

APPENDIX

SOMALIS IN AMERICA: THE CHALLENGES OF ADAPTATION

Among the enormous costs of the civil strife and the demise of Somali national institutions is the exodus of hundreds of thousands of people who have sought refuge in almost every continent. A large portion of those in flight have found succor in North America, particularly the United States, with the state of Minnesota as an epicenter. As was the case with others who fled their native lands, the degree of success of all arrivals to settle in the new environment depends on two interconnected processes: the construction of adaptive individual/collective identities fit for the new time, and the willingness of the receiving communities to embrace cultural diversity, within a national framework, in the perennial remaking of America.

This conference, the first of its kind in the United States, explores that challenge.

JULY 15–17, 2004

MACALESTER COLLEGE, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Thursday, July 15 (Day One)

- A. Registration: John B. Davis Lecture Hall,
Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center (8:00–9:00 a.m.)
 - 1. Welcome/Opening Remarks (9:00–9:15 a.m.)
President Brian C. Rosenberg
 - 2. Keynote. *Beginning Again: From Refugee to Citizen* (9:15–10:30 a.m.)
Ahmed I. Samatar, James Wallace Professor and Dean of International Studies and Programming, Macalester College
Chair: Michael Monahan, Director of the International Center, Macalester College
 - 3. Break (10:30–10:45 a.m.)
 - 4. Roundtable. *Comparative Experiences* (10:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.)
Afra A. Hersi, Ph.D. candidate, Lynch School of Education, Boston College

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Amina Said Ali, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden
Abukar Arman, Columbus Public Schools, Columbus, Ohio
Cawo Mohamed Abdi, Ph.D. candidate, Sociology Department,
University of Sussex, U.K.
Hussein Ahmed Warsame, Associate Professor, Haskayne
School of Business, University of Calgary, Canada
Chair: Mohamoud Hamud, Counselor, Mayo Clinic, and
Community Advocate, Rochester, Minnesota

B. Lunch (12:45–2:00 p.m.)

C. Roundtable. *The Hosts Speak* (2:15–4:15 p.m.)

Bruce Gilman, Principal, Roosevelt High School, Minneapolis
Diana Tharalson, African Family Program, Hennepin County,
Minneapolis

Luis Ortega, Director, English Language Learners, Minneapolis

Barbara Bolar, Experiences from working with the Bureau of
Citizenship and Immigration, Bloomington, Minnesota

Jerry McClure, Department of Revenue, State of Minnesota

Chair: Katherine Yngve, International Center, Macalester College

D. Thursday Evening Concert, Part I:

Janet Wallace Fine Arts Building (7:30–10:00 p.m.)

Conference registration required

- Ahmed Ismail Hussein, “Hodeide”
- Fatma Kassim Hiloule
- Abdinoor Allaleh
- Hibo M. Nuur
- Muhammed Karama Siidii
- Abdirizak Mohamed Kahiye

Master of Ceremonies: Said Salah Ahmed

Friday, July 16 (Day Two)

A. Commissioned Essay. *The Educational Challenges of Somali Immigrant
Youth in the United States* (8:30–10:00 a.m.)

Lidwien Kapteijns, Professor of History, Wellesley College

Chair: Sonia Patten, Assistant Professor, Anthropology Department,
Macalester College

B. Break (10:00–10:15 a.m.)

C. Roundtable. *Voices of Somali Women* (10:15 a.m.–12:30 p.m.)

Halima Ibrahim, Director of African Refugee Support Services

Mariam Mohamed, Executive Director of the Somali Parent-Teacher
Association

Zainab Hassan, Cultural Services Coordinator, Metropolitan Health
Plan, Hennepin County

Khadija Sheikh, University of Minnesota Student and Community
Health Care Worker

Chair: Qamar Ibrahim, Executive Director, LEAD, Minneapolis

D. Lunch (12:30–2:00 p.m.)

E. Afternoon Session on Economic Survival (2:00–4:45 p.m.)

1. Commissioned Essay. *Making it in America: Entrepreneurship and
Business*

Hussein M. Samatar, African Development Center, Minneapolis

2. Oral Presentation. *Transactions with the Homeland: Remittances
Dahabshiil Company*

Saad Ali Shire, Abdirashid Mohamed Saed

Chair: Hussein Ahmed Warsame, Associate Professor, Haskayne
School of Business, University of Calgary, Canada

Saturday, July 17 (Day Three)

A. Roundtable. *Health, Sickness, and Somali Tradition* (8:30–10:45 a.m.)

Fozia Abrar, M.D., Regions Hospital

David McGraw Schuchman, Academic Health Center, University
of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Juan Bowen, M.D., Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota

Chair and Panel Member: Anke van der Kwaak, Vrije Universiteit,
The Netherlands

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- B. Break (10:45–11:00 a.m.)
- C. Commissioned Essay. *Local Lives and Transitional Ties: Somalis in Small Town America* (11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.)
Helga Leitner, Professor of Geography, University of Minnesota
Chair: Cawo Mohamed Abdi, Ph.D candidate, Sociology Department, University of Sussex, U.K.
- D. Lunch (12:30–2:00 p.m.)
- E. Roundtable. *Perspectives of Sponsoring Institutions* (2:15–4:00 p.m.)
Michael Newman, St. Paul Travelers Foundation
John Couchman, St. Paul Foundation
Thomas Forster-Smith, House of Hope Presbyterian Church
Helen Warren, Macalester College
Karen Kelley-Ariwoola, Minneapolis Foundation
Chair: Ahmed I. Samatar, Macalester College
- F. Saturday Evening Concert, Part II:
Janet Wallace Fine Arts Building (8:00–11:00 p.m.)
Conference registration required
- Ahmed Ismail Hussein, “Hodeide”
 - Fatma Kassim Hiloule
 - Abdinoor Allaleh
 - Hibo M. Nuur
 - Muhammed Karama Siidii
 - Abdirizak Mohamed Kahiye
- Master of Ceremonies: Said Salah Ahmed
- G. Closing Remarks
Ahmed I. Samatar

Sponsored by Macalester College; The St. Paul Foundation; The St. Paul Travelers Foundation; The Minneapolis Foundation; The House of Hope Presbyterian Church; Westminster Presbyterian Church; Global Partners; and Leadership, Empowerment, and Development Group (LEAD).

Performance I

Thursday, July 15, 2004

7:30-10:00 p.m.

I. Opening

Introductions: Dean Ahmed I. Samatar

Master of Ceremony: Mr. Said Salah Ahmed

II. Program

A. Lute Music

1. Music for Peace

- Lute: Ahmed Ismail Hussein "Hudeidi"
- Drums: Kahiye
- Keyboard (flute): Muhammed Karama Siidii
- Daf rhythm: Abdinoor Allaleh

Based on a traditional Qarami song called *Beerdilaacshe* ("The Heartbreaker"), in honor of the late composer Abdullahi Karshe

2. *Riftoon* ("Sweet Smelling Perfume")

"Hudeidi" supported by Abdinoor Allaleh

3. *Lay Lay* ("Romance of the Long Night")

Lute by Hudeidi (with accompanying musicians)

Voices: Abdinoor Allaleh, Fatma Kassim Hiloule, Hibo Mohamed Nuur

B. Songs by Fatma Kassim Hiloule

Music by Muhhamed Karama Siidii

1. *Qays iyo Leyla* ("Let Us Be Like the Historical Arabian Lovers Qays and Leyla")

2. *Habibi* ("My Love")

3. *Ceel Ka Soo Jiid* ("Pull Water from the Well")

~Break: 20 minutes~

C. Songs by Hibo Mohamed Nuur

Music by the band

1. *Sabab Kale Ha Moodineh* ("Not For Any Other Reason")

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2. *Haye Fudud* ("An Easy Yes")
3. *Naf Jacayl Haleelay* ("When Love Strikes Someone")

D. Songs by Abdinoor Allaleh

1. *Ilwad* ("The Beautiful One")
2. *Siddig dheh* ("Repeat the Rhyme")
3. *Heeya*, lament of a girl who wants to get married, based on a traditional song of sorrow (*guux*)

Chorus: Fatma Kassim Hiloule and Hibo Mohamed Nuur

III. Closing

Performance II

Saturday, July 17, 2004

8:00-11:00 p.m.

I. Opening

Introductions: Dean Ahmed I. Samatar

Master of Ceremony: Mr. Said Salah Ahmed

II. Program

A. "Hudeidi" supported by Abdinoor Allaleh and the musicians

1. *Jowhar iyo lul* ("The Pearl"), based on a *hello* song
2. *Waa lay dagoo* ("I Was Deceived")

B. Fatma Kassim Hiloule – Part 1

Music by Muhammed Karama Siidii

1. *Baroordiiqda Haween* ("Women's Lament"), song about the Somali Civil War
2. *Dalkaygow* ("My Land")

C. Abdinoor Allaleh – Part 1

1. *Ii Soo Talaw* ("Cross Over to my Side of the Fence")
2. *Wacays* ("Good Hope for the Future")

D. Hibo Mahamed Nuur – Part 1

1. *Soo noqo ado nabad ah* ("Come Back Safely")
2. *Rako* ("At the Mountain Peak")

~Break: 20 minutes~

E. Fatma Kassim Hiloule – Part 2

1. *Hiddeheenii Ciirciir* (“Our Culture is out of Balance”)
2. *Waan kaa Helaa* (“I Like You”)

F. Abdinoor Allaleh – Part 2

1. *Riyo* (“The Dream”)
2. *Siddig dheh* (“Repeat the Rhyme”)

G. Hibo Mohamed Nuur – Part 2

1. *Aan is garabsanno* (“Let us Support Each Other”)
2. *Naftayda waan Maaweeliyaa* (“I Distract Myself”)

H. Finale

Heeya, lament of a girl who wants to get married, based on a traditional song of sorrow (*guux*).

Led by Abdi Noor Allaleh, supported by Hibo Mohamed Nuur and Fatma Kassim Hiloule

III. Closing/Farewell

Ahmed I. Samatar