

SAA CID



Market Sellers in Hamar-weyne District, Mogadishu



The outdoor section of Hamar-weyne Vegetable market

Hassan Mirre Mohamed (52) is one of the few men that is engaged in selling vegetables at the market. “I have been involving in this business since 1980. At that time, I was working at the Sinay Vegetable Market in Wardhigley District. In 1991, after the regime of Siyad Barre destroyed, we moved to Bakaro Market, where we were engaged in our business until 2006. In December 2006, the TFG arrived with the Ethiopian military. At that time, we had to move again due to the regular attacks on Bakaro by the Ethiopians. I lost my right arm in late 2006, during heavy shelling by the Ethiopians at Bakaro Market. I was very lucky to survive.

From Bakaro, we moved to Hamar-weyne Vegetable Market; which has now become the second largest market for selling vegetables in Mogadishu City. Hamar-weyne has never experienced the conflict that Bakaro has had to endure.

I sell different vegetables, such as tomatoes, pumpkin, sweet potatoes and other vegetables. I don't sell the vegetables retail, but I sell wholesale, and usually I make a profit of about 200,000 Somali Shillings per day" [around US \$7].



Hassan Mirre Mohamed

Shamso Ali also sells vegetables at the Hamar-weyne Vegetable Market. "I have been busy doing this job for almost 10 years. I started this job after my husband, Muse Ali, died in 1999. My husband was killed while he was on his way to his work by stray bullets when 2 freelance militias were exchanging fire with one another. My husband had been a manual worker, and he had worked in Hamar-jajab District as a furniture maker.

I started selling vegetables after my husband died because my 6 children were depending on me, and there was no one else to help us. Most of the vegetable dealers are women, because there is nothing else that they can do.

The vegetables are fresh and come from Lower Shabelle Region and Middle Shabelle Region in every day. I earn 100,000 to 125,000 Somali Shillings per day [about US \$3.40 – 4.25]. This amount is not enough for all my family's needs but it keep us alive, and for that I'm grateful.

None of my children attend school because I am not able to pay for their fees, but some day I hope I will see all my children attending school.

In the future I am expecting my business to become wealthy, so that I can cope with all my family's needs".



Shamso Ali