

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 54/042/2005

27 April 2005

**Further Information on UA 98/05 (AFR 54/041/2005, 22 April 2005) - Torture and ill-treatment/
incommunicado detention/possible prisoners of conscience**

SUDAN **Sati' Mohamed Al-Hajj (m), human rights lawyer**
 Yusuf Hussein (m)
 Tariq Ahmed Gasim (m), aged 21
 Fawaz Salah Al-Sayed (m), aged 21

All four men named above were released without charge on 22 April at around 11 pm.

They had been held incommunicado by the security forces, which put them at grave risk of torture. Tariq Ahmed Gasim and Fawaz Salah Al-Sayed are relatives of some of the army officers summarily executed on 28 April 1990 for allegedly plotting a coup. They were detained on 21 April because they had allegedly been planning an event to commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of the execution. Because they were detained solely for exercising their right to peaceful expression of their opinions, they were prisoners of conscience.

Many thanks to all who took action on this case. If possible, please send a final round of appeals, in Arabic, English or your own language:

- welcoming the release of Sati' Mohamed Al-Hajj, Yusuf Hussein, Tariq Ahmed Gasim and Fawaz Salah Al-Sayed;
- expressing grave concern over the allegations that Tariq Ahmed Gasim and Fawaz Salah Al-Sayed were tortured, in violation of Article 7 of the ICCPR, as well as Article 115.2 of the 1991 Sudan Penal Code;
- calling for a full and impartial investigation into the allegations that Tariq Ahmed Gasim and Fawaz Salah Al-Sayed were tortured and for anyone found responsible for torture or ill-treatment to be brought to justice;
- noting that the four were held without charge and incommunicado, in violation of Article 9 of the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which Sudan has ratified. This prohibits arbitrary detention, and states that anyone arrested on a criminal charge should be brought promptly before a judicial authority and is entitled to be tried within a reasonable time or else released.

APPEALS TO:

(Please note that it may be difficult to get through to Sudanese fax numbers. Please keep trying; if you still cannot get through, please send appeals by mail.)

Mr Ali Osman Mohamed Taha
First Vice-President
People's Palace , PO Box 281
Khartoum, Sudan

Fax: + 249 183 771025

Salutation: Your Excellency

Mr Mustafa Osman Ismail
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, PO Box 873
Khartoum, Sudan

Fax: + 249 183 779383

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

El Tayeb Harun Ali
Head of Complaints Committee
Human Rights Advisory Council
Khartoum, Sudan

Fax: + 249 183 781343

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 8 June 2005.