



URGENT ACTION

DEATH UNDER TORTURE IN SOUTH KORDUFAN/ SUDAN

On 28th December 2018, NISS in Altartar arrested three people from the gold mine; two of them were tortured to death while the third one is still detained in a severe health condition. They were arrested for listening to Radio Dabanga.

Mr. Hassan known by his nickname Hassan Talga (surname is unknown), about 40 years old was from Wad Banda of West Kordufan State. Mr. Faiez Abdalla Omer was 37 years old, former soldier and from South Darfur State as well as Mr. Mohamed Zakaria from Darfur about 40 years of age.

On 28th December 2018, seven armed soldiers of National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS), five in uniform while two in civilian clothes arrived at Um-Khallawi gold mine on two vehicles (Land Cruisers) without number plates and arrested the three people mentioned above. Mr. Hassan and Faiez were arrested from their mining location and Mohammed Zakaria was arrested from the mine's market. The soldiers tied their arms and legs with ropes and took them to Altartar NISS office.

On arrival at NISS office, the head commandant ordered the soldiers to torture them by saying that "*Sakheinhum/ Warm them*". They were beaten by many soldiers using black hose and sticks for more than three hours, as they were tortured, the soldiers kept shouting at them that "*you were listening to radio Dabanga, you are Toraboura/ rebel*". The officer came to interrogate them at 10:00 PM and found when Mr. Hassan had passed away/ died, Mr. Faiez was unconscious/ faint and Mohammed Zakaria was in a bad/severe condition. The head officer ordered that all should be transported to Al-Abbasiya town. Before reaching Al-Abbasiya at Wakara village, Faiez also died.

After reaching Al-Abbasiya NISS office, the head commandant of NISS Al-Abbasiya communicated with Al-Abbasiya hospital and the locality prosecutor to handle the official document for burial of the two dead bodies. The two bodies were buried on the following day/ morning (29th December 2019) by NISS at Al-Abbasiya grave yard. However, postmortem was not done.

Mohammed Zakaria was transported by NISS to Khartoum but he was kept incommunicado. A reliable source informed HUDO that, Mr. Zakaria is in NISS custody at Kober prison in a bad health status and NISS denied his family access/ visit to him.



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HUDO is very concerned about the increasing number of people dying under torture cases in Sudan, and calls upon;

- Sudan government to genuinely investigate and hold to account before court Altartar and Al-Abbasiya NISS commandant, Al-Abbasiya prosecutor, Al-Abbasiya medical doctor (that was in charge then) and the NISS soldiers responsible for the inhuman and brutal acts as well as the death of late Hassan and Faiez and Zakaria's torture and forced disappearance.
- Sudan government to disclose the whereabouts and the health status of Mohammed Zakaria and to unconditionally release him immediately.
- Sudan government to end the state of emergency which enables the security agents to violate civilians' rights at will.
- The UN agencies in Sudan to observe, monitor and investigate this case and to disclose the findings.
- The international community to act urgently with needed measures towards Sudan government and to put more pressure on the regime to stop violating fundamental rights.
- Sudan government to respect its international obligations towards their citizens.



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More information

- Um-Khallawi gold mine is a traditional gold mine in a distance of 5 KM east Altartar; Altartar is capital town of Altadamoun locality in South Kordufan in a distant of 76 KM southeast Al-Abbasiya town while Wakara is in between the two towns at a distance of 25 KM east Al-Abbasiya.
- The word Toraboura is used in Darfur by security agent and public referring it to the opposition armed groups.
- In Eastern Region of South Kordufan State where Al-Abbasiya and Altartar fall within, there are many cases of torture and deaths under torture in which the security agents (MI and NISS) use leather-whip saturated by sulfuric acid in slashing and torturing detainees, for example;
 - On 7th June 2018, the MI in Al-Abbasiya released Mohammed Awad Bakheit with severe torture scars and suffer.
 - On 8th September 2018, Mr. Aldouma Mohamed Osman had died as a result of torture by MI in Al-Abbasiya.
- This arrest was considered by many activists is in relation to Altartar town's demonstration that had it on 23rd December 2018