

ADVOCACY DOSSIER

KHIDIR SULIEMAN ABDELMAGEED

خضر سليمان عبد المجيد

Killed **Sudan**

Head of the human rights organisation Afkar in West Darfur, killed on the road in El Geneina on 11 June 2023 after receiving death threats while attempting to leave his home.

HuMENA.

Prepared by HuMENA for Human Rights and Civic Engagement · 8 November 2026

Case reference HM-SD-2026-014

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THE CASE AT A GLANCE

Head of the human rights organisation Afkar in West Darfur, killed on the road in El Geneina on 11 June 2023 after receiving death threats while attempting to leave his home.

STATUS	**Killed**
COUNTRY	**Sudan**

WE CALL ON THE AUTHORITIES TO:

WHAT WE ASK

01 Order a full, independent, and impartial investigation into the killing of Khidir Sulieman Abdelmageed, with timely public reporting on findings.

02 Identify and prosecute those responsible, both the direct perpetrators and any state officials who ordered, enabled, or covered up the killing.

03 Provide effective reparation to the family of Khidir Sulieman Abdelmageed.

04 Take immediate steps to protect other defenders working in the same field from similar attacks.

Latest updates on this case
Scan the code or visit:
https://humena.org/defenders/khidir-sulieman-abdelmageed/

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DOCUMENTED VIOLATIONS

	INTERNATIONAL STANDARD
Extrajudicial killing	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 6
Threats and intimidation	UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, Article 12

03

HOW THE CASE UNFOLDED

15 April 2023

CONTEXT

Armed conflict erupts in Khartoum

Fighting broke out in Khartoum between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces paramilitary group. The conflict rapidly spread to Darfur, where RSF and allied militias launched attacks on civilian populations.

28 May 2023

CONTEXT

Colleague Mohammed Ahmed Kudia killed

Human rights defender and lawyer Mohammed Ahmed Kudia was killed when RSF members attacked his home in El Geneina, burned it down, and looted his property. He had received death threats related to his work on IDP camp attacks.

30 May 2023

CONTEXT

Colleague Khamis Arabab killed

Lawyer and Darfur Bar Association member Khamis Arabab was killed during an RSF attack on his house in El Geneina. He had defended victims of attacks on IDP camps and provided legal aid to victims of human rights violations.

11 June 2023

KILLING

Khidir killed on road in El Geneina

After receiving death threats, Khidir attempted to leave his house. He was attacked and killed on the road in El Geneina. The attackers have not been identified.

04

THE FULL STORY

Background and Work

Khidir Sulieman Abdelmageed directed Afkar, a human rights organisation operating in El Geneina, the capital of West Darfur state. His work centred on monitoring and documenting human rights violations in Darfur, a region marked by cycles of violence, displacement, and impunity. He collaborated with several national and international human rights organisations, contributing field documentation and analysis to their reporting.

In the period leading up to his death, Khidir worked with the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), supporting human rights and governance programming in Darfur. His documentation work made him a key witness to the violence that engulfed West Darfur during the armed conflict that broke out in April 2023.

Context: Armed Conflict and the Spread of Violence to Darfur

On 15 April 2023, armed conflict erupted in Khartoum between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), a paramilitary group. The fighting rapidly spread beyond the capital. In Darfur, the RSF and allied militias launched attacks on civilian populations, particularly targeting non-Arab communities and camps for internally displaced persons.

Between late May and early June 2023, El Geneina became a focal point of extreme violence. Human rights defenders and lawyers working to document abuses and defend victims found themselves directly threatened. Two colleagues of Khidir, Mohammed Ahmed Kudia and Khamis Arabab, were killed in attacks on their homes in late May, just days apart.

Death Threats and Killing

Khidir received death threats in the days before his death. On 11 June 2023, he attempted to leave his house in El Geneina. He was attacked and killed on the road. The circumstances of the attack suggest he was targeted because of his human rights work and his role as a witness to the violence unfolding in West Darfur.

His killing followed a pattern. Mohammed Ahmed Kudia, a human rights defender and lawyer, was killed on 28 May 2023 when RSF members attacked his home, burned it down, and looted his property. Two days later, on 30 May 2023, Khamis Arabab, another lawyer and member of the Darfur Bar Association, was killed during an RSF attack on his house. Both men had received death threats from militia members while working on cases related to attacks on IDP camps in El Geneina.

The Darfur Bar Association issued a statement in May 2023 confirming that Mohammed Ahmed Kudia and Khamis Arabab had been threatened in connection with their legal and human rights work prior to

their deaths.

A Dangerous Environment for Human Rights Work

The armed conflict and the expansion of RSF control in West Darfur created an environment of extreme danger for human rights defenders. Those who documented violations or defended victims of attacks faced direct reprisals. The targeting of Khidir Sulieman Abdelmageed, Mohammed Ahmed Kudia, and Khamis Arabab within a two-week period represents a deliberate pattern of violence against those monitoring and responding to abuses in the region.

Khidir's death deprived the community in El Geneina of a critical source of documentation and accountability. His work with Afkar and international partners had provided a record of violations in a region where impunity remains entrenched.

05

SAMPLE LETTER

Copy it, adapt it and send it from your own address.

Your Excellency,

I am writing to demand a full, independent, and transparent investigation into the killing of Khidir Sulieman Abdelmageed, human rights monitor and director of Afkar; collaborated with national and international organisations documenting violations in Darfur in Sudan.

In brief: Head of the human rights organisation Afkar in West Darfur, killed on the road in El Geneina on 11 June 2023 after receiving death threats while attempting to leave his home.

I respectfully urge your authorities to:
1. Order a full, independent, and impartial investigation into the killing of Khidir Sulieman Abdelmageed, with timely public reporting on findings;
2. Identify and prosecute those responsible, both the direct perpetrators and any state officials who ordered, enabled, or covered up the killing;
3. Provide effective reparation to the family of Khidir Sulieman Abdelmageed;
4. Take immediate steps to protect other defenders working in the same field from similar attacks.

I will follow this case closely until those responsible are held to account.

Respectfully,

[Your name]
[Your city, country]
8 November 2026