



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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## Government denies human right accusations

The Sudanese Government of National Unity (GONU) has denied accusations published in a report by 15 human rights groups that the government is “working hard to convince the international community that it wants peace in Darfur in an attempt to pressure the Security Council to suspend a possible ICC indictment against President Al Bashir.” The report also accused the government of making “empty peace promises” and “launching continuous attacks on civilians in Darfur.” Sudan's ambassador to the UN, Abdel Mahmood Abdel Halim, rejected the claims, saying “the organizations are provoking war and that their aim is to sabotage peace in Sudan.” (*Al-Intibaha, Ajras-Al-Hurria, Al-Khartoum*)

## Similar viewpoints on Darfur Peace Initiative

Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) spokesperson Ahmed Hussein asserted that both the JEM delegation in Qatar and the Mediation Committee headed by the Qatari Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Ahmad Bin Abdullah Al-Mahmoud, had “similar viewpoints” with regard to the Darfur Peace Initiative. Hussein declined to give further details but stated that other meetings will be held in the near future to determine the movement's stance on the Darfur peace negotiations in Qatar. (*Al-Watan*)

## Taha calls for ending tribal conflict and sedition

Ali Osman Mohammed Taha, the Sudanese Vice President, has called for “ending sedition and tribal conflict in the various regions of Sudan” in order to improve “the Sudanese political image.” Taha was addressing the inauguration of the Malik Agar Cultural and Social Center in the Blue Nile State. (*Sudanese Media Center*)

## Sudanese government slams SLM's statements

The Sudanese government dismissed statements made by Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) leader Abdel Wahid Nur who said he would “not succumb to pressure by the international community to join in future peace talks regarding the Darfur issue.” A spokesperson from the Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs described Nur's stance as “typical behavior,” further adding that the SLM leader has adopted his “stubborn” stance without offering “any alternative solution to prove he is eager for peace.” (*Sudan Vision*)

## NCP, SPLM agree over Press Act

The two coalition parties, the National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), agreed on the Press Act, which confers rights to the National Press Council to monitor press publications, provided that its members are elected out of journalists and publishers. (*The Citizen*)

## Election Commission faces budget constraints

The Electoral Commission had a meeting yesterday to address the future tasks ahead of the Commission, such as the formulation of voting regulations, electoral lists, and funding issues. It is believed that Sudan must seek funding for the elections from international organizations such as the United Nations. (*Khartoum Monitor*)

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