



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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February 23, 2009

President Al-Bashir returns from Cairo

Yesterday, Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir returned from his one-day visit to Egypt where he met with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The Sudanese State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ali Karti, stated that Al-Bashir and Mubarak “discussed a number of issues of mutual importance, including the Darfur peace process and the International Criminal Court issue.” He added that Egypt lauded Sudan’s efforts for achieving peace in Darfur. (*Al-Ayam, Sudan Vision, et al*)

GoS hopeful for normalization of ties with Chad

The Government of Sudan (GoS) has expressed hope that efforts being exerted by Qatar and Libya toward the normalization of relations between Sudan and Chad will succeed. Ali Sadig, Spokesperson for the Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, told reporters that he was “convinced of the effective role that might be played by Libyan leader Moammar Al-Ghaddafi” in normalizing relations, since “he is the patron of peace in the Sahel and Sahara community.” (*Sudan News Agency*)

Meeting to implement Dakar Agreement

A ministerial meeting on the implementation of the Dakar agreement for normalization of ties between Sudan and Chad will be held in Khartoum next Saturday. MFA Spokesperson Ali Al-Sadiq told reporters that the meeting “will formalize a security agreement for the deployment of patrol forces that will protect the Sudanese-Chadian border.” (*Al-Ayam, Sudan News Agency*)

Red Cross denies receiving detainees

The International Committee of the Red Cross has denied recent media reports that it received the “18+ detainees” from the Justice and Equality Movement. The organization said that although it had not received any prisoners, it is “ready to help if approached by the parties involved in the Darfur conflict.” (*Sudan Vision*)

Pope “calls for peace in Darfur”

Pope Benedict XVI has “urged the British government to play a positive role towards peace in Sudan.” The Pope “hailed the goodwill declaration signed between the Sudanese government and JEM,” stating the concerned parties should “push the agreement further.” He also said that the “international community should concentrate on peace in Sudan instead of... the ICC...” Concluded the Pope, “we should give priority to peace efforts first, then look for the administering of justice.” (*Sudan Vision*)

Editorial from the *Khartoum Monitor*’s Editor

Alfred Taban published an Op-Ed today contesting that “a critical stage in the development of Sudan is just around the corner.” Continued Taban, “this is the phase during which the general elections are due to be held. In northern Sudan, polls have already been won by the ruling National Congress Party, which has complete control they have over the economy, the political system, the media, the army, and even what we eat - I cannot see how they can lose the election in the north.”

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.