



FEBRUARY 13 – MARCH 12, 2017

SOMALILAND FIELD SCHOOL

FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY
AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE
HORN OF AFRICA:

UNCOVERING SOMALILAND'S
TROUBLED PAST





PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

As a result of human rights abuses committed during the regime of Mohammed Siad Barre in the 1980s, an estimated 60,000 people were killed and thousands more were victims of enforced disappearance in Somaliland. Working in Hargeisa, EPAF's field school students will participate in all steps in a forensic investigation to determine whenever possible the fate of Somaliland disappeared.

Participants will gain understanding of the applications of forensic science in the investigation of human rights violations and learn the processes involved in the examination, recovery and analysis of mass graves and their contents. Participants will also assist in training the staff of the War Crimes Investigation Commission (WCIC), working in the exhumation process and in the laboratory.



BEFORE ARRIVAL

Prior to deploying to the field participants will receive a comprehensive reading list on the culture, politics and recent history of Somaliland. At the beginning of the field school, students will receive introductory lectures on the various components on the forensic investigation of human rights violations.



IN THE FIELD

Participants will be guided through the exhumation process of mass graves selected by the War Crimes Investigation Commission of Somaliland. The process includes and is not limited to, surveying, mapping, collecting surface evidence and exhumation procedures. Collection of antemortem data from families of alleged missing persons thought to be buried in the sites will also be carried out.

AT THE LAB

Participants working alongside WCIC staff, will clean, reconstruct and examine human remains and associated artifacts. Participants will be guided through the process of aging, sexing, stature estimation, individuating characteristics and trauma analysis of the human remains.



HOW TO APPLY

1. Request an application form and submit it via e-mail to: fieldschool@epafperu.org
2. Make a non-refundable deposit of \$200 USD until November 30th, 2016.
3. Participate in a Skype interview with a field school facilitator. Interviews will take place between December 1st and 15th 2016.
4. Upon being accepted participants will make a first payment of 1650 USD until December 30th 2016 and the second payment of 1650 USD should take place no later than January 30th 2017.

Register soon! Vacancies are limited.



STUDENTS FEES

The cost of the field school is \$3500 USD and includes the application fee. The first payment of \$1650 should be made no later than December 30th 2016 and the second payment of \$1650 will be due no later than January 30th 2017. For further information on fees and payment methods, please e-mail: fieldschool@epafperu.org

WHAT IS COVERED

- Costs of instruction
- Accommodation
- Three daily meals, including weekends
- Local transportation
- Security

NOT COVERED

- Airfare to and from Hargeisa (best routes are Ethiopian airlines via Addis Ababa and Emirates/Fly Dubai via Dubai)
- Health and travel insurance
- Immunizations and any prescribed medication
- Entry visa (30 USD)
- Personal expenses (phone calls, gifts, bank fees, etc.)



SECURITY ISSUES

Despite travel advisories from various national governments that caution against all travel to Somalia, we emphasize the distinction between the general region of Somalia and the State of Somaliland (non-recognized). The field school takes place in Hargeisa, capital of Somaliland, where the security situation has been stable for well over a decade.

The safety of all field school participants is our primary concern. We have carefully evaluated every contingency and we will make every possible effort to ensure the safety of the team. The security forces of Somaliland will provide site and team security. In addition EPAF provides additional security staff dedicated exclusively to the protection of field school participants.



HEALTHCARE

All medical coverage for foreigners working in Somaliland is provided by Exmed Global Medical Services of the UK. Exmed has a contract with the United Nations to provide emergency care, medical evacuation (as far as Nairobi, Kenya), and primary care to members of all registered NGOs.

Exmed has a doctor and two paramedics on call 24/7 at the UN compound in Hargeisa. A UN doctor and ambulance are also available at a clinic inside the World Health Organization (WHO) compound.

Everyone traveling to Hargeisa with the EPAF field school must have medical insurance and be vaccinated against Yellow fever, hepatitis A and B, rabies, and tetanus. Although Hargeisa is not a malaria-risk area, mosquito nets are always useful.



FIELDSCHOOL IN THE MEDIA

AL JAZEERA. Power and People. Kill all but the crows, Documentary, 2016.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hco6_NYXin0

THE PROGRESS. A strong foot to stand on, 2013.

www.theprogress.com/news/186079001.html

SOMALILAND PRESS. Transitional Justice in Somaliland, 2012

<http://www.somalilandpress.com/transitional-justice-in-somaliland/>

BBC NEWS. In pictures: Excavating past crimes in Somaliland, 2014

<http://www.bbc.com/news/in-pictures-26351649>

FACILITATORS



Franco Mora is a Peruvian archeologist. He studied and trained in bioarcheology early in his career, and has practiced forensic anthropology since he joined EPAF in 2007. He has worked as forensic expert on human rights cases in Peru, Colombia, Guatemala, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Somaliland, Nepal, Algeria, Mexico and Brazil.

Valeska Martinez is a Chilean physical anthropologist. She works as forensic anthropology since 2012 when she joined EPAF. Valeska has worked as forensic expert on human rights investigation cases as well as in the aftermath of natural disasters in Peru, Brazil and Ecuador.





Rafael de Abreu e Souza is a Brazilian archaeologist with a background in historical, contemporary and forensic archaeology and anthropology. He has worked as forensic archaeologist on human rights investigation cases involving forced disappearances in Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Somaliland and Georgia.



SPONSORED BY:



THE CENTER FOR JUSTICE & ACCOUNTABILITY

Bringing Human Rights Abusers To Justice.

The Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA) is an international human rights organization dedicated to deterring torture and other human rights abuses around the world and advancing the rights of survivors to seek truth, justice and redress. CJA uses litigation to hold perpetrators individually accountable for human rights abuses, develop human rights law and advance the rule of law in countries transitioning from periods of abuse.

ORGANIZED BY:



EPAF International, a subsidiary of EPAF is dedicated to international training in the field of forensic science and related disciplines.

The Center for Justice and Accountability

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