

# URGENT ACTION

## SAFETY CONCERNS FOR DETAINED STUDENT ACTIVIST

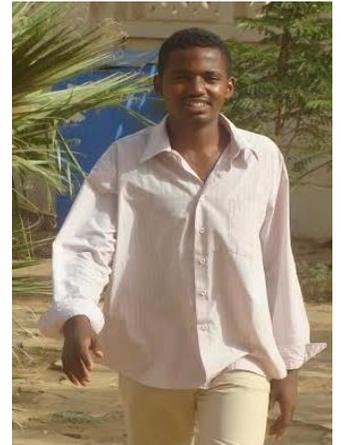
**Emad Al Sadig Ismael Hamdoun, a 24-year-old student at Omdurman Ahlia University, is currently being held at the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) political office in Khartoum North after his arrest on 14 December. Amnesty International is concerned about his safety while in detention.**

**Emad Al Sadig Ismael Hamdoun's** family thinks that Emad was arrested because he confronted an NISS officer for torturing him. On 12 December, Emad Al Sadig Ismael Hamdoun publicly challenged an NISS officer, who he believed was involved in his torture while in detention in 2012. The NISS officer "threatened to arrest him" according to a family member.

Emad Al Sadig Ismael Hamdoun is an active member of the opposition party, the National Umma Party (NUP) and of the Sudanese youth movement *Girifna*. The 24-year-old student from Omdurman Ahlia University, was arrested in the evening of 14 December from outside the NUP headquarters in Omdurman by three NISS agents in plainclothes. He was able to contact his family and inform them that he had been detained without charge at the NISS political office in Khartoum North.

This is not the first time he has been arrested. He was arrested and subjected to torture in 2012 and 2013. Emad Al Sadig Ismael Hamdoun risks being subjected to torture and other ill-treatment while in detention.

Emad Al Sadig Ismael Hamdoun's family issued a statement on 15 December, in which they said: "that we are worried about Emad's safety".



### **Please write immediately in Arabic, English or your own language:**

- Urging the Sudanese authorities, to either charge Emad Al Sadig Ismael Hamdoun with a recognizable offence or immediately release him;
- Urging them to ensure that he is not subjected to torture and other ill-treatment while in detention;
- Calling on them to give him access to lawyers of his own choosing and allow him visits from his family.

### **PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 29 JANUARY 2016 TO:**

President  
HE Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir  
Office of the President  
People's Palace  
PO Box 281  
Khartoum, Sudan  
Email: [info@presidency.gov.sd](mailto:info@presidency.gov.sd)  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

Minister of Justice  
Awad Al Hassan Alnour  
Ministry of Justice  
PO Box 302  
Al Nil Avenue  
Khartoum, Sudan  
Email: [moj@moj.gov.sd](mailto:moj@moj.gov.sd)  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

**And copies to:**  
Minister of Interior  
Ismat Abdul-Rahman Zain Al-Abdin Ministry  
of Interior  
PO Box 873  
Khartoum, Sudan

### **Also send copies to:**

Chargé d'Affaires Maowia Osman Khalid Mohammed, Embassy of the Republic of Sudan  
2210 Massachusetts Ave., Washington DC 20008  
Phone: 202 338 8565 | Fax: 1 202 667 2406 | E-mail: [ggoraish@gmail.com](mailto:ggoraish@gmail.com) or use this contact form  
[http://www.sudanembassy.org/index.php?option=com\\_breezingforms&Itemid=13](http://www.sudanembassy.org/index.php?option=com_breezingforms&Itemid=13)

**Please let us know if you took action so that we can track our impact! EITHER send a short email to [uan@aiusa.org](mailto:uan@aiusa.org) with "UA 277/15" in the subject line, and include in the body of the email the number of letters and/or emails you sent, OR fill out this [short online form](#) to let us know how you took action. Thank you for taking action! Please check with the AIUSA Urgent Action Office if taking action after the appeals date.**

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In 2015, the NISS carried out arbitrary arrests and detentions, a number of which were politically motivated. Some detainees were released without charge. None appear to have received effective remedies, including compensation for their unlawful detention and no security officers appeared to have been held to account. NISS suppression of freedoms of expression, association and assembly continues. In the week beginning 14 December, the NISS indefinitely suspended the independent newspaper *al-Tayar*, prevented three banned civil society organisations from holding a press conference in Khartoum, and shut down the office of the international organisation, Tear Fund in Sudan.

The NISS maintains broad powers of arrest and detention under the National Security Act 2010, which allows suspects to be detained for up to four-and-a-half months without judicial review. NSS officials often use these powers to arbitrarily arrest and detain individuals, and to subject them to torture and other forms of ill-treatment. Under the same Act, NSS agents are provided with protection from prosecution for any act committed in the course of their work, which has resulted in a pervasive culture of impunity. The constitutional amendments passed by Parliament on 5 January 2015, have exacerbated the situation. The constitutional amendments accorded sweeping powers to the NISS which now has unlimited discretion to interfere in political, economic and social issues.

Name: Emad Al Sadig Ismael Hamdoun  
Gender m/f: m

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