

SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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Abyei agreement reactions

In general, Sudan opposition parties' reactions "were positive" toward the agreement on Abyei signed between the National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). Ibrahim Nogod of the Sudan Communist Party (SCP) "expressed hope" that the agreement "can put an end to the conflict between the two partners" and "solve the Abyei crisis." Ali Mahmoud Hassanain, from the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), expressed "comfort" and said that the DUP "welcomes the agreement" and "looks at it as a useful tool to end the conflict which has resulted in the loss of many innocent lives." Mahmoud continued that the "commitment of the two partners is the key to its success." Commenting on the agreement, Al-Umma Party member Adeel Bakri said his party "wishes no delays in the agreement implementation" and "expressed some reservations on the idea of international arbitration," saying that it would "take the agreement out of the national frame." Critics of the agreement said it overlooked important issues, the most important among them being the compensation of Messyria and Dinka and the "exclusion of other political powers." (Akhbar Al-Yom, Al-Intibaha, Ajrass Al Hurria)

MFA denies accusations against Libya

Yesterday, Sudan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs notified the Libyan Chargé d'Affaires in Khartoum that press reports accusing Libya of supporting the Justice and Equality Movement attacks on Omdurman May 10 do not reflect the official position of the government. Ali Al-Sadiq, the spokesperson of the Ministry, told reporters that "Sudan does not accuse Libya of involvement in the rebel attack." Sadiq asserted that Sudan "valued Libya's efforts to resolve the Darfur crisis." Libya has "denied any involvement" as its Chargé

d'Affaires stated after he met with "high-level Sudanese MFA officials." (Al Sahafa, Rayy Al-Shaab, Akher Lahza, Akhbar Al-Yom et al)

Darfurian movements sign alliance agreement

Yesterday, five Darfurian movements announced their alliance, signing a charter that will "enhance the important portfolios of the Abuja agreement and the continuation of the negotiations with the non-signatory movements." The five movements are all signatories of Abuja Peace Agreement: the Sudan Liberation Army (Peace Division), the Sudan Liberation Army Movement (Free Will), Sudan Liberation Army Movement (Original Movement), Justice and Equality Movement (Peace Division), and the Popular Power for Democratic Rights Movement. (Al Khartoum, Raay Al-Shaab, Khartoum Monotor, Al-Intibaha)

University students boycotting exams

Students of Khartoum University's School of Engineering are sitting in for the third day in a row, boycotting their final tests to express their objection to the university's decision to deprive 11 of their classmates the right to take their exams because they were unable to pay tuition. Students at the University of Nileen's School of Agriculture, Technology, and Marine Life have boycotted their exams for the same reason. Students associations at the two universities asked their administrations to allow their classmates to attend the exams, but the universities declined. (*Akhbar Al-Yom*)

The Sudan Morning News is compiled as a service of the Public Affairs Section at the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum, Sudan. It presents a partial survey of the current Sudanese press and international reporting about Sudan. This summary does not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government.