



Goobjoog Media Group

Press Release on the Illegal Arrest of Journalist Abdiaziz Ahmed Gurbiye

Date:14/04/2020

Goobjoog Media Group (GMG) would like to share the following information with the Somali public, its audience and partners regarding the arrest of its Editor and Deputy Group Director Abdiaziz Ahmed Gurbiye:

1. The leadership of Somali Police Command contacted the administration of **Goobjoog Media Group** on the night of April 13, 2020 that its Editor Abdiaziz Gurbiye is ordered to appear at Hodan Police Station.
2. Cognizant of the provisions of the **Penal Code** that police cannot issue summons to an individual later than 6.00pm and confident that it had not conducted itself in a manner than contravenes the law, the leadership of **Goobjoog Media Group** nonetheless complied with the summons and its Editor Abdiaziz Gurbiye made way to the station.
3. Shortly after, the summoning Police instructed that the Editor appear the following day (the morning of April 14).
4. The leadership of **Goobjoog Media Group** and its Editor, Abdiaziz Gurbiye arrived at Hodan Police Station on the morning of April 14 as earlier instructed. For several hours, the GMG officials and Mr. Gurbiye were kept waiting without being briefed of the complaints by the police. Mr. Gurbiye was later informed he was under arrest in line with a warrant issued by the Attorney General on behalf of the Office of President Mohamed Abdullahi Farmaajo.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING,

5. **Goobjoog Media Group** strongly condemns the arrest of Mr. Abdiaziz Gurbiye and withdrawal of his liberties and freedoms which is in violation of the law against any individual particularly a Somali citizen.
6. **Goobjoog Media Group** also condemns the Office of the Attorney General and all perpetrators of the plot to curtail the freedom of Mr. Gurbiye in a manner that amounts to abuse of office and powers therein for personal interests.
7. **Goobjoog Media Group** asserts that the arrest of Mr. Gurbiye is illegal in the context of the country's laws and regulations.



8. **Goobjoog Media Group** views the arrest of Mr. Gurbiye as a part of a planned campaign to suppress the media in this country and generally curtail freedom of speech and expression.
9. Therefore, **Goobjoog Media Group** calls for immediate and unconditional release of Mr. Gurbiye

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