

According to Committee to Protect Journalist (CPJ) Somalia is the world's worst country for the fifth year in a row when it comes to prosecuting murderers of journalists, CPJ's 2019 Global Impunity Index found.

War and political instability have fostered a deadly cycle of violence and impunity, along with inaction by states worldwide. Somali journalists work in one of the toughest media landscape and operational environment around the world. Armed groups and political actors target journalists and media workers with assassinations, brutal violence, arrests, and harassment each year.

The lack of care for rule of law, proper procedural duties and on the verge of complete erasure for freedom of expression, due to authoritarian tendencies in the democratic processes of Somaliland. Marking it as criminal capacity rather than as an independent right. As such, any reporting investigated and disseminated by journalists or critics uncovering corruption or local context are all charged with slander and defamation, as well as being used as a cover for "national security" by the government to use as a silence method to legitimize the government's attempts to silence the media.

Since 2012, 52 journalists were killed in Somalia, and Somaliland arrested Hundreds of journalist and politicians without trial to discipline them.

January to April 2022 the Human Right's Centre, reports based on information and data gathered to document the general situation of human rights issues in Somalia/Somaliland.

Here are some of the names arrested without charges:

Ali Aadan Dirir, a journalist of HCTV, was arrested on 13th January in Aynabo due to reporting on distribution of water given by Boqor Buurmadow.

This journalist released on 15th, January 2022, without charge.

Case Study #2

Abdirahman Awil Ilmi, a journalist of Baddacas 24 TV was arrested on the 14th, January in Erigavo for face book post. He was released on 15th January 2022, without charge, but on condition to delete the post he criticized the ministry of water and resource and their coordinators.

Case Study #3

Abdisalam Mohamed Jama (Germany) was arrested on 5th January 2022, for a Face book post, and released on 7th January 2022 without charge. Case Study #4 Warsame Aadan Rashiid, a journalist of Goobjoog TV in Erigavo was arrested on 18th January for Face book post criticizing to the mayor of Erigavo for mismanagement and negligence over the drought management. He was released on 24th January 2022 with no charge.

8 Case Studies #5

Aadan Tarabi, a journalist of Sahan TV was arrested on 18th February 2022, and released 19th February 2022 on orders of the former governor of Sool, Abdikhani Jidhe.

Case Study #6

Abdirisaaq Qaasim Jamac, a journalist of Saab TV was arrested on February 20th, 2022 in Berbera, after he reported a demonstration by people who complained about the price of gas. He was released same day on the condition of self-censorship.

Case Study #7

Jamaal Ibraahim Maxamed, a freelance journalist arrested in Hargeisa February 6th, 2022, after interrogation, released and then re-arrested again on February 8th, 2022, by alleged individuals from Somaliland IC. He was brought to the court two times, and remanded. He was not charged with a crime but detained.

9 Case Studies #8

Ahmedqani Jama Hirsi Tuluh, was captured on 12th March 2022 by Somaliland Intelligence Agency and arrested on 14th March 2022. He was prosecuted and accused by articles 215 and 238 in Somali Penal Code. He was sentenced on 28th of March 2022 for one year and fined 1 million of Somaliland shilling.

Case Study #9

On March 24th 2022, Abdirahman Mohamed Cadami, a freelance journalist was arrested for Face book post related corruption issues by the chairperson of Erigavo regional court. He was released on 28th March 2022, without charge, on the condition to remove the Face book post he made.

Case Study #10

Cimraan Hussein Aadam was arrested in Borama on March 14th, 2022, for a video report he made while the president's visit in America. He was then released on 20th of March 2022 without charge.

10 Case Studies #11

Hassan Suleiman Harun Galaydh, Mohammed Abdi Illig, Caydaruus Mohammed Ahmed, Ahmed Nur Samrawi, Ahmed Said Hassan Shimali, Ahmed Mohamud Yusuf, Abdijabar Mohamed Hussein, Mohammed Suldan Ahmed, Khalid Mohamed Aleeli, Ayanle Abdi Buni, Mustafa Muhamud Abdi, Abdifatah Mohamud Ismail, Mohamed Jamal Jirde, Hussein Ahmed Abees, Abdirahman Cali Khalif,

Nicimo Abdi and Sagal Mustafe were arrested on April 13th 2022, for covering the breaking news at the Hargeisa central prison.

Case Study #12

Ayaanle Cige Faroole and Sidiq Hassan Waabeeye, journalists in Bura' o on April 28th, 2022, was arrested. Fortunately, they were released on 29th April 2022.

Case Study #13

Mukhtar Nuux Ibrahim was arrested on 10th of May 2022 for reporting poor sanitation in Wajaale.

11 Case Study #14

Arreh Suleyman Awled Arreh is a media presence who lives in the city of Gebilay. He was arrested on May 21, 2022, for criticizing the Djiboutian president. He has been remanded several times without the court or Criminal Investigation Department finding a just charge, therefore delaying his release without being formally charged. His release has been delayed on the premise of police and CID looking for an article to charge him, which is unconstitutional.

Between 17 April and 1 May, Case study 15

Somaliland authorities arbitrarily arrested and detained journalist Abdimalik Muse Oldon, opposition youth leader Mohamed Sidiq Dhame, and Jamal Abdi Muhumed, an employee of the Ministry of the Interior. The three were arbitrarily arrested for posting on social media comments perceived as critical of the Somaliland government and public officials

GAROOWE

Kilwe Adan Farah, a freelance journalist, has been in detention since 27 December 2020, when he was arrested by Puntland Intelligence Agency (PISA) officers.

On 22 February, police arrested freelance journalist Ahmed Botan Arab in Bosaso town. His arrest came after he posted video interviews on his Face book page.

On 25 February, another journalist, Abdifatah Abdullahi Farah, also known as "Jiib", was arrested by police officers at his office in Garowe in connection with his coverage of the same presidential speech. The Somali Television Network (STN) journalist was detained and interrogated for several hours at Garowe central police station and later released on the same day without charge. He told Amnesty International that he was released only after he had agreed not to publish reports critical of the Puntland government and its leaders...

Another journalist, Ahmed Botan, was arrested and detained at Bosaso police station for two days and released without charge on 24 February after clan elders intervened on his behalf. He told Amnesty International: "Authorities in Puntland do not want critical reporting. I was detained for doing my work and for interviewing individuals critical of the president."

"Puntland authorities must drop all the baseless charges against Kilwe Adan Farah and immediately and unconditionally release him from detention. They must also stop harassing and

intimidating other journalists, including by subjecting them to military trials in violation of international human rights law,” said Deprose Muchena.

On Friday 11 June 2021, officers from the National Intelligence and Security Agency (NISA) accompanied by police officers entered Star FM radio studio in Guriel town, Galmudug State and detained its journalist, Ubayd Hassan Mohamud. The federation of Somali Journalists (FESOJ) is expressing deep concern and saddened by the torture by the security forces of the Deputy Wadajir District Commissioner of two reporters.