

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 54/032/2002

5 November 2002

Further information on UAI 318/02 (AFR 54/031/2002, 25 October 2002) - Fear for safety/fear of torture

SUDAN

Ahmed Isameidin (m), 25 years old]

Amnuel Abzigel (m), 26 years old] students

Mao Rominio (m), 28 years old]

Yasir Mohamed El Hassan Osman, (m) 44 years old - Assistant Registrar of Khartoum University

Medical
School (note
corrected
name)

And an unknown number of other students

All those named above have apparently now been released. Some were reportedly tortured whilst in security force detention and at least one remains in hospital.

Yasir Mohamed El Hassan Osman was severely tortured while detained by the security services. Members of the security forces allegedly stood upon his chest and bladder. In addition they beat him with an iron bar until he became unconscious. He is currently in intensive care at Khartoum Hospital following his release from detention. Another student from Khartoum University was reportedly beaten with hoses and forced to squat and jump like a rabbit.

Ahmed Isameidin and other students from Bahr al-Ghazal University, Khartoum, were reportedly beaten with hoses whilst in detention. Their eyebrows and hair were also reportedly shaved.

Over the past week, students from Khartoum University and from Bahr al-Ghazal University have been brought to court in the capital and charged with disturbing public order. Some were given a two-month suspended sentence and several were asked to sign a commitment of "future good behaviour".

The Minister of the Interior announced on 4 November that he had ordered an investigation committee composed of the police, the security forces and the university administration to look into the events at the University of Khartoum.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in Arabic, English or your own language:

- urging that the investigation into the events at Khartoum University conform to United Nations standards for commissions of inquiry;
- calling for the investigation to be thorough, public, and composed of people known for their independence and integrity;
- calling for its report to be made public;
- calling for the Commission of Inquiry's mandate to include an investigation into the events at Bahr al-Ghazal University in Khartoum and the treatment by the security forces of those arrested;

- urging the Sudanese authorities to take action to ensure that the security forces comply with international standards governing the conduct of law enforcement officials and use force only when strictly necessary;
- calling for all those found to have used unlawful force against demonstrators, torture or other ill-treatment against those in detention to be brought to justice in fair trials.

APPEALS TO:

His Excellency Lieutenant General Omar Hassan al-Bashir
President of the Republic of Sudan
President's Palace
PO Box 281, Khartoum, Sudan
Telegrams: President al-Bashir, Khartoum, Sudan
Fax: + 249 11 787676 / 771651 / 783223
Salutation: Your Excellency

Mr Ali Mohamed Osman Yassin
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Ministry of Justice
Khartoum, Sudan
Telegrams: Justice Minister, Khartoum, Sudan
Fax: + 249 11 774906 / 774842
Salutation: Dear Minister

Major General Abdul-Rahim Muhammad Hussain
Minister of Internal Affairs
Ministry of Interior
PO Box 281
Khartoum, Sudan
Telegrams: Minister of Internal Affairs, Khartoum, Sudan
Fax: + 249 11 773046 / 774339 / 776554 / 770186
Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

Dr Yasir Sid Ahmed
Advisory Council for Human Rights
PO Box 302
Khartoum, Sudan
Fax: + 249 11 779173 / 770883
Salutation: Dear Dr Yasir Sid Ahmed

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 17 December 2002.