

## **REPORT ON**

# HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN SOUTH KORDUFAN AND BLUE NILE STATES OF SUDAN

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Prepared by

Human Rights and Development Organization

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## **Executive summary**

Since June 2016 to present time, there is a ceasefire as announced by the two warring parties in South Kordufan/ Nuba Mountains and Blue Nile states of Sudan. But, the state of emergency situation is still on. The atrocities reduced though committed in different ways and the Popular Defense Force became a leading perpetrator among other security agencies.

This report aims to bring to light the human rights violation and abuses in SK and BN state/ government territory of Sudan and the situation of Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) from the two states. The information included in this report was gathered by trained monitors and compiled by trained staff. The report does not cover all incidents that occurred in the two areas and within the IDPs due to many challenges and limitations.

The violations and abuses included in this report are; arbitrary arrests in SK and BN. It reduced in SK and BN but, remained high within IDPs especially the Christians. The unlawful killing where seventeen people lost their lives and fifteen others injured. Many cases were reported to police but no perpetrator was arrested while some of them move around freely and they are members of PDF enjoying impunity. In most incidents, the PDF associating with some nomads brewed the conflict between the farmers (cultivators) and nomads as cross cutting issue in most incidents. HUDO also observed the pastors' and activist trial in which the lawyers are complaining about procedure and delay of justice. Other violations are included in this report concerning students who were intimidated by police, suspected cholera in BN, a family house that was expropriated by locality authority in Shandi and a report about church demolish warning. The report gives recommendations calling on both parties at war to consider and respect the international human rights laws and rule of law, calling upon regional and international bodies to compel the Government of Sudan (GoS) to respect the international human rights and humanitarian laws.

## **Abbreviations**

SK South Kordufan

BN Blue Nile

PDF Popular Defense Forces

IDPs Internal Displaced Persons

GoS Government of Sudan

SPLA-N Sudan People liberation Army – North

MI Military Intelligence

NISS National Intelligence and Security Services

AU African Union

AI Amnesty International

HRW Human Rights Watch

SAF Sudan Armed Forces

SSP State Security Prosecutor

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#### 1 Introduction

This report documents and highlights some violations and abuses that HUDO Centre managed to cover which took place at state/ governmental territories in South Kordufan (SK), Blue Nile (BN) states of Sudan and internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from the two states. The report covers a period of three months from July to September 2016.

The report is divided into three main interrelated parts. The first is introduction which consists of brief background of the major steps took by the state which were affected the human rights situation, problem statement highlighting the main events affected the human rights situation, the aim and objectives of the report, the scope of the report which consist of geographical and ethnic composition for the two states, the methodology used in gathering information/ data and the limitations and challenges faced while gathering information.

The second part is the body of the report which contains the incidents that took place, divided according to incidents of arbitrary arrest, unlawful killing, court ordeal and other violations. The last indicates recommendations on calling all the fighting parties to stop violating the human rights and the appeal to regional/ international institutions to intervene.

#### 2 About HUDO

Human Rights and Development Organization (HUDO)<sup>1</sup> is an independent, non-governmental, non-partisan and non-profit making organization based in Kampala-Uganda. HUDO is currently undertaking monitoring of human rights situation and observing rights related court cases. Our focus is on Sudan's government controlled areas of SK and BN States and the IDPs from the two areas. HUDO also have special program on refugee issues. HUDO trains human rights monitors based in these areas in order to improve their capacity to monitor, document and report on violations and abuses taking place.

HUDO's mission is to bring human rights to life by producing and shaping human rights mechanism, raising awareness and enforcing practices that empower people to improve their own lives and the lives of others.

HUDO's vision is to build a cohesive, civilized and fair society whereby all human beings are equally valued, treated with respect/dignity, with equal chances to succeed and participate in social-economic and political issues.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For more information about HUDO please visit: <a href="http://hudocentre.org/english/">http://hudocentre.org/english/</a>

## 3 Brief background

By June 2016 the war in SK entered its sixth year and approximately in BN. since it erupted in 2011. There are no significant changes on ground however, the two fighting parties government of Sudan (GoS) and Sudan People Liberation Army – North (SPLA-N) announced a ceasefire.

The situation of lawlessness in the two states affected by the state of emergency which announced by president of Sudan since the war erupted in 2011. Other element affecting the human rights situation is the presence of government allied militias that are dominated by certain nomads' tribes yet, the main inhabitants are cultivators (farmers).

The newly recruited governor for Dilling locality announced in September 2016 the first step of a unilateral peace initiative as to allow the elders, women, children and patients to move freely between the government and SPLA-N territories. But, the implementation of this initiative was interrupted by Military Intelligence (MI) and National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS), which arrested some people as they moved. The political and humanitarian status remains as same, no progress achieved.

#### 4 Problem statement

Although both government and SPLA-N announced ceasefire in May-2016, the human rights situation in SK and BN states has not improved. The general state of insecurity and violations persisted since SK and BN are still under the 'state of emergency' as declared by the president of Sudan in 2011.

The number of people arrested had reduced relatively but other violations have been going on including civilian insecurity in which many were killing, injured and raped. Nevertheless, police did not held a credible investigation since the perpetrators are recorded as anonymous yet in some cases the perpetrators were known and moving freely. There are cases of rape whereby the victims have accused security agencies including the police but no credible investigations have been carried out.

Many people have been killed in Talodi where the gold mines<sup>2</sup> are located and police did not help with investigations. The PDF forces have notoriously attacked, killed and sometimes looted villages. Currently, the conflict between nomads (cattle keepers) and the cultivators is exaggerated by PDF members' support to their tribes.

There are other ongoing violations based on religion. For instance, there are threats with stern warnings from Sudan authorities to demolish some churches. Also there are pending cases against Christian leaders like the ongoing case/trial at Khartoum Centre court against Pastors' and an activist.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> There are six gold mines in Talodi locality, those are: 1) Altugula, 13 km east Talodi 2) Al-Lafa, 10 km southeast Talodi. 3) Aldaam Alsareea (RSF), 8 km northeast Talodi 4) Meraidan, 14 km southeast Talodi 5) Alhamia (military HQ), 3km east Talodi 6) Alshargey, 20 km east Talodi.

Though the governor in Dilling had suggested some peace initiatives, the threats and arrests continued. Mr. Amin Bashir Felein, the member of the national dialogue representing Nuba people in USA commented in a public speech that "while I was on a visit to a village with the governor of Dilling, we saw people running and hiding. When we asked them, they replied that; "whenever we see the government vehicle it means they have come to arrest people, so we hide from it".

#### 5 The Aim

This report aims to bring to light the human rights violation and abuses in SK and BN states/ government territory of Sudan and the situation of IDPs from the two states.

## 5.1 Objectives

- To provide the United Nations' Human Rights Expert for Sudan, AU, Amnesty International (AI), Human Rights Watch (HRW), the Diplomatic Missions and Embassies in Sudan with information, in order to enhance their efforts to compel the Government of Sudan to respect human rights.
- To lobby and engage the Sudanese Civil Society in the process of human rights advocacy.
- To study the human rights situation at the conflict zones of SK and BN in Sudan and come up with appropriate recommendations.

## 6 Scope of the report

#### 6.1 Geographical scope

Sudan is one of the largest African countries; it consists of eighteen states, some of which are under conflict. This report covers two states under conflict, SK and BN as well as the internally displaced persons from those two states.

SK State consists of seventeen (17) localities, some are located within a territory controlled by SPLA-N and others are under state control. BN State consists of seven (7) localities under state control with SPLA-N presence in three of them.

This report covers the following towns and villages in SK under the state control; Dilling town and Almaash village in Dilling locality; Habila town in Habila locality; Kadogli town in Kadogli Locality; Talodi town and Altugula gold mines in Talodi Locality; Kalogi town in Kalogi locality; Al-Abbasiya town, Al-Sanadra village and Al-Shawaya village in Al-Abbasiya Locality and Alsharak village in Rashad Locality;

In BN the report focus on the following towns and villages under the state control; Roseires town, Tarfa, Abu-Zour, Badous, Karori, Hamda, Aljaref, Saweleil and the IDP's camp (North Roseires town) in Roseires Locality. Damazin town, Alserieo, Alhamra,

Alserajeya, Kashangaro, Aldeisa, Bejawey, Abdelkhalaq, Haroun Elbahar, Gebreil and Shamar in Damazin Locality; Agadey, Rorrow and Geraiwa in Tadamon Locality; Ashaheed Afandi and the military garrison in Bau Locality; Alias in Geisan locality; Gamberada in Kormuk locality and Almadinah Wahid in Wad Elmahi locality.

The report highlights some incidents that took place among IDPs in different states in Sudan. It includes the IDPs in towns out of SK and BN states. Towns like Shandi in River Nile State, Khartoum and Khartoum North in Khartoum state, EL-Obeid in North Kordufan state.

## 6.2 Ethnic composition

South Kordufan/Nuba Mountains state is mainly inhabited by Nuba ethnic groups, Arab and other African groups. The Nuba and African groups are mainly farmers (cultivators) and Arab ethnic groups are mainly cattle keepers.

Blue Nile State is inhabited by African ethnic groups and Arabs whose main activity is also farming and cattle keeping, the main tribes.

## 7 Methodology

In data collection and information gathering, HUDO Centre used different methods. HUDO centre had established a network consisting of field monitors and focal people to gather information within the conflict areas and among IDPs. The network/monitors managed to cover some incidents since it was not possible to have easy access to the whole area geographically.

Information from the field was critically analyzed by a reporting panel at Kampala office. The panel used analytical methods to sort the information in order to arrive at accurate findings that are included in this report.

For the purposes of consolidating this report HUDO Centre also used the following methods in collecting and analyzing data/ information;

- 1. HUDO centre developed data forms.
- 2. Conducted interviews with victims, relatives and witnesses
- 3. Verified comments from professionals (Lawyers, Doctors e.t.c)
- 4. Scrutinized official declarations

#### 8 Limitation and challenges

- 1. The state of Emergency imposed in the two states restricts the movement of field monitors. This directly hindered the process and time taken in collecting data.
- 2. The keen suspicion from intelligence (NISS and MI) to newcomers in towns and anybody that talks about human rights.

- 3. Poor means of transport whereby roads are not very accessible within the rainy season.
- 4. Some of the victims and witnesses do not easily reveal information due to security threats. According to interviews that were conducted by HUDO monitors, some of the victims or the witnesses expressed their fears from security agencies.
- 5. The number of monitors was not enough to cover the incidents geographically
- 6. The monitors' fear for their lives in case the interviewed victims were subjected to torture and forced to reveal them.
- 7. The general situation of insecurity in the conflict areas

## 9 Arbitrary arrest

Through the field monitors and focal people on the ground, HUDO managed to gather credible information about arbitrary arrests. In this period the number of arrests was relatively low. The arrests were carried out by MI, NISS and police.

#### 9.1 Arrests in South Kordufan

## 9.1.1 Release of detainees in Al-Abbasiya

On 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2016, the Military intelligence (MI) in Al-Abbasiya unconditionally released two of the three detainees who were arrested on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016 including an elderly man. The MI had accused the three for having attacked Mr.Belo's house yet the accused were at the same house for a social/tribal visit and nobody had reported any attack. The names of the arrested/released are:

- 1. Hamid Ibrahim Taweer, 73 years old, retired civil servant.
- 2. Ibrahim Adam Kalaka, 52 years old, engineer.

Later on18<sup>th</sup> July 2016, the third detainee Muamar Elsaeed Agoumy, 37 years old, self-employed was also released.

## 9.1.2 SAF raided Almaash village

On 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016, Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) raided Almaash village, arrested some people and confiscated some of their goods. SAF accused the people of this village that they supply and act as a pathway to SPLA-N in getting their supply from Dilling. The following people were arrested;

1. Mrs. Hano Hassan, 30 years old trader, with infant of one year. SAF confiscated her goods worth eight thousand Sudanese pounds (about 550 USD). She was released on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016 with a condition that she should not go back to her village. She was ordered to leave Dilling village and go to Khartoum.

- 2. Mrs. Beera Kardaweish, a 50 years old housewife. She was released on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016.
- 3. Ismail Khamees, 38 years farmer was released on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016.
- 4. Idris Wari, 40 years old trader. After arresting him, he was taken to Kadogli prison and no case was opened against him.

#### 9.2 Arrests in Blue Nile

## 9.2.1 Arrested for taking photos

On 17<sup>th</sup> September 2016, Mohamed Ahmed Khaleifa, a 35 years old government employee was arrested by NISS in Damazin for taking photos of patients at hospital who were suffering from suspected cholera. He was released after eight days on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2016 without opening a case against him.

# 9.3 Arrests among IDPs

On 6<sup>th</sup> July 2016 nineteen (19) Christians from evangelic church some of them priests and religious leaders were arrested by police as a result of the conflict within the church between two church committees. The police came to school with some of the committee members to handle over the school to new management team. When they arrived at the school yard, they found the other group of nineteen (19) members who were opposing to the new team. The police arrested and released them later the same day.

The people who were arrested are;

- 1) Faroug Angelo (Priest)
- 2) Priest/ AbdoHarin
- 3) Daoud Bashir (Leader)
- 4) Polus Tutu (Leader)
- 5) Adam Manzeli (Leader)
- 6) Yohana Ali
- 7) Hassan Tomani
- 8) AzhariTambara
- 9) William TelianKoumi
- 10)William AndraowsEidan
- 11)Anwar Betros
- 12) Yagoub Victor
- 13) Yousif Algeraif
- 14) Kolein Faroug Angelo
- 15)Mrs. GesmaSaeed (School headmaster)
- 16)George ZakariaModeer
- 17)HemaidaKandab
- 18) Daoud Musa Namnam

## 19) Yagoub Babur

Soon after releasing them, they went back to the school and four of them left the group for personal reasons. This time the police arrested the remained fourteen who were there. They were released on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2016 with a condition of paying three hundred Sudanese pounds<sup>3</sup> (an equivalent of \$ 25 by then)

The five who were excluded in the second arrest are;

- 1) AzhariTambara
- 2) William TelianKoumi
- 3) William AndraowsEidan
- 4) Yousif Algeraif

## Background of the case

In 2012 after the cessation of South Sudan, there was an extra ordinary meeting (general assembly) that was held under pressure with observation of state/government and it was ensured that South Sudanese were excluded. The church committees were formed with scrutiny from the state/government under ministry of guidance and endowments which approved the selection.

After one year, some members of the dissolved committee raised an objection to the ministry claiming that the assembly committed a forgery. The ministry accepted their objection and advised them to conduct an alternative assembly under police guidance. This was the time pastor/ Hamad Mohamed Salih was elected. Pastor (Jafar) commented that "pastor/ Hamad tried his best to be elected again on the new committee. Since he was excluded from the committee because of corruption, he is expecting to be questioned on many corrupt deals he was involved in"

The first committee (which the followers considered to be legitimate) raised some objections which were ignored by the ministry even after they went to court and got a supportive court decision which was later interpreted differently by the ministry's legal advisor. Since then the conflict emerged between the two committees. The first committee supported by the followers (church members) and the second one supported by the ministry backed by police and NISS. The first committee experienced harsh treatment whereby they are arrested with their followers because they object to mistakes committed by the other committee like the many properties and investment contracts on the church land which were signed. In this case, the second committee came to hand over the school from the current administration to alternative

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Officially government use **Genaih** the Arabic word for pound

administration but, the current one could not allow the hand over which caused their arrest.

Other cases relate to the same committee's conflict that happened in Madani town when the second committee went there without warning to take over the school.

On 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016, a group from the second committee headed by Suliman Ali Nemir accompanied by police and NISS came to Madani evangelical school in order to change the school administration. This raised the disagreement because the school administration refused them and asked for official warning and to be given some time. This led to a clash and the school headmaster pastor/ Samuel Suliman and others among them Pastor/ Sami were arrested by police. They were released after two hours. The arrested group went ahead and opened a case against the second committee. The judge ordered the committee to stop any procedure till court makes a decision (judgment). The conflict is still going on (appendix - 1).

## 10 Unlawful killing

Civilians in conflict areas are worried most because of insecurity. Many were killed, injured and some of their belongings were looted. In some cases police had not done credible investigations and in other cases the perpetrators are known but moving freely.

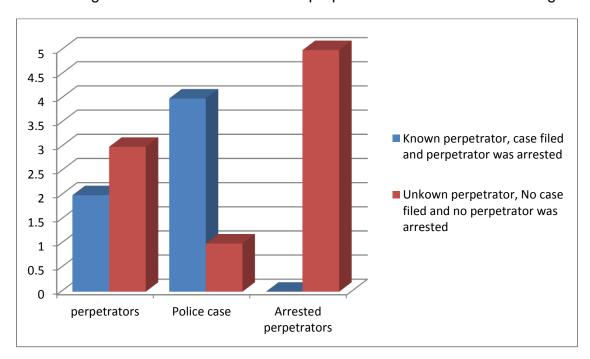


Chart shows the perpetrators and case status in five cases

Shooting at house in Alsharak (One killed and two injured)

On 6<sup>th</sup> July 2016, a group of PDF soldiers headed by Umbrambeta's PDF commander Anwar Alzubair, attacked Mohamed Daoud's house at Alsharak village (20km southeast Abu-Kershola). They were on six land cruiser vehicles and a number of motorbikes. On arrival, they started shooting towards the house and the house owner was killed and two people were injured. The injured were;

- I. Abdalla Adam Aldaar
- II. Jamal Hamid Egail

The attack was alleged to be an act of retribution. That a relative to Mohamed Daoud was murdered in May 2016 by one from the commander's tribe. The deceased (Mohamed Daoud) opened a case at police accusing that person. Before this incident, the murder case was already known as well as the perpetrators but, the police couldn't arrest them or take any further steps.

## 10.1 Three family members killed in Habila

On 7<sup>th</sup> August 2016, three family members of Mohamed Yagoub Abdalla were killed and others injured by (unknown gun men) at their <u>farm/scheme</u> fourteen (14) km south of Habila. The family suspects a member of SPLA-N to be responsible for the killing since they have land wrangles/dispute.

While the family members were camping at their agricultural farm/scheme, they heard a voice calling/yelling and immediately after their replying there was random shooting. Three people were instantly killed, two brothers Bushra and Bashir together with their 16 year old nephew Abduraheem. The wounded were Abduelaziz and Arabi. The family members accuse SPLA-N member because of land dispute with him. A case was opened against anonymous and no further investigation was taken.

#### 10.2 Murder incident in Talodi

On 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2016, Sowar-Aldahab Mohamed Alkabour, 29 years old, casual laborer at the gold mine was killed by five armed people and his motorbike was taken away as he was going to Al-Lafa gold mine ten (10) km Southeast Talodi with other person who witnessed the murder and survived. A case was filed by Talodi police against anonymous/ unidentified perpetrator. No further investigation was done.

## 10.3 Al-Sanadra village massacre

On 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2016, PDF soldiers with more than twenty motorcycles accompanied by two land cruiser vehicles attacked this village. The attack was based on PDF<sup>4</sup> claim that, there were some cattle looted from their tribe and that their footsteps passed through Al-Sanadra village. They accused the people of this village to have been involved in the theft or being accomplice. Al-Sanadra is a village in Al-Abbasiya locality

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>The PDF is a government allied militia that is dominated by Arab nomad's tribe in South Kordufan

in South Kordufan state. It is seven (7) km Northwest Al-Abbasiya town, inhabited by approximately two hundred (200) household mainly from Nuba/ Tagali tribes.

By the end of the attack, nine (9) people were killed, around twenty wounded, some houses were burnt down, three children and a woman were missing but they were found after some days.

The following are the names of the people that were killed:

- 1. Omer Mohammed Ahmed
- 2. Mohammed Abdalla Adam
- 3. Gasim Ahmed Algamrey
- 4. Abdalla Suliman
- 5. Mohammed Ishag
- 6. Mussa Bagadi
- 7. Mohammed Bashir
- 8. Mohammed Alsaudi
- 9. Ahmed Adaroub.

#### Some of the wounded civilians are:

- 1. HussanAlzaibaq
- 2. Haroun Ismail
- 3. Ismail Adam
- 4. Khalifa Ahmed Algamrey
- 5. Abdelmoneim Ismail
- 6. Abdalla Hassan Ismail
- 7. Dafalla Mohammed
- 8. Abdelwahab Adam
- 9. AbakarGeley
- 10. Ghasan Alzink
- 11. Basheir

Most of the injured were treated from Al-Abbasiya hospital others were transferred to EL-Obeid hospital. As a result of this incident, most of the people shifted to Al-Shawaya village, a distance of five (5) km Southwest of Al-Sanadra.





Al-Abbasiya citizen gathered at the hospital and denied to receive the dead bodies unless a case to be opened

The authorities (state/security) first ignored the case but later considered it after much pressure from citizens and a case was opened at Al-Abbasiya police office.

## 10.4 Three people shot dead in Talodi

On 10<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 11:00 am, three people were killed and their belongings were looted near Altugula gold mine 13 km northeast Talodi town where gold traders come for gold business. The murdered people are:

- 1. Noureldaeem Gorashi Mohamed, 27 years old, trader, originally from Kosti of White Nile state.
- 2. Abdalla Ahmed Eltayeeb, 31 years old, jewelry, originally from Wakara of Tadamoun locality/ South Kordufan.
- 3. Aldaye Mohamed Abdelrahman, 25 years old, trader, originally from Wakara of Tadamoun locality/ South Kordufan.

## The looted items are:

- A. Two hundred thousand Sudanese pound in cash (approximately 15000 USD).
- B. Two motorbikes
- C. Amount of gold equivalent to one hundred thousand Sudanese pounds.
- D. Three smart phones.

The dead bodies were taken to Kalogi town (40 km east Talodi) where a case was opened against anonymous, postmortem was done and where they buried. No any further investigation held by Kalogi police yet one of those phone SIM card number (+249908146555) up to first of October 2016 was still in use (someone open the line without answering).

#### 11 Sexual violence

On 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016, two sisters A, 24 years old, married and R, 18 years old, unmarried, were raped by two men at Talodi town and the victims reported the case at Talodi police. The perpetrators who were recognized by the victims had not been arrested, instead two other people Sabir Jamjam, 25 years old, government employee and Ahmed Bakheit, 26 years old, trader who were not at the scene of crime were accused by police and subsequently arrested. The two detainees are known critiques the government officials.

#### 12 Observation of Court ordeal

## 12.1 The trial of Pastors' and activist



Pastors' trial at Khartoum Centre court under tight security

There was a Christian conference held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia between 17<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>October 2015. The conference was about the situation of Christians in Sudan

especially after cessation of South Sudan. The conference was attended by Christians (about thirty) from Sudan and South Sudan. Pastors Hassan and Kuwa were among the Sudanese participants. Pastor/ Hassan presented a paper about the kind of oppression Christians face from authorities. It was during this conference that they met with Peter from Czech Republic among other people.

On 18<sup>th</sup> December 2015, Peter, Hassan, Kuwa, and Moneim were arrested among others by NISS and held in NISS custody for five months until 18th May 2016 when NISS opened a case against the four of them at State Security Prosecutor's (SSP) office. Their case number is 41/2016 where they were accused for committing crimes under the following articles;

- 1. Criminal Act (1991)
  - I. Article (21): Joint acts in execution of criminal conspiracy
  - II. Article (50): Undermining the constitutional system
- III. Article (51): Waging war against the state
- IV. Article (53): Espionage against the country
- V. Article (57): Entering and photographing military areas and works
- VI. Article (64): Provoking hatred against or amongst sects
- VII. Article (66): Publication of false news
- 2. Nationality Law Article (30/1)
- 3. Humanitarian Act Article (23)

On 4<sup>th</sup> August 2016, SSP office referred their case to court and that's when they were transferred from SSP cell to Omdurman prison. They were later transferred to Alhuda prison in the same town of Omdurman.

The case is before Justice Dr. Osama Mohamed Abdalla at Khartoum Centre court. The first court hearing was scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> August 2016 but it was postponed to 21<sup>st</sup> August 2016 because the accused were not brought from the prison to the court. Therefore, 21<sup>st</sup> August 2016 was the first time for the accused to appear before court. The subsequent court sessions were conducted on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2016, 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016. The case is still before court.

They were accused in this order.

1<sup>st</sup> defendant: Pastor, Peter Justin (holding Czech's nationality)

2<sup>nd</sup> defendant: Pastor, Hassan Abduelraheem Kodi

3<sup>rd</sup> defendant: Pastor, Kuwa Shamal Abu Zumam

4<sup>th</sup> defendant: Activist, Abduelmoneim Abdalmwlla

The accused are defended by a team of more than twenty five (25) lawyers. Most of the time, the court trials are held under very tight security and many times the activists and other supporters have been prevented from attending.



Activist & supporters used to sit under bridge after were denied attending the court session

In all court sessions the investigator/prosecutor reads the details of the charges preferred against the accused, displays videos and audio recordings as evidence with the help of the translator. However, the translator was changed during the 4<sup>th</sup> court session.

The videos shows, the first defendant (Peter) had documented the violations caused by air bombardment and the authorities were not pleased with his act. On top of that, according to the evidence presented by the prosecutor, it was alleged that the 1<sup>st</sup> defendant (Peter) had;

- Interviewed a student who was burnt (Ali Omer Mussa) while the 3rd defendant translated. He alleged the burning to Sudanese authorities because the student had converted from Islam to Christianity.
- In the audio recordings, the 3<sup>rd</sup> defendant explained to the 1<sup>st</sup> defendant how he and the student Ali Omer had converted from Islam to Christianity.

During the court sessions, the defendants' lawyers objected many times about the court procedures. Some of the complaints were captured as indicated below;

- The 1<sup>st</sup> defendant's lawyer objected and requested that the photos should be displayed by the technical experts who had prepared the film, the judge promised to do so when needed.
- One of the lawyers commented that "The trial Judge keeps on postponing the trial for all sorts of reasons which creates a wrong impression of delaying justice on the side of the accused".
- Another lawyer objected on the intervention by investigator to direct the translator.
- The first defendant's lawyer commented directly to the court that, "it's unacceptable for the court to be directed/ driven by one of the litigants".

#### 13 Other violations

#### 13.1 South Kordufan

# 13.1.1 Al-Abbasiya police Intimidated students at school

On 27<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 10:00 am, thirty seven (37) police officers headed by a captain on four vehicles (two with number plates and two without) entered Al-Gadeima<sup>5</sup> secondary school in Al-Abbasiya town and started to shoot in air while students were in class. This scared both the teachers and students. The headmaster went to the captain asking about the reason, the captain replied "we had information that students were planning to demonstrate about Al-Sanadra incident. This is a message to them, this time we fired on air but, if they dare demonstrate, the fire will be on their chests after all, you all belong to SPLA-N". As a result, five students who were originally from Al-Sanadra left the school.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Al-Gadeima is an Arabic word means **the old** 

#### 13.2 Blue Nile

## 13.2.1 Suspected Cholera outbreak



**Patients at Karori health Centre** 

Since August-2016, Blue Nile state witnessed an outbreak of watery diarrhea. The first case was registered on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at Sawelail village north Roseires town, thereafter the disease spread almost in the entire Blue Nile State. The symptoms of the disease are whitish-watery diarrhea with severe vomit. Most of the medical doctors suspected it (the disease) to be cholera and many death cases have been registered.

One of the lab technicians that HUDO contacted confirmed that "thirteen (13) cases were cholera positive" without giving the physical report yet the ministry of health insists that it's just watery diarrhea. The health ministry refused to disclose the actual numbers of affected people, the dead and they went ahead to arrest those who tried to document the cases<sup>6</sup>.

The table below shows the affected people by localities and the number of deaths according to HUDO records:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> There is arresting case included under arbitrary arrest in this report.

No	Locality	Town or village	Affected	Deaths
1	Roseires	Roseires	605	49
		Tarfa		
		Abu-Zour		
		Badous		
		Karori		
		Hamda		
		Aljaref		
		Saweleil		
		IDP camp (North Roseires)		
2	Damazin	Damazin	470	23
		Alserieo		
		Alhamra		
		Alserajeya		
		Kashangaro		
		Aldeisa		
		Bejawey		
		Abdelkhalaq		
		HarounElbahar		
		Gebreil		
		Shamar		
3	Tadamoun	Agadey	27	1
		Rorrow		
		Geraiwa		
4	Bau	AlshaheedAfandi	18	0
		Military garrison		
5	Geisan	Alias	12	1
6	Kormuk	Gamberada	1	0
7		Almadinah Wahid	2	0
Total o	of Affected/ De	1072	74	

Table shows the affected/ Deaths people by localities (HUDO records)

## **13.3 Internal Displaced Persons**

# 13.3.1 A family house confiscated (seized) by authority

On 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016, the authorities of Shandi locality seized the house of Ismail Nasir's family for one year. They accused them (family) of selling alcohol. This was based on the orders issued by the locality governor since May 2016 (appendix - 2).

On 17<sup>th</sup> July 2016, Mrs. Hayat Elrehaima Teeya Kafi, 46 years old, wife of Nasir, IDP from Nuba Mountains was arrested by police for the same case of sale of alcohol. She spent one night in police custody and the second day she was sent to the court where the judge found her innocent and released her. The same day, police together with the prosecutor came to Nasir's house with a revised order (appendix - 3) and forced them to

evacuate (leave) the house. The family is currently renting another house and they appealed the public order to the court but, no results yet.

## 13.3.2 Church demolition notice

On 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016, Alhaj Yousif Christ church authorities received a warning notice from the land authorities in Khartoum state of demolishing the church within one week. The given reason was illegal building/structure (Appendix- 4). The church is in the neighborhood of Khartoum North and it was built on this land in 1976 where more than three hundred people have been gathering to fellowship/worship regularly ever since.

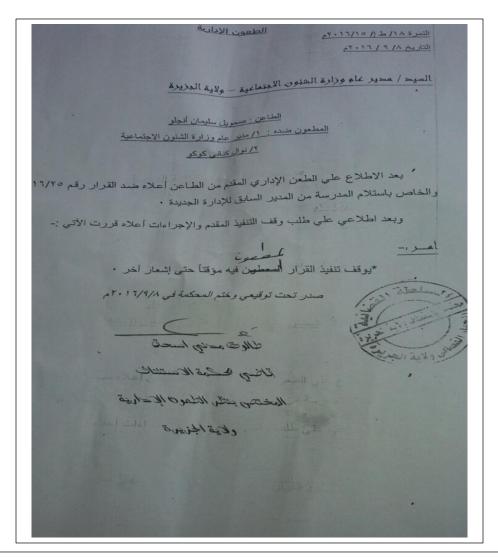
The letter warned them that the church will be demolished and they were given one week to evacuate/relocate otherwise further legal procedures were to be taken and the church would pay the demolition costs. By the time of writing this report, the church is not demolished yet, but the threat/intimidation is still on.

#### 14 Recommendations

- Human Rights and Development Organization (HUDO Centre) urges the two
  warring parties (government and the SPLA-N) to maintain, extend the ceasefire
  and implement genuine cessation of hostilities in order to stop violence.
- HUDO Centre appeals to regional and International institutions to compel government of Sudan to respect human rights, uphold rule of law and practice international standards of justice.
- HUDO Centre urges Sudan government on the following;
  - ➤ To lift the state of emergency imposed on SK and BN states so that the actions of security forces are put under check/control.
  - Amend the laws which permit security agencies like NISS and PDF act with impunity and allow the rule of law to prevail.
  - Disband and stop the activities of government militias.
  - Stop targeting of civilians basing on their religion, ethnic or geographical aspect.
  - Permit national, international NGOs and the humanitarian aid to access and help the people affected by conflict.

# 15 Appendices

## 15.1 Appendix – 1: Madani court resolution



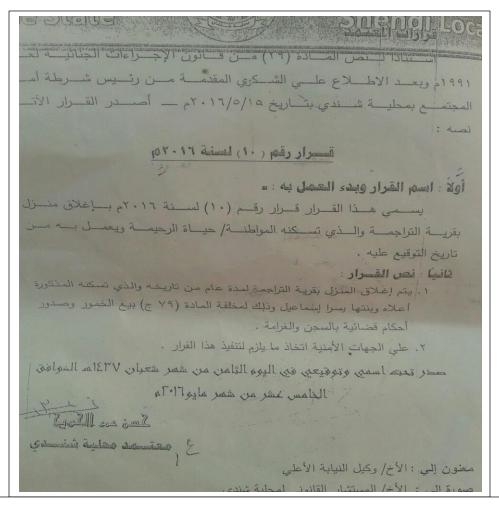
## **Summary**

The Court resolution titled by administrative appeals. It issued by the Appeal Court of Algazeera State and signed by: the judge of appeal court/ Taloot Madani Ishaq.

The letter entitled to General Manager of Ministry of Social Affairs of Algazeera State Ms. Nawal Kabashi Kuku. Informing her by the court resolution on the case of administrative resolution No. 25/16 about handling the school to new administration, against it Mr. Samuel Suliman Angalo was appealed. The resolution order is:

Disrupt the implementation temporarily until further notice.

## 15.2 Appendix – 2: House seizing resolution



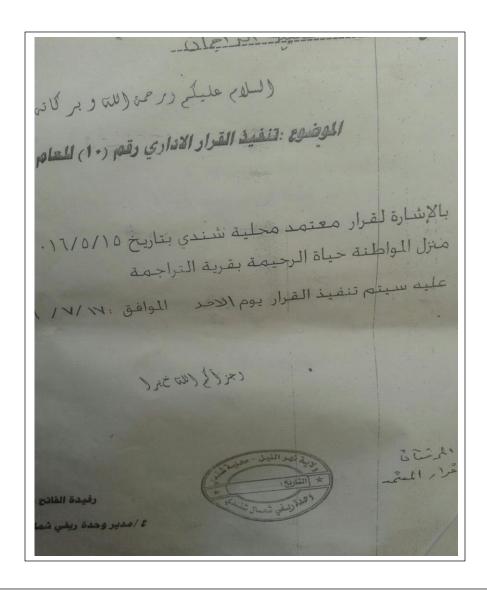
## **Summary**

The above resolution was released by, Shendi governor (the District Commissioner) on a headed paper of the locality (district). The Governor (district commissioner) had made two decisions based on article 39 of criminal procedure code - 1991 and according to the complain by the chief of community police in Shandi locality on 15<sup>th</sup>, May 2016, issued a decision that reads:

First, the decision name: named 10/2016 closing Hayat Alrehaima's house, which locates in Altaragma village and it begins implemented on the date was singed.

Second, the decision is closing the mentioned house for one year, it cause the decision to the owner deal with her daughter in selling alcohol. Also it gave the security authority an order to implement the resolution.

# 15.3 Appendix - 3: House seize revised order



## **Summary**

## Subject: Implementation of the administrative decision No 10/2016

With a refer to the decision of Shandi District Commissioner which was dated 15<sup>th</sup>May 2016, about the Hayat Alrehaima's house in Altragima village.

The implementation of the resolution will be on 17th July 2016.

Signed by the north rural unit manager/ Ms. Rofaida Alfateh

## 15.4 Appendix – 4: Demolish warning note



## **Summary**

The demolish warning decree was written on headed paper of GOVERNMENT LANDS PROTECTION AUTHORITY/ DIRECTORATE OF GOVERNMENT LANDS' PROTECTION

Dated on 1st August 2016 and titled by word WARNING

According to demolish decree No (214/2016) issued on  $20^{\text{th}}$  June 2016 by Mr. Director General of Lands Authority.

The warning decree pointing number of churches in Khartoum North alleged them by illegally occupying plots and space yards, ordering them to evacuate their belongs/properties in one week time otherwise, further legal procedure will be taken and the churches will be held accountable and pay the demolition cost.

The decree signed by Director of the Government Lands Protection Authority