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Further Information on UA 322/07 (AFR 54/068/2007, 4 December 2007) <u>Torture/Medical</u> Concern/Incommunicado Detention

SUDAN Abdel Jalil Basha (m), General Secretary of Umma Reform and Renewal Party

Yaqoub Yahya (m), former army officer

Kabbashi Khater Mohammed Ahmad (m), trader Tawer Osman Tawer (m), aged 58, former army officer

Ahmad Salman (m), aged 35, secretary to Abdel Jalil al-Basha and some 22 others held in Kober prison, Khartoum North, Sudan

All **30 of** those detained in Kober prison and at military headquarters since July 2007 for their alleged connections to the sabotage attempts against the Sudan government were pardoned by the President of Sudan, Field Marshal Omar al-Bashir on 31 December.

The pardon was announced by President Omar al-Bashir during his speech in Khartoum to mark the 52nd anniversary of Sudan's independence (1 January 1956). All those detained have now been released.

The issue of prolonged incommunicado detention for the detained was raised by Amnesty International in a series of Urgent Actions issued on their behalf. **Torture of detainees during their detention was documented by their testimonies and medical examinations** (See UA 241/07, AFR 54/051/2001, 7 September 2007 and follow up) and many were also denied medical treatment.

The released detainees thanked Amnesty International and its members for their support. No further action is required. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.