



## HUDO Centre

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### PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release (15<sup>th</sup> October 2016)

#### **THE MURDER OF UNARMED CIVILIAN AT HIS FARM IN HABILA OF SOUTH KORDUFAN/ SUDAN**

On 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016, Mr. Alhaj Kowa was killed while he was at his farm in Habila of South Kordufan and police's efforts to investigate was stopped/Interrupted by Public Defense Force (PDF).

Mr. Kowa, 54 years old, from Chad/ Nuba ethnic, was at his farm four (4) km southeast Habila on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016 but he didn't come back to his house by evening. Early morning his family went to the farm looking for him, the family found him dead with two bullets on his head and the other on his chest as well as they found the farm was destroyed by cattle grazing. They went and reported the matter to the police. The police went with them (family) and they started on the investigations by following the cattle footsteps. They ended up at Faio village (9 km southeast of Habila). Before entering the village, a group of armed PDF ordered the police officers to go back and the police obeyed their order and went back without investigating.

Faio village is occupied by nomad Arab group who are mainly involved in PDF activities as militias. One of Habila's dwellers commented to HUDO that "five months earlier, the Faio's leaders (Ahmed Gabar, Hamid Aljonkani and Ahmed Abu-rabit) announced that Habila will be grazing land and any cattle keeper will be free to graze their cattle anywhere yet, Habila known as cultivation land".

HUDO call on the government of Sudan to consider the rule of law, the security and protection of civilians and to conduct genuine investigation about the incident and the perpetrators should be held accountable.

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