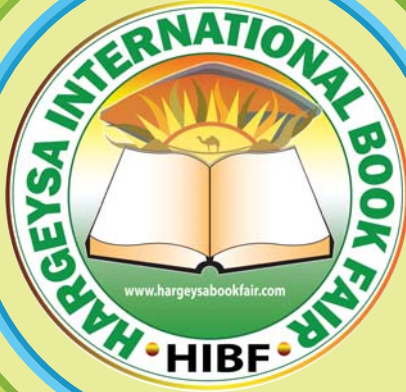


# PROGRAMME

Events of HIBF2013



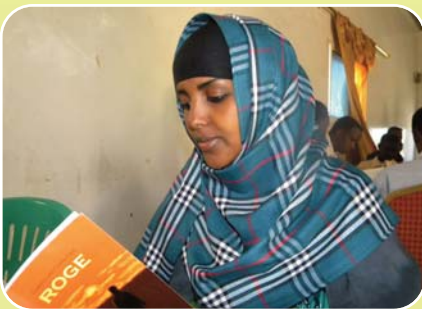
HARGEYSA  
16th - 21th  
August 2013

**Redsea Online Culture Foundation  
with Partners**

*Presents*

*Bandhigga Caalamiga ah ee Buugaagta Hargeysa*

**Hargeysa International Book Fair**



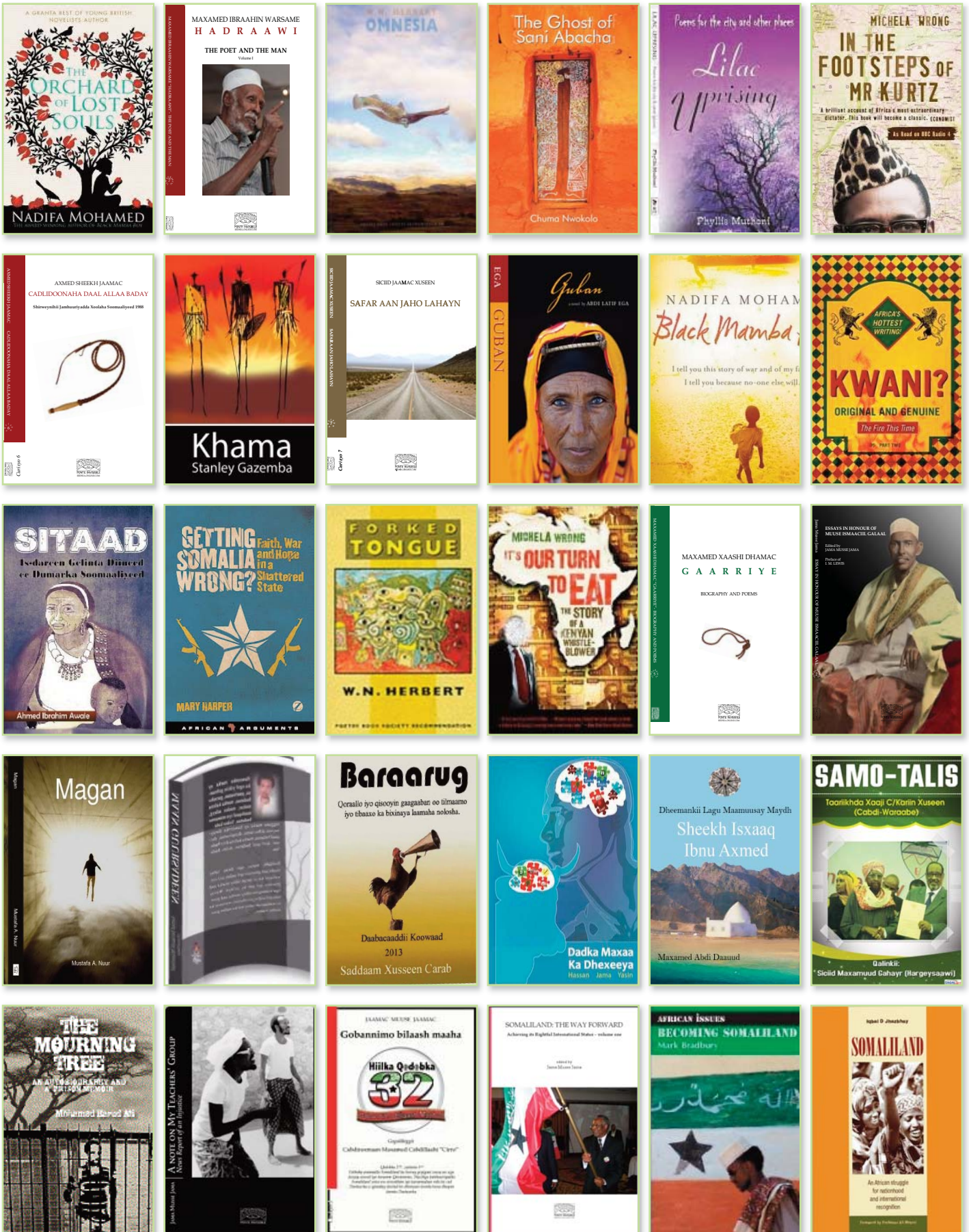
Follow us on twitter @HIBF and the hashtag #HIBF2013



[www.redsea-online.com/dhaxalreeb](http://www.redsea-online.com/dhaxalreeb)  
e: [dhaxalreeb@redsea-online.com](mailto:dhaxalreeb@redsea-online.com)



# Books @ Hargeysa International Book Fair 2013



and many more.....



# About us

Redsea-Online is a cultural foundation based in Italy and in Somaliland which promotes a culture of reading and creative writing in Somali society, with particular focus on youth. Their main target is to preserve the value of Somali traditional wisdom (literature, indigenous science, traditional games, language and all other forms of art and human expression) in the form of the written word.

Redsea-Online Cultural Foundation aims to assist the development and availability of literacy and IT in Somaliland as a fundamental objective. Redsea-Online strives to promote access to libraries among the civil societies and encourages the establishment of library facilities in schools, higher education's institutions, local governments and any other relevant institutions.

Redsea-Online works closely with Kayd Somali Arts and Culture promoting Somali culture, literature and arts. Kayd's aim is to contribute to the creation of the concept of tolerance and an appreciation of the diversity of Somali cultures through education, promoting writing, reading, performances, festivals, debates and discussions like the Somali Week Festival.

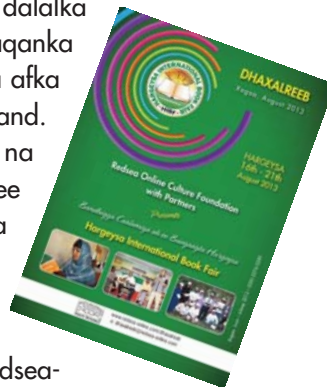
"Hargeysa International Book Fair has grown exponentially over the past six years, both in size and significance. It not only represents the main platform for arts in Somaliland, but it is now one of the largest public celebrations of literature in East Africa. We are so proud to host and present the work of internationally based writers, journalists, scholars, independent thinkers and artists in the Capital of the Republic of Somaliland."

**Jama Musse Jama, Director**



## Redsea Online.....

Redsea Online waa urur dhaqan oo ka dhisan dalalka Talyaaniga iyo Somaliland, oo dhiirrigeliya dhaqanka akhriska iyo qoraalka ee ummadda ku hadasha afka Soomaaliga, gaar ahaan dhallinyarada Somaliland. Ururku waxa uu taageeraa, isla markaas na dhiirrigeliyaa farsamada casriga ah ee isgaadhsiinta iyo xidhiidhka ee bulshooynta Somaliland. Wuxuu kobciyaa isla markaas na fidiyaa suugaan Soomaaliyeed oo tayadeedu sarrayso ha ahaato curisyo, sooyaal, mala-awaal, saynis, gabay iyo masrixiyad inta ba. Redsea-Online waxa uu u fududeeyaa bulshada Af Soomaaliga ku hadasha, gaar ahaan dhallinyarada, ka bogashada suugaanta qalaalood iyada oo lagu soo gudbinayo suugaantaas afka Soomaaliga.





# Welcome to Hargeysa International Book Fair, Hargeysa, Somaliland

Redsea-Online Cultural Foundation and its partners are delighted to invite you to the sixth Hargeysa International Book Fair (HIBF) taking place from the 16th to the 21st of August 2013 in Hargeysa, Somaliland.

Hargeysa International Book Fair has grown exponentially over the past six years, both in size and significance. It not only represents the main platform for the arts in Somaliland, but it is now one of the largest public celebrations of literature in East Africa.

The main aim of the HIBF is to promote a culture of literary arts through reading, writing, and engagement with authors and artists, and to make books, by local and international writers, accessible to members of the public. We aim to enable and encourage young people to access a range of cultural heritages and to stimulate their own creativity in order to bring about a revival of all forms of arts and human expression, including painting, poetry reciting, storytelling, drama composition and writing.

HIBF is honoured to host and present the work of diaspora Somali writers and scholars including the highly-esteemed playwright Said Salah, Human rights activists Rakia Omar, Professor Giorgio Banti, the writers Abdi-Latif Ega, Axmed Sheekh Jaamac, Dr Maxamed Daahir Afrah and Rashid Sheikh Abdilahi, and the Islamic scholar, public intellectual, and journalist Sheikh Mahamoud Sheik Dalmar, Dr. Abdirascid Mohamed Ismail, Cabdalle Xaaji and many others. We are also delighted to welcome and introduce the upcoming talent, Ugaaso Abuukar Boocow.

This year we are delighted to have attracted more mainstream writers and investors, such as the British poet, lecturer and translator of the work of the great Hadrawi, W.N.Herbert, the author and journalist, Michela Wrong, and the Nigerian lawyer, writer and publisher of African Writing magazine, Chuma Nwokolo Jr. Old friends are also coming, including Coco Ferguson and BBC Africa Editor and author of Getting Somalia Wrong? Faith, War and Hope in a Shattered State, Mary Harper.

HIBF has since its inception been a creative space for visiting artists from neighbouring countries. This year we again see many prominent authors and artists from Somalia, Djibouti and Ethiopia present their work and contribute to critical thinking and artistic dialogue in the region.

The International Book Fair also nominates a guest country as we are keen to increase the knowledge and awareness of the political landscape, culture and literature of other African nations. This year, our guest country is Kenya, and we are delighted to announce our partnership with 'Kwani Trust' a Kenyan literary network dedicated to developing creative writing and committed to the growth of the creative industry.

## Theme: Journey

As visitors of the HIBF have come to expect, the week long discussions and events are centered around a theme. This year's theme will be around the idea of 'Journey'. 'Journey' is an inspiring word, relevant to Somalis in so many ways. The journey of the many around the world forced to abandon homes and seek new ones. The journey of the remaining souls who watched loved ones leave and saw their country change. The word 'Journey' tells the tale of the Somali existence. It tells the tale of optimism and hope, of being reborn through chaos, of the thirst for survival. This is our focus: the varying contexts and levels of a journey, whether they be social, political, individual or personal.







We are excited to have a photography exhibition on the recent history of Somaliland by three amazing photographers, Hamish Wilson, Petterik Wiggers and Kate Standmore. This fits in with our theme, as it will tell the amazing journey of the people of Somaliland.

### Creative writing course

HIBF is committed to contributing to a culture of reading and writing in Somaliland and to increasing the skills and capacity of the many young and aspiring artists in Somaliland. Following on from the resounding success of the creative writing short course in 2012, we are delighted to announce the Book Fair will offer its second course to local writers and journalists to further develop their skills and prospects.

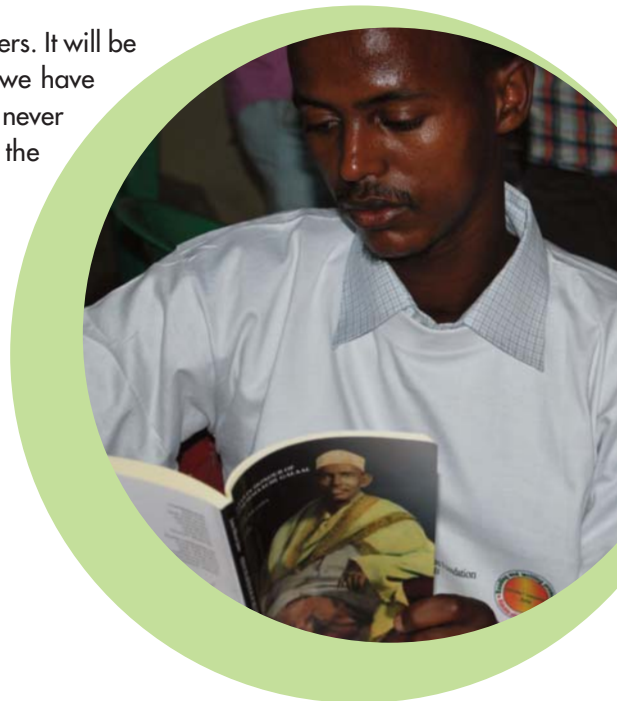
### Sheeko iyo Shaahid

Sheeko iyo Shaahid is a literary competition reserved for young short story writers. It will be one of the highlights of the programme. Whilst it is aimed at young people, we have opened it up to anyone under the age of 40, as we believe some older writers never had the opportunity to develop their literary skills due to the war and all the hardships it caused.

### Creative photography course

This year HIBF has introduced a new two-day introductory photography training session prior to the opening of the book fair. Our guest photographer, Kate Stanworth, who is presenting an exhibition of photographs from the 2012 Somaliland local elections, will teach 8-12 prospective photographers.

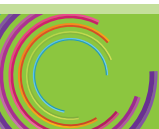
For further details, please write to [info@hargeysabookfair.com](mailto:info@hargeysabookfair.com) or visit [www.hargeysabookfair.com](http://www.hargeysabookfair.com). Follow us on twitter @HIBF and hashtag #HIBF2013



### New books – Curisyo Series

“Caddidoonaha daal Allaa baday” by Ahmed Sheekh Jaamac is a Orwell inspired story. The novel is an allegorical reflection and commentary on contemporary political affairs.

“Safar aan jiho lahayn” by Siciid Jaamac Xuseen is the second book length work by Siciid, and the seven volume of Curisyo series. It is a collection of short stories about different journeys the author dealt with in his life and other fiction and non-fiction short stories.





Friday, 16th August

9.00 - 11.00:

Opening Ceremony of the 6th Hargeysa International Book Fair



The Minister of Education will officially launch the Hargeysa International Book Fair following a musical performance by the Somali Youth Cultural Organisation. Hadraawi, renowned poet and writer, and playwright Said Salah Ahmed, along with other artists and intellectuals will subsequently introduce and debate this year's theme of 'Journey'. To further expand on the topic, Amina Milgo, Rashid Sh. Abdillahi and Prof. Suleiman Guleid will reflect on their own personal journeys. To conclude, Hamish Wilson will showcase the photos that he has accumulated throughout his journeys across Somaliland.

**Discussants:** Amina Milgo, Rashid Sh Abdillahi and Prof Suleiman Guleid

**Chair:** Rakia Omar

**11.00-11.30: The Book Fair Opens its Doors**

Visitors will have an opportunity to browse the book stalls and acquire new items. Visiting authors will be available for book signings and informal meetings with the audience.







## Evening session

### **19.00- 21.30: Achievements and Challenges of Somaliland Development and Investment**

Private sector investments and development initiatives in Somaliland have thrived in the last few years. For example, the World Bank successfully launched the first phase of its competitive grant scheme, The Somaliland Business Fund is close to being unveiled, and the new start-up portal, Shuraako – connecting investors with a wide range of investment opportunities – has received significant interest. This panel, introduced by the Somaliland Minister of Planning, Dr. Saad Ali Shire, will identify and assess the achievements and challenges of different forms of investment across the country. This event will take stock of a host of success stories of recent years, including the creation of The Somaliland Development Fund, a fund set up by the UK and Denmark to support Somaliland with its national development goals.



**Participants:** World Bank, Investors, Somaliland businesses and others.

**Chair:** Mahamed Fadal, the director of the Social Research and Development Institute (SORADI) based in Hargeysa, Somaliland, and the Coordinator of Somaliland Independent Scholars Group. Dr. Fadal is former minister of planning of Somaliland.



Saturday 17th August

### 9:00 - 10:30: Book Launch: Poetry Reading – Somali & English

Mahamed Ibrahim Warsame 'Hadraawi' and Bill Herbert will launch a new publication entitled Hadraawi – The man and the poet – Vol 1, preceded by a brief introductory talk by Rashid Sheikh Abdillahi. The book has been translated by W. N. Herbert, Mohamed Hassan Alto, Said Jama, Martin Orwin and Ahmed I. Yussuf, and includes an introduction by Rashid Sheekh Abdillahi Xaaji Axmed 'Gadhwayne'. It contains eight of Hadraawi's celebrated poems, which will be discussed and read by Hadraawi and the principal translator, W. N. Herbert.



W. N. Herbert is an eminent poet and translator, born in Scotland and educated at Brasenose College, Oxford.

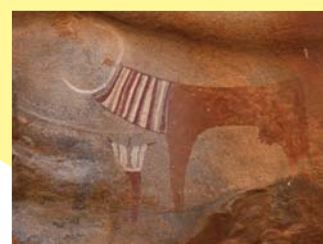
**Chair:** Jama Musse Jama

### 10.30 - 11.00 Somaliland in Pictures

A picture speaks a thousand words. Photo-journalists, Hamish Wilson, Petterik Wiggers and Kate Standmore, will present a joint exhibition on Somaliland, reflecting on its' past and present journeys. Through a diverse array of photographs taken across the country in the last 25 years it will explore multiple, and challenging trajectories of the people of Somaliland.

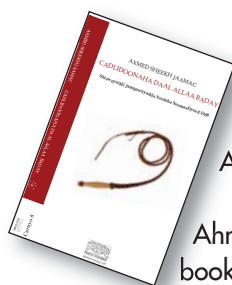


**Facilitator:** Ahmed Ibrahim Awale



### 11.00 - 16.40: Recent Forthcoming Publications

11.00-11.45: Book Launch: Cadlidoonaha daal Allaa baday: Shirkaa Xayawaanka Soomaaliyeed, 1988 (The 1988 Great Assembly of Somali Animals) by Ahmed Sheekh Jama.



Ahmed Sheekh Jaamac, best known as a poet and public intellectual, will present and read from his first published book. Inspired by Orwell, the novel is an allegorical reflection and commentary on contemporary political affairs.

**Chair:** Rashid Sheekh Abdillaahi

## New books

It is 1988 and Hargeisa waits. Whispers of revolution travel on the dry winds but still the dictatorship remains secure. Soon, and through the eyes of three women, we will see Somalia fall. Nine-year-old Deqo has left the vast refugee camp she was born in, lured to the city by the promise of her first pair of shoes. Kawsar, a solitary widow, is trapped in her little house with its garden clawed from the desert, confined to her bed after a savage beating in the local police station. Filsan, a young female soldier, has moved from Mogadishu to suppress the rebellion growing in the north. And as the country is unravelled by a civil war that will shock the world, the fates of the three women are twisted irrevocably together. Intimate, frank, brimming with beauty and fierce love, *The Orchard of Lost Souls* is an unforgettable account of ordinary lives lived in extraordinary times.

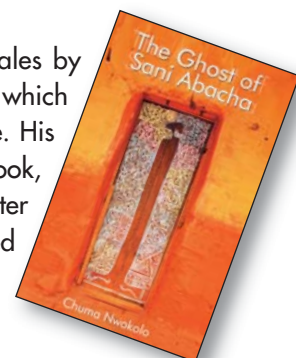






### 11.45-12.30

Chuma Nwokolo Jr. is the author of the poetry collection *Memories of Stone*, and the serial *Tales by Conversation*. His novels include, *One More Tale for the Road* and *Diaries of a Dead African*, from which an extract was published in 2001 in *La Internazionale* as one of the three best stories worldwide. His novels for young adults include *The Extortionist* and *Dangerous Inheritance*. Released in 2012, his book, *The Ghost of Sani Abacha*, is a collection of 26 stories, mostly set in Nigeria. Chuma is a lawyer, writer and publisher of the *African Writing Magazine*, who will present and read from his recently published works.

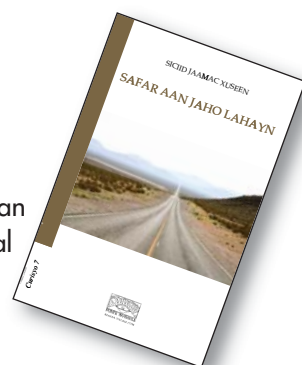


**Chair:** Ugaaso Boocow

### 12.30-13.00 Book Signing

### 15.30-16.40: Recent published books in Curisyo series - *Safar aan jiho lahayn* by Said Jama Hussien

Said Jama will present and read from his new collection of essays and short stories entitled, *Safar aan jiho lahayn*, which is part of the Curisyo Series. His writing, which blends modern and traditional genres, will no doubt inspire, entertain and attract younger and elderly audiences alike (murti iyo madaddaalo).

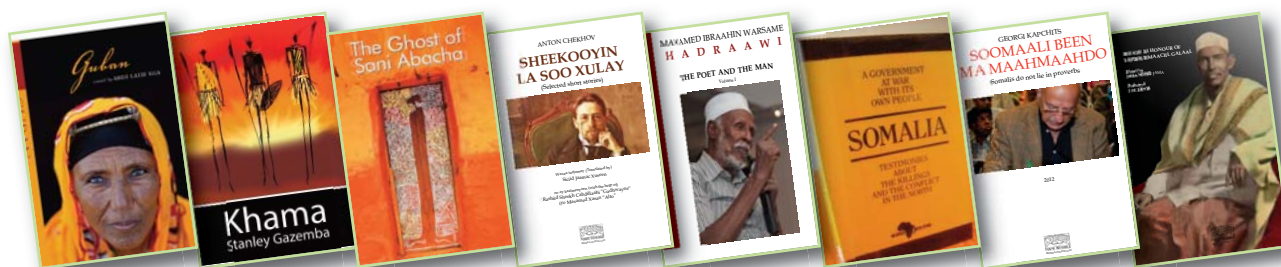
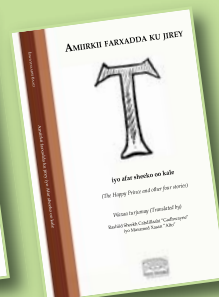
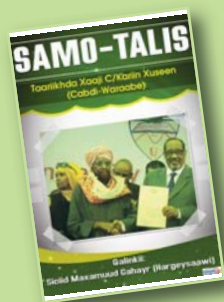


Curisyo is a series of fiction books published and distributed by Ponte Invisibile (Redsea Online), which explore the theme of citizenship and individual responsibilities, and address some of the biggest and most challenging social issues of the day. Said Jama Hussien is the author of *Shuffbeel*.

**Chair:** Maxamed Xirsi Guuleed

### New books

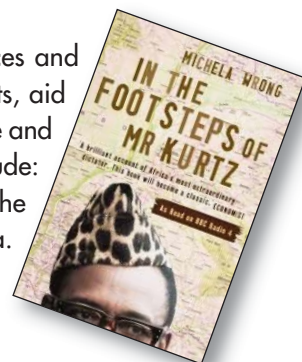
“Samo-talis: Taariikhda Xaaji Cabdikariin Xuseen (Waraabe)” by Siciid Maxamuud Gahayr and “Kadab-gooye” by Barkhad Maxamed Kaariye.





### 16.45 – 18.10: Presentation of books Michela Wrong

Michela Wrong's non-fiction books on contemporary Africa are accessible to both lay audiences and experts in the field of politics, development and aid. They have become a must-read for diplomats, aid officials, journalists and strategists based on the continent. On the day she will share her experience and present her work to Somaliland young readers for the first time. Her more recent publications include: I Didn't Do It For You: How the World Betrayed a Small African Nation and It's Our Turn to Eat: The Story of a Kenyan Whistle-Blower, which focuses on government leadership corruption in East Africa.



In the Footsteps of Mr Kurtz. Living on the Brink of Disaster in the Congo

**Chair:** Quman Akli



### 19:00-20:30: Panel Discussion: The Current State of, and Future developments for the Publishing Industry in Somaliland.

Although Somaliland's publishing industry has made significant progress in the past five years, there is still vast room for improvement, particularly in the areas of ethics, regulation, and legislation governing this sector. Whilst the public has shown increasing interest in reading and writing, and several printing machines, including some of a very high quality have been set up in the country, Somaliland still lacks adequate copyright laws. In order to support the nascent publishing industry, this platform will initiate a debate on how these gaps can be addressed in the future.

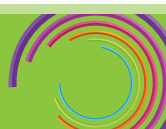
In addition, journalist and scholar on the history of Islam, Mahamoud Sh. Axmed Dalmar, will speak about ethics and journalism, and the professional development and maturity needed for future progress to take place in journalistic writing and news reporting in particular.

**Discussants:** Maxamuud Sh. Axmed Dalmar, MPs, National Printing representatives.

**Chair:** Adam Haji Ali is the Director of the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS), University of Hargeysa.

### 20.30-21.30: Music event: Meet the Brothers: Shay Mire Dacar and Abdi Mire Dacar

The evening will conclude with a live music event by the charismatic brothers 'Mire Dacars', who will be joined by local Somaliland musicians. It will be a creative and experimental evening of music, which will fuse traditional and contemporary music genres.





Sunday 18th August

### 9.00–10.30: *The Journey of Somaliland Democracy in collaboration with Progressio and The Rift Valley Institute*

This panel will present the Somaliland Local Election Reports compiled by the international and local observers. It will further address some of the fundamental issues facing the Somaliland democratic process within the context of other Sub-Saharan African democracies. In particular, it will focus on the conflict between clan politics on one hand and nationhood, citizenship and minority rights on the other, while addressing practical solutions for tackling and overcoming these complex issues.

Kate Stanworth will be also exhibit her photographs from the 2012 local elections.

**Discussants:** Michael Walls (International Election Observation Mission), SONSAF Rep (Domestic Election Observers), Dr Adan Abokor (Rift Valley Institute) Michela Wrong, Shukri Haji Bandera, Asmahan Abdisalam, Mohamed Farah (Academy for Peace and Development).

**Chair:** Mark Bradbury (Rift Valley Institute; author of *Becoming Somaliland*)

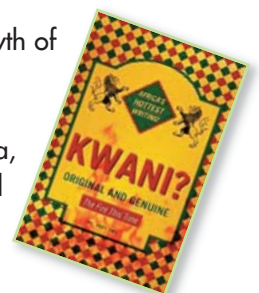


### 10.30 – 12.30: *Panel on Kenya: literature, politics and freedom of expression*

Thanks to this year's partnership with Kwani Trust from Kenya, we are delighted to host Billy Karanja Kahora, Stanley Gazmeba, Phyllis Muthoni and Angela Wachuka, four distinguished Kenyan writers. Following a brief presentation of their own work, the writers will discuss the current state of Kenyan literature, politics and freedom of expression. Michela Wrong will join the panel to examine and consider the issue of censorship and the self-censorship in public spaces and social media.

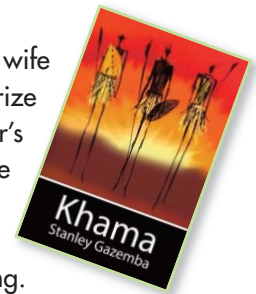
Kwani Trust is a Kenyan literary network dedicated to the development of creative writing and the growth of the creative industry.

Billy Karanja Kahora is the Managing Editor of the journal Kwani. His work has been published in *Granta*, *Kwani* and *Vanity Fair*. He is the editor of the Picha Mtaani/Kwani book project and has recently edited *Kenya Burning*. He has a book of creative nonfiction entitled, *The True Story of David Munyakei* (2009), and has the script credit for *Soul Boy* (2010, Dir. Tom Tykwer) and *Nairobi Half-Life* (2011).





Stanley Alfred Gazemba was born in Vihiga, Western Kenya, and currently lives in Nairobi with his wife and children. He is the author of *The Stone Hills of Maragoli*. Gazemba has participated in the Caine Prize Writer's Workshop, in Noordhoek, Cape Town. He also participated in Crossing Borders, a writer's mentorship program organised by the British Council. He contributes to *Msanii* magazine, a magazine for the arts published by Rahimtulah Museum of Modern Art.



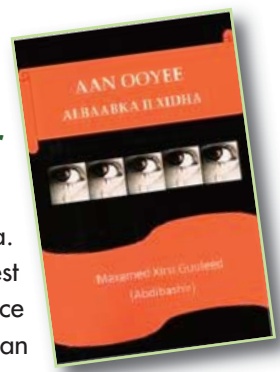
Phyllis Muthoni is the author of the critically acclaimed poetry book *Lilac Uprising*. Her poetry has variously been described as 'fantastic, thrilling and inspiring' by poets such as Stephen Partington and Khainga O'Okwemba. Phyllis also works as a poetry editor. Phyllis Muthoni has contributed poems to *Kwani* and the *Black Arts Quarterly* magazine (Stanford University). Phyllis Muthoni has self-published and written a book that presents an alternative perspective on Kenya – a fascinating and exciting read.

**Chair:** Rakia Omar

**12.30-13.00 Book signing**

**15.30-16.30: New books presented and evening with Author Maxamed Xirsi Guuleed.**

Maxamed Xirsi Guuleed 'Abdibashir' will present his latest book *Aan ooyee, albaabka ii xidha*. Maxamed is a member of *Ururka Qoraaga Somaliland* and is currently based in Sweden. His latest book is a collection of Somali poems written between the mid-1950s and 1960 to mark the independence of the Somali territories, and at a time when anti-colonial sentiment was prevalent across many African countries.



Young people from local communities will read sections from featured books and to meet with authors. This session will also launch of new books recently published by both local and diaspora Somali authors.

**Chair:** CABdillaahi Cawed Cige

**17.00–17.55: Share your talent! Young People's Perspectives**

This exciting opportunity will bring together emerging artists and poets in Somaliland, with more established writers in the region. These artists will each present their work, and the event will aim to raise awareness about Somali poetry amongst the younger generation, for the purposes of cultural preservation.



**Chair:** Axmed Muxumed Madar

**New books**







### **17:55-18: 10: Poetry reading by Phyllis Muthoni**

Phyllis will read from her acclaimed poetry book Lilac Uprising. Phyllis anthology contain among the others Face of Africa, a poet's musing on how the Western media portrays Africa in unlike human experiences.



**Chair:** Mary Harper

### **18.30-20.00: Panel on the future of Somali studies: Society, Culture, Language, Literature**

The face and focus of Somali studies has significantly evolved over the past two decades to cover previously unexplored theoretical and empirical themes. However, culture, language and literature have steadily remained areas of interest and scholarship. The panel will discuss and explore the turbulent journey of Somali culture, language and literature.

**Discussants:** Rakia Omar; Maxamed Dahir Afrax; Giorgio Banti; Abdirashid Ismail Mohamed, Jama Musse Jama.

**Chair:** Mark Bradbury



### **20.00-20.45: Poetry Reading and conversation with Bill Herbert on poetry translation**

Bill Herbert also known as W. N. Herbert is an eminent poet and translator, whose collection, Bad Shaman Blues, was short-listed for the T.S. Eliot and Saltire Prizes. In this evening Bill will read from his last collection Omnesia, which also includes a sequence set in Somaliland.

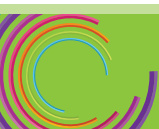


**Chaired by** Angela Wachuka



### **20.45 - 21.30 Fusion Event**

This evening event will showcase the work of a wide variety of local artists, including poets, musicians, Somali traditional dancers and Sitaat writers.



Monday 19 August

### **09.00-10.00: Geeddiga Af-Soomaaliga: kala-guurka, casriyaynta, himilada by Giorgio Banti, Università di Napoli 'L'Orientale'**

All languages are in constant flux, but throughout the past 150 years the Somali language, and the communities that speak it, have experienced drastic and rapid change. The changes can be described as a trek (geeddiga), from a more traditional scenario to the contemporary glocalized one, which is both global and local. Dr Giorgio Banti will present a paper that will explore various dimensions of this transition (kala-guurka), and focus particularly on how modernisation (casriyaynta) of the Somali language has been implemented in several stages, including the development of its lexicon and its written form. The talk will also focus on the vision (himilada) that has been articulated by several Somali actors of this geeddiga afka.

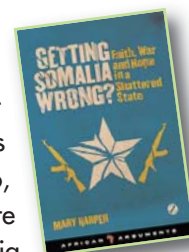


**Chair:** Maxmed Dahir Afrax

### **10.00-10.30: Mary Harper reflects on reporting African Literature.**



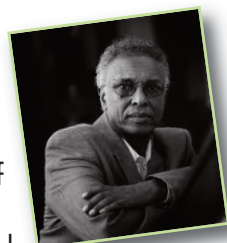
Mary Harper is the Africa Editor at the BBC World Service and author of *Getting Somalia Wrong? Faith, Hope and War in a Shattered State*. She has reported on Africa for the past twenty years and has a special interest in Somaliland and Somalia. Mary has covered conflicts in many parts of Africa, including Sudan, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Algeria, but in her talk she will reflect on reporting on the literature and other cultural activities on the continent, and the place of this in major international media outlets



### **10.30-11.30: New Book: Launch of Shan Sheeko Murtiyeed by Siciid Saalax**

Said Salah will recite from his new short story collection, *Shan Sheeko murtiyeed* and share with the audience his experience of a 50-Year journey as an art and culture activist, play writer, poet and teacher. As the winner of the Virginia McKnight Binger award in 2005 for his services to humanity, and author of the song *Midwife*, Said Salah will also read his short stories.

*Shan Sheeko Muriyeed* is a collection of five short stories by the same author written in different time and for the first time published in a book form.



**Chair:** Jama Musse Jama

### **11.30 - 12.30 Book Signing**

### **15.30-16.30: Book Displays, Readings and Signing evening with author Abdi Latif Ega**

Abdi Latif Ega is a long-time resident of Harlem, New York with a research interest in the history, and contemporary literature of the African continent. He is heavily influenced by writers of African descent from all corners of the world, and follows in their footsteps and traditions; he is never afraid of speaking the truth to forms of power and domination. *Guban* is his debut novel which translates as 'Burnt' in Somali. Yet, the word 'guban' also has multiple meanings and connotations. Literally, it refers to the volcanic region of Somaliland, where the mountains appear physically burnt. But through his work, Ega employs the word metaphorically to describe the former Somali Republic between the 1960s and 1991, prior to its collapse. In so doing, he unpacks the meaning of 'guban' for the people who have had to 'take the fire' of power inequalities, postcolonial modernization, Westernization, and proxy warfare.







This reading session is designed for young readers who will be given the opportunity to read selections from featured books (including Guban by Abdi Latif, as well as their own writings).

**Chair:** Xasan Cabdi Madar. Xasan, the author of Hiil and other books, is currently the Director General of the Ministry of the Presidency.

**16.30–18.00: Documentary: The forbidden journey – in the footsteps of early explorers in Somali Region of Ethiopia and Somaliland (Zaylac-Harrar)**

Documentary and conversation with Hamish Wilson about his fascinating journey from Zaylac to the city of Harrar.



**Chair:** Quman Akli

**18.00 - 18.30 The panel will host a Darandoorri (reading together) session with representatives of the regional reader’s clubs.**

**Chair:** Ayan A Ismail



**19.30–21.00: Women’s Evening: discussion, reading, recitation and music.**

This evening will highlight the challenges and opportunities for Somaliland women. We will highlight achievements in the areas of the social and political life, and explore the complex and multiple roles that women occupy in contemporary society. There will be reading, recitation and music.

**Tuesday 20 August**

**9.00-11.00: Panel on Education: Civic education; Curricula, Textbooks, Institutional Building**

With the motto ‘Education for Sustainable Development in Somaliland’, this panel will concentrate on two aspects of Education policy. First, it will consider the importance of incorporating civic education and citizenship into the curriculum. Second, it will reiterate the importance of designing the content, and producing curricula and education material locally in Somaliland.

**First Part 1: Discussion paper by Ibrahim Hashi Jama and discussed by Unugga Waddaniyadda.**

Somalilanders have recently celebrated the 53rd anniversary of the birth of the Independent State of Somaliland in June 1960 and the 22nd anniversary of the re-assertion of that independence in May 1991. Alongside the proclamation of the Somaliland Protectorate in 1884, these two dates are crucial moments that mark the formation a Somaliland ‘national’ identity that has taken shape over the past three centuries. Somalilanders are fully aware of their Somali ethnicity, which, in 1960, fuelled the then prevalent Somali irredentism and the concept of an ethnically based ‘nation’ in search of a non-existing and unattainable state. Despite being unrecognised by the international community, the Somaliland nation survived throughout the 30-year union with Somalia in much the same way that Scottish nationalism continues to survive the 300-year union with England. Using the





legal definitions of the concepts of ethnic origin, national origin, nationality and citizenship in the context of a world where multiple forms identity are increasingly important, this paper examines the emergence of different forms of national belonging amongst Somalilanders and other ethnic Somalis in the Horn.

Respondents: Somaliland Regional Readers Clubs representatives.

## Second part

Presentation of the new book *Fayraska HIV: Qaab-Dhismeedka, Difaaca Jidhka, Waxyeellada, iyo Daaweynta* by Dr. Ahmed Hussein Esa. Ahmed will present his latest book being part of upcoming series of books on Biomedical Science intended to be used as college text books for universities in the Somali peninsula.



Discussion paper *Current situation of the Somaliland Curriculum Development* by Sofia A Haid. Sofia will speak about the current process of national curriculum development in Somaliland. She is a Curriculum Specialist and is currently working as consultant at the capacity of Technical Advisor at the Ministry of Education.

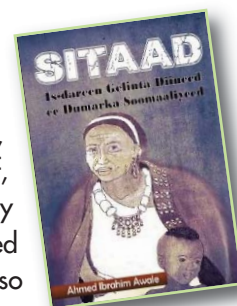
## Respondents:

Representatives of private school managements, independent writers of educational material, representatives of the Ministry of Higher Education as well as Somaliland's universities and higher education institutions will be present as respondents to this issue.

**Chair:** Isman Warsama. Dr. Isman Warsame is a civil engineer and has worked as a consultant at the Ministry of Planning. He is currently the General Director of the Ministry of Health in Somaliland.

## 11.00-11.45: Sitaad by Axmed Ibrahim Awale

This panel will discuss *Sitaad* and its place in Somali culture and present Axmed Ibrahim Awale's latest book, which records more than a dozen *Sitaad* panegyrics, exploring different issues such as spirituality, fidelity, peace and philanthropy. It is also a reflection on the issues concerning, and the yearnings of, Somali women, which have in the past been overlooked. *Sitaad* is the third and latest book authored by Ahmed Ibrahim Awale, who previously authored *Qaylo-dhaan Deegaan* (Environment in Crisis – Selected Essays on Somali Environment) and *Dirkii Sacmaallada* (The Progeny of Cow Milkers). Ahmed will also speak about his upcoming book, *The Mystery of the Land of Punt Unravalled*, in which he exposes archaeological findings in an area of Hargeisa.

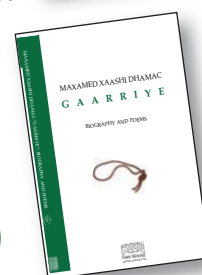


**Respondents:** Hoodo Ayaan will make comments on *Sitaad* and read some of excerpts.

**Chair:** Cabdiraxmaan Yuusuf Cartan

## 11.45 – 12. 00 Fikradihii Gaarriye ee nolosha ("Gaarriye's thoughts on life")

by Idris Youssouf Elmi



## New books

*Dadka Maxaa ka dhexeeya* by Xasan Jaamac Yaasiin and *Rukummada Burburka Qoyska* by Fu'aad Obsiye and The DVD *"Tayo beelka carruurta waalid buu tebeyaa"* written by Muuse Dalmar.





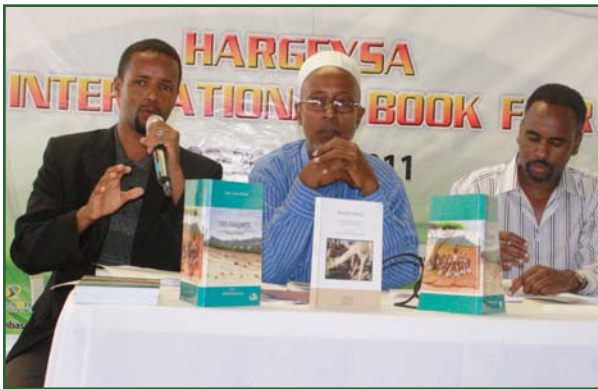


### 15.30-16.45: Rising Writers - Presentation of Locally Published Books

This slot is dedicated to locally published books. Local authors will share their experiences of writing and publishing in Somaliland with authors who have published abroad.

### 16.45 – 17.30: Djibouti Arts: Abdalla Haaji and Cabdulqaadir Iimaan

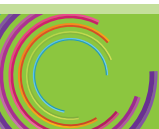
This afternoon session introduces the audience to the varied and exciting art, culture and literature from Djibouti. Authors from Djibouti have been invited to present and share the artistic and cultural production of their home country. The guests of honour from Djibouti include Cabdalle Xaaji, author of Xeer Ciise, presenter of the TV programme, War iyo Waayoarag; Cabdulqaadir Iimaan, and school teacher in Djibouti, who will speak about the history of Djibouti from 1862 to 1977; and Dr. Abdirashid Mohamed Ismail, lecturer at the University of Djibouti, who will assist in the presentation.



**Chair:** Axmed Aw Geeddi

### 17.30 – 18.30 Presentation of Other Books

This slot is dedicated to newly published books. Both international and local authors will share their experiences of writing and publishing in Somaliland with authors who have published abroad.





### 19.30– 20.30: Sheeko iyo Shaahid: Competition Award Ceremony

This short story competition is intended to inspire the youth to write and publish their work, but also to encourage the next generation of writers to develop their critical thinking, composition and storytelling skills. The participants will be expected to present original stories, and the winners will be awarded their prizes by the writers Siciid Saalax and Michela Wrong.



**Chair:** Cabdillaahi Cawad Cige

### 20.30-21.00: Sooyaal – Xasan ‘Ganay’: his work and life

This evening is dedicated to the rich artistic and cultural production of Hassan ‘Ganey’, a poet, playwright and expert on Somali traditions and nomadic cultural heritage. He has authored over seven plays and many poems and songs; his most expressive deal with nature and environment. He meticulously recites and memorises all aspects of Somali culture.

**Chair:** Xasan Maxamed Yuusuf







Wednesday 21 August

### 9.00 – 11.00: Readers Club Presentation

Throughout this morning session eight different Readers Clubs from across the country will present and discuss their achievements over the last year. Together with The Somaliland Life Makers (Somaliland Youth Organisation), the Readers Clubs will then consider potential ways of increasing readership across Somaliland in the coming years.

**Chair:** Ridwan Osman



12.00–13.30: Book Display and Traditional Board Games ('Shax', 'Layli goobalay') and their pedagogic role.

Authors who have published their work in the past two years will be available to meet the audience. This session will also organise the Somaliland Shax Game tournament. Shax is the most played traditional game throughout much of the Somali inhabited regions of the Horn of Africa. The winner will be named the Shax Master of the Year.

### 15.30 – 16.30: HIBF for juniors: The Somaliland Circus

In the final event of the program, Hargeysa International Book Fair in collaboration with Havoyoco will present the Somaliland Circus—a new and entertaining event for a vast and diverse audience.



### 16.30 – 17.30: Summing Up and Conclusion – The Way Forward

HIBF concludes the six-day program of events with a short summary of the main points made at the various panels and lectures, followed by a discussion on the planning and potential theme for 2014.

### 19.30 – 21.00: Closing Gala (by invitation)

The closing Gala will showcase a short documentary film of the inaugural Moving Library tour of 2013 in an attempt to further raise awareness of the campaign to press local authorities to open up public local libraries across Somaliland.

The book fair will conclude with the screening of the most historically ground-breaking of Somali plays, entitled Aqoon iyo Afgarad, and produced by Maxamed Ibraahin Warsame 'Hadrawi', Said Salah Ahmed, Maxamed Xaashi Dhamac 'Garriye', and Muuse Abdi Elmi, and newly directed by Abdirahman Yusuf Arten.





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