

URGENT ACTION

EIGHT ARRESTED, WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

10 people, seven of whom are Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), were arrested by Sudan's National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) in Darfur on 31 July. The 10 had attended a meeting with the United States Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan before their arrest. Two people have been released, while the whereabouts of the other eight remains unknown.

10 people including seven IDPs were arrested by the NISS on 31 July. The seven IDPs arrested in Nierteti City, Central Darfur State are: **Adam Siddiq Abdel Rahman**, 75, the head of Southern IDPs camp in Nierteti; **Adam Hamid Adam**, 60, the head of Northern IDPs camp in Nierteti; **Al Rasheed Mohamed Essa**, 49, African Union - United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) employee; **Ahmed Omer**, 37, UNAMID employee; **Ali Abdel Aziz Ali**, 33, student; **Nasser El Deen Yousef Abdel Rahman**, 30; and **Abdelkarim Adam Abdelkarim**, of the Southern Nierteti camp. The others arrested include **Adam Mohamed Ali**, 69, **Mohamed Al Tejani Seif El Deen**, 30, and **El Tijani Abdeljabar Yousef**, 70, a medical doctor. Abdelkarim Adam Abdelkarim and El Tijani Abdeljabar Yousef were released on 1 August, but the whereabouts of the other eight remains unknown. Their families have had no contact with them since their arrest. They could be at risk of torture or other ill-treatment.

The 10 had attended a meeting on 30 July with the U.S Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan, Donald Booth, during his four day visit to Darfur. He was visiting Darfur to assess the security and humanitarian situation on the ground and meet with IDPs. He visited Nierteti City in Central Darfur State where he met with representatives for the IDPs, especially from the Jebel Marra area where intense fighting between a rebel group and government forces has been ongoing since January 2016.

Please write immediately in Arabic or your own language:

- Urging the Sudanese authorities to immediately disclose the whereabouts of Adam Siddiq Abdel Rahman, Adam Hamid Adam, Ahmed Omer, Ali Abdel Aziz Ali, Al Rasheed Mohamed Essa, Nasser El Deen Yousef Abdel Rahman, Adam Mohamed Ali, Mohamed Al Tejani Seif El Deen and release them unless they are promptly charged with a recognizable criminal offence, in line with international law and standards;
- Calling on them to ensure that, if they are in custody, all eight people have prompt access to lawyers, their families and any medical treatment they may require;
- Urging them to ensure the eight are protected from torture or any other ill-treatment.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 19 SEPTEMBER 2016 TO:

President

HE Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir
Office of the President
People's Palace
PO Box 281
Khartoum, Sudan

Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister for Justice

Awad Al Hassan Alnour
Ministry of Justice
PO Box 302
Al Nil Avenue
Khartoum, Sudan

Salutation : Your Excellency

And copies to:

Minister for interior
Ismat Abdul-Rahman Zain Al-Abdin
Ministry of Interior
PO Box 873
Khartoum, Sudan

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. HIS EXCELLENCY MR MOHAMMED ABDALLA ALI ELTOM
Embassy of the Republic of the Sudan, 3 Cleveland Row St James's SW1A 1DD, 020 7839 8080, info@sudan-embassy.co.uk

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The security and humanitarian situation in Darfur remains dire, as the armed conflict entered its thirteenth year in 2016, with no progress in getting a peaceful solution. The recent fighting in Jebel Marra has caused the displacement of an estimated 129,000 people since mid-January 2016. An estimated 223,000 people were displaced in 2015 in Darfur. The conflict in Darfur, according to the UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), has resulted in over 300,000 civilians killed, and 2.5 million people displaced since 2003.

From January to June 2016, over 300 civilians were killed in Darfur as a result of the conflict. Inter-communal violence is wide spread. Acts of unlawful killing, rape, kidnapping, robbery and attacks on UN peacekeepers persist throughout the region. The rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly are heavily restricted. Arbitrary arrest and detention, as well as torture and other ill-treatment, are pervasive in the region. The Government of Sudan announced a unilateral ceasefire in Darfur on 30 June, but reports from the region indicates that aerial bombardments, carried out by government forces, took place in July.

Despite that, the Government of Sudan continues to repeat its claims that the security situation in Darfur has improved and is "stable".

In June 2016, the UN Security Council renewed the mandate of UNAMID until 30 June 2017, stating that the situation in Sudan constituted a threat to international peace and security. The Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD) was due to conclude in July 2016, without progress in accommodating the other three major rebel groups in the process, the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/SLA) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM).