

## CONTRIBUTORS

**Cawo M. Abdi** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Minnesota. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Sussex in the United Kingdom. Her doctoral thesis examined the gender and transnational relations of Somalis in Minnesota and East Africa, while her postdoctoral research is a comparative work on the transnational relations of East African migrants in different parts of the world. She has published about issues affecting Somalis, including patterns of migration out of Somalia, experiences living in Kenyan refugee camps, gender dynamics, and migrant experiences of dislocation and integration.

**Louise Dickson '11**, a Twin Cities native, graduated from Macalester College with an International Studies and History double major. A member of the Phi Alpha Theta history honors society, she wrote an honors thesis in the History Department. Her academic interests are split between Russian history and contemporary African studies. Dickson spent a semester at the University of Cape Town in South Africa, studying immigration and citizenship patterns, and has also studied in Mozambique, Swaziland, and Tanzania. Dickson has immersed herself in the Somali community, teaching a citizenship class at the Minnesota Confederation of Somali Community in Minneapolis. Upon graduation, she plans to enlist as an American Foreign Service Officer.

**Bashir Goth** is a Somali poet, journalist, and corporate communications professional. He is also the first Somali blogger, a freelance writer, and a former editor and co-founder of a Somali news website. With a B.A. in English Literature and History from Lafole College of Education, Somali National University (1979), he is the author of numerous cultural, religious, and political articles.

**Farhan Hussein** is the founder of charter schools in Minnesota. He has been a leader in education in the state for the past decade. Currently, he oversees several charter schools as superintendent. He earned a Ph.D. in Education Leadership and is a licensed principal and superintendent in Minnesota.

**Laura Joseph** is the Assistant Director of the Center for African Studies at Ohio State University. Her prior resettlement work brought her

in touch with many Somali refugees and community organizations in Columbus, Ohio. She worked for eight years with Catholic Relief Services on development and relief projects in Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, and other countries. She taught high school English as a Second Language as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the People's Republic of Benin, and spent a year teaching ESL at Ashland College. She holds a B.A. in Humanities and International Affairs from Georgetown University, an M.A. in Economics/Social Change and Development from Johns Hopkins/SAIS, and a Masters degree in Public Health from Ohio State University.

**Amin Mohamed** is a Program Supervisor at Health Partners and a Research Specialist at the University of Minnesota School of Nursing. He holds a B.A. in Marketing Management from Professional University of Utrecht, Netherlands, and a Masters degree in Public Health Administration and Global Health from the University of Minnesota. He writes on health, youth, civil war, and refugees. Most recently, he co-authored "Community and Family Approaches to Combating the Radicalization of Somali-American Refugee Youth and Young Adults: A Psychosocial Perspective."

**Leslie C. Moore** is an Assistant Professor in the School of Teaching and Learning at Ohio State University. She is an applied linguist and a linguistic anthropologist. Her research examines the social and cultural patterning of language and literacy development in communities whose members use multiple languages and participate in multiple schooling traditions. After earning her Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics at UCLA, she took a postdoctoral fellowship in the National Science Foundation Center for Informal Learning and Schools at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She worked in public health and community development as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Cameroon and Togo in the early 1990s and later returned to Cameroon as a researcher. She has worked in the Somali community in Columbus, Ohio, since joining the faculty at OSU.

**Ahmed I. Samatar** is the James Wallace Professor of International Studies and Dean of the Institute for Global Citizenship at Macalester College, and founding Editor-in-Chief of *Bildhaan*. His latest article, "Escape from Hell: What Now?," appeared in the new book, *Somalis in Maine* (2011).

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**Terje S. Skjerdal** is an Associate Professor at Gimlekollen School of Journalism and Communication, Kristiansand, Norway, and Adjunct Lecturer at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia. He is currently in the final phase of a Ph.D. dissertation, which deals with the media situation in the Horn of Africa, specifically focusing on professional dilemmas for journalists in the Ethiopian state media. His current contribution to *Bildhaan* emerges from a local Norwegian research project concerning media use in the Somali diaspora.

**Owen Truesdell** '11 graduated from Macalester College with a B.A. in Political Science, with an emphasis on International Relations and the European Union. Originally from Appleton, Wisconsin, he has been an intern at the Minnesota state legislature and examined the state response to the I-35W bridge collapse. Truesdell also completed an honors thesis entitled, "A United Europe Abroad: the EU's Challenge to the Westphalian Paradigm." Finally, he served as President of the Macalester College Student Government where he concentrated on promoting political diversity at the college.

**Hussein Ahmed Warsame** is the current Chair of the Accounting Area at the Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary, and the Certified General Accountants (CGA) Faculty Fellow. Dr. Warsame is a Certified General Accountant (CGA) and holds a BSc in Chemistry from Somali National University, an MBA with a concentration in Accounting from California State University–Fresno, and a Ph.D. in Management, with a major in Accounting, from the University of Calgary. Warsame teaches and researches in the fields of taxation and financial accounting. He also writes and comments on Somali public policy issues. He has won national and international awards for his research and teaching. Warsame sits on the editorial boards of several research journals and on governance boards of several charitable and not-for-profit organizations. He is also a member of the International Advisory Board of *Bildhaan*.

**Johan Wedel** is a lecturer and researcher at the School of Global Studies, Social Anthropology, University of Gothenburg, Sweden. He has done fieldwork in Cuba, Nicaragua, and Sweden, and is author of the book *Santería Healing: A Journey into the Afro-Cuban World of Divinities, Spirits, and Sorcery* (Gainesville, Florida: University Press of Florida, 2004).

**Ahmed M. Yusuf** earned a B.A. in Social Science from London Guildhall University and a Masters degree in Social Work (MSW) from the University of Minnesota, with a concentration in Children and Family Mental Health. He has been working for Ramsey County Human Services for ten years in the Family and Children Services Division. Yusuf has also collaborated with the Department of Psychology at the University of Minnesota on a research project focused on an ethnographic study of Somalis and the utilization of behavioral health services in Minnesota. In addition, Yusuf has a private practice in the Mental Health field and is currently contracted with PrairieCare Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Hospital to provide assessments as well as group, family, and individual therapy.