

GETTING AWAY WITH MURDER

JOURNALISTS KILLED WITH
IMPUNITY IN SOMALIA

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL





Dear Foreign Minister,

Somalia remains one of the most dangerous places on earth to be a journalist. Since January 2009, at least four have been deliberately shot dead by gunmen believed to be linked to the warring parties. The killers know that they will not be held to account. Journalists, like other Somali civilians, are victims of the near-total impunity for serious crimes, including war crimes, in Somalia.

Journalists have also been killed or injured in crossfire and indiscriminate or disproportionate attacks. Others face abduction, harassment and threats from armed groups such as al-Shabab and Hizbul Islam. Dozens of journalists have been forced into exile, and many are living precariously in neighbouring countries having lost their jobs and struggling to obtain meaningful protection.

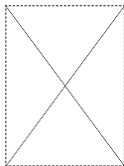
I am calling on my government to:

- Support the establishment of an independent Commission of Inquiry, or similar mechanism, to address impunity for crimes under international law committed in Somalia, including deliberate attacks on journalists.
- Provide safety and refuge for Somali journalists and other Somali people who are persecuted and forced to flee from Somalia, and refrain from forcibly returning any to Somalia.

Sincerely,

Name: _____

Country: _____



Foreign Minister

Image: The burial of Said Tahlil Ahmed, the director of Radio HornAfrik, killed by gunmen in February 2009. © NUSOJ

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