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## Bashir pardons Sudan security agents over coup, media says



President Omar al-Bashir has pardoned six members of Sudan's powerful security service just days after they were jailed over a coup attempt last year, state-linked media said on Tuesday.

Several army officers convicted this month for the same plot have also been released under a presidential pardon.

The National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) members received similar treatment "according to a request of amnesty they presented to the presidency," said the Sudanese Media Center, which is close to the security apparatus.

Analysts say the case reflects a political struggle within the 24-year government of Bashir, who himself took power in a coup.

Officials have never revealed more than vague details about the plot that analysts said was linked to hardcore Islamist officers who had once firmly backed the regime.

NISS said in a statement last Thursday that a special court convicted the security agents for various prison terms up to eight years.

They had "participated in the plot" last November, it said.