



Somali Senator For Galmudug
Somali Federal Republic
Mogadishu

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Open Letter to University Students In Somalia Re: Dadaab Refugee Camp Books Drive

Dhallinyaro, as you may all be aware, millions of our fellow citizens, kith and kin remain displaced from their homes and are housed either in IDP camps within the country or in refugee camps across the region and beyond.

The UN refugee agency, UNHCR estimates there are close to 1 million Somalis living in refugee camps within the Eastern Africa region and Yemen, most in deplorable conditions. In Dadaab Refugee Complex, students in particular face many deficiencies including an acute shortage of books. Every ten students share one textbook, making it extremely difficult for them to realize their educational goals.

These students, just like you aspire to excel in their studies and lead better lives than the impoverished life in which they are now entangled in. More so, they hope to contribute in rebuilding our country for the betterment of future generations.

Dhallinyaro, I call upon each one of you to sacrifice and purchase at least one book for a student in Dadaab. In addition, I urge you to implore upon your friends and family to echo this call as we endeavour to meet the target.

The pioneers of the Dadaab Books Drive note that 50,000 books on various high school subjects are needed to close the gap on student-book ratio.

For logistics and delivery, you can liaise with the **Dadaab Books Drive** team. The team is composed of youth who were formerly based at Dadaab Refugee Complex.

Dhallinyaro, in responding to this clarion call, you will not only be buying a book for fellow student but also taking up the responsibility of championing for the cause and welfare of our fellow citizens living in difficult situations outside their homes.

Dhallinyaro, this is a heavy responsibility on all Somalis wherever they are and youth in particular in light of continued neglect by our leaders in the last three decades.

Last but not the least, **Dhallinyaro!** I am very confident that you will join this noble cause in your different capacities.

Guuleysta Dhallinyaro,

**Senator Abshir Maxamad Axmad
1st Senate Deputy Speaker of The Upper House.**