

The Unspeakable Atrocities in the Lower Shabelle: Untold Stories

The information contained in this article is a collection of facts that is obtained by the author through a research. The sources of the information are from individuals who visited the area, news media and from victim's relatives. The reliability of the information in the article is verified and confirmed prior to the release in the media.

By Omar H. Sheegow

I have recently written an article entitled the [VAMPIRE OF BARAWE](#) detailing the continuous harassment of the Somalis in general and in particular the humanitarian crisis; loss of life and the killing of civilians in Barawe district. I am extremely encouraged by the amount of support I received from a cross Somali clan groups, who supported me and persuaded me to continue exposing the injustice in Somalia .



Mr. Jorge Mera wrote, “ **Disclosure of the truth is part of ensuring that justice will be done, but it does not replace justice**”. As the series of the untold stories continues; the focus remains on unleashing painful realities about Somalia that never gets into the headlines. The most afflicted regions of the country are the Lower Shabelle and Jubba with gangs teaming up to keep the natives of these regions under continuous suppression.

One of the merciless war booty mafia bosses is Mr. Yusuf Mohamed Siyad (**Indha cadde**) . Mr. Yusuf M. Siyaad (Indha Adde) who calls himself the Governor or the Ultimate Sultan of Lower Shabelle is a man who benefited from the lawlessness of the country. His militias employing heavy technicals are engaged in clan-targeted killings of unarmed civilians, killings of defenseless Somalis,



kidnapping and systemic campaigns of rape and terror. Mr. Indha Cadde has served as the leader of the Islamic court in Merka; for many years he used Islam to subdue the poor Somalis in the Lower Shabelle . Later when the Transitional National Government (TNG) was formed in the year 2000, he and his militia was called to join the TNG army where he was given an opportunity to build up his militia with the money donated to the poor Somalis in the name of the Somali Nation.

In recent days, 13 Human Right Groups in Somalia have accused him of being massively engaged in confiscation of family owned farms and growing narcotic drugs along with forcing the farmers to work as slaves on the field. Not long ago he ordered the closure of all stores and business centers in Bulo Marerta and told the locals that he would only allow them to continue their business if they abide to his newly adapted taxing system for his self-proclaimed administration. He also jailed several local elders in Bulo Marerta after complaining against the confiscation order issued to their farms.

His militia establishes and reins uncountable checkpoints. They force the bus and truck owners to pay money at each checkpoint, causing daily price increases of the public transportation and therefore, making traveling between cities absurd.

Some analysts believe that the region is doomed to perpetual poverty and economic slavery because of Mr. Indha Cadde's heinous activity. The daily life and destiny of the Somalis in the south have become telling stories of bloody and tear-jerking events.



The statistics bear grim witness to the plight of the Somali children in the south. The mortality rate of the children under five years is more than 40%, higher than any other African nation. The number of native children who have access to education is less than 0.001%. Among the Somali children, the children in the Lower Shabelle have the worst life chances in the world. They usually end up of being orphans at very early age of their life because of the economical genocide

facing the region as well as the killings that is occurring continuously. Even those with parents do live under extreme poverty due to lack of jobs and with basically no sources of income.

After losing their farms, their financial belongings & their freedom, the natives of the Lower Shabelle remain the most brutally abused human being on earth. Many of the natives of the Lower Shabelle are transformed to beggars in the streets of Mogadishu . Because of the chronic hunger affecting the region, Lower Shabelle has the most tuberculosis cases in the nation. This is a generational genocide that will have a catastrophic impact to the human race.

There are stories where families are found to have nothing to wear and share an outfit during the nighttime; while the rest of the family stays naked in the house during the daytime, the father uses the outfit for search of food for the family. There are reports where women and children are forced to collect and carry grasses or woods on their backs/heads for a distance of more than 5 kilometers.

Local fishermen have complained of not being allowed to fish without prior consent of his militia and in cases where permission is granted they have to wait until his militia fishing boats come to the shore. Additionally, the local fishermen could only sell fish to his preferred and well-connected business individuals on prices they had established.

To get to the nitty-gritty of such unspeakable atrocities requires understanding of Somali tribal culture, which advocates collective rather than individual guilt. Mobsters like Mr. Siyad (Indha Cadde) hide themselves into a clan umbrella and habitually seek support from the clan by claiming to be doing the right thing.

Mr. Indha Cadde is in complete denial for any wrong doing because he believes that slavery, robbery, confiscation of land and property has been normally practiced in the region during the military regime and when he is confronted to his despicable acts, he always points out the number of plantations illegally appropriated by the supporters and former members of the military regime. At one point during an interview that he conceded to a Mogadishu reporter, he characterized the accusations against him as a campaign smear machine organized by individuals who are seeking attributions from foreign countries. He and his gangs claim to have liberated the region from what is called Haraagi or remnants of the Barre regime and therefore, it gives him the legitimate right to rule and impose whatever is necessary to keep his power. Mr. Indha Cadde is stubbornly convinced that the natives of the region do not have any right to blame his administration since they never complained and fought against the fascist military regime. In addition, he argues that the elders of the region elected him, but the biggest question is: who are these elders and do they have the ability to oppose the ruthless administration of Mr. Indha Cadde?

Conceding total impunity through a general amnesty would not bring justice in Somalia . In practice, it would open the door to new violations by the same perpetrators, like Mr. Yusuf M. Siyad (Indha Cadde), who would continue to silence his victims, and the process would encourage other war criminals to hope to go unpunished.

The TNG claims to be the legitimate government in the country, with such a position comes the responsibility to help shine the light of justice on those who have denied to the others their most basic human right. However, the heartbreaking truth is that TNG have helped strengthen Mr. Yusuf M. Siyad (Indha Cadde) to broaden his power.

The future is gloomy and reviving the Somali nation will take generations to come as long as the international community is not holding accountable the criminals for their despicable acts. Any one who is following the Somali politics will admit that the country is turned into a private entrepreneurship with warlords, crooked politicians and their henchmen wiping out every little hope for peace and stability to be accomplished. The political domain in most of the unstable African nations remains in the hands of ruthless criminals forcing the UN and the international community to negotiate and abide to their rules for peace and stability to be achieved. At this time in the Somali history the country needs a hero that could unite and build the society based on respect and justice. The

warlords and the crooked Somali politicians are nothing but bloodsuckers that must be brought to the international criminal court of justice.

Stay tuned as the untold stories continue. The next article will unleash another crooked veteran warlord. Don't miss it; we have a lot to reveal.

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