loo dhigay e
Dhawsanaata edebteeda wacan waan la dhaygagay e
Mid u dhigan ta lama uumin oo dhaar anaa maray e.

Haddaan dhinaca sharafteeda wacan dhagaha kuu miiso
Hibo waa dhamayseey Hablaha taan ka dharwataba e
Hooyo fiiro dheer baa dhashoo dhawrtay magaceede
Dhiirane na waa abbaheed lama dhaqaajaane
Reer dhamays ah bay leedahoo toonsan dhinaceede
Waa miduu ilaahay dhidhilay dheeho qurux leeye
Waa middaa xishoodkii dhammaa laabta loo dhigay e
Waa mid'aan irdaha dhaafin oo suuqa dhalah yeyne.



Reer dhaqasho way leedihiyo guri dhiskiisiye
Dhabeel weeye gaariya yartani mid aan la dhaafaynne

Siday dhamastu geedaha ku tay dumar wax dheertay e
Waa qof lagu dhintaa loo dhintaa lala dhameeyaaye
Dhimashada horteed waa inaan yarad ka dhiibaaye.

Nimuu caashaq dhuuxiisa galay waw dhutinyaaye
Waa u dhiig yaraan ruux jacayl dhibay naftiisiye
Dhaqaaq joogsi baan aawadeed Dhagaxa jiidhaaye
Ka dhuyaalay soortii darteed dhuuni iyo oone
Nimuu dhimirku noolyaan ahoo dhaawac wayn qaba e
Dhididkaan tiraa goor dadkaba dhaxani haysaaye
Dhalcadaan intaa duurayaa Duhur dharaareed e
Nin kii hadal mar dhaafsaday warkani wuu u dhacaya.

Inta anan dhamayseey aroos dhiibsan kugu hoynin
Inta aan caways loo dhan yahay dhaanto la ciyaarin
Dhugta sacabka dheel iyo mashxarad laga dhawaaqsiinin
Dhalaankeena oo koray durduro dhababa caynaynin
Allaaw aan god lay dhigin xabaal dhinaca lay jifin



Other planned events this year

As part of promotion of developments of the Diaspora we will conclude our activities in the Netherlands with a one-day workshop. The event is not only summing up our activities; we want to use this as an opportunity for diasporans in the Netherlands to connect with their roots – for the event to be a bridge for exploring and understanding their culture and to celebrate the developments in their homeland. We would like to use three media to do this: discussions with writers, a photo gallery and film screening of two documentaries.

Celebrating Visiting Writers

To kick off the event, we would like to invite two authors whose work was launched at and inspired many people at this year's book fair: Ahmed Ibrahim Awale and Nadifa Mohamed. Nadifa is from the UK, and her book *Black Mamba Boy* has just been translated from English into Dutch. Ahmed's debut book, *Qaylo-dhaan Deegaan/Environment Crises*, is a collection of short essays in Somali and English, which focus on the Somali environment. Both authors will have presented at the London Somali Week Festival in October and will enjoy the opportunity to present their work again, and enter into discussions with audiences in the Netherlands. During this event we will also showcase books on the theme of citizenship such as *Hiil (In defence of 'Hayb-sooco')* by Hassan Abdi, and *Adduun iyo Taladii* by Rashid Sheikh Abdillahi (see books)

Showcasing Pictures

We also want to showcase pictures from Somaliland. In fact, we think this is the best way to give feedback. Our vision is to have three parts to the photography exhibition. The exhibition will include pictures taken by two professional photographers, Petrick Wiggers and Robert Maletta.



Petrick's work on Somaliland spans the last 20 years, and shows people how far we come and what types of development have taken place. Robert, who works with Novib in Nairobi, has also been working in the region for the last number of years and has a series of beautiful shots. In addition to these two artists, the project will present photos documenting the Somaliland election process, an inspiration for the whole Africa continent we are keen to share with our European audience. These chronicle the preparation for the election, the peaceful atmosphere in which it happened, the election campaigning and the actual Election Day, 26th June 2010. Photos include those of university students leaving for different parts of the country as local election observers and as members of national election commission.

Screening Documentary Films

We will be screenings of two documentaries film: Somaliland youth and citizenship and one on the Book Fair and Mooge Festival. The first film captures the aspirations of young people for nationhood and their poetry recitals on this topic. The second offers a great reflection on festival and Book Fair's activities. We want to connect the participants in this event with the people and celebrations in Hargeysa.

Maanso: Dhulku wuxuu lahaan jirey

Saado Cismaan Food, 6/6/2010

Dhalinyarada maantee
Bogga dhexe samaystee
Isu dhiibaysaay maqal
Dhulkii hooyo joogoo
Dharaartii timaaddaba
Cid dhaqaaqda waayoo
Dhiilaysan baan ahay

Afartaa dha'dii gabay
Warka aan ku dhaadhaco
Idinkuna dhagaystoo

Dhudi bari samaadkii
Anigoo dhamayn karin
Dhawr tuduc ka sheegee
Waqal dhibicda saydhiyo
Saqda dhexe gudgude da"aa
Is dhex gala dhammaantood
Dixi dhuub samaysaa
Ku dhex yaal bannaanda

Xoolii la dhaqan jiray
Ma dhaqanyadii hore
Dhayda iyo xoorkiyo
Dhitada iyo ciirtii
Sixin laga dhex saariyo
Dhabayaco gadhoodhaan

Marna gool la dhacartoo
Dheegatada baruurtii
Kurskana dhextaal kii
Darabiyo mud laga dhigo
Laga dhuro tanaag badan
Saanta ay dhaqaaqdaa
Lagu dhaafo jiilaal
Dhex hadaafa adhigoo
Intoo dhariga lagu rido
La dhirqado baruurtaa

Dhulka kala fog joogtee
Dhanbaallada waddaniga ah
Waxaan ahay dhiggiinoo
Dhibta aad maqalaysaan
Dhaayahiisa saaroo
Kaligii ka dhididoo

Ma ku dhigay xarfaha culus
Aan dhex galo badwayntee
Dhegaha iyo indhaa fura

Dhulku wuxu lahaan jiray
Sawir aan ka dhiibtoo
Dhool bari ka muuqdiyo
Mayay soo dhawaadiyo
Dhiro kala sarreeyo
Dhan ka kale dareemiyo
Dheega isa saareen

Xilligaa waxii dhalay
Intoo dhiilka loo culo
Dhanaankiyo karuurkii
Burcad kala dhalaaloo
Labeen dumar ku dhashtaan
Xoolaha ka dhami jiray

Dhan kastaba ka naaxoo
Feedh la mood samaysoo
Ku dhex jira amaankii
Dhuuxa iyo heenkana
Ama dibi dhigiisoo
Dharaaraha abaartiyo
Ahmin dhawr gu soo jiray
Dhegta dhiiga loo daro
Xeedho wayn la soo dhigo

Dherigii runta ahaa
Dhaxalkii adawgeen
Miyigii inaga dhimay

Hiddo dhaxal wareegiyo
Dhalin yaradii loo xaday
Casharada dhaliishaa
Dib u dhigay dadkeenoo
Ka dheeraada loo yidhi

Dhaldhalaalka yurubiyo
Dhamaantoodba loo dhigay
Haylo wada dhamaadiyo
Waxa aan dhafoorkiyo
Badeedoow la dhaygagay
Dhalaanimo dhir fuulkii
Waalidkeen noo dhigay
Midabkaygu waa dhuxul
Adhi baan dhex joogaa

Bal dhadhamiya maansada
Cilmigaynu dhiganiyo
Dhaxalkeed ma dhimashiyo
Isku wada dhaqaaqee

Magaalada dhankeedii
Dhulku wuu dhismi lahaa
Wax la dhaafa yaa jira

Qom kastaa dhankiisuu
Dheeraad ku doonee
Dhul shisheeye mooyee
Xoolo uu ku dhaqan karo
Casriguna ka dhaqan galay
Qalbigooda kuma dhacin

Noloshii dhabta ahayd
Ka dhaqaaqnay maalkii

Sida dhaqankii loo galay
Loogu dhigo xumaantiyo
Badawnimo la dhaafoo
Waa cudur dhamaadee

Dhaqan reer galbeedbaa
Dhajis dhinacyo furan
Arad looga dhigay qurux
Dhabanada la haystaa
Dhool maqal jirkeeni
Heestii dhaadashada hayd
Alla dheeriyaayoo
Geel aan dhaqniyo
Aawey dhaadashadii guud?

Dhab u raaca hadalka
Il baxnimadii dhoofkii
Dad la yidhi is dhalan roga
Kiimikada ku dhaashtaan

Dhego looma sii laha
Hadii loo dhaqaaqee

Dhidibada u aasoo
Iyaguna dhamaantood
Inuu koodu dharag yahay
Cilmigana ku dhigan karo
Wax kastaa dhex yaalaan

Dal dadkii u dhididoo
Dhalin yariyo waayeel
Nolol kala dhantaalayd
Qarniyaal ku dhaafeen
Baraf laga dhalaashiyo
Dhirtoo lagu dhex beeriyo
Fooqyo aad u dheeriyo
Laamayada is dhimac yaal
Umaduhu dhamaysteen
Cirka kaga ma soo dhacin
Dhidid iyo rafaadiyo
Hawl dhabarku daaliyo
Danta guud u dhaartiyo
Fadhi dharag ku may helin

Heestu way ila dhacantee
Qof dulkiisii nabadyoo
Dhakhso ugu go, ayoo
Badu dhereran tahayo
Dharagaa qof haystoo
Inagoo is dhago marin
U dhaqaaqa tacaboo
Dhalnteedka beenta ah

Tacab dheer galeenoo
Dhexda ay u xidhan yiin
Isu dheeli tirideed
U dhinteed dad qiimo leh
Dhamac laga qabooshiyo
Doog lagu dhamays tiray
Suuqyo wada dhalaaliyo
Waxan aad la dhacaysaan
Dhibic roob sideedii
Dhulka subax kamay helin
Dhuuni loo ilawiyo
Dadka oo dhamaantood
Dhimashay ku gaadheen

Hadalkii waxaan dhigay
Dhuuniguu ku beertaa
Dhaxan iyo qabaw jirin
Dhooban yahay kaluunkii
Ka dhex baxay ma fiicnee
Dhalin yaroooy dhamaantiin
Ha la dhaafo dhoofiyo





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