

SUDAN

Darfur: extra judicial execution of 168 men

Between 5 and 7 March 2004, Sudanese military intelligence and armed forces officers accompanied by members of the armed militia, the *Janjawid*, arrested 168 people in 10 villages in Wadi Saleh province, in Western Darfur state. All those arrested belonged to the Fur, the largest ethnic group in Darfur.

The military intelligence officers detained those arrested in Deleij, 30 kilometres east of Garsila town in Wadi Saleh province. According to reports military intelligence and army officials claimed that they arrested the 168 men because they were sympathizers of the armed opposition group the Sudan Liberation Army (SLA), which has been at war with the government since February 2003 over issues relating to discrimination and marginalisation.

The 168 men were then blindfolded and taken in groups of about 40, on army trucks to an area behind a hill near Deleij village. They were then told to lie on the ground and shot by a force of about 45 members of the military intelligence and the *Janjawid*.

Two of those shot lay wounded among the bodies before escaping and giving information to the outside world.

Among those killed are the following 131 men:

People from Zaray village:

1. Nasr Al-Din Ahmed Abdel Rahman
2. Idris Ahmed Abdel Rahman
3. Ismail Mohammed Da'ud
4. Abaker Mohammed Issa
5. Omer Adam Abdel Shafi
6. Mohammed Ahmed Mohammed Khamis
7. Omer Siddig Abaker
8. Mohammed Abaker Atim

9. Abdallah Abdel Rahman
10. Mohammed Adam Atim
11. Abaker Saleh Abaker
12. Adam Yahya Adam
13. Issa Adam
14. Ishaq Adam Bilal
15. Siddig Abaker Ishaq
16. Shayib Adam Abdel Mahmoud
17. Nouradin Mohamed Daoud

People from Forgo

1. Mohammed Mohammed Adam
2. Abdel Mawla Musa
3. Haroun Ahmed Haroun
4. Mohammed Siddig Yusuf
5. Bakur Suleiman Abaker
6. Ibrahim Ahmed
7. Mohammed Burma Hassan
8. Mohammed Issa Adam
9. Zakariya Abdel Mawla Abaker
10. Adam Mohammed Abu'l-Gasim
11. Adam Abdel Majid Mohammed
12. Adam Adam Degaish (community leader)
13. Khalil Issa Tur

People from Tairgo

1. Idris Adam Ahmed
2. Yaqub Adam Ahmed
3. Al-Faki Haroun Adam Issa
4. Sharef Al-Din Saleh Musa
5. Sharef Al-Din Abaker Abdel Karim
6. Mohammed Ibrahim Arman
7. Musa Tahir Ibrahim
8. Musa Mohammed Yahya
9. Jibril Musa Mohammed
10. Yahya Abdel Karim Abdallah
11. Adam Abdel Karim Mohammed
12. Adam Mohammed Idris
13. Adam Abdel Majid Mohammed
14. Abdel Razeq Adam Abdel Majid
15. Fadul Adam Hamid
16. Issa Haroun Adam
17. Yaqub Mohammed Yaqub

People from Kasikildo:

1. Ishaq Ahmed Ishaq

2. Issa Haroun Ismail
3. Nurain Idris Adam
4. Abdel Mawla Haroun Ibrahim
5. Mohamed Yahya Hussain
6. Saleh Yunis Mohammed
7. Haroun Mohammed Haroun Adam
8. Suleiman Ahmed Hassan
9. Mohammed Issa Haroun
10. Idris Hassan Yahya
11. Musa Adam Abdel Mawla
12. Abdel Mu'min Saleh
13. Abaker Ismael Abdel Bashire
14. Musa Abdel Gadir
15. Mohammed Suleiman Abdel Shafi (community leader)
16. Adam Abdel Rahman
17. Idris Mohamed Yahya Atim

People from Mukger village:

1. Yahya Ahmed Zaroug
2. Mohammed Omer Ahmed Zaroug (health worker)

People from Garcila town

1. Ismail Abdel Aziz (Sheikh) west
2. Hassan (pensioner)

People from Kirting Village:

1. Hassan Ismail Da'ud
2. Al-Hadi Adam Abdel Karim
3. Fadul Adam Hamid
4. Adam Abdel Majid
5. Abdel Razig Adam Abdel Karim
6. Issa Haroun
7. Yaqub Mohammed Yaqub
8. Abdel Razig Abaker
9. Al-Haj Saleh Hassan
10. Faki Saleh Abdel Karim
11. Mohamed Baher
12. Faki Ismail Suleiman
13. Faki Adam Abdallah
14. Adam Abaker Issa
15. Faki Abdallah Kerry

People from Kuso Village:

1. Hussain Abdallah
2. Sayyid Abdallah Musa
3. Mohamed Saleh
4. Ismail
5. Musa Yusuf
6. Abaker Hussain
7. Yaya Yusuf
8. Faki Yusif Tagalay
9. Ibrahim Adam Suleiman
10. Ahmed Ishaq

People from Gaba Village:

1. Jiddo Khamis Abdel Karim (community leader)
2. Zakariya Abaker Adam (community leader)
3. Mohammed Adam Mohammed Baher
4. Adam Musa Yusuf
5. Hamza Hussain Ishaq
6. Abdel Karim Hussain Ishaq

People from Sogo Village:

1. Faki Harun Abdel Rahman
2. Yahya Abdel Karim Rizig
3. Musa Ahmed Yusuf
4. Jibril Musa Ahmed
5. Idris Adam Ahmed
6. Yaqub Adam Ahmed
7. Musa Al-Tahir Adam
8. Mohammed Ibrahim Nasour
9. Sharef Al-Din Abaker Yahya
10. Sharef Saleh

People from Masa Village:

1. Abdallah Adam Abdel Rahman
2. Adam Yahya
3. Abdallah Musa
4. Al-Shaikh Ismail
5. Mohammed Suleiman (community leader)
6. Adam Hussain Grola (community leader)
7. Ahmed Gantour (community leader)
8. Yahya Ahmed Zaroug (community leader)
9. Mohammed Omer Ahmed Zaroug

People from Um Jammaina Village:

1. Al-Shaikh Adam Abaker Rizig
2. Mohammed Abaker Da'ud
3. Mohammed Saleh
4. Yahya Yaqub Ibrahim
5. Adam Yaqub Ibrahim
6. Osman Yusuf
7. Adam Hussain
8. Haroun Suleiman
9. Adam Saleh Ali

Gantour (community leader) from **Artahala village**

Adam Abdel Rahman Ishaq from **Arwala village**

Baghid Altahir Ibrahim from **Urdu village**

Ibrahim Suleiman from **Deleij town**

International law:

International law prohibits extrajudicial

executions as a violation of the right to life.

The right to life is enshrined in international law under Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) which states that “every human being has the inherent right to life. This right shall be protected by law. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life.”

Article 4 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights states that “human beings are inviolable. Every human being shall be entitled to respect for his life and the integrity of his person. No one may be arbitrarily deprived of this right.”

The Sudan government is a party to the ICCPR and the African Charter and therefore bound by both. It therefore has an obligation to investigate these killings and ensure that those suspected to be responsible are brought to justice and tried in accordance to international standards of fair trial and justice.

The conflict in Darfur:

Over the past few years hundreds of civilians in Darfur, western Sudan, mostly from agricultural ethnic groups like the Fur, Masalit and Zaghawa, have been killed or wounded by armed nomadic groups that later organised into the *Janjawid* militia. Their homes have been burnt and herds looted. The SLA and the JEM (Justice and Equality Movement) took up arms against the government in February 2003, because of what they perceived as the lack of government protection for their people and the marginalisation and underdevelopment of the region. Since then, the Sudan government appears to have given free rein to the *Janjawid* to carry out killings, abductions and destructions. More than 750,000 people have fled from their burnt villages and most have taken refuge in towns in Darfur, while more than 130,000 have crossed the border into Chad.

There have been numerous reports of aerial bombings of civilians and civilian property by the Sudanese air force. Bombings usually consist of boxes filled with metal shrapnel dropped from the back of Antonov planes. By their nature these

lack precision. Sometimes civilians have reported the presence of helicopter gunships, flying at low altitude and shelling villages and civilians.

Over the past month hundreds of people have been killed and wounded, women and children raped, entire villages burnt to the ground by the *Janjawid* sometimes accompanied by government troops. Scores of people from the Darfur region have been arrested. Some, notably the former United Nations humanitarian coordinator for Sudan, Mukesh Kapila, have referred to the apparent systematic targeting of certain groups in the region as “ethnic cleansing”.

On 31 March 2004 negotiations began in N'Djamena, Chad, on a ceasefire agreement between the Sudan government and the SLA and JEM. Largely as a result of heavy pressure from the international community mainly the USA, the EU and the AU that gathered as observers, a guarantee of free humanitarian access was agreed and a 45-day ceasefire was signed. On 12 April a ceasefire was supposed to come into effect. However there were continued reports of attacks against civilians and civilian property by the *Janjawid* and the Sudanese air force. As of 13 April the UN fact-finding mission headed by Bacre Waly Ndiaye, head of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in New York, to investigate the human rights situation in Darfur had still not been granted access to the region.

WRITE TO THE SUDAN GOVERNMENT:

- Expressing grave concern over the reports of extrajudicial execution perpetrated by elements of the Sudanese security services, the army and the *Janjawid* and calling on the government of Sudan to launch an immediate independent investigation into the allegations of extra judicial execution of 168 men in Wadi Saleh;
- make the findings of the investigation public;
- ensure that both the perpetrators and those who ordered the killings are brought to justice;
- allow the deployment of international human rights monitors to Darfur to investigate any such reports in the future.

ACT NOW!

► **Please send your appeals to:**

•Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan
Ahmad al-Bashir
President and Commander-in-Chief of
Armed Forces
President's Palace
PO Box 281
Khartoum
SUDAN
Fax: + 24911 776603 / 777583
Salutation: Your Excellency

•Mr Ali Osman Mohamed Taha
First Vice-President
People's Palace
PO Box 281, Khartoum, Sudan
Fax: + 249 11 771025/779977
Salutation: Dear Minister

•Mr Ali Mohamed Osman Yassin
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Ministry of Justice, Khartoum, Sudan
Fax: + 249 11 770883
Salutation: Dear Minister

•Mr Mustafa Osman Ismail
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
PO Box 873
Khartoum, Sudan
Fax : + 249 11 779383
Salutation: Dear Minister

•Dr Yasir Sid Ahmed
Advisory Council for Human Rights
PO Box 302, Khartoum, Sudan
Fax: + 249 11 779173/770883
Salutation: Dear Sir

•Major-General Suleiman Abdalla Adam
Governor of Western Darfur State
c/o People's Palace
PO Box 281
Khartoum
Fax: +249 11 776432/ 771651/ 783223
Salutation: Dear Sir

► **Please raise Amnesty International's concerns with your own government.**
More information on the human rights situation in Darfur can be obtained on Amnesty International's website:
<http://web.amnesty.org>



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