

URGENT ACTION

SUDANESE STUDENT DETAINED, AT RISK OF TORTURE

Mohammed Osman Moussa, a Sudanese student, has been detained incommunicado for nearly two months following his arrest on his way to university. He is at risk of torture and other ill-treatment.

Mohammed Osman Moussa (26) left his home in Omdurman, Sudan at 11am on 11 December 2012. Shortly after leaving, he informed relatives that he was being followed by a car he suspected as belonging to the National Security Service (NSS), and that he feared arrest.

The NSS refuses to disclose details on Mohammed Osman Moussa's whereabouts and condition, and has not granted him access to a lawyer or his family. It is also unclear whether he has access to medical care despite the fact he has a heart condition, for which he is required to take daily medication. He is at serious risk of torture and ill-treatment.

Mohammed Osman Moussa is studying accounting at Eastern Nile University. He is originally from the western region of Darfur and is active in drawing attention to human rights issues, notably as media officer for the Darfur Student Association of Eastern Nile University. In late 2012 he was detained for three months, during which he was reportedly ill-treated.

Please write immediately in Arabic, English or your own language:

- Calling on the authorities to release Mohammed Osman Moussa immediately and unconditionally;
- Urging them to ensure Mohamed Osman Moussa is not tortured or otherwise ill-treated;
- Calling on them to ensure that he has regular access to his family and lawyer of his choice, as well as any medical attention he may require.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 22 MARCH 2013 TO:

President

HE Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir
Office of the President
People's Palace
PO Box 281
Khartoum
Email: jinfo@sudan.gov.sd

Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Justice

Mohamed Bushara Dousa
Ministry of Justice,
PO Box 302
Al Nil Avenue
Khartoum, Sudan

Salutation: Your Excellency

And copies to:

Minister of Interior
Ibrahim Mohamed Ahmed
Ministry of Interior
PO Box 873
Khartoum,
Sudan

Salutation: Your Excellency

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.

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

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The crackdown on freedom of expression in Sudan continues as the authorities attempt to silence dissent and limit access to information. Since early 2011, there have been increased restrictions on freedom of expression imposed by the NSS, which has resulted in the ongoing harassment and intimidation of individuals who speak out against the government. The NSS maintains broad powers of arrest and detention under the National Security Act 2010, which allows suspects to be detained for up to four-and-a-half months without judicial review. NSS officials often use these powers to arbitrarily arrest and detain individuals, and to subject them to torture and other forms of ill-treatment. Under the same Act, NSS agents are provided with protection from prosecution for any act committed in the course of their work, which has resulted in a pervasive culture of impunity.

Amnesty International has documented numerous cases of arbitrary arrest, detention, and torture or other ill-treatment by the NSS. Individuals from marginalized areas of Sudan, such as Darfur, often face particularly harsh treatment in the hands of the NSS.

Name: Mohammed Osman Moussa

Gender m/f: m

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