HUDO Centre

REPORT

ON

THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN SOUTH KORDUFAN
AND BLUE NILE STATES OF SUDAN

JANUARY - DECEMBER 2019

Prepared by

HUDO Centre

Ref. No.: H.K/PR/01/020

Released on

27th January 201
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Executive summary

This report covers some incidents that occurred between January and December 2019 in the government controlled territories of South Kordufan and Blue Nile States and among IDPs from the two states. The violations reduced significantly in Khartoum but slightly in conflict areas. The violations in areas under conflict go on with limited (almost no) intervention from the state or central government (authorities).

The aim of this report is to bring to light the human rights violations and abuses in SK and BN states of Sudan (government territory) and the situation of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from the two states.

Well prepared instruments/tools for monitors were developed. The instruments were used by trained field monitors in gathering the information which was included and compiled by the competent reporting panel. The report does not cover all incidents that occurred due to many challenges.

The violations and abuses included in this report are; arbitrary arrests, sexual violence, unlawful killing, court observation notes for specific trials with human rights aspect and other violations which were mainly carried out by security forces/ agencies against civilians in conflict areas. On regular incidents, police deliberately refused or failed to carry out investigations of cases brought before them.

In recommendation, this report calls upon Sudan government to respect its obligations towards the citizens and the international human rights laws.
### Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SK</td>
<td>South Kordufan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BN</td>
<td>Blue Nile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUDO</td>
<td>Human Rights and Development Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>PDF</td>
<td>Public Defense Forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSF</td>
<td>Rapid Support Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDPs</td>
<td>Internally Displaced People/ Persons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TMC</td>
<td>Transitional Military Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FFC</td>
<td>Forces of Freedom and Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPLA-N</td>
<td>Sudan People Liberation Army – North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPLM/A- DC</td>
<td>Sudan People Liberation Movement/ Army – Democratic Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI</td>
<td>Military Intelligence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NISS</td>
<td>National Intelligence and Security Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU</td>
<td>African Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AI</td>
<td>Amnesty International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRW</td>
<td>Human Rights Watch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAF</td>
<td>Sudan Armed Forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PS</td>
<td>Popular Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD</td>
<td>United State Dollar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG</td>
<td>Sudanese Genaih/ Pound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPF</td>
<td>United People Front</td>
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<tr>
<td>TYAD</td>
<td>Talodi Youth Association for Development</td>
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1 SECTION ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction
This report documents and highlights the violations and abuses in the year 2019 that HUDO Centre managed to cover in the government controlled territories of South Kordufan (SK) and Blue Nile (BN). The report also includes other few incidents that were mainly associated with the internally displaced people (IDPs) from the two areas (SK and BN) and highlights what was observed during court trials that featured human rights related cases.

The report is composed of interrelated sections; the introductory section, followed by section two as the body which contains the stated violations with some suggested recommendations and lastly the section of appendices which offers supporting information contained in the report.

1.2 About HUDO
Human Rights and Development Organization (HUDO Centre) is an independent, non-government, non-partisan and non-profit making organization based in Kampala-Uganda. HUDO is currently undertaking monitoring of human rights situation in Sudan. This includes the conditions and rights of civilians in conflict areas, religious rights, freedom of expression, observing the human rights related court trials and other violations. Our focus is on areas under the control of Sudan government in South Kordufan (SK) and Blue Nile (BN) States together with the IDPs from the two areas. HUDO also has a special program on refugee issues.

In order to implement this task, HUDO trains human rights monitors based in SK and BN in order to improve their capacity to monitor, document and report on violations and abuses taking place.

Our Vision: A world where everyone’s human rights are protected and fulfilled without discrimination.

Our Mission: To champion universal access to rights based information and services to vulnerable and underserved communities through sustainable innovations, humanitarian
support, strategic partnerships, rights empowerment, capacity building, research and advocacy.

1.3 A Brief Background
The year 2019 had many significant changes in Sudan which included the toppling of the regime of former president Omer al-Bashir on 11\textsuperscript{th} April 2019\textsuperscript{1}. This was after almost four months of demonstrations that spread all-over Sudan. In the short period that Military Transitional Council (TMC) replaced al-Bashir’s regime, there was mass killing (massacre) especially on 3\textsuperscript{rd} June 2019 when hundreds were killed, others were forced to disappear and many were injured.

After months of unrest, the TMC signed an agreement with the Forces of Freedom and Change (FFC), constituting the sharing of power\textsuperscript{2} and formed the transitional government that will govern for three years in preparation for the a democratic process and general elections.

As a result, there were repeated announcements and extensions of ceasefire by the Sudan government and the armed groups. However the “state of emergency” declared by the former president (al-Bashir) is still on in the states/regions under conflict and the violations mainly committed by security agencies and militias.

The violations reduced significantly in Khartoum but slightly in the conflict areas. Other kinds of violations came up particularly from Rapid Support Force (RSF), Public Defense Forces (PDF) and other security agencies.

1.4 Statement of the problem
The ouster of al-Bashir regime was a very significant step in Sudan but, there are many other challenges. First of all, the former regime is very deep rooted yet the current transitional government (TG) is dominated by the government sharing quotas. The expectations of the TG are not yet high since it has just started work.

\textsuperscript{2}https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/aug/17/sudan-opposition-group-and-military-sign-power-sharing-accord
Secondly, the presence of the RSF as the main actor on the political scene in Sudan tarnished the government’s face. This is because of their (RSF) history in Darfur and other conflict areas as well as the allegations labeled against them on the recent massacre. Thirdly, the Military Transitional Council (TMC) that is currently sharing power with civilians was al-Bashir’s (previous regime) security committee which was implementing the suppression policies on the people of Sudan. There is also the negative impact from the regional interventions to Sudan’s current trend of politics which made the transitional government disregard the people’s demands.

Though the violations in Khartoum reduced, in conflict areas violations are still going on and are committed by RSF, PDF and other security agencies regardless of the transitional government in place. Also many release/pardon orders have been announced but not honoured (many people are still incarcerated).

The violated rights included in this report are; arbitrary arrest/security of persons, sexual violence, unlawful killing, right to fair trial (court observations) and rights of civilians within conflict areas (insecurity status, misuse of authority, excessive use of power and environmental issues). Many times, the authorities (police in particular) refused or failed to carry out investigations of cases brought before them especially where RSF and PDF were involved. This is a challenge to good governance and rule of law and it leads to impunity.

1.5 Aim and objectives

Aim

This report aims to bring to light the human rights violations and abuses in SK and BN states of Sudan (government territory) and the situation of IDPs from the two states.

Objectives

- To provide the United Nations "Human Rights Expert for Sudan", African Union (AU), Amnesty International (AI), Human Rights Watch (HRW), the Diplomatic Missions/embassies in Sudan, institutes and individuals with information in order to enhance their efforts to improve the human rights situation in Sudan.
- To lobby and engage the Sudanese Civil Society in the process of human rights advocacy.
• To study the human rights situation at the conflict zones of SK and BN in Sudan and come up with appropriate recommendations.

1.6 Scope of the report
Sudan as a country consists of eighteen states and some of these states are under conflict. This report covers SK and BN in particular. South Kordufan state consists of seventeen (17) localities, some are located within a territory controlled by SPLA-N and others are under government control. Blue Nile State consists of seven (7) localities under government control with the presence of SPLA-N in four (4) localities. The violations and abuses documented in this particular report took place in SK, BN, North Kordufan and Khartoum states.

The following are towns and villages in SK State under the government control which were covered; Kadogli town in Kadogli locality; Kalogi and Werni village in Kalogi locality; Abbasiya town, Aljabalab, Garada village and Al-Sanadra village in Al-Abbasiya locality; Umbrambeta, Um-Alkerring, Mabsut village, Khor-Eldeleib, Elfaid Um-Abdalla Hegairbako, Elazraq and Nakma; Shaq-Elkitir village and Abu-Kershola in Abu-Kershola locality; Rashad, town in Rashad locality; Dilling, Hajar-Jawad and Alkurgul in Dilling locality; Talodi town in Talodi locality; Habilla in Habilla locality; Altartar, Um-Khallawi and Wakara in Tadamon locality; Abu-Gebaiha,Gedied and Elmqeins in Abu-Gebaiha locality and Aleri in Aleri locality.

In Blue Nile state this report covered the following; Damazin town in Damazin locality; Roseries town in Roseries locality; Bout town in Tadamon locality; Geisan town, Banat, Bakory, Muraik area, Singa Nabak village and Madinah -12 in Geisan locality; Kurmuk and Dering village in Kurmuk locality

Also the report highlights some incidents that took place out of SK and BN States especially targeting IDPs like in: El-Obeid town and Um-Rawaba towns in North Kordufan State; Khartoum and Omdurman in Khartoum State.

1.7 Methodology
Our network was composed of both field monitors and focal people who gathered information within the conflict areas and among IDPs. Field monitors could only cover
some incidents from areas where they could gain access but not the entire geographic
territory.

Different data (information) collection methods were applied and the information from
the field was critically analyzed by a reporting panel at Kampala office. The panel used
analytical methods to sort the information in order to arrive at accurate findings which
were included in this report. For the purposes of consolidating this report, HUDO Centre
also used the following methods in collecting and analyzing data/ information;

1) Data collection forms were developed/ used
2) Interviewing of victims, their relatives and witnesses
3) Scrutiny and verification of documents and noting comments from professionals
   (Lawyers, Doctors e.t.c).
4) Official declarations and media articles were scrutinized.

1.8 Limitations and challenges

- Due to security threats, some of the victims and witnesses could not easily reveal
  information
- The government’s imposition of state of emergency in the two states and the
  insecurity hindered the field monitors in gathering information
- The security/intelligence agencies generally suspect any person that talks about
  human rights.
- The limited number of monitors compared to the big geographic area of coverage
  implies that certain incidents happen without being noticed/ reported
- The withdraw (quitting) of some field monitors.
- Poor means of transport
- The general fear by the monitors in case the interviewed victims were subjected
  to torture and forced to reveal their (monitor’s) identity.
- The poor network (internet) and the very limited power/ electricity network
  coverage in conflict areas.
2 SECTION TWO: THE INCIDENTS

HUDO managed to gather credible information about the incidents mentioned below. The violations and abuses were committed against unarmed civilians. Generally, the arrests reduced in the second half of the year but other kinds of violations and abuses persisted.

2.1 Arbitrary Arrests

During the first half of the year 2019 demonstrations were going on all over Sudan having started from Damazin of Blue Nile state. The security agencies had since carried out arrests mainly targeting the youth, students, and activists. In the second half of the year, the number of arrests had reduced significantly mainly in Khartoum.

![Diagram showing arrests in South Kordufan]

The diagram above shows the arrests in a year grouped in 1st and 2nd half of the year 2019

Arrests in South Kordufan

2.1.1 Detainees from South Kordufan incarcerated for more than eight years

More than twenty five (25) detainees have been deliberately left in custody since June 2011 regardless of the frequently declared release pardon-orders even after toppling of al-Bashir regime. They were held incommunicado by Military Intelligence (MI) authority.

They were arrested by MI from Kadogli on 7th June 2011 soon after the beginning of war. But, the security agencies and those in authority denied having arrested them and their whereabouts was not known for a long period. In March 2016, HUDO got to know that
they were detained at MI custody in Kadogli. Immediately after HUDO had reported about them, they were transferred to Khartoum where some were seen at Omdurman military hospital in a very bad health state/condition. According to HUDO’s contacts, one of them (detainees) had his right leg amputated, another one his eyes were punctured.

Since the ouster of the former president on 11th April 2019, the Transitional Military Council (TMC) has repeatedly declared release pardons for the detainees and the prisoners of war. However, the detainees reported about here were not released.

Names of some detainees are; Musa Aabdein Ali, he was 38 years of age when he disappeared, Ibrahim Kano was 43 years, Musa Shantu, was 45 years, Edriss Elmaren was 32 years, Omer Fadul was 49 years old, Malek Abduelgadir was 35 years and Mahjoub Abuselaib was 37 years old.

2.1.2 Arrest of youth and children in Altartar
On 3rd January 2019 evening hours, a group of armed soldiers dressed in the uniform of National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) came on six land-cruiser-vehicles to Altartar/ capital of Eltadamoun locality and held a meeting with its Governor/ Abdalla Abduelsamad at his house. After the meeting, NISS soldiers passed by NISS office, came back and moved around town as they arrested twelve (12) youths from different houses and detained them at NISS office in Altartar. The arrests were in response to the public demonstrations which were also going on in other areas of Sudan.

The following are the names of the arrested youth; Babikir Ahmed Eltegani; Loai Mohammed Eltegani of 16 years old; Ali Ahmed Elhussein; Ibrahim Elhaj Abduelkareim; Babikir Ahmed Omer; Fadelalla Elneuairi; Nadir Jabir Fadelalla of 14 years old; Ahmed Elkarar; Ahmed Adam Mohammed Elhabish (nickname Abu-Aziza); Ahmed Radi Mohammed Elhabish; Bashir Yasin Hamid Idris and Mohammed Ahamed Adam Mohammed.

On 5th January 2019 the head of NISS confirmed to the community leader/ Ommda of Altartar that, the youths were at NISS detention in Kadogli.
On 29th January 2019 the former president visited Kadogli and announced a presidential pardon for releasing all detainees however, they were still held incommunicado.

On 3rd February 2019, NISS in Kadogli opened a case against them under articles (67-pubic tranquility riot, 69- Disturbance of public peace and 182- Criminal damage mischief) of Sudan Criminal penal 1991 and transferred them to police custody. The prosecutor informed their families that, detainees can be released on bail after paying a specific amount which is fifteen million Sudanese pound (approximately = two hundred fifty thousand USD) subject to the case.

On 14th February 2019 the case against them was dropped by NISS and they were released.

2.1.3 Arrest and intimidation of youths by NISS in Dilling
On 20th January 2019, NISS in Dilling arrested four (4) youths from their homes and released them the next day but on condition that they report to NISS office in Dilling on a daily basis at 09:00 AM. They were arrested as a preventative measure against any opposing sign (demonstration) during the anticipated visit of Sudan president to Dilling town then. They were intimidated and warned not to gather or attend the public rally of the former president during his visit to the town on 29th January 2019. They kept on reporting to NISS office for twenty days.

Names of the arrested youth:

1. Mr. Elmahi Elfaki Shabu, 24 years old;
2. Mr. Elsadiq Yagoub, 31 years old;
3. Mr. Mustafa Mohammed Ahmed, 20 years old
4. Mr. Eltaqi Yousif is 25 years old

2.1.4 Arrest of six youths in Dilling
On 22nd January 2019 early morning, a group of armed soldiers dressed in the uniform of National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) arrested six youths from their homes and Dilling town/market. They were taken to NISS office. They were arrested in order to prevent them from demonstrating when the president was to visit the area.
On 3rd February 2019 NISS released them after forcing each of them to sign a pledge not to participate in any demonstrations. NISS also imposed a travel ban on them whereby they had to inform NISS in case one was to travel out of South Kordufan state.

The names of those who were arrested are; Mr. Mohammed Ahmed Abouhum, 43 years old, trader; Mr. Mohammed Belal Elzain, 27 years old, graduate, Mr. Mohammed Edris Elgedail, 23 years, student, Mr. Abdalla Mergani Goufa, 24 years old, student, Mr. Elzain Mohammed Elsadiq, 30 years old graduate and Mr. Saif-Eldin Elhasab, 32 years, graduate.

2.1.5 Arrest and intimidation of Ms. Khadeija by NISS in Dilling
On 24th January 2019 at midday, two vehicles carrying ten armed National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) soldiers some in military uniform came and arrested Ms. Khadeija Abdelrahman Salman (26 years old, an information Technology/computer science graduate) from her family house in Dilling town. They drove her to NISS office. She was interrogated about her activities/engagements on Facebook and WhatsApp. They later released her at 05:30 PM (on the same day) after warning and intimidating her not to write/post on her Facebook page or WhatsApp account anything about the political situation in Dilling. She was also instructed not to attend the planned rally (visit) of the president of Sudan in Dilling (29th January 2019). That she must inform NISS in case she intended to travel out of Dilling town.

2.1.6 Arrest of Ahmed Elsayid by SAF/MI in Elfaid
On 26th March 2019, thirteen (13) armed soldiers dressed in Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) uniform headed by an officer came on two vehicles mounted with machine guns to Mr. Ahmed Elsayid’s house in Elfaid Um-Abdalla and arrested him. They beat/assaulted him with sticks and whips in the presence of his children in his house. They tied him with ropes, put him on to one of their vehicles and drove to Umbrambeta military quarters. Two weeks later, they transferred him to Elobeid military headquarters and in June 2019 they transferred him again to Umbrambeta military headquarter where he was released on 23rd June 2019.
A close relative of Mr. Ahmed informed HUDO that, he was arrested and mistreated because he was suspected of joining SPLA-N. He was subjected to torture during his three months detention.

Mr. Ahmed Elsayid Mohammed Abduelrahman, 29 years old, is a former SAF soldier. He is among the people who were displaced from their home town of Elfaid Um-Abdalla in 2011 when the war erupted in South Kordufan. But, in the year 2016, they returned back.

2.1.7 Arrest of Mohammed Ismail by MI in Elfaid
On 28th March 2019, MI soldiers arrested Mr. Mohammed Ismail Eldodo (27 years old and farmer) from Elfaid Um-Abdalla market without giving reason for his arrest and took him to the town’s military base. His mother who was informed by an eye witnesses went to the military base asking about him. The soldiers informed her that, her son was deported to Umbrembeta military quarters. They also instructed her not to go there because visitors are not allowed.

On 10th April 2019, Mr. Eldodo was released due to the transitional military council announcement of releasing all political detainees/prisoners.

2.1.8 Arrest of Eltoum Osman by RSF in Hajar - Jawad
On 9th September 2019 towards 4:00 pm, a group of fourteen (14) armed soldiers dressed in Rapid Support Force (RSF) uniform came on two vehicles with RSF number plates to the house of Mr. Eltoum Osman (58 years old farmer) in Hajar-Jawad village. They arrested him after beating him with sticks and lashes and they confiscated his motorbike. He was detained at RSF checkpoint near Alkugul town in a distance of about seven (7) kilometres. They assaulted/beat him for two days before they released him on 11th September 2019. RSF accused Mr. Eltoum of taking goods to Sudan People Liberation Army – North (SPLA – N) area though there was no evidence. His motorbike was confiscated by RSF soldiers up to date.

A reliable source informed HUDO that, people in Nuba Mountains from the government controlled area which boarders SPLA controlled areas are only allowed to buy stuff for...
home which can be used per day unless they get permission from security agencies, otherwise they will be accused of taking merchandise to SPLA area.

2.1.9 Arrest of Ismail by MI in Dilling
On 21st September 2019, the military intelligence (MI) in Dilling arrested Mr. Ismail Baleeya, 35 years old. They took him to MI office at Dilling military headquarters and later released him the same day evening. They detained him for seven hours, physically and psychologically tortured (beating and insulting) him. The arrest of Mr. Ismail was due to a personal dispute between him and a military soldier at a commercial bakery.

2.1.10 Arrest operation by RSF in Talodi
On the morning of 7th October 2019, more than two hundred (200) armed RSF soldiers came on twenty seven (27) vehicles and invaded Altugula and Al-Laffa gold mines of Talodi. They beat up people randomly (men and women), looted four (4) motorbikes, smart phones and money. They also arrested more than ten civilians and detained them in an iron container. Soon after the attack, Talodi residents organized a demonstration march up to Talodi military headquarters where they sat as they sought for the military intervention to stop the actions of RSF and protect civilians.

On 8th October 2019, the military commandant in Talodi formed a committee composed of military soldiers and representatives from the protesters to visit and investigate the invaded gold mines. Later on the same day, the commandant ordered the release of detainees and the payback of the looted items. Thereafter, the RSF troop/soldiers left the town.

The names of people who were detained are; Elsadiq Hamdan, Badawi Mahadi Mursal, Sabir Jamaa, Musa Osman, Sadam Mohammed, Mohammed M. Nour, Banat Hanu, Yousif Elnaw, Zakaria Hamdan, Husseine Kuku, Enaei Saeed, Saad Mohammed, Elgeili Elhaj and Abdulmajeed Mohammed. Others who were injured and their items were looted are: Farah Ramadan, Eltahir Musafaa, Amir Ismail, Ms. Rugaya Yagoup, Ms. Hanan Ibrahim, Ms. Ekram Mustafa, Eltouma, hemaidan Alawi and Gasim Abduelkareim (who was stabbed).
2.1.11 Arrest of Tajeldin Yousif by MI in Al-Abbasiya
On Thursday 17th October 2019 late afternoon, while Tajeldin Yousif (34 years old farmer) was on his way back to his village Aljabalab (7km Southwest Al-Abbasiya) from Al-Abbasiya town market\(^3\), he was arrested at the town’s checkpoint. Mr. Tajeldin was asked by the MI soldiers to come down of the vehicle (public means/transport). When he was down, they started beating him and kick him with their boots, and then they arrested him and took him to Al-Abbasiya military base. The MI accused him that he was taking goods to SPLA-N controlled area.

On 31st October 2019, he was released without any charges.

**Arrest in Blue Nile**

2.1.12 Arrest and intimidation of Mr. Muaaz by NISS in Damazin
On 2nd January 2019, four National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) personnel in civilian clothes came on land cruiser vehicle and arrested Mr. Muaaz Eissa Ahmed from his family house at Riyadh neighborhood in Damazin town. They detained him at NISS custody for one night and released him the following day on 3rd January 2019. He was released with a condition of reporting to NISS office at 09:00 AM on a daily basis. For a period of one month, he could report and stay there at NISS office till evening hours.

Mr. Muaaz Eissa is 24 years old and a student leader at Elneilin University. NISS suspected him to be mobilizing people/community to demonstrate.

2.1.13 Arrest of youth by NISS in Damazin

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\(^3\)Al-Abbasiya has a weekly market every Thursday, to be attended by the surrounding villagers and some from other towns.
On 11\textsuperscript{th} January 2019, unspecified number of youth was arrested by National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) in Damazin at Almuleid square and held them at NISS office. Most of them were students from Blue Nile University and graduates. We managed to get some of their names: Mr. Huzaifa Ahmed, 26 years old; Mr. Abduelmoneim Mohammed Elmamoun, 27 years; Mr. Abdalla Elmasri, 25 years; Mr. Mutwakil Nabil, 23 years; Mr. Osman Abass, 27 years and Mr. Elnagei Magdi, 21 years.

According to social media activist in Damazin said, there was a call in social media for a demonstration at Almuleid square after Jomaa prayers; the call was from unknown account on Facebook. It was later believed to have been a false Facebook account from NISS generated to trap whoever intended to come out for demonstration.

They were all released on 13\textsuperscript{th} January 2019 on condition that they should report to NISS office in Damazin daily. This was done for a month.

\textbf{2.1.14 Arrest of Zakaria by NISS in Damazin}

On 13\textsuperscript{th} January 2019, Mr. Zakaria was arrested by National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) from Damazin market while he was shopping. NISS took him to their
office and he was subjected to torture up to the time of his release on 21st February 2019.

Mr. Zakaria Mohammed Ahmed is 26 years old and had recently graduated from Blue Nile University; Zakaria is originally from Darfur and known was an active member/cadre of students’ organization named United People Front (UPF).

2.1.15 Arrest of Al-Shazali by NISS in Damazin
On 13th January 2019, National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) in Damazin arrested a University student Mr. Yousri Al-Shazali (23 years old) from the street. They detained him at NISS custody where he was beaten with black hose and forced to stand under the hot sun for hours. He was arrested because he participated on social media chats about the ongoing demonstrations in Sudan. NISS considered his social media chats to be the mobilization of the youth to demonstrate.

Mr. Al-Shazali was released on 25th January 2019 after forcing him to sign a pledge/document promising not to participate in any demonstrations or to write about demonstrations on social media.

2.1.16 Mr. Waheeb summoned by NISS in Damazin
On 20th January 2019, National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) in Damazin summoned Mr. Waheeb Khalid Elgadi (42 years old) to their office. Mr. Waheeb is a public servant and businessman; he owns a bookshop and restaurant near Blue Nile University. He was interrogated about the students who come to the bookshop, whether they (youth/students) conduct meetings there or not? He was later released at evening hours.

2.1.17 Mr. Mudathir summoned by NISS in Damazin
On 21st January 2019, NISS Damazin summoned Mr. Ahmed Mudathir (26 years old) graduate. He was interrogated about the phrases written on walls (Tasqut Bas/topple the regime) and let free at evening hours.

2.1.18 Arrest of underage student by popular security in Damazin
On 26th January 2019, two members of Popular Security (PS) on motorbike in Damazin arrested the underage student/ Ahmed Elsir Ali, 17 years old, from the main street at
Elsaha neighborhood in Damazin. They detained him at their popular security office and released him the following day on 27th January 2019. Ahmed Elsir Ali was warned not to participate in any demonstrations otherwise he would be arrested, tortured and transferred to NISS.

**2.1.19 Arrest of Ibrahim by NISS in Damazin**

On 30th January 2019, National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) in Damazin arrested Mr. Ibrahim Balla Ibrahim (36 years old) from the market. Mr. Ibrahim is a civil servant. He was detained at NISS office and interrogated about his support to TASQUT BAS (the regime must go) hashtag on Twitter. The hashtag was considered by NISS to be encouraging people to demonstrate.

On 2nd February 2019, Mr. Ibrahim was released after a warning not to engage in any social media activities concerning the news about demonstrations; otherwise he would be arrested and tortured.

**2.1.20 Arrest of three people by NISS in Damazin**

On 4th February 2019, National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) in Damazin arrested Mr. Saif-Elnasr Minalla Mahmoud (42 years old) public servant, Mr. Abduelaziz Sureiba (43 years old) teacher/social activist and Mr. Ali Hajo Ali (36 years old) a civil servant. The arrest was because of their participation in a peaceful protest on the previous day (3rd February 2019) at Damazin Main Street. They were later released that evening (4th February 2019) on condition that they report to NISS office every morning. They kept on reporting for a period of one month.

**2.1.21 Mr. Hafiz Osman summoned by NISS in Roseries**

On 11th February 2019, National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) in Roseries town summoned Mr. Hafiz Osman Siid-Ahmed to their office. Mr. Hafiz was interrogated for five hours about the phrases of (Tasqut Bas/ just topple the regime) that were written on many houses and office walls around Hai Elgharbi/ Western neighborhood of Roseries town where he lives.

Mr. Hafiz Osman Siid-Ahmed (34 years old) is self-employed and a resident of Western neighborhood of Roseries.
2.1.22 Arrest of a medical doctor from hospital in Damazin
On 7th April 2019, NISS in Damazin arrested the manager of Zidni surgical hospital Dr. Abdalla Sughairoun from his hospital accusing him of assisting the protesters in medical treatment. He was detained at NISS office and released the following day.

2.1.23 Arrest of youth in Damazin most of them underage
On 8th April 2019, NISS arrested some youth among them the underage from Damazin market during the protesters march. Their details;

1. Ammar Ahmed Hussein (16 years old) student.
2. AbasSabit Adam (20 years old) casual laborer.
3. Khalil Ali Adam (16 years old) student.
4. Jamal Hamid Elnaeem,
5. SallemEdris Ahmed (17 years old) student.
They were detained at NISS custody up to 17th April 2019 when released.

2.1.24 Arrest of two youth by NISS in Damazin
On 15th February 2019, National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) in Damazin arrested Mr. Mohammed Musbah (27 years old) and Mr. Isam Elfateh Jubara (26 years old) from their homes. They were arrested because of their activities on social media which NISS considers to be inciting the youth to demonstrate. They were released on the same day (late evening) with conditions of reporting to NISS office on a daily basis. On reporting, NISS retains them in doors (at their office) up to late evening hours, this happened for one month.

2.1.25 Arrest of three civilians by MI in Banat
On 5th November 2019, a group of armed SAF soldiers in two vehicles mounted with machine guns commanded by Major/ Elhaj Abdelwahab arrested Mr. Ahmed Galab Dafaalla, Abdalla Elsheikh and Nasir Ahmed Elmagoub from Banat village and took them to Sinja Nabak Bridge check point where they detained them. Immediately after their arrest, the residents gathered at the checkpoint and protested the arrest. This forced the commandant to release them.

The cause of arrest was because SAF armed soldiers had earlier come to arrest people whom they accused to be criminals. The village community leader/ Sheikh could not
allow and he advised them to inform police to effect the arrest but not military since it’s a
criminal offense. The SAF soldiers went back and came again in a bigger group. It
turned out that the three arrested people had earlier confronted them/ SAF hence the
arrest.

**Arrest among IDP**

2.1.26 Arrest of Ahmed from Omdurman
On 20th January 2019 during the demonstration at Alarbaein Street in Omdurman, a
group of six armed persons dressed in civilian clothes came to the street on a pickup
vehicle that had no number plates. On arrival, three of them surrounded Mr. Ahmed
Abdalla Omer known by his nickname Ombadi (46 years) an agricultural engineer and
political activist. They beat him with hose/ tube till he fell down. Then they bundled him
on the vehicle and drove away.

On 22nd January 2019, his family went to NISS office and inquired about him (Ombadi)
but they were told that he is not with them.

On 29th January 2019, he was released by NISS after writing a pledge not to participate
in any demonstrations. The release was a result of a presidential announcement (on the
same day) of releasing all the detainees.

2.1.27 Arrest of Mujahid Ali by NISS in Khartoum
On 10th March 2019, Mr. Mujahid was arrested by NISS soldiers from the French
Cultural Centre in Khartoum while he was there for a training event. According to eye
witnesses, three people in civilian clothes using white pickup vehicle introduced
themselves as NISS soldiers and arrested Mr. Mujahid in front of the French Centre and
took him to unknown place.

The following day his father went to NISS reception office and requested to visit/ see
Mr. Mujahid. NISS soldiers told him that, they will allow when the visit is approved.
Mujahid was allowed to see/meet his father and siblings (brothers) on 5th April 2019. He
complained about eye infection but was denied medical care.
On 11th April 2019, Mr. Mujahid was released with other detainees after the release pardon which was announced by the military council after the ouster of al-Bashir regime. HUDO was informed that, Mr. Mujahid was arrested because NISS accused him of participating in the strike at Almughtarbein University on 7th March 2019 where many students/graduates were arrested.

Mr. Mujahid Ali Eldouma Kuku (24 years old) is a civil engineer graduate of Mughtarbein University, activist and a writer of short stories. He is an Internally Displaced Person (IDP) from South Kordufan since 2011.

2.1.28 Arrest of Suliman Elhaj by NISS in Um-Rawaba
On 24th March 2019 nine (9) armed soldiers dressed in NISS uniform came on two vehicles to Mr. SulimanEhaj Mohammed family home in Um-Rowaba and knocked the gate while shouting his name. Mr. Suliman came to meet them at the gate followed by his mother, when he appeared to them, immediately five soldiers started to beat him with black hoses and sticks in front of his mother while shouting at him thus "you are a rebel displaced from Elfaid and we shall punish and discipline you".

They took him away in their vehicles, but his mother followed them up to NISS office. While at NISS office, the mother was chased away and they told her that, "your son needs to be punished" and she was warned not to come back.

On 18th April 2019, Mr. Elhaj was released without any condition or charges.

Mr. Suliman Elhaj Mohammed Elbashir (22 years old) is a student at Khartoum University. After the war erupted in South Kordufan in 2011, together with his family, they were displaced from Elfaid Um-Abdalla of South Kordufan to Um-Rawaba of North Kordufan. This is where they are residing currently.

2.1.29 Arrest of Edris in Khartoum
On 6th April 2019, NISS in Khartoum arrested Mr. Edris Mohammed Ali. He was picked from the sit in (demonstration) area in front of the military headquarters in Khartoum. He was taken to an enclosed compound at Al-Baladia Street and joined with other three hundred (300) detainees. They (NISS) tortured him in form of beating and kicking.
He was released on 11th April 2019 together with many others after the announcement of the release pardon by the military council. Mr. Edris Mohammed Ali Edris (32 years old) is a graduate and businessman. He is an IDP residing in Khartoum but was displaced from Blue Nile to Khartoum.

2.2 Sexual Violence

Sexual Violence in South Kordufan

2.2.1 Rape of two girls (one victim underage) by PDF soldiers in Elfaid Um-Abdalla

On 28th April 2019 four armed men in People Defense Force (PDF) uniform came while riding camels and attacked the two girls (Y. H. A. B is 15 years old and W.H. I is 18 years old). The girls/victims were with their grandmother at her farm in Elfaid Um-Abdalla. The PDF soldiers ordered the two girls to undress at gun point. The girls refused to undress but two of the soldiers forced them and raped them while the other two soldiers kept pointing their guns on the grandmother.

The four PDF soldiers ran away after the incident. The grandmother took the two girls to the Elfaid Um-Abdalla health centre and from there, they were referred to Rashad hospital where they received medical treatment for the physical injuries though, they were still traumatized. The case was filed at Rashad police office against anonymous and no further investigations had been conducted by police yet the grandmother and the two victims stated that they can identify the attackers by faces.

Sexual Violence in Blue Nile

2.2.2 Rape of underage girl by police officer in Guisan

On 12th December 2019, in Guisan\(^4\) town a police officer lured the victim N. KH (16 years old and student) to a house of a police sergeant where he raped her from. The same day, the girl informed her family and was subsequently taken to the village health centre. The medical investigations confirmed the rape incident by finding semen and blood in her vagina (appendix – 1). When the family attempted to report/file a case at police, they were not allowed. The police forced them to send the victim to Damazin on

\(^4\)Madinah-12 is a village in Geisan locality of Blue Nile State in a distant of sixty (60) KM from Damazin town
the following day for medical investigation where the medical findings came out different. Again the rape victim was not allowed to open a case basing on the new medical report/ findings regardless of her allegations. Since then, she has been traumatized/psychologically.

According to her testimony, the accused person is a lieutenant police officer (M. M. A) Head of Madinah-12 police post.

2.3 Unlawful Killing

Unlawful Killing in South Kordufan
The unlawful killing in SK persisted especially with the direct gun shots by security agencies.

![Pie Chart](chart.png)

**The diagram shows the increase of direct gunshot (death & injuries) in SK**

2.3.1 Two civilians tortured to death by NISS
On 28th December 2018, seven armed soldiers of National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) came to Um-Khallawi gold mine of Altartar on two vehicles (Land Cruisers) without number plates and arrested the following people; Mr. Hassan known by his nickname Hassan Talga (about 40 years), Mr. Faiez Abdalla Omer (37 years old) former soldier and Mr. Mohamed Zakaria (about 40 years of age).

NISS soldiers tied their arms and legs with ropes and took them to Altartar NISS office. On arrival at NISS office, the head commandant ordered the soldiers to torture them by saying that “Sakheinuhum/ Warm them”. They were beaten by many soldiers using black hose and sticks for more than three hours. During that torture, the soldiers kept
shouting at them that “you were listening to radio Dabanga, you are Toraboura/ rebel”. The officer came to interrogate them at 10:00 PM and found when Mr. Hassan had passed away/ died. Mr. Faiez was unconscious and Mohammed Zakaria was in a severe health condition. The head officer ordered that all should be transported to Al-Abbasiya town. Before reaching Al-Abbasiya at Wakara village, Faiez also died.

After reaching Al-Abbasiya NISS office, the head commandant of NISS Al-Abbasiya communicated with Al-Abbasiya hospital and the locality prosecutor to handle the official document (death certificate) for burial of the two dead bodies. The two bodies were buried on the following day/ morning (29th December 2018) by NISS at Al-Abbasiya grave yard. However, postmortem was not carried out.

Mohammed Zakaria was transported by NISS to Khartoum but he was kept incommunicado.

On 12th April 2019, Mr. Zakaria was released due to TMC release pardon after being kept incommunicado in NISS custody at Kober prison in Khartoum since he was transferred to it from Al-Abbasiya by early January 2019. He was kept in bad health status and NISS could not allow his family access/ visit to him.

2.3.2 Killing of a civilian by RSF soldier at Altugula gold mine in Talodi
On 22nd April 2019, Mr. Noureldin Adam Hamad (about 30 years) a casual labourer was killed as a result of a personal dispute between him and the Rapid support Force (RSF) soldier known by his nickname Tinga.

Mr. Noureldin Adam Hamad worked at Eltugula gold mine of Talodi and he was originally from Darfur. Mr. Tinga the RSF soldier ordered Mr. Noureldin to go with him to RSF camp. But, Noureldin refused and told Mr. Tinga that they can only settle their issues at the police office but not at RSF Camp. Then the RSF soldier went to his camp and came back with other six (6) RSF soldiers on a vehicle and ordered Noureldin to go with them but again he refused. Immediately, the RSF soldier (Tinga) shot Mr. Noureldin dead (at point blank) and together with other soldiers, they took the dead body on their vehicle. The dead body was buried the second day at Talodi graveyard/ cemetery.
On 3\textsuperscript{rd} May 2019, the family of the deceased arrived in Talodi and opened a case against RSF soldiers at Talodi police office. But, no further steps have been carried out yet the perpetrator is known and moving freely.

2.3.3 Civilian murdered and others injured by RSF at Altugula gold mine of Talodi

On 3\textsuperscript{rd} May 2019, for unknown reasons a group of Rapid Support Force (RSF) soldiers came to Altugula goldmine market and started to shoot randomly. As a result, five people sustained injuries. After the shooting, a civilian went and asked the RSF commandant for a vehicle to transport the injured people but the commander refused. People hired a vehicle to transport the injured to Abu-Jebaiha because there was no medical doctor in Talodi hospital. While they were on the way to Abu-Gebaiha (which is more than 100 kilometers away), one of the injured people died. No investigations have been carried out yet.

The person who died is Mr. Abakar Osman Abakar and the injured people are Abduelraouf Eltoum, Hassan Maki, Hassan Ismail and Saeed Abduelmoneim. All of them are workers at Altugula gold mine.

2.3.4 Killing of two civilians by PDF in Garada village
On 18th September 2019, in Garada village of Al-Abbasiya locality, Mr. Abdalla Ismail (34 years old) a farmer found cattle grazing on his farm while guarded by three cattle keepers who were armed. The cattle keepers were dressed in People Defense Force (PDF) uniform. He requested/told them to take their cattle out of his farm but they responded by shooting him dead and ran away with their cattle.

When the village residents heard the gun shot, they gathered at the crime scene and after reported a case at the village police post. Policemen came to the incident/crime scene and traced the footsteps of the cattle which led them to the nomads’ camp. About ten armed men in PDF uniform immediately started shooting randomly towards the police and residents. As a result of the shooting, Ms. Mahaseen Edriss (30 years) a housekeeper and farmer was shot dead. Police and the residents of Garada village ran away and no further action was taken by the authorities. The residents of Garada village are stressed because there is no guarantee of safety for their lives and farms/ property and the fact that they see perpetrators moving freely.

2.3.5 **PDF shot/killed a civilian and injured another one in Abu-Kershola**

On 21st November 2019 two farmers; Mr. Mohammed Eissa (36 years) and Mr. Mohammed Osman (29 years) were coming from their farms in Um-Alkerring to Abu-Kershola using a motorbike (tuktuk). Armed men (six in number) dressed in PDF uniform blocked their way and forced them to stop. They (PDF) asked the farmers whether they were coming from Um-Alkerring of which they replied with affirmation /yes. Immediately the PDF soldiers shot at them and as a result Mr. Eissa died instantly but Mr. Osman survived with injuries. Mr. Osman was taken to Elobeid hospital (more than 100 km away from Abu-Kershola) for treatment. The case was reported at Abu-Kershola police office against anonymous but no further investigations have been conducted.

2.3.6 **PDF shot/killed a civilian in Umbrembeta**

On 4th December 2019, Mr. Mohammed Ahmed Eltahir, a 32 years old farmer was at his farm in Shaq-Elkitir village of Umbrembeta together with other two farmers in their neighboring farms. Three armed men dressed in PDF uniform came riding camels, the armed men ordered these farmers to handover (give them) their harvested sesame. The

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5Um-Alkerring is a village in a distance of 7 km northwest Abu-Kershola
two other farmers agreed to the PDF orders but Mr. Eltahir refused to hand over his harvest. Immediately, one of the three PDF soldiers shot Mr. Eltahir three bullets that killed him. One bullet was shot in the chest and two bullets were shot in his legs.

The case was reported at Umbrembeta police office against anonymous but, no further investigation was carried out. Like many other cases/ crimes committed by PDF, they are not investigated.

**Unlawful Killing among IDPs**

2.3.7 **IDP shot dead during a demonstration in Khartoum**
On 21st April 2019, Mr. Abuhuraira Adam Abakar died at the Royal Care hospital where he was admitted with gunshot injuries. He was shot during the demonstrations on 6th April 2019 at the Sit-In area of the military headquarter in Khartoum. Mr. Abuhuraira Adam Abakar was 23 years old and he was from Abu-Kershola of South Kordufan/ Nuba Mountains.

2.3.8 **Three dead bodies (one identified to be of an IDP) dumped in Omdurman**
On 1st July 2019 at Banat suburb of Omdurman, the residents found three dead bodies at Abu-Anga water canal. One of the dead bodies was recognized to be of an IDP Mr. Muzamil Awad Abdulfadeil (27 years) from Mabsut village of Abu-Kershola of South Kordufan/ Nuba Mountains.

Eyewitnesses informed HUDO that, early morning at 05:00 AM (Sudan local time) as they walked back from Morning prayers at mosque they saw about five soldiers in RSF uniform on a vehicle without number plates throw the dead bodies. The dead bodies were taken to the Omdurman hospital and the medical report indicated that the cause of death was torture and that the gunshot wounds on the bodies were shot after their death. The case was opened against anonymous.

2.4 **Court Observation**

2.4.1 **Court Trial (Proceedings) of Al-Sanadra Case**

**Background of the case**
On 2\textsuperscript{nd} Sept 2016, Public Defense Force (PDF) soldiers attacked Al-Sanadra village of Al-Abbasiya locality in South Kordufan state. They came with more than twenty motorcycles accompanied by two land-cruiser vehicles. The attack was based on an allegation about looting of cattle where the footsteps passed through Al-Sanadra village. As a result of the attack, nine (9) people were killed, about twenty (20) wounded and some houses were looted and burnt down. Also cattle were looted and many residents of Al-Sanadra were displaced. The authorities (state/security) first ignored the case but later considered it after much pressure and outcry from the public. The case was filed at Al-Abbasiya police office.

There was an attempt to conduct this court at Al-Abbasiya and then after at Um-Rawaba town. But the court proceedings could not take place due to tension and public anxiety. Because of insecurity, the lawyers’ of the victims (the accusing panel) requested that the court sessions should be conducted in Khartoum and it was accepted (granted).

The court trials began on 20\textsuperscript{th} August 2017 and since then, twenty five court sessions have been conducted (three in 2017, seventeen in 2018 and five sessions in 2019). All of those sessions were conducted at Khartoum North court. At the beginning, the presiding judge was Justice/ Abdeen Hamad Dhahi up to 26\textsuperscript{th} June 2018 when he was replaced by Justice/ Murshid Ahmed Elamein. On 24\textsuperscript{th} October 2018 Justice/ Murshid Ahmed Elamein was also was replaced by Justice/ Atif Abdalla. This was because both Judges were promoted to the court of Appeal. Later on 3\textsuperscript{rd} July 2019, Justice/ Atif was replaced by Justice/ Osama Hassan for unknown reason.

Mr. Mohamed Alsafi is the prosecutor in this case and he has been absent for most of the court sittings/sessions. The accusing panel led by Mr. Baroud Sandal consists of more than twenty five lawyers including Nuba Bar Association. The panel of lawyers for the defendants is led by Mr. Elamein Ibrahim.

During the court process, three defendants escaped; two of them were caught and tried separately in two different courts.

\textbf{The summary of 2019 sessions}
In October 2018, court concluded that the following defendants were innocent since the evidence adduced (against them) was not strong/credible enough and they were set free. These are 1st defendant/ Hassan Ismail, 3rd defendant/ Saied Abdalla, 7th defendant/ Osman Mohammed and 9th defendant/ Ahmed Abdelgadir.

In 2019, the public demonstrations in Sudan delayed (affected) the court trials/proceedings. The narration below indicates what transpired;

- Mr. Babikir Abdalla Babikir (Al-Sanadra village’s Sheikh/ Mayor) informed court that all families of the deceased people had agreed on Gasas/death sentence.
- The court received the president’s opinion about the deceased Mr. Ahmed Adam Shambul (Ahmed Adaroub) calling for the Gasas/death sentence.
- On 3rd July 2019, Justice/ Osama Hassan delivered the verdict in which the defendants were found guilty under the following articles of Sudan Criminal Code 1991
  - Article 21: Joint acts in execution of criminal conspiracy
  - Article 130: Murder

All the defendants were sentenced to death and their names are;

1. Ahmed Jazim Hamid Jebreil
2. Ahmed Al-Tayeb Al-Zain Elkhair
3. Al-sadiq Mohammed Rahma Mohammed
4. Alhadi Abdelrahman Ibrahim Almahdi
5. Ahmed Abdelgadir Salah Mohammed
6. Alzaki Saleh Alzaki Mohammed
7. Hamid Almanzol Ahmed Hamouda
8. Abakar Fadelmowla Suliman
9. Saleh Joudat Ibrahim Mohammed
10. Mohammed NasreldinDaoud Mohammed Joudat
11. Bardab Mohammed Osman Abakar

This was the last court session and the verdict order was submitted to the High Court (appendix – 2).
There were three fugitive defendants that had escaped from the beginning of the court trials. Two of them were caught and their trial was held separate as shown below:

A. The ninth (9th) defendant/ Abduelraheem Abdelgadir Salah Mohammed, was caught in October 2017 and his trial started on 10th December 2018 in Khartoum. The judge heard and cross examined three accusing witnesses and one defense witness. On 15th January 2020, The justice read the verdict where the defendant was found to be guilty in breaching the following articles of Sudan Criminal Act 1991:
   - Article (21): Joint acts in execution of criminal conspiracy
   - Article (130): Murder
   - Article (139): Penalty for intentional causing bodily harm.

The justice announced that the next session will be for hearing the opinion of the deceased’s relatives and that he will write to the presidential office to get their opinion on behalf of the deceased Mr. Adroub. This was because according to Sudan law, they should provide opinion on either to forgive, compensate (Deeya) or death sentence (Gasas).

B. The fugitive defendants (Babikir Nematalla Babikir) was caught and court tried him in Al-Abbasiya and he was sentenced to seven years in prison. However, the two lawyers appealed the judgment to the Court of Appeal.

2.5 Other Kinds of Violations

Other kinds of violations in South Kordufan

2.5.1 Civilian shot and injured in Khor-Eldeleib

On 19th February 2019 after sunset, three armed people with masks on their faces came to the home of Mr. Adam Ahmed Adam (23 years) a farmer at Khor-Eldeleib and shouted his name (called him) to come out. When he came out to his house gate, one of the assailants shot him and they all ran away immediately. The bullet shot injured his
thigh and he received medical treatment. The case was filed at Khor-Eldelieb police station against anonymous and no further investigations have been carried out.

2.5.2 Looting of cattle by SAF and PDF
On 15th March 2019, SAF/MI commandant in Kalogi together with twenty five (25) PDF soldiers looted sixty seven (67) heads of cattle from the water source four (4) km northwest Werni village. They brought them to Kalogi and sold them.

2.5.3 Talodi Sit In
On 31st August 2019, at Abarsi Company gold company, five labourers offloaded a truck full of sacks. As they carried the sacks, they felt burning on their skin especially the backs. The following day their back skin changed colour, they started to vomit and experienced diarrhea. This case alarmed Talodi residents about the chemical substances used in the gold mining companies.

From 5th September 2019, Talodi people carried out peaceful demonstrations at Talodi locality premises up to 10th Sept 2019.

A committee formed by South Kordufan governor came to Talodi as part of their investigations in the mining sector. They were accompanied by Talodi locality security committee and youth from Talodi community. They had inspected Abarsi Company but, RSF soldiers blocked them from entering Elgenaid company premises. RSF soldiers only allowed the governor’s team and Talodi security committee to enter but the youth were not allowed.

Following the demonstration against the gold mines in South Kordufan state, the state governor (in charge) issued an order dated 11th September 2019 (appendix – 3) ordering the localities’ security committees to stop all activities by the gold mining companies, to hold all their equipment and keep premises guarded until further notice. That the legal

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6 There are ten (10) companies working in gold mining in Nuba Mountains and they intended to use cyanide and mercury in their activities without taking the necessary protective measures and mostly related to security agencies, those companies are; Twasul, Al-Etimad, Rashad, Leeha, Alsunot, Elgenaid, Diesel for mining, Lanos, Aldowalia and Abarsi.
and administrative procedures shall be taken against those that may not comply with
the order.

Elgenaid Company which is owned and guarded by the RSF opposed the order and
could not allow anyone to come closer to their premises and there is no legal procedure
that has been taken against them by authority.

On 3\textsuperscript{rd} October, residents organized a demonstration (marching) to the gold mines
where the guards of the factories shot bullets at them which resulted in six injuries. The
injured were;

1. Sharafeldin Fadul Gouja, injured by gunshots in both knees and right foot.
2. Ahmed Mohamed, two gunshots in his right leg which was later amputated in
   hospital on 7\textsuperscript{th} October 2019.
3. Ahmed Abu-Kalam, two gunshots in his left leg. He went through series of
   surgical operations.

The excessive use of force by factory guards pushed some residents into violent
response and as a result, some gold mine factories were burnt down.

Talodi town is the capital of Talodi locality in South Kordufan. It’s located in a distance
of 81 km South East of Kadogli. In Talodi there are six traditional gold mines whereby
companies like Alsunot, Abarsi, Lanos, Aldowalia and Elgenaid established factories.
Some of these factories use cyanide without taking the safety and pre-cautionary
measures. They disregard or neglect the community’s concerns especially in the
absence of the local authority responsible for protecting lives and environment.

2.5.4 Assault and intimidation of civilians by RSF in Talodi
On 19\textsuperscript{th} October 2019, Mr. Hussein Nouelgaleil (31 years) who is known by the
nickname’ of Oulo is a civil servant, together with other two members of Talodi Youth
Association for Development (TYAD) Mohammed Yagoub and Elsaid Mohammed Gad-
Kareem, formally/officially visited Altugula gold mine. RSF soldiers arrested them as
they were discussing with the community leaders around the gold mine. RSF physically
assaulted Mr. Hussein brutally but he managed to flee from them and entered the
nearby Military Intelligence (MI) office. The MI soldiers protected him and later sent him
to Talodi hospital where he had been admitted due to the assault wounds caused by RSF.

### 2.5.5 RSF polluted sluiceway/channel with cyanide in Talodi

On 20th October 2019, Rapid Support Force (RSF) in Altugula gold mine of Talodi deliberately polluted some water canals by pouring cyanide in some water channels/drain. They did this before their departure from the area. Some members of Talodi Youth Association for Development (TYAD) got to know about this incident and they visited the site/scene immediately. They found one donkey and cow dead minutes after drinking from the contaminated water. Thereafter, the TYAP members alerted the community about the incident which reduced the spread of the expected damage.

### 2.5.6 The PDF looted and burnt houses in Habilla

On 17th November 2019, about forty five (45) armed men in PDF uniform attacked and looted the shop of Mr. Abduelrahman Ibrahim Joumey at Habilla Market. They put Mr. Abduelrahman on gunpoint, took the available money and some goods from him and then moved away. He reported a case against them but no action or investigation was done by police yet the attackers are known.

The same day evening, the same attackers went to Mr. Bashir Elzain’s home and burnt/scorched three (3) houses. They burnt Mr. Bashir’s house together with that of his brother and his sister.

### 2.5.7 SPLA-DC unlawfully confiscated/impounded a vehicle in South Kordufan

On 19th November 2019, Mr. Mohamed Ahmed Fazari (55 years) a farmer was driving his Bedford lorry (Reg. No. KH 1909) from Gedied to Elmqeins. A troop of Sudan People’s Liberation Movement/Army - Democratic Change (SPLM/A-DC)\(^7\) armed

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\(^7\) The SPLA-DC is a South Sudanese opposition/rebel movement headed by Dr. Lam Akol. For more than four years, the former regime of Omar al Bashir was hosting the South Sudanese armed opposition groups in different areas in South Kordufan and Blue Nile States of Sudan. Abu-Gebaiha locality is one of those areas; the DC troop camps are located in the area of east and southeast Abu-Gebaiha locality (East Umm Khowitm, Altamor and Sirajiya), and the supply comes to them directly from Khartoum through Abu-Jibaiha town.
soldiers in a vehicle mounted with machine guns obstructed him. They were dressed in National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) operation uniform. The soldiers confiscated his truck and the reason they gave Mr. Fazari was that he had not paid their taxes (imposed) for the gum collectors. The next day (20th Nov 2019), Mr. Fazari went to the locality capital (Abu-Gebaiha town) and reported the incident to police but, they (police) did not record the case in their file. The police referred him to the military garrison. On reporting at the military garrison, he was informed that, the military has no authority over DC and that they are only governed by central order. The truck is still confiscated up to date of compiling this report.

2.5.8 Robbing of a civilian by PDF soldiers in Habilla
On 22nd November 2019, Mr. Mohammed Ishaq Ibrahim (46 years) a farmer was at his farm (4km south of Habilla town) harvesting sesame, eleven (11) armed PDF soldiers in PDF uniform came to him while riding camels and ordered him to hand over the harvest. He did not oblige to their request (rejected it) and they subsequently shot him on the right leg and insulted him by calling him a slave. They forcefully loaded seven (7) sacks of his harvest on their camels and burnt (set on fire) the remaining fourteen (14) sacks and then went away.

After some hours, his family members came with an animal cart to load and transport the harvest but, they found him injured and with no harvest. Mr. Ishaq was taken to Habilla hospital where he received treatment. This case/incident was reported at Habilla police station but, no further investigations have been carried out or even police visit to the crime scene.

Nothing changed since the former president was ousted/toppled in April 2019. The DC troops are moving freely on the area armed and dressed in National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) operation uniform. These troops used to impose taxes for the gum collectors (currently is the harvest season) yet, the area where they are located is the main area of harvesting gum in South Kordufan. The taxes are imposed basing on the means of transport used as indicated below:

- Fifty thousand SDG (approximately 700 USD) on individuals using a truck or tractor
- Twenty five thousand SDG (approximately 350 USD) on those using a camel
- Ten thousand SDG (approximately 150 USD) on those using a donkey
- Five thousand SDG (approximately 70 USD) per head
Other kinds of violations in Blue Nile

2.5.9 Intimidation of community based organization (CBO) by NISS in Damazin
On 3rd February 2019 a group of NISS soldiers came to Shalli Association Office as the board of directors meeting was going on. NISS soldiers forced the participants to end/stop the meeting and threatened them not to conduct any other meetings or implement any activities unless they get permission from the state security/ NISS. If not, NISS promised to arrest them and revoke their license. NISS accused them of carrying out Christian missionary work and receiving foreign funds. Since then, the CBO has frozen their activities and the movement of members is limited.

Shalli Elfeel Women Association is a community based organization (CBO) for women established in 2017. Their activities include civic education and health in Blue Nile State. Shalli is a name of a certain suburb in Kurmuk town of Blue Nile.

2.5.10 SAF enforced a tax (road toll) to motorists (trucks)
During the former regime, SAF used to impose a tax from trucks/Lorries using the route between Bakory and Geisan (50 km distant) indicating that it’s for protection. It was two thousand and seven hundred (2700) SDG per trip (approximately 40 USD). In April 2019 after the revolution, it reduced to two thousand six hundred (2600) SDG (approximately 38 USD). The last two months of 2019, it changed from paying cash to paying in form of fuel (six gallons /24 litres)\(^8\) for each truck, this levy caused anxiety in the public.

2.5.11 Confiscation of goods from traders by SAF at Singa Nabak Bridge
On 30th September 2019, the commandant of Sinja Nabak Bridge (Major / Elhaj Abdelwahab) confiscated permitted goods of a trader (Mr. Khames Omer Abakar). When the victim asked about his goods they informed him that, some of these goods don’t have security permission regardless of showing them all the required documents (appendix – 4). They later told him that, they have transferred the goods to Damazin MI headquarters. Up to date he is unable to get back his goods.

\(^8\) Approximately forty five USD (\$ 45)
Note: In Blue Nile (like other conflict areas), the government put a condition of getting security permission for any goods transported out of town justifying that, the goods may go to the rebel areas.

2.5.12 SAF unlawfully impounds a vehicle in Blue Nile
On 25\textsuperscript{th} October 2019, SAF at Singa Nabak village unlawfully confiscated a commercial vehicle belonging to Mr. Muntasir Ali (appendix-5). His vehicle was impounded because he had earlier reported the assault case against one of the soldiers who had assaulted him and he was always intimidated to withdraw the suit. To date, the vehicle is still at the military base.

In July 2019, Mr. Muntasir Ali Abdalla Ramadan (43 years) a driver and owner of the reported vehicle was driving his vehicle with passengers via Sinja Nabak Bridge where he was stopped by a drunk armed soldier. The drunken soldier ordered Mr. Muntasir to take him to Damazin. Mr. Muntasir rejected the order, reasoning that there was no space left in the vehicle and the fact that other passengers may be threatened by the presence of an armed drunk soldier. The soldier immediately started assaulting the driver/ Muntasir. Thereafter, the driver managed to reach at Damazin town where he reported a case of assault by soldier to police. Since then, the soldier disappeared until Mid-October 2019 when police managed to arrest him.

On 25\textsuperscript{th} October 2019, Mr. Muntasir was driving through Sinja Nabak\textsuperscript{9}, the SAF commandant Elhaj stopped him and ordered him to park the vehicle informing him that, his vehicle will not be released unless he withdraws the case against the soldier. Muntasir was subsequently detained up to midnight. The scheduled date for court appearance was 6\textsuperscript{th} Nov 2019 and Mr. Muntasir had insisted to go on with the court process(to get justice). On 6\textsuperscript{th} November 2019, SAF soldiers in collaboration with a policeman arrested Mr. Muntasir as he was on his way to attend the court session. He

\textsuperscript{9}Sinja Nabak village is administratively governed under Geisan locality of Blue Nile State. The mentioned vehicle is Toyota Hilux (reg. No. NZ4 - 987) licensed for twelve passengers, and it used to transport passengers between Damazin and Madinah-11.
was arrested in Damazin and taken to Madinah-10\textsuperscript{10} where he was confined up to midnight. The next day Mr. Muntasir came back to Damazin and he was informed (after inquiry) that because of his absence, the court session was adjourned to 17\textsuperscript{th} November 2019.

On 17\textsuperscript{th} November 2019, the judge delivered the verdict whereby the soldier was fined two thousand SDG (approximately 30 USD) as compensation in the assault case but, Mr. Muntasir appealed the case to a higher court. On 22\textsuperscript{nd} December 2019, the Appeal Court upheld the same verdict. But, up to date, the vehicle is still at the military base and the owner (Muntasir) is struggling to open a case against the SAF officer who confiscated his vehicle. The police and prosecution have not helped Muntasir.

2.5.13 Violation of the constitution
Since 1\textsuperscript{st} December 2019, the security agencies in Kurmuk locality issued movement permits (pass) for Sudanese/ citizens who are moving within Blue Nile state especially between Kurmuk to Damazin. This is unconstitutional\textsuperscript{11} (appendix – 6).

2.5.14 A military training centre at a school in Dering

\textsuperscript{10}Madinah-10 is in a distance of more than fifty (50) kilometers south Damazin
\textsuperscript{11} Article (42) Sudan constitution 2005 and article (60) of Sudan transition constitutional document.
For more than three (3) years, the authorities in Bau locality allowed PDF to set up a training centre in the premises of the only school in Dering village ignoring the rights of children. This forced some parents to send their children to Bakouri village school (approximately 30 km away). On top of that, PDF boosted recruitment of the underage (appendix – 7) using them in military operations all over the Blue Nile state.

2.6 Recommendations
- Both government and SPLA-N to come to a compromise that would lead to the end of conflict and suffering of people in these areas.
- The government of Sudan should lift the state of emergency imposed on SK and BN states and enforce the rule of law.
- Sudan government should respect its international obligations in respecting the rights of assembly, freedom of speech/ expression
- Sudan government to stop the discriminative acts towards the people from conflict areas.
- Sudan government should dissolve and disarm the PDF.
- Sudan government should re-structure NISS and RSF.
- We urge Sudan government to safeguard the civilians in conflict areas
- Sudan human rights commission and international human rights mechanism to conduct genuine investigations on the alleged cases of violations.
3 SECTION THREE: APPENDICES

3.1 Appendix (1): Medical report of the raped underage girl

The document is known as Form 8, usually issued by police for criminal medical issues.

The upper part of the document was filled by police and signed by the police officer in-charge (interestingly, signed by the perpetrator himself).

The lower part was filled by the medical personnel in-charge (medical assistant of Madinah-12) signed by him and stamped by the health centre stamp. It confirms the rape incident.
3.2 Appendix (2): Al-Sanadra verdict (court judgement)

Official document issued by Khartoum North Court citing the verdict of Al-Sanadra case, stamped with the court stamp, signed by justice/Osama Hassan Osman and dated 3rd July 2019
3.3 Appendix (3): The order from South Kordufan state governor

Order letter from State governor’s office on official headed paper, dated 11th September 2019 and signed by the state governor in-charge General/ Rashad Abduelhameed Ismail.

In the order, the localities’ security committees are instructed to stop all mining activities conducted by the gold mining companies and to hold all their equipment and keep premises guarded until further notice. Legal and administrative procedure shall be taken against those that may not comply with the order.
3.4 Appendix (4): Official permission for transporting goods/merchandise

The lower document is an Official pass for goods under the name of Mr. Khames, issued by the Economic security department of NISS/BN in NISS headed paper with their stamp and the signatory of the authorized person. The permission allows Mr. Khames to transport goods from Damazin to Sinja Nabak for commercial purposes. In this document, they mentioned the receipt attached.

Upward document; is the attached receipt to the pass
Appendix (5): The confiscated vehicle insurance

The insurance certificate of Mr. Muntasir’s vehicle with his full name; showing the vehicle registration number (NZ4/987), licensed for transporting twelve (12) passengers with an insurance cover.

The document is on a headed paper signed and stamped by the insurance company (Islamic Insurance Company Ltd.)
3.6 Appendix (6): Pass permission issued by Kurmuk authority

Official document on a headed paper of Kurmuk locality with its logo named PASS PERMISSION. It’s issued for a Sudanese/citizen allowing him to travel between Kurmuk and Damazin (to and from). Issued, signed by the locality administrative officer and stamped by the locality stamp, addressed to NISS and police.
3.7 Appendix (7): PDF/ military recruitment of the underage

Two different official forms of PDF recruitment of Mujahedeen/ fighters, it shows both of them are underage when recruited in 2019.

The document on the **RIGHT** (with photo) cited the date of birth of the recruited person is 2002

The document on the **LEFT** (without photo) cited the date of birth for the recruited person is 2003

**Note:** The document is an official headed paper of the PDF with their logo on the right side.