

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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UA 76/94 Fear of Torture

25 February 1994

SUDAN: Magdi Mohamedani - medical doctor

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Magdi Mohamedani, a medical doctor, is reported to have been detained without charge in Khartoum, Sudan's capital. Amnesty International is seriously concerned that he may be subjected to torture. His place of detention is unknown.

Magdi Mohamedani is believed to have been arrested in early February. He is a trade unionist and member of the banned Sudan Communist Party (SCP). There are unconfirmed reports that other members of the SCP have also been arrested.

The reason for his arrest is unknown but Magdi Mohamedani has been an active non-violent opponent of the government who has been detained on other occasions. His most recent previous arrest was in August 1992 when he was among a number of trade unionists harassed and briefly detained in advance of elections to trade union councils (see UA 294/92, 18 September 1992 AFR 54/29/92).

Prisoners are held without charge or trial in Sudan on the basis of Decree Two of the emergency laws issued by the government immediately after the 30 June 1989 coup. Section Seven of the decree bans the "showing of any political opposition by any means to the regime of the Revolution for National Salvation" and allows the authorities to arrest and detain anyone "*suspected of being a danger to political or economic security*".

Detainees in Khartoum are normally held at the security headquarters or in "*ghost houses*". Detainees are commonly beaten on arrival at "*ghost houses*" and torture during interrogation of prisoners is systematic.

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

- expressing concern at the detention without charge or trial of Magdi Mohamedani who was arrested in early February 1994;
- seeking assurances that he is not being subjected to torture or ill-treatment and urging that his whereabouts in custody be made public and that he is granted immediate and regular access to his family, legal counsel and any necessary medical attention;
- urging that he be released unless he is to be charged with a recognizably 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) Brigadier-Engineer 'Abd al-Rahim Muhammad Husayn  
 Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior  
 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:**

Mr Jalal Ali Lutfi  
 Chief Justice  
 Law Courts  
 Khartoum, Sudan

Mr Hussein Suleiman Abu Salih  
 Minister of Foreign Affairs  
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
 PO Box 873  
 Khartoum, Sudan

Dr A. al-Mufti  
 Secretary of Human Rights Commission\*  
 Khartoum, Sudan

\* The Human Rights Commission is a government-backed body, nominally independent, but 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 7 April 1994.