



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Police foil "riot" by Juba alliance, detain 140

-Sudanese riot police foiled an attempt by a group of protestors from opposition parties staging an organized rally before the National Assembly yesterday. The police used tear gas to disperse the "freedom" chanting crowds. 140 opposition party members, including journalists and high-level officials of the respective opposition parties were reported to have been detained during the demonstration. Among the detainees were Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) Secretary General Pagan Amum, SPLM Deputy Secretary General Yasir Arman, SPLM member, State Minister of Interior Abbas Goma'a, Popular Congress Party (PCP) Political Secretary Kamal Omer, the Juba Alliance spokesperson Farouk Abu Essa, PCP member Sidig Al-Turabi and a number of members of the Umma Party. According to local newspaper reports all the detainees have been released. (*Al-Sahafa, Al-Raed*)

-Khartoum State police authorities' stated that they had ruled that the rally was "illegal" because the organizers of the demonstration (the Juba Alliance) had failed to follow "correct procedures" to obtain a permit. According to police, consent should be provided by the State Security Commission and not Omdurman Locality. An informed police source stated that the number of detainees arrested during the demonstration was 170 out of which 150 were released. (*Sudan Vision*)

-*Sudan Tribune.com* describes the National Congress Party's (NCP) position as "politically weakened" after the Sudanese government authorities' attempted to crackdown on the protestors. The article quotes the position of several political analysts and members of the political parties and mentions that for many observers and analysts, even the pro-

government ones, the ban was unjustified. They noted that the purpose of the demonstration was to deliver a memorandum to the speaker of the Parliament containing demands to amend bills that pertained to the 2010 elections and the democratic transformation process. Editor-in-chief of the independent *Al-Tayar* newspaper, Osman Mirghani, pointed out that "the Federal government is fundamentally opposed to the principle of opposition parties taking to the streets in fear of this approach spreading to other sectors of the society." An Islamist columnist Al-Tayib Zein Al-Abdeen told London-based *Al-Sharq Al-Awsat* "that "NCP is very weak in front of any political resistance against it." NCP Mandoor Al-Mahdi was quoted by the Sudanese Official News Agency (*SUNA*) as saying that they had received intelligence information on plans by the demonstrators "to create anarchy and use Molotov bombs." Other Sudanese high-level officials from the executive branch and the NCP maintained their silence and avoided reacting to the protests.

SPLM Amum vows demonstrations will continue

SPLM Secretary General, Pagan Amum pledged "to continue nationwide demonstrations until controversial laws are repealed." Addressing thousands of the SPLM and opposition political parties' supporters at SPLM's headquarters yesterday, Amum stated that "attempts to deter citizens with threats and/or orders of arrest are not an alternative to addressing issues of national concern." Umma Reform and Renewal Party (URRP) leader Mubarak Al-Fadil affirmed Amum's announcement by stating that the political parties had agreed to conduct another rally on Thursday. (*Sudantribune.com, Al-Khartoum*)

Al-Turabi calls for popular uprising to oust current regime

(Al Raed, Al-Khartoum)

MFA Briefs Diplomatic Missions on rally

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs summoned Ambassadors and other representatives from all diplomatic missions accredited to Sudan to brief them on the incidents in Khartoum following the rally staged before the Parliament yesterday. Director of the Sudanese Foreign Ministry's Bilateral Relations Department told diplomats the organizers of the rally had not obtained a permit to follow through with the demonstration. . He added that the objective behind the briefing was to ensure that the diplomatic missions in Sudan received accurate information on the incidents rather than obtaining information from the media.*(Sudan Official News Agency)*

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.