



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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## **Al-Bashir addresses forum in Khartoum**

Speaking at the Forum of Eastern Sudan in Khartoum yesterday, Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir reiterated the government's determination to achieve peace and stability throughout Sudan. Al-Bashir pointed out that the "conflict in Darfur was created by Western circles which were out to create instability in Sudan." He emphasized "the need for national unity in order to face these challenges," which, he added, would "only make Sudan stronger." (*Sudan News Agency*)

## **Situation in Malakal under control**

According to Riek Machar, Vice-President of the Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS), the situation in Malakal following recent clashes between the Sudan People's Liberation Army SPLA and elements from the Joint Integrated Units was now under control and life was back to normal. (*Sudan News Agency*)

## **UN's Ashraf Qazi may be expelled from Sudan**

-According to an unnamed high-level Sudanese government official, Ashraf Qazi, the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Sudan, may be expelled from Sudan for admitting that the Mission had provided the International Criminal Court (ICC) with information about Sudan. (*Al-Khartoum*)

- *Al-Raed* quotes Qazi as admitting that "he had co-operated with the ICC, stating that the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) was under agreement with the court to provide it with necessary information." An UNMIS spokesperson dismissed the article, calling it "a complete distortion" of the content of a recently published

article the Egyptian magazine [*Al-Masri*]. The UN mission "questions the motive in representing such a sensitive issue at this particular time." UNMIS called on *Al-Raed* to correct the report. (*SudanTribune.com*)

## **UN raises security level and warns its staff**

The United Nations has raised the security level for staff operating in Sudan in anticipation of "retaliatory attacks" should the ICC decide to issue an arrest warrant against Al-Bashir. (*Al-Watan*)

## **Samar postpones her visit to Khartoum**

UN Human Rights Rapporteur for Sudan, Sima Samar, was scheduled to visit Sudan this month but has postponed her visit indefinitely. According to an unidentified source, Samar's postponement is "related to the ICC's possible indictment of Al-Bashir on March 4." According to the same source, Sudanese government considers the postponed trip an insult that may warrant a denial of entry for Samar at another time. (*Sudanese Media Centre*)

## **Tension on Sudan/Chad borders raises concerns**

The African Union (AU) has expressed concern over the rising tension on the Sudan-Chad border. AU Chairperson Jean Ping has asked both sides to "practice self restraint and to commit to the peace-inducing efforts of the AU Peace and Security Council." Meanwhile, Khartoum has urged Chad to adopt a practical stance in order to set the stage for normalizing bilateral ties and to stop supporting the Darfuri armed movements. (*Al-Ayam*)

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.