

Sharif's ambivalent state of mind: - Flee or not to flee is the question?

By Abdikarim Haji Abdi Buh

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“When I visited Ahmed recently, I saw what a tremendous effort his government is making. Officials are organizing an effective administration that is working for the people. But how can they defend against determined suicide bombers such as those who killed the extremely able internal security minister and dozens of innocent civilians in May? Their opponents keep changing their "justifications" for the continued violence. For example, one group had maintained that its sole objective was to force Ethiopian troops out of Somalia. Those troops left early this year, yet these Somalis are still killing their own people, creating a renewed cycle of suffering, displacement and violence.” Excerpts from World's duty to Somalia an article posted yesterday by Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah the out of touch UN envoy to Somalia.

AMISON contingent's mandate as seen today in its true colours is nothing more than to serve as body guards for the TFG and daily cold blooded bombardment of Mogadishu Bakaare Market-the nerve centre of the city's commerce. The daily indiscriminate butchery of the innocent civilians by the rockets unleashed from the presidential residence(Shar Sharif,s den) is a crime against humanity that AMISON and their running dogs(TFG) will be held responsible and will be required to answer to Human rights commission when the time is right – justice delayed is justice denied. Highly placed sources, which I prefer to leave anonymous at this juncture, in the TFG government of Shar(evil)

Sharif confirmed that the contingent's officers turned down the request to stop or at least to scale down the bombardments on the heavily populated civilian targets on the grounds that they are not accountable to the TFG but to their Head Quarter in Addis which as far as they are concerned clearly has no misgiving to this date what so ever about their rules of engagement – self defence according to the books of Mr. Ahmedou Ould-Abdalla, UN Envoy to Somalia and Mr. Nicholas Bwakira, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission . This irrational and compulsive obsession of a daily doze of bombardments ear marked only for the densely populated civilian areas is leaving a bitter after taste in the minds of the already confused people of Mogadishu and the few remnants of the Islamists with in Shar – Sharif's nominal government. The leaking of AMISOM's 11 July operations in the North of the city to the opposition Islamists which dented heavily the trust of the foreign mercenaries was a reaction against their barbarism – AMISOM suffered the



*Africa Union peacekeepers man
entrance to the presidential palace in
the embattled Somalia capital
Mogadishu, 23 Feb 2009*

death of three soldiers and many injuries. If AMISON fights along side the TFG, as the Prime Minister always reiterates, for sure such an action will be most welcome by the opposition - they will feast on them easily.

The groundwork of the coup de'tat is set – The mumbling puppet president is about to be ousted from within

Regarding Ethiopian Forces in Somalia

Now days every little incident is recorded by one or the other and as such even the most mundane activity escape not the glaring eyes of the net empowered little people which the traditional media consigned earlier to the bottom of the scrap heap. The return of Ethiopian troops to their borders this noon after being in Kalabaydh in Hiiraan for two months was made known first to the world by a local camel herder equipped with mobile phone who can't even write a text message. His comments were accurately up to the point – the Ethiopian army has just left, took with them dozens of young men as prisoners and the people are rejoicing as they continuously used to harass and disrupt the free fellow of passengers and trade between the central and Southern Regions. The other contingent based in Yeed - Bakool in the South left in the night and took with them dozens of young men as prisoners too which signifies a weird and wonderful but prearranged evacuation plan which has the hall marks of policy change adopted by the top brass of the minority Tigreyan junta.

Ethiopian army again booted out of Somalia in three fronted defeat which is music to the ears of the Somalis and heart burn to Shar Sharif's TFG. First and foremost the minority junta ultimately accepted that their man, the late TFG security minister, who was killed along with his commanders and advisors at his command centre – Hotel- Madina in Baledweyn by the



insurgents can't be replaced in the near future , their second tragedy is the realization that Ahlu – Suna wal Jamaca , based in the central regions, discarded the Ethiopian employed officers from their ranks; The regional administration president of Galmudug Mr. Ali Mohamed Warsame has welcomed the decision of the Ahlu Sunna waljma'a organization for taking over the management of southern Galka'ayo town in central Somalia, and the third bungle is the suspicion their short presence stirred among the Islamic courts that support the TFGT in Hiiraan which at some point resulted a lot of crossing the floor to the opposition Islamists side – Baldewyne the provincial capital of Hiiran is home equally to the supporters of both camps and this is the reason behind today's battle that shook the city.

Regarding the Probable Switch of Allegiances by the Top TFG Politicians

Ayre, was escorted back to his office by forces loyal to Indha Cade the de facto defence minister and Goobaale the chief of staff who are at the top of what is left of Shar – Sharif’s defence apparatus – settling disputes in this clear tribal manner shows who really runs the three mile area controlled by the puppet TFG.



The Chief of TFG Police Gen. Qaybdiid, infamous warlord, not the health Minister dismissed the deputy of Madina Hospital, Dr. Dahir Mohamed Mohamoud, when around three hundred patients are waiting for urgent medical attention. The illegal dismissal of the Doctor is about to spark a tribal war between the old enemies Mr. Qaybdiid and Indhacade whose bad feeling predates the TFG . The Doctor who hails from Indhacade’s clan, Ayre, was escorted back to

Indha Cade the de facto defence minister and Goobaale the chief of staff who are at the top of what is left of Shar – Sharif’s defence apparatus – settling disputes in this clear tribal manner shows who really runs the three mile area controlled by the puppet TFG. This foolish intervention from the chief of TFG Police attracted the wrath of the Ayre in general and in particular the



Planning and international cooperation Minister Mr. Abdirahman Abdishakur Warsame , Sh. Yusuf Indhacade and the TFG chief of staff Mr. Mohamed Roble Jima’ale (Goobaale) who went a step further by publicly declaring that he won’t let the chief of the police walk away free with out an appropriate punishment. These men have no much choice as they are bound together by fate and their past misdeeds to live together under the tent of the TFG or else face to be hanged from the lampposts by the opposition Islamists – they are a power to be reckoned as they are the products of years of tribal wars and they proved to thrive in mayhem so it is strong possibility, to safe their skin, that they may chose to change coats to oust out the mumbling president that is loosing local and international support by the hour.

What is left of the TFG in Mogadishu is some what skeleton consisting of tribal warlords who hail from Abgal tribe, less the prominent sub clans who are with the opposition of which the financier Sheikh Abukar Omer Adani is at the helm, and few opportunists such as the despicable Warlord Yusuf Indhacade who is promoted, without even an official circular, to defence minister– in an hour of desperation even the left over can’t be spared. The most worrisome in Shar Sharif’s empty head is the flood of defections after he failed to contain the insurgents on the one hand or to win the hearts of Mogadishu people on the other hand; to his dismay the departure of Mr. Hassan Arrale , who hails from the same sub-clan, who was in charge of security of the presidential palace – the main gatekeeper- is the latest heavy weight

casualty he has to live with and thus this only leaves Indha Cade to desperately keep the fighting in the north of the city. Aden Madoobe, speaker of the parliament, is heard many times complaining about the consistent harassments meted against him when ever he is entering the presidential palace which is often guarded by the Islamists from the courts union – they always say the Murtaf is coming which actually shows where their loyalty lies.

Very strong and credible accusation is levelled against one of the senior cabinet ministers of the TFG whose forces are said to have initiated the abduction and latter the trading of the two French military combatant officers. The two French Military Officers who were whisked out of the Saxafi Hotel by the government forces are waiting to appear before Sharia court run by Al-Shabab and the out come will most probably be harsher then any body could envisage – Ransom money might be a strong possibility instead of blood or amputation because during Badar war the captives from the Qureysh were set free after the companions collected ransom from the non - believers. The same minister (Minister of Interior) was earlier accused of funnelling armies and ammunitions to the insurgents when part of the shipment (two out of six trucks) were intercepted in Hamar Weyne District in Mogadishu a fortnight ago. This fiasco and many other malpractices of the cabinet ministers prompted the Shar – Sharif and his domesticated Prime Minister to look in to the possibility of reshuffling lest it props up the credibility of the TFG government if any is left – the shar Sharif is too weak to antagonise or dress down any of the powerful ministers - sense less exercise can't resuscitate a long dead corpse.

Regarding the Parliament – Legislative Branch

The latest count puts that 288 of the parliamentarians are in abroad as the AMISON troops can not provide protection outside their garrisons that can accommodate only limited members. They are scattered all over the world – majority are in neighbours Kenya and Djibouti, European nations such as Sweden, Britain, the Netherlands and Norway, and **the** United States. "I cannot be a member of a government that cannot protect me," Abdalla Haji Ali, an MP who left for Kenya last week, told Reuters but this comment was not taken lightly by the parliamentary speaker Mr. Aden Madoobe and the finance minister Shar – Sharif second. Parliament speaker Sheikh Aden Mohamed Madobe has urged the MPs to return, and Somalia's Finance Ministry has blocked the salaries of 144 legislators abroad, officials said. Sheikh Ahmed Moalin who is among the few legislators still in Mogadishu aired his grievances to Reuters reporter "As legislators, we have responsibility and every one of us should perform his duty in Mogadishu," he also insisted that who ever decides to run away have to resign before he flees if he can't work in this environment– my sympathy goes with Mr. Moalin who according to my understanding needs to seek mental health treatment.

This week's attempt to hold parliamentary session is the 12th attempted failure due to security issues and the tiny worrying sum number of available parliamentarians. The flight of the TFG's legislators leaves the TFG's parliament without a quorum to meet. Due to the facts on the ground the possibility of holding one is fading away by the hour but in retrospective the

TFG would not have survived to this date the in-flight of the bloated parliament and certainly the seceding of Somalia's continental shelf, out sourcing of government revenue and all the daily mishaps.

Regarding Arms and Ammunitions

The Spokesman of the US State Department said that Washington is sending arms after the demand of Somali authorities in order to help them to stop the attacks of the extremist forces who are willing to harm peace efforts and stability in Somalia.



The recent consignment of 40-ton pile of guns and ammunition from the United States not from Eretaria ended up at the weapons and ammunitions market faster than the expectation of the market merchants which angered them to a point they knock at the door of the Shar – Sharif's door. They complained about the flooding of their market which is distorting the demand and supply of the market and asked for compensation for the lost investments. The uniform was the only well come as it found a readily demand from the city's restaurant workers, wheel barrow market porters and also from the labourers in the building trade and etc. Disappointed arms dealers which are based near Black Sea restaurant- Cirka Toogte, are selling the M16 ,version known as Saar, at lost to get rid of it as fast as it pushed its way in to the market to avoid further price buckle.

The stock of arms and ammunitions in the market was predictable at best of times because there was only one source of supply – Ethiopian government. The market has to adjust itself in anticipation of further floods of arms from USA and hopefully from other European countries which will certainly drive the prices down unless new inter- tribal wars or inter-Islamists wars come to the rescue of the market. It is plausible possibility that the insiders of the market might work out to start low intensity wars between Mogadishu tribes to take the excess out of the market - the end justifies the means.

The TFG soldiers deposit their ammunition with the ladies that sell QAT in and around the vicinity of the old National Theatre to sell for them and that practices were going on for a long time. The TFG's militia are known to extort money out of the civil transport by manning an illegal check points, demand money to be handed in before allowing the WFP food donations to pass through, regular infighting, rape of civilians and looting of private property and etc. The TFG's response to this vulgarity was surprisingly barbaric to the core - to penalize further the innocent civilians by demolishing the entire make shift shops run by the QAT trader ladies.

Regarding Finance-Blank check

In the absence of functioning governmental departments, working legislative body and the judiciary to oversee the government wetted the craving of the two corrupt Shar Sharifs – the president and his finance minister Sharif Hassan Sh. Aden(xariif). The finance minister whose appetite for corruption and money laundering knows no limit is said to be acting like a frog in a summer ditch – never been better is the song of the day. The revenue from Mogadishu port, the outsourced revenue from Wilson Airport and most recently the international component - Price Water house project – are all accountable to the finance minister who himself is accountable to no one but to himself and his friend the Shar – Sharif – this is a rape of government treasury facilitated by the international community is akin to international mafia and I am in no doubt that some international civil servants down the line are getting their cut.



The meeting held by the MPs in Nairobi on July 9, 2009 in which they discussed in length about the security situation in Mogadishu and a way out of the morass.” This meeting gave the opportunity of hearing a short presentation made by an expert from the "Horn Economic and Social Policy Institute (HESPI)" which is an institution specialized in public finance management and accountancy and in this endeavour undertakes capacity building programmes by way of training for the financial institutions of the Horn of Africa and Eastern Africa countries including Somalia. The presentation by the expert focused on the negative consequences that can emerge from the recent agreement between the Ministry of Finance of the TFG and the "Price Waterhouse Coopers" firm. The expert (although he did not see the signed document) underlined that such financial management firms are mandated to conduct required assessment and evaluation exercises for the governments lacking capacities in terms of knowledge, skills and equipments. But public resources (donations or locally generated) of s sovereign country cannot be exclusively managed by a private entity. “

Regarding the International Community Irrelevant as Always

The envoy, Nicholas Bwakira, says the ambitious recruiting and training program for Somalia is a part of the pledge of assistance the United States, the European Union and other key donors made in April at a meeting in Brussels.

The African Union's special envoy to Somalia on behalf of the AU had confirmed during the reign of Mr. Abdillahi Yusuf and again repeated the same last week -that the AU has begun recruiting and training Somalis to be soldiers and police officers to help the country's embattled government counter an insurgency led by Islamists with ties to al-Qaida. He says the pan-African body envisions a Somali security force of about 16,000 members in a year's time.



Mr. Nicholas Bwakira,
*Special Representative of the
Chairperson of the African Union
Commission*

The AU claimed to have had trained military and police in excess of 35,000 just before January this year to prop up the weak TFG and today there is no trace of the said force. Can the AU tell us the difference between the trained ones which mysteriously faded away and this new patch of would be trainees? The bottom line is the AU is treating the debacle of Somalia as a cash cow for their ends. To Somalis the best the AU can do to help is to repatriate their AMISOM troops whose mandate falls neither in peace keeping nor in peace enforcement category but clearly to prolong the suffering of the Somalis due to their unconditional support to one side of the conflict.

Egypt offered to host a mediation talks to circumvent the spiralling fighting in Mogadishu but unfortunately the Arabs in general and Egypt in particular carry no weight in the eyes of the Somalis. This offer from Egypt despite its good intention will never see the light of the day because according to the perception of the Somalis even Ethiopia, arch enemy, is much preferred to the whole Arab league put together – a nonsense all talk and no action shop.

Somalia's case made a bad name for the U.N and A.U in terms of the operational responses of U.N relief agencies and conflict mediation efforts of U.N and A.U diplomats. The whole history of the U.N involvement of Somalia can be summed as nothing more than missed opportunities and strategic and operational blunders which is still unchecked to this day. The realities on the ground can only be addressed if the international community reinvents itself and comes up with rational and simple working ideas that the Somali input is involved from inception to finish. The modes - operands of Mr. Nicholas Bwakira of the AU and Mr. Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah of the UN is just pushing the country further in to a mayhem as they unashamedly refused to consider the Somali input time and again – the latest article of Mr. Ahmedou posted on WardheerNews.com shows how he is mentally bankrupt from new ideas and how detached he is from the reality of Somalia as there is nothing new in the article – just repeating his well rehearsed few irrelevant phrases copied and pasted from the internet.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

The Somali intelligentsia should free itself from the straight jacket thinking of tribalism and the text book formulas readily published on Somali web pages because the conventional development paradigms and conflict resolutions are not applicable to the Somali problem. Intelligence is nothing more than applying past knowledge in to a new situation – let us adapt our education to our peculiar circumstances and for God's sake let us show the international community that we know better than any body else as to what is going on in our homes only then the international community's investment will find the right course and make difference for the intended beneficiary groups.

We are conscious that the TFG is foreign political tool which is imposed on the Somalis time and again since the fall President Siyad's government and it proved that it can't flourish in the Somali soil any more than ice can stay intact in Mogadishu. The conditions on the ground are not improving and at the time of this writing Mogadishu is burning as usual and the

number of internally displaced people stand around 200,000 with no tangible assistance on hand but the only thing that changed for the worst is the attitude of the people who were campaigning day and night in the streets of the western capitals to highlight the plight of the civilians whose rights were trampled on by Mr. Abdilahi Yusuf's TFG. I find amusing that you are silent even when the target of the artillery from the presidential palace is not changed an inch from where they have been trained when Mr. Yusuf was at the helm – raining hell on the Bakara market and other residential areas. It is a duty on every Somali to work on furthering the agenda of the voiceless children, orphans and widows who are suffering from the consequences of a war they have nothing to do.

The opposition Islamists are rightly bent on taking out their ex - comrade in arms who blatantly betrayed them at the behest of the CIA and I do firmly believe that Shar - Sharif should know the basic laws of politics – political mistake committed can only be corrected by blood path. His past is haunting him but it is a high time to understand that he can't buy one more day by accusing his comrades as being terrorists – how come he is not one when he is fanning the fires of un-winnable war at colossal civilian cost. He can't repay the human and material catastrophe he enacted during his short term in the fictitious office but can mitigate by accepting defeat and leaving the scene for the Somalis to start the second round, of what ever, sooner then latter.

I sense the second round is inevitable and is round the corner but will start in earnest soon after Shar – Sharif is hanged or crosses the boarder to the safety of where his money is stashed. The Islamists will definitely fight among themselves as their creed differs greatly – Al-Shabab on one side of the scale and Hisbi – Islam on the other side. I foresee that their scuffle will not create civilian casualties of the proportion we have seen because foreign forces with heavy but blind guns will be denied the theatre of war by both and the discipline of their soldiers and fighters guarantees maximum safety and security to civilians unlike the current TFG bandits(mooryaan). As they stand to day the area under the control of the Mujahidiin in Mogadishu as well as in the rest of the country, the civilians can sleep in their homes without the need to close their doors – they delivered water tight law and order at avoidable price and as such they deserve to be praised and encouraged.

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