

Sudanese Rights Group (Hugoog)

Human Rights Monitoring 6th Report-Sudan

14th -30th May 2016

New Developments:

- On the 29th of May 2016, the Interior Minister lieutenant General Esmat Abd Al-Rahman revealed in a press statement after a meeting with the security and defense committee in the parliament that they are going to apply theft amputation sentence against whoever involved in car theft and smuggling in Darfur. He added that the ministry of Interior has made arrangements in connection with the collection of heavy weapons and vehicles with four-wheel drive from the citizens, and the decision will be implemented in the near future. The minister further pointed out that the ministry of interior has sought to find solutions in regard to the small arms carried by the nomads, who need the arms during their long routs, either appointing a force to insure their safety during their movements or license their weapons or give them official status that allow them to carry their arms.(Source: Aljareeda newspaper, issue: 1773, date: 30 May 2016)
 - On the 22nd of May 2016, the ministry of foreign affairs refused to renew the annual stay permit for the Head of Office of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), Mr. Ivo Freijsen, without providing official explanation to its decision, the stay permit of Mr. Ivo Freijsen will expire on 6 June 2016, however on the 25th of May,the Sudanese Foreign Minister, Ibrahim Ghandour, stated during a weekly forum organized by the ministry of information, that the government of Sudan will not renew the annual stay permit of the Head of Office of the United Nations for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs because of his failure to cooperate with the Humanitarian Aid Commission, after receiving reports that the UN official continued to provide incorrect reports about Sudan, particularly the

statistics on refugees, in addition to that, he included in his last report that Sudan is witnessing famine. He added that the UN official is distorting Sudan's image, and it is the right of Sudan's government not to give him a stay permit¹.

- On the 17th of May 2016, the political committee of the ruling party (the NCP) in the parliament announced that the NCP party will submit a new bill to the parliament to ban the political activities of armed group supporters inside universities.
- On the 16th of May 2016, bloody clashes erupted between two Islamic student groups affiliated with the National Congress Party (NCP) and the opposition Popular Congress Party (PCP) at the Holy Quran University in Khartoum over students elections and they led to serious injuries of around 25 students as reported², the violent clashes between the two groups have continued for the next day on 17 May 2016, whereas the police forces intervened and dispersed the students using tear gas. Huqooq team was unable to obtain information about the names of those injured during the clashes. Although the team has contacted three students loyal to the PCP in order to obtain more information and the names of the injured students.
- On the 16th of May 2016, the defense team of the detained, dismissed and suspended students from the University of Khartoum, has submitted a petition to the Director of the university of Khartoum requesting him to cancel the dismissal and suspension decision issued against a number of university of Khartoum students on the ground of protests that have recently erupted at the University against the selling and moving of the university buildings last April. Meanwhile the administration has issued another decision of dismissal from study against the student Moafag Ibrahim Mohamed 5th year in the faculty of Engineering with effect from 16 of May 2016, the decision was based on the student's code of conduct and accountability and university guards reports on the protests that erupted in the University of Khartoum last April.
- On the 15th of May 2016, the committee tasked with reforming the 2009 press and publications law headed by Sudan's Justice Minister, Awad Al- Hassan Al-Nur in Khartoum has convened its first meeting, it is worth noting that in late 2015, the minister of justice has established a law review committee to review number of legislations among these laws the national intelligence and security law of 2010, the criminal law of 1991, the criminal procedures law of 1991 and another 83 laws, chaired by former chief Justice Dafa Alallh Alhaj Yousif, however up to date, the discussion on these laws has not been made public and neither the composition of the committee was participatory, in contrary to the formation of the new law review committee. In January 2016, the parliament has passed new amendments to the criminal law of 1991, which carried very harsh punishments in relation to offences of criminal mischief namely article 182 -2 which states "whoever commits an offense of criminal mischief shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years or a fine or with both,

¹ Source: Aljareeda daily newspaper, Issue 1769, 26 May 2016.

² See Sudan Tribune http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article58984

and if the damage occurred during the riots," using incineration or dumping or explosives or toxic in the public or private facility shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 years and a fine not less than the value of the damage.

Human Rights Violations Monitoring

Freedom of Expression/Assembly and Association:

- On the 30th and 29th of May, the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) confiscated the printed daily newspaper, Alwan, from the print house for the second time in a raw without giving any reasons for the confiscation. (Source: JHR Sudan and HR journalist)
 - On the 29th of May 2016, the Chairman of Legislation and justice Ahmed Al Tejani prevented the Journalists who are assigned to cover the parliamentary affairs from covering the workshop that organized by the Committees of legislation, justice and human rights and economic affairs that set to discuss the temporary decree for the Arbitration Law of 2016, The secretariat of the workshop apologized to the journalists and informed them the workshop will be closed without the presence of the media. The prevention of journalists to cover the parliament news followed accusation from number of MPs that the journalists and media are the first enemy to the state. (Source: Aljareeda newspaper, issue: 1773, date: 30 May 2016)
- On the 25th of May 2016, the trial of a journalist of Al Jareeda newspaper Azza Abo Ouf took place before the Press and Publications court, the trial is based on a complaint by the National University of Al Rabat, The newspaper had published a press report about drug smuggling and distribution among university students on the 9th of March 2015, which Rabat University considered it as a distortion of its image and reputation. (Source: JHR Sudan)
- On the 22nd and 21st of May 2016, National intelligence and Security Service agents confiscated the daily Almustagilah newspaper for the second time in a row from the printing house without giving any reason.
- On the 18th of May 2016, the administration of the University of Alnaileen banned the opposition students from carrying out any political activities inside the university campus, after bloody clashes erupted between two students groups loyal to SPLM-N and SPLM peace faction, during a celebration by the SPLM students to commemorate the founding of the movement, a number of students and leaders who were addressing the political forum were injured as a result of the clashes among them is Nimat Adam Jamaa. Huqooq team was unable to verify the information.(Source: Altaghyeer info website).
- On the 17th of May 2016, members of the Sudanese Parliament attacked the social media
 websites and demanded the establishment of an independent body to monitor these sites, they
 similarly attacked the journalists assigned to cover the parliament news accusing them of
 focusing on the negative news and ignoring to reflect on the positive side, MPs described the

media as the major enemy of Sudan. (Source: Aljareeda newspaper, issue 1761, date 18/05/2016)

• On the 16th of May 2016, National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) agents confiscated the daily Al-jareeda newspaper for the fifth time within eight days, from the printing house without giving any reason for the confiscation, after the newspaper's administration decided to stop issuing in a protest against the confiscation campaign by the security.(Source: HR journalist)

Protest Movements/ Freedom of assembly:

- On the 24th of May 2016, the national Intelligence and Security service (NISS) and police forces violently dispersed a protest organized by Sudanese lawyers against the national intelligence and security service agents raid on Nabil Adib's law office on the 5th of May 2016, the NISS arrested three lawyers during the protest and detained them at the NISS HQ office in Bahri near Shandi bus station at the political section, names of those arrested:
 - 1- Mohamed Hassan Albadri,
 - 2- Mohamed abd Alraheem and
 - 3- Abd Alazeem Hassan, the three lawyers were released on the same day without charge at around 10 pm and 12:00 am respectively.(Source: HR lawyer)

However the chairman of the law bar syndicate issued a public statement on the 24th of May, condemning the lawyers protest after refusing to receive their petition and stated that the bar syndicate will investigate with the lawyers who carried out the protest and have committed these abuses, he further stated in the statement that the lawyers will be questioned before the accountability committees and the lawyer's admission committee would support all the decisions that will be issued by the accountability committees including freezing or cancellation of their practicing law license and write-offs from the professional legal record.

• On the 19th, 20th and 21th of May 2016, the police forces used tear gas for a third consecutive day on Saturday to disperse demonstrators who protest plans to remove the artisanal brick factory in Al-Geraif-Sharg suburb of Khartoum State. Protests started on Thursday when people took to the street to protest the state's authority move to eradicate brick factories owned by residents in the area. The demonstrators set fire to tyres in the streets before they were dispersed by the police and a number of protesters were injured as reported. (Sudan Tribune³)

Arbitrary arrests:

• On the 22nd of May 2016 at around 9:00 pm, national intelligence and security service (NISS) in Al Gadarif city in eastern Sudan arrested Ismail Mohamed Ismail, 25 years old, an Omdurman Ahlia University graduate and member of the Sudanese Congress party, from in front of Alkobani Pharmacy in Al Gadarif market, he was released the next day but he was

³ http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article59034

instructed to report daily from morning until late evening to the NISS office near to the court building in Al-Gadarif city. Ismail's arrest occurred on suspicion of his involvement with the Salvation Initiative groups who are working on exposing the violations of the regime.

- On the 20th of May 2016, at around 5:30 pm, an armed group composed of 30 national intelligence and security service (NISS) agents in three pickup trucks arrested Bakhit Abd Alkareem a 34 years old graduate from Alnailain University's Faculty of Law, he was arrested from his house in Mayo area Alshahinat Block in Khartoum, the arrest reason is likely based on the suspicion of his affiliation with the opposition armed group Justice and Equality Movement, his whereabouts are still unknown although his family submitted a request to visit him at the NISS information office in Khartoum Almatar street but the NISS have rejected their request.
- On the 18th of May 2016, national intelligence and security service (NISS) summoned the activist Mohamed Salah Abd Alrahman 26 years old and brother of detained student Badr Aldeen Salah, the NISS summoned Mohamed Salah through a phone call. He is currently in hiding.
- On the 18th of May 2016, national intelligence and security service (NISS) arrested a student of Sudan University and a member of the Democratic Front, Mohamed Abd Alhafeez, from inside the university campus during a student political forum.(Source: HR activist)
- On the 14th of May 2016 at around 8:30 pm, approximately 6 members of police forces arrested Abo Algasim Ahmed Gasm Alseed (Semingan), 31 years old, from the street in Alremilah area in Khartoum on his way from a bookshop to his home, the police forces officers beat him with a gun rear and threw him on the police truck, they took him to West Alremilah police station where they interrogated him, the police forces used racial language insults and threatened him during the interrogation .He was then released the next day at around 4:30am without charge. (Source: interview with Abo Algasim on 26th of May 2016)
- Dozens of students who were arrested during the raid of Mr. Nabil Adib law office on the 5th of May are still detained by NISS without charge and or access to their families or lawyers, one of the detained family informed Huqooq that all the families of the detainees have submitted a visit request to the NISS offices in Khartoum but the NISS rejected their visit requests, the names of the students still in NISS detention:
- 1- Bader aldeen Salah Mohamed Abdel-Rahman, 25 years old, 1st year Faculty of Economics UOK, he was detained by NISS on the 13th of April and released on the 23rd of April, he was dismissed from UOK on the 3rd of May, 2-
- 2- Wifag Mohamed Altayeeb Gorashi Female, 24 years old, 3rd year Faculty of Art-UOK, she was arrested by NISS on the 14th of April and released on the 16th of April, dismissed from the University.
- 3- Suliman Yahia Haran, Male, 30 years old, 4th year Faculty of Science-physics department-UOK and chair of Darfur Students Association of UOK. He was dismissed from the University on the 3rd of May.

- 4- Modathir Tayseer Modathir Male, 25 years old, fifth year Faculty of Science (Chemistry) UOK, he was arrested by NISS and criminal investigations police on 3rd May, he was released on bail on the 3rd of May and is facing charges (Huqooq team was unable to obtain more information about the charges brought against him)
- 5- Mai Adil Ibrahim Karar Female, 24 years old, she was arrested by NISS on the 13th of April and released on the 17th of April, a member of the Democratic Front, she was dismissed on 3rd May.
- 6- Adam Hassan Mohamadain (Abzargah) 4th year Faculty of Geographic Science UOK who was arrested on the 5th of May 2016 In addition to
- 7- Moafag Mohamed Abd Al Galeel, 23 years old, Student in his 5th year of the Faculty of Engineering-Surveying department at the University of Khartoum
- 8- Mohamed Omer Hamid Digno, 21 years old, student in 5th year at the Faculty of Engineering -Mechanics department- University of Khartoum, who were arrested on the 7th of May,
- 9- Safaa Modawi Mustafa Mohamed student in the fourth year at the faculty of Environmental Geography Science of the University of Khartoum. She was arrested on the 10th of May 2016.
- 10- Nafisa Mohamed Hassan, 18 years old, student in her second year at the faculty of law of the University of Khartoum, she was arrested on the 9th of May 2016.
- 11- Sabah Alzain, student at Omdurman Ahlia University, who was arrested during a raid by the NISS on his house in Ombadah Dar-Alsalam area in Omdurman on the 12th of May 2016
- On the 28th of May 2016, Huqooq team have received information from a trustworthy source that National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) agents have arrested Abakar Abd Alrahman Omer a 43 years old political activist loyal to Sudan Liberation Movement (SLA), from apublic transportation station in Alhaj Yousif area in Khartoum around the 15th March 2016, his whereabouts remain unknown, Abakar is still detained in an unknown location without charge and access to his family or lawyer.

Update:

On the 29th of May 2016, three University of Khartoum Alumni who were arrested by NISS on the 23rd April during a peaceful sit-in in front of University of Khartoum were released without charge. Mohammed Farouk Suliman, Murtada Habbani and Ibrahim Abu Samrah in addition to Ahmed Zuhair Dawod ,an intern training at Al-Midan newspaper who was arrested on the 13th of April 2015 from in front of the University of Khartoum while covering and reporting the news of student protests for Al Midan newspaper. (Source: HR activist)

Ill-Treatment and Sexual abuse of a Female detainee:

On the 23rd of May 2016, the police forces in Madani city (the capital of Aljazeera state) arrested Mrs. Maysoon Mossaad, Deputy Secretary of Information of the Liberal Democratic Party, on the ground of wearing trousers, the police officers used sexist language against Mrs. Maysoon who was also subjected to sexual harassment by one of the police officers, she was held at the Central police station

for two hours without charge, and released on the same day, after she was released one of the officers took her mobile number from the police record and made several abusive calls. (Source: Liberal Democratic Party Statement on 25th May 2016)

Civil Society Organization:

- On the 22nd of May 2016 at around 11:00 am, National Intelligence and Security Service NISS, summoned eight employees working for a human development and training center in Khartoum, Tracks center, to the Office of the Prosecutor for Crimes against the State for charges filed against them by the NISS, they were arrested at the state security prosecution while they were awaiting investigation. the name of the detainees include:
- 1- Khalaf Allah al-Afif, the director of the Centre for Training and Human Development (Tracks)
- 2- Arwa Elrabie ,administrative director of Tracks,
- 3- Midhat Afif al-Din Hamdan, a Collaborating volunteer trainer
- 4- Al-Khazini Ahmed al-Hadi, temporary acting Accountant
- 5- Al-Shazali Ibrahim El-Shiekh, Receptionist
- 6- Imani Liela. Volunteer from Cameeron
- 7- Hassan Khairi ,IT and collaborating trainer
- 8- Mustafa Adam, executive director of Al-Zarqa Rural Development Organization who was visiting the center during the second raid.

It is worth noting that the NISS had raided Tracks Center in March 2015 and filed charges against its staff Adil Bakhit and Khalfa Allah Al-Afif, however the court dismissed the case against them for lack of evidence and ordered return of the properties. And another raid in February 2016, where the NISS seized the employee's laptops and personal belongings including their mobile phones and cars, and continued to summon the center's staff before transferring the case to the prosecution office on 22nd May. Huqooq team received information that on 28th of May 2016, the State Security prosecutor has interrogated Khalaf Allah al-Afif, the director of the Centre for Training and Human Development and Midhat Afif Al-Din, a trainer (Tracks).(phone call with Dr. Albaqir Al-Afif)

On the 30th of May 2016, two Tracks center employees were released on bail, names of those released:

Arwa Elrabie, administrative director of Tracks and Imani Liela. Volunteer from Cameroon.

• On the 22nd of May 2016, the trainer Adil Bakhit received the same summoning and has been transferred to the Khartoum Alawsat criminal Court following the investigation and he is expected to appear before the court on the 8th of June 2016. Adil Bakhit was arrested on the 16 April 2015 by the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) in Khartoum, he was summoned by the NISS, three weeks after the Tracks raid and the confiscation of his laptop that contained information related to his human rights work. He was asked about the nature of his work as an independent human rights trainer and the reasons for his presence at TRACKS on 26 March. He was charged with seven criminal offences under the Criminal Law of 1991, later the same day, by the State Security Prosecution Office. He was charged under article 21 (criminal

joint acts in execution of criminal conspiracy), article 24 (criminal conspiracy), article 63 (calling for opposition to public authority by use of violence or criminal force), article 66 (publication of false news), and article 93 (impersonating a public servant). Two additional charges – under article 50 (undermining the constitutional system) and article 51 (waging war against the state) – are classified as crimes against the state and carry the death penalty. He was detained at Al Awasat police station in Khartoum. (Source: contact with Adil Bakhit by Huqooq member on the 25th May and previous press release by ACJPS dated 18th April 2016)⁴

Freedom of Religion:

 On the 25th of May 2016, National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) arrested Rev. Kuwa Shamaal Abuazumam Kodi, the Director of preaching in the Sudanese Church of Christ, he was interrogated based on a criminal complaint failed by NISS against other four Christian pastors, in which Christian clerics detainees face charges of espionage and collaborating with enemy states. Kuwa was reporting to the security during the past period, however, the state security persecutor notified him that he is aligned with the criminal complaint with another Christian clergy, including a foreigner facing charges of spying and espionage, Hugooq has reported about the referral of pastor, Hassan Abdul Raheem Korey, the Secretary-General of the Sudanese Church of Christ complex, to the State Security Prosecution in Khartoum on the 10th of May 2016 by NISS, according to the lawyer Mohaned Mustafa who told Hugoog that he submitted a petition to the National Human Rights Commission in Khartoum, and the NISS replied to the commission stating that there is a criminal complaint against the pastors under articles 50- Undermining the constitutional system, article51- Waging war against the State, article53- Espionage against the country, article 55-Disclosure and obtaining information and official documents, article64- Provoking hatred against or amongst sects among other charges under the Criminal law of 1991 .Names of those arrested and facing charges are attached: (Source: Interview with the lawyer Mohanad Mustafa who is representing them on 27th May 2016)

Background

In October 2015, the NISS arrested number of Christians and civil society members after participateingin a workshop on freedom of religion in Addis Ababa- Ethiopia, they have been released after interrogation, but the NISS arrested them again in different dates and they were reporting daily, except five pastors who were released after spending five month in detention, and two others Peter from Czechoslovakia who was arrested on the 9th December 2015 and Hassan Abd Alraheem Kodi who are still detained ,however, the NISS filed a complaint against four pastors as follow:

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⁴ See Sudanese human rights defender detained on baseless charges and others at risk after armed raid on Khartoum training centre, at: http://www.acjps.org/sudanese-human-rights-defender-detained-on-baseless-charges-and-others-at-risk-after-armed-raid-on-khartoum-based-training-centre/

Hassan Abd Alraheem , the secretary general of Christ church complex who was arrested by NISS on the 18th of December 2015 is still detained. Kuwa Shamaal Abuazumam, who was arrested on the 18th of December 2015, he was released after three days but he was reporting daily until his arrest on the 25th May where he was aligned to the criminal complaint, and Abd Almonim. The four pastors are facing charges that carry the death penalty.(Source: Lawyer Mohaned Mustafa on 27th May 2016)

Apostasy Case:

On the 3rd of April 2016, Makawi Abd Allah Suliman a retreat Quran school (Sheikh Khalwah) in Omdurman has filed a complaint against the mother of one of his students Mrs. Baghdad Zain Alabdeen and others /hey were charged under articles 125 Insulting religious creeds, 126 Apostasy (Ridda), 127 Defiling and disturbing places of worship, 144 Intimidation of the criminal law 1991, in last April , the retreat school teacher filed the complaint after the mother Mrs. Baghdad argued with him and questioned the way he is teaching Quran to her son, by saying is this a retreat school or a church, consequently he filed a criminal complaint against her and accused her of insulting Islam, however the police arrested the family among them three children aged 4 and 5 and 6 years old and accused them of apostasy. Later on the 5th of April 2016, the general prosecutor attorney dropped the charges against the father and the children, and kept the charges against Mrs. Baghdad who was released on bail on the 5th of April 2016, Mrs. Baghdad is facing charges under 125-126-127 and 144 mentioned above, her case is still awaiting before Dar Alsalam Criminal court Under the criminal complaint No:1558/2016. Noting that the charges carry death penalty (Apostasy) and imprisonment and lashing (Source: Mohaned Mustafa lawyer who representing Mrs. Baghdad)

Darfur Region Violation:

- On the 24th of May 2016, three members of the Rapid Support forces (RSF)kidnapped Fakhr Aldeen Hussain Idris, 16 years old, resident in Nyala Texas area Alharah two, he was kidnapped from the Alsouq Alkabeer (grand market) with a truck and taken to a place near Alnahdah area west Al Genina transport station, they beat and insulted him before releasing him in the late evening on the same day. (Source: HR activist)
- On the 22nd of May 2016 at around 7:45 pm, allegedly, a group of Janjaweed militia attacked Azerni village in West Darfur state 30 Kilometer east Al Genina city, the attack resulted in the killing of nine residents, names of those killed during the attack are below:
 - 1- Yaseen Adam Ibrahim 28 years old, a teacher at Azerni School, (he fled his home in Um-Awsh village during the conflict in 2003).
 - 2- Mahjoub Abd Allah Adam Noah 41 years old, teacher at Azerni School, (he fled his home in Um-Awsh village during the conflict in 2003.)
 - 3- Abd Almajeed Yahya Ali, 29 years old, teacher at Azerni School, (he fled his home in Um-Awsh village during the conflict in 2003.)
 - 4- Ibrahim Yahya Omer (Ibrahim Ghagha), 70 years old, Azerni Mosque preacher, (he fled his home in Um-Awsh village during the conflict in 2003.)
 - 5- Abd Allah Ahmed Abd Allah Habo 60 years old trader at Azerni market, (he fled his home in Um-Awsh village during the conflict in 2003.)

- 6- Khamis Abo Siedna, 69 years old farmer, (he fled his home in Um-Awsh village during the conflict in 2003.)
- 7- Abd Allah Adam Daoud 40 years old farmer,
- 8- Mohamed Adam Daoud 37 years old trader at Azerni market
- 9- Jomaah Ismail Mohamed 17 years old, student at Azerni school,

During the same attack numbers of residents were injured among them:

- 1- Ismail Mohamed Abakar 43 years old a trader and father of the deceased Jomaah Ismail,
- 2- Ahmed Moustafa Adam 12 years old, student at Azerni School, he was wounded to his arm,
- 3- Nasr Aldeen Moustafa Adam 8 years old, student at Azerni School, wounded to his arm,
- 4- Alhadi Abakar Mohamed 35 years old.

The Attack Background:

Allegedly, two members of the Janjweed militia hired a trolley worker (Dardadagh), to carry some goods from the market, they refused to give him the service fees that they agreed to pay to him, the worker attacked the two men with a knife which led to the death of one of them, the worker submitted himself to the police station, later the family of the deceased gathered at the police station in order to take the worker, the police forces refused to hand the worker to them, the family engaged in live ammunition shooting with the police that led to the death of one of the police officers, the militiamen gathered at Azerni market and looted some goods from the market, at around 7:45 pm two men on motorcycles allegedly members of the Janjweed militia fired live ammunition at the residents while they were praying and ran away. (Source: HR activist)

Selected document 18th-30th May 2016 for updates:

Sudan: Hundreds Deported to Likely Abuse

https://www.hrw.org/news/2016/05/30/sudan-hundreds-deported-likely-abuse

SUDAN: EIGHT HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS DETAINED

https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/afr54/4108/2016/en/

Sudan Democracy First Group –Sudan News

http://us7.campaign-archive1.com/?u=7acabab6ae470b89628f88514&id=151db317ce&e=9b69fce712

Sudan should cease judicial harassment of civil society members and release TRACKs detainees

http://www.acjps.org/sudan-should-release-tracks-detainees-and-cease-all-judicial-harassment-of-sudanese-civil-society-members/

Sudan: Students, Activists at Risk of Torture

https://www.hrw.org/news/2016/05/25/sudan-students-activists-risk-torture

Independent Khartoum newspaper confiscated five times in one week, local Al Fashir paper's editor harassed

http://www.acjps.org/independent-khartoum-newspaper-confiscated-five-times-in-one-week-local-al-fashir-papers-editor-harassed/