

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 117/93 (AFR 54/11/93, 19 April 1993) - and follow-ups AFR 54/12/93, 21 April 1993 and AFR 54/13/93, 27 April 1993 - Legal Concern/Fear of Torture

SUDAN:

Habib Sarnoub al-Daw, ex-Member of Parliament (released)

Siddiq Mohammed el-Tom, student (released)

Hamid Mohammed Hamid, lawyer (released)

Dr Ibrahim al-Amin, ex-cabinet member

Fadlalla Burma Nasir, former State Minister

Ibrahim Ali Abdelgadir Fageer

and his son El-Sadiq Ibrahim

Mohammed Abdel-Rahim and others (names not known)

Mohammed Yussuf Hassan and others (names not known)

and new names:

Mohammed al-Mahdi, Imam from the Ansar religious order

Abdel Mahmud Abbo, Imam from the Ansar religious order

Abdullah Ishaq, director of religious teaching in the Ansar order

Abdel Rahman Yunis, leading member of the Ansar order

al-Hadi Adam, leading member of the Ansar order

al-Zahawi Ibrahim, Minister for Energy, Central State

Mustafa 'Abd al-Gadir 'Abd al-Latif, Minister of Education, Central State

al-Fadl Omar, farmer

Abdul Rasoul al-Nur Ismael, former Governor of Kordofan

Musa Abdalla al-Bashir, Ansar cleric

Mirghani Abdel Rahman Suleiman, senior member of the Umma party

Amnesty International is concerned about the reported arrest of a number of members of the Ansar sect and Umma Party since early April 1993. Amnesty International is concerned that they have been arrested solely for engaging in their internationally recognized fundamental right to freedom of expression and association and considers them to be prisoners of conscience. The organization is also concerned that as they appear to be suspected of opposing the government they are likely to have to undergo intensive interrogation with a high risk of torture.

Amnesty International has received reports that Mohamed al Mahdi, Imam of the Wad Nubawi mosque in Omdurman, Abdel Mahmud Abbo, Imam of the Guba mosque in Omdurman, and Abdullah Ishaq, director of religious guidance in the Ansar Affairs office, were arrested on 29 April 1993. All three men are senior members of the Ansar Islamic sect, a traditional order in Sudanese Islam. The Ansar sect has its origins in the followers of the Mohamed Ahmad al-Mahdi, the great-grandfather of Sadiq al-Mahdi, Sudan's former Prime Minister and leader of the Umma Party.

In addition other reports indicate that there have been several other arrests of members

of the Umma Party and the Ansar sect in provincial towns and cities. Abdel Rahman Yunis, resident representative of the Ansar Imam, was arrested in Ad-Damazin, a provincial town some 300 miles south east of Khartoum. Al-Fadl Omar was also reportedly arrested in Ad-Damazin, along with seven other men, whose names are unknown, who were reportedly only held for two days. Al-Hadi Adam, resident representative of the Ansar Imam in Nyala, was reportedly arrested in that town. Musa Abdallah al-Bashir is reported to have been arrested in Ed-Dueim, a town some 140 miles south of Khartoum. It is reported that al-Zahawi Ibrahim and Mustafa 'Abd al-Gadir 'Abd al-Latif were arrested in Wad Medani. These arrests are believed to be related to the circulation of a speech which called for the return of multi-party democracy originally made by Sadiq al-Mahdi in Omdurman in late-March following prayers to celebrate the Eid al-Fitr.

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Abdul Rasoul al-Nur Ismael, who was originally arrested with Sadiq al-Mahdi on 5 April 1993 but then released, is reported to have been re-arrested. The government has announced that he, along with Mirghani Abdel Rahman Suleiman and Fadlalla Burma Nasir, both senior members of the Umma Party, are being detained in connection with an alleged plot to overthrow the government.

Siddiq Mohammed el-Tom, Habib Sarnoub al-Daw and Hamid Mohammed Hamid are reported to have been released. Please do not send any more appeals on their behalf.

No further information is available on the other individuals listed above, all reportedly members of the Umma Party. Please continue appeals as set out below on their behalf.

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

- expressing concern at the arrest in April 1993 of the individuals above (please select two or three names) who appear to Amnesty International to be prisoners of conscience, that is people imprisoned solely because of exercising their internationally recognised rights to freedom of expression and freedom of association;
- expressing concern at their continuing detention without charge or trial and fear that they may be subjected to torture;
- urging that they be humanely treated, that their whereabouts in custody be made public and that they have immediate and regular access to their families, lawyers and any necessary medical attention;
- urging that they be immediately and unconditionally released.

APPEALS TO:

1) His Excellency Lieutenant General Omar Hassan al-Bashir
Head of State and Chairman of the National Salvation Revolutionary Command Council
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, Minister of the Interior
and Deputy Chairman of the National Salvation Revolutionary Command Council
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:

1) Mr Jalal Ali Lutfi Chief Justice Law Courts Khartoum, Sudan	2) Mr Hussein Suleiman Abu Salih Minister of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs PO Box 873, Khartoum, Sudan	3) Dr A. al-Mufti Secretary of Human Rights Commission* Khartoum, Sudan
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* The Human Rights Commission is a government-backed body, nominally independent, 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 18 June 1993.