

The Bomber is Alive: Shamo Carnage Revisited

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As the dust settles and emotions subside the Somali people as well as other concerned people across the globe are attempting to piece together information that is emanating from various sources in the quest to get the real picture of the horrendous blast that claimed innocent lives. Who is to blame for the atrocities that shocked a nation and rocked further the security concerns of the already suspicious neighboring countries?

The international as well as local media outlets are inundated with the scary news that a young Danish citizen of Somali origin disguised as a woman blew himself up and took with him so many innocent lives – parents, doctors, teachers, politicians and acquaintances of the graduates. The unprecedented carnage at the graduation ceremony in Hotel Shamo is captured by a recently released song called “[Qaylodhaan](#)” written by Abdi Shire Jamac.

A few hours after the explosion, as surviving graduates and other citizens were grappling with death and destruction the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) broke the news to the world that a Danish youngster was behind the bombing of the hotel and then the government went mute. The government did not produce any significant evidence to support its claim other than a picture of what appears to be one of the casualties who was martyred as a consequence of the savage bombing. There were many pictures depicting the barbarity of the slaughter and the scale of the devastation was beyond description. Some of the bodies were completely shattered, others cut into half and some lost body parts.

News collected from independent sources after the explosion is in stark contrast to the claims of the government. Pictures which were rolled out from some of the surviving cameras and published on the net and accounts from witness statements who were lucky enough to tell their personal account of the explosion including Dr. Dufle who was at the podium at the time of the explosion paints a different picture. The pictures taken just before the bomb went off shows the young Danish man sitting among the guest of honour dressed casually in black striped summer T- shirt neither in black Burkah nor wearing anything that can conceal a suicide bomber’s vest.

We may not find the full truth for some time to come but one thing is certain – security lapses from the TFG and false accusation of a dead man will not get us any closer to the truth. It is not possible that the alleged bomber went out and came back disguised as a woman unless the congregation were all blind and dumb. It is also equally incomprehensible that no one saw the bomber in action as it is very unlikely to miss a person who is blowing himself in clear view of others. The information given thus far only points to one cause – a planted bomb detonated by remote control.

In late May when Colonel Omar Hashi, the security minister, was killed by a suicide bomber the TFG claimed that the bomber was a foreign person but to their embarrassment the bomber turned

out to be a local Somali man. The TFG claimed countless times that they captured foreign fighters but not a single one materialised. In the summer they claimed that they have killed a foreign fighter in one of their battles with the Islamists but it latter turned out that youngster was a Somali of reer Hamar descent, and sadly one of the so called “missing boys” from Minneapolis. It was a shocking revelation for his family as they witnessed the dead body of their missing son being prated as a foreign fighter.

The TFG has taken the habit of giving out contradictory information which is as flimsy as the TGF itself and as such has overtime created a reputation of untrustworthiness as a source. But what is frustrating not to mention annoying for the public at large is how it pulled wool over our eyes. The Danish man seems to me to be a casualty of miscarriage of justice and I demand the TFG to prove his misdeeds or else pay compensation to his family and retract this premature statement which amounts to nothing more than defamation of character.

New Pictures challenges the TFG Version

The news that a suicide bomber disguised as a woman in black Burkah was to blame; was aired by the TFG who are known to have maintained a track record of disinformation and misrepresentation. To add to the confusion, the TFG made available photos that didn’t show any veil or Burkah but a young man in a striped shirt, appearing more like a victim, this daring misrepresentation of information raised eye brows and added to the mistrust of an already weak TFG.

It takes weeks if not months for the American Government, with all its facilities and specialities at its disposal, to identify a culprit or a cause of casualty, but half a day was more than enough for the unsighted TFG to identify the alleged bomber. After American forces captured President Saddam Hussein in 2003, they didn’t release any information until they identified and established his identity through DNA and other tests to assure the culprit was indeed the missing president of Iraq and not a look alike.

As you can see from this photo, the guy who is supposed to be the bomber looks cool and relaxed at the front row which is reserved for guests of honour. He also appears little sleepy or bored which is not the type of emotions one would expect from a person who is sure to die in 20 minutes. He is wearing a thin casual black



striped shirt which is the same shirt his body was found in after the explosion. No suicide bombers’ vests or a veil or Burkah or anything resembling women’s clothing were recovered from the scene. Furthermore, none of the survivors attested to have seen the alleged woman in black Burkah and even Dr. Dufle who was at the podium, which gives him a full view of the venue, failed to conclusively point out whether it was a planted bomb or a suicide bomber – listen [to Dr. Dufle’s witness statement](#). The Danish intelligence is still investigating the

allegation made against their citizen but said to have already scrapped the TFG's version as it can't hold water.



The information from the alleged bomber's father, a graduate from the Somali National University's faculty of agriculture, and that of the hotel staff is the only palatable information so far in public domain. It is confirmed from different and independent sources that his wife was about to deliver a baby in Marka, that he was a guest at hotel Shamo and the picture demonstrates beyond any reasonable doubt that he was invited by a friend as his father repeatedly claimed.

The Bomb blast went off some time after the commencement started. Some of the activities were- a film showing the history of Benadir University, its faculties and their respective deans which received a standing ovation from the graduates and the other guests. There were many speakers of which the noted one was the speech delivered by the rector of Banadir University followed by troops of young singers who were decorated and trained to capture the day. Snacks and drinks which professor Addow declined to participate in as he observed a day of fasting were served. People were coming in and out of the venue and many reporters and camera men from various news agencies were at the scene. I hope the presence of these reporters would in the coming months shed light that may point to what actually took place in the gathering before the bomb was detonated.

It is common knowledge that, Mr. Abdirahman, the alleged bomber's body lay unclaimed for nearly a day as he was an unknown in Mogadishu which also indicates that his friends have also died in the explosion. It is also known that Hotel Staff, not the security people, identified him as a guest from Qoryooley which is near Marka Town. The fallen man unknown to many for he is not a local person is transformed in to the ultimate suicide bomber. A dead man without local relatives is an opportunity for the TFG media vultures to take advantage. Here listen to [Character reference of Mr. Abdirahman](#) on a Radio based in Denmark made by the community leader of the Somalis in Copenhagen - Denmark.

Who was the real bomber? Will we ever know?

The fact that Mogadishu is the home of assassinations and the base of multitude of fronts fighting proxy wars with regional and international dimensions coupled by the total absence of government makes impossible to get a stout verdict which can withstand the test to identify the culprit.



The Al Shabab group who introduced suicide bombing to Somalia and who had never shied away from claiming most of the previous suicide attacks disowned any connection to this operation and the TFG which is famous for being miserly in the truth also denied its involvement. Al Shabab was pointing its finger at no one other than General

Abdi Qaydiid who they maintained was behind the bombing for his own personal benefits. The self appointed general has a very ugly résumé and his hands are immersed deep in to the bloodshed of his foes and friends but suicide bombing and planting of bombs can't fit comfortably into his mode operands. The general is very selective in his trade and hunts down only the elite, who mostly hail from his tribe, that he suspects might in the long run turn to threaten or challenge his position.

In the aftermath of the bombing we see that the General was given a Ministerial post, Minister of minerals and water, to fill the post sadly vacated by professor Addow- the man of the people. The infamous 4.5 formula around which the TFG is shaped regrettably lumps the disreputable warlord Gen. Abdi Qaydid and the man of the people, Professor Addow, together in the same box. This golden hand shake has nothing to do with the bombing but is an opening that the General took with both hands.

Whoever executed this operation must have planted the bomb inside the premises preferably hidden in a disguised form under the tables set aside to accommodate TFG Ministers and officials or amalgamated in to the decorations of the hall. It is very likely that the operative detonated the bomb by remote control while he/she was sitting in the back rows or adjacent rooms to the hall where he/she can monitor with confidence the movement and seating of the participants – the rector was in one of those adjacent room with a report at the time the bomb went off.

It was a premeditated mass murder inflicted on the Somalis where it hurts most but can any one say who was behind it? The Al Shabab, Hisbi Al-Islam, Ahlu Sunna wal Jama, the TFG, Ethiopian intelligence operatives, CIA operatives, Israeli hounds and Iranian sympathisers to mention a few who have factions within factions to such a degree that the left of the faction doesn't know what the right of the same faction is up to.

In conclusion I say; not everyone at whom dogs bark at is a thief – we have only a word of mouth from one faction against the word from another faction with no material substance. The majority of the people are beginning to doubt the TFG's version that the bomber is dead, and do think that the bomber is alive and laughing at us but only God knows who the real culprit is this time.

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