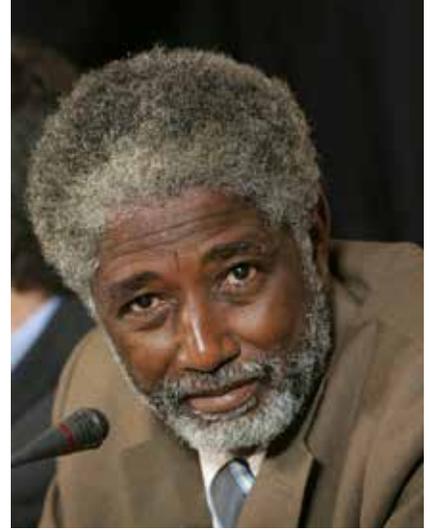


## Mudawi Ibrahim Adam

### A Life of Defiance and Struggle

Mudawi Ibrahim Adam is:

- A teacher of engineering at the University of Khartoum.
- Holder of a doctorate in mechanical engineering.
- Founder and President of the Sudan Organization for Social Development (SUDO)
- Recipient of the Front Line Defenders inaugural Award for Human Rights Defenders in 2005.



"I was made, by the law, a criminal, not because of what I had done, but because of what I stood for, because of what I thought, because of my conscience. Can it be any wonder to anybody that such conditions make a man an outlaw of society? Can it be wondered that such a man, having been outlawed by the government, should be prepared to lead the life of an outlaw, as I have led for some months, according to the evidence before this court?"— Nelson Mandela.

Dr. Mudawi Ibrahim Adam is a Sudanese engineer and a strong defender of human rights. His role in revealing the violations against the Sudanese people and especially people of Darfur has been widely recognized. Mudawi has

been imprisoned numerous times by the Sudanese regime, by all the accounts in connection with his work in the field of defending human rights.

Mudawi is the founder and president of Sudan Organization for Social Development (SUDO), working in the field of human rights in addition to providing water, sewage services and health services. SUDO provided humanitarian aid to millions forced to flee their homes due to war and conducted a peace building project in South Darfur.

Dr. Mudawi, in recognition of his efforts in reinforcing and defending human rights, received the first Front Line Defenders Award for defenders of human rights and those in danger in 2005.

From December 7, 2016 to date, Mudawi has been incarcerated in the cells of the Sudanese regime without charge.

As a political prisoner, Mudawi continued to fight the regime by conducting a hunger strike protesting his incarceration in solitary confinement without charge, denied communication with a lawyer or his family and denied medical assistance.

#### Childhood and Education

Dr. Mudawi was born in 1958 in the village of Kandwa in the state of North Kordofan, steps away from the city of Um Rwaba. He grew up in an environment filled with Sufism. He attended elementary and middle school in Um Rwaba. He went to high school

at the Khour Taggat School and moved on to study at the Faculty of Engineering, University of Khartoum in 1974. In 1978, he graduated with honors from the Department of Mechanical Engineering. He continued his postgraduate studies and earned a doctorate degree in mechanical engineering from the same university in 1980.

Because Mudawi was full of passion and ambition, he headed to Britain where he studied business administration, and then went to America. He was so brilliant that he received training in one of America's greatest institutes: the NASA space agency. It was possible for him to settle there and benefit, due to his hard work, from great amounts of money, but he returned to Sudan to teach at the same university from which he graduated. He remained there until the Sudanese regime devised its project to purify the civil service of those who did not support it when was sacked alongside thousands of civil servants supposedly for the public good.



He returned again to teaching at the University of Khartoum despite the bitterness of injustice in order to not disappoint his students or spoil the future of the next generation.



## SUDO

In April 2001, SUDO opened its headquarters in Khartoum, with Dr. Mudawi as its founder and first president. The organization quickly managed to open branches in Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile states. It provided great services to the displaced of Darfur. SUDO also worked in the field of monitoring violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. It helped, through its thorough reports, to reveal serious violations in Sudan; furthermore, Dr. Mudawi managed to provide training for a large number of youth who were presidents of the organization's branches in the states. They are now some of the finest Sudanese human rights activists. The SUDO's success brought trouble from the government. By the year 2009, SUDO, alongside other national and international organizations, was closed without any legal justification. Despite all the obstacles, Mudawi carried on and continued defending human rights. He fought the decree closing the organization in court and earned a decision that the closure was invalid. Yet, up to now, the authorities have not allowed the organization to return to work in the country.

## Loyalty and Gratitude

Large advocacy campaigns aimed at releasing Dr. Mudawi and condemning his incarceration has been beautifully active. The best of those campaigns was when the lovely little hands of the little students of Kandwa Primary School raised

signs calling for the release of their own son. Another campaign was conducted by the students and graduates of Faculty of Engineering of the University of Khartoum inside the university campus – they organized a protest defying the oppressive actions of the national security forces and supporting their teacher.

On March 22, 2017, Sabah Adam, Dr. Mudawi's spouse, wrote "regards to everyone who has cared and called out to ensure the wellbeing of Mudawi Ibrahim, the teacher of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Khartoum, who has been incarcerated for 30 days now with the prosecutor for state security; I would like to assure to you that he is alright, what is worrying is the continuation of incarceration and its renewal, as the legally allowable period of incarceration has passed. We hope for the best."

Simone De Stefani, the legal officer in Al-Karama Foundation for the Nile area, stated that "we are concerned about what is happening to Dr. Mudawi, the Sudanese authorities shall be responsible for their oppressive conduct against human rights defenders which violate Sudan's obligations under international humanitarian law."

#### Arrest

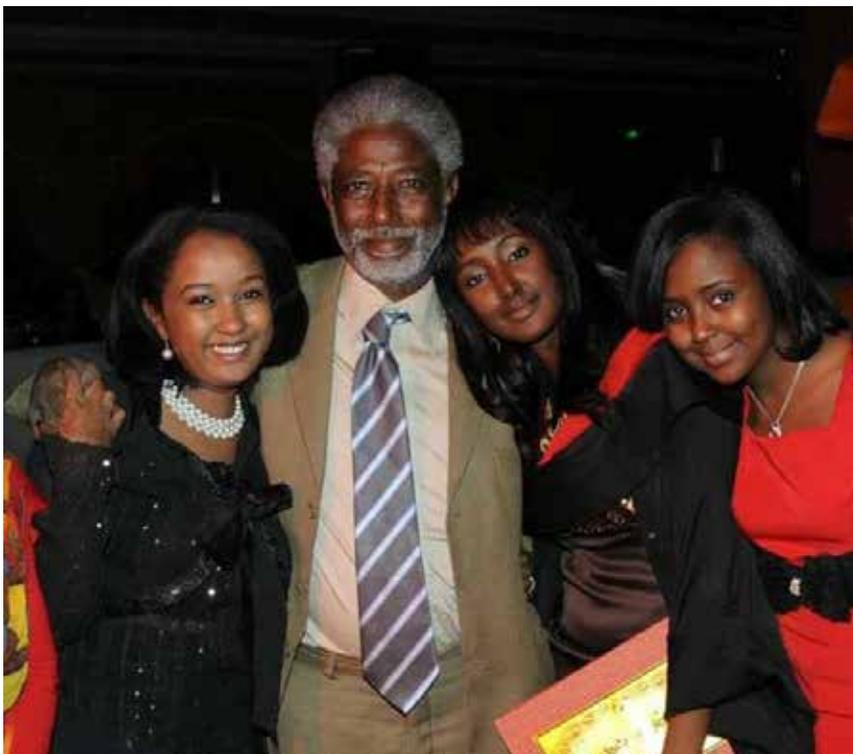
On December 7, 2016, Sudanese national security arrested Dr. Mudawi, despite the fact that he had not done anything wrong other than be active in defending human rights. It was like a tragic play, national security arrested his private driver, unlawfully searched his home and arrested him. National security went on and unlawfully arrested lawyer Tasniem Alzaki, refugee from AbuShook camp Hafiz Idras and Mudawi's accountant for his personal company

Noora Al-Ibead, among others. In an act that completely contradicts the law, Dr. Mudawi, while being incarcerated, was held in solitary confinement and was subjected to serious emotional pressure aimed at humiliating him. In response, he went on hunger strike calling on the government to either set him free or take him to a court of law.

Despite the fact that his case was forwarded to the prosecutor for state security in February 2017, no charges were officially pressed against him. This is clear evidence that national security controls and dominates the state. This was not Dr. Mudawi's first arrest. He has been subject to a long list of arrests that we cannot list in full, but in 2004 alone, he spent seven months detained in police custody.

Engineer Ashraf Al-Ja'ali concluded his article, titled "Chaos of the New Year 2017," with great and clear sorrow. "The government acted as if this was a black comedy, this is an unprecedented incident; after Dr. Mudawi went on a hunger strike protesting his incarceration without charge, national security registered an attempted suicide charge against him," he wrote harshly.

Furthermore, Mr. Nabil Adeeb, lawyer and member of Dr. Mudawi's defense, revealed that no charges had been pressed against Dr. Mudawi and his case had not reached a court of law. He adds that: "the problem is that Dr. Mudawi is being prosecuted through the media. Internet sites accuse Mudawi of serious charges. Some of these are official sites."



Nabil Adeeb considers this to be against the law and a violation of Dr. Mudawi's rights as a citizen and as a defendant. He also stated that all accusations are to be presented to the court of law and should not be presented to the media, especially from official entities. Adeeb considers what Dr. Mudawi is facing an explicit violation of the law conducted by the state itself, which is the one that must enforce and maintain the law. "Officials should refrain from any statements so as not to influence the course of justice," Nabil Adeeb said. "What Dr. Mudawi is experiencing is a crime," he concluded. Dr. Mudawi's efforts and struggles have not been not wasted. In 2005, in recognition of his efforts he was awarded the Front Line Defenders prestigious award; it was an award to him and all those fighting for human rights. While he was preparing to travel to Dublin, Ireland, to the headquarters of the organization to receive his award, he was arrested by the security services forbidden to receive the award in person. While people in Dublin, Ireland were celebrating his efforts and contributions towards courageously defending rights, he was incarcerated in a national security prison cell. The award was received by his spouse Sabah, his daughter Huda and by the President of the Republic of Ireland, Mary McAleese. Mudawi was also awarded the Human Rights First award by the organization Human Rights First alongside Ludmilla Alexeeva from Russia.

### Perspectives

When he agreed to take part in the national dialogue, which was called for by the president in 2014 and held in Khartoum by the government alongside fake, fabricated political parties and ineffectual armed movements, he received condemnation. Some of his friends were shocked; the question was why would Dr. Mudawi Ibrahim take part in a dialogue in which all the major opposition political parties and independent non-governmental/civil society organizations refused to take part, despite reports by some of those involved in the dialogue that his stances and opinions were very strong. Apart from that, some people not considered affiliated with the National Congress Party took part in the dialogue, for example Ahmed Ebraheem Dreij and Ebraheem Moniem Mansour.

Why did the ruling party not reward him for his efforts in the national dialogue and instead treat him like that? Was his aim to compromise the integrity of the Ingaz (National Congress Party) regime from the inside? Time, or else Dr. Mudawi Ibrahim himself, will tell.

Academic and researcher Dr. Mohamed Jalal Hashim states that: "Dr. Mudawi Ibrahim is a person with a revolutionary nature, he was always active in a continuous movement seeking change in Sudan; this nature of his is very irritating for dictatorships, and as a result he has posed a danger to this regime ever since it took power. Dr. Mudawi

was subject to arrest and expelled from the University of Khartoum like many other academics over the 27 years since the Ingaz government came to power. Subsequently, at the start of the recent movement which has been called civil disobedience, the regime targeted those who were considered to be of strong influence in the momentum of the events towards the revolution." This is why Dr. Mudawi was arrested.

### Entrepreneurship in the Labor Market

Mudawi founded Lamda Engineering Company in 1994, a company working in the field of engineering manufacturing, building drinking water purification stations, manufacturing of spare parts for factories alongside small tools and agricultural machinery such as harvesters and water pumps. He received and obtained a number of patents for inventions, for example, he invented an oil squeezing, drilling machine for baobab seeds. Also, he is a consultant for many successful Sudanese companies and obtained the British Board Fellowship of Mechanical Engineers.

Dr. Mudawi Ibrahim is the husband of the great striver Ms. Sabah Adam and the father of three daughters and one son: Wafa'a, Weeni, Huda and Ibrahim.

# Martyr Awadeya Agabna ... when justice falls!

The facts of the case of martyr Awadeya Agabna bring to mind the extent to which the human soul is underestimated in Sudan, and the terrible behavior of law enforcement officers who are responsible for applying and reinforcing the law.

In this incident, there was a dispute between a citizen and the police. The case goes back to March 2012, when a quarrel took place in front of the house of the martyr Awadeya Agabna in Al-Daim district in Khartoum, between a police officer and her brother. The officer in charge, Hamid Ali Hamid, went back to the police station, re-armed himself and returned to their house. He fired a bullet at the family and Awadeya Agabna was shot dead instantly.

Awadeya Agabna joined the list of victims who have been killed by security forces which are protected by absolute immunities that prevent them from being held accountable. These incidents rarely reach the courtroom, and if they do are tried in courts that lack fair trial principles.

In accordance with the hierarchy of the Sudanese judiciary, the Supreme Court Advocacy Department revoked the decision of the Supreme Court Appeals Department, which had convicted first lieutenant Hamid Ali Hamid of the killing of Awadeya Agabna and ordered his execution. They instead ordered the convict to be jailed for two years and to pay «dia», or blood money, instead of executing him. The convict spent two full years in prison and was released upon completing his prison term.

In 2014, the Khartoum Criminal Court convicted the officer accused under Article 130 of the Criminal Code «homicide». After the case file was transferred to the Supreme Court, the court ordered a change in sentence and conviction. Some jurists view this decision as flawed, arguing that the crime was full-fledged, that the accused officer deliberately shot the victim and that all elements of the conviction are complete.

## Popular protests

Immediately after the court's decision, demonstrations took place in the main streets of the district of Al-Daim, the scene of the terrible crime and the place where the victim lived. The protesters called for justice.

The family of Awadeya Agabna said that it has completed a request for a review of the decision by the Supreme Court's Appeals Department and will complete the legal process to see how things end. They added that a legal memorandum has been submitted to the same department appealing its initial decision.

Lawyer Idris Mokhtar says the sentence does not reflect the spirit of justice, especially since the case is clear and that the defendants have recorded confessions. He also said that the option of charging the accused with manslaughter is out of the question since he returned to the police station, armed himself and came to kill.

He added that the accused, a police officer and trainer at the police academy, had studied the rules of engagement and knew how to



use force in accordance with policy. In this case, the victim was unarmed, so even if the situation had required the use of force, he should have shot her in the leg to disable her, but he fired with intent to kill. Such a decision to release the officer gives a negative signal that police officers are immune to the law and encourages them to use force improperly.

Lawyer Ahmed Sabir said that the decision has objectively become final and there is no chance to review it except by submitting a constitutional challenge to the Constitutional Court. The court based its decision on the fact that the officer was on duty at the time and that he was newly graduated from the police college and had no experience in shooting. «This is unjustified and being a new graduate does not give him the right to shoot at civilians,» Sabir said.

Women's rights activist Tahani Abbas says the decision to commute the death penalty is a defeat for the rule of law - if it exists at all - and that this provision falls within the chain of crimes committed by formal forces against women in particular and that impunity encourages further violations of women's rights.

«Awadeya Agabna was not the first victim of the police force. Before her, it killed Nadia Saboun through the public order police and the perpetrators were not prosecuted,» she said, adding that there are dozens of women who suffer daily from the public order law and local police chase them as a result of their

work to earn a living. Tahani explained that the martyrs blood will not go to waste and that one day justice will be achieved, rights will be restored and that the battle of women with the regime will be successful in dropping the public order law which is specifically intended to oppress women and deprive them of their dignity.

Contradictions of the judgments in the case of Awadeya Agabna include:

- On November 2014, the Khartoum Criminal Court, headed by Judge Osama Ahmed Abdullah sentenced Lieutenant Hamid Ali Hamid to the death penalty. It also sentenced the officers accused (seven police in total) to a fine of 2,000 pounds under Article 75 of the Criminal Code (on refraining from necessary assistance to the injured).
- The interpretation of the sentence by the judge who sentenced the lieutenant was that the moral element of criminal intent was measured by the criterion of the type of instrument used and the vitality of the injured organ. The court found that the injury to the victim was in the most vital parts of the body, and considered it unjustified. They also found that the officer was not compelled to use the weapon or in a case of necessity nor proved to be a sudden provocation or sudden fight, rather the accused returned after half an hour in a disciplinary campaign, which means that he prepared for the second fight, which is clearly outside the definition of a sudden fight

which provokes an immediate reaction.

The Supreme Court overturned the death sentence imposed on Lieutenant Hamid, who was convicted of the murder of the martyr Awadeya Agabna. The conviction was amended from Article 130 (homicide) to Article 131(2) of the Criminal Code of 1991 (manslaughter) and the penalty was changed from execution to prison, and he was released. It should be noted that in Article 130, if the family chooses compensation (known as *dia*), then the death penalty is dropped and the accused only serves a prison sentence, while Article 131 describes manslaughter as "when the offender causes it by a criminal act on the human body without intending to cause death, and death is not a probable consequence of such act." The second clause of Article 131, which is written in the law as Article 131(2)(a) was applied to the murder of Agabna. It states that "where a public servant, or a person charged with a public service, exceeds, in good faith the limits of the power authorized thereto, believing that his act which has caused the death, is necessary for the performance of his duty."

It is worth mentioning that the police law is similar to the National Security Act in that it gives those who belong to the agency powers and immunities. This is considered by many to be a direct cause of the widespread violations committed by members of the security and police against civilians.



# Political settlement between pressures and promises



President Omar al-Bashir has pledged to open a broad dialogue on the interim constitution, which will remain in force until a permanent constitution is agreed. Al-Bashir considered the appointment of his first vice-president, Lt. General Bakri Hassan Saleh, as prime minister as a crucial step for increasing the latter's knowledge of the state apparatus.

In an interview with the BBC, Bashir announced his intention to give up power immediately after his current term ends in 2020, describing his work as exhausting. He added that "in 2020, there will be a new president and I will become a former president."

The television interview revealed many things about the current political context in Sudan. The question that arises strongly here - through a review of the implications of the news and its timing - why did the president bring up the constitution and set a time limit until 2020 to give up the presidency? It is true that al-Bashir had previously declared that he would not run in the 2015 elections, but he did not keep his promise as he participated in the April 2015 elections. This time, he made two statements that dealt with one issue, namely the constitution and participation, while his second discussion of the issues came through the television channel then later at a press interview with a number of Sudanese

newspaper editors during his recent visit to the United Arab Emirates last February where he admitted that the presidency is exhausting. This is clear evidence of the path of settlement sponsored by the international community. For Al-Bashir's to show his cards at this early date, confirms that there are pressures and promises to which he has responded with these urgent messages. The president's recognition of his exhaustion and his announcement to step down three years before the scheduled date for elections in Sudan is an unexpected step from someone who has lived in the corridors of power and authority for 28 years.

Only a few days passed before the president revealed his next move and political future by appointing his first deputy and colleague in the military establishment, Bakri Hassan Saleh, as prime minister. The army is at the forefront of the influential forces in the current and future political scene that this change will signal.

It's notable here that the army has become a major presence in celebrations and carnivals and a number of its leaders have been honored (with and without reason), while the security apparatus has also become a force encircled by the president. The strange thing is the roles played by the security apparatus in many areas and the tribal and

regional affiliations of its officers. The security apparatus even toured states where they were honored, and there has been a construction boom for a number of health centers, hospitals and other establishments. The simple observer can explain that al-Bashir's close relations to the armed forces and security apparatus - as institutions that determine the destiny of the country - as an effort to exert full control. Religious forces such as the Sufis have been fully controlled by appointing the elders of these groups to the executive and legislative branches of the government and frequently flying them off to the Holy Land to perform the rituals of Hajj and Umrah (pilgrimage).

The opposition is currently scattered and resource-poor and is constrained by a number of factors including disruption and penetration by the government. All these attacks have made the opposition weak in the streets. There are three levels of opposition; the forces that are engrossed to the core in the dialogue (at the Friendship Hall), which are called the "Fakka" (small change), including the Popular Congress Party and some armed movements that broke off from the larger movements that spawned them, and some known figures whose historical support to the authoritarian regime is evident and they're called independent personalities. The other side is represented by

the Sudan Call who are adamantly insist on the road map. The latter party is represented by the National Consensus Forces, which calls for the overthrow of the regime and requires the dialogue to produce specific demands, foremost of which is stopping the war, relieving those affected and releasing political detainees.

Bashir's assurances during the interview and his admission of fatigue did not open channels of confidence with the opposition, which has often been bitten by the system and has become an expert in its tactics. With regards to the national dialogue at Friendship Hall, it has now become clear that the call for dialogue by the regime with some of the soft opposition forces was more likely a trick or a trap to attract the opposition as a whole than a real dialogue for real political change. The recommendations of the fake dialogue were weak; perhaps the only new aspect it brought forth was the assignment of a prime minister. Recent developments at the regional and international levels, especially the crisis of the stalemate war in Yemen, the fight against terrorism, trafficking in human beings and illegal immigration, have increased engagement with Sudan and given al-Bashir considerable foreign confidence.

### The Scene

Reading the political scene in Sudan, which is at a crucial turning point of its political, economic and social structure, requires a deep consideration of the political and economic conditions as well as regional and international relations, and sensitive issues on which the regime has been basing its narrative as we have already pointed out.

We are trying to understand the background of the scene in a comprehensive manner, tying the issues to developments at the local and international levels. International forces influencing the political scene are not interested in democratic transformation and freedoms in Sudan, but are keen on maintaining the regime, with some minor modifications and patching in light of the role played by the regime in stopping illegal

immigration, terrorism and the war in Yemen. In support of this point of view, reference can be made to the press interview conducted by Al-Sudani in February with the former US envoy to Sudan, Ambassador Princeton N. Lyman. In response to a question on how Sudan can make full use of the decision to lift some US government sanction, Lehman replied, "Sudan can make the most of this decision in the long term, and this is the real test. For example, there can be no full progress on the ceasefire in Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile, and the arrival of humanitarian aid except through comprehensive peace. This cannot be done only by the government, but in cooperation with the opposition and armed movements, but if the government shows good faith and seriousness in resolving these issues, it is likely to lead to the expansion of cooperation and lifting the sanctions imposed on it."

On the other hand, the envoy said in response to a question about the Sudanese opposition which accuses US President Obama of ignoring the issues of democratization and human rights when issuing the resolution: "critics rightly believe that the agreement does not specify the conditions for democratic



transition and human rights. This is one of the weaknesses in it, and it holds the hope that Sudan will take a positive step towards greater respect for human rights and democracy. We see no path to peace in Darfur and the Two Areas without strengthening democracy and human rights, so it is in the interest of the Sudanese government to do so to refute the arguments of its critics.»

The last question to the envoy was "what is the way to achieve a settlement of the Sudanese political crisis after the failure of

many previous attempts?" Lyman concluded his thoughts with: "the failure of attempts to reach agreements ending the conflicts in Sudan was mainly due to the fact that the government did not recognize the basic principles of increasing the division of power and wealth, promoting democracy and respect for human rights. All parties must bear in mind that democracy is not a zero-sum game. Power makes everyone win."

When talking about the issue of the partial lifting of sanctions by the US government and the price paid by the government, one can figure out this price through different lens. Recalling what was said by the leader in the National Congress Party and former Director of Security and Intelligence, Dr. Qutb Mahdi, who warned the ruling party from the foggy visions towards the future, which he said could hit it (the ruling party) and end its legitimacy. Qutb expected Bakri Hassan Saleh, the first deputy and prime minister of President al-Bashir to succeed him. For his part, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi asked in his interview with Al-Tayar newspaper about the price paid for lifting the sanctions from the Bashir regime and questioned Israel's role in the process.

### The Constitution

The second issue that appeared suddenly and without any introduction on the Sudanese political scene is the issue of the constitution. We will try to dissect this issue through this analysis and follow this analysis through to figure out the objective of this plan. The plan, which was developed slowly, and has many supporting it, including external forces including America at the forefront, alongside the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. The justification articulated by these forces is that they are preserving Sudan - represented by its current regime - in harmony and away from chaos and collapse - after major amendments that ensure the implementation of the plan without political obstacles or ideological objections.

The first of these was to jump over the road map and talk about a permanent constitution for the country. This talk came from Mbeki,

the spiritual father of the road map. Later, the Troika supported the trend stating “the government of Sudan must now provide an environment that encourages freedom of expression, and the political participation of both the armed and non-armed opposition.” Before that, Imam al-Sadiq al-Mahdi had addressed the issue of the constitution during his last return to Sudan in January. He stressed the need to end the wars and build a just peace and a transitional national rule that would continue to ensure public freedoms until the finalization of the permanent national constitution; which is to be crafted by democratic means open to all political forces and not dominated by a single political force. It seems that this leap to the stage of the constitution writing is a clear violation of the road map, one of whose objectives is for all the signatories to sit in a preliminary meeting, and engage in negotiations to solve other key problems to set the stage for drafting a permanent constitution.

Within the National Assembly in Omdurman, Professor Badriya Sulaiman continues to craft constitutional amendments to the needs of the system. Amendments to freedoms go on to maintain the security apparatus in its current form without modification or reduction.

Mbeki is expected to arrive in Khartoum soon to continue the dialogue on peace and democratization. But Mbeki, who postponed his visit to the Sudanese capital last week, did not mention the obstacles to the roadmap or urge the government to implement its requirements. He raised the issue of agreement on the permanent constitution and urged the opposition to participate in the proposed consensus government and the dialogue on the permanent constitution. It is as if he wanted to overcome the provisions of the roadmap of creating a conducive atmosphere and a preparatory meeting to agree on controversial procedural issues by engaging directly with issues of a permanent constitution that have not been raised before. It is clear that there have been changes at the regional and international levels that have supported the position of the government and placed it in

the position of a strategic ally of international and Arab forces currently involved in serious conflicts. This has improved Sudan’s position and brought it and regional and international allies closer, making it feel that it can impose its agenda on the negotiated solution.

### Economy

This month, a government report revealed the deficit in the country’s foreign trade balance reached 5.2 billion dollars in 2016 while the total imports were valued at 8.3 billion dollars. These figures point to a significant trade deficit. In a related context, the head of the economic sector of the National Congress Party, Dr. Hassan Ahmed Taha, revealed that the size of external debt had increased to 50 billion dollars. For his part, economist Dr. Abdullah Al-Ramadi said the Sudanese economy suffers from malformation and distortions because of bad policies, and suffers from deficits in the system of governance. Government spending burdens the economy and causes a budget deficit which has made the financial sector scrape to find financial resources, sometimes resorting to removing subsidies and increasing fees and taxes. This is in addition to the suffering of the Sudanese economy from corruption and rampant bribes among government workers.

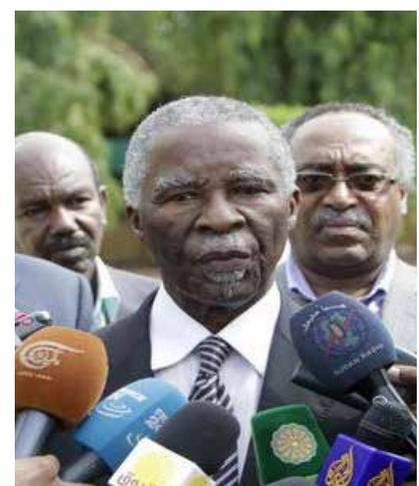
In November 2016, the regime adopted economic measures to counter its deficit and economic failure by resorting, as usual, to the citizen’s pocket and strength, enforcing increases in the prices of some basic goods and services. Segments of the Sudanese people rejected these resolutions and a civil disobedience strike was announced on November 27 and December 19. The civil disobedience process was a milestone in the resistance to the regime.

### Conclusion

The political settlement train, which is expected to set off following the arrival of Mbeki to Khartoum and his meeting with the relevant authorities, will be supplemented by other regional files. The regime will settle as it is surrounded by economic crisis and its failure

to resolve the armed opposition militarily as well as its political failure for three decades and the differences within its body. The opposition, both armed and civilian, will also see some of its factions engage in political negotiations due to the political indicators related to the Sudanese crisis and various developments, especially regionally and internationally and the partial lifting of US sanctions. What makes us more likely to assume these expectations of all parties is their inability to resolve the battle militarily, so the path of war leaves little hope on the horizon. This leaves them with no choice but to settle the matter through political negotiation. While some political forces will continue to call for the overthrow of the regime, a negotiated settlement will not be easy to achieve as each party will present impossible conditions in terms of achieving its goals through dialogue and negotiation away from costly and destructive war.

The second factor that favors a political settlement is the completion of US-European coordination with the African mechanism to support negotiations, which is pressing for all parties to accept the negotiated option. The US-European consensus with neighboring countries (Uganda, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Chad) to resolve the Sudanese crisis by political means will affect regional settlements in other files. What we can say is that the political settlement train that will be launched in Sudan will continue to have an impact on other regional files.



## The “Public Order” Whipped 15,000 Women in a Single Year

Khartoum, April 18, 2017

15,000 women were whipped last year in Sudan and 54,000 police reports were filed against women in accordance with the “Public Order” law. This was publicized by Dr. Ihsan Fagieri, coordinator of the “No to Women’s Oppression” Initiative, who adds that the accusations included arbitrary arrests against female human rights defenders, in addition to verbal and physical violence. Fagieri also pointed out that the women most affected by these degradations and violations are those working in the informal sector and students. “Article 152 of Sudan’s Criminal Code of 1991 is deliberately targeted at women wherever they are, its titled: ‘Materials and Expositions Contrary to Public Morals,’ – the article states that: ‘Whoever makes, portrays or possesses any materials contrary to public morals or circulates the same, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may not exceed one month or with flogging which may not exceed forty lashes and shall also be liable to fine,’” said Fagieri.

Furthermore, the “No to Women’s Oppression” Initiative prepared and organized a creative festival, to be held at Ahfad University on Thursday, April 16. Little did they know that the national security service would delay, and eventually cancel, the event, but it was later held at the National Umma Party’s house, on Sunday, April 18. Fagieri stated that this festival is aimed at using cultural creativity to fight systemic policies aimed at degrading women through an extremist religious ideology which enforces the public order law, a law that deducts and detracts from the dignity and the value of women and their human rights. The festival included a musical segment and poetry reading by Sabah Sanhoury and Sarah Al-Jack, a film screening, a women’s football match between the Al-Tahaddi and Ahfad teams, and a play presented by the initiative to capture and project to the audience the ways in which the public order law violates the personal freedom of women and men. The event was concluded by the great singer Abu-Araki Al-Bakheet, singing a new song that



he composed and dedicated to the “No to Women’s Oppression” Initiative.

It is important to point out that the “No to Women’s Oppression” Initiative was established in 2009 and it specializes in the field of fighting violence and discrimination against Sudanese women.

## National Security Assaults a Citizen and the People of Al-Leera Burn the Offices of National Security

South Kordofan, April 15, 2017

On the morning of Friday April 15, 2017, citizens of the city of Al-Leera in the state of South Kordofan burned the offices of the National Security and Intelligence Services and two of its vehicles as an act of protest against the national security torturing a citizen

of the city. A witness, who preferred to remain anonymous, stated that “four national security personnel assaulted Abdallah Al-Tabaq inside the national security buildings; he was quickly transported to Khartoum to receive treatment as he was badly injured.” The witness further revealed that on Thursday night, Abdallah found a national security officer inside his

house without any justification – resulting in a clash between the two. The national security officer headed to the national security headquarters, only to return to Abdallah’s house with four of his associates. They forcibly took him away to their office in the city, assaulted and tortured him.

# One Dead and Another Injured in an Assault on an Engineering Team in Darfur

Nyala, April 9, 2017

On Sunday April 9, 2017, one person was killed and another was injured in an assault conducted by armed people on an engineering team on its way from Shi'aereya locality in East Darfur State to Nateiga locality of the South Kordofan State. The engineering team belongs to Plus company and was on its way to perform maintenance works on stations belonging

to Zain telecommunications company in the area. A source confirmed that an armed group ambushed the engineers while they were heading to Nateiga locality and opened fire, resulting in the instant death of the driver and injuring one of the engineers. The source added that the armed group looted all of the engineering team's belongings: mobile phones and sums of cash and fled. A source further added that the security committee of Nateiga

locality sent military forces to the scene of the incident in order to provide medical assistance to the injured person, pursue the perpetrators and transport the engineers to the city of Nyala.

Back in 2009, five engineers were killed and their vehicles were looted in the same area while they were working on the maintenance of networks of Sudanese Telecommunication Company (Sudatel).



**kace**  
s u d a n  
Kampala Office

E-mail: [kacesudan@gmail.com](mailto:kacesudan@gmail.com)  
[www.kacesudan.org](http://www.kacesudan.org)

*Design by: Rami Salah*