

# You can't make it up!

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News from the past five years.

South Sudan both Sudan

6.2011

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July 2011

- 9 Official announcement of the independent state of South Sudan.

July 2011

- 8 Sudan formally recognised the State of South Sudan.  
 9 The Niles print edition went to press in Sudan and South Sudan. The cover featured the ancient Sudanese saying: "It is a fool who rejoices, when the neighbour is in trouble," aptly suited to mark July 9, 2011, the day when South Sudan emerged as the world's newest state. In its first publication, The Niles journalists dived into themes like: What do we have in common? What are our differences? What will happen to us now?
- 11 The first crisis arose between Khartoum and Juba, after the latter decided to stop using their common currency. A week later, South Sudan's new currency was issued [South Sudanese Pounds]. Sudan subsequently issued its own new notes and coins [Sudanese Pounds].

June 2011

- 6 War broke out in South Kordofan following the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North's (SPLM-N) accusations that the ruling National Congress Party rigged election results.

- 8 Agreement was struck between the delegations of the government and the SPLM-N to end the conflict in Southern Kordofan (known as the Nafi-Agar agreement).

December 2011

- 20 Prominent rebel leader George Athor killed near the border with the Democratic Republic of Congo.

October 2011

- 8 The first official visit of South Sudan's President Kiir to Khartoum following independence.

July 2011

The Doha Agreement for peace in Darfur between the government and the Liberation and Justice Movement was wrapped up, stipulating a referendum on the administration of Darfur.

- 1 Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir rejected the Addis Ababa Agreement and directed the Sudanese forces to defeat the SPLM-N and capture its leader Abdelaziz al-Hilu in preparation for his trial as a traitor.

September 2011

Outbreak of fighting in Damazin, the capital of the Blue Nile State, between government forces and the SPLM-N. The latter withdrew. A presidential order then was issued exempting the head of the SPLM-N Malik Agar from being Wali of Blue Nile State.

November 2011

- 12 The SPLM-N in Sudan's Blue Nile and South Kordofan, the Justice and Equality Movement and the Sudan Liberation Movement in Darfur form the Sudan Revolutionary Front. The groups agree to a unified political and military approach to regime change in Sudan. The governments of Sudan and South Sudan continue up to now to accuse each other of supporting rebels in their country. Sudan accuses South Sudan of supporting the SPLM-N and South Sudan accuses Sudan of supporting the SPLM-IO and splinter factions in South Sudan.

December 2011

- 21 President al-Bashir unveiled the "Heart of the World" tourism project amid fears for the future of the Red Sea's unspoiled marine reserve Dongonab Bay. The tourism project is still yet to be implemented.

- 23 The government announced the death of the President of the Justice and Equality Movement Khalil Ibrahim in an airstrike.

April 2012

- 28 Facebook added South Sudan to its country list. The move followed a petition by Ian Cox on change.org: "To recognise the existence of the country of South Sudan."

January 2012

- 20 Juba halted oil production in the wake escalating disputes with its northern neighbour over oil transit fees.

January 2012

TV channels in Sudan appear to drift away from what is happening in the country. One exception is al-Shorooq Channel's new talk show entitled "al-Mahatta al-Wusta" [The Middle Ground]. The programme encourages people to talk freely, but since its launch the show has been strongly criticised for its lack of independence.

June 2012

- 7 An Israeli court ruled in favour of the deportation of South Sudanese migrants.  
 18 Warrap State authorities have banned shisha smoking, declaring it illegal and unhealthy.

June 2012

- 6 The Sudan Football Association witnessed the first transfer of a player from South Sudan to Sudan. Al-Atbi Club signed up Atir Thomas as its first foreign player.

April 2012

- 10 War in Heglig erupted between Sudan and South Sudan, after the SPLA took over the oil town.  
 20 The Heglig war ended, but it remains unclear why South Sudan claimed it withdrew its forces, while Sudan claimed it won the war and chased the SPLA out of town.  
 23 Sudan's Vice President Ali Osman Mohammed Taha closed borders with South Sudan and halted cross-border trade. He sounded a blunt warning to smugglers operating in the frontier region: "I say to our soldiers, our orders are clear, 'shoot to kill'."

March 2012

- 18 George Clooney arrested over protests at the Sudan Embassy in Washington.  
 27 (March 27 - April 4) Majida Nasredine's play "Short Wall" is performed in Khartoum, dealing with the topic of coexistence among the Baggara and Dinka tribes in Abyei. The play was accused of racism because of its language used but the writer defended her work, saying it reflected reality.

July 2012

- 10 South Sudan competed in its first full international match, a friendly against Uganda in Juba. The match ended in a 2-2 draw, with James Moga and Richard Justin Lado scoring for South Sudan. The game led to South Sudan entering the FIFA rankings at the start of August, where it joined in 199th place. On September 5, 2015, South Sudan won its first FIFA-recognised match, against Equatorial Guinea for the 2017 Africa Cup of Nations qualification.

August 2012

- 6 Miss South Sudan Atong Demach arrived in Juba after participating in the 2011-2012 Miss World Competition in China where she ranked seventh. She was crowned Miss World Africa 2012, making her the first South Sudanese to hold this title.

July 2012

- 9 The second print edition of The Niles is published to mark the joint first birthdays of Sudan and South Sudan. Journalists from both nations produced a snapshot using stories, images and songs, showing how life is changing.  
 13 The Niles launches a new cover of Wardi's song "Azibni", by Atirbo, with the participation of Abdewaliib Wardi.

June 2012

- 16 A flurry of youth demonstrations took place against the government in several locations in Khartoum, which later turned into the Friday Demonstrations. Authorities eventually suppressed them.

September 2012

- 27 Presidents al-Bashir and Kiir signed eight agreements between their two countries in Addis Ababa.

# 10.2012 - 1.2014

South Sudan      both      Sudan

November 2012

- 23 The Citizen TV (CTV), the first and only independent TV Station in South Sudan is launched.
- 24 (November 24 - December 8) First participation of the South Sudanese football team in the CECAFA [Council for East and Central Africa Football Associations] Cup.

December 2012

- 5 Columnist Isaiah Diing Chan Awuol was murdered in Juba, the first journalist to be killed in the country since it separated from Sudan. Critical journalism about politics and security has been on the wane since Isaiah's death. He was a fierce critic of the government and voiced his opinions in blogs and columns. Officials promised to investigate and arrest the suspects and bring them to book – but nothing has come of that pledge.

January 2013

- 14 The Juba office of the international broadcaster Al Jazeera was destroyed by fire.

April 2013

- 6 Vice President Machar officially announced his intention to run for the third general conference of the SPLM party presidency. Taking the helm of the party rivalling Kiir would make him a candidate in the scheduled 2015 presidential election.
- 13 President Kiir issued a decree shrinking the powers of his deputy Machar.

March 2013

Vice President Riek Machar Teny directed fierce criticism towards the country's President Salva Kiir Mayardit in the meetings of the political bureau of the ruling Sudan People's Liberation Movement [SPLM].

- 1 Bishop Emeritus Taban Paride received the 2013 Sergio Vieira de Mello Prize in recognition for his efforts to promote peace in South Sudan.

May 2013

- 20 South Sudanese President Kiir was absent from the oil export celebrations in Port Sudan. The two countries blamed each other for obstructing oil production. Meanwhile, Sudan pointed the finger at Juba for supporting rebel strikes in North Kordofan, and Juba accused Khartoum of involvement in the killing of Abyei Dinka Ngok leader Kuol Deng Majok.

June 2013

- 19 A presidential decree dismissed Cabinet Minister Deng Alor and Finance Minister Kosti Manibe who were said to be embroiled in a multi-million dollar scandal and were referred to court on charges of corruption.

July 2013

- 8 A presidential decree dismissed the Governor of Unity State Taban Deng and appointed Joseph Ngok in his stead. Secretary General of the SPLM Pagan Amum said the dismissals were politically motivated.
- 23 South Sudan descends into an abyss. President Kiir sacked Vice President Machar, a sudden move that paved way for the outbreak of large-scale violence on December 15.

August 2013

- 23 A presidential decree appointed Speaker of Parliament James Wani Igga as Vice President.

December 2013

- 6 Leaders of the SPLM held a joint press conference and directed fierce criticism towards President Kiir for his management of the country and the party. Participants included Former Vice President Machar, Rebecca Garang, widow of the influential party founder and leader John Garang De Mabior, suspended SPLM Secretary General Pagan Amum, former Attorney General John Luk Jok and former Minister for National Security Oyay Deng.
- 14 The National Liberation Council of the SPLM held three days of meetings to try and resolve differences between President Kiir and his opponents.
- 15 Members of the National Liberation Council withdrew from the meeting hall in protest as President Kiir delivered a speech.
- 16 Sounds of bullets were heard following armed clashes in Juba throughout the night. President Kiir announced a thwarted coup attempt, which he said was planned and carried out by his former deputy Machar and his supporters.
- 18 Soon after violence broke out, rebel factions of the SPLM-IO, loyal to Machar, fought for control of a number of regional towns. Thousands of people were killed and many more fled for their lives. Ugandan troops intervened on the side of the government.

November 2012

both

Sudan

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November 2012

- 13 November 13, 2012 - The World Health Organisation confirmed yellow fever killed 107 people in Darfur and warned it could spread to the rest of the country.

December 2012

South Sudan's Chief Negotiator Pagan Amum said the first shipment of South Sudanese oil through Sudanese territory would take place at the end of the year.

January 2013

Factions of the opposition and the Revolutionary Front signed a joint agreement called the Charter of the New Dawn, a blueprint for overthrowing the regime using political and armed struggle. It was followed by a wave of arrests of signatories to the agreement.

April 2013

- 12 Sudanese President al-Bashir visited Juba for the first time since his participation in South Sudan's independence ceremony in July 2011. He held a series of talks with his South Sudanese counterpart Kiir.

May 2013

- 28 The Sudanese army said they retook the city Abu Kharshola.

June 2013

- 8 President al-Bashir ordered Oil Minister Awad al-Jaz to freeze the export of South Sudanese oil through Sudanese pipelines, after the expiry of a two week deadline set by Khartoum for Juba to halt support for opposition groups in Southern Kordofan, Blue Nile and Darfur. In addition, Sudan shelved all cooperation agreements with South Sudan.

- 18 The Sudanese government accepted proposals from the African Union's Head of the High-Level Implementation Panel Thabo Mbeki to overcome the crisis with South Sudan. It renewed its commitment to the agreements signed between the two countries, while the African Union pledged to assist the parties in the establishment of a demilitarised buffer zone.

September 2013

- 22 Civilian protests kicked off in reaction to the government's price increases but soon descended into violence in Wad Madani. The demonstrations spread to Khartoum, where they lasted several days and were dubbed "the September uprising". Amnesty said that at least 200 protesters were killed between September 23 and 28. Many more were injured, and over 600 people were arrested, the human rights group said.

December 2013

- 24 Sudanese journalist Faisal Mohamed Salih accepts the Peter Mackler Award in Washington DC.

January 2014

- 6 Sudanese President al-Bashir visited Juba for the first time since the war broke out in South Sudan. He declared that his country would not launch any hostile action against South Sudan from Sudanese territory. He also assured that South Sudanese citizens fleeing to Sudan would not be treated as refugees but as citizens.

January 2014

- 8 Al-Bashir carried out the most sweeping changes to the government and his party since he seized power with a coup in 1989. He dismissed Vice-President Ali Osman and his Deputy Party Nafi Ali Nafi. Bashir also reshuffled the government, dismissing Oil Minister Awad al-Jaz, who had been in the government line-up for more than two decades.

January 2014

- 27 President al-Bashir addressed the nation. Notable was the presence of opposition leaders including Secretary General of the Popular Congress Hassan Turabi, who attended an officially scheduled speech by al-Bashir for the first time since his dismissal from power in December 1999. President of the National Umma Party Sadig al-Mahdi and the leader of the 'Reform Now' movement, Ghazi Salah el-Din were also present. Al-Bashir expressed his readiness to engage in a national dialogue with all political parties.

South Sudan      both      Sudan

- April 2014
- Violence had displaced more than a million people in little under four months of fighting.
  - The United Nations said pro-Machar forces sacked the oil town of Bentiu, killing hundreds of civilians.
  - The four politicians accused of the coup plot were released, officials said, in order to promote reconciliation and dialogue

- June 2014
- Al Masir, the first Arabic language independent newspaper in South Sudan, was closed down by the South Sudanese authorities. Al Masir debuted in Juba on February 22, 2011.

- July 2014
- The U.N. Security Council describes the food crisis in South Sudan as the worst in the world. The former U.N. envoy Toby Lanzer said conflict resulted in the slaughter of thousands, displacement of more than a million and had left five million in need of humanitarian aid. Entire towns have been razed to the ground, captured and recaptured in heavy clashes between rebel and government forces.

- October 2014
- While South Sudan was in the throes of a vicious war the Ministry of Environment concentrated its energies on a smoking ban. The decision forbade smoking in public places and imposed fines of about 500 South Sudanese Pound (USD 170) — double the monthly salaries of workers and civil servants, who in reality are often paid late due to the conflict.

- January 2015
- January 21, 2015 – The signing of the reconciliation agreement between the government and SPLM-ID leaders in Arusha, Tanzania, aimed at reuniting the SPLM.

- February 2015
- General elections slated for June are called off because of the ongoing conflict. They are postponed until 2018.

- March 2014
- The trials of former Secretary General of the SPLM Pagan Amum, former Minister for National Security Oyay Deng, former Deputy Minister of Defence Majak D'Aghut and former South Sudan Ambassador to Washington Ezekiel Lol Gatkuoth, all charged with planning the coup, began in Juba.

- April 2014
- South Sudanese President Kiir arrives in Khartoum on his first visit to Sudan since the outbreak of the war in December 2013. His trip included two notable events: Salva Kiir bowed in front of the Sudanese flag, and also he reportedly fell while climbing the plane stairway and his departure was subsequently postponed.

- May 2014
- The first direct meeting between President Kiir and rebel leader Machar took place since the war began. In the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa the two men signed a ceasefire agreement, which collapsed after a week following a rebel attack on the oil town of Bentiu.

- June 2014
- In the fourth print edition of The Niles, correspondents zoomed in on the issue of small arms which are ubiquitous in the two Sudans. Questions probed included: Where do the weapons come from? What role do they play in society? How do people view them?

- July 2014
- South Sudanese rebel leader Machar met Sudanese President al-Bashir in Khartoum.

- September 2014
- Two separate National Dialogue documents were signed in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa under the auspices of the President of the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel Thabo Mbeki. National Dialogue Committee representatives signed the documents, represented

- March 2014
- The National Consensus Forces announced their participation in the National Dialogue with the NCP as long as a ceasefire was immediately implemented. Other conditions included an amnesty, the release of political prisoners and investigations into political murders committed during al-Bashir's rule.

- April 2014
- The National Dialogue conference was launched with the participation of a number of opposition leaders, headed by Hassan al-Turabi and Sadiq al-Mahdi. However, the National Consensus Forces refused to participate as their conditions were not met.

- May 2014
- Security forces arrested the head of the National Umma Party, Imam Sadiq al-Mahdi against the backdrop of his criticism of the rapid defence forces' actions, leading to the suspension of al-Umma party's participation in the National Dialogue. Al-Mahdi was released a month later.

- June 2014
- The "Reform Now" movement suspended its participation in the national dialogue. A number of other groups followed, protesting the slow progress and NCP's insistence on holding elections in April 2015, ahead of the outcome of the talks.

- July 2014
- Sudanese Congress Party head Ibrahim Sheikh was arrested in en-Nahud, West Kordofan following criticism of actions by the Rapid organisations Forces. He was released on September 15, 2015.

- September 2014
- by the Minister of Council of Ministers Ahmed Saad Omar and leader of the "Reform Now" movement Ghazi Salah el-Din, the group of the Paris declaration which was represented by the President of the Umma Party Imam Sadiq al-Mahdi and the head of the revolutionary front and the SPLM-N Malik Agar.

- October 2014
- (September 24, 2014 - April 26) Sudanese writer and dissident Mahjoub Sharif was featured in dissident artist Ai Weiwei's exhibition in Alcatraz, along side Martin Luther King Jr., Fela Kuti and Victor Jara among others.

- December 2014
- The Consensus Alliance, the Revolutionary Front, the Umma Party and civil society organisations signed the "Sudan Appeal" following a series of joint meetings held by their leaders.

- January 2015
- President al-Bashir approved constitutional amendments to award himself power to appoint state governors instead of holding elections, and boosting the role of the National Intelligence and Security Service.

- February 2015
- Mass confiscation of newspapers took place in Khartoum. On one day, print-runs of 12 political and two lifestyle newspapers are confiscated by the National Intelligence and Security Service.

- March 2015
- Government security forces and pro-government student militia used live ammunition to disperse a student demonstration protesting escalating violence in South Darfur. The violence led to the death of a Darfuri student, Ali Abakar Musa Idris.

- April 2015
- Shagarab Library was opened in Shagarab Camp, Kassala, to provide books for Eritrean refugees. A day later it was closed down by the authorities.

- May 2015
- Sudanese Army Spokesman Colonel Sawarmi Khaled Saad said the Sudanese army would participate in the "Decisive Storm" operation, as part of an alliance led by Saudi Arabia.

- June 2015
- A judge in Khartoum sentenced a pregnant 27-year-old, Mariam Yahya Ibrahim to death for the crime of "apostasy", and to 100 lashings for "adultery". Following intense international pressure, Ibrahim was released in June.

- March 2015
- Issue number five of The Niles is published on the topic of "People on the Move". War, hunger and poverty have forced tens of Sudanese and South Sudanese to flee their homes. As the edition went to press, more than 4.5 million people were on the road in the two countries. The Niles correspondents chronicled diverse experiences and destinations.

- April 2015
- Farouk Abu Issa, chairman of the coalition, and Amin Mekki Medani and Farah Agar were released four months after their arrest following their signing of the "Sudan Appeal". The trial and civil hearing of Abu Issa and Madani started in February 2015.

- May 2015
- The Electoral Commission said President al-Bashir won the presidential election and his NCP party snapped up a majority of parliamentary seats at the national and state levels.

# 6.2015 - 7.2016



June 2015

- 23 The National Liberation Council of the SPLM passed a resolution re-appointing Machar as Vice Chairman of the SPLM and Pagan Amum as SPLM Secretary-General, and readmitting all dismissed SPLM members, who would have charges against them dropped. The move was part of the Arusha Agreement.

August 2015

- 2 The International Olympic Committee recognised the National Olympic Committee of South Sudan, making it the latest territory to be included after Kosovo.  
4 Three independent media outlets were shut down by South Sudan's authorities including: The Citizen newspaper, al-Rai newspaper and Free Voice. Voice of America (VOA), which shares offices with Free Voice, was also affected. The Editor in Chief of the Citizen newspaper, Nhial Bol, said no reason was given for the shutdown. Bol explained that a security officer telephoned him a day earlier saying that the paper should remain closed until further notice.  
17 Armed opposition leader Machar signed the power-sharing agreement. The government delegation demanded 15 days to study the agreement before signing.

- 19 South Sudanese journalist Moi Peter Julius was shot dead by unknown gunmen in South Sudan's capital Juba. The body of the reporter, who also contributed to The Niles, was found the next morning. The motive of the killing was unclear but the tragedy came just days after President Kiir told journalists "if anybody among [journalists] does not know that this country has killed people, we will demonstrate it one day [...]" No one has been arrested for the murder.  
25 The U.N. Security Council declared it was ready to act immediately if President Kiir refused to sign the power-sharing agreement and/or breaches previous obligations he has committed to.  
26 President Kiir signed the power-sharing agreement but expressed his scepticism about a number of provisions. The deal followed endless negotiations, peace-accords and international interventions but the conflict is far from resolved. Current estimates indicate that over 2.4 million people were forced to flee and tens of thousands of people died. Parties to the conflict are accused of horrendous human rights abuses.

February 2016

- 11 President Kiir appointed Machar as First Vice President, also part of the peace agreement.

April 2016

- While addressing a news conference in Juba, Information Minister Michael Makuei Lueth said the government opposed live political radio programmes. "These direct on-air programmes are not acceptable. This is where you allow anybody to come and say his rubbish and pass their filthy ideas to the public and you will not be able to control them," he said, adding that radio stations should pre-record programmes discussing critical issues.  
15 South Sudanese attackers, believed to be from the Murle ethnic group, massacred 208 civilians and abducted 102 children from the Nuer community in Ethiopia. They drove away with over 2,000 heads of cattle taken from the Gambella area.  
15 South Sudan became the sixth member of the East African Community after President Kiir signed a treaty in Tanzania's commercial capital, Dar es Salaam. South Sudan said it hopes for economic benefits from the regional group.  
22 Machar's planned arrival in Juba was repeatedly delayed. The government agreed to allow the former Vice President turned rebel leader to return to Juba with 195 soldiers and their weapons, reversing its original rejection of his request.

- 26 Machar arrived in Juba and was sworn in as the country's First Vice President under President Kiir. The two leaders pledged to forge unity for the country.  
28 After dissolving the old cabinet President Kiir announced 30 ministers by decree on state broadcasters SSTV/R. Kiir nominated 16 ministers, SPLM-IO's Machar nominated 10 ministers, the Former Detainees and other opposition political parties nominated two each. The new Transitional Government of National Unity is part of the August 2015 peace deal. The expanded government also has a parliament comprising 400 members.  
29 The new cabinet was sworn in and held their first meeting the same day to discuss issues such as security and the economy.

South Sudan both Sudan

July 2015

- 1 The U.N. Security Council imposed sanctions on six commanders in South Sudan. Sanctions included travel bans and the freezing of assets. From the government side those named were: Marial Chanuong Yol, Gabriel Jok Riak and Santino Deng Wol. From the opposition side: Simon Gatwech, Peter Gadet and James Koang Chuo. The Central Bank of South Sudan officially introduced coins in denominations of 10, 20 and 50 piasters (worth less than 5 US cents on the black market).  
8 U.S. President Barack Obama traveled to Addis Ababa for a summit on how to end South Sudan's conflict. He joined presidents from Uganda, Kenya, the Ethiopian Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister of Sudan. Talks included the possibility of sanctions should either side endanger the peace process.

September 2015

- 21 South Sudan's Minister of Environment presented the country's first environmental policy to the parliament.

October 2015

- South Sudan's airline, South Supreme, halted flights amid the country's deepening crisis and blamed the government and a lack of hard currency for the disrupted service.  
1 Over 35 boys receive their traditional, but controversial head scarifications in Gogrial. A 13-year-old boy said now no one can call him a small anymore.

November 2015

- 4 An Antonov cargo aircraft crashed on the eastern bank of the River Nile shortly after taking off in Juba, killing at least 37 people.

December 2015

- 21 The armed opposition 150-strong delegation arrived in Juba, headed by chief negotiator Taban Deng, as a practical step in implementing the peace deal signed in August 2015.  
24 President Kiir issued a decree to re-divide the states in the country increasing the number from 10 to 28. SPLM-IO rejected, saying it is a breach of the peace agreement.

January 2016

- 21 President al-Bashir ordered a review of the interim economic measures with South Sudan after Juba asked for oil transit fees to be reduced due to the global drop in oil prices.  
27 Sudanese President al-Bashir opened borders with South Sudan, which had been closed following the Heglig war.

March 2016

- 7 The publication of travel-sized seventh edition of The Niles which was written and edited by a group of The Niles correspondents from Sudan and South Sudan at a newsroom workshop in Nairobi. Opening with a quotation from Abyei: "The children of the land scatter like birds escaping a burning sky", the publication wraps together personal stories and recollections, creating an uncompromising snapshot of the mixed motivations for leaving.

- 15 The official spokesperson for the Sudanese Foreign Ministry Ambassador Ali al-Sadiq called on Juba not to support Sudanese armed opposition groups, as reports spread of a meeting between the leaders of the SPLM-N and the military leadership of the SPLA.  
16 Abdel Hamid Musa Kasha, Governor of White Nile State, said borders with South Sudan would only open again if its southern neighbour withdrew its forces to respect the frontier set in 1956.

- 17 The Council of Ministers chaired by President al-Bashir decided to treat South Sudanese citizens as foreigners. The move affected their access to health and education and meant they needed a passport and a valid visa. On the same day, Sudan formally complained to the African Union's Mekki about Juba's support to the armed movements and failure to stick to agreements. Presidential assistant Ibrahim Mahmoud threatened that actions to protect Sudan could be taken.

July 2016

- 4 (July 4 - 7) The Juba Film Festival takes place for the first time. A number of passionate filmmakers are behind the festival which aims to showcase South Sudanese films and take them to a broad audience.  
9 South Sudan marks its fifth Independence Anniversary.

June 2015

- 6 A new cabinet formation was announced with the former Minister of Agriculture Ibrahim Mahmoud appointed Vice President of the party and Presidential Assistant, while his predecessor, Ibrahim Ghadour took charge of the Foreign Affairs Ministry.  
15 The first ever shadow-puppet play "Hammour's wish" was performed in Khartoum, Sudan

October 2015

- 10 The Sudanese national dialogue process restarted after months of interruption.

December 2015

- 6 "A fool will not even find water in the Nile", the sixth The Niles is published focusing on the pressing issue of water.  
23 President Kiir ordered the immediate withdrawal from the border (1965) with Sudan for a distance of five miles, declaring his readiness to normalise relations with Khartoum.

January 2016

- 4 Sudan cut diplomatic relations with Iran.

March 2016

- 5 Hassan al-Turabi, head of the Popular Congress Party (PCP), died. Turabi was a leading figure in the ruling NCP, until a falling out with al-Bashir.  
29 Awadia Mahmoud, founder of a tea sellers' association, received the International Women of Courage Award from the U.S. Secretary of State.

April 2016

- 11 The administrative referendum for the people of Darfur was held for three days, as stipulated in the Doha agreement. The vote, which would determine whether Darfur would have one or five states, was boycotted by the opposition.  
23 The Darfur Referendum Commission unveiled the referendum results: More than 97 percent voted for the status quo of five states, amidst criticisms of a lack of credibility.