

Thompson Rivers University Students' Union

805 TRU Way, Kamloops BC, V2C 0C8



Head of the Transitional Military Council Abdel Fattah al-Burhan
The People's Palace
PO Box 281
Khartoum, Sudan

Aug 7th, 2019

Please commute the death sentence imposed on Abbas Mohammed Nur Musa

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Thompson Rivers University Students' Union, we urge you to immediately **commute the death sentence** imposed on **Abbas Mohammed Nur Musa**, who was 15 years old at the time of the crime he was convicted of. The **Convention on the Rights of the Child** emphasizes that neither the death penalty nor life imprisonment without possibility of release may be used for anyone under the age of 18.

We are deeply troubled by reports from Amnesty International that Article 3 of Sudan's Criminal Act of 1991 determines childhood based on attainment of puberty, not on attainment of the age of 18, and that this is being used to sentence children to death.

Therefore, we strongly urge you to **amend the Child Act, 2010** so that the use of the death penalty is abolished for crimes committed by people below the age of 18, without any discretion by the courts of other exceptions. To fulfill Sudan's **obligations under international law**, please harmonize legislation and practice with regard to the definition of the child or childhood, by ensuring that children are defined as being anyone under the age of 18.

Furthermore, we strongly encourage you to establish an **official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty**.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sierra Rae".

Sierra Rae
President
TRU Students' Union

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brandon Hayashi".

Brandon Hayashi
Vice President Equity
TRU Students' Union

cc. Mr. Tamim Ali Tamim Fartak, Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of Sudan