

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 100/94 (AFR 54/06/94, 11 March 1994) - Fear of Torture
/ Prisoners of conscience

SUDAN: 'Izzat Mirghani Taha

Khalifa Khader Kemair
Kamal Abu al-Gassim
Hamuda al-Sheikh

'Ala Mirghani Taha - released
Ali Hassan Taha - released
Adil Samsa'ah - released
Kamal Osman Badai - released
Kamal Badai - released
Bashir Badai - released
Khajeli Saleh Khajeli - released
Dr Kamal Mahmud Gadien - released
Baha' Abul-Qasim - released
Saad Karrar - released
Ali Jaaf'er - released
Al-Sadiq Abdel-Magid - released
Hamaza - released
Rabie' Ahmed al-Rayah - released
Abdel-Rahim Faisel - released

and other names not known - released

Four of the individuals named above, 'Izzat Mirghani Taha, Khalifa Khader Kemair, Kamal Abu al-Gassim and Hamuda al-Sheikh, are reported to remain in detention following their arrest on 10 March 1994 during a gathering to commemorate the anniversary in the Islamic calendar of the summary execution of 28 army officers on 24 April 1990. Their place of detention remains unknown.

The remaining individuals named above are reported to have been released without charge on 16 March. They had been held at the security headquarters before having been transferred to one of the secret detention centres, known as "ghost houses". They are not known to have suffered any ill-treatment during their detention.

All those who were released were made to sign an undertaking which prohibited them gathering and opposing the government in the future and which prohibited them from leaving Khartoum without prior permission from the authorities. They also had their photographs taken and were ordered to report to the Security Headquarters the morning after their release.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/express and airmail letters either in English or Arabic, or in your own language:

- expressing concern at the continuing detention of 'Izzat Mirghani Taha, Khalifa Khader Kemair, Kamal Abu al-Gassim and Hamuda al-Sheikh who were arrested on 10 March 1994 and who Amnesty International believes are prisoners of conscience imprisoned solely for exercising their internationally recognised rights to freedom of expression and association;
- seeking information about the reasons for their continued detention;

- requesting assurances that they are not being subjected to torture or ill-treatment and urging that their whereabouts in custody be made public and that they are granted immediate and regular access to their family, legal counsel and any necessary medical attention;
- urging that they be immediately and unconditionally released;
- welcoming the release of the other individuals who were arrested on 10 March.

APPEALS TO

1) His Excellency Lieutenant General

Omar Hassan al-Bashir

President of the Republic of the Sudan

People's Palace, PO Box 281, Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: Lt Gen Omar Hassan al-Bashir, Khartoum, Sudan

Telexes: 22385 PEPLC SD or 22411 KAID SD

Salutation: Your Excellency

2) Brigadier-Engineer 'Abd al-Rahim Muhammad Husayn

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior

People's Palace, PO Box 281, Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: Brig-Engineer 'Abd al-Rahim Muhammed Husayn, Khartoum, Sudan

Telexes: 22842 WZARA SD or 22604 IPOL SD

Salutation: Dear Deputy Prime Minister

3) Mr 'Abd al-Aziz Shiddu

Minister of Justice and Attorney-General

Ministry of Justice, Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: Mr 'Abd al-Aziz Shiddu, Khartoum, Sudan

Telexes: 22459 KHRJA SD or 22461 KHRJA SD (via Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

Mr Jalal Ali Lutfi

Chief Justice

Law Courts

Khartoum, Sudan

Mr Hussein Suleiman Abu Salih

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

PO Box 873, Khartoum, Sudan

Dr A. al-Mufti

Secretary of Human Rights Commission*

Khartoum, Sudan

* The Human Rights Commission is a government-backed body, nominally independent, but apparently created to counter what the government perceives as hostile human rights propaganda.

and to diplomatic representatives of Sudan accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 27 April 1994.