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## Ethiopian activists condemn mob action, violence during rally in Oromia



ETHIOPIA

By Abdur Rahman Alfa Shaban

🕒 Last updated: 14/08/2018

Known and famed Ethiopian activists took to social media in condemnation of mob violence over the weekend in the Oromia region's town of Shashememe.

Reports by local portals indicate that four people were killed during a public gathering organized to welcome a top pro-democracy activist, Jawar Mohammed.

Three people died as a result of a stampede at the entrance of Shashemene stadium – venue of the rally, while another died after having been mob-lynched by a group who authorities say were acting based on fake news that the car he was driving was carrying a bomb.

Jawar, who is also Executive Director of the privately-owned Oromia Media Network recently returned to the country to engage in peaceful political process following ongoing government reforms.

The Addis Standard news portal said a vehicle the victim of the mob-lynching was driving was also set on fire.

They quoted top Oromia officials as confirming that the car belonged to the Shashemene city administration and security department which was on patrol duty and that it did not carry any explosives.

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**Jawar Mohammed**

about 5 years ago

The mob attack that has happened in Shashemene was and damaging to the image of this beautiful city that has k resistance that brought this changes we enjoy today. B not an isolated incident but is becoming common occur country. From Asosa to Jigjiga, Belesa to Hawasa, from and now Shashemene, we have been witnessing barbaric mob attacks usually instigated using rumors.

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What happened today in Shashamanne is absolutely reprehensible, revolting, and downright inhuman. I'm not so sure this government understands just how important security is for everything they hope to do but from where o stand, they are waffling and totally spineless.

**Awol Allo**

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A government that have lost the monopoly of violence, incapable of guaranteeing security, and allows crowd justice cannot hope to bring democracy. There can be no democracy under

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What happened in Shashamane yesterday is unconscionable, inhumane and unOromo. It has no place in our society. I am particularly sad and angry as a native of that zone. There are a lot of tensions, fear, suspicion and a weak state capacity in this country. We've much work ahead.

**Mohammed Ademo**

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But selective outrage on social media and thinly veiled

Oromophobia surely can't take us very far. Barbaric acts of few deranged individuals doesn't represent the entire Qeerroo or Oromo. We should be able to

**Befeqadu Z. Hailu | ቤፍቄ...**   
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Uncontrolled [#Qeerroo](#) authority in [#Oromia](#) should be tapped. The 'monopoly of force' should be in the hands of a responsible government what so ever. What happened in Shashemene today is barbaric and unacceptable. This is not good for president Lemma and PM Abiy either.

6:39 AM · Aug 12, 2018



“

So now we lost 3 people for a peaceful gathering. Does this make sense for you guys ?? [#Ethiopia](#) [#Shashemene](#) ?

— Soli ? (@Soli\_GM) [August 12, 2018](#)”

**Fatuma Bedhaso**   
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What happened in shashamane is despicable, inhumane, is an affront to everything we are as a

community, our sacrifices as a society, & our aspirations as a country. We all should condemn it wherever we are.

Shame!

4:07 PM · Aug 12, 2018 from Minneap ⓘ

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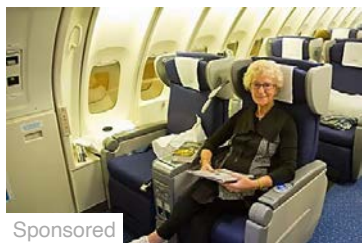
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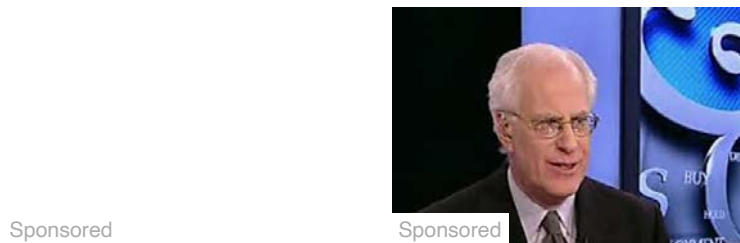
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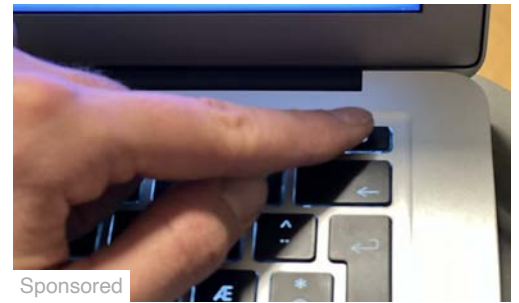
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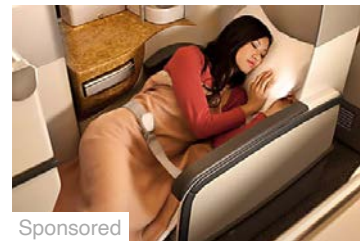
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