

PUBLIC

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**Further Information on UA 304/04 (AFR 54/146/2004, 11 November 2004) Fear of Torture / Forced Relocation / Excessive use of force**

**SUDAN** **13 women (names unknown), residents of al-Geer camp**

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The 13 women detained by Sudanese police during a brutal raid on al-Geer camp for displaced people, and who were at risk of torture, have been released on bail.

The women were arrested on 10 November when four carloads of Sudanese police entered al-Geer camp, South Darfur, shooting bullets into the air, throwing teargas into tents, and beating scores of residents. The raid was one of a series of attempts by police to forcibly remove residents from the al-Geer camp, and other camps for displaced people.

The following day, Amnesty International issued an Urgent Action on behalf of the women, prompting an estimated 2,500 appeal-writers to send urgent letters and faxes to the Sudanese authorities. The appeals stated Amnesty International's concerns that the women were at risk of torture, and called for their release and for the police to cease any attempt to forcibly evict people from camps.

By 15 November, all the women had been released. They have reportedly been charged under Articles 51 and 69 of Sudanese law, which refers to "crimes against the state". It is not known when their trial will take place, or whether they were tortured or ill-treated while in detention.

**No further action is requested from the Urgent Action network. Amnesty International will continue to monitor the situation. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.**