



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT FOR PROGRESS ORGANIZATION (CEPO)

Date 25th March 2023

Press Statement

CEPO CALLS FOR RELEASE TWO DETAINED CIVILIANS IN LAKES STATE

The Community Empowerment for Progress Organization (CEPO) urges the Lord Mayor of Rumbek Municipality unconditionally release the two civilians without preconditions. The Mayor authorized armed men from joint Security Forces to arbitrary detained two civilians in Lakes State.

The arbitrary detention of the two civilians came as a result of State government demolition exercise of the houses that were built on the Land of Rumbek Secondary School. The demolition exercise started on Sunday morning in Lakes State; the Mayor ordered the detention of Matim Mangar and Mangar Gor which are accused of physical assault.

CEPO calls for immediate and unconditional release of two civilians that have been in detention for five days without investigation. This arbitrary detention is now beyond twenty four given hours by the law; I urge the state leadership to immediately secure the release of civilians or take them to court because you can't continue to hold aggrieved civilians after government actions of demolition.

The State government needs to sit down with effected people, allocate them land to resettled in and address other grievances connected to their lost with care and in administrative manner. The Transitional Constitution of South Sudan article 34 (3) stipulates that "No one shall be evicted from his or her lawfully acquired home or have his or her home demolished save in accordance with the law.

Signed;

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