

SAA CID



Maryan - Saciido's mum (left), Saciido (centre), and Saciido's daughter (right)

“Where is the international assistance?” ... Saciido's mum

Saciido Ali Osman was somehow lucky to have survived the mortar blast and the burns over most of her body; but the 40-year-old displaced mother of 7 children, now permanently scarred from her wounds and burns, due to poor medical treatment, faces a lifetime of pain, and, according to her mum, appears to be giving up on life. Saciido is not able to talk as a result of the wound, but she can understand everything you ask her and she can respond only by nodding her head. Saciido also cannot stand or walk alone, and she can't eat anything by using her own hands.

Saciido's mum said, “My daughter, Saciido, went to our home in Yaqshid District to take some of our utensils in the early morning, because we had been displaced the previous day because of the heavy fighting. When we fled, we took nothing with us. So Saciido volunteered to return and collect our main utensils and sleeping foams. Soon after Saciido went to the house the fighting started again, and a stray mortar shell hit the house, and Saciido was seriously wounded, and her condition was between life and death. She was rushed to

Medina Hospital, sustaining burns and covered in blood. She was in coma for 1-month, but somehow regained consciousness. The problem is that Median Hospital is not well equipped and has a limited capacity, so the hospital staff could not provide her with much service, except dressing her burns and keeping my daughter alive.

Once conscious, the staff at medina Hospital said that she had to go, as there was nothing else that they could do for Saciido. The family was originally displaced in February 2007, when an Ethiopian military invasion and occupation forced hundreds-of-thousands of Somalis to flee their homes. Now they subsist in very poor conditions in an Internally Displaced Person (IDP) Camp in the Lafole area of the Afgoye Corridor.

Saciido's mother, Maryan Mohamed, is hoping that an international humanitarian organisation can assist her daughter to survive this lifelong painful ordeal; and come out of the isolation and despair that she is facing now.