

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AFR 54/15/96

24 July 1996

Further information (1) on UA 170/96 (AFR 54/13/96, 5 July 1996) - Fear of ill-treatment / possible prisoners of conscience / health concern

SUDAN Galal Hamid, former Director of the Gezira (agriculture) Scheme
Taj al-Sir Ahmad Abdallahi, President of Ahli Football Club
al-Kheir Ali Arbab, doctor
Abdeen Miheisi, architect and engineer
Osman Abdelgader, trade unionist
Mohamed Abdelghafar, businessman
Mubarak Mohamed al-Hassan
and 22 other men

New name: Adam Abdel Kabir, engineer

On 13 July 1996 al-Kheir Ali Arbab, Abdeen Miheisi and Adam Abdel Kabir are reported to have been transferred from the security headquarters in Wad Medani, Sudan's second city, to an unknown place of detention in Khartoum.

Amnesty International has not received any information which suggests any change in the circumstances of the five other men remaining in Wad Medani security headquarters nor of the 22 others reported to be held in Barakat, eight miles south of Wad Medani. The five in Wad Medani were reported to remain in detention up until 13 July 1996. Relatives were still being denied access, although they were able to provide food and necessary medicines which were handed over to security officials for distribution to the detainees. Amnesty International continues to regard all the detainees as possible prisoners of conscience.

There are no reports of ill-treatment of these detainees up until 13 July 1996. However, Amnesty International is concerned that the transfer of the three detainees to an unknown place in Khartoum could expose them to renewed risk of ill-treatment and that the presumed continued incommunicado detention of the other prisoners means that they too remain vulnerable to ill-treatment.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English, Arabic or in your own language:

- expressing concern at the continued detention without charge of the eight men named above and 22 others whose names are not available, who may be prisoners of conscience imprisoned for their suspected opposition to the Sudan Government;
- expressing particular concern at the transfer of al-Kheir Ali Arbab, Abdeen Miheisi and Adam Abdel Kabir to an unknown place in Khartoum and requesting information on where they are being held;
- asking assurances that all the detainees are not being ill-treated;
- urging that they be given immediate and regular access to their families, legal representatives and any necessary medical attention;
- appealing for them to be released if they are not to be charged with recognizable criminal offences and brought promptly to a fair trial.

APPEALS TO:

1) President

His Excellency Lieutenant General Omar Hassan al-Bashir
President of the Republic of the Sudan
People's Palace

PO Box 281, Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: Lt Gen Omar Hassan al-Bashir, Khartoum, Sudan

Salutation: Your Excellency

2) Minister of Justice/Attorney General

Mr 'Abd al-Basit Sabdarat

Minister of Justice and Attorney General

Ministry of Justice

Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: Minister of Justice 'Abd al-Basit Sabdarat, Khartoum, Sudan

Telexes: c/o 22411 KAID SD or 22604 IPOL SD

Salutation: Dear Minister

3) Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr Ali Osman Mohamed Taha

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

PO Box 873

Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: Foreign Minister Ali Osman Mohamed Taha, Khartoum, Sudan

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

1) Mr Obeid Haj Ali

Chief Justice

Law Courts

Khartoum, Sudan

2) The Chairman

Human Rights Committee of the National Assembly

Omdurman, Sudan

and to diplomatic representatives of Sudan accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 4 September 1996.