

## Man in limbo takes refuge at Canadian embassy

---

**Section:** Canada/World

**Outlet:** The Hamilton Spectator

**Title:** Man in limbo takes refuge at Canadian embassy

**Page:** A13

**Date:** 2008-04-30

**Source:** The Canadian Press

OTTAWA

---

A man stranded in Sudan took refuge in the Canadian Embassy in Khartoum while seeking a resolution to his five-year ordeal.

A lawyer for Sudanese-Canadian Abousfian Abdelrazik says his client has been allowed to stay at the embassy and plans to remain there until he gets answers from Ottawa.

Lawyer Yavar Hameed is accusing the federal government of duplicity and disinformation, with a mounting trail of evidence suggesting it has been blocking efforts to bring his client home.

Abdelrazik went to visit his ailing mother in 2003 and was caught in legal limbo after accusations he has terrorist ties. However, no criminal charges have been filed against the former Montrealer.

He suffers from asthma, heart problems, and an ulcer, and is living on a \$100 monthly loan from the Canadian government.

Abdelrazik's former wife has demanded that Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier deal with his case.

"He is not a terrorist. He is a Muslim. He is a practising Muslim but a peaceful Muslim," Myriam St-Hilaire said yesterday. "He is a Canadian citizen and he has rights and I'm just asking the government to take in consideration this fact."

Hameed said his client's only contact with Bernier's office has seemed more like an inquisition than consular assistance.

Bernier's office said it was reviewing the case, but added that Abdelrazik remains a terrorism suspect.

"We continue to provide Abdelrazik with consular assistance. Services include medical and financial assistance, facilitating communications with family and lawyers, as well as providing 'temporary safe haven' at our embassy in Khartoum," the statement said.

"Abdelrazik is unable to return to Canada of his own accord because he is currently on the United Nations list of terrorism suspects alleged to be affiliated with al-Qaeda, the Taliban, or Osama bin Laden."