



Republic of South Sudan

The President

Ref:

Press Statement

Date:

Dec. 24th, 2013

President Salva Kiir Mayardit calls for an end to all ethnic violence

Follow citizens, in my capacity as President of the Republic of South Sudan, I am seriously and deeply perturbed and concerned about the trend of the recent events taking place in our new Country and which is brought by some people who would like to take power by force of arms. During the continuation of this event, innocent people have been wantonly killed. Power struggle has been used by others to pursue tribal aspirations. There are now people who are targeting others because of their tribal affiliation, by means of taking the law into their own hands.

This general line of orientation is unacceptable. It will only lead to one thing, and that is to turn this new nation into chaos.

I have therefore ordered our security forces not to harass civilians or in any other way loot, threaten or abuse them. All the unruly and undisciplined soldiers, who are behind such terrible acts, and who are randomly bent to

killing innocent people are criminals and will not escape the long arm of justice, and will have to be punished.

I have ordered the police to arrest anyone found attempting to be illegally entering somebody else's house, or who is found to have killed a person or a number of people. These atrocities recurring by now have to cease immediately.

I hereby appeal and call on all security forces in particular and the entire South Sudanese citizens in general, to put the interest of our newly independent nation first and to pronounce loudly the commitment to its sound progress and prosperity; and furthermore call on Dr. Riek Machar Teny and forces supporting him to do the same.

Fellow citizens of our beloved nation, if we allow the zeal and spirit of tribalism to reign over our country, we will not be able to foresee what will happen to us as citizens in the future. For the sake of the unity of our people, I will not allow this trend of affairs to overtake our Country. Nobody will be allowed at any cost, to take the law into his or her own hands.

South Sudan is our country, a country for all, which is dedicated to the proposition that all its citizens are entitled to equal protection of law without discrimination among others, as to ethnic origin, sex, religious creed, political opinion, etc. We believe in diversity. We believe and trust in unity. I have pledged to the people of South Sudan that we will protect this country. We must now, at this moment show that pledge can happen.