



## Update (11)

### COURT TRIAL OF NISS/SUDAN AGAINST PASTORS AND ACTIVIST

The thirteenth (13<sup>th</sup>) court hearing was held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016. The session was before Justice Dr. Osama M. Abdalla at Khartoum Centre court and all parties were present. During this session, the complainant (NISS representative) was questioned/ examined by the accusation panel. Thereafter, the defendants' panel cross examined the complainant /accuser. The judge adjourned court to 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

#### Summary of the court session

The main activity was the complainant's (NISS representative) response and the cross examination of the plaintiffs by the defendants' panel.

#### The Complainant's Response to the accusation panel

The accusing panel was led by counsel/ Nasreldein while the plaintiff was Mr. Abbas Eltahir (NISS). This was the conclusion of the complainant's response to questions from the accusing panel.

- The main causes of banishing (expelling) NGOs from Sudan are; working without registration, undermining Sudan constitution, inciting hatred between communities, waging war against state and backing allegation against Sudan on human rights file/record among other reasons. The banishing was by NISS.
- The main reason for Addis Ababa conference was to damage Sudan interest and tarnish Sudan image.

#### The Complainant's Response to the defendants' panel

- The first defendant's laptop was kept at NISS from December 2016 up to March 2016 when it was delivered to the prosecutor and the information was copied and treated technically while the defendant was absent.
- The money was paid for treatment of the burnt student.
- The burnt student and Telahoun were arrested by NISS on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2014 and released on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2015.
- The defendant claimed that the demolished church was an illegal building/ unplanned. NISS representative doesn't know that the building was in this place since 1983.
- The complainant agreed that the third defendant collected money for treatment of the burnt student. This is also confirmed by the burnt student's testimony.
- On 20<sup>th</sup> December 2015, there was scheduled operation for the burnt student and money had to be paid.
- The second defendant visited the burnt student at the hospital.
- The fourth defendant's laptop is still with the complainant/NISS but not in court custody.
- Fourteen (14) files concerning the Sudanese Christ Church were confiscated by NISS. These files contained information about the church's land ownership.



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- There was no resolution or declaration neither issued to expel/banish individuals that NISS announced at court nor was there any case opened against them.

At 03:30 pm the judge adjourned court to 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016 for the accusing panel to question the complainant further.

## Notes;

- During cross examination, some questions were rejected or could not be answered because it was considered to be part of the national security.
- NISS ignored the criminal procedure law under justification of the national security law allowing them.
- In some cases the accusing panel objected answering some of the questions though the complainant insisted on answering.

## Recommendations/ Appeal

HUDO urges all the concerned, especially:

- The Sudan court to conduct this trial fairly.
- The diplomatic missions and embassies to continue attending the court sessions.
- The activists and defendants' supporters to keep on attending the trial though court has reached the stage of approving or rejecting the accusations.
- The Sudan and international media to give more coverage for the court.

**End**

For any further information please write to ([hudo2009@gmail.com](mailto:hudo2009@gmail.com))