



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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President Al-Bashir addresses UN summit

Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir addressed the UN Summit on Financing, held in Doha last Saturday. Al-Bashir lauded Qatari and African Union efforts to realize peace in Darfur. Al-Bashir also called for an effective and unconditional mechanism for cancellation of poor countries' external debt. Al-Bashir further called for the mobilization of foreign resources for development, pointing out that it "is impossible to realize the millennium development goals without an economic development strategy." (*Sudan News Agency*)

Sarkozy urges Al-Bashir to change Darfur policy

French President Nicolas Sarkozy met privately with his Sudanese counterpart Al-Bashir on the sidelines of the UN summit in Doha. Sarkozy urged Al-Bashir to step up efforts to end the conflict in Darfur saying that the "tragedy has been going on for too long." "France wants the Sudanese authorities to radically change their policies," said Sarkozy. He indicated that there is no reason to invoke Article 16 (deferral of International Criminal Court [ICC] indictment against Al-Bashir) "unless there is radical and immediate change in Sudanese policies." (*Rai-Al-Shaab, Al-Ayam, Al-Wifaq, et al*)

Sudanese activist charged with espionage

Osman Humaida, who had been arrested and detained in prison along with two other activists on November 25, was released two days later [source: Sudantribune.com]. Amnesty International issued a press release stating that Humaida is expected to face trial in the coming days on charges of spying for the ICC and supplying it with documents. The

charges against Humaida, a British citizen, will include sabotage against the government and espionage for the ICC. If convicted, the activist may face the death penalty. Humaida is one of the founders of nongovernmental organization Sudanese Organization Against Torture (SOAT). Human Rights Watch (HRW) accused Khartoum of stepping up harassment of human right activists and NGOs following the May 10 Darfur rebel attack on Omdurman last May and the possible ICC indictment of President Al-Bashir. (*Sudantribune.com*)

JEM commander defects to SLM

According to an article published in the *Khartoum Monitor*, a Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) commander defected from JEM to join the Sudanese Liberation Movement (SLM)/Minnawi faction. The announcement was made by Mini Arco Minnawi during a press conference yesterday, where the JEM commander pledged his support to the peace process in Darfur.

Communist Party addresses people in Juba

Mohammed Ibrahim Nugud, Secretary General of the Communist Party, met with political parties in Juba to discuss the goals of the Communist Party and the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. (*Radio MirayaFM*)

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