

# Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada

*NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations*  
Promoting human rights by protecting those who defend them

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August 15, 2012

Working Group on Arbitrary Detention  
c/o Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
United Nations Office at Geneva  
8-14, avenue de la Paix  
1211 Geneva, 10, Switzerland

Special Rapporteur of Human Rights Defenders  
Mrs. Margaret Sekaggya  
c/o Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights- Palais Wilson  
United Nations Office at Geneva  
CH 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland  
Fax: +41 22 917 9006

Dear Sirs/Madams:

**Re: Lawyers Rights Watch Canada; Arbitrary Arrest and Detention Release Requests**

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I am a lawyer and partner of a law firm in Canada as well as the Sudan monitor for Lawyers Rights Watch Canada (LRWC). LRWC is a committee of Canadian lawyers and law professors who campaign internationally for advocacy rights and advocates in danger on rule of law issues.

Below are the details of the human rights defenders we have been advised are arrested or detained.

-On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, Rashida Shams al-Din was arrested and is being detained incommunicado without access to her relatives or a lawyer and is at risk of torture and other ill-treatment. Rashida Shams al-Din is a law student at the Open University of Sudan and a member of Girifna, a youth movement which has been involved in demonstrations criticizing the government.

- Between June 23<sup>rd</sup> and July 12<sup>th</sup>, Sudan authorities arrested the following parties: Mr. Mohamed Salah Mohamed, President of the Nubian Students Association; Mr. Mohamed Al-Usbat, journalist and activist; Ms. Nahid Gabralla, women's rights activist, member of Sima Organisation for Child Rights; Ms. Amira Osman, women's rights activist, member of "No to Women's Oppression"; Mr. Faisal Shabou, women's rights activist, member of Sima Organisation for Child Rights; Ms. Rashida Shams, member of *Girifna* and member of "No to Women's Oppression"; Mr. Tarig El Sheikh, lawyer, member of Darfur Bar Association; Ms. Marwa el Tigany, journalist and human rights defender; Mr. Al Said Mustafa, Chairperson of Al Shiroog Cultural Forum; Mr. Ramzi Yahia, lawyer, affiliate of Al Shiroog Cultural Forum; Mr.

Abdulgadir Mahmoud, affiliate of Al Shiroog Cultural Forum; Mr. Widad Dirwish, member of *Girifna*; Mr. Radwan Daoud, member of *Girifna*

- On July 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) arrested Abdul Rahman Abu Al Hassan, Ahmed Mohamed Abdallah, Adil Abdalla Nasr El Dein, released them and re-arrested them on July 19<sup>th</sup> in relation to the July 16<sup>th</sup> submissions to the Governor of South Darfur

- Between June 23<sup>rd</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>, NISS arrested the following defenders: the last three were released on bail on July 23<sup>rd</sup>: Mai Shatta, Amro Hamad Omar, Satti Mohamed Alhaj, Fathi Albhiri, Ahmen Alkwarti, Namarig Abdelonim, Sharah Aldin.

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, July 19<sup>th</sup> and August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 we wrote letters to the following parties demanding the release of the detained parties listed above:

HE Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir  
Office of the President  
People's Palace  
PO Box 281  
Khartoum, Sudan

Mohammed Boushara Dossa  
Ministry of Justice  
PO Box 302  
Al Nil Avenue  
Khartoum, Sudan

Ali Ahmed Karti  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs/External Relations  
PO Box 873  
Khartoum, Sudan

Ibrahim Mahmoud Ahmed  
Ministry of Interior  
PO Box 873  
Khartoum, Sudan

Advisory Council for Human Rights,  
Rapporteur PO Box 302  
Khartoum, Sudan

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Sudan to  
the United Nations in Geneva  
Avenue Blanc 51-53 (3rd Floor)  
1202 Geneva, Switzerland

Musa Abdelrahim Mohamed Adam  
Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of Sudan  
354 Stewart Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1N 6K8

Embassy of Sudan in Brussels  
Avenue F.D. Roosevelt 124  
1050 Brussels, Belgium

As of today's date, we have not received a response to any of our letters.

Yours truly,



signature electronically affixed

Joe Hoffer  
Sudan Monitor  
Human Rights Watch Canada