

URGENT ACTION

FEMALE YOUTH ACTIVIST RELEASED

Rashida Shams al-Din, an activist from Sudan's youth movement Girifna, was released on 16 August after being detained incommunicado by the National Security Service (NSS) for over seven weeks.

Rashida Shams al-Din was arrested in the early hours of 24 June, after leaving a wedding. She did not return home that night and her family did not hear from her until 26 June, when the NSS confirmed to Rashida Shams al-Din's relative that she was being held in NSS custody at an undisclosed location. She was detained incommunicado without access to her relatives or a lawyer for over seven weeks. The conditions in which she was held during her detention were appalling, and Amnesty International believes this may amount to torture and other ill-treatment.

Twenty-eight-year old Rashida Shams al-Din lives in the Al-Shajara area of Khartoum and is a law student at the Open University of Sudan. She is a member of Girifna, a youth movement which has been involved in demonstrations criticizing the government, particularly in recent months.

Many thanks to all who sent appeals. No further action is required.

This is the first update of UA 187/12. Further information: <http://amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR54/028/2012/en>

Name: Rashida Shams al-Din

Gender m/f: Female

Further information on UA: 187/12 Index: AFR 54/043/2012 Issue Date: 23 August 2012

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