

**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
FORUM ON MINORITY ISSUES
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Issues Affecting the Nuba ethnic minority in the Sudan Criminal Justice system:

Items 3 of the agenda

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Mr. Chairman, My Name is Elrayah Kakki. I belong to the Nuba minority of Sudan.

It is my great pleasure to stand here today as campaigner for the rights of the Nuba people. I am indeed one of the lucky ones who survived the harsh unlawful arrest and "incommunicado" detention of the early 90's in the Nuba Mountains. Today the injustices have become wide spread and unprecedented.

Article 4 of the Sudanese Code of Criminal Procedure, ensures the humane treatment of the accused and protection by the Police and the Attorney General. Article 6 of the Sudanese Penal Code affirms equality of all the people before the law.

However, in October 2015 the Public Order and Security Police raided an area in Umdome locality, Eastern Khartoum where a Nuba community live. This was on suspicion that alcohol was being produced, despite legal provisions permitting non-Muslims to do this in their homes without selling to Muslims.

The police then started beating up every one indiscriminately and chasing them down the river. Four people drowned in the Blue Nile as a result, and a child who was left on the river bank was then thrown into the river to face the same fate. In October 11th 2015, a young man, confirmed to be a relative of the victims went over to Umdome to trace the rest of his family. On arrival to Umdome, he was branded a thief and surrounded by police and local people. The crowd treated him inhumanely (by applying great quantities of chilli powder on his genitals publicly), before taking him to the Police Station.

These acts demonstrate clearly the failure of the law enforcement in Sudan, particularly when the victim or witness belongs to the Nuba minority.

I therefore, strongly underscore the importance of recommendations 20, 22, 23, and 26.

I wish to make one final point. Recently, the Vice President of Sudan has made an inflammatory announcement prohibiting any tribal festivals in Khartoum, thereby stereotyping the Nuba people. This encourages the targeting of Nuba communities. Therefore, in addition, recommendation 55 is especially important as well.

I thank you.