Sudanese Diaspora Roundtable -UK

Strike
إضراب
Solidarity
تضامن

Resistance Committees call for "People's Authority" to overthrow coup regime

Massive protests are continuing across Sudan as part of the resistance by civilian revolutionary movements to the military coup which took place in October 2021. On 14 February 15 cities across Sudan participated in a renewed March of the Millions. In Khartoum, tens of thousands joined marches which headed towards the national parliament. A week later, another major mobilisation, 'Break the Chains' again saw thousands take to the streets demanding the release of political prisoners.

Khartoum's Resistance Committees, the neighbourhood-based revolutionary organisations which are leading the movement, issued a political charter on 28 February calling for the formation of a new 'People's Authority' opposed to the coup regime. The new body would unite revolutionary forces and exclude all those who took part in the October 2021 coup.

Meanwhile, members of the Resistance Committees in Northern State have maintained the barricade of the main highway running through the state, blocking lorries coming to and from Egypt, a major ally of Burhan's regime. The blockade was initially a response to a planned increase in electricity prices.

Intense repression

Members of the Sudanese Teachers' Committee (STC) report that "the political situation is still congested and blocked. Protesters are taking to the streets daily. There are 8 main demonstrations planned each month plus other local ones."

The military have intensified their crackdown according to the STC activists. "The previous intelligence system has been reactivated; their authority was limited in the last government, and they have been given full power. They are conducting mass arrests of activists.

They show up in large numbers, armed with war-like ammunition. They are practicing horrible torture, verbal aggression, and violence against the protesters and detainees. At least 200-300 were imprisoned and 2000 injured. Those

Barricades are still in place across major cities amid ongoing protests | Photo: via Facebook

arrested are kept in unknown locations and have no formal charges."

Sudan's military regime has arrested several leading members of the Empowerment Removal Committee, which was tasked with dismantling the structures of the former regime by the Transitional Government, including the body's chair. 'Empowerment' (tamkin in Arabic).

As of 17 February 110 people had been detained in Kober prison for three days. The director of the Sudanese Standards Organisation Sami Bella is believed to have been detained.

International pressure led to the release of Amira Osman, who had been detained for 15 days in Omdurman Women's Prison. Osman is now facing trumped up charges of possession of illegal ammunition.

More than 100 political prisoners, including leading ERC member Wajdi Saleh and former Minister of Cabinet Affairs Khalid Omer Yousif, have begun a hunger strike. Two more protestors, Munther Abdelrahim (18) and Muhammad Ibrahim el Nakhli (17) were shot and killed by the security forces during protests.

Economic crisis

The political crisis has been accompanied by rising social distress, Sudanese Teachers Committee activists

say. "All the government offices are closed due to roadblocks. The political and economic situation is deteriorating. There are massive increases in the cost of living and cooking gas."

Take action

- **Sign the Sudan Solidarity Declaration - endorsed by the 200-strong Sudan Solidarity Emergency conference on 6 December tinyurl.com/sudansolidaritydeclaration**

- **Send a message of protest to Foreign Secretary Liz Truss calling on the British government to reject any participation by the military in Sudan's future government and to hold the coup leaders accountable for their crimes.**

- **Pass a resolution in your union branch in solidarity with the Sudanese uprising**

- **Invite a Sudanese activist to address your union branch meeting - email action@menasolidaritynetwork.net to put a request**

www.menasolidaritynetwork.com

for news, updates and campaign resources. Twitter: @MENAsolidarity