



Sudan war: Six local gold miners arbitrarily arrested by RSF in South Darfur

The African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies (ACJPS) has serious safety concerns about the continued arbitrary arrests and incommunicado detention of civilians by the warring parties in Sudan. ACJPS continues to monitor the human rights situation in Sudan amidst the ongoing conflict. The lack of access for lawyers and family members to the detainees, together with the well-documented use of torture and other forms of ill-treatment against detainees by the warring parties, especially while held in unknown locations, gives rise to serious concerns for their safety. In this release, ACJPS documents the arbitrary arrest and incommunicado detention of six gold miners who are currently being held at an unknown location.

On 22 December 2024, the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) arrested six local gold miners from the Akgbash area in South Darfur State while on their way from Sango to Nyala. Sango is located approximately 286 Kilometers South of Nyala. The miners were returned to Sango where they were detained for ten days and later transferred to another RSF detention center in Nyala. Although reasons for their arrests were not given, it is alleged that the miners are accused of collaborating with the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF). A family member of one of the detainees informed ACJPS that he got a phone call informing them that their brother was detained at a detention located at the former office of the land registrar currently under the control of RSF. *“The caller further informed us that there were hundreds of civilians detained incommunicado in that detention center under very poor living conditions...”* he added

The miners are;

1. Abdul Fatah Suliman (m)
2. Jebreel Alsanwsi (m)
3. Alsadiq Ismail Ahmed (m)
4. Osman Eltahir (m)
5. Adam Zakaria Haroun (m)
6. Alwanwsi Abu Algasim (m)

Call to Action;

- √ ACJPS reiterates its calls to the RSF to guarantee the physical safety of the detainees, grant them immediate and unequivocal access to their lawyers, family members, and medical services, and release them in the absence of valid legal charges consistent with international standards. If such charges exist, the detainees should be brought promptly before an

impartial, independent, and competent tribunal and guarantee their procedural rights at all times.

- √ We also call on the warring parties to inform the family members of those held in unknown locations, of the whereabouts of their loved ones.
- √ We further call upon the Sudanese authorities to carry out an independent and impartial investigation into the arbitrary arrests and hold the perpetrators accountable.