

URGENT ACTION

SUDANESE ACTIVIST AND TEACHER DETAINED

On 15 March, Jalila Khamis Koko, a teacher and member of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N), was taken from her home in Khartoum, the capital of Sudan. She is being detained incommunicado and is at serious risk of torture or other forms of ill-treatment.

Jalila Khamis Koko was arrested at her home by a group of unidentified men at 2am on 15 March. Her husband went to the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) headquarters in Khartoum on 15 March and they admitted to holding her in their custody and reportedly stated that she had been arrested for her work as an activist and member of the SPLM-N. She is being held incommunicado without access to a lawyer or her family.

Jalila Khamis Koko is a member of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) and is Nuban. The Nuba are an ethnic group in Southern Kordofan, Sudan. Her arrest and detention coincide with other arrests made by the Sudanese authorities of intellectuals, activists, and other people of Nuba origin. This is because authorities believe they are affiliated with the SPLM-N, a banned political party in Sudan. Other Sudanese activists providing information about human rights violations in Southern Kordofan have also faced arrest and interrogation by the NISS.

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

- Calling on the authorities to release Jalila Khamis Koko or charge her with a recognizable criminal offence;
- Urging the authorities to ensure that Jalila Khamis Koko is not tortured or otherwise ill-treated;
- Calling on the authorities to grant Jalila Khamis Koko immediate access to her family, lawyer and any medical treatment she may require.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 27 APRIL 2012 TO:

Minister of Justice

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

Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Interior

Mr Ibrahim Mohamed Hamed
Ministry of Interior
PO Box 873
Khartoum, Sudan

Salutation: Your Excellency

And copies to:

President

HE Omar Hassan Ahmad Al Bashir
Office of the President
People's Palace PO Box 281
Khartoum, Sudan
Email: info@sudan.gov.sd

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.

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

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Following South Sudan's independence, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N), which was previously part of the southern ruling party the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), was formed in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile.

Fighting in Southern Kordofan between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), broke out on 5 June 2011. Since then ongoing ground attacks between SAF and the military wing of the SPLM-N, the Sudan People's Liberation Army-North (SPLA-N), and indiscriminate aerial bombardments of towns and villages by SAF, have made much of Southern Kordofan unsafe for civilians, who have fled to other parts of the country and to South Sudan.

Access to information on the ongoing conflict in Southern Kordofan is severely restricted by the Sudanese government. Sudanese activists, that have raised awareness about human rights violations against the Nuba people in Southern Kordofan, have faced increased harassment, interrogation and arrests by the NISS. International humanitarian and human rights organization have had their access restricted to Southern Kordofan since the conflict broke out.

Name: Jalila Khamis Koko

Gender m/f: Female

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