

PETITION TO THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

We, the undersigned, citizens and residents of Canada, draw the attention of the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the following:

THAT Abousfian Abdelrazik is a Montreal resident and a citizen of Canada who has children in Canada;

THAT documents released under the Privacy Act indicate that, while on a visit to Sudan, Mr. Abdelrazik was arrested on the request of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS);

THAT Mr. Abdelrazik was imprisoned without charge, beaten and tortured in prison in Sudan;

THAT Canadian officials interrogated Mr. Abdelrazik while he was in prison in Sudan, rather than providing him with access to consular services, legal counsel and proper medical care;

THAT, after his release from prison, Mr. Abdelrazik has tried on numerous occasions to return to Canada, but, each time, has been prevented from doing so;

THAT Mr. Abdelrazik's name was placed on UN list 1267 without explanation and by unknown authorities;

THAT CSIS and RCMP have stated that they have nothing against Mr. Abdelrazik and the government of Canada has said that it has requested that he be removed from UN list 1267;

THAT Mr. Abdelrazik has been living in temporary safe haven in the Canadian embassy in Khartoum since April 2008, when he went public with his story;

THAT Passport Canada stated in December 2008 that it would "issue an emergency passport to Mr. Abdelrazik, upon submission of a confirmed and paid travel itinerary to the Consular Section of the Canadian Embassy."

THAT a confirmed and paid travel itinerary was submitted to the Consular Section of the Canadian Embassy in Khartoum on 15 March 2009;

THAT the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom states that "Every citizen of Canada has the right to enter, remain in and leave Canada" (section 6);

THAT the UN travel ban does not apply in cases of repatriation;

THAT Mr. Abdelrazik's health is extremely fragile and requires immediate medical attention in Canada; and

THAT, in no circumstances does "national security" constitute legal grounds for preventing a citizen in distress from returning to Canada.

THEREFORE, your petitioners call upon the Minister of Foreign Affairs to immediately bring Abousfian Abdelrazik back to Canada by any safe means at his disposal.

NAME (PRINT)	CITY

Send signed copies to 207 Bank St., suite 131, Ottawa K2P 2N2 by 1 May 2009

