

Sudan

Al-Bashir's Speech at Khartoum Rally 3 Dec

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[Speech made by Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, National Salvation Revolution Command Council, NSRCC, chairman, during the demonstration by the masses of the national capital, 3 December, in Khartoum—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Praise be to all, the one and only, the unique one. Salutations and peace be upon the most honored, our lord Muhammad; God's salutations and peace be upon him. God has said: Permission has been given to the fighters to fight because they have been wronged. God is able to grant them victory. God speaks the truth.

Brother members of the people's committees, my sons the students, honorable citizens: God's peace, mercy, and blessing be upon you all. On behalf of your brothers in the NSRCC, the National Salvation Revolution government, on behalf of your brothers in the Armed Forces which, with God almighty's support, stand steadfastly and triumphantly, I salute you and salute these tumultuous crowds. I salute you and thank you for your stand and support and backing for your Armed Forces, which swore to spark off the revolution on your behalf on the 30th of June [applause, shouts, and ululations].

Honorable citizens, I salute your steadfastness, I salute your brothers, I salute your vast crowds in front of the General Command, I salute your brothers in the Armed Forces, your sons in the Armed Forces. They are the shield of this people, and their safety valve. These multitudes are an indication of the cohesion of the people and their Armed Forces.

These multitudes are like one man in his support of the Armed Forces standing with them in the same trench [applause]. This stand of yours is a support and backing for the Armed Forces.

I vow here before you to purge from our ranks the renegades, the hirelings—enemies of this people and enemies of this nation, enemies of the Armed Forces. The agents [word indistinct]. Permit me to express on your behalf our greetings to your Armed Forces deployed all over this homeland, defending honor and dignity. We salute our Armed Forces deployed in all the scattered places in Sudan in defense of honor and pride, in defense of unity, out to preserve our soil. Permit me to salute your Armed Forces, which succeeded with God's support and with your backing to cleanse Kurmuk of the traitors and the renegades. Your Armed Forces pledged to recover Kurmuk, and they now have fulfilled their pledge. God willing, your forces will move forward to liberate all the territory. Our Armed Forces are determined to liberate every inch of our country sullied by the traitors and renegades. Once again, we salute our Armed

Forces, which stand steadfastly and triumphantly with your support and backing, God willing.

Brothers, permit me on your behalf and on behalf of the Armed Forces to salute our martyrs, who sacrificed their lives to ransom this homeland. On behalf of you all, I tell them their blood was not shed in vain. We shall continue to achieve the goal for which they sacrificed their lives, God permitting. We vow to them we shall remain loyal to the objectives for which they died, namely, to liberate all Sudanese territory.

Let peace and security prevail. Your Armed Forces will strive to spread peace and security in all parts of this homeland.

Brothers, brothers who are standing before me now. I salute the united internal front which has rallied to the revolution. The unification of our internal front represented by the sons of our people [word indistinct]. The internal front has become united with our simple citizens, with the youth and decent students, with the workers and the intellectuals. It is united in all its sectors. This front has become united to build the homeland.

Our masses became united after all the causes of division and corruption had been eliminated. The masses have become united to rehabilitate the homeland. The march which has frightened the enemies of the people, the traitors and the renegades, has begun. The multitudes of our people, who stood up in the town of Atbara, the steadfast town, in Kassala, [word indistinct], in Darfur, al-Fashir, Nyala, al-Ubayyid, Juba, Malakal, Wau, Renk, al-Damazin—the masses of our people, who have become united to rehabilitate this homeland, support and back the revolution, in fulfillment of the pledge to build a new Sudan.

This unity has frightened the enemies of the people, the fifth column from among the routed remnants of the Communist Party and its partisans. They began their desperate attempts to infiltrate our ranks and destroy our unity, to stab your Armed Forces, in support of Garang's operations.

The routed elements of the Communists have begun to move to abort the current peace talks in Nairobi. The Communists have attempted to infiltrate you, to destroy your unity in support of the operation of the outlaws in the theater of operations, and in support of the hardliners at the peace talks. The Communists' attempts—a plot of betrayal and treachery aimed above all at stabbing your Armed Forces while they were waging an honorable battle to liberate Kurmuk—while our soldiers were moving forward with firm steps and inflexible determination, sacrificing one martyr after another to liberate and regain Kurmuk, the Communists and the fifth column were moving to stab this army in the back.

However, I want to promise you we shall not cooperate with anyone who attempts to spoil the march of this nation. We shall seize with determination and resoluteness anyone who attempts to spoil our march or stab our

Armed Forces in the back. Purging is a national duty. We shall, as we have promised you, purge our ranks of all the corrupt, the treacherous, the betrayers, the enemies of the people, agents of communism, the fall of which the whole world has announced, which is finished, never to return. [applause]

Communism has fallen. Communism has collapsed. We (?witness) today the collapse of communism, after the blows of the people of Poland. In your name I salute the Polish people and the Hungarian people, the people of Czechoslovakia, the people of Germany, who brought down the edifices of communism with no return, God willing. Communism has collapsed with the collapse of the Berlin Wall.

We shall purge our ranks of the traitors and the renegades. The revolution shall deter anyone who attempts to spoil the march of this people. We have assumed trust, and the people have rallied to us in support. We shall not disappoint this people, God willing. We shall not fall short with regard to the rights of this people, the rights of the toiling masses, the decent citizens, who have suffered for so long from the conspiracies of oppression and hostility, from the plots of the fifth column, which always had worked to break up the unity of the homeland.

Anyone who betrays this nation does not deserve the honor of living. We as a government and a revolution shall continue with the purges. We ask you, you decent people, to purge your ranks of outlaws and renegades. There will be no fifth column. The masses will have to purge their ranks and (?deter) anyone who attempts to delay or spoil the march of this people. The responsibility is really a collective one. You are partners in authority. You have authority, and are its enforcers, God willing.

Finally, I wish to confirm and vow to you that the National Salvation Revolution will proceed with your strength, with your Armed Forces. It will march with you from one victory to the next, in all arenas and battlefields, against the enemies of the people. With our unity and determination, standing together as one rank, people and Army, we shall advance to rout the enemies of the homeland and destroy their bases, and defeat their routed remnants. We shall purge our ranks of all renegades and infiltrators. We are fully determined and shall strike with resoluteness anyone who attempts to spoil this march. I promise you we stand by our pledges, God willing, against the traitors and the renegades. Down with enemies of the people. Forward with the march of Sudan. God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you all.