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**Modrickers Ma Maqasheen? Have You Heard of the Modrickers?**

Aweis A. Ali

*Magac laga miskiin maahan  
Soomaalidu ku maahmaah  
Magaca Warren ah  
Micnihiisa yaa ah  
Mid waardiye ciidana  
Gama' marna an yeelin  
Siduu mayracaayo*

*Marwo Dorothy iyaduna  
Micnaheeda yaa ah  
Mowle hadiyaddisii  
Ma daaley ahaydoo  
Maskax Eebbe siiyo  
Muran laga ilaalshoo  
Uu Masiixo dhowrsaday*

*Idaacaddii Masiixee  
Muxubo ay u fuliyeen  
Anigoo Muslim ahoo  
Iska jooga Muqdisho  
Kaga bayray mugdigoo  
Masiixaanba raacay  
Mahadbaan u haayaa*

*Soomaalidoo murgootoo  
Meelo badan ku firisan  
Murugmaarug daaloo  
Aan Masiixa garanayn  
Waxaa yimid Modrickers  
Uu Mowle soo diray  
Muxubana ku miisay*

*Meel kastoo Soomaalidu  
Minan ay ku leedahay  
Cadan iyo Muqdisho  
Nairobidi mudnayd iyo  
Addis magaci weynayd  
Jabuutidi mugga yarayd  
Way markhaati furayeen*

*Waxa qoys Maraykana  
Soomaalida Muslimka ah*

*No one is too poor for a good name  
Is a Somali proverb  
The name Warren  
Has a good meaning  
It means guard, defender, protector  
Like he is grazing his livestock  
One who does not slumber*

*The name Dorothy  
Has a great meaning, too  
It means God's gift  
Dorothy was tireless  
Divinely intelligent  
Never argumentative  
The Lord Jesus protected her*

*The radio ministry  
Which they established  
When I was a Muslim  
Living in Mogadishu  
It vanquished the darkness  
I followed Jesus  
I am grateful to them*

*The Somalis were sad  
They were scattered  
And very confused  
They did not know the Lord  
Then came the Modrickers  
God sent them to us  
He filled them with love*

*Wherever the Somalis  
Lived or simply stayed  
From Aden to Mogadishu  
The great Nairobi  
The well-known Addis Ababa  
Even the tiny Djibouti  
The Modrickers testified*

*An American family  
Serving Somali Muslims*

*In ay magaca Ciise  
Maalin iyo habeenba  
Markastaba ku wacdiyaan  
Ma ahayn wax uun fudud  
Masiixaase soo diray*

*Every day and every night  
They witnessed to them  
In the name of Jesus  
That was not easy  
But they were Messiah-sent*

*Eebbe Warren muuq tusi  
Micnihiisu uu yahay  
Markaad aaddo Soomaaliya  
Meel kale ma ahanoo  
Minankaagi weeyaan  
Magaalaa ku taalla  
Magaceedu Warren yahay*

*Warren saw a divine vision  
The meaning of which was  
When you reach Somalia  
It is not an alien land  
It is like your own home  
There is a village there  
In which its name is Warren*

*Warren maabki soo qabay  
Meelo badan ka baadhbaadh  
Mise tuulo magaceed  
Uu Warren yahaybaa  
Mowle sii diyaariyay  
Markii ay yimaadeen  
Martigaadba loo fidi*

*Warren grabbed the map  
He searched the village name  
The village with that name  
He found the Warren village  
God predestined it that way  
Modrickers visited the village  
They were hosted well*

*Martisoorki dabadeed  
Injiilkii Masiixyeey  
Muxubbo ugu sheegeen  
Intii maqashay yaabtay  
Misbaaxdii Ilaahbaa  
Musaafurku u keeneen  
Aadna ugu micneeyeen*

*After the warm reception  
They shared with love  
The Gospel of Jesus  
The hearers were amazed  
The Modrickers brought  
The Light of the Lord  
They explained everything*

*Labaatan sano markii ay  
Meelo ka baxsan Soomaaliya  
Ay injiilka Masiixa  
Soomaalida u meersheen  
Muqdishey yimaadeen  
Miishan ay ka fuliyeen  
Masiixayna tuugeen*

*After two decades  
Outside Somalia  
The Gospel of Jesus Christ  
They shared it with the Somalis  
They arrived Mogadishu  
They set up the Mission  
They prayed to the Messiah*

*Modrickers markii ay  
Muddo waddanka joogeen  
Afkanaga macaanbay  
Misna ay bartenoo  
Oo Kitaabki Mowleey  
Murtidiisii turjumeen  
Eebbaa ku mahadsan  
Miro aad u badan buu  
Mowle siiyay qosykaan*

*After the Modrickers  
Stayed in Somalia for a while  
They learnt very well  
Our beautiful language  
Then they translated  
The Holy Bible  
Thanks to God  
God gave the Modrickers  
Plenty of fruits*

*Muslimiinta qaar baa  
Marar badan maagoo  
Eabbahood miciinsaday  
Isaguna megen geli  
Markastoo la maagay*

*There were some Muslims  
Who persecuted them  
They prayed to God  
He protected them  
Against all aggressions*

*Helen Miller buuggii  
Meeshii Ugu Adkayd  
Ay ugu magac dartay  
Ayay Modrickers  
Sheekadoodi meerisay  
Mana ay dhammaynine  
Yaa mid kale innoo qori?*

*Helen Miller's book  
In which its title is  
The Hardest Place  
She wrote about their life  
And their ministry, too  
It does not cover everything  
Who will write us the sequel?*

### About the Modrickers



The Modrickers. Photo credit: The Hardest Place, Helen Miller

Aweis composed this Somali poem and translated it into English in memory of the greatest missionary couple to have ever served among Somalis, Warren and Dorothy Modricker. The Modrickers were pioneer missionaries to the Somalis; they arrived in British Somaliland in 1933 and temporarily relocated to Yemen when the British colonial authorities denied their entry to Somaliland. To better minister to the Somalis, the Modrickers lived in Yemen, Somalia, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Kenya before eventually retiring to the US, where they continued ministering to the Somalis. The Modrickers were indeed the First Family of the Somali Church. Almost every Somali Christian in the Somali peninsula is directly or indirectly the fruit of the Modrickers. Translating poetry without compromising its

quality is impossible, but Aweis tried his best in this translation. The Lord found Aweis through the ministry of *Codka Nolasha Cusub* (Voice of New Life), the very radio ministry the Modrickers started in 1972. Rev. Aweis is eternally grateful to this godly couple. The author can be reached at [amazingwisdom@gmail.com](mailto:amazingwisdom@gmail.com).