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Nouakchott: Tensions surrounding the return of Biram Dah Abeid

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Nouakchott: Tensions surrounding the return of Biram Dah Abeid

By: Grand Thiam | 📅 Monday, September 15, 2025

Abolitionist Movement (IRA) and the Anti-System Coalition (CAS), Mr. Biram Dah Abeid, gave rise to tensions in the capital on Monday, September 15, after the dispersal of a popular rally organized by his supporters.

Law enforcement officers interrupted the planned reception at the Big Market intersection, citing the lack of official authorization. Police dispersed the crowd and seized the broadcasting equipment of Alakhbar, an independent media outlet, whose journalist was briefly arrested while covering the event.

As a sign of protest, MP Biram Dah Abeid, accompanied by his wife, began a march from Oumtounsy Airport to his home. This symbolic move comes at the end of a long stay in Europe, marked by a series of virulent stances against the Mauritanian regime.

Harsh criticism of the government from Brussels

During his stay in Brussels, in front of the European Union headquarters, the abolitionist leader denounced what he described as serious abuses by the Mauritanian government. In a notable statement, he accused the authorities of systematically repressing peaceful protests and covering up police violence that has gone unpunished, citing the cases of Mohamed Lemine Ould Samba, Oumar Diop, and Soufi Ould Chein, who died in detention, as well as the murder of young protesters in Kaédi in 2024, following the presidential election of June 29 of that year.

Biram Dah Abeid also blamed corruption and the misappropriation of public resources, which he believes are responsible for the deterioration of basic social services, particularly education and health. He directly pointed to the General Delegation for National Solidarity

structure that has escaped any audit since its creation.

The CAS leader also denounced increasing restrictions on individual and collective freedoms, as well as persistent discrimination against Haratine and Black African officials, accusing the government of fueling ethnic divisions and marginalizing the opposition.

This latest incident in Nouakchott highlights the ongoing tensions between the government and the radical opposition, represented by Biram Dah Abeid. The dispersal of the rally and the arrest of the Alakhbar journalist also raise new concerns about press freedom and the right to peaceful protest in Mauritania.

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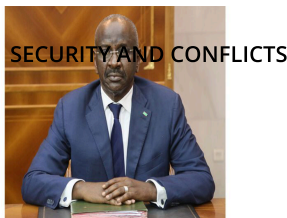
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