

URGENT ACTION

LAWYER DETAINED WITHOUT CHARGE

A Sudanese lawyer, working in South Darfur, has been detained without charge. He is at risk of torture and other ill-treatment.

Adam Sharief, a lawyer and the coordinator of the Darfur Bar Association in South Darfur, was arrested on 26 September and is now being held without charge in Nyala by the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS). He has not been granted access to a lawyer.

Six days before his arrest Adam Sharief carried out an interview with independent radio station Radio Dabanga, in which he criticised the Governor of South Darfur for the lack of security in Nyala, the capital of South Darfur. He alleged that the local authorities were employing militias who are responsible for a number of recent killings in Nyala, including the killing of a prominent local businessman, his son and his nephew. He also criticised the use of live ammunition by security forces to disperse demonstrators that gathered together on Ismail Ibrahim Wadi's funeral on 19 September. According to reports at least five people were killed by live fire during the demonstration and at least 48 were seriously injured and required hospital treatment.

Amnesty International is concerned that Adam Sharief has been detained for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression. The organisation believes that he should be immediately released or charged with a recognisable offence.

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

- Calling on the authorities to either release Adam Sharief immediately or charge him with a recognisable crime;
- Urge them to ensure that Adam Sharief is not subjected to torture or any ill-treatment while in detention;
- Urging authorities to respect the right to freedom of expression and freedom of assembly in South Darfur.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 13 NOVEMBER 2013 TO:

President
HE Omar Hassan Ahmed al-Bashir
Office of the President
People's Palace
PO Box 281
Khartoum, Sudan
Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Justice
Mohamed Bushara Dousa
Minister of Justice
PO Box 302
Al Nil Avenue
Khartoum, Sudan
Email: mb.dosa@gmail.com
Salutation: Dear Minister

And copies to:
Minister of Interior
Ibrahim Mohamed Ahmed
Ministry of Interior
PO Box 873
Khartoum, Sudan

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.

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

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Protests broke out in Nyala on 18 September after Ismail Ibrahim Wadi, a prominent local businessman and president of the local football team, his son and nephew were killed. The protestors held militias employed by the local authorities responsible for the killings. The next day after Ismail Ibrahim Wadi's funeral protestors gathered around the South Darfur Government offices to call for the Governor to resign. During the protests several cars, including the Governor's car, were set on fire, while police responded with tear gas and live ammunition and killed at least five people.

Human rights groups in South Darfur have repeatedly complained about militias loyal to the local authorities operating in the region. According to the local media at least seven people have been killed by militias this year.

Name: Adam Sharief

Gender: m

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