



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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March 13, 2007

## UN: Sudan accused of war crimes in Darfur

The UN Human Rights Council in Geneva accused Sudan of orchestrating human rights abuses and war crimes in Darfur. The council also criticized the international community for failing to protect Darfuri civilians. In its report on the situation in Darfur, the council stated that “killing of civilians in large-scale attacks, in addition to the rape and sexual violence, are widespread and systematic in Darfur.” The council’s investigation was led by Nobel Peace laureate Jody Williams. Meanwhile, Nafie Ali Nafie, Adviser to President Omar Al-Bashir, criticized the council, saying, “Why do they discuss the issue with us if they want to impose military intervention in Darfur by force?” In addition, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Al-Sammani Al-Wassela described the council’s findings as “biased and based on information derived from anti-Sudan parties.” (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)

## International Criminal Court and Sudan

- The head of the International Law Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Siraj Al-Din Hamid, stated that Sudanese experts will depart for The Hague to counter accusations made by International Criminal Court (ICC) Prosecutor Luis Ocampo. Al-Siraj stated that it is best for Sudan to cooperate with the ICC given that it has the support of 106 countries, and these countries could choose to refer the court’s findings to the UN Security Council for consideration of further sanctions against Sudan. (*Al-Sahafa*)

## UN deployment to Darfur

- Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir has outlined his objections to a UN plan of support for the African Union mission in Darfur, saying in a letter to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon that he wants fewer UN forces in Sudan, as well as no

helicopters or reconnaissance aircraft. Al-Bashir further stated that he did not agree to a proposal to send more than 3,000 UN military, police and other personnel, along with substantial aviation and logistical assets, to beef up the 7,000-member AU force presently in Darfur. Meanwhile, China has requested that Sudan clarify its position since it had earlier agreed to seek UN assistance. (*Al-Sahafa*)

## Sudanese released from Guantanamo

- Today’s *Al-Sahafa* newspaper published an interview with the family of Adil Hamad, a Sudanese national who has reportedly been in detention at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo for the past five years. *Al-Sahafa* reported in yesterday’s edition that Hamad had been released from Guantanamo. The two articles are based on conversations that the newspaper has had with Hamad’s family members, who in turn have been citing information obtained from Hamad’s lawyers. (Clarification: *Al-Sahafa* reported yesterday that, in addition to Hamad, there are nine other Sudanese detainees at Guantanamo.)

## Quote of the Day:

"If you're not prepared to act on what you say, don't say it." – Nobel Peace Prize laureate Jody Williams, referring to the international community’s failure to protect civilians in Darfur.

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