



## PRESS STATEMENT

### ARMED ROBBERY CASE WITH NO POLICE RESPOND NEAR EL-OBEID, SUDAN

On 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020, three civilians were robbed under gun point by four armed and masked people dressed in civilian clothes. The incident took place along the road (highway) about 30 km East of El-Obeid town and police declined to respond or file the case.

On 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020 late evening hours, Mr. Bukhary Ahmed Bukhary (28 years old), Mr. Abduelkareim Haroun (27 years old) and Mr. Abdalla Jarab (25 years old) were traveling from their Home town of Abu-Kershola to El-Obeid town using a private car. Their car ran out of fuel after reaching at Abu-Ghurr village. As they were still parked beside the road, four armed men with facial masks and dressed in civilian clothes appeared to them and forcefully robbed their phones and money. They robbed them under gun point as they beat them with sticks. Thereafter, the robbers disappeared. The three people (victims) were rescued by other travelers who took them to El-Obeid police and then hospital.

At El-Obeid police, the robbery case was not filed/ recorded. The police declined to file the case sighting a reason that the incident took place out of Elobeid police jurisdiction. El-Obeid police did not take any action; they did not even call/ notify Rahad police office which they claimed to be the right office under jurisdiction. Since then, no police officer has visited the crime scene from the two police-offices yet.

The three victims are from Abu-Kershola locality of South Kordufan State/ Nuba Mountains and they are all self-employed. Rahad is the nearest town to Abu-Kershola in North Kordufan and it's in a distance of 73 km east El-Obeid town. Abu-Ghurr village is located between Rahad and El-Obeid, it is approximately 30 km from El-Obeid on the road (highway) that connects the two towns.

**HUDO** is very concerned about the situation of civilians, call upon:

- Sudan government to urgently consider the community's security and rights.
- Sudan government should ensure the safety and protection of people exercising their constitutional rights of movement.
- Sudan government to hold to account police in El-Obeid for not executing their duties.

**End**