

Sender:

His Excellency
Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir
via
Embassy of the Republic of Sudan
Kurfürstendamm 151
10709 Berlin



Your Excellency,

I received information that the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) arrested 36-year-old Pastor Telahoon Nogosi Kassa Rata in Sudan on the 13 December of last year. He is the leader of the Evangelical Church Khartoum North and, as of now, he has not been able to speak to a lawyer. Following Sudanese law, he should have been released or presented in court within 45 days after the arrest.

Likewise, the NISS arrested Pastor Hassan Abdul Raheem Kodi Taour of the Church of Christ Sudan on December 18 in the city of Omdurman. Pastor Kuwa Shamal, the director of the church committee, was also arrested, but was released three days later.

The Sudan ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of December 16, 1966 on March 18, 1986, thirty years after joining the United Nations. Thus, the Sudan is legally obligated to respect the right to religious freedom, and to allow the practice of religious beliefs without punishment. Therefore, I call for their immediate release.

Sincerely,