



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Al-Bashir meets Ban Ki-moon in Addis Ababa

Sudanese President Al-Bashir met with the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in a closed session held on the sidelines of the African Union summit in Addis Ababa. Also present at the meeting was presidential advisor Nafie Ali Nafie. (*Sudan News Agency, Al-Watan, Al-Ayam*)

AU criticizes ICC's "double standard"

Jean Ping, the Chairperson for the African Union (AU) Commission, has said he is "surprised that the International Criminal Court (ICC) would make unfounded allegations against African leaders while it turns a blind eye to the massacres being committed in Gaza, Iraq, and Afghanistan." Ping spoke at a press conference following the deliberations of AU ministers. He also said that "the ICC is not committed to the principle of justice and has adopted double standards by politicizing the rule of law." (*Sudan News Agency, Al-Watan*)

Sudan asks peacekeepers to leave Muhajiriya

Yesterday, according to a UNAMID spokesperson, the Sudanese government requested joint UNAMID hybrid forces to withdraw from the town of Muhajiriya. UNAMID said it was "trying to convince Sudan to allow the troops to stay" in the town in order to protect the 30,000 civilians located in the area. (*Al-Watan, Al-Wifaq*)

NCP considers SPLM separation a threat

The National Congress Party (NCP) "slammed" a recent remark made by Pagun Amum, Secretary-General of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), where he claimed that "the SPLM is closer to separation than unity." NCP senior

officials said that they perceived Amum's comment as a "form of extortion on decision-makers in the government to secure additional political gains." The NCP officials further stated that the Comprehensive Peace Agreement "does not set the groundwork for separation, nor does it encourage secession, but rather is a tool for extinguishing a civil war that persisted for over two decades." (*Sudan Vision*)

Sudan's budget "no longer dependent on oil"

The Federal State Minister of Finance and National Economy, Awad Ahmed Al-Jaz, has stated that Sudan will "no longer base its national budget on its oil revenues" as a result of declining oil prices. He also said that "other options will have to be considered to push Sudan's economy forward." Al-Jaz called on the Government of Southern Sudan to encourage more production in the non-oil sector. (*Al-Watan, Sudanese Media Centre*)

Editorial: "census results fake"

An editorial in today's *The Citizen* by Bol Makueng stated that the results of the recently conducted national population census "are fake and must be rejected right away." Makueng claims that there were "many irregularities in the questionnaires" and that "vital information was either eliminated or ignored during the survey." He concluded his editorial by stating that "the census results will not contain a grain of truth because it is has been manufactured with the fiddle Sudanese mentality."

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.