

Dr. Xusen Adam to speak on "The War on the Horn of Africa: A Somali Perspective"

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Dr. Xusen Adam, chairman of the Social Science Division at Somali National University and a scholar in the works and philosophy of Third World psychiatrist/author Frantz Fanon, will speak at 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 20, at the University of California, San Diego.

Adam's talk on "The War on the Horn of Africa: A Somali Perspective" in room C-104 of the Third College Lecture Hall is sponsored by the Department of Political Science.

Adam, a member of the Somali Socialist Party, received his Ph.D. from Harvard University and was formerly chairman of the Afro-American Studies program at Harvard.

He traveled to the west to attend an international conference on Frantz Fanon in Trinidad and to work with the Frantz Fanon Institute at UCLA. He will be speaking later during his trip at UC Berkeley.

Somalia and Ethiopia are now in virtual open warfare over the disputed territory of the Ogaden desert. The Soviet Union and Cuba have until now been supporting the cause of Ethiopia. The United States has remained ostensibly neutral.

"There are indications, however," says Dr. David Laitin, assistant professor of political science, "that the U.S. may soon be supporting the Somalis under the urgings of Arab states -- in particular, Saudi Arabia, Iran and the Sudan.

"A major cold-war confrontation may be imminent," Laitin adds.

Fanon, about whose philosophy Adam has written extensively, was the theorist of the psychology of national liberation movements, particularly in Africa, and was an explosive influence upon the liberation struggles of the 1950s and 1960s.

Adam's talk Monday is free and open to the public.

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