



UNITED PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Championing Democratic Change

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www.upeoplesdemocraticparty.org

The Office of The Leader,
Date: 31st December 2019

Fellow South Sudanese,

Press Statement Announcing Formation of United People's Democratic Party

It is a privilege to announce to you, on behalf of South Sudanese moved by enormous human suffering in our country, the formation of the United People's Democratic Party (UPDP). The formation of United People's Democratic Party is inspired by the need to end human sufferings inflicted on our people by corruptly motivated actions, violence, lack of political will and unpreparedness of the governing Movement (the SPLM) to run a democratic state.

It is with hope and determination that we stand together in opposition to the politics of violence in our country. We believe seeking political power and influencing changes in policies or governing authority should not evoke shedding of innocent blood. We also think it is fundamental and possible to win people's mandate and trust to form a government or maintain political power in a peaceful and transparent democratic process and without shedding any life. UPDP, therefore, seeks to attain political power to champion democratic reforms and protect the people of South Sudan. More so, to deliver the country that has been promised to the citizens by incumbent leadership, and by the martyrs who sacrificed everything including their own lives to fight for the liberation of South Sudanese.

It has been a pain and disappointment waiting on the unwilling SPLM factions to recognize the importance of restoring the country to normalcy and protection of values, which successive generations of South Sudan made invaluable sacrifices to defend. Therefore, our conscience can no longer allow us to believe that the ruling SPLM or its splinter armed opposition groups represent our values.

In emblematic gesture in favour of a new political dispensation, we join hands in a spirit of defending and upholding democratic principles based on consensus, open governance in the likeness of accountable leadership, freedom and empowerment of our citizens. We rise to stand against arbitrary detention, restricted political space and constraints imposed on press freedom. The doctrine of freedoms is not foreign to our people. Our people, though with a few exceptions, practised a decentralised political system. A democratic principle based on consensus, open governance in the likeness of accountable leadership, freedom and empowerment of citizens, which is absent under the SPLM leadership today.

In 1947, our leaders in persons of Both Diu, Kumyangi Ababa, Giir Kiro (Giir Jirik), Cier Rehan, Hassan Fertak, Lapponya, Ukuma Bazia, Lolik Lado, Tete, James Tambura and Clement Mboro among others, unitedly fronted values that they felt should characterise the governance in Sudan. They made clear what South Sudanese value. Successive South

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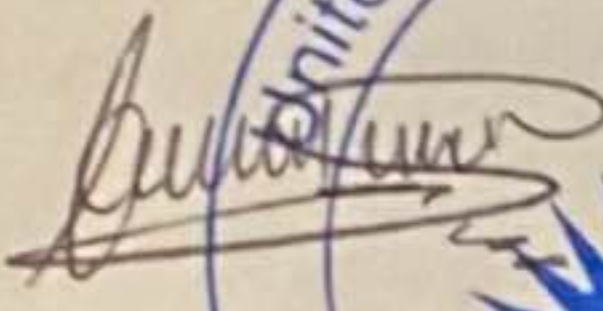
Sudanese generations prove them right in their defence of the very values under the Anya Anya down to the SPLM/A. The latter betrayed our value system. Therefore, UPDP has come to existence in order to work with all South Sudanese to restore our political beliefs.

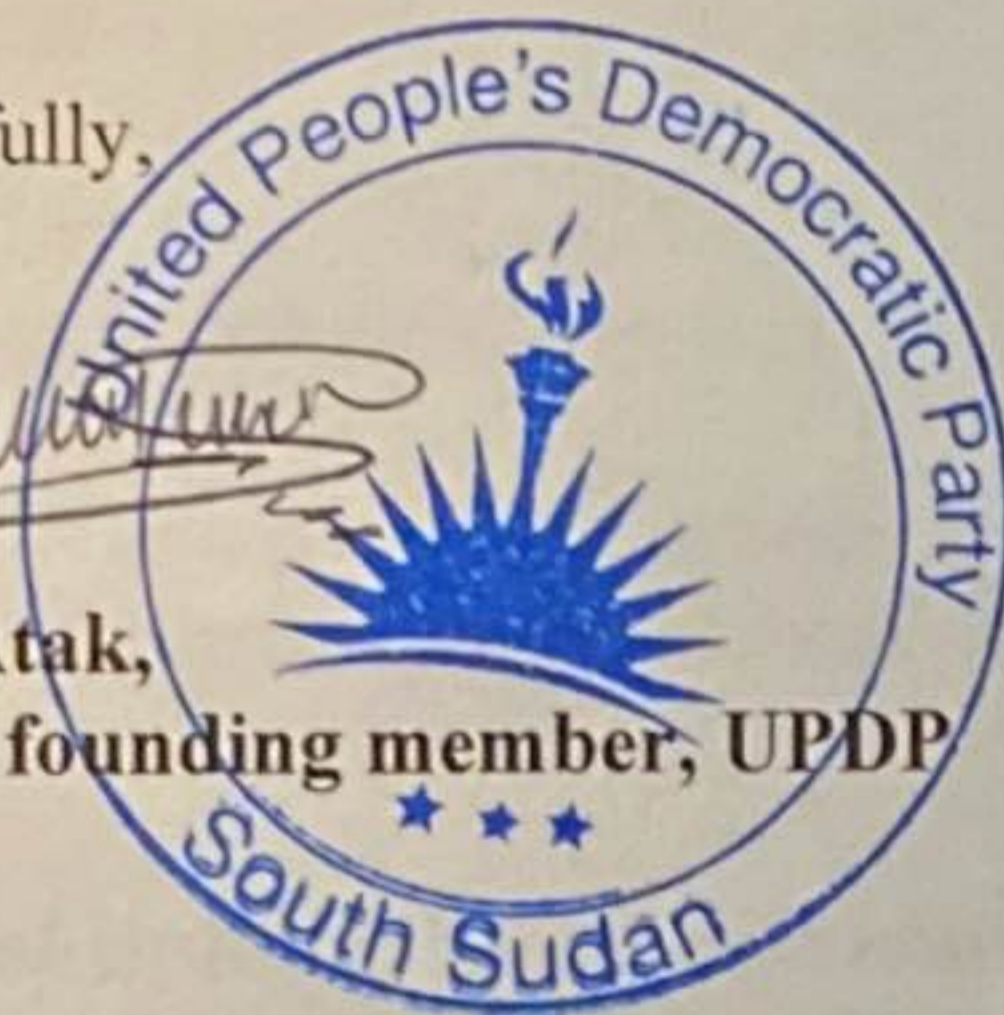
The unity of the people of Southern Sudan was the strength that sustained our resilience and attained our independence. We decided in the Referendum to secede from Sudan in unity. It was no coincidence that the people of South Sudan were united before the current establishment in Juba. South Sudanese leaders in persons of Aggrey Jaden, Joseph Ohide, Tafeng Logongi, Dominic Kassiano in Equatoria, William Deng Nhial, Marko Deng Atak, Toby Maduot, Gordon Mourtet, Ageer Gum, Albino Akol, Bol Akok, Malual Madut, Justin Yaac, Samuel Arou Bol in Bahr El Ghazal, and Both Diu, Matthew Obur, Dr. John Garang in Upper Nile to name a few, set a ground on which unity of the people of South Sudan could thrive. But the current SPLM Leadership have deviated from this, and the result has been enormous human sufferings. Detailed can be found on www.upeoplesdemocraticparty.org.

It is with the same spirit of earlier leaders of South Sudan that we have come together under the umbrella of United People's Democratic Party, to represent and uphold South Sudanese values and integrate their wishes and aspirations. We call on our fellow citizens to join us so that we can collectively bring the change that our country needs.

Thank you

Yours Faithfully,


Wol Deng Atak,
Leader and founding member, UPDP





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Formative Statement for United People's Democratic Party

We, the citizens of South Sudan, moved by the suffering of our people and deteriorating situation in governance brought on our country by mismanagement, corruption evident in the violence fought among the various SPLM factions, come together,

In pursuance of fundamental human rights values, good governance, rule of law, and respect to democratic institutions, restoration of South Sudan's good image,

Aware of lack of political will, at the sides of belligerent SPLM factions, to restore peace to the nation, and normalcy to people's lives,

Cognisance of wishes and aspirations of people of South Sudan for national unity and progressive peaceful nation and that the opposite has been incentivised or imposed on them by the SPLM,

Cognisance of enormous human suffering brought on our people by the violent conflict sustains by continual splits of heavily militarised Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) – frequenting the nation since the violence broke out, their respective stance on holding on to or acquire seat of power by means of violence,

Taken note of reports of ongoing recruitments exercise being conducted by armed South Sudan peace partners and procrastination against the implementation of the Peace Agreement,

Aware of unhelpful SPLM behaviours toward democratic institutions, people's hopes, and wishes and that this happens against the backdrop of our people unreserved sacrifices, which yielded into independent South Sudan,

Appreciate and honour historical sacrifices of South Sudanese towards the liberation struggle for South Sudan,

Aware of preference for a decentralised political system based on consensus sustaining governance of earlier South Sudan, and violation of the value thereof, as well as the debate around decentralisation vs federation or centralisation of South Sudan political system,

Aware of preferences and practice in parts of the nation for decentralised and centralised political systems respectively,

Cognisance of the importance of our diversities and their unique complementation each brings us pride to the nation,

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Moved by grave consequences of ongoing violence that led to mass displacement of one-third of South Sudan's population,

Aware of the citizens' concerns of their safety under the SPLMs (both in-government and in-opposition and have been compelled to be seeking protection from UNIMISS,

Aware of dehumanising conditions the violence imposed our people in Upper Nile, Equatoria, and Bahr El Ghazal,

Cognisance and gravely concern of the level of corruption in the public sector,

Aware of the lack of political will to end the violent conflict,

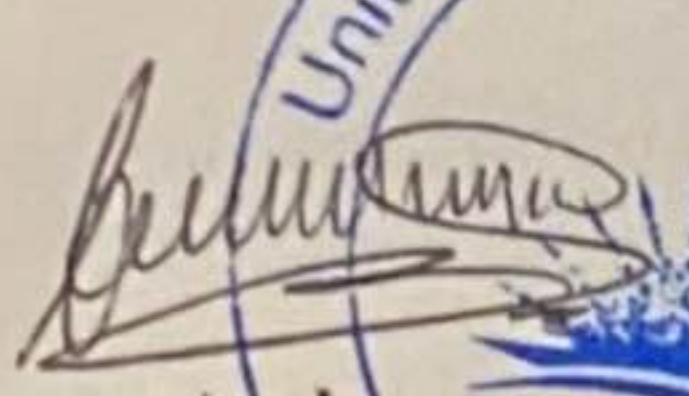

Committed to mitigating the pain and suffering brought by political violence by the Sudan People's Liberation Movements (SPLMs In-governments, SPLM In-oppositions among others),

Committed to upholding the values, wishes and aspirations of the nation for open governance, freedoms, justices, and co-existing and riches evidence in pride our diversities collectively endow on our great country, South Sudan,

In pursuance of aggregating our people's values, wishes and aspirations for open governance, freedoms, justices, and co-existing and complementing diversities;

do here established *United People's Democratic Party (UPDP)* with the overall object for uniting our people to stage people-centred change and control and mitigate the damage brought on the nation.

UPDP has come as a tool for aggregating the citizens' views, wishes and aspiration and translation and upholding national objects and integrate for harmonious diversities. United People's Democratic Party seeks to provide a platform for every citizen of the age to own the process for realising people power.



Wol Deng Atak,
Leader of UPDP and a founding member



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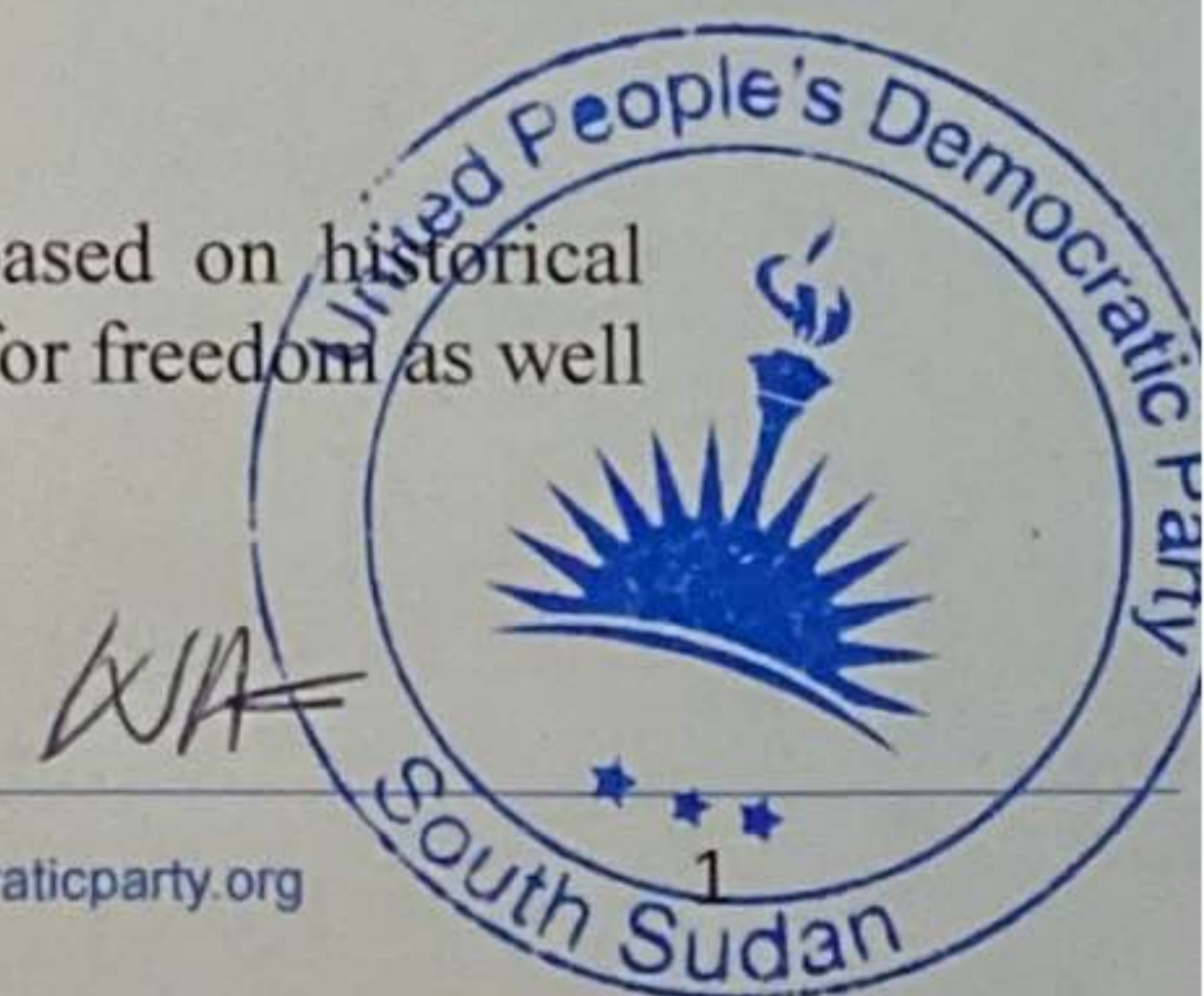
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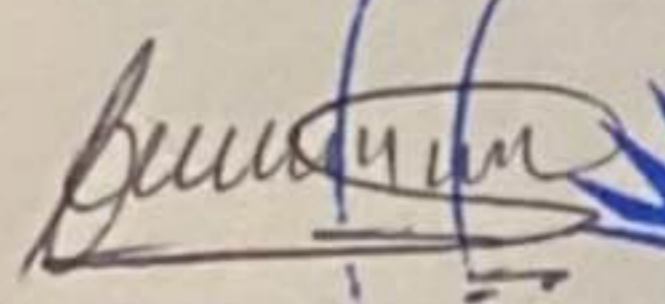
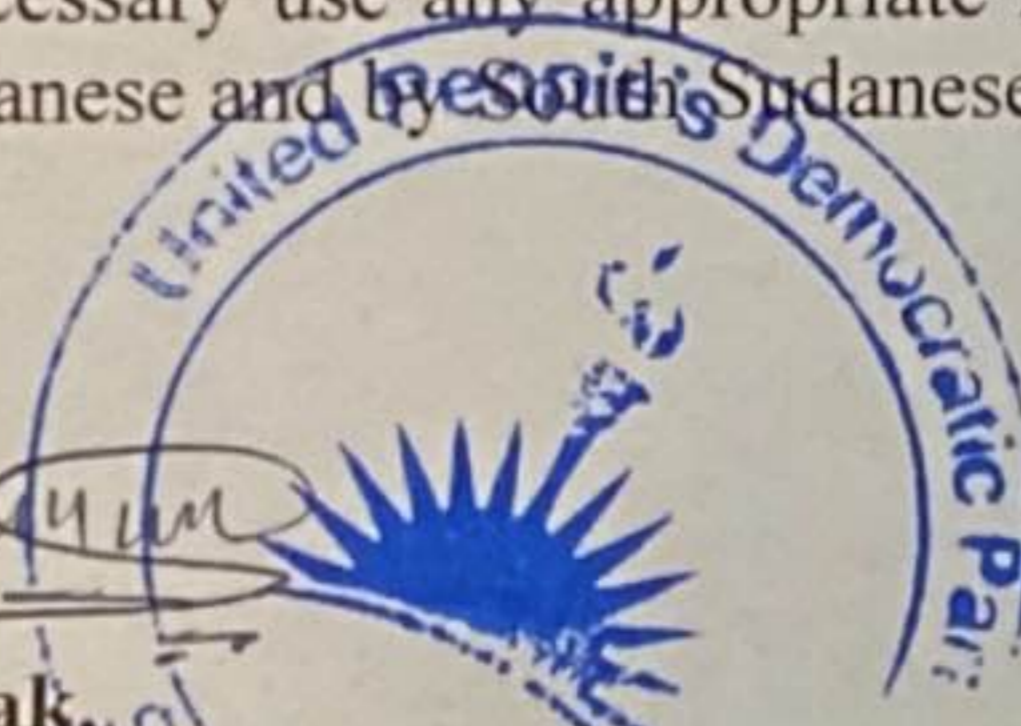
Declaration Of Principles

In the interest of peace, aggregating the aspirations, wishes and the values of the people of South Sudan, we come together under United People's Democratic Party (UPDP) to declare our allegiance on this day, **December 31st 2019**, to remain committed to:

- Building a Peaceful and united country with the view of protecting social fabric based on harmonious relationships, democratic and political pluralism. Under UPDP, we are and will remain adverse to the politics of violence. No acquisition of seat of power shall be acquired through other means except via democratic means and by the people's will under UPDP. Unless in extraordinary circumstances so compelling that or for the purpose of defending the interest of South Sudan's territorial integrity, violence will not constitute a means for acquiring or maintaining a seat of power under UPDP. The Party will at all possible means resists the temptation to respond with violence.
- Fight against Corruption both in the public and private sectors and abide by the doctrine of open governance or system for the benefit of the citizens.
- Making Freedoms of our people and human rights charter the guide in all the Party's endeavours. These freedoms among others include the freedom of expression, association, choice, right to life, movement, among other fundamental pillars of human rights enshrined in the principle of Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Uphold and respect democratic institutions and participatory democracy as well aggregating the views, wishes and aspirations of the people of South Sudan for the purpose of cementing social cohesion in the country.
- Uphold and respect the supremacy of the rule of law.
- Cherishes and celebrates the nation's diversities, upholds justice and equality for everyone irrespective of ethnicity or religion or gender or social status.
- Cherishes and respects the South Sudanese cultural heritage, beliefs and values.
- Protection and cares for orphans, widows, and wounded heroes who fought the North-South war,
- Youth support to be economically self-reliance.
- Appraise South Sudan foreign relations and cause reconnections based on historical friendship the people of South Sudan enjoyed during their struggles for freedom as well as priming mutual respect, interests and contribute to world peace.



- Restore and keeps relations with International allies built on mutual respect, interests and contribute to our historical struggle for independence.
- Building internal democracy such that all electable positions are contested on a fair and equal platform in a peaceful and democratic exercise and extend the same practice to way aspirants seek to compete for more wider public seats when in government.
- Ensuring healthy competition in its internal democracy and conduct are free, fair, peaceful and transparent.
- making clear its intolerance to hate speech, violence against innocent citizens, discrimination, incitement, etc. and taking its right to withdraw any ticket or membership from a member found guilty of offending the above principle. See Constitution for the details.
- Fighting against the ethnic inclination to favouritism, nepotism, derogation directed against ethnicity and hate speech.
- Building inclusivity in approach to its recruitment exercise and welcoming every South Sudanese who has attained the age of 18 and above and of good conduct to join its ranks.
- Restore democratic values and tenets of democracy as well institutes a democratic South Sudan.
- Work under a just, open system and upholds universal principles to human rights as a basis for promoting democracy, development and defence for our values. And committed to working for the united people.
- Committed to accountability for the actions committed by individuals or groups against the people of South Sudan either through the act of war or abuse of office or power.
- Advocates for a neutral platform on which the victims would not feel threatened but feel safe and satisfied that fairness and justice have prevailed which can only happen in a neutral environment where justice is done.
- Committed to seeking peaceful democratic competition for public office
- And when necessary use any appropriate means to institute a democratic government for South Sudanese and by South Sudanese.

Wol Deng Atak,
Leader of UPDP and Founding Member