

SUDAN

Human rights defender

Dr Mudawi Ibrahim Adam

Human rights activist and Director of the Sudan Social Development Organization (SUDO), Dr Mudawi Ibrahim Adam was arrested at his home in Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, on 28 December 2003. He was first held under Article 31 of the National Security Forces Act in the National Security Centre and in the political section of Kober prison. He is now held in police custody together with ordinary prisoners and has been allowed to see his wife and lawyer in the presence of police. He is apparently not allowed books or newspapers, but is allowed to watch TV.

Dr Mudawi went on hunger strike demanding to be released or charged. He ended the hunger strike after two days, when he was brought before the Attorney General. On 8 February he was charged with offences against the state under Articles 50, 51 and 56 of the Penal Code, which carry the death penalty and do not allow release on bail. He was also charged with provoking hatred against or among sects under Articles 63 and 64. Amnesty International fears that he may receive an unfair trial and be sentenced to death.

SUDO, a voluntary organisation created to promote sustainable development and human rights, has organized a number of workshops on subjects connected with human rights. It is also engaged in humanitarian activities and has recently provided non-food items to internally displaced people in Darfur, western Sudan. Darfur is the scene of an internal armed conflict in which armed opposition groups are currently fighting Sudanese Government forces and government-aligned Arab militias. Dr Mudawi recently visited Darfur and SUDO is one of the very

few national organisations that has actively worked on humanitarian and human rights issues in the region.

Human rights defenders in Sudan are frequent targets of harassment by the security forces.

Amnesty International has recently released a report on the human rights situation in Darfur. People suspected of supporting the armed opposition in Darfur are being tortured almost systematically by the national security forces or the military intelligence. Those seeking or providing information on the region have also been tortured by the security forces. For instance, in May 2003, journalist Yusuf al-Bashir Musa was arrested and badly beaten by the security forces in Darfur. He is still waiting for an investigation into his torture.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL IS CALLING FOR:

- The immediate and unconditional release of Dr Mudawi Ibrahim Adam on the grounds that he is a prisoner of conscience, detained solely for the peaceful expression of his opinions and lawful work as a human rights defender;
- Dr Mudawi Ibrahim Adam to be given immediate and unrestricted access to his family and confidential access to his legal counsel;
- an end to the harassment and detention of human rights activists.

ACT NOW!

► **Please send your appeals to:**

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

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 Minister

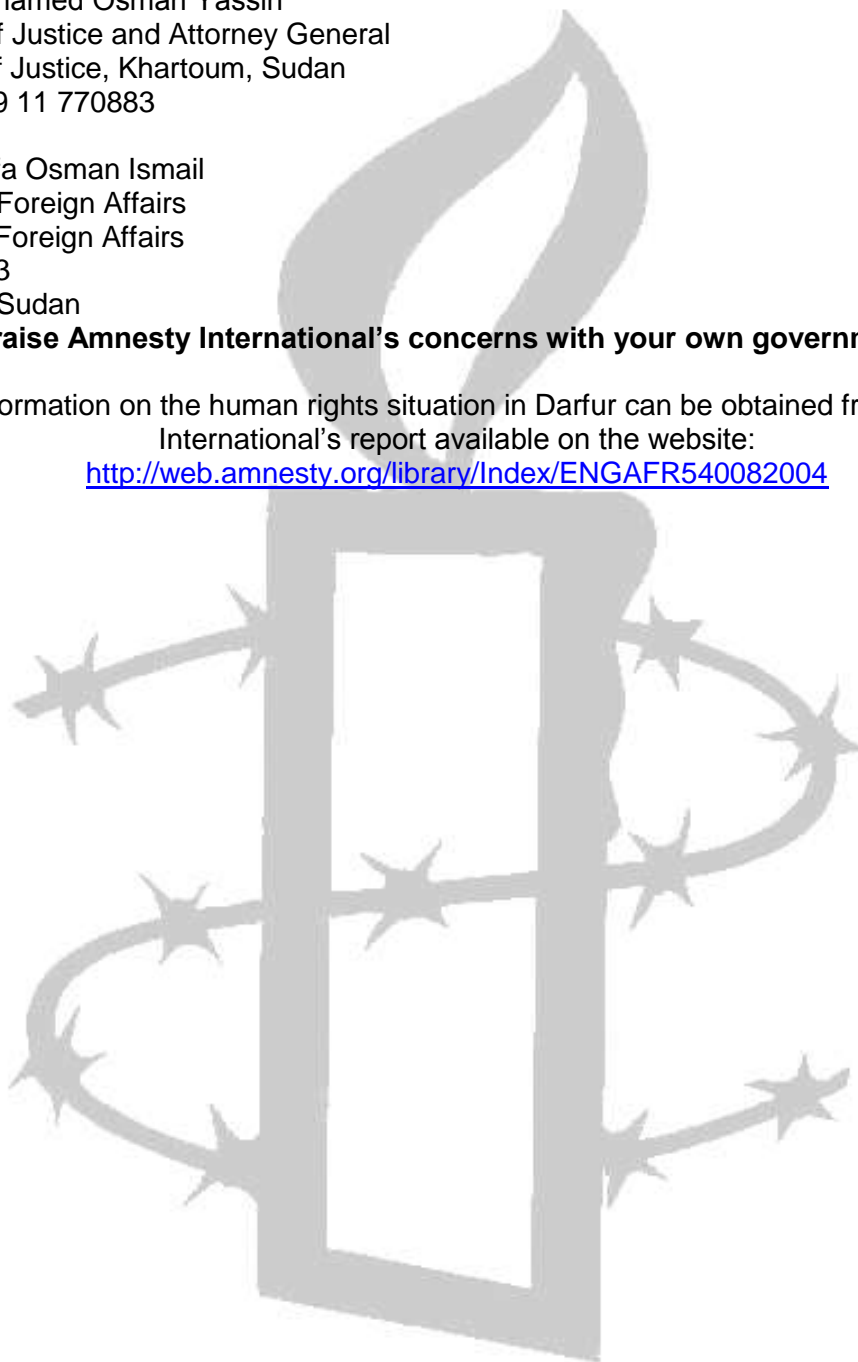
• Mr Ali Mohamed Osman Yassin
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Ministry of Justice, Khartoum, Sudan
Fax: + 249 11 770883

• Mr Mustafa Osman Ismail
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
PO Box 873
Khartoum, Sudan

► **Please raise Amnesty International's concerns with your own government.**

More information on the human rights situation in Darfur can be obtained from Amnesty International's report available on the website:

<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGAFR540082004>



Amnesty International
AI Index: AFR 54 / 022 / 2004
February 2004
EXTERNAL

