



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS

## Nashrat Al-Sabah



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### US-Sudan Dialogue

Local newspapers are interpreting in different ways US official statements on resuming the talks between the US and Sudan about normalizing the relations between the two sides. One of the papers highlighted “improving the situation in Abyei as a precondition to resume the dialogue.” Another publication highlighted a statement by Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Jendayi Frazer saying that it is unlikely that talks about normalizing the relations with the United States would resume before the U.S. elections in November. (*Al-Ayyam, Al-Wifaq, Akher Lahza*)

### Electoral law in the Sudanese parliament

The Sudanese Parliament passed in its session yesterday the general features of the electoral law. The session was calm in general after an emotional statement by the Minister of Justice Abdel Baset Spedrat in which he assured the parliament members and swore that no manipulation or amendments were done to the draft by his ministry. For his part, the spokesperson of the National Democratic Alliance, Farouq Abu Aissa, affirmed that his group will do its best to cooperate with the leadership of the parliament to pass the law despite the short time available for consultation. (*Akhbar Al-Yom, Al-Sahafa, Al-Sharia Al-Siasi et al*)

### Bashir is ready to meet Deby

Sudanese President Omar Hassan El Bashir announced in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt that he is ready to meet Chadian President Idris Deby, adding that there is a chance for mediation between Sudan and Chad. Bashir hinted that the Egyptian president will probably be the mediator. (*Al-Intibaha, Al-Sahafa*)

### Pagan new public statement

SPLM Secretary General Pagan Amum said yesterday in a public meeting that “Sudan should become a secular state, not an Arab or Islamic state.” Pagan’s statement came at a symposium on “The Roadmap to Peace and Unity” organized by the Salaam Sudan Foundation. Some local newspapers described Pagan’s statement as an obvious challenge to the nation’s will. Pagan described Sudan as a “failed” state, a charge he had made earlier. (*Al Intibaha, Rai Al-Shaab*)

### Gulf investments in agriculture projects

Ali Karti, the State Minister in the Sudanese Foreign Ministry, announced in Doha yesterday that Sudan and Qatar had agreed to establish a new Qatari company to invest in the agriculture sector in Sudan. The announcement came during an official visit to Qatar by a Sudanese delegation headed by the Vice President Ali Osman Taha. Meanwhile, the United Arab Emirates announced it intends to develop 30,000 hectares in Sudan as a first step to insure food security.” (*Al-Wahda, Al-Rai Al-Aam*)

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.