
SOMALI DAY

CULTURE AND POLITICS THROUGH THE LENS OF
LITERATURE AND ORATURE

LEIDENASA - 'AFRICA 2020'



29 JUNE 2021

**AFRICAN STUDIES CENTRE LEIDEN
LEIDEN UNIVERSITY**



Why Somalia in 2021 and today

On 1 July 1960 Somalia became an independent state. We would like to commemorate these 61 years of independence and pay attention to this complex region in the Horn of Africa, praised for its (oral) literature, marked by its civil war and voiced by its diaspora.

This one-day seminar on Somalia will address the country from a historical-cultural perspective by reconsidering Somali culture and governance through the lens of its literature and orature.

Also read the country information on Somalia and the web dossier on Somali literature: www.ascleiden.nl/africa-2020-country-information.

Programme

14.45-15.00 Welcome speech

PANEL I: SOMALI TEXTS AND VOICES

15.00.-15.30 Key note lecture by Ali Jimale Ahmed (CUNY University)

Culture and Politics through the Lens of Somali Literature

15.30.-16.00 Key note lecture by Martin Orwin (University of Naples "L'Orientale", UNIOR)

Somali music: from kaman to keyboard

Chair: Annachiara Raia

Q & A 16.00 – 16.20

Tea break 16.20-16.30

PANEL II: LEIDEN-SOMALILAND ARCHIVAL CONNECTIONS

16.30-16.50 Lecture by Jama Musse Jama (Hargeysa Cultural Centre, Somaliland)

Qaraami: The fading out melody of Somali Classical Music

16.50-17.10 Lecture by Jos Damen (African Studies Centre Library)

Somali books in Leiden: decolonising the library?

Chair: Jan Abbink

17.10 -17.30 browsing through Somali books purchased by the ASCL Library

Q & A 17.30 – 17.50

17.50 – 18.00 Closing remarks



Venue: Online event **Registration:** via this registration link

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