

THE 1999 HOMELAND CALL

On the 25th of November 1999, and in response to an initiative by H.E President Ismail Omar Gaili of the Republic of Djibouti, H.E President Omar Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir met with Sayed Alsadig Al-Mahdi in Djibouti to discuss means of enhancing national reconciliation in the Sudan. H.E president Ismail Omar Gaili attended the meeting. Both parties agreed on a declaration of principles for realizing a comprehensive political solution in the Sudan according to the following

First: Peace Agreement

Parties to the conflict adopt and commit themselves to end the civil war and conclude a just peace agreement based on the following:

- 1 Citizenship shall be the basis for constitutional rights and duties.
- 2 No particular national group of citizens shall be privileged because of ethnic, cultural or religious affiliation.
- 3 International human rights charters and covenants shall be adhered to.
- 4 Recognition of the religious, cultural and ethnic multiplicity of the Sudan.
- 5 The country shall be ruled on federal basis with equitable devolution of powers between the center and states.
- 6 Qualifications and professionalism shall be the basis of assuming' offices at national institutions. Special consideration shall be given to the least developed states.
- 7 Just participation in power at all levels and wealth sharing.
- 8 Elimination of the effects of the civil war and building of confidence among Sudanese people leading to realization of voluntary unity.
- 9 These procedures shall be completed within an interim period of four years, at the end of which a referendum shall be held for Southern Sudan with its 1956 borders, to choose either voluntary unity with decentralized powers to be agreed upon or secession.
- 10 Resolving Nuba Mountains and Ingassana Hills questions in a manner that meets their respective demands for power and wealth sharing within the framework of the united Sudan.

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Second: System of Governance:

- 1 Sudanese political forces shall be committed to pluralistic democratic system that guarantees human and basic freedoms.
- 2 The democratic system that suits Sudan is the federal presidential system that defines federal and state powers and separates between constitutional authorities.
- 3 Religious and cultural multiplicity in the Sudan shall be considered for coexistence and shall be included in the guiding principles of the constitution.
- 4 Commitment to realize sustainable development as a national goal for building infrastructure, social development and free market mechanism to attain social justice.
- 5 Identify and address all grievances.

Third: Regional and International Relations:

- 1 The establishment of special relations with neighboring countries having interdependent interests with the Sudan to maintain developmental stability and security.
- 2 Sudan's International relationships shall be based on principles of international cooperation, consolidation of international security, peace and legitimacy.

Fourth: Political System:

- 1 The national initiative constitutes the axis of Sudanese- Sudanese dialogue and understanding and it works for boosting efforts and comprehensive political solution through IGAD and the joint Egyptian-Libyan initiatives.
- 2 Efforts shall be exerted for making the Libyan-Egyptian initiative a success and speeding up the convening of the all-party conference as soon as possible.
- 3 Affirming the support for IGAD initiative, being one by neighboring countries concerned with the Sudanese affairs, and their role for realizing, peace in the Sudan.

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- 4 Underling the importance of coordinating between the two initiatives through a Sudanese- Sudanese dialogue and the agreed upon declaration of principles.

This agreement represents the aspirations and hopes of our Sudanese peoples to achieve peace, democracy and stability. We herewith urge all the political forces to support this declaration for comprehensive political solution and join and boost it in order to realize unity, peace and agreement. We also appeal to all brothers and friends to support the achievement of national accord among all Sudanese.

Finally we would like to extend our thanks to H.E President of the republic of Djibouti, Ismail Omar Gaili, for his honorable initiative, hospitality and appreciated efforts for concluding this agreement.

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