

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AFR 54/23/95

Distr: UA/SC

17 July 1995

Further information (1) on UA 119/95 (AFR 54/15/95, 25 May 1995) - Fear of Torture / Possible Prisoner of Conscience

SUDAN Sadiq al-Mahdi, former prime minister

Sadiq al-Mahdi, a former prime minister of Sudan and leader of the opposition Umma party, is still in detention, where he has been since his arrest in Khartoum on 16 May 1995. His arrest was part of a crackdown on opposition members throughout Sudan, and in which dozens of people are believed to remain in detention.

Amnesty International remains concerned that Sadiq al-Mahdi is at risk of torture or ill-treatment while being interrogated and that he may be a prisoner of conscience.

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

- expressing concern at the arrest of Sadiq al-Mahdi, whom Amnesty International believes may be a prisoner of conscience, imprisoned on account of his non-violent opposition to government policies;
- seeking assurances of his physical safety and guarantees that he is not being subjected to torture or ill-treatment;
- urging that he be immediately and unconditionally released unless he is charged with a recognizable criminal offence and brought promptly to a fair trial.

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) Minister of the Interior

Dr al-Tayib Ibrahim Muhammad Kheir

People's Palace

PO Box 281, Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: Minister of the Interior Dr al-Tayib Ibrahim Muhammed Kheir, Khartoum, Sudan

Telexes: 22842 WZARA SD or 22604 IPOL SD

Salutation: Dear Minister

3) Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr Ali Osman Muhammed Taha

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

PO Box 873

Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: Foreign Minister Ali Osman Mohamed Taha, Khartoum, Sudan

Telexes: 22461 KHRJA SD

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

Minister of Justice and Attorney-General

Mr 'Abd al-Aziz Shiddo

Ministry of Justice, Khartoum, Sudan

Mr Obeid Haj Ali

Chief Justice

Law Courts

Khartoum, Sudan

Chairman of the Human Rights Committee

Mr Angelo Beda Bambara

of the Transitional National Assembly (TNA) *

Omdurman, Sudan

* The TNA's Human Rights Committee was created by Sudan's government-appointed Transitional National Assembly in December 1992, apparently to counter what the government perceives as hostile human rights propaganda. The Committee's Chairman has said that it investigates reports of human rights violations.

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 28 August 1995.