

SUDAN

President Numayri Speaks on National Unity Day
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[Speech by President Ja'far Numayri at the SSU headquarters in Khartoum on the occasion of National Unity Day, marking the 13th anniversary of the Addis Ababa agreement granting autonomy to southern Sudan — live]

[Text] God said in the holy Koran: With God's mercy you were lenient with them, but had you been harsh and hard-hearted, they would have scattered away from you, so forgive them, pardon them and consult with them and when you decide to proceed putting your trust in God, God loves [word indistinct], God has spoken the truth.

Free revolutionary compatriots; peace and almighty God's mercy and blessings be upon you. Peace be upon you and upon the sons of Sudan throughout the territory of the homeland and in every corner of the land. Peace be upon our Sudan — a steadfast people, a unified homeland, and a revolution whose principles have been entrenched by the sentiments and values which cannot be transmuted by the hands of [word indistinct] (?its) day of peace and unity. Peace be upon you and a salutation to you, brothers, a salutation of the ever-victorious revolution, God willing.

I extend warm and sincere greetings and congratulations to the sons of our great people on the great anniversary of national unity. The celebration by peoples of their national days is but a celebration of the glories they achieved [words indistinct]. The celebration of national days is accordingly (?an embodiment) of the victory of the peoples will and a confirmation of their adherence to their entrenched steadfast principles and their [words indistinct] glories.

Brothers: Our celebration of the great anniversary of national unity conforms with these [word indistinct] concepts. The war in our dear south has gone on for nearly two decades, during which Sudan lost a number of its dear sons and during which it lost security and stability. It wasted years that which could have been dedicated to advancement and progress.

Throughout the years of the bloody clash the alignment was always with peace, which was the aspired to choice and hope in

minds and feelings. Peace and a halt to the bloodshed were the aim and the hope. Stability, security, and tranquility were the goals nurtured in the hearts which were full of love and loyalty toward the unified single homeland. Enshrined with these august patriotic feelings there was a yearning for peace. It was the national conviction that paved the way for the agreement on national unity. Indeed, the agreement on national unity was an immortal human and lasting national achievement. What remains in the minds of this people is the noble human [word indistinct] embodied by our alignment with peace as the sole option and a safe way to lead us to the (?achievement) of (?our) aspirations — our aspirations for development, advancement, and progress.

The agreement on national unity came as one of the symbols of the victory of our great people's will. It came as a true embodiment of the concept of loyalty to the homeland. It was definite and conclusive confirmation of the ability of the sons of this homeland to overcome obstacles and difficulties and surmount challenges.

Free revolutionary compatriot brothers: (?last night's) [word indistinct] contains an incrimination of the greatness of our people. Indeed, it is an unjust judgement which implies a belittling of the will of our people.

Yesterday's dispute was based on just demands made by the brothers in the southern regions. The dispute escalated to the stages of fighting as a result of failure of the superficial solution to these problems.

When the people's revolution erupted on 25 May 1969, the south was its first concern and its greatest anxiety. The revolution united the brothers in a loyal patriotic spirit after decisively and justly dealing with the roots of the dispute and [word indistinct]. Banners went up, banners of national harmony, and flew to shelter the entire homeland. All of us turned to the course of the comprehensive development of the entire homeland. The people responded to the rhythm of peace with pride and earned the admiration of the whole world. Sudan recorded a miracle in the pages of history, namely great national unity.

Regarding the present dispute which is led by a very small minority who are outside the national consensus, it is essentially a continuation of what is being perpetrated against Sudan, its people, and revolution by the routed remnants of malicious enemies. It is a difference for which a price has been paid to implement an ideological strategy [words indistinct]. It is a superficial difference desired by a minority at variance with the whole Sudanese people in the north and south. [Words indistinct] as difference between the north and south, while the sons of the south loyal to the homeland are innocent of the accusations of the malicious enemies and the allegations of the rejected.

The essence of the difference, brothers, is the rejection by Sudan and its people of the policies of setting up axes and [word indistinct]. The essence of the difference, brothers, is the abandonment by Sudan and its people of strategies which serve only certain specific states, states striving to impose the ideology of hegemony and the policies of the setting up of axes and domination.

In face of this harsh stand against Sudan [word indistinct] designs, the enemies latched onto those weak-willed sons of the homeland and adopted them in the form of a front to prey on the Sudanese people and their gains. They supplied them with funds. They supplied them with war material and encouraged them to do battle, the result of which will be ruin, destruction and loss for them.

Sudan, however, will remain the same Sudan, one and united, steadfast and capable of repulsing the enemies and aggression which [word indistinct] its territory, its soil and revolution. This fact will for ever remain prominent before the eyes of the entire world. It will always remain a (?standing) symbol of the will of this great people.

Despite our conviction, brothers, about the causes and origins of this (?spurious) dispute, we are, and out of our concern for the higher interests of the sons of our people, we have appealed and continue to appeal for the need for dialogue to end this bloody dispute.

Dialogue is the ideal method to put a decisive end to these differences which have arisen between the sons of the same homeland. A solution cannot be achieved through the efforts of one person alone but requires the comprehensive and effective participation of all the sons of the homeland. The responsibility is a national one in the first place. What is (?established) nationally becomes a national duty, a national obligation made inevitable by the effective participation by all the sons of the people.

To achieve these pressing national goals we saw the need to draw up an integrated plan to bring us to these noble and desired aims. The plan encompasses the following:

1. As an important and necessary step, we renew our appeal to the outlaws. We renew our appeal to those outside the national consensus. We are renewing it as an inevitable step in response to the will of the people and the pressing requirements of the people represented by the people's inclination toward peace, stability and peace. Response to this sincere patriotic appeal is but a response to the desire of [words indistinct], indeed it is [word indistinct] required and necessary because it is in step with the sentiments of the sons of this people who are desirous of stability, security, and peace.

2. Together with the concrete form we have given to this sincere patriotic call, we ensure guarantees for the return of anyone among the outlaws who responds to this pressing national desire. We repeat our announcement of a general amnesty for all brothers who return to the territory of the homeland [applause] and who abandon the path of violence, and all those who accept the method of dialogue in line with the higher interests of the homeland.

3. As reaffirmation of our adherence to the principle of dialogue as the ideal method of solving disputes, indeed in order to emphasize our full (?commitment) to this principle and to give concrete form to our declared rejection of solving disputes by force:

On the basis of our belief in the great national unity, in support of the peace march which was launched on 6 [as heard] March 1972, and in implementation of our people's desire to move toward peace, we declare a halt to attacks and a cease-fire by our people's armed forces. Therefore, the role of our people's armed forces will be confined to defending if attacked by the outlaws, or if the homeland's interests are exposed to any threat from outlaws.

The outlaws [word indistinct] others are well aware of the courage and steadfastness of our sons in the people's armed forces. They have offered absolute proof, with painful blows [words indistinct] that Sudan's territory is (? noble) and will crush enemies before [word indistinct]. Therefore, the unilateral declaration of cease-fire is a demonstration of good intentions. However, if the enemies view this in a different way and encroach on Sudan's security, we shall act to provide security and stability and guarantee the unity of our beloved country.

4. In order to implement all the efforts aimed at ensuring the success of the dialogue and the realization of the noble national objectives, we have decided to form a high level committee, the membership of which will include representatives from brothers in the south, north, west and east, and center, which will give it an overall national character. It will have the powers that are necessary to ensure that a lasting peaceful solution is reached.

Free citizens, the resolution of the problems and difficulties we are facing cannot be accomplished without courage. [Words indistinct] and the exploitation of the power of position and atmosphere has [word indistinct] that is apt to undermine the entity of the single nation.

The evils of favoritism have escalated, the hearts of some people have [word indistinct] on (? capitalizing on) trust, their hands outstretched to plunder public property and outstretched to the people's food. All this is a clear reflection of the crooked methods practised by some people in exploiting the power of their positions.

Taking a look at the causes of this atmosphere and these diseases which have spread in some places, we find that the [words indistinct] civil service with high leading posts bear the greater burden and direct responsibility towards these (? groups) in general performance. Holders of high leading posts are the chosen elite that submit the declared implementation policies. The president of the republic has himself been keen to (? acquaint himself with) the selection of these leaders in various positions, which means granting the holders of these posts absolute confidence.

In spite of all this it has been noted that the leaders of the civil service (? are set) to bear the responsibility of taking decisions until the high executive position has become a [word indistinct] through correspondence passing to the minister concerned. This in itself is a waste of time and indeed a waste of the dignity of such a high executive position.

We accordingly draw the attention of brother ministers to the need to reexamine the functional duties of all leading administrators and to organize these in conformity with the functions of their grades, as well as fully granting them such powers as laid

down in the statutes governing their work so as to guarantee each post its due honor as a contribution toward entrenching discipline and in confirmation of supremacy of public order in the various posts in the state structure.

It remains for the leaders of the civil service in their various parts to confront all the problems [words indistinct]. The endurance of hardship is not a punishment and no decision can be made in the context of favoritism or self-interest. A narrow personal outlook, efforts to achieve personal ends and reluctance in taking a just decision are all factors which have led to what the civil service is suffering from today, namely a rift and negativism.

In confirmation of our determination to deal with these destructive forms of negativism, we have granted the supervisory authorities full jurisdiction to act toward exposing any individual who exploits the influence and the power of his position to achieve his personal ends. We have done so out of our conviction that justice cannot be (? upheld) unless these negative (? aspects) which have sullied the integrity and the exalted status of the civil service are liquidated.

Civil service leaders must fully discharge their duties. That is their primary and sole obligation. As for those groups which are manipulating from the power of their positions, the higher authority will [word indistinct] its case [words indistinct] in order to preserve the integrity of the public service, the rights of employees and public property.

Free, revolutionary citizens, the homelands troubles (? are many). They are the challenges that stand in the way of our [word indistinct] and advancement. We have dealt with some of them previously, and we must deal with one of the most threatening of these challenges.

We are all aware of the effects of desertification. Desertification has deprived us of a large area of agricultural land, and drought has added other burdens which have been reflected in the migration of hundreds of thousands of refugees to our country from the south, the east and the west. [Words indistinct] our capabilities faced with this enormous number of brother refugees and migrants.

After this brief description, we find ourselves facing two of the most threatening problems that peoples face, namely desertification and drought. The effects of drought are reflected in the hundreds of thousands of refugees. In the face of this position, we have done everything within our capabilities to provide an honorable living for them. However, when the numbers swelled to over a million, we appealed to regional and international organizations, and well off countries to provide aid for these refugees. Many brotherly and friendly countries responded to this appeal as well as some specialist organizations.

In this respect we record our gratitude and appreciation to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the brotherly State of Kuwait and our Sudanese sons working in the Gulf states.

We also record our praise and gratitude to the friendly United States which has given the matter its constant attention, and which is reflected in the visit that will be paid to our country by

the U.S. vice president tomorrow. He will be accompanied by a high level delegation to become acquainted with the true dimensions of the problems of the refugees who have migrated to Sudan recently. If this visit indicates anything, it is an absolute affirmation of the strong ties of friendship which link Sudan and the friendly United States.

This regional and international (?aid) will provide the basics for an honorable and humane life for those who have suffered the calamities of drought. They had no option but to seek refuge in Sudan. It remains for us, brothers, to resolve the other part of this problem, namely desertification.

Sudanese scientists with the expertise they possess have striven to provide information and reports on areas into which the desert is advancing and its future tendencies. The matter constitutes an (? imminent) threat if we do not act urgently to avert it. We accordingly direct the brother governors of the regions concerned, the commissioner of the national capital, the chairman of the National Council for Sports and Youth Welfare and the relevant ministers urgently to draw up programs to organize student and youth camps during the coming summer vacation. The efforts of these students and youths should be deployed on erecting forest barriers or other suitable works to be determined by the scientists concerned in order to avert the perils of the advancing desert which has begun to threaten our agricultural resources with [word indistinct]. This is a sacred national duty. Our sons, the youth, must discharge it urgently.

Free, revolutionary, compatriot brothers: In advising our sons, the students and youth, to discharge their national duty as a contribution toward averting the threat of the advancing desert, we affirm our confidence in their ability to bear major responsibilities in the future.

The youth are the treasure of this homeland, they are the protectors of this homeland and they are [word indistinct] the future of this homeland. This is the law of life and the conviction of all human beings. Faced with the assumption of these great responsibilities, the youth have to be concerned about a single entity of the nation, and protect it from dispersion, fragmentation, and traditional blind fanaticism. It is not right for the youth to come out of the [words indistinct] circle without awareness, pure and complete national awareness.

Differences of opinion are acceptable and desirable where they satisfy a national mentality and sentiments. However, differences of opinion which lead to disputes and then to clashes are rejected, rejected and rejected, especially in the institutes of higher education. These institutes possess reverence, sacredness, and dignity.

The regrettable clash which occurred a few days ago at Khartoum University between two partisan groups, or many groups of students, is an extremely dangerous pointer, reflecting, among other things, worn out [word indistinct] ideological outlooks which have been disowned by the people, and which have sought the role of the [word indistinct] of knowledge to poison the minds of students with their thoughts. These are alien to [words indistinct] and has brought the homeland nothing but fragmentation and [word indistinct]. They have not risen to the level of

shouldering national responsibility by (? abandoning their) outlooks but have plunged into selfish evil deeds under the guise of concern about the safety of the homeland. To those weaklings and opportunists who have turned students into soldiers for clashes without [word indistinct] I direct a warning not to play with the lives of students and their future. They must keep clear of and put an end to these satanic schemes. They must avoid and stop these satanic schemes. The effects of these extend to threats to the future of this homeland after [word indistinct] universities and institutes of knowledge.

Therefore, brothers, we warn anyone who interferes in the affairs of students and incites them to clashes and sedition. We warn them against attempting to impose their sterile thoughts, which embody every danger and could harm the security and stability that we seek for our dear homeland.

Therefore, we ask the chairman of the National Council for Higher Education to investigate this regrettable incident to expose its aims and dimensions, so that we can take suitable decisions to protect this university and other universities. He has to take the necessary measures to ensure the nonrepetition of such incidents which threaten the attainment of knowledge, which in turn lowers educational standards [words indistinct] our sons, the students. It also threatens the lives of students at universities and institutes of learning.

What made me talk about this regrettable incident on National Unity Day is my concern for the country's unity and awareness that this action is the beginning of fragmentation, dissolution and disunity in the most valuable group of which we are proud and place in the ranks of the future, and who take up the banner leadership of our dear homeland. [passage indistinct]