

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AFR 54/37/95

26 September 1995

Further information on UA 119/95 (AFR 54/15/95, 25 May 1995) and follow-up (AFR 54/23/95, 17 July 1995) - Fear of Torture / Possible prisoner of conscience

SUDAN Sadiq al-Mahdi, former prime minister

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Amnesty International has learned that Sadiq al-Mahdi, former prime minister of Sudan, was released from detention on 26 August 1995.

After his release, Sadiq al-Mahdi is reported to have said that he was not tortured during detention, but that his imprisonment was "the worst that I have been subjected to. I was kept in solitude in a room exposed to the sun all day. I was prevented from receiving visits or contacting my family".

In recent weeks 18 political prisoners and 32 political detainees have been released by the Sudanese authorities, but also in recent weeks hundreds of people have been arrested after large-scale anti-government demonstrations in Khartoum. Scores of people, including many prominent lawyers, remain in detention.

No further action by the UA Network is required. Many thanks to all those who wrote appeals on behalf of Sadiq al-Mahdi.