



Somali

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# Sheekooyinka Annaga **The Stories of Us**



Sheekadii Ramla  
**A story by Ramla**

## **Ku soo dhowow Waaxda Arrimaha Khiyaaliga ah**

Waxaan raadinnaa, soo uruurinnaa, oo bulshada la wadaagnaa sheekooyinka Kanadiyaanka oo ka kala yimid xeeb ilaa xeeb ilaa xeeb. Sheeko kasta waxay naga caawineysaa inaan wax badan ka barano dadka ku nool Kanada.

Mashruucyadan, waxaanu iskula wadaagnaa sheekooyinkaas, iyadoo rajadu tahay inaan abuurno qaran ka kooban muwaadiniin naxariis leh, adeegyo dadweeyne, iyo siyaasado. Sheekooyinku waa furaha lagula tacaalo fikradaha, kobcinta iyo horumarinta hal abuurka, iyo fursad u siinta muwaadiniinta kor u qaadista codkooda.

## **Sheekooyinka Annaga**

Mashruucani waa waddo lagu koobayo, laguna wadaagayo sheekooyinka Imaatinka Kanada, aalad ahaanna loogu isticmaalayo barashada Luqadda Ingiriisiga.

## **Welcome to the Department of Imaginary Affairs.**

We seek, collect, and share stories of Canadians from coast to coast to coast. Every story helps us learn more about the people who live in Canada.

Through our projects, we share these stories in the hopes of creating a nation of empathetic citizens, public services, and policies. Stories are the key to challenging assumptions, nurturing and fostering creativity, and giving rise to citizen voices.

## **The Stories of Us**

This project wants to give you a chance to learn English through your own stories.



Magacaygu waa Ramla. Waxaan ku dhashay magaalada Muqdisho (Mogadisho), Soomaaliya, qoyskayaguna waxay u soo haajireen Toronto sannadkii 1995tii, taasoo ay sababtay dagaalkii sokeeye ee Soomaaliya.

Waxaan ka dhashay qoys sagaal(9) qof ka kooban, afar gabdhood (4), saddex (3) wiil iyo waalidiintay. Hal gabar ayaa iga weeyn, walaalahay inta kalena waa iga yar-yar yihiin, taas oo iga dhigaysa qofka labaad ee ugu weeyn.

Waxaan naafo ka ahay xagga aragga, taas oo aan ku dhashay. Naafanimadayda xagga araggu igama horistaagin inaan gaaro himilooyinkayga (dreams).

Waxaan imid Toronto anigoo aan aqoon wax Ingiriisi (English) ah mana aan helin inaba wax barasho caadi ah. Nuxurkaygu waxaa weeye, ma aqoon sida wax loo akhriyo, loona qoro.

Waxaan dugsi ka bilaabay Toronto, fasalka sideedaad (8aad) Jannaayo 1996. Xilligii yaraantaydii, dugsi ma tegin, taasoo ay sababtay naafanimadayda xagga aragga. Soomaaliya ma irin addeegyo ama taakulayn lagu caawiyo ashkhaasta araggu ka lumay.

Shan sano guduhood oo aan Toronto ku sugnaa, waxaan maareeyey (mastered) Ingiriisi, Braille (English, Braille), iyo fursad u helidda tiknoolagiyadda (technology) ay isticmaalaan kuwa indhaha la' iyo kuwa aragga ka naafoobay.

**My name is Ramla. I was born in the city of Mogadishu, Somalia and my family immigrated to Toronto in 1995 due to the civil war in Somalia.**

**I am from a family of nine which consists of four girls, three boys and my parents. I have an older sister and the rest of my siblings are younger than me which leaves me to be the second oldest.**

**I have a visual impairment which I was born with. My visual impairment never stopped me from achieving my dreams.**

**I arrived from Somalia not knowing any English nor had I received any formal education. In essence, I did not know how to read and write.**

**I started school in Toronto in January 1996 in grade 8. In my childhood years, I did not attend school due to my visual impairment. Somalia had no services or accommodations to assist individuals with sight loss.**

**Within five years of being in Toronto, I had mastered English, Braille, as well as the Access TecUology for users who are blind and visually impaired.**

Barashada waxyaalahaas cusub oo dhan isku mar, waxay igu ahayd wax adag, laakiin aad baan u dadaalayey, waana inaan dhaho waxaan ahaa qof aad loogu barakeeyey inaan ka helo taageero cajiib ah qoyskayaga, saaxiibaday iyo macallimiintaydii, kuwaas oo diyaar ii ahaa, xilli kasta oo aan u bahdo.

Dadaalakaygii iyo deggenaantaydii waxay igu caawiyeen horumar inaan ku guulaysto ka aflixiddii dugsiga sare, taasoo aan darajooyin sar-sare ka keenay koorsooyinka horumarsan (advanced courses).

Dhab ahaantii, dhawr jeer waxaa la igu ammaanay shaqo adaygaygii, darajada aan waxbarashada ka gaaray iyo ka qayb qaadashada hawlaha mujtamaca. Aqoonsiyaasha kale aan helay waxaa ka mid ah deeq waxbarasho oo lagu magacaabo (Aiming for the Top Tuition Scholarship), taas oo ay bixiso Dawladda Ontaariyo, iyo jaa'isad lagu magacaabo Jaa'isadda Hoggaaminta (The Leadership Award) oo ay bixiso Kuliyadda George Harvey Collegiate.

Ka dib markaan ka qalin jebiyey Dugsiga Sare, waxaan galay Kuliyadda Senteeniyal (Centennial College) si aan u qaato Shahaadadda Shaqaalaha Adeegga Bulshada (Social Service Worker Diploma). Isla markaan ka qalin jebiyey Kuliyadda Senteeniyal, waxaan galay Jaamicadda York (York University) si aan uga qaato Shahaadadda cilmiga bulshada (sociology). Aad ayaan ugu fiicnaa maaddooyinkii aan qaatay isla makasna isku celceliska buundooyinka (GPA) aan ka helay Kuliyadda Senteeniyal iyo Jaamicadda York aad bay u fiicnaayeen, in kasta oo aan

**Learning all these new things at the same time were very tough on me, but I was very determined and I have to say that I was very blessed to have had incredible support from my family, friends and teachers who were always there for me whenever I needed them to be.**

**My determination and tenacity have helped me progress to successfully completing high school with top grades in many advanced level courses.**

**In fact, I was recognized several times for my hard work, high academic performance, and community involvement. Some of the recognitions that I received include Aiming for the Top Tuition Scholarship from the Government of Ontario, and the Leadership Award from George Harvey Collegiate Institute.**

**After graduating from high school, I went to Centennial College to get my Social Service Worker Diploma. Once I graduated from Centennial College, I then went on to York University to get my degree in Sociology. I did very well on my courses and my GPA was very good for both college and university despite the struggles I endured in getting my course materials in accessible formats.**

halgankii ugu adkaystay qaabka aan u helayey maaddooyinka iyo sida loo soo diyaariyey.

Waan akhriyaa Braille intii aan qori lahaa, waxaan isticmaalaa kombuyuutar (computer) codka soo saara. Braille waa nidaam wax akhris iyo qoraal, kaas oo xarfaha iyo kelmedaha lagu habeeyey naqshad dhibco waaweyn kuwaas oo faraha lagu dareemi karo. Waxaan u baahday inaan buugaagtayda ku helo Braille, buuqaagtayda qoraalka ama cajaladaha, si aan u dhamaysto maaddooyinkayga. Waxay ahayd qalinjebintaydii hore ka dib, marka ay noqotay inaan si aad ah isu muujiyo, xoog isu yeelo, garto xuquuqdayda, isla markaasna u doodo naftayda si aan u helo taakulaynta aan ugu baahnahay inaan si guul leh ugu dhammeeyo maaddooyinkayga, ka dibna aan qalinjebiyo.

Caqabad kale oo weeyn oo iga hortimid waxay ahayd, isticmaalka usha tukubaha (cane). Waan karhay iyada, waayo kuma isticmaali jirin waddankaygii, waxaan u malayn jirey inaan u baahnayn inaan isticmaalo.

Waxaan haystay hanuunin iyo tababare dhaq-dhaqaaq (mobility instructor) oo ay I siiyeen Gudida Jaamicaddu, waxayna ahayd midda I baraysey sida loo isticmaalo usha. Waxay kaloo I baraysey sida aan u heli lahaa fasalladayda iyo sidaan jaamicadda ugu dhex socdo si madax banaani ah. Ma aanan jeclayn tababarahaas, waayo waxay igu cadaadin jirtey inaan isticmaalo usha, macallimiintaydana waxay u sheegtay inay sidoo kale iyaguna iigu cadaadiyaan inaan isticmaalo ushayda, hadday I arkaan anigoo aan isticmaalayn.

**I read Braille instead of print and I use a computer with voice output. Braille is system of reading and writing in which letters and words are formed by patterns of raised dots that are felt with the fingers. I needed to get my school books in Braille, e-text or tape in order to complete my courses. It was during my post secondary education where I had to be extremely determined, very strong, know my rights and advocate for myself for the accommodations I required to successfully complete my courses and graduate.**

**Another major challenge I had to face was using a cane. I hated it because I never used it when I was back home and I thought it was not necessary for me to use it.**

**I had an orientation and mobility instructor from the school board and she was the one who was teaching me how to use the cane. She was also teaching me how to find my classes and getting around the school independently. I didn't like this instructor because she pushed me to use the cane and told my teachers to push me as well to use my cane if they saw me not using it.**



Waalidiintayduna way ku jireen arrinka ah inaanan isticmaalayn usha, sidaas baana keentay inaan meel kasta ku yeesho dad igu oranaya “isticmaal ushaada, ama haddii kale meelna gaari maysid”.

Waan ka xishoonayey isticmaalka usha, laakiin waan ka adkaaday xishoodkaas ka dib shan iy toban jirkaygii. Waxaan xaqiiqsaday ujeedada isticmaalka ushu inuu ahaa badbaadadayda, isla markaasna inaan wax dan ah u yeelan sida dadka kale ii arkaan. Waxaan bilaabay inaan isticmaalo ushaydii, halkaasna waxaa ku soo afjarmay murankii aniga iyo waalidiintayda iyo macallimiintayda.

Waxaan bilaabay inaan barto sida aan keli u socsocdo, waalidiintayduna waxay ii ballan qaadeen, haddii aan isticmaalo ushayda, inay ii ogolaanayaan inaan iskay u aado Jaamicadda iyo inaan asxaabtayda la bixi karo, intii meel kasta cidi i geeyn lahayd, ilaa aan u bahdo qof kale caawimaaddiisa.

Waxaan aad ugu faraxsanahay in macallimiintayda iyo waalidiintayduba I dhiirri geliyeen waqtigaas oo dhan oo aan diidayey inaan isticmaalo ushayda. Xaqiiqdii, waan u baahnaa sidaas, ama haddii kale uma madax bannaanaadeen sida aan hadda u madax bannaanahay.

Waxaa caqabad run ah ahayd shaqo helista mar hadaad tahay shakhsi araggu ka lumay. Waxay igu qaadatay afar sano iyo bar inaan shaqo ku helo.

**My parents were also on my case for not using the cane so I had people everywhere telling me “use your cane or else you are not going anywhere”.**

**I was embarrassed by using the cane but I overcame that embarrassment after I turned fifteen. I realized that the purpose of using the cane was for my safety and that I shouldn’t care what other people think of me. I started using my cane and the arguments with parents and teachers came to an end.**

**I started learning how to travel by myself and my parents promised me that if I used my cane they would let me go to school on my own and go out with my friends instead of people taking me everywhere unless I need someone else’s help.**

**I am so glad my teachers and parents encouraged me all that time I was refusing to use my cane. I really needed that or else I wouldn’t be as independent as I am now.**

**It was a real challenge finding employment as a person with sight loss. It took me 4 years and half to find employment.**

Waxaan hadda ka shaqeeya Machadka Qaranka Indhoolayaasha ee Kanada (Canadian National Institute for Blind; (CNIB), anigoo ah, isu duwe (coordinator), udoodis (advocacy) iyo Bulsho Hagaajin (Community Engagement) (GTA). Xaqiiqiyan waxay ahayd wax adag shaqo helistu, laakiin mar kasta waxaan qabey rajo, waxaan ogaa in maalin uun wax ii shaqaynayaan.

Waxaan fahansanahay in nolosha ay ka buuxaan caqabado badan, qof walbana kuwa isaga u gaar ah ayaa siyaalo kala duwan ula kulma. Qofna dhibaato xor kama aha dunidan. Mar kasta iimaan yeelo, diyaarso yoolal aad rabtid inaad gaartid, naftaada la dulqaado, aad u shaqee, xoog yeelo, kor isu qaad, aqoonso xuquuqdaada, ha ka daalin yoolalkaaga, hana oggolaan marnaba in qofnaba hoos kuu dhigo.

Waalidiintaydu mar walba way na taageeri jireen, waxayna hubin jireen in aniga iyo walaalahay aannu helnay taageeradii aannu u baahnayn. Anigu shakhsiyaan waxaan ogahay inaan joogeen meesha aan hadda joogo, haddii aanan ugu horrayn helin taageerada ILAAHAY (God), ka dibna waalidiintay, macallimaintaydii, Guddoonka Waxbarashada Degmada Toronto (Toronto District School Board), Barnaamijka Aragga (Vision Program), CNIB iyo Dawladda Ontaariyo (Ontario Government)

Nolosha oo dhammi waa inaad is qiimaysid oo kor isu qaadid, iyo inaad ka daalin ilaa inta aad gaaraysid yoolashaada.

**I am currently working at the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) as the Coordinator, Advocacy and Community Engagement (GTA). It was really tough getting employment but I had hope and I knew that something would work out for me one day.**

**I understand that life is full of challenges and everyone has their challenges in different ways. No one is problem-free in this world. Always have faith in yourself, set goals you want to achieve, be patient with yourself, work hard, be strong, be determined, know your rights, never give up on your goals and don't ever let anybody put you down.**

**My parents always supported us and they made sure that me and my siblings got the support we need. I personally know that I wouldn't be where I am now without the support of God first, then my parents, teachers, Toronto District School Board, Vision Program, CNIB and the Ontario government.**

**Life is all about being determined and not giving up until you achieve your goal.**

# Su'aalo

## Questions

1. Yaa sheekadu ku saabsan tahay?
  2. Waddanke buu ka yimid/bay ka timid?
  3. Magaaladee buu ka yimid/bay ka timid?
  4. Maxuu ka jecel yahay magaaladiisa/waddankiisa, maxay ka jeceshahay magaaladeeda/waddankeeda?
  5. Goormuu u yimid Kanada?
  6. Miyuu faraxsan yahay/miyay faraxsantahay? Waa maxay sababtu?
  7. Miyuu murugaysan yahay/miyay murugaysantahay? Waa maxay sababtu?
  8. Muxuu ka yiri/maxay ka tiri Kanada?
  9. Maxuu rabaa inuu mustaqbalka sameeyo/maxay rabtaa inay mustaqbalka samayso?
1. Who is the story about?
  2. What country is he/she from?
  3. What city is he/she from?
  4. What does he/she like about her city/country?
  5. When did he/she come to Canada?
  6. Is he/she happy? Why?
  7. Is he/she sad? Why?
  8. What does he/she say about Canada?
  9. What does he/she want to do in the future?



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