

## Traffic Congestion in Mogadishu City Causes and Solutions

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### ABSTRACT

The objective of this study is to identify factors that are responsible for obstructing smooth traffic flow and increasing traffic congestion in Mogadishu City- Somalia. Research design of this study included collection of primary data from personal observation by traveling in Mogadishu city.

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### Introduction

Somalia, officially known as the Federal Republic of Somalia, is a country located in the Horn of Africa. It is bordered by Ethiopia to the west, Djibouti to the northwest, the Gulf of Aden to the north, the Indian Ocean to the east, and Kenya to the southwest. Somalia has a rich cultural heritage, diverse ethnic groups, and a long history shaped by ancient civilizations and maritime trade routes.

Mogadishu, the capital city of Somalia, is a vibrant and historically significant urban centre. It is situated on the country's southeastern coast along the Indian Ocean. With a population estimated at over 2.5 million people, Mogadishu is the largest city in Somalia and serves as the political, economic, and cultural hub of the nation.

Somalia has a population of approximately 15 million people, with Mogadishu being home to a significant portion of the country's population. The city has experienced both growth and challenges due to factors such as conflict, political instability, and natural disasters. Despite these challenges, Mogadishu has shown resilience, and efforts are being made to rebuild and revive its economy. The economy of Somalia is primarily based on agriculture, livestock, and fishing. The country has vast agricultural potential with fertile land, but due to on-going conflicts and limited infrastructure, the sector faces numerous challenges. Additionally, Somalia has valuable natural resources, including petroleum and mineral deposits, which hold potential for future economic growth. Remittances from the Somali diaspora also play a significant role in supporting the economy.

### Traffic Congestion in Mogadishu

Like many rapidly growing cities, Mogadishu faces traffic congestion issues. The city's road infrastructure has struggled

to keep up with the increasing number of vehicles on the road. With limited traffic management systems and inadequate road maintenance, traffic congestion can be a common occurrence during peak hours. However, it is important to note that efforts have been made to address this issue. The Somali government, in collaboration with international partners, is investing in infrastructure development projects aimed at improving road networks, creating alternative transportation routes, and implementing traffic management systems. These initiatives aim to alleviate traffic congestion and enhance the overall transportation experience in Mogadishu. Despite the challenges posed by traffic congestion, Mogadishu continues to grow and evolve as a dynamic city, offering its residents and visitors a unique blend of history, culture, and opportunities for development.

The objective of this study is to identify factors that are responsible for traffic congestion in Mogadishu city and come up with some possible solutions that may reduce those problems and bring peace and harmony for the citizens of Mogadishu city.

### Methods

The research is explanatory in nature. Research design includes collection of primary data from personal observation by traveling in Mogadishu city.

### Traffic Congestion Causes

We can divide traffic congestion causes in two primary and Secondary

- a) **Primary causes** is Rapid population growth, increasing urbanization, inadequate/unplanned transport infrastructure, poor public transport systems and the rising number of personnel vehicles
- b) **Secondary causes** are the key factors causing traffic congestion
  1. Narrow road and low road space.
  2. Lack traffic control devices (signal, signs, markings)
  3. Traffic rules violation.
  4. Bulk Security check points in the city

5. Poor road surface
6. Uncontrolled loading & unloading Public transport
7. Uncontrolled truck ( travel time ,loading & unloading locations)
8. Different vehicle speed .
9. Hawkers put there shops on footpath illegally .
10. Illegal road side parking
11. Road side pedestrian movement and random crossing
12. Poor Drivers Training
13. Poor Drainage facilities

#### **Probable Solution to Minimize Traffic Congestion for Traffic Congestion in Mogadishu City**

We can divide the solution in to short term and long-term solutions

c) **Short term solution** requires Low Cost of applying and Less time Operation, here are list of short-term solutions

1. Law enforcement
2. Installing traffic signs and signal
3. Proper functioning either Road signals or Traffic police
4. Encouraging Public Transport
5. Over bridge (foot bridge)
6. Eliminating Side friction( on street parking, business)
7. Bus lay-by
8. Track management
9. Terminals for trucks
10. License control

d) **Long Term Solution** requires High initial Cost Operation

1. Increasing road width
2. Fly overs
3. Special Bus lane
4. intended Car parking
5. Drainage Development

#### **Conclusion**

Traffic congestion is a global as well local problem . It is most important and dangerous problem in modern life . Due to traffic jam Mogadishu city causing loss the economy Somalia .Ministry of Public works , Benadir Regional Administration (BRA) and Traffic police Unit should take their own duties regarding traffic congestion issues in Mogadishu city also Mogadishu city population should play their role.

In this article i study the causes of traffic congestion, and its solutions, my goal is If we apply the solutions with our limited resources the traffic congestion will reduce.

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