



## **Sudan Doctors Syndicate**

### **Violations Associated with the Announcement of the Emergency State in Sudan**

27/2/2019

On the evening of Friday 22nd of February 2019, the Sudanese President Omer Al Bashir announced a year long state of emergency in the whole of the country, with immediate effect. In addition, Al Bashir dissolved the cabinet and appointed a new government, mostly compromised of military personnel. As expected a swift new wave of violations ensued with excessive use power by the security forces who considered the announcement of a state of emergency as a green light to escalate its oppression against the public.

1. Immediately after Al Bashir's declaration, armed security forces conducted a night raid of the Central Doctors Housing in Khartoum, the largest Doctor's residence in the country. They detained all those who were present in the premises that night and vandalized the rooms and personal property of the occupants. This included looting of personal property such as cash, laptops and mobile phones. It is estimated that 56 doctors were detained that night. They were all released over the course of the next few days after being beaten and subjected to different forms of assault, ranging from obscene verbal abuse, psychological terror and physical assault. Many doctors sustained various injuries ranging from cuts and bruises, to limb fractures and large haematomas. The most serious injury was a doctor who sustained a spinal fracture.

2. Two days later, on the 24th February 2019, security forces raided the premises of the University of Medical Science and Technology (UMST). Security forces physically attacked students and detained



tens of them. Tear gas bombs were fired inside lecture halls. Many female students were sexual harassed and some groped. These assaults were documented by video footage. Similar precedents of sexual harassment is a commonly used strategy by the Sudanese security agents in order to discourage female protesters in future.

3. Some of the students of UMST took refuge in the nearby Dar Alilaj hospital, however the security forces disregarded the hospital's sanctity, raided the hospital and fired tear gas inside.

4. The reuse of live bullets against peaceful protestors, after a brief lull, promptly returned, coinciding with the announcement of the emergency state. The 25th of February protests witnessed at least 3 victims of gun shots wounds. Moreover, the trend of running over protesters with military vehicles continues as an unmatched barbaric means of suppressing peaceful protestors. The injuries sustained imaginably are horrendous.

5. On the 26th of February, a military pickup run over two brothers (4 and 6 years old) in Khartoum North. The younger child was killed instantly while the older sustained serious injuries especially on his chest with bleeding inside the lungs. The military pickup fled the scene without providing any sort of aid to the injured children. A civilian crowd gathered and rushed them to the nearby International hospital accompanied by eye witnesses from the scene. Later that night, security forces returned to attack the angry masses who gathered outside the International hospital and dispersed them using the habitual excessive force, arresting both protestors and members of the victims' bereaved family.

Hitherto the announcement of the emergency state is regarded as a carte blanche to commit whatsoever brutal crimes; a license to kill.



## نقابة أطباء السودان الشرعية Sudan Doctors' Syndicate

We in the Sudan Doctors Syndicate are extremely concerned that the announcement of the state of emergency is proving to be a cover and added immunity for the perpetuation of the most heinous crimes and violations against the Sudanese people and their peaceful revolution. Its also clear that it is being used as a cover for carrying out an onslaught of vengeance against doctors in particular, whose union strike is reaching its 8th week. To date tens of doctors remain in incommunicado detention without charge (including Mr. Ahmed Elsheikh head of the Sudanese Doctors' union and his deputy Dr. Nageeb Nagmeldin who were detained on the 25th of December last year for treating injured protestors in the streets during a public march). There is an increasing and unquestionable need for the international medical bodies and human rights groups to shed the light on the ongoing events in Sudan and apply pressure on the Sudanese government to stop its crimes against the Sudanese people.

### **Sudan Doctors' Syndicate - External Relations Office**

The Sudanese Doctors syndicate can be contacted via email ([naqabaatiba@gmail.com](mailto:naqabaatiba@gmail.com)) and also has active reachable branches in the UK ([sdu@sdu.org.uk](mailto:sdu@sdu.org.uk)) and Ireland ([chairman@sdui.ie](mailto:chairman@sdui.ie)).