

URGENT ACTION

THREE STUDENTS DETAINED IN UNKNOWN LOCATION

Three Sudanese student activists remain in detention without charge and are at risk of torture and other ill-treatment. Family members have been denied access to the detainees, while requests for information about their location and their alleged offences have not been granted.

The National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) is refusing to disclose further information about the current location and circumstances of the detainees, or the law under which they were charged, only telling their families that they are being held for further investigations. When the family of **Taj Alsir Jaafar** tried to send him a bag of clothing and medication that he needs on 29 May, the staff at the NISS office only accepted two articles of clothing and refused to accept the medication. They again refused to accept it on 6 June.

Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman, a graduate from the University of Khartoum, and **Moamar Musa Mohamed** and **Taj Alsir Jaafar**, students from the same university, were arrested separately outside their university during the afternoon of 12 May. In the days after the arrests, the NISS informed Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman's family that he was detained in the political division of a prison in Bahri, Khartoum. They told Taj Alsir Jaafar's family that they should file a visit request after 15 days in order to see him. However, when his family filed a visit request on 29 May, the NISS announced the following week that the request had been refused. Taj Alsir Jaafar's family submitted a second visit request on 6 June but have not yet received a response. One month on from the arrests, the NISS has not yet granted the families access.

Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman, Moamar Musa Mohamed and Taj Alsir Jaafar are all prominent student activists and were involved in protests at the University of Khartoum in late March after Ali Abaker Mussa Idris, a student, was shot dead by security forces at a demonstration on 11 March. Both Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman and Taj Alsir Jaafar have been detained and released without charge multiple times for their activities as student activists.

The Sudanese authorities must immediately disclose the location of the three men to their families and either charge them with a recognizable offence and grant them a fair trial, or immediately release them.

Please write immediately in Arabic, English or your own language:

- Urging the authorities to ensure that Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman, Moamar Musa Mohamed, Taj Alsir Jaafar are either charged with a recognizable offence or immediately and unconditionally released;
- Calling on the authorities to reveal the location of Taj El Sir Jaafar and Moamar Musa Mohamed, and give all three detainees access to lawyers, to medical treatment and to their families;
- Urging them to ensure that the detainees are not subjected to torture or any ill-treatment.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 25 JULY 2014 TO:

Minister of Justice
 Mohamed Bushara Dousa
 Ministry of Justice,
 PO Box 302 Al Nil Avenue
 Khartoum
 Sudan
 Email: moj@moj.gov.sd
 Fax: + 249 183 791544
Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Foreign Affairs
 Ali Ahmed Karti
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 PO Box: 302, Republic Street
 Khartoum
 Sudan
 Fax: + 249 183 772941
Salutation: Your Excellency

And copies to:
Minister of Interior
 Ibrahim Mahmoud Hamed
 Ministry of Interior, PO Box 873
 Email: mut@isoc.sd
Salutation: Your Excellency

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the first update of UA 136/14. Further information:

<http://amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR54/008/2014/en>

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ali Abaker Mussa Idris, a third-year economics student, died in hospital on 11 March after being shot by security forces during a protest against a recent surge in violence in Darfur that has displaced an estimated 50,000 people. His funeral on the following day was attended by around 1,000 people and was broken up by police using tear gas after mourners began to shout anti-government slogans. In the days following these events, several student activists and lawyers were arrested around Khartoum. They were released on 7 April. Protests and sit-ins continued at the University of Khartoum following Ali Abaker Mussa Idris's death, demanding for an investigation into Ali's death, and for a safer environment within the university compound.

Although it is common for the NISS to initially withhold access and information about the location of detained political activists from their families, one month has now passed without family members being granted access to them. Given the secrecy around their location, there are credible fears that Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman, Moamar Musa Mohamed and Taj Alsir Jaafar are at risk of torture or ill-treatment.

Name: Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman, Moamar Musa Mohamed, Taj Alsir Jaafar
Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 136/14 Index: AFR 54/009/2014 Issue Date: 13 June