

PUBLIC

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Further information on UA 279/01 (AFR 54/016/2001, 2 November 2001) and follow-ups (AFR 54/019/2001, 8 November 2001; AFR 54/020/2001, 22 November 2001) - Fear of torture or ill-treatment/Detentions without charge/Possible prisoners of conscience

SUDANYousef Hussein (m), Communist Party member
Abbas Mohamed al Tahir (m), Communist Party member

Communist Party members, Yousef Hussein and Abbas Mohamed al Tahir were released without charge on 10 January 2002. They had been held in incommunicado detention since 3 November 2001.

On 7 January the two men were transferred from Kober prison in the capital Khartoum to the Derback Kober security office following the outbreak of riots at Kober prison. The riots began after some prisoners convicted for issuing bounced cheques went on hunger strike. Police reportedly reacted to the riots by throwing tear gas and shooting at prisoners. The police chief reported that five prisoners and two policemen were killed during the riots and dozens more injured. Amnesty International is currently seeking information regarding the circumstances surrounding the shootings and calling for an independent and impartial investigation into the events.

No further action is requested by the UA Network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.