

Ref: SHHRF 0035/2005
Friday, 27 May 2005
Rt Hon Tony Blair MP, Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1A 2AA

Re: Our concern with treating a warlord in Britain

Dear Prime Minister

Sultan Hurre Human Rights Focus is concerned with the medical treatment which Britain has been giving to warlord Col. Abdullahi Yusuf. From time to time, warlord Col. Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed comes to London for medical check as he had a liver transplant at Cromwell hospital in 1996. It is deplorable men like Abdullahi Yusuf to get treatment in Britain.

In October 2004, Col. Abdullahi Yusuf has been selected as interim Somali president following two years of show off in an IGAD sponsored conference. Currently Somalia is in a hopeless situation given the colonel human rights records and his loyalty to Ethiopia. Col. Abdullahi Yusuf has a long and worrying past in Somalia known for his disrespect to democracy and human dignity.

Col. Abdullahi Yusuf was responsible for curbing the nascent grassroots-based democratic institutions, which flourished in Puntland State of Somalia following the collapse of the Somali state in the early 1991.

We believe that human rights abuses were one of the main reasons for the collapse of the former Somali Democratic Republic. Similarly, taking no account on human rights issues and humanitarian law in the Somali peace negotiations are some of the main reasons for the failures of Somali peace conferences including the 2004 IGAD sponsored conference, which resulted giving Somalia a warlord government.

Col Abdullahi Yusuf has blood in his hand as he killed many prominent and traditional Somali leaders. Among the prominent figures he killed include Sultan Ahmed Hurre, Ikar Haji Mohamed, Abdirahman Aideed and Farah Dheere

It is regrettable a man such Col Abdullahi Yusuf to get medication in Britain as he will go back to kill and displace many more. A warlord should be send to prison and not to hospital.

Britain should not be a heaven where warlords get treatment.

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