

**Refugee Review Tribunal
AUSTRALIA**

MRT RESEARCH RESPONSE

Research Response Number: SDN34900
Country: Sudan
Date: 22 May 2009

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Questions

- 1. What is the effect of customary adoption in Sudan?**
- 2. Does this carry some official status that would give rise to classifying the adopted sibling as legally recognised sibling of the adopting father's children?**

RESPONSE

- 1. What is the effect of customary adoption in Sudan?**
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On 14 May 2009 a request was sent to DFAT regarding the above questions (MRT Research & Information 2009, Email to DFAT: 'MRT Country Information Request – SDN34900', 14 May – Attachment 1). In response, DFAT replied as follows:

What is the effect of customary adoption in Sudan?

There is no recognised legal adoption in any Islamic country as it is against Sharia Law. While customary adoption is generally accepted in countries like Sudan because of civil war, displacement, killings, disappearances, etc, it does not have any legal standing. Because of this, adoptions from most Islamic countries, such as Sudan, are not recognised by Australia.

Does this carry some official status that would give rise to classifying the adopted sibling as legally recognised sibling of the adopting father's children?

As there is no legally recognised adoption in Sudan (outlined in above), an adopted sibling would not be the legally recognised sibling of the adopting father's children. (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 2009, *DFAT Report 1005 - Sudan: MRT Information Request: SDN34900*, 22 May – Attachment 2).

List of Attachments

1. MRT Research & Information 2009, Email to DFAT: 'MRT Country Information Request – SDN34900', 14 May.
2. Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 2009, *DFAT Report 1005 - Sudan: MRT Information Request: SDN34900*, 22 May.