

URGENT ACTION

SUDANESE OPPOSITION MEMBERS DETAINED

Six members of Sudanese opposition parties were arrested in January in Khartoum, Sudan. Five are still under detention without charge, with one – Mohamed Zain Al Alabidein – requiring urgent medical attention.

Mohamed Zain Al Alabidein (66), a Political Affairs Assistant to the Chair of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), was arrested by National Security Service (NSS) agents on 8 January upon his arrival at Khartoum International Airport. He is currently being held in Kober Prison. Amnesty International has confirmed that Mohamed Zain Al Alabidein suffers from intestinal cancer, for which he had two surgeries prior to his detention. A follow-up appointment with his doctor was reportedly scheduled for 18 January, but the NSS refused to temporarily release him, despite full medical reports provided by his family. Amnesty International has been told that his health is deteriorating.

Five other leading members of opposition parties were also arrested in Khartoum in January. **Hisham Al Mufti** (51), a leading member of the DUP, was arrested by NSS agents at his home on 7 January. On the same day, **Entesar Alagali**, a leading member of the Socialist Unionist Nasserist Party (SUNP), was arrested while driving in Khartoum. **Abdulrahim Abdallah** (65), the Regulatory Affairs Assistant to the Chair of the DUP, was arrested at Khartoum International Airport on 8 January. He reportedly suffers from high blood pressure and cataracts. **Abdulaziz Khaled** (68), Chair of the Central Council of the National Sudanese Alliance Party, was arrested at his home on the night of 14 January. He allegedly suffers from diabetes and high blood pressure. **Jamal Idris**, Chair of the SUNP, was arrested at his home on 7 January. He was later released, due to serious health concerns related to his kidneys.

All six individuals had participated in negotiations meetings in Kampala, Uganda, which culminated in the drafting and signing of the “New Dawn Charter” on 6 January. The charter is a joint statement signed by political opposition parties, civil society groups and armed opposition groups aiming to topple the current regime. The arrests are believed to be a reprisal for the signing of the charter by their respective political parties. All five individuals are currently detained without charge or access to lawyers.

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

- Urging the Sudanese authorities to ensure that Mohamed Zain Al Abidien is immediately provided all the medical treatment he requires;
- Calling on them to provide all five individuals with access to lawyers, and to either charge them with a recognizable criminal offence or release them immediately.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 21 MARCH 2013 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

Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Justice

Mohamed Bushara Dousa
Ministry of Justice,
PO Box 302
Al Nil Avenue
Khartoum, Sudan
Salutation: Your Excellency

And copies to:

Minister of Interior
Ibrahim Mohamed Ahmed
Ministry of Interior
PO Box 873
Khartoum, Sudan
Salutation: Your Excellency

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

The New Dawn Charter was adopted on 6 January after negotiations took place in Kampala between the National Consensus Forces (NCF), a coalition of Sudanese political opposition parties, and the Sudan Revolutionary Front (SRF), an umbrella name for Sudan's armed opposition groups, as well as other parties and representatives of civil society groups.

The document advocates bringing down the current regime in Sudan and outlines the principles and objectives of a democratic and secular Sudanese state. The current ruling party – the NCP – has publicly criticized the document and its signatories, and stated that the charter is against religious and national principles.

Representatives from some of the signatory parties later distanced themselves from the charter, saying that they were rushed into it and expressed reservations about some of its clauses.

Name: Mohamed Zain Al Alabidein (m), Hisham Al Mufti (m), Entesar Alagali (f), Abdulrahim Abdallah (m), Abdulaziz Khaled (m)
Gender m/f: both

UA: 29/13 Index: AFR 54/002/2013 Issue Date: 7 February 2013