

Mr. Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs  
House of Commons  
Parliament Hill  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Minister Cannon,

I am writing to you today about your unfathomable April 3rd, 2009 decision in the case of **Abousfian Abdelrazik**, a Canadian citizen who is stuck in Sudan because your government refuses to issue travel documents to allow him to come home.

Let me remind you of the details of this case:

- **Mr. Abdelrazik** is a Canadian citizen of Sudanese origin, who has been anonymously accused of ties to al Qaeda and been put on a UN “no-fly” list. He has never has a chance to defend himself from these accusations.
- He was arrested in 2003 (apparently at the request of CSIS, Canada’s intelligence agency) when visiting his mother in Sudan, and spent a total of close to two years in prison where he was interrogated and tortured. He was ultimately released by the Sudanese authorities, who concluded he was an innocent man.
- Since then, the RCMP and CSIS have also cleared him of any involvement in terrorism or crime.
- **Mr. Abdelrazik** has never been convicted of any crime, in fact he has never even been charged with anything - and there are no arrest warrants pending against him from any government.
- Amnesty International is calling for his immediate return to Canada. In a letter to you the heads of Amnesty Canada wrote the following: "*Minister Cannon, with each passing day the injustice of this case deepens.. Amnesty International calls on the Canadian government to ensure **Mr. Abdelrazik's** return to Canada with no further delay.*"

As a Minister of the Crown, you have a duty to respect the rights of Canadians under our country’s Charter of Rights and Freedoms. You and your government have failed to do that, in particular I would like to remind you of Section 6.1 of the Charter of Rights:

*6. (1) Every citizen of Canada has the right to enter, remain in and leave Canada.*

**Mr. Abdelrazik** has the right to enter Canada, and you have the obligation to respect that right.

Your government indicated that it would respect that right, when it stated that Mr. Abdelrazik would be issued an emergency passport “*upon his submission of a confirmed and paid travel itinerary*” -

**Mr. Abdelrazik** met that condition, and now your government has gone back on its word.

I am writing to let you know that I consider your actions to date in this matter unacceptable, and that **Mr. Abdelrazik** should immediately be allowed to return home to Canada to be reunited with his family and friends. He has a Charter right to do so, and you have no right to stand in his way.

Yours sincerely,

(signature) \_\_\_\_\_

(name) \_\_\_\_\_

(address) \_\_\_\_\_

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