

SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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President Al-Bashir returns after trip to Eritrea

Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir has returned to Sudan after a one-day trip to Eritrea where he held talks with Eritrean President Issias Afeworki. Deng Alor, the Sudanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, said that the meetings between the two counterparts "tackled issues of mutual concern." Other issues discussed included "confronting hostile plots by the West" and the "opening of the border between Sudan and Eritrea to enable free movement between both countries." (Sudan News Agency, Akhir Lahza, et al)

GOSS passes anti-corruption act

The Government of Southern Sudan's (GOSS) Legislative Assembly passed an Anti-corruption Act yesterday, which stipulates a "zero-tolerance" policy towards corruption. The bill was initiated by President Salva Kiir Mayardit in 2006. James Wani Igga, the Chairperson of the Legislative Assembly, described the act as "the second major milestone endorsed by the Assembly since the passing of the interim constitution." Igga asserted that the "act will empower the specialized committee assigned for this purpose to conduct investigations on government officials suspected of looting public funds and assets." (SudanTribune.com, Al-Sahafa)

Al-Bashir will not attend Arab summit in Qatar

An article published on *SudanTribune.com* online declares that President Al-Bashir will not attend the upcoming summit scheduled to be held in Doha at the end of this month. The announcement comes in the wake of an arrest warrant issued by the recent indictment of the Sudanese President by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for allegations of war crimes committed in Darfur. The Saudi

owned *Al-Hayat* newspaper quoted "informed Sudanese sources" as saying that the decision was made by a committee that was established to look into whether Bashir should take part in the summit. The publication also cites that "Khartoum is particularly concerned over the prospects of a midair interception by foreign fighters to Al-Bashir's plane forcing him to land in a state where he could be apprehended and sent to The Hague." However, Sudanese State Minister for Culture, Youth and Sports Amin Hassan Omar made statements to the Palestinian *Quds Press* in which he emphasized that "Al-Bashir's participation in Doha summit is final and will not be reversed."

SAF clashes with **SLM** in North Darfur

The United Nations/African Union Mission in Darfur announced that it received information from the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) advising of recent clashes between SAF and forces from the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM)/Abdel Wahid Nur faction in North Darfur. (*Al-Watan*)

Government plans housing project for IDPs

The National Housing Fund, in collaboration with other institutions, has decided on a housing plan for internally displaced persons from various regions of Darfur. The step comes as part of a government-endorsed plan to "allow these citizens to return to their normal lives" and to "improve their living conditions." (*Rai-Al-Shaab*)

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.