

24 January 2016

Sudan – Torture of Mudawi Ibrahim Adam while on hunger strike in Sudanese prison

On 22 January, Dr **Mudawi Ibrahim Adam** started a hunger strike in protest of his arbitrary detention since 7 December by the Sudanese authorities. Reports today described how Mudawi Ibrahim Adam has been badly beaten and put in chains connected to his prison cell walls by members of the Sudanese National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS). It seems this is an attempt to force him to end his hunger strike.

[Dr Mudawi Ibrahim Adam](#) is an internationally recognised human rights defender who was the winner of the inaugural 2005 Front Line Defenders Award for human rights defenders. He is the founder and Chairperson of the **Sudan Social Development Organization (SUDO)**. Mudawi Ibrahim Adam was a participant in the national dialogue in Sudan in 2016. The human rights defender holds a PhD in Mechanical Engineering, is a Professor of Engineering at the University of Khartoum and runs his own engineering company.

Human rights defender Mudawi Ibrahim Adam began his hunger strike on 22 January 2017. Only a few days earlier on 13 January 2017, two of his brothers were able to visit him in prison and described briefly that he had been well. During the visit, Mudawi Ibrahim Adam and his brothers were not allowed to discuss politics or details of his detention in Kober prison in Khartoum.

On 12 January 2017, Front Line Defenders warned that Mudawi Ibrahim Adam and his colleagues had already spent over one month in detention and were therefore at an increasing risk of torture and ill-treatment by Sudanese authorities. On 7 December 2016, Mudawi Ibrahim Adam and his long-time driver Mr **Adam El-Sheikh** were arrested on the University of Khartoum campus and forcibly transferred to an unknown location. On 12 December, Ms **Nora Abaid**, an accountant from Mudawi Ibrahim Adam's engineering company, Lambda Engineering, was arrested by NISS agents who approached her in an unmarked car. They all continue to be detained incommunicado. Under the 2010 National Security Act (NSA), detainees can be held in custody for up to four and a half months without judicial review.

Front Line Defenders strongly condemns the severe beating of Mudawi Ibrahim Adam and is seriously concerned for his health and physical well-being. Front Line Defenders is seriously concerned that the human rights defender is not being allowed regular access to his family and legal counsel. Front Line Defenders urges the authorities in the Republic of the Sudan to:

1. Immediately and unconditionally release Mudawi Ibrahim Adam as Front Line Defenders believes that he is being held solely as a result of Mudawi Ibrahim Adam's legitimate and peaceful work in the defence of human rights;
2. Provide immediate and sufficient medical care for Mudawi Ibrahim Adam, and take all necessary measures to guarantee the physical and psychological integrity and security of Mudawi Ibrahim Adam;
3. Ensure that Mudawi Ibrahim Adam and Adam El-Sheikh have immediate and unfettered access to their families and lawyers;

4. Ensure that the treatment of Mudawi Ibrahim Adam and Adam El-Sheikh , while in detention, adheres to the conditions set out in the 'Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment', adopted by UN General Assembly resolution 43/173 of 9 December 1988;
5. Guarantee in all circumstances that all human rights defenders in the Republic of the Sudan are able to carry out their legitimate human rights activities without fear of reprisals and free of all restrictions.