

people's trial is possible under the present regime.

How do you think Sudan's socio-economic problems can be solved?

The economic and political problems are very closely interwoven. You cannot solve one without the other. But in our situation, and that of underdeveloped countries in general, the political problem is primary; it determines the direction and speed of the solution to the economic problems.

In terms of resources, the Sudan is a very rich country with vast agricultural lands and many minerals including oil, uranium and iron. The Sudanese people are very industrious and qualified in many fields. There are over one million highly trained Sudanese running the economies of other countries in the Middle East and Africa, instead of their own, because Numeirism drove them away. We have all the necessary ingredients for socio-economic development: natural and human resources, and even the finances in the form of oil trapped under our land. What we need is a correct system to put these ingredients together to generate real, sustained socio-economic development for the masses.

The Numeiri regime tried to put these resources together but failed miserably because it ignored the Sudanese masses who must be the center and objective of development. Numeiri used a mechanical formula: Sudan's natural resources + Western technology = \pm Breadbasket of the Middle East. This left us with an empty breadbasket for Sudan and \$9 billion in external debts. Without denying global interdependence, what we need is an economic and therefore political, social and cultural policy that looks inward, that is truly Sudanese, making the Sudanese the basic ingredient and objective of development. Such a policy must be based on the people, by the people and for the people. Only they will determine and make such a policy work. This is in general; the Sudanese people will provide the details.

How do you view the Military Council's attempt to amend the Sharia (Islamic law)?

Sharia in any form is unpopular in the whole country. The new military regime talks about amending, but it is ridiculous and unconstitutional to amend

an unconstitutional law. The generals announced the dissolving of Numeiri's constitution, Sudanese Socialist Union and State Security Organization, but they are going to amend Numeiri's decree of Sharia, a decree that never even entered his illegal constitution, and that maimed and humiliated hundreds of Sudanese whose only crime was that Numeiri's policy caused them to go hungry. The regime should have scrapped, not reformed, Sharia. They should instead talk about compensating those citizens who suffered physical and emotional harm under Numeiri's Sharia, and bring to trial those criminals who traded in Islam.

How was the SPLA formed and what are its relations with other national forces?

The SPLA was formed from Battalion 105 commanded by Comrade Lt. Col. Kerubina Kuanyin Bol, and Battalion 104 commanded by Comrade Lt. Col. William Nyrum Bany. These were units of the Sudanese Army until May 1983, when they were attacked from Juba and Malakal, as a consequence of one of Numeiri's many reckless decisions. The two battalions resisted for two days after which they withdrew to the

bush to regroup and form the SPLA/SPLM. Since then, over 5000 Sudanese Army soldiers, police, prison and game wardens have joined the SPLA.

The SPLA/SPLM is a national organization that aims to liberate Sudan from economic backwardness and all forms of sectarianism, and to institute a truly democratic government. The movement is open to all Sudanese irrespective of race, religion, sex or region of birth. We seek to work with any national force with which we have similar views and/or objectives, and according to the mode of cooperation agreed upon. ●



Political prisoners liberated by the masses

Impending Aggression on Kurdistan

A Call from the Iraqi Democratic Patriotic Front (IDPF)

The latest reports from Iraq indicate that the Iraqi Defense Minister visited, on May 4th, the city of Zakho in Kurdistan, which is the headquarters of the Iraqi 11th division. During his visit, the Iraqi armed forces in Kurdistan were placed on full alert, along with extensive amassing of the regime's mercenaries. Iraq is amassing its troops and mercenaries in the Sidakan area near the Iraqi-Turkish-Iranian triangle. There is similar Turkish troop amassing across the border.

This information shows that both the Turkish and Iraqi regimes are setting the stage for an extensive joint foray into the area stretching from Badinan (the western area of Iraqi Kurdistan) to the above-mentioned triangle. This area is inhabited by thousands of Iraqi Kurdish families and a large number of soldiers who have deserted the war. They are currently under the protection of IDPF. Before the Turkish invasion and Iraqi attack began, Iraqi artillery shelled the

villages singled out for the joint aggression. Thus, Saddam Hussein's regime, which boasts about defending the country, is paving the way for the fascist Turkish regime to enter for the second time. It is feeding the old ambitions of Turkish generals, linked with NATO, to reach out to the oil sources, and to facilitate the extermination of Kurdish people and striking IDPF forces.

IDPF fighters are in a state of readiness to repel the joint Turkish-Iraqi aggression and defend our country. IDPF forces will act as they did in confronting the Turkish invasion in 1983. IDPF fighters call on our people and progressive, patriotic forces to offer their utmost help in defense of our people and country. These forces appeal to Arab progressive forces and states, and all decent forces in the world, to show solidarity with our people, to confront and halt the barbaric Turkish incursion. (excerpt)

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