



Mercy On SUDAN



الرحمة

على

سودان

POETRY ANTHOLOGY BOOK

Disclaimer: This anthology is not associated with any personal events of any team members nor Farah's family. This has been designed for the sole purpose of a humanitarian initiative in the form of poetry art.



Su-mood

Steadfastness, firmness or perseverance

It is derived from the Arabic verb 'sa-ma-da' which means 'to withstand'



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Welcome

مرحباً



The Farah Saeed Team is thrilled to present its seventh Artistic and Cultural project, whose 2026 theme is titled *Mercy of Sudan*.

This humanitarian art initiative aims to unravel the Sudanese voice whose people, known for their hospitality and determination, have undergone mass destruction of their land, human rights, and significance since April 2023.

Art and Culture is one of the three branches under the FST team umbrella, the others being health and faith.

Dr Farah Saeed is a respected family and friend who passed away from gastric metastatic cancer in September 2014.



Welcome

مرحباً



Our voluntary team resides worldwide, but what connects us is the parallelism in the development of passion, intention, and implementation to inspire, educate, and help. We aim to continue her legacy.

The aim of Mercy of Sudan is to **unify** Sudanese and non-Sudanese to express and uplift their momentum through positive and emotive language in the form of poetry that can bypass the storm that tests their character and faith.

We hope that the seeds of peace may germinate in the Sudanese grounds and bear the fruits of unity, love, and harmony.

The FST team

www.farahsaeed.org



A Brief Insight into Sudanese Art, History, and Culture

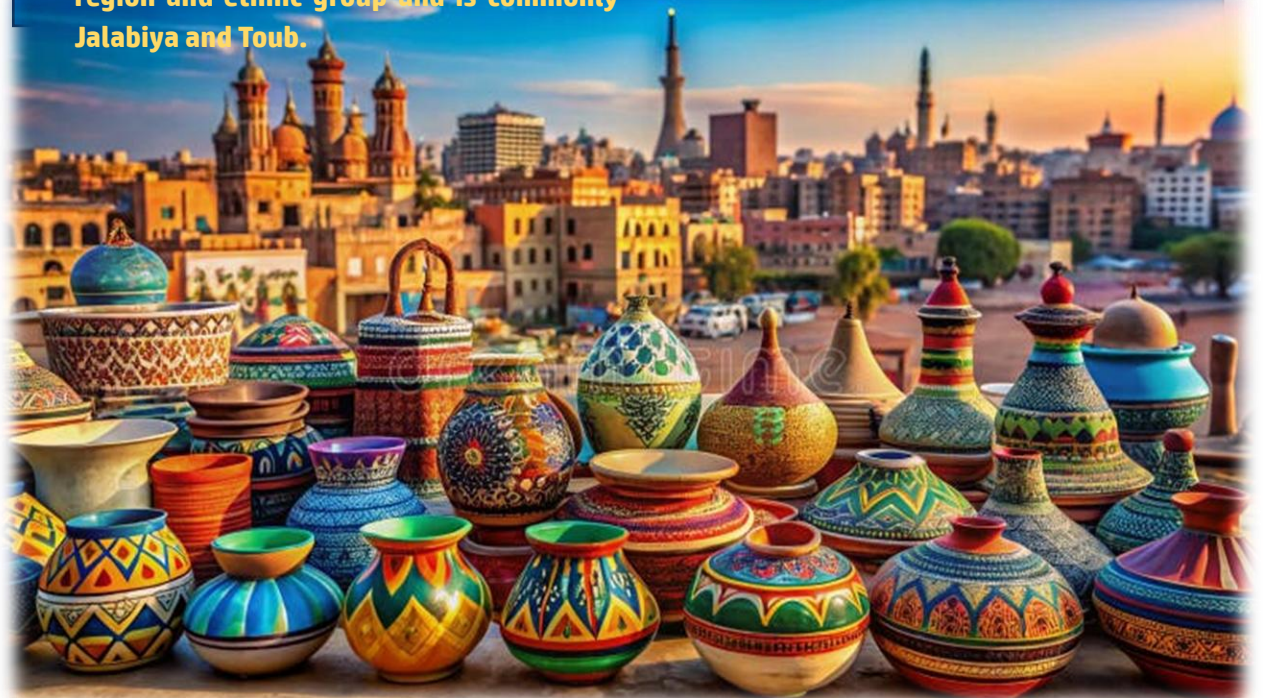
Sudan is a North-Eastern African country whose art and culture are shaped by the rich and diverse historical civilizations of Africa, Arab and Nubia, and the colonial and modern influences of the 19th century, blending traditional marked customs with modern values. It holds many wonders of its legacy, built by the Kingdom of Kush, the pyramids of Meroë, and temples illustrating the evolving Sudanese architecture.

The official language of Sudan is Arabic, but English is commonly used, and the indigenous languages are spoken by minor ethnic groups of Sudan. For example, Nuer is spoken in the Southern parts of Sudan. Traditional attire is dependent on the region and ethnic group and is commonly Jalabiya and Toub.

Jalabiya is a long, loose-fitting garment worn by men, whereas the Toub is a long piece of cloth worn by women, which is wrapped around them.

Amongst the cultural arts of Sudan are pottery, painting, and weaving, designed with vibrant colours and intricate patterns of the traditional Nubian art. The oud and tambour are commonly applied in their traditional folklore tales and festivals.

The oud is a pear-shaped string instrument, and a tambour is a type of drum.



A Brief Insight into Sudanese Art, History, and Culture



Their traditional dishes are made of staple foods that include sorghum, millet, and wheat – a delicious expression of cultural harmony. For instance, Kisra is a fermented bread made of sorghum, and Asida is a porridge-like dish made of wheat or sorghum flour. Ful Medames is stewed fava beans commonly eaten with bread.

Sudanese poetry is amongst the prominent literary traditions that have flourished along the Nile valley, particularly the South and West of the country. The use of poetry is used to reflect the nation's

turbulent journey, especially in recent years, as a form of expression opposing the bloodshed that arises in the country, drawing strength, creativity, and resilience from every corner.

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Roy, S. (2024) *Exploring Sudanese Culture: Traditions and Customs You Need to Know*. Available at: <https://www.afrodiscovery.com/country/sudan/sudan-culture/exploring-sudanese-culture-traditions-and-customs-you-need-to-know/> (Accessed: 22nd March 2026)



Poetry Submissions





SUDAN



By Anonymous

**Hearing and seeing the pain of the people of Sudan,
I raise my hands to the Lord to forgive and guide Insaan.
The mourning of helpless women,
Their hearts are filled with sour pain like lemon.
The children's eyes filled with fear,
Shall they scream, shout, or shed a tear?**



**The stench of bodies, homes, and memories burned away,
The wide-open eyes and stunned faces are enough to stay.
As each day passes by,
The ongoing question is why?
War, blood, and resources for a life that is temporary,
Their dreams washed away, leaving a trail behind the ferry.**



SUDAN



**Each tomorrow is like a preparation,
Every awaiting sensation.**

Will they be woken up with bullets?

**Will they have something to eat or quench their thirst down
their dried gullets?**

I hope Sudan will rebuild itself.

Their kindness and hospitality are their ultimate wealth.

Brick by Brick,

Helping the poor and sick.

Do not worry, O people of Sudan,

Your strength and resilience whose blood ran.

With hope and prayer, they will seek peace one day,

Allah will give justice to you all in every way.



A Brother Calling On His Brother



SUDAN

BY E.M

Oh Brother, Oh Brother!

You hurt me brother.

You took my home.

You stole my happiness.

You killed my people, my family, my friends, and
whoever is related to me.

You squeezed my soul.

I am stripped off everything,

Even my wall.



A Brother Calling On His Brother



SUDAN

BY E.M

Oh brother, Oh brother!

You left me nothing.

And I swear I said nothing.

I will leave it there.

Cuz I belong nowhere.

You think, you won?

But your conscience is gone.

You sold your soul to the devil.

Maybe for a million dollars or nickel.

It doesn't matter.



A Brother Calling On His Brother



SUDAN

BY E.M

Oh Brother!

I don't believe you.

I won't forgive you.

You think I am fool?

Maybe, but you're cruel.

Who is worse?

Fool or cruel?

You know what!?

It doesn't matter.

Oh Brother, oh Brother!





Rise, Rise, Fearless Hearts Of Sudan

By Tayyibah Yousaf

Tayyibah is a teacher who writes from the heart, using words to stand in solidarity with those facing suffering. She loves reading, creating crafts, and spending time in the countryside as well as engaging in nature and gardening projects, which bring her joy and inspiration. This piece was written for the people of Sudan, as a small gesture of hope and support, and is also dedicated to the beloved friend Farah Saeed, always in our duas .



**Rise, rise, fearless hearts of Sudan.
We stand with you.
Rise, rise, fearless hearts of Sudan.**

**Mind in disbelief,
Unable to grasp what the eyes witness.**

**With every heartbeat,
trembling with fear from this massacre of
sickness.**

**Hundreds.
Thousands.
Maybe more fallen heroes.
Yet the world stands pitiless.**

**Why is no one speaking?
Have we truly become so silent, so blind?**



**Rise, rise, fearless hearts of Sudan.
We stand with you.
Rise, rise, fearless hearts of Sudan.**

**People of Sudan, today, tomorrow,
You stand relentless.**

**If I could speak to you directly:
We will unite.
In words,
In tears,
In silent cries.
Our prayers will move with swiftness,
carrying every hope we have for you.**

**Never forget the courage you display each day,
even when the world fails to acknowledge it.
Your strength, your resilience,
It is a light no darkness can extinguish.**



**Rise, rise, fearless hearts of Sudan.
Together, unbroken, we are one.
Rise, rise, fearless hearts of Sudan.
People of Sudan,
We carry you in our hearts.
This pain will not last forever.**




O Allah SWT, I Leave My Prayers For Sudan

By Asqarini Hasbi, B.Sc

Asqarini Hasbi, B.Sc., is the Founder of Writing for Happiness. She earned her bachelor's degree in Mathematics at Universitas Negeri Jakarta, Indonesia. She has written a short story compilation in English, “The Smiling Old Lady” and “The Rose Garden”. A poetry collection book ‘The Crescent Heart (English), “Kepingan Kehidupan”, and “Majelis Rindu”. Many of her articles were published in Info KBN, BUMN Track, and other media outlets. Currently, she works as an employee in a state-owned enterprise in North Jakarta. In her free time, she is also a freelancer at the online magazine Canvas Kids Magazine in Ireland.





**By the dust,
That spreads in the air,
All of the bodies, laying there,
Shattered, in the field.
No movements, no souls.**

**Sudan, the place of ultimate beauty,
With the richness of gold, but has gone immediately.
By such a horrendous crime,
Making the people suffer from war.
Being left, feeling devastated.**

**Will this civil war ever end?
And let the pain lifted from the society.
O Allah SWT, I leave my prayers for Sudan.
No more famine, conflict, genocide or torture again.
And let them live in peace.**

Amen!





[Image by Marwan Mohamed; The Citizen]





A World Unforgiven

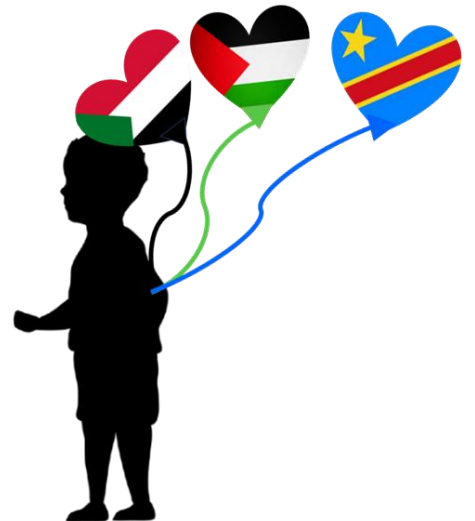


**By Samira
@LettersbySH**



Conflicted thoughts circle my mind like vultures,
If only they were – then this anguish
Might finally have a body to bury.
How do we live with ourselves?
We bruise the skin of Mother Earth,
Tear at her veins for fleeting comfort,
While in Palestine, in Sudan-
And yes, in Congo too –
Children breathe dust where hope once
bloomed.

Every breath we take
Is borrowed from another's dying gasp,
Their last moment slipping quietly away.
Their eyes once sang with joy,
Now they only remember sorrow.
How could we live with ourselves?
We sit and complain, and complain again,
Blind to our own abundance –
Rich in shelter
Rich in warmth,
Rich in nights where hunger never calls our
names.
So think of those who suffer.
Let your comfort turn to a prayer.



الله

The Soul

By Tayyibah Yousaf



**The Sudanese
Massacre April
2023**

**After being housed and
imprisoned for years,
With the permission of its
Creator,
It is finally released from its
chambers-
That final push from the heart,
Back to the One who formed it.
That longing held for years...
Now, the day of reunion is here.**



The Uprising Conflict In Sudan

15th April 2023 till 19th May 2023

Key Developments

Political events

17 April

The SAF designates the RSF as a rebel entity and orders its dissolution following the outbreak of fighting.

27 April

Five armed groups that are signatories to the Juba Peace Agreement deploy fighters in El Fasher to protect civilians.

29 April

Central Reserve Police is deployed in the capital to maintain security.

6 May

The SAF and RSF begin talks in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, to discuss humanitarian issues and a ceasefire.

8 May

Minni Minnawi-led faction of the SLM/A withdraws forces from Khartoum to North Darfur.

11 May

Warring factions sign the Jeddah Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians of Sudan.

Violent events

15 April

Intense fighting starts between the SAF and RSF.

24-27 April

Clashes between Masalit and RSF-linked Arab militias in El Geneina result in at least 90 reported fatalities.

7 May

Misseriya and Maaliya ethnic militias clash in Babanussa, West Kordofan. Dozens of casualties are reported.

7-9 May

At least 28 people are killed in tribal violence between the Hausa and Nuba tribes in Kosti, White Nile.

12 May

The SAF reportedly kills about 100 RSF soldiers and destroys 60 RSF military vehicles in Khartoum.

12-15 May

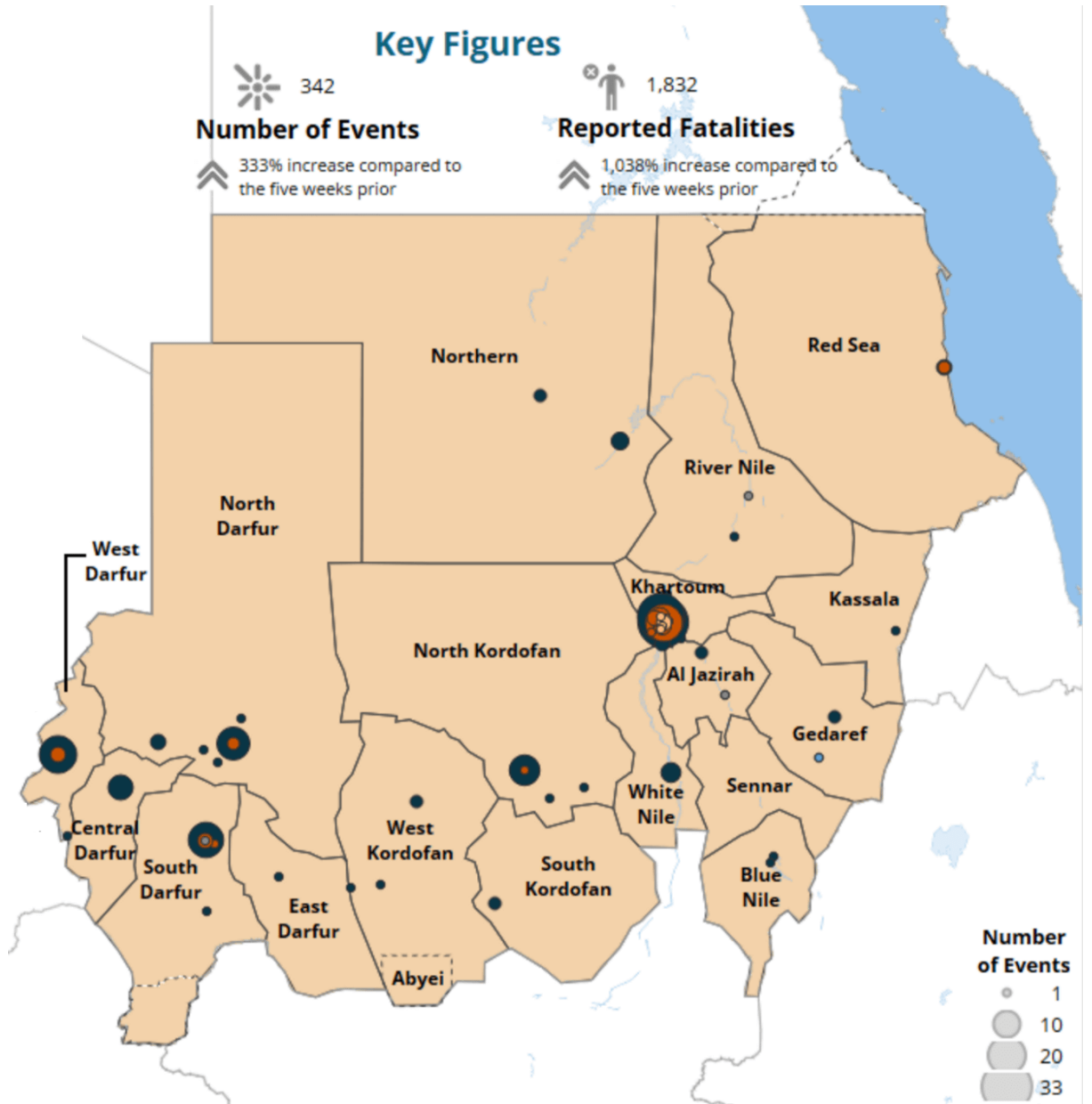
Fighting intensifies in El Geneina, resulting in at least 565 reported fatalities.

Event Type

- Protests
- Riots
- Explosions/Remote violence
- Violence against civilians
- Battles

The Uprising Conflict In Sudan

15th April 2023 till 19th May 2023



The Uprising Conflict In Sudan

20th May 2023 till 16th June 2023

Key Developments

Political events

- 20 May**
Saudi Arabia and the US broker a temporary ceasefire between the SAF and RSF.
- 24 May**
Tribes in Zalingei sign a peace agreement to prevent aggression and tribal fighting in the region.
- 25 May**
Rizeigat tribe facilitates a peace agreement between Habbaniya and Salamat tribes in South Darfur following clashes.
- 31 May**
The SAF suspends its participation in Jeddah talks, accusing the RSF of repeatedly violating the ceasefire.
- 6 June**
The African Union suspends the participation of Sudan in its activities.
- 9 June**
The SAF and RSF agree on a 24-hour truce to allow humanitarian aid.

Violent events

- 23 May**
The RSF, backed by Arab militia, ambush vehicles of SLM/A-Minnawi faction and JEM joint forces near Sirba, West Darfur.
- 26 May**
Dozens are killed in clashes between RSF-backed Arab militia and Masalit militia in El Geneina, West Darfur.
- 8 June**
The al-Hilu-led faction of the SPLM-N clashes with the SAF, taking over several army bases in South Kordofan.
- 12 June**
The RSF, backed by Arab militia, clash with the SAF in Kutum, North Darfur, resulting in hundreds of civilian casualties.
- 12-16 June**
Over 200 people are reportedly killed in clashes between the SAF and RSF in El Obeid, North Kordofan.
- 15 June**
RSF-backed militiamen attack Masalit tribespeople fleeing to Chad in West Darfur, reportedly killing and wounding hundreds.

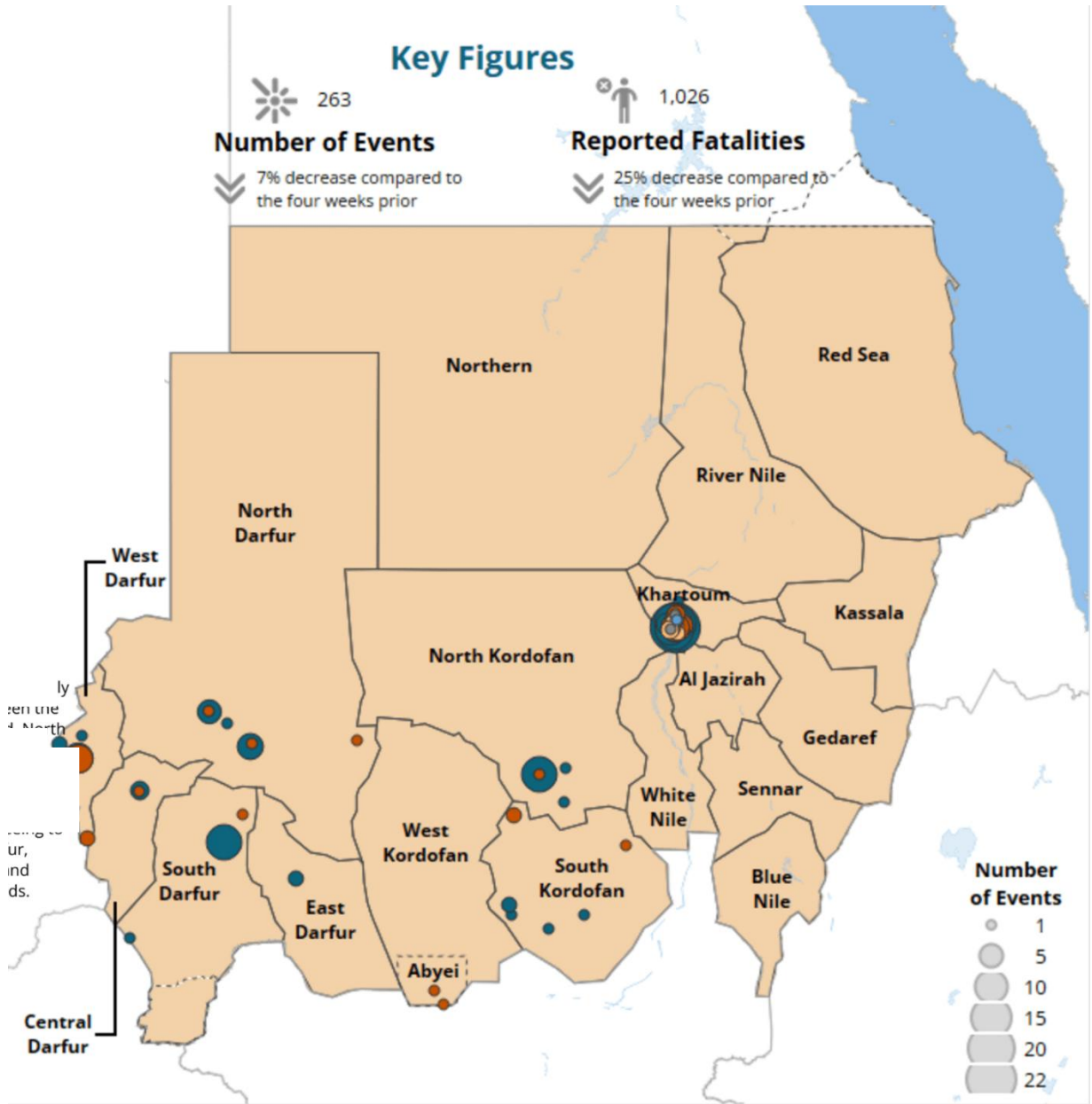
Event Type

- Protests
- Riots
- Explosions/Remote violence
- Violence against civilians
- Battles

Central Darfur

The Uprising Conflict In Sudan

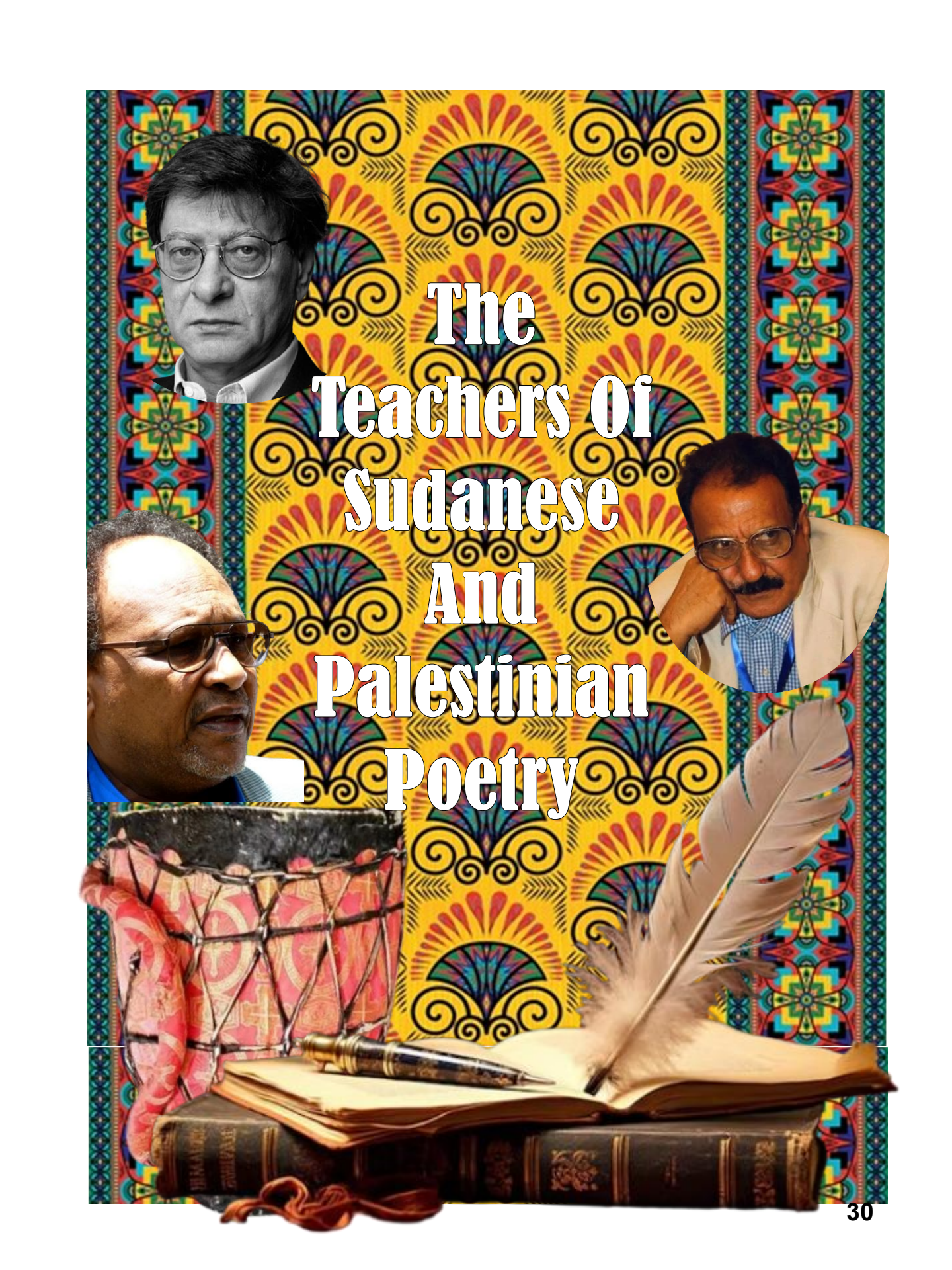
20th May 2023 till 16th June 2023



الذين آمنوا وتطمئن قلوبهم بذكر الله ألا بذكر الله تطمئن القلوب

“Those who believe and whose hearts find comfort in the remembrance of Allah. Surely in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find comfort.”

[Surah Al Raad (The Thunder) 13:28]

The image is a complex collage. At the top left is a portrait of a man with glasses and a dark jacket. At the top right is a portrait of a man with a mustache and glasses, wearing a light-colored suit. At the bottom left is a portrait of a man with glasses and a blue shirt. The background is a vibrant, repeating pattern of yellow, red, and blue geometric and floral motifs. In the foreground, there is a large, textured drum with a pink and red patterned cloth draped over it. To the right of the drum is a quill pen resting on an open book. Below the open book are several closed, dark-colored books. The title text is centered over the collage.

The Teachers Of Sudanese And Palestinian Poetry



Think Of Others

By Mahmoud Darwish

The Poem Translated By Mohammed Shaheen

Mahmoud Darwish (1941–2008) is a prolific and sophisticated author and poet in Palestinian literature. He was born in Al-Birwa village near Acre. From the age of six, his journey of displacement, oppression, and agony began when he had to flee and move to Lebanon upon the birth of the state of Israel in 1948. This early experience of exile would later profoundly influence his literary work.

Mahmoud wrote his first poem at 19, titled 'Wingless Birds'. Over a significant period, he wrote approximately 20 poetry collections and more than a dozen prose works. These works are characterized by deep technical mastery, drawing on both traditional and modern arts and serving a voice for the people of Palestine and the displaced globally.



As you prepare your breakfast, think of others,

(Do not forget the pigeon's food).

As you conduct your wars, think of others,

(Do not forget those who seek peace).

As you pay your water bill, think of others,

(Those who are nursed by clouds).

As you return home, to your home, think of others,

(Do not forget the people of the camps).

As you sleep and count the stars, think of others,

(Those who have nowhere to sleep).

As you liberate yourself in metaphor, think of others,

(Those who have lost the right to speak).

As you think of others far away, think of yourself.

(say: "If only I were a candle in the dark").



فكر بغيرك

وأنت تعدّ فطورك، فكر بغيرك

[لا تنس قوت الحمام]

وأنت تخوض حروبك، فكر بغيرك

[لا تنس من يطلبون السلام]

وأنت تسدّد فاتورة الماء، فكر بغيرك

[من يرضعون الغمام]

وأنت تعود إلى البيت، بيتك، فكر بغيرك

[لا تنس شعب الخيام]

وأنت تنام وتحصي الكواكب، فكر بغيرك

[ثمة من لم يجد حيزاً للنمام]

وأنت تحرّر نفسك بالاستعارات، فكر بغيرك

[من فقدوا حقهم في الكلام]

وأنت تفكر بالآخرين البعيدين، فكر بنفسك

[قل:

[ليبتني شمعة في الظلام]

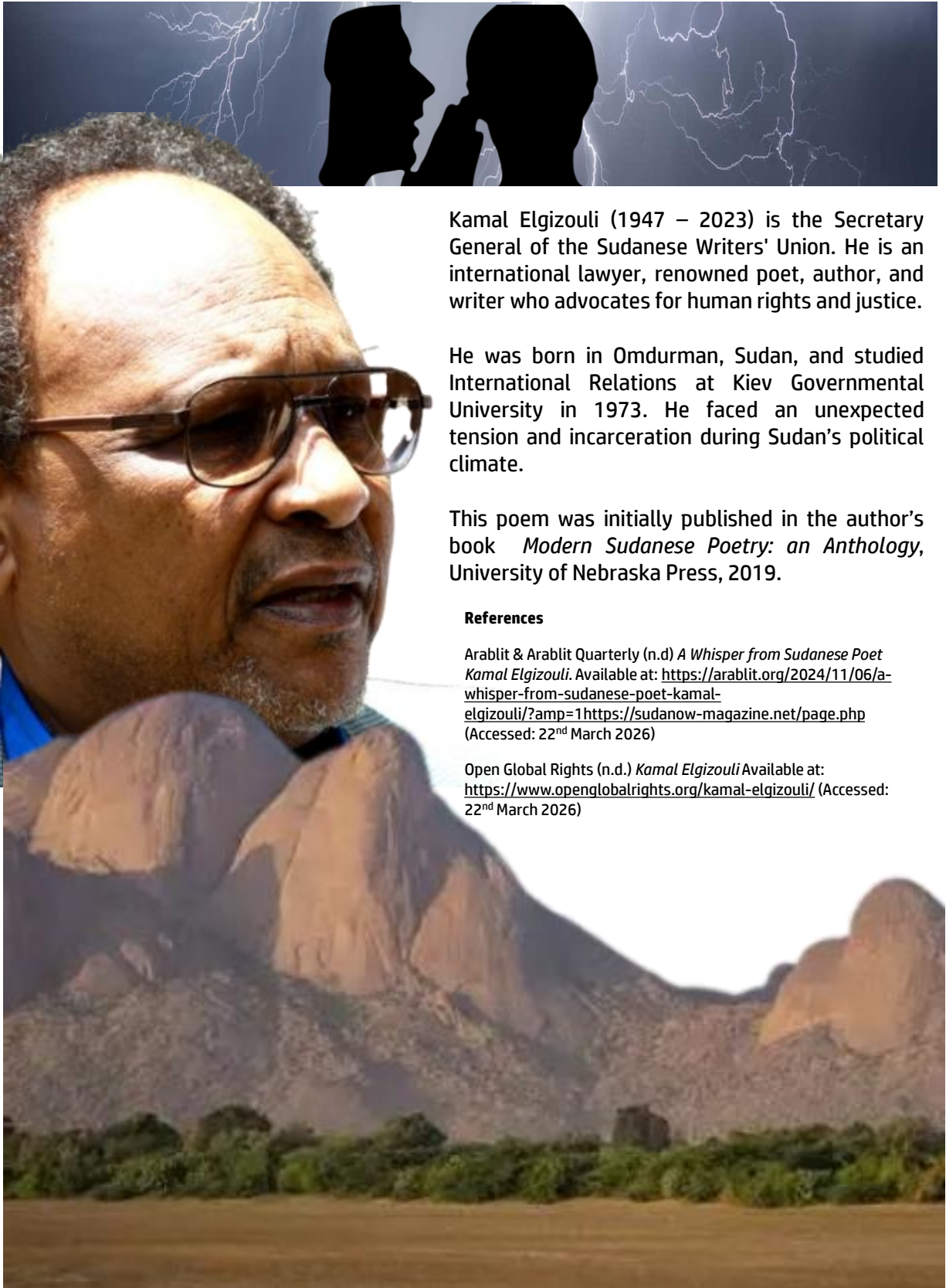




WHISPERS

By Kamal Elgizouli

Poem Translated by Adil Babakir



Kamal Elgizouli (1947 – 2023) is the Secretary General of the Sudanese Writers' Union. He is an international lawyer, renowned poet, author, and writer who advocates for human rights and justice.

He was born in Omdurman, Sudan, and studied International Relations at Kiev Governmental University in 1973. He faced an unexpected tension and incarceration during Sudan's political climate.

This poem was initially published in the author's book *Modern Sudanese Poetry: an Anthology*, University of Nebraska Press, 2019.

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Arablit & Arablit Quarterly (n.d.) *A Whisper from Sudanese Poet Kamal Elgizouli*. Available at: <https://arablit.org/2024/11/06/a-whisper-from-sudanese-poet-kamal-elgizouli/?amp=1><https://sudanow-magazine.net/page.php> (Accessed: 22nd March 2026)

Open Global Rights (n.d.) *Kamal Elgizouli* Available at: <https://www.openglobalrights.org/kamal-elgizouli/> (Accessed: 22nd March 2026)



It's not murder that I dread.

Not even a tragic end.

Nor this door being blown down outright,
or them storming in at midnight,
their naked guns in full sight.

No.

Not festering wounds, streams of blood,
or the wall dotted with fragments of my
skull.

What I fear the most, I have to say,
is fear per se:

that devious and elusive thing,
that in a twinkling

can sneak in,

whispering deluding excuses—temptingly
fancy,

while stealthily injecting weakness and
despondency





into the inner pores of my soul.
 That elegant, eye-catching thing
 luring me into watching its glaring blade.
 And once, for a second or two,
 I am dazzled by the glow,
 it slips in,
 splitting me into two:
 A half up there—in its illusionary world,
 dying twice.
 And a half down here,
 half dead.
 You are destined to die—and so are they.
 No one is exempt.
 So voice your rejection right here!
 Out there, your defiant voice will come out,
 pretty strong and vocal.
 Die here,
 to live there!



The Bewildered Vision

By Mohamed N.M. Ali
Translated by Fatima Elbadri

Mohamed N.M. Ali is a renowned Sudanese poet, journalist, and literary correspondent from Argo, Al-Shamaliya.

He has published many poetry collections and was awarded the Tayeb Salih International Award for his poetry collection *Songs of the Questions*.

He is currently displaced in Egypt and dedicates his latest collection, نداء السكون, *The Call of Stillness*, to

“all of Sudan, the people, its land, and to the souls of the martyrs and the lovers.”



Perplexed Dreams

I know that I am tired,
 and that my country is no longer my country.

It showcases me at the auction,
 for I am a poet and nothing else.

And what benefit are words for the country?

If I die, they will say about me: "he and he"
 and a rare photograph of me will be released.

And, after a short while,

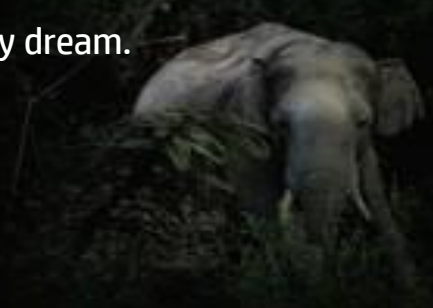
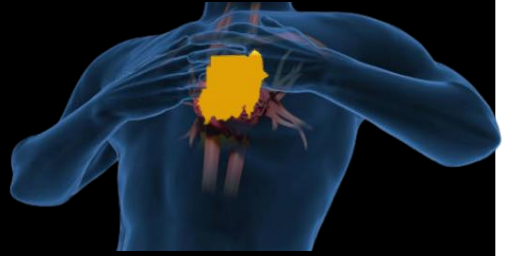
I will be forgotten and erased from the page of memory.

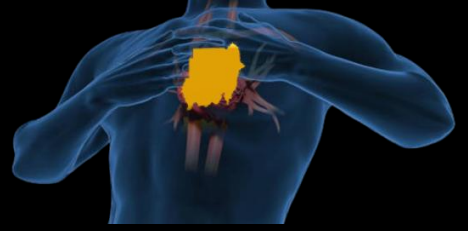
But, perhaps by chance, one day,
 my name will pass through a fleeting seminar,
 and they will say about me that I

was a weaver of language,
 that I was a friend of the bewildered vision.

They will say that they do not desire,
 nor illustrate,

in the way that they dream.





الرؤى الحائرة
أعرف أنني تعبت
وأن بلادي ليست بلادي
تعرضني في المزاد
فأنا شاعر ليس إلا
فماذا تفيد الحروف البلاد
إذا مت سوف يقال بأني وأني
وتنتشر لي صورة نادرة
وبعد قليل من الوقت
أنسى.. وأشطب من صفحة الذاكرة...
أو ربما صدفة ذات يوم
سيعبر إسمي في ندوة عابرة
ويقولون عني أنني
...كنت أسير اللغات
وكنت صديق الرؤى الحائرة
يقولون ما يشتهون
وما يرسمون
كما يحلمون



Wings

By Mohamed N.M. Ali
Translated by Fatima Elbadri





Leaving it, toward it.

Escaping from it, unto it.

The sorrow of night was in full bosom,

And my hand, broken.

The heart, blind.

And I search for myself.

In the wings of the soul.

In the doubts of certainty.

In the tremors of wildfires.

In the evening of oblivion, the hungry
one at the city market.





Behind a garment hung by the wind.

In the midst of rainfall.

Between two sorrows.

From wilderness and the dominion of
stone.

And the explosion of time in the fever
of place.



