SKBNCU Flash update #14 – 19th May 2016 Bombing of Kauda on 17th May 16 bombs dropped on high density civilian population

The CU monitoring team has confirmed that 16 bombs were dropped on Kauda town on Tuesday. Some of the bombs landed in the Kauda market, three injured civilians were rushed to the Gidel hospital. Reports from the National Human Rights Monitoring Organisation confirmed this and added that two goats, one pig and one sheep were killed as a result of the bombing. Casualties may have been more severe if it weren't for local knowledge and protection measures taken including the preparation of foxholes for civilians in public places such as the markets and schools. The attack comes during continued intense frontline fighting in the Al Azraq area of Heiban County. Aerial bombing in Heiban town itself two weeks earlier on 1st May 2016 killed 6 children, an incident referred to as a "Massacre1" in the national press.

The CU and its partners are concerned about the apparent targeting of civilian locations 40 km away from the front lines. The CU urges the international community to increase pressure on both sides of the conflict to ensure protection of civilians, especially children in the conflict.

¹ http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article58952