PROPOSAL FOR AN EXHIBITION AT ROOM 3, THE BRITISH MUSEUM

WEDDING UNLOCKS
SOMALI CULTURE:
A BRITISH MUSEUM DISPLAY

Presented by-: Sahara Dahir, Curator Nairobi National Museum.

Proud Participant ITP 2011



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Who are Somali
- Geographical location
- First Somalis to appear in UK
 were the seamen who recruited
 in Aden as stockers- settled
 mainly in Cardiff and Manchester.
- Another group came during the second world war
- Due to current conflict more than 4 million Somalis fled their country
- Today there approximately 350000 ethnic Somali people in the UK, with majority in London



OBJECTIVE OF THE EXHIBITION

- Raise Awareness as well as educate the UK citizens on the Somali culture and enhance positive intergration
- Educate the British born children of their culture and origin(Mwachamila ni Mtumwa)
- Bring the aspects of traditions that are still intact for appreciation by the somali community in london

Traditional look-:



Modern look-:



WHY WEDDING?

- Weddings are the most important aspect of the Somali culture.
- It not only denotes the union of two souls but that of two families and most significantly r/ships between two clans.
- Various objects are used during Somali traditional weddings and different ceremonies are held before and seven days after the wedding.
- Thus Poetry, Music, food, and dressing of the Somali will be mentioned.

 Significantly the Exhibition will highlight Heedho/hera that is used in the third and last part of Somali traditional wedding and is still used in big cities.





Other Supporting Objects that will be displayed alongside the Heedho will be ,Milk bowl, Incense burner, Necklace, Khol holder, Perfume bottle. They are all presents given to the Bride.





DISPLAY

- Introduction:
- Theme one-: will have an audio of poetry with touch screen/microphones. There will be some text to describe the process of scouting and Gabati.
- Theme two-: one horizontal show case with all the other objects and minimum text
- Theme three-: Heedho, the process of todobax and the object



AUDIENCES

- Somali community in UK.
- British born youth/children of origin Somali.
- Foreign and UK Visitors







MERCHANDISE

- Catalogue describing the Somali traditional wedding ceremony
- Products from the heedho
- DVDs/CDs of traditional Somali wedding and how it has been modernised.



PUBLIC PROGRAMME

- Target Idd celebrations
- Family activities- Where young men are told to unlock the heedho
- Poetry competition



GRATITUDE

ITP and Participants
AOA
Tyne & Wear Museums
Sponsors
National Museums Kenya
BM Director



Nagode Shukran **Hoi San Gracias** Tesekkür ederim Ahsenteni sana, Seranagru Thank you



