

SUDAN

SUNA: PRESIDENT NUMAYRI ADDRESSES SUDANESE NATION

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["Text" of speech delivered by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri on 5 May in Khartoum during his monthly "Face the Nation" program]

[Excerpts] [long passage indistinct] When the 25 May revolution pursued the process of development, it was never dependent on funds, but rather on the workers' sweat and toil. This is because development belongs to the workers in as much as the workers are part of development. The Sudanese workers' affiliation with the 25 May revolution was never defined by gains and demands, but rather by joint conviction that the revolution belongs to them.

The gains made by Sudan's workers under the revolution cannot be termed gains, because they are rights denied them by colonialism. They obtained these advanced under the aegis of the revolution, which has been bestowing these to the workers since independence.

The achievements scored by Sudan's workers cannot be considered the results of just legislation or gains or guarantees for the present and future. These are their rights.

The revolution has expanded the circle of the workers' representation. Thus the decision to increase the percentage of the workers' representation in the People's Assembly; thus the decision to enable the workers to nominate themselves in the SSU Political Bureau; and thus the decision of the SSU Political Bureau to refer the recommendations to the conference of the forces of alliance [word indistinct] to study the necessary means for implementing these recommendations. I can say that these rights, and I do not say gains, obtained by the Sudanese workers under the aegis of their revolution are among many.

The desperate attempts by those who yearn for the past and those loyal to bribery, mercenaries and agents for sneaking into the workers' ranks under defunct party and sectarian slogans, are purely desperate, mad and suicidal attempts.

The revolution's concern for the independence of the unionist movement does not at all mean the neutrality of this movement in the battle to build a united Sudan, purged of partisanship and sectarianism. The revolution's concern for the unionist movement is concern for the security of the revolution itself.

Sudan's workers belong to the revolution and vice versa. Intrigues and the driving of wedges stand no chance, just as the attempts at polarization and grouping inside the unionist movement stand no chance. The revolution's concern for national reconciliation emanates from the revolution's concern for national unity. Nothing contrary to this can be true.

The revolution, which has responded to the national reconciliation appeal, will under no circumstances allow certain people to exploit this slogan to dismember ranks, dissipate efforts and waste energies.

The independence of the unionist movement cannot be confirmed without its unity. Any harm done to this unity is done to the revolution's security and the homeland's security.

I tell the rancorous brothers that the nature of their course reflects the nature of their slogans and clearly points out that they do not belong to our time. Their methods are defunct. Their method of inciting people with loud voices is no longer affecting our vigilant masses. Even if someone believed in their method, sooner or later he would realize the extent of their false allegations and lies. Their talk about suppression and laws restricting liberties is the best proof of their lies.

What kind of tyranny and suppression of liberties is this they are talking about? Had there been any suppression they would not have dared to speak about it openly. Had there been any suppression of liberties, they would not have dared to speak loudly about it. They are like those who claim that their tongues and heads are chopped off, and yet they talk and move their heads. Such allegations can only be subject to ridicule.

Brother compatriots: I have received several letters in this month's mail from Sudanese citizens. The only question that was repeated in hundreds of letters by writers was that about oil in Sudan and when it will be exploited. They ask about the oil quantities and expected revenues. One writer asked when Sudan will join OPEC. Another writer attached to his letter some excerpts from articles published in specialized international economic magazines about oil in Sudan.

I can tell you brothers, honestly and frankly, that I am not so delighted with this [word indistinct] because, praise be to God, we have resources that enable us to dispense with oil. We have resources that can realize our prosperity. One who thinks that oil can bring about a nation's prosperity is short-sighted. What brings about the prosperity of nations are the efforts of the people.

In the immediate future, the primary needs of many countries and peoples will be food-stuffs. The world food crisis is no longer a myth thought about by many countries and peoples; this crisis has become a reality from which many peoples are suffering. Moreover, the political pressure which is brought to bear by one superpower on another is no longer manifested in arms threats, but rather in threats to cut off food supplies.

The United States exercised pressure on the Soviet Union during the Afghanistan crisis, not by talking about declaring war, but by revoking all deals related to wheat supplies. International detente and relations among the small countries are basically founded on the achieving of balance between the capability of producing food and the need to export and import food. Praise be to God, we possess the land and willpower; we own the river, rain and animal resources. We also possess factories that can produce prosperity for us as well as for everyone around us.

Brothers: With all this wealth, our homeland cannot place all its hopes on one source. I have said that if God grants us oil, this will not be a substitute for wealth. Oil will always be a means for developing and utilizing our wealth so that Sudan can be transformed into a paradise for the Sudanese people and the entire world.

If God grants Sudan oil, it will not be an oil country but an agricultural and industrial one. If God grants it oil, Sudan will not need to join OPEC; Sudan will by itself constitute a huge industrial and agricultural organization which believes in integration with brothers and in cooperation with friends. Sudan, God willing, will be an oasis of prosperity for all mankind.

In the current year we will at least see self-sufficiency in oil in western and southern Sudan.

Brother revolutionary free compatriots: Last month, I attended two African summit conferences, in Mombasa and Lagos. In Mombasa, I met the leaders of Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya. This summit was devoted to discussing economic cooperation among the four countries and ways to bring about stability in fraternal Uganda.

With God's assistance, I achieved a formula for cooperation to bring about stability in Uganda. Agreement was also reached on convening a conference to eradicate the pending economic problems among Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania--with Sudan attending the conference as an observer.

At the Lagos summit, I outlined Sudan's viewpoints on the events taking place in Chad. I can sum up these views as follows:

1. Sudan, which does not allow others to interfere in its domestic affairs, also does not allow itself to interfere in the affairs of others.
2. Sudan's relations with its neighbors are governed by good neighborliness and mutual cooperation in a manner not harming the sovereignty of either side.
3. Despite this, Sudan cannot assume the role of an idle spectator to the current conflict in Chad, for reasons that are connected primarily with its own security. The lack of stability in Chad has led to the influx of hundreds of thousands of Chadians to Sudan. This influx represents a threat to security and to the economy.
4. As part of its commitment to the fraternal Chadian people, Sudan took the initiative and exerted every possible and even impossible effort to bring about national reconciliation in Chad among the various factions.
5. Within the framework of these efforts, Sudan has managed to bring about some kind of national reconciliation in Chad, with the former Chadian president and Hissein Habre as partners. This was achieved in the Khartoum agreement. Also a provisional constitution was drawn up in Chad.

Brothers: My sole objective to convey to you the real picture of the painful and bloody events that are taking place in a sisterly neighboring state. We are being influenced by these events on the security and economic levels. That is why we have tried and will continue to try to realize peace and stability in Chad. We have exerted great efforts. We have sacrificed blood and two of our people's martyrs have fallen in Chad.

We believe that a solution to the Chadian issue cannot be reached as long as there is intervention from any quarter in Chad's domestic affairs. [words indistinct] This constitutes a threat to all the neighboring countries, including Sudan.

We call on everyone to take their hands off Chad and to cooperate in order to bring about peace and stability there. We will support them.

Brother compatriots: Until we meet again, thank you very much. May God's peace be upon you.