



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Arusha conference

- The rebel groups participating in the Arusha meeting have submitted a joint position paper to the African Union (AU) and United Nations (UN) envoys. The paper includes a new demand related to the resettlement of Darfur's internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees. Ahmed Hussein Adam, the spokesperson of the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), added, "The rebel representatives have presented a joint position paper for the forthcoming peace talks with the Sudanese government." Adam underscored the deteriorating situation for IDPs and refugees in camps, and stated that the demand for resettlement is crucial for successful talks with Khartoum. He alleged that Khartoum encourages settlement of nomads into the villages and areas previously belonging to the IDPs and refugees. Meanwhile SLM leader Abdulwahid Nur stated that his top priority is the return of IDPs to their homes before the start of any negotiation. Nur also asserted that the government of Sudan is still killing people in Darfur. SLM leader Suliman Jamous, detained in Kadogli, refuted the news that he has been released in order that he might participate in the Arusha conference. He said in an interview with the Arabic daily "Akhir Lahaza," that he is "still detained in a UN hospital in Kadogli" in South Kordofan. (*Al-Rai Al-Aam, Sudan Tribune, et al*)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs wants more pressure on rebel groups

In a statement issued yesterday, the Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs called on the international community, and in particular France, to send a "clear message" to the Darfur rebel groups that they must respond positively to the initiatives of the international community. The statement added that only peaceful means can solve the Darfur crisis. (*Akhbar Al-Youm*)

Leaders of SLM-Minnawi faction killed in an ambush in North Darfur

- SLM-Minnawi field commander Hamid Darbain stated that four field commanders were killed and another five were wounded in an ambush on their convoy near the Kawra mountain area of El-Fashir. The commander said that the area where they were ambushed is under the control of SLM-Abdelwaihd and Abdelshafi. (*Rai Al-Shaab, Akhbar Al-Youm*)

Maloot County sues Min. of Energy and Mining

- The Governor of Maloot County in the Upper Nile State of South Sudan stated that his county has started to sue the Ministry of Energy and Mining and the oil companies operating in his county for abusing the environment. He stated that the forests and the wildlife in Maloot county have been negatively impacted by the oil sector. The governor added that the oil companies already destroyed seven kilometers of green forests, displaced 172 villages, and polluted the water resources in the county. (*Al-Sudani, Al-Watan, et al*)

Women and children who sold alcohol are freed

Joshua Dau Dew, chairman of the commission for the protection of the rights of non-Muslims in Khartoum, stated that 847 women and 158 children had been released following the commission's request to the judiciary and chief justice. The women and children had been jailed in Khartoum for brewing and selling alcohol, a crime under north Sudan's Islamic sharia' law (*Al-Sahafa*)

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