

For Immediate Release

Power abuse syndrome: Hon. Arthur Akuien's family ready to uncover Pag'an Amum in the court of law

(October 20, 2023 - Juba, South Sudan) - On October 8, **Hon. Arthur Akuien Chol**, the then former minister of finance and planning of Southern Sudan now South Sudan launched his inspiring book that mirrored the struggle for the people of South Sudan in Juba. The tale titled “**A LIFE FIGHTING FOR MY PEOPLE**” was received with huge appetite as it reflects on extraordinary journey, intertwining elements of mystery, adventure, and self-discovery for the young nation.

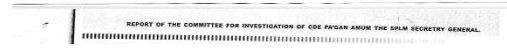
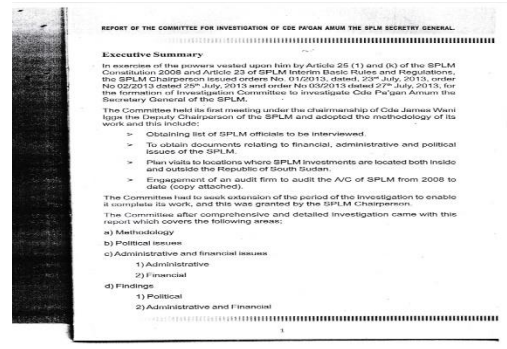
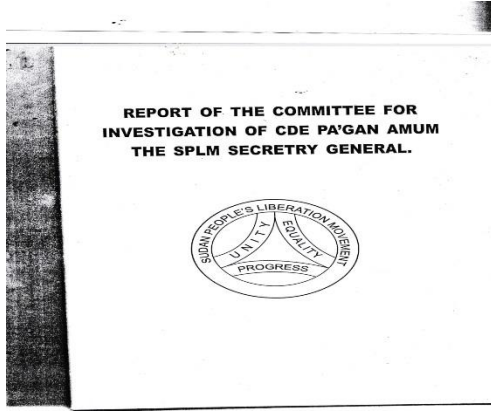
But in a shallow political ambush, Cde. Pag'an Amum, the former SPLM Secretary General hijacked Chapter 17 of the Book titled “**Declaring my innocence**” with baseless onslaught. However, the family would like to inform all the South Sudanese that it's ready to challenge **Cde Pag'an** in the court of law as far as his latest claim is concerned though he had abused the state powers earlier to safeguard himself.

“In 2006, I was accused of misusing and stealing public funds. The accusations were rumored by **Cde. Pag'an Amum** and **Luka Biong** - but the allegation wasn't substantial as the sum of money they concocted was paid to **Mr. Isaac Makur** and **Mr. Silvano Jal Malith**, the then signatories to the account,” said Hon. Arthur Akuien Chol in his response this week.

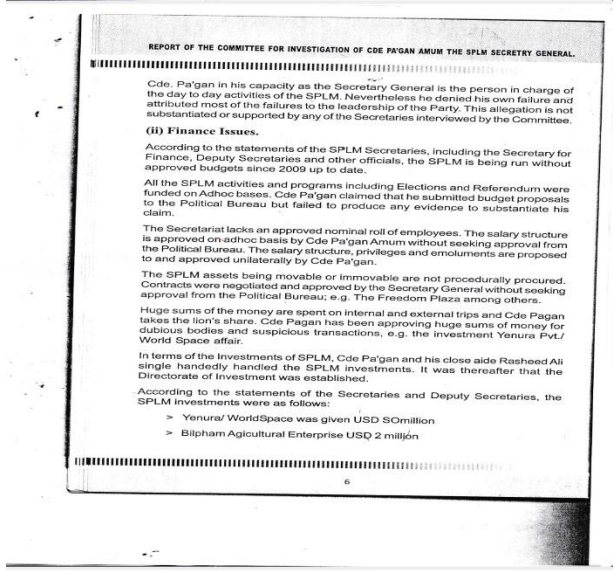
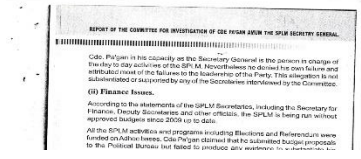
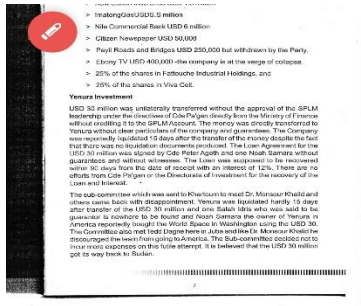
“As one of the South Sudanese first generation of political leaders, the one who had devoted his life to improving quality of life for our people, it is becoming clear that there are people who want to repudiate their mishaps with lies and **Cde. Pag'an Amum** is one of them. Therefore, I, and my family hold enough pieces of evidence to prove him wrong in the court of law if he files the case,” he added.

Hon. Arthur reiterates that such intimidation by Cde Pag'an sent shockwaves to his political landscape and raised serious concerns about the integrity of his past practices during his tenure of Office in SPLM.

According to the SPLM's internal report that investigated Cde. Pag'an in 2013, he was implicated on multiple charges to cite corruption, bribery, embezzlement, abuse of power including defaming cadres on no basis.



“The investigation, led by the dedicated team within the SPLM and independent investigators, uncovered a web of deceit and illegal activities that he (Pa’gan) spanned several years down the line. The evidence collected paints a damning picture of a politician who prioritized personal gain over the well-being of the people of South Sudan,” the report partly reads.



Some of the details of SPLM investigation against Cde. Pag’an

For his part, **Hon. Angok Arthur Akuien**, the former MP at the National Legislative Assembly notes that although Pag’an accused his father about a decade ago, and bribed the court proceeding to dismiss the case, he wishes Pag’an to leave social media noise and try legal direction.

“One thing the public must understand is that when he faced my father in the court in 2012, he had the favors of the judiciary. Of course, he was the Secretary General, the third most powerful person in the country at that time but now, we want him in Juba to come and tell us in the court not on social media if he thinks he’s defamed,” he clarified.

“If he wants to transfer his syndrome to our family, then there is no way. We welcome his threats to take our father to court and we will prove him wrong in the court,” Hon. Angok concluded.

Though all the pieces of evidence produced earlier by **Hon. Arthur** were paid deaf ears, **Hon. Angok** believes that **Cde. Pag’an** state power abuse won’t go unnoticed this time.

“It will be good for us - as a family and the public at large to have a final and justified closure. Cde. Pag’an believes in his innocence but it was staged.,” he added.

“Pag’an abused the State powers conferred upon him by the system and influenced the ruling to his favor. It was a staged procedure and we believe in our father’s innocence. As a family, we shall never succumb to Pag’an's bitterness and will be ready to face him fairly this time,” Angok disclosed.

According to **Hon. Angok**, the family and other average South Sudanese were contented with his father’s “authored book” and they would continue to take an overall responsibility over it.

The legal avenue if Pag’an explores will provide an opportunity for justice to be served, according to the family. The court system will meticulously examine the evidence and ensure that a fair trial is conducted, the family revealed.

“It is imperative that the outcome of this case sends a strong message that corruption will not be tolerated, regardless of one's position or influence,” he added.

The family remains committed to upholding ethical standards and will take appropriate action if Pag’an is not a mere social media propagandist.

As the case unfolds, the family encourages the public to remain informed and engaged in the pursuit of justice if Pag’an will open the case. The family also wants to unbutton propagandists like Cde. Pag’an so that most of the former officials or current constitutional post holders in South Sudan were respected for their selfless services to the country.

For media inquiries or interviews, please contact:

Hon. Angok Arthur Akuien Chol, former Member of Parliament (MP), the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (TNLA)

Email: angokcholdit@outlook.com

Tel: +61 470 634 863

Note to editors: This press release seeks to prove **Cde. Pag’an Amum** wrong in his latest social media propaganda against **Hon. Arthur Akuien Chol** and does not prevent him from going to court. The legal proceeding will determine the final outcome of the case which is what the family wants the most.