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### **Sudan: Detention of human rights defender Alaa Nugud**

On 27 May 2023, the Sudanese Military Intelligence detained human rights defender **Alaa Nugud** at his house in Omdurman, Sudan and took him to an unknown location.

[Alaa \(Aladdin\) Nugud](#) is a Sudanese human rights defender, medical doctor and surgeon. He is a spokesperson for the Sudanese Professionals' Association and a member of the Forces of Freedom and Change-Central Council (FFC-CC). Alaa Nugud's human rights work focuses on fighting corruption, the right to access healthcare, peacebuilding and labour rights engaging in trade unions.

On 27 May 2023, human rights defender Alaa Nugud was arrested by the Sudanese Military Intelligence. He was taken from his house to an unknown location.

In a statement concerning the arrest, the Sudanese Professionals' Association said that it was "an unfortunate development in the context of the current war in the country, and a shift in dealing with the political and civil forces that have taken a decisive stance against the war and are working to stop it immediately through various peaceful means." The Sudanese Professionals' Association is an umbrella association of 17 different Sudanese trade unions, including unions of doctors, journalists and lawyers fighting to defend and improve labour rights.

Following the eruption of the war in Sudan on 15 April 2023, the human rights defender Alaa Nugud has continued his work as a medical doctor, often on a voluntary basis, by treating the injured and victims of the war. He has been outspoken in advocating for an end to the fighting in the country and has spoken out against the war on regional, national and international media, such as CNN.

During the current conflict in Sudan, human rights defenders are being targeted by both sides of the conflict in order to limit their access to information about human rights violations. Sudanese human rights defenders who volunteer to support Sudanese civilians on the ground are often targeted, as well as those advocating against the war and for an end to the violence.

Front Line Defenders is deeply concerned about the detention of human rights defender Alaa Nugud by the Sudanese Military Intelligence. Front Line Defenders believes that the human rights defender is solely being targeted with punitive measures as a result of his legitimate and non-violent human rights work.

#### **Front Line Defenders urges the authorities in Sudan to:**

1. Immediately release Alaa Nugud and guarantee his physical and psychological security and integrity;
2. Inform the family and lawyer of Alaa Nugud of the location of his detention, and allow them immediate and unimpeded access to him;

3. Guarantee in all circumstances that all human rights defenders in Sudan are able to carry out their legitimate human rights activities in a peaceful environment, without fear of reprisals and free of all restrictions, including judicial harassment.