



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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## **Iranian FM begins official visit to Sudan**

Iranian Foreign Minister Manoucher Mottaki, is scheduled to meet with a number of senior government officials today. Speaking to reporters at the airport yesterday, the Iranian FM stated that his visit to Sudan comes in response to an invitation extended by Sudanese Foreign Minister Deng Alor. Mottaki indicated that the objective of the visit was to boost bilateral ties between Sudan and Iran. (*Sudan Official News Agency, Al-Rai-Al-Aam*)

## **Russia says it “failed” to solve Sudan’s problems**

Following a meeting with Sudanese President Omer Hassan Al-Bashir, the Russian Special Envoy to Sudan Mikhail Margelov told reporters that Russia had “failed to be instrumental in solving Sudan’s problems.” The Russian Envoy noted that the challenges facing Sudan could only be resolved through the Sudanese people themselves. However, Margelov confirmed that Russia was ready to support Sudan in paving the way for a permanent solution to its problems. (*Al-Rai-Al-Aam, Al-Sahafa*)

## **Opposition angered by Russian SE remarks**

Sudanese opposition parties reacted angrily to statements made by Russian Special Envoy Margelov in which he endorsed the candidacy of President Al-Bashir for another term in the upcoming presidential elections. Russian news agency Ria Novosti Arabic service said that Margelov had expressed skepticism about the possibility of another presidential candidate replacing Al-Bashir during the April 2010 elections. “I have not yet seen this alternative [to Bashir] even back in January when I had to convince [our] western partners that the arrest warrant by International Criminal Court (ICC) to arrest the

Sudanese president is not viable and unrealistic,” he said. (*Sudantribune.com*)

## **Amru Musa to visit Darfur next week**

Arab League Secretary General Amro Musa is scheduled to visit Darfur next week where he will inaugurate a number of model villages established under the patronage of the Arab League. The villages have been built to accommodate internally displaced persons (IDP’s) living in IDP camps in Darfur. Prior to his departure to Darfur, Musa will meet with Sudanese President Al-Bashir and other senior officials in Khartoum to discuss the latest developments in Sudan: the elections, the Doha Peace talks, the International Criminal Court issue as well as obstacles facing the Darfur peace process. (*Sudan Vision, Sudan News Agency, Al-Sahafa*)

## **A new political party comprised of Nuer tribes**

A new, pro-government political party comprising various Nuer tribes has been formed. The new party calls itself the BNFA Entity. The initials stand for the Bentiu, Nasir, Fangak, and Akobo of the Nuer tribes. The party declared its solid support for the Government of National Unity (GoNU) and pledges its solidarity with the GoNU. (*Al-Watan, Sudan Vision*)

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.