



Human Rights Alert

Landmine Explosion Kills 10 Civilians in South Kordofan

18 February 2026

On 12 February 2026, a landmine detonated on a civilian road in the Sanadra area, Al-Abbasiya Tagali locality, South Kordofan State, killing 10 civilians, including six children. The victims were returning from the weekly Thursday market when their vehicle struck an explosive device. The incident occurred in an area under the control of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement–North (SPLM-N). The continued presence of landmines and unexploded ordnance in civilian zones poses a grave and persistent threat to civilian life, freedom of movement, and access to essential services.

Most of the deceased belonged to a single extended family. The victims include elderly persons, women, and multiple children. The youngest were 5 years old.

List of Victims:-

No.	Name	Age
1	Yahya AL Wazir Yahya	65 years
2	Ahmed Musa Al-Bashair	32 years
3	Ajayib Musa Al-Bashair	22 years
4	Asha Ali Idris	37 years
5	Zahra Mohamed Ali	12 years
6	Al-Yagin Suliman Adam	16 years
7	Abdel Azim Gasim Musa Al-Bashir	7 years
8	Montasir Gasim Musa Al-Bashair	5 years
9	Layla Gasim Musa Al-Bashair	5 years
10	Mahadia Suliman Adam	6 years

They are internally displaced persons from Nimir Mountain who have relocated to Al Sinadra along with their livestock.

This incident raises serious concerns under: -

- International Humanitarian Law (IHL), which prohibits the use of landmines in civilian areas.

- The Ottawa Treaty (Mine Ban Treaty), which bans anti-personnel mines and obligates parties to clear contaminated areas and protect civilians.
- The right to life, as guaranteed under international human rights law.
- Obligations to protect civilians in armed conflict, including ensuring safe access to markets, farms, schools, and health facilities.

Immediate Risks

- Landmines continue to endanger surrounding villages.
- Civilians cannot safely access markets, agricultural land, schools, or health services.
- The absence of mine-clearance operations increases the likelihood of further casualties.

Urgent Calls to Action

Human rights and humanitarian actors should urgently: -

- 1. Investigate the incident and determine responsibility for the deployment of landmines in civilian areas.**
- 2. Demand immediate clearance of landmines and unexploded ordnance along the Al-Abbasiya – Sanadra corridor.**
- 3. Ensure accountability for violations of IHL and international human rights norms.**
- 4. Provide emergency support to affected families, including psychosocial assistance and protection services.**
- 5. Call on all warring parties in Sudan to cease the use of landmines and comply with international obligations.**

In January 2026, another landmine explosion occurred on the Umbarmbita – Khor Al-Dilib road in Abu Karshola locality, eastern South Kordofan, killing two women on their way to Tandig market. This pattern reflects a growing and deeply alarming threat to civilians across the region.

The deaths of these ten civilians highlight the urgent need for mine-action interventions and stronger protection of civilians in South Kordofan. Without immediate action, more lives remain at risk.

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