

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 54/010/2002

UA 191/02

Fear of torture or ill-treatment/ 21 June 2002  
Incommunicado detention/ Medical concern

SUDAN Professor El Amin Mohamed Osman (m), pathologist, Secretary General of  
*Aldawa Al Islamiya*, Islamic Dawa Organization  
Abdul Aziz. Fadl El Mula (m)

Mohamed Mumin (m)

Salah Asmali (m)

Doctor Issa Buhra (m)

Halima Abdul Daym (f)

Ismail Mustafa (m)

Mubarak (surname unknown, m)

Senior staff members of *Aldawa Al Islamiya*

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Those named above have been arrested by the Sudanese security services and are currently detained incommunicado. No charges are known to have been brought against them. They may be at risk of torture or ill-treatment. At least one of the detainees, Professor El Amin Mohamed Osman, is known to have a serious medical condition.

Abdul Aziz. Fadl El Mula, Mohamed Mumin, Salah Asmali and Professor El Amin Mohamed Osman were arrested on 12 June. The other senior staff members of *Aldawa Al Islamiya*, the Islamic Dawa Organization, were arrested on 17 June. Amnesty International is calling for them either to be charged immediately with a recognizable criminal offence or released.

Professor El Amin Mohamed Osman reportedly suffers from diabetes and hypertension and Amnesty International is concerned that he may not have access to any medical aid. When he was arrested, the security officers reportedly refused to allow him to bring his medication to his place of detention. Although there are reports that he may be detained at the security office in Khartoum North, his whereabouts are not confirmed.

*Aldawa Al Islamiya* is an international religious organization preaching the precepts of Islam, with activities relating to charity, development and educational work.

It is alleged that the *Aldawa Al Islamiya* staff members may have been arrested on suspicion of being close to the Popular National Congress (PNC), the breakaway faction of the government party National Congress (ex-National Islamic Front). The PNC was banned in February 2001 by the government of Sudan after it signed a memorandum of understanding with the Southern People's Liberation Movement, the main political and armed group that has been at war with the central government for 19 years. After he was arrested on 21 February 2001, the leader of the PNC Dr Hassan al Turabi has been kept in house detention for "security reasons" and PNC members have been repeatedly arrested and detained without charges throughout the year 2001.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since President Omar al-Bashir came to power in 1989, political opposition, freedom of expression, assembly and association in Sudan have been severely curtailed. The Political Act, which came into force in January 1999, supposedly relaxed the ban on opposition parties. However, opposition parties not supporting the government are either banned or denied genuine political freedom. There has been a consistent pattern of human rights abuses against those

perceived to oppose the government, including torture, ill-treatment, detention without charge and harassment.

The State of Emergency, renewed earlier this year, and the National Security Act, amended in December 2000, give the security services arbitrary powers to arrest and keep people in prolonged detention without charging them.

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

- calling on the Sudanese authorities to immediately reveal the place of detention of all the persons named above and to give assurances that they will not be tortured or ill-treated;
- expressing concern at the medical condition of Professor El Amin Mohamed Osman and calling for his urgent access to medical aid;
- calling for all detainees to have immediate access to their relatives, legal counsel and any medical aid they may need;
- urging the Sudanese authorities to give all detained immediate access to their relatives, legal counsel and any medical aid they may need;
- calling on the Sudanese authorities to charge them promptly with a recognizable criminal offence or to release them;
- calling for the National Security Act to be brought into accordance with international standards.

**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: + 24911 771651**  
**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: + 24911 788941**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

Mr Mustafa Osman Ismail  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
PO Box 873, Khartoum, Sudan  
**Telegrams: Foreign Minister, Khartoum, Sudan**  
**Fax: + 24911 777268**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

Dr Ahmed al-Mufti  
Advisory Council for Human Rights  
PO Box 302  
Khartoum, Sudan  
**Telegrams: Dr Ahmed al-Mufti, Advisory Council for Human Rights, Khartoum, Sudan**  
**Fax: + 24911 770883**

**Salutation: Dear Sir**

**(These fax numbers may be difficult to get through to, but please keep trying)**

**COPIES TO:**

Mr Hafez al-Sheikh al-Zaki  
Chief Justice, Supreme Court  
Khartoum, Sudan

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 2 August 2002.