



Sudan Defenders
Sudan Human Rights Defenders Coalition

NEWSLETTER

Sudan Defenders

Monthly Newsletter | February 2026



Arrest and Disappearance of Four Doctors

in Wad Madani Threatens the Right to Health

Preamble



The Sudanese Coalition for Defenders of Human Rights (Sudan Defenders) issues its monthly human rights newsletter as an independent monitoring mechanism documenting grave and systematic violations against human rights defenders in Sudan, amidst an escalating armed conflict, an alarming collapse of the rule of law, and the politicization of justice institutions. This edition documents multiple patterns of violations, including extrajudicial killings, field executions, arbitrary detention, charge manipulation, torture, enforced disappearance, arbitrary judicial prosecutions, and communication restrictions, reflecting an organised trend to undermine civic space and criminalise human rights work.

The edition also features a special report on the

situation of Sudanese refugees in Egypt, documenting deaths in detention centres and practices of forced deportation to conflict zones, alongside an analytical piece on press freedom and journalist safety, and a documentary profile of lawyer Montasser Abdullah as an example of the cost of defending rights and freedoms.

The newsletter reviews the Coalition's most prominent activities during the coverage period and its upcoming programs, reaffirming its commitment to professional independent monitoring, and calling for an immediate cessation of violations, ensuring effective protection, accountability, and an end to impunity as indispensable pillars for achieving just and sustainable peace in Sudan.

Opening Editorial



By the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, Sudan Defenders

This issue is published in an exceptionally complex political and human rights context, as the armed conflict in Sudan enters a new phase of targeting civilians, approaches the end of its third year, and as the collapse of justice institutions and the rule of law continues, alongside the widening scope of impunity. During the monitoring period (January–February 2026), indicators emerged of escalating risks facing civilians generally, and human rights defenders and journalists in particular, within an environment characterised by an absence of legal protection and increasing polarisation along tribal, regional, and ethnic lines. The data documented by the Coalition reveals dangerous general trends, including: the continuation of hostilities in multiple areas, the expansion of direct targeting patterns against human rights and media actors due to their documentation and monitoring activities, the escalation of hate speech and ethnic/tribal mobilisation, as well as violations linked to economic motives related to the exploitation of natural resources to finance the conflict. Collectively, these trends constitute a high-risk environment threatening the remaining civic space and undermining opportunities for achieving sustainable peace.

This report is based on a field monitoring methodology that included collecting direct testimonies from victims and their families, obtaining statements from independent sources, and analysing relevant documents and data, while adhering to verification,

cross-referencing, and source-protection standards. The Coalition affirms its commitment to objectivity, independence, and presenting facts as they are, away from politicization or partisanship.

The humanitarian impact of the documented events transcends numbers, reflecting escalating civilian suffering and a profound erosion of trust in public institutions. Legally, the continuation of gross violations without effective investigations and independent accountability contributes to the entrenchment of a culture of impunity and undermines the essential foundations of any democratic transition process based on justice and the rule of law.

Proceeding from our identity as an independent coalition of human rights defenders, we once again affirm our firm rejection of all forms of violations against civilians, regardless of the perpetrators, and call for an immediate end to hostilities, effective protection for defenders and journalists, and accountability for those responsible for crimes according to relevant national and international standards. We also renew our call for the international community to support accountability mechanisms and protect civic space, in line with its legal and ethical responsibilities.

The Coalition will continue its mission of monitoring, documentation, and advocacy, based on the firm conviction that protecting human dignity and establishing accountability are the true pathways to restoring stability and building just and sustainable peace in Sudan.

Chair of the Board of Trustees, Sudan Defender

Monitoring and Documenting Systematic Violations Against Human Rights Defenders in Sudan (January–February 2026)

January, February 2026

Methodology

In preparing this report, the coalition relied on multiple credible sources to ensure the accuracy of monitoring and analysis. These included: direct testimonies from victims and their families; statements from lawyers, doctors, and field activists; official documents and court rulings issued during the reporting period; reviews of independent media reports (from Sudanese, Arab, African, and international platforms); and statements issued by UN and regional bodies.



Highlighting Patterns of Violations and Events Arrest and Disappearance of Four Doctors in Wad Madani Threatens the Right to Health

February 2026

Sudan Defenders documented the arrest of four doctors from Wad Madani city on 24 February 2026 by unidentified security forces. The detainees included: Dr. Adam Mohammed Ibrahim (Consultant Surgeon), Dr. Al-Sadiq Al-Makhol (Internal Medicine Specialist), Dr. Nafisa Abdelrahman (Intern Doctor), and Dr. Khaled Al-Faki. The Sudan Doctors' Union's Preparatory Committee stated that information about the circumstances of their arrest and detention remains limited and conflicting, raising

serious concerns for their safety and legal protection. The Coalition called on authorities to stop targeting medical personnel and health facilities, emphasising that such practices threaten citizens' right to healthcare, a fundamental right under international human rights law. Follow-up reports indicated the security authorities released Dr. Adam Mohammed Ibrahim and Dr. Al-Sadiq Al-Makhol, while Dr. Nafisa Abdelrahman and Dr. Khaled Al-Faki remain missing in enforced disappearance.



Continued Detention of Lawyer Mohamed Ezzeldin in Port Sudan Prison Under Dangerous Conditions

February 2026

As of 22 February 2026, lawyer Mohamed Ezzeldin's detention has continued since 10 May 2025 in Port Sudan prison, following an initial enforced disappearance, torture, and ill-treatment, as well as subsequent transfers between Special Operations Forces detention facilities and the prison. His detention has been renewed 11 times without appearing before a judge, with charges filed against him belatedly on 6 July 2025, raising serious concerns about the integrity of legal procedures.

Ezzeldin suffers from diabetes and high cholesterol, and contracted dengue fever without adequate medical care, leading to a deterioration of his health. He faces charges carrying the death penalty under Articles 50 and 51 of the 1991 Criminal Code. The continuation of his detention under these conditions constitutes a serious violation of his rights and fair trial guarantees, necessitating his immediate release or the realisation of his legal and medical rights.



Release of Activist Moneeb Abdelaziz After Arbitrary Detention

Khartoum/Dongola (January-February 2026)

On February 17, 2026, civil activist Moneeb Abdelaziz was released on bail after more than two months of arbitrary detention. His detention was related to his participation in a event commemorating the seventh anniversary of the December 2019 Revolution. During this period, he experienced enforced disappearance, was denied contact with his family and lawyer, and faced changing charges under the Penal Code and the amended Information Crimes Law, all without evidence. This case exemplifies the targeting of civilian voices and the politicization of judicial institutions.



African Union Reaffirms Suspension of Sudan



Addis Ababa | February 2026

On February 15, 2026, the African Union confirmed its decision to keep Sudan's membership suspended, a measure begun in October 2021 after army commander Abdel Fattah al-Burhan's coup against the transitional civilian government. The Peace and Security Council urged an immediate humanitarian truce and ceasefire, aiming to facilitate a broad, nationally-led dialogue in Sudan to tackle the underlying causes of the conflict and promote greater respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Arbitrary Arrest of Female Pharmacists in Nyala – South Darfur

February 2026)

On 12 February 12, local sources reported the arrest of three female pharmacists and their transfer to «Koria» prison without any judicial procedures, after they refused to relinquish pharmacy contents and funds. This violation jeopardises the right to liberty and security of the person and endangers the safety of health sector workers, highlighting the lack of legal safeguards in an armed conflict environment.



Continued Detention of Volunteer Brer Al-Toum Without Trial



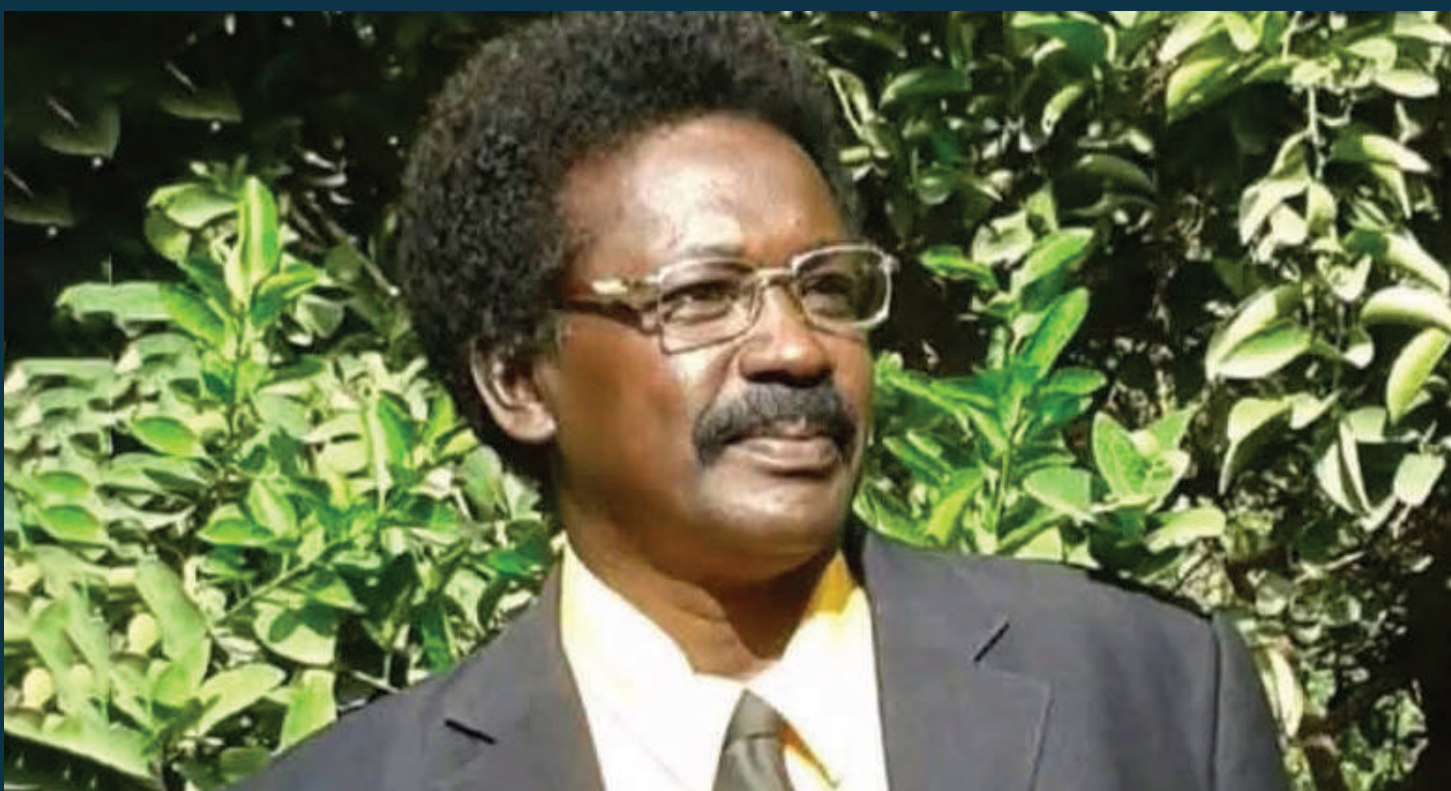
Port Sudan | February 2026

Activists documented the ongoing detention of volunteer Brer Al-Toum at the Security Cell detention centre in Red Sea State for over three months, without formal charges or access to legal representation. Al-Toum volunteers in providing humanitarian aid to displaced persons and those affected by the conflict. The continued detention of volunteer Brer Al-Toum without trial or independent investigation reflects a broader pattern of violating the rights of volunteers and human rights defenders in eastern Sudan, amid ongoing conflict and power struggles. His immediate release, along with assurance of his right to a fair trial and access to appropriate legal and medical care, is essential according to international human rights standards.

Life Sentence for Writer and Activist Khaled Bahri Wad Madani and Omdurman

January 2026

On January 13, 2026, the Criminal Court sentenced Khaled Bahri, aged 70, to life imprisonment for humanitarian work providing food, water, and medical aid to civilians. He had previously endured arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, and was deprived of medical care during his transfer to Al-Huda Prison in Omdurman on February 9, in clear violation of international human rights and humanitarian laws.





Trial of Dr. Ahmed Shafa in Dongola

Flagrant Violations of Fair Trial Principles

January 2026

On January 14, 2026, human rights sources reported the intimidation of lawyers and judges inside the courtroom, with armed elements present during the trial of Dr. Ahmed Shafa, leader of the Nuba Rally, in

a fabricated case. This conduct clearly violated the principles of judicial independence and the right to defense, illustrating how the judiciary was manipulated for political purposes.

Continued Political Arrests – Gedaref

January 2026

On 15 January 2026, the Gedaref Court sentenced civil activist Ayman Al-Hariri to six months in prison and levied a fine, while security forces continued to detain

activist Alaa El-Din Al-Sharif (Watan) without legal justification, part of a recurring pattern of targeting civil activists and limiting fundamental freedoms.



Detention and Enforced Disappearance

North Kordofan

January 2026

On 17 January 2026, authorities in El Obeid city detained Professor Khalfallah Hussein Abdelaziz and took him to an unknown location, without a judicial warrant or

specified charge. He was denied contact with his family or lawyer, flagrantly breaching the right to liberty and security.

Release of Humanitarian Activist Nader Min Allah Mahmoud – Damazin

18 October 2025

Humanitarian activist Nader Min Allah Mahmoud was released after two weeks of arbitrary detention, during which he was subjected to serious violations of his fundamental freedoms and the confiscation of his electronic devices. He had been summoned by the “security cell” without any formal charges being filed against him.

General Trend

- Shrinking Civic Space: Targeting of civil society organisations, repeated security summonses, digital surveillance, hacking of defenders’ accounts.
- Nature of Unjust Trials: Use of the judiciary for political goals, violation of defence rights, torture to extract confessions, and excessive sentences based on vague charges.

International Actions:

The United Nations expressed deep concern over crimes and violations of defenders’ rights.
The European Union imposed sanctions on military

leaders linked to grave violations in Sudan.
International condemnations increased regarding the death by stoning sentences in the country.

Overall Assessment:

The human rights work environment in January–February 2026 was the most perilous since 2019, characterised by systematic and organised violations and near-total impunity.

Recommendations:

- Immediate and unconditional release of all arbitrarily detained defenders.
- Halting the trial of civilians before politicized courts lacking fair trial standards.
- Establishing an independent international investigation mechanism to monitor violations.
- Imposing targeted sanctions on those responsible for violations, sending a clear message to stop the systematic targeting of defenders.





(Special File) **Sudan 2026**



Press Freedom Under the Fire of War

General Context – A Hostile Environment with No Accountability

During January and February 2026, the environment for journalistic work in Sudan continued to decline sharply due to the security collapse and the lack of the rule of law, amid the growing influence of military actors and the proliferation of armed groups.

Journalists worked under conditions characterised by:

- Lack of legal protection
- Complete impunity
- Use of the judiciary as a tool for intimidation and criminalisation
- Escalating incitement campaigns and hate speech
- Frequent communication and internet blackouts

The documented patterns observed during the monitoring period reveal a dangerous shift towards treating journalists as «parties to the conflict» rather than as civilians protected under international humanitarian law. This trend directly threatens the public's right to know and diminishes any realistic prospects for

democratic transition or civilian reconstruction.

El Fasher: The Most Dangerous City for Journalists in Early 2026

El Fasher city emerged as the most dangerous environment for journalistic work during January and February 2026, amid:

- Violent armed conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and its allies and the Rapid Support Forces and its allies
- Reciprocal and indiscriminate artillery shelling and drone attacks
- Near-total absence of security
- Prolonged communication blackouts are hindering documentation

Data indicates that documented violations represent only the minimum due to the media siege and network outages.





Killing and Direct Targeting

January – February 2026

Yahya Hammad Fadlallah

- Writer and journalist.
- Arrested by military intelligence affiliated with the Sudanese Armed Forces in December 2025.
- Accused of collaborating with the Rapid Support Forces.
- Subjected to torture and deprived of treatment despite suffering from diabetes.
- Released in critical health condition and died in January 2026 due to complications from torture and ill-treatment.
- His case represents a model of indirect killing resulting from arbitrary detention and torture.

Abdelhadi Isa

- Head of the News Department at Omdurman TV.
- Abducted by elements of the (Rapid Support Forces) from his home in East Nile in February 2026.

- Was bound and subjected to a field execution in an open area.

- The incident constitutes a grave violation amounting to an extrajudicial execution.

Suleiman Abkar

- Media Technician at National Television.
- Killed in February 2026 by indiscriminate artillery shelling in Omdurman attributed to the (Rapid Support Forces).

Arbitrary Detentions and Enforced Disappearances

Ongoing Enforced Disappearance Cases

Alrasheed Mohamed Haroun:

Arrested in El Geneina.

Detained for seven months without disclosure of his whereabouts or legal status. Deprived of contact with a

lawyer or family. Information points to the responsibility of the (Rapid Support Forces).

Mustafa Fadl Elmula:

Former official media director. Abducted in Zalingei. His fate remains unknown as of the end of February 2026. The operation was attributed to the (Rapid Support Forces).

Arbitrary Detention:

Moammar Ibrahim: Al Jazeera Channel Correspondent

- Independent correspondent for (Al Jazeera).
- Arrested by the (Rapid Support Forces) in El Fasher while attempting to leave the city.
- His journalistic equipment and recorded materials were confiscated.
- Transferred to Nyala prison and remained in detention without clear judicial procedures until February 2026.
- His case exemplifies arbitrary detention without legal safeguards or judicial oversight.

Judicial Prosecutions and the Criminalisation of Journalism

The report documented 4 cases in January 2026 where the judicial system was used to criminalise journalists for their opinions or anti-war stances. Charges included:

- Undermining the constitutional system
- Incitement against the state
- Waging war against the state
- Publishing false information

Journalists subject to proceedings:

- Rasha Awad
- Sabah Mohamed Al-Hassan
- Maher Abujokh
- Shawgi Abdelazim

They were included in a list of charges with a security and political character, with court sessions scheduled for early January 2026.

Case: Khaled Bahri

- Faced politically motivated legal prosecution.
- Subjected to smear campaigns and incitement on social media.
- Data indicates pressure from military and security

bodies due to his media coverage and positions.

**Threats and Incitement Campaigns
(19 Documented Cases)**

During January and February 2026, the following were documented:

- Direct death threats
- Intimidation messages via WhatsApp and phone calls
- Coordinated smear campaigns
- Accusations of «treason» and «serving the enemy»
- Indirect incitement to violence

Female journalists were the most targeted, facing:

- Arbitrary detention
- Systematic moral defamation
- Threats of violence
- Social restrictions limiting access to protection

Institutional Restrictions

The report documented 3 institutional measures during the monitoring period:

- License revocation or suspension
- Imposition of procedural restrictions on coverage
- Interventions in the activities of syndicate bodies

These measures reflect the use of bureaucratic tools as a subtle means of strangling the media sphere.

Summary of Main Trends (January – February 2026)

Data indicates that violations in early 2026 were characterised as:

Direct (killing, field execution, torture)

Systematic (recurring across multiple regions and parties)

Judicially criminalised (politicisation of justice)

Based on complete impunity

Primary responsibility lies with entities from:

- The Sudanese Armed Forces
- The Rapid Support Forces

The continuation of these violations without accountability consolidates the collapse of the information environment in Sudan, transforms journalistic work into a high-risk activity, and undermines opportunities for peace and democratic transition.



Special File

Situation and Violations Against Sudanese Refugees in Egypt

Period: January – February 2026

Summary:

The Coalition monitored an escalating pattern of grave violations against Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers in Egypt during January and February 2026, within a security context characterised by strictness, absence of procedural guarantees, and increasing restrictions on residence and movement.

Documentation shows that violations are no longer isolated individual incidents but have taken on a systematic character involving:

- Collective arrests of a discriminatory nature specifically targeting the Sudanese.
- Administrative detention without clear judicial orders.
- Deaths in detention centres due to medical negligence and ill-treatment.
- Forced deportation to active conflict zones in Sudan.

Hindering UNHCR's access to detainees.

This pattern raises serious concerns about violations of the principle of non-refoulement and breaches of Egypt's international obligations under international human rights law and refugee law.

Demographic and Legal Context

1. Numbers and Urban Distribution

According to UNHCR data, Egypt hosts over 500,000 officially registered Sudanese refugees, while unofficial estimates indicate over 1.5 million Sudanese have entered Egypt since the outbreak of conflict in April

2023.

The Sudanese presence is concentrated in:

- Cairo
- Giza
- Alexandria

There are no official camps; refugees live in crowded popular neighborhoods, making them vulnerable to security monitoring and raids.

2. Applicable Legal Framework

The documented events during the period violate:

- Article 33 of the 1951 Refugee Convention** (prohibition of refoulement).
- Articles 6, 7, 9, and 10 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (right to life, prohibition of torture, personal liberty, humane treatment).
- Principles of due process and fundamental guarantees for detainees.

Pattern of Arrest and Arbitrary Detention

«Census and Regularisation» Campaign – January 5, 2026

A broad security campaign began targeting neighbourhoods in:

- Cairo: Heliopolis, Nasr City, El-Wayli
- Giza: Agouza, Faisal, Haram
- Alexandria: Raml Station, Smouha, Amreya

During the first week, at least 250 individuals were arrested (65 children, 42 women, 143 men). Field

statements confirmed that UNHCR cards were not recognised as protection documents and were treated as «not granting legal residency.» This indicates a deliberate conflation between concepts of «administrative residency» and «international protection.»

Victims> File – Individual Cases

1. Child Yasser Abdelrahman (16 years old)

- Date of Arrest: January 12, 2026
- Location: Imbaba, Giza
- Detention Conditions: Separated from mother, detained with adults.
- Violations: Beatings with electric wires, financial pressure on family.
- Legal Analysis: Detaining a child with adults violates international juvenile justice standards. Using physical violence to force the family to pay money amounts to extortion and coercion.

2. Death of Mubarak Qamar al-Din (67 years old)

- Location: Al-Shorouk Police Station, Cairo
- Date: Early February 2026
- Health Status: Chronically ill (hypertension, diabetes).
- Violation: Denial of medical care despite prior knowledge of his health condition.
- Legal Analysis: Deliberate medical neglect in detention

centers can amount to cruel or inhuman treatment, especially in the case of the elderly.

3. Death of Mohamed Adam Othman (45 years old)

- Arrest: January 25, 2026
- Death: February 18, 2026
- Location: Al-Marj Rehabilitation and Correctional Center, Cairo
- Violation - Denial of hypertension and diabetes medication for two weeks.
- According to an Amnesty International statement on February 20, 2026, the death occurred after repeated disregard for requests for medical care.
- Analysis: Authorities bear direct responsibility for the safety of detainees. Failure to provide essential treatment may constitute «indirect killing resulting from gross negligence.»

4. Death of Al-Nazir Al-Sadiq (18 years old)

- Location: Badr Police Station, Cairo
- Date: February 2026
- Circumstances: Extreme overcrowding, lack of ventilation, absence of healthcare.
- Case Significance: The recurrence of deaths in different stations points to a structural flaw in the detention system, not an isolated incident.

5. Young man Moatassem (26 years old)



- Administrative detention without charge.
- Despite having a valid UNHCR card until 2027.
- Denied immediate contact with a lawyer.
- Legal Characterization: Arbitrary detention violating Article 9 of the ICCPR.

Detention Conditions – Systematic Description

Multiple testimonies confirmed:

- 60–80 detainees in a 30 m² space.
- One meal per day.
- Visits prohibited.
- Direct threats of deportation.
- More than 50 cases of temporary enforced disappearance recorded during February.

The described conditions may amount to inhuman or degrading treatment under international law.

Forced Deportation – Expanded Analysis

- January 20, 2026 – Deportation of 45 individuals to Wadi Halfa.
- February 15, 2026 – Deportation of 37 individuals to Port Sudan.

Both destinations lie within the context of violent internal armed conflict and lack of basic services. According to testimonies, deportees were forced to sign «voluntary departure» pledges under threat.

Analysis: Signing under duress invalidates the «voluntary» nature and transforms the procedure into explicit refoulement.

International Reactions

- Strongly worded statement from Amnesty International – February 22, 2026.
- Statement of concern from UNHCR – February 25, 2026.

Concluding Analytical Reading

The documented events during January and February 2026 show a shift in dealing with Sudanese refugees from an administrative framework to a stringent security approach with a discriminatory character.

The recurrence of:

- Collective arrests
- Deaths in detention
- Medical negligence
- Forced deportation

Points to a worrying institutional pattern requiring urgent international oversight.

Expanded Recommendations

To the Egyptian Government:

Halt discriminatory collective campaigns.

- Establish an independent mechanism to receive refugee complaints.
- Enable UNHCR unrestricted access to places of detention.

To the International Community:

- Activate UN accountability mechanisms.
- Send an independent fact-finding mission.
- Support legal aid programs for Sudanese refugees in Egypt.

Conclusion

January and February 2026 represent a dangerous turning point in the situation of Sudanese refugees in Egypt, where the humanitarian crisis intersects with gross human rights violations, including deprivation of liberty, denial of medical care, and refoulement to conflict zones. The continuation of these practices amid the ongoing armed conflict in Sudan directly endangers refugees' lives and necessitates urgent, coordinated international action.



Lawyer
and Human
Rights
Defender



Montasser Abdullah

Professional Title: Sudanese Lawyer and Human Rights Defender

Age: 38 years

Marital Status: Married, family provider

Overview

Lawyer Montasser Abdullah is considered one of the most prominent human rights defenders in Sudan, known for his sustained commitment to protecting victims and promoting the rule of law, even under grave personal risk. He has been subjected to arbitrary detention and prolonged imprisonment, along with an unfair trial, as a result of exercising his legitimate legal activities, reflecting the significant risks faced by lawyers and human rights activists in Sudan.

Academic and Professional Background

Holds a Bachelor of Laws – University of Khartoum (formerly Nileen).

- Completed advanced training in international human rights law.
- Began his professional career in independent law

firms, specializing in constitutional and human rights cases.

- Distinguished in pleadings related to public freedoms and human rights, adhering to professional ethics and the independence of the defense.
- Represented individuals and groups in sensitive political and human rights cases, including members of the Coordination of Democratic Civil Forces (Taqaddum) and prominent civilian figures during and after the transitional periods.

Areas of Human Rights Work

- Defending political prisoners and prisoners of conscience.
- Representing survivors of gender-based violence.
- Litigating cases related to violations during peaceful and civic protests.
- Supporting judicial independence and the rule of law.
- Contributing to national efforts to harmonize Sudanese legislation with international human rights standards.
- Enhancing legal awareness among local communities and activists about their rights.

Key Initiatives and Contributions

- Participation in collective defense teams for victims of gross human rights violations.
- Presenting legal arguments in sensitive public interest cases, including those linked to the December 2018 Revolution and subsequent political transitions.
- Engaging in legal advocacy efforts to curb the misuse of repressive laws, such as the Information Crimes and Counter-Terrorism laws.
- Participation in local and international training programs and workshops to strengthen the documentation and legal defense capacities of lawyers and defenders.

Training Courses and Workshops

Lawyer Montasser Abdullah started his training in 2009 by taking part in the Arbitrators' Preparation Program organised by the National Centre for Arbitration and the Training Council, a programme specialising in arbitration.

In 2014, he took part in a course on Freedom of Religion organised by the International Islamic University Malaysia, which offered advanced training on safeguarding religious rights.

In 2016, he took part in a course on Legal Adaptation, Investigation, and Evidence in Information Crimes organised by the African Expertise House, which involved practical work on cybercrime cases.

In May 2017, he enrolled in the Investigations and Forensic Evidence course with the African Expertise House, where he received practical training in collecting forensic evidence.

In July 2017, he took the Preventive Drafting and Closing Loopholes in Specialized Contracts course in collaboration with the African Expertise House to improve legal drafting skills.

In September 2017, he attended the Practical Practice of Investment Lawsuits course with the African Expertise House, which focused on enhancing practical skills in investment cases.

In October 2017, he enrolled in a Cybercrimes course at the Al-Mohanad Institute for Legal and Administrative Training, which covered cybersecurity and related legal issues.

In 2019, he took part in a Human Rights Workshop organised by the African Expertise House, a comprehensive training event for trainee lawyers to improve their understanding of and sensitivity to human rights.

Finally, in 2020, he attended a comprehensive course at the Sharih Al-Qadi Center covering International Humanitarian Law, criminal proceedings, investigation and inquiry, Public Prosecution Law, and the judicial bodies in the Constitutional Document. The course

provided comprehensive training to improve lawyers' legal practice.

Stances Related to Human Rights Values and Principles

- Defending the right to a fair trial and legal defense guarantees.
- Rejecting psychological and physical torture and ill-treatment.
- Promoting the independence of the legal profession as a fundamental pillar of a state based on law.
- Demanding accountability for gross violations and combating impunity.

Key Violations Suffered

- Arrested on September 7, 2024, after representing members of the «Taqaddum» Coordination Committee, including the former Prime Minister, and subjected to arbitrary detention.
- Physical and psychological torture, including beatings and deprivation of water and basic facilities.
- Detention in an overcrowded cell with 80 detainees without basic services.
- Denied contact with a lawyer or his family until December 2024.
- Forced to waive his legal immunity as a lawyer.
- Tried before the Criminal Court in Port Sudan since April 2025 on fabricated charges under:
 - The Sudanese Penal Code (Articles 53 and 85)
 - The Information Crimes Law (Articles 9, 17, 24, 26, 27)
 - The Counter-Terrorism Law (Articles 5 and 6)
- Released on October 20, 2025.

Personal and Professional Skills

- High capacity for negotiation and resolving complex legal disputes.
- Outstanding skills in legal documentation and human rights analysis.
- Strong commitment to professional ethics and social responsibility.
- Ability to lead collective defense teams and human rights initiatives.

Human Rights Significance

His case exemplifies the risks faced by lawyers and human rights activists in Sudan, highlighting the targeting of judicial independence and the shrinking of civic space, and the necessity of protecting human rights defenders. Documenting his career reflects his professional contribution and impact in promoting a culture of rights and the rule of law, as protecting independent lawyers is an essential condition for the fairness of the judicial system and the effectiveness of rights protection mechanisms.

Key Activities of the Sudanese Coalition for Defenders of Human Rights

During January and February 2026



The Sudanese Coalition for Human Rights Defenders continues its efforts to enhance the protection of human rights advocates both inside Sudan and internationally, through a range of activities and meetings in January and February 2026, along with notable progress in institutional capacity development.

Consultative Meeting with the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and Association

On 27 January 2026, members of the Coalition's Board of Directors took part in a webinar and consultative meeting with civil society organisations, attended by the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of

peaceful assembly and association, Ms. Gina Romero.

The meeting included:

- A workshop on using UN special procedures mechanisms.
- A consultative discussion session on trends and violations related to freedom of peaceful assembly and association in Sudan.

The meeting called for the preparation of a joint report by civil society organisations documenting violations affecting this fundamental right.

Meeting with the Norwegian Mission to East Africa

On 19 February 2026, the Coalition conducted a meeting with representatives from the Norwegian Mission to East Africa, coordinated with DefendDefenders, to discuss the situation of Sudanese defenders and the challenges they face both inside and outside Sudan.

During the meeting, the Coalition presented:

- An overview of its work and programs.
- A briefing on the risks and violations faced by defenders.
- Key security and humanitarian challenges amidst the ongoing conflict.

The Norwegian Mission delegation praised the efforts of the Coalition and organisations working to protect defenders, affirming the importance of supporting the most at-risk groups.





Progress in Institutional Capacity Building

The Coalition is presently developing internal policies and translating its 2026–2031 strategic plan as part of completing the institutional capacity-building process and strengthening internal governance. These policies are scheduled to be submitted for approval during the evaluation meeting on 25 March 2026.

These steps aim to:

- Develop administrative and organisational performance.
- Enhance transparency and accountability.
- Enable the Coalition to perform its role in protecting defenders more effectively.

International Women's Day Event March 8, 2026

To mark International Women's Day on March 8, with the 2026 theme: «Giving for Gain,» the Sudanese Coalition for Defenders of Human Rights announces a special

event at their headquarters.

The event comes in appreciation of the resilience of Sudanese women and women human rights defenders who have played pivotal roles in civil resistance and humanitarian response despite risks, displacement, and targeted violence.

The event will include:

- A discussion session on the situation of women and defenders inside Sudan and in the diaspora.
- Personal testimonies from women human rights defenders.
- Recommendations directed to protection bodies and regional and international mechanisms.
- A short musical performance to foster solidarity among participants.

The Sudanese Coalition for Defenders of Human Rights reaffirms its ongoing commitment to supporting defenders, documenting violations, and enhancing cooperation with regional and international partners to protect rights and freedoms.

About Sudan Defenders

Sudan Defenders is a civil coalition for human rights defenders in Sudan, initially founded in 2009 and re-established in June 2022 in Kampala, Uganda, through the adoption of the Kampala Declaration. The coalition currently includes 47 human rights organisations. It works to empower and protect human rights defenders through legal, psychological, and logistical support; training and conducting research; monitoring and documenting violations; and advocacy at national, regional, and international levels.

The coalition operates based on the values of independence, transparency, and respect for human dignity and promotes collective action and solidarity among human rights defenders in Sudan and beyond. Its headquarters are in Kampala, Uganda.





Sudan Defenders

Sudan Human Rights Defenders Coalition

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