



SOUTH SUDAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (SSCC) NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYERS



SOUTH SUDAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES NATIONAL PRAYER

DR. JOHN GARANG'S MEMORIAL MAUSOLEUM

FRIDAY - MARCH 10, 2017

08:00AM – 02:00PM (E.A.T)

March 20, 2017

KEY SPEAKER (CHURCH, MUSLIMS & GOVERNMENT)

South Sudan Council of Church:

1. His Grace Paulino LUKUDU LORO, Metropolitan Archbishop of Catholic Church of South Sudan – Juba (CCSS).
2. Archbishop Dr. Daniel DENG BUL, Archbishop and Primate, Episcopal Church of South Sudan/ and Sudan (ECSS/S).
3. Bishop Dr. Isaiah MAJOK DAU, General Overseer, Sudan Pentecostal Church (SPC), South Sudan – Juba.
4. Bishop Enock TOMBE, Episcopal Church of South Sudan/ Sudan – Rajaf Diocese (ECSS/S).
5. Bishop Dr. Arkanjelo WANI LEMI, Presiding Bishop of African Inland Church (AIC) – Juba.
6. Fr. James OYET LATANSIO, General Secretary – South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC).
7. Mama Elizabeth NYUYUK, for Presbyterian Church of South Sudan/ Sudan (PCSS/S) – Juba.
8. Rev James PAR TAP THON (Moderator Presbyterian Evangelical Church of South Sudan/ Sudan (PECoSS/S).
9. Bishop Nicholas OLING, Christian Brotherhood Church (CBC) – Juba.
10. Rev. Patrick JOK, Sudan Reform Church (SRC) – Juba.
11. Rev. Yaa TAJIR JIBARA, Sudan Interior Church (SIC) – Juba.
12. Mama Agnes Wasuk Sarafino – SSCC National Women Coordinator.

Muslim:

13. Mufti. Hamidin Shakerien Al-Awiely.
14. Sheikh Jamaa.

Government:

15. H.E. 1st Lt. Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit, the President of the Republic of South Sudan.
16. Rt. Hon. Antony LINO MAKANA, Speaker of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (South Sudan – Juba).
17. Dr. Martin ELIA LOMORO, Minister of Cabinet Affairs – Transitional Government of National Unity (TGoNU).
18. Gen. Paul MALONG AWAN, Chief of General Staff for the Army and ALL the Organized Force.
19. Hon. Awut DENG ACUIL, Minister of Gender, Child and Social Welfare (TGoNU).

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2.4 Scripture Reading: 2 Chronicles 7:14; 1 Samuel 7, 1-14

Sr. Sarah GUNE SHS - English; Rev. Awatif KAPE – Arabic: "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their Land." (2 Chronicles 7:14). Then the men of Kirjath Jearim came and took the ark of the LORD, and brought it into the house of Abinadab on the hill, and consecrated Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the LORD. So it was that the ark remained in Kirjath Jearim a long time; it was there twenty years. And all the house of Israel lamented after the LORD. Then Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying, "If you return to the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths from among you, and prepare your hearts for the LORD, and serve HIM only; and He will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines." So the children of Israel put away the Baals and the Ashtoreths, and served the LORD only. And Samuel said, "Gather all Israel to Mizpah, and I will pray to the LORD for you." So they gathered together at Mizpah, drew water, and poured it out before the LORD. And they fasted that day, and said there, "We have sinned against the LORD." And Samuel judged the children of Israel at Mizpah. Now when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel had gathered together at Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard of it, they were afraid of the Philistines. So the children of Israel said to Samuel, "Do not cease to cry out to the LORD our God for us, that He may save us from the hand of the Philistines." And Samuel took a suckling lamb and offered it as a whole burnt offering to the LORD. Then Samuel cried out to the LORD for Israel, and the LORD answered him. Now as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel. But the LORD thundered with a loud thunder upon the Philistines that day, and so confused them that they were overcome before Israel. And the men of Israel went out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines, and drove them back as far as below Beth Car. Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen, and called its name Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far the LORD has helped us." So the Philistines were subdued, and they did not come anymore into the territory of Israel. And the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. Then the cities, which the Philistines had taken from Israel, were restored to Israel, from Ekron to Gath; and Israel recovered its territory from the hands of the Philistines. Also there was peace between Israel and the Amorites.

3.0 PRAYER OF HUMILITY AND CONFESSION:

Bishop Dr. Isaiah MAJOK DAU prayed; "I hear people say God has cursed South Sudan. ...I disagree. We are blessed, but we are sinners. That is why we hate ourselves, we kill ourselves, we backbite ourselves. So we are the problem! But we have been given opportunity to be forgiven, to be enriched and to be healed. (Full text: Annex iii: page 10).

Bishop Isaiah handed over three Bibles to President - Salva Kiir Mayardit, First Vice President - Taban Deng and Vice President - James Wani Igga amidst applause from the crowd at Dr. John Garang Mausoleum, Juba.

3.1 Prayers for religious Leaders & Congregations: Agnes Wasuk Sarafino (SSCC-NWP).

4.0 CONFESSION PRAYER AND REPENTANCE AS A NATION FROM OUR EVIL WAYS

4.1 The Heads of Churches confession prayers

Head of Churches in South Sudan confessed & Prayed for President and the Nation.



4.2 H.E. President's Confession Prayer

H.E 1st Lt. Gen. Salva KIIR MAYARDIT Prayed & confessed for all the atrocities committed against his fellow citizens (killing and brutal killings, robbery, rapping, cattle raiding, land grabbing, lack of accountability, impunity, Our nations have committed a lot of sins ranging from bloodshed, sexual immorality broken covenants and idolatry. Our responsibility as Christians is to pray for the forgiveness of these sins). President Kiir prayed for forgiveness for what he may have committed while exercising his duty as the Head of State. Kiir also called for redemption of Citizens from the many troubles bestowed on the country. (Full prayer: Annex ii page 09).

4.3 Parliamentarian Prayer of Confession

Rt. Hon. Anthony LINO MAKANA – **Speaker** of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly read confession prayer while All MPs National and States stood.

4.4 Executive: National and States' Confession Prayer

Dr. Martin ELIA LOMORO – **Cabinet Minister** (TGoNU) led the confession while serving Ministers in the National and State Governments stood.

4.5 Army & Organised Forces' Confession Prayer: Paul MALONG AWAN

SPLA's Gen. James Ajongo on behalf of Chief of General Staff led the confession prayer while all the Army and Organized Force stood.

4.6 South Sudan Citizens' Confession Prayer

Citizens of South Sudan prayed for humility, and confessed of the evil ways/ practices from the part of ALL South Sudanese.

5.0 INTERCESSIONS:

- **Fr. Thomas IGA - Catholic Church:** Prayed for healing of wounds and bitterness of wars, hatred, rejection, abandonment, humiliation, betrayal, injustice in the South Sudan. (**Jeremiah 30:17**).
- **Bishop Enock TOMBE – ECSS/S:** Prayed for the restoration of relationship & peaceful co-existence between Communities in South Sudan. (**Deut. 30:9**).
- **Rev Justo OKUJO – SPC:** Prayed for healing of the land (South Sudan). The land is full of innocent blood and is full of curses; Tribes and lands gods, ancestral spirits, and witchcrafts worship/ practices.
- **Mama Elizabeth NYAYUK - PCSS/S:** Prayed for all security organs.
- **Rev. James PAR TAP HON – SSPEC:** Prayed for Love, Unity, Peace and Tranquility among South Sudanese citizens.
- **Bishop Nicholas OLING – CBC:** Prayed for all the Army and National Organized forces. (**Luke 3:14**).
- **Mama Angelina KEJI - Women Group:** Prayed for the prosperity and productivity of the Land, Economic, and Development: (**Deut. 28:8**).
- **Mama Assunta BERNARDINO-AIC:** Prayed for Wisdom upon leaders. (**Eph.1: 17-18**).
- **Rev Patrick JOK – SRC:** Prayed for all spheres of culture dealing family life including counselors, ministers, social workers, educators. (**Judges 6:25-26**).



- **Rev. Yaa TAJIR JIBARA – SIC:** Prayer for Government (Local, State, National government Leaders, Employees and Volunteers).
- **Child Muzamel** prayed for Children in the Country, their wellbeing, And Education (*Ephesians. 6: 1-3*).
- **Rt. Rev Wilson NOAH RULE – ELCSS** Prayed - denouncing all evil in the Land.

6.0 INTERCESSION: Fr. James Oyet (SSCC General Secretary)

Intercessor: Lord in your mercy.

ALL: Hear our prayers.

Leader: Prayer for Peace in South Sudan:

All: God the Father of Love and Mercy,
You created our people from every clan,
tribe and nationality.

It is your will that all our people should
live in harmony, peace and unity,
because we are all brothers and sisters.
we ask forgiveness for the times we
failed to live together in Peace.

Heal our offenses and help us to
reconcile with one another.

Grant to our Leaders your divine wisdom
and help us all to promote Respect,
Justice and true Reconciliation, so that
the people of South Sudan may live in
Unity and Peace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our
Lord. **AMEN.**

**Leader: Let us pray with confidence in the Words
Our Lord Jesus Christ gave us.**

All: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be your
Name, Your kingdom come, your will be
done on earth as in heaven. Give us
today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against. Lead us not into
temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thy is Kingdom, the Power, and the
Glory are yours, now and forever. AMEN.

7.0 MUSLIM PRAYER

Muslim prayed for peace & reconciliation; as sons and daughters of South Sudan.

8.0 H.E PRESIDENT'S WORD

H.E the President declared release of all political prisoners in South Sudan.

9.0 CLOSING REMARKS AND BLESING

His Grace Paulino LUKUDU LORO, Metropolitan Archbishop of Catholic Church – Juba questioned the Government Leadership! Towards the end of his remarks, Archbishop Lokudu called to the podium retired bishops; Paride Taban and Nathaniel Garang Anyieth to bless the Nation. ([Full remarks in Annex I](#)).

10.0 ANNEX

10.1 Annex i

Closing Remark by the Archbishop of the Catholic Diocese of Juba, Paulino Lukudu Loro

“We have been invited to this National Prayer for Repentance and Forgiveness by the President. I very much hope, and I believe that the majority of us –so innocent, so good, so sincere in heart have really come to pray”.

Your Excellency, the reason why I came here today for this prayer, is because I know the weak; the poor are the ones to come to pray. And that is why I really decided to come to pray, because as we are seeing them now bearing this heat, these sons are the very ones who are touched in their lives by the difficulties and the desperate situation of our country. We have come to pray so that God may open our hearts to accept what is really wrong with us in this country. Since we have been in this heat and in this moment, our repentance and forgiveness will have a meaning.

Your Excellency, we are praying that may God grant us the results of this prayer. This prayer, your Excellency, the way I look at it; this situation that we are seeing with us and among us and in front of us of our situation are a double-edge sword for us all. This prayer today, I think it is a dangerous prayer. It is a difficult prayer for us all. It is especially for somebody and a few of us who might have not prayed well with clear conscience, and who might not have prayed with the right intentions.

This prayer is dangerous today, because if you have come here, I believe this bitterness of our heat, will not go in vain, but God will reply to us. I therefore say, if this prayer is correct and is true, then it's about our peace. We are standing for peace and we are praying for peace. Are we going to choose peace or evil?

Your Excellency, I want to question you; why did you call this people to the heat here like this; are they coming to choose evil or to choose peace? Is that what your intention is, to bring us here to suffer like this? I hope nobody will be sick today because of this heat. I believe you have invited us to see this suffering because you want peace.

Our government, which way are going to take and what is the government going to do after this prayer? Is the government going to choose evil or peace? Mr. President, take heed after this. We are telling you that after this prayer, your Excellency, go into a room and pray and decide for peace in the country.

We expect peace, Justice, forgiveness, genuine dialogue, good governance, security, rule of law after this prayer. We expect after this prayer an end to; raping, torture, arbitrary arrests, corruption, tribalism. These things will continue if this prayer is misused.

“My brothers and sisters, our way forward now is working, doing and choosing peace and not for war.”

CONFESSION PRAYER BY H.E SALVA KIIR MAYARDIT: PRESIDENT OF SOUTH SUDAN

Powerful and ever living God, I thank you, for even though I am a sinner, your unprofitable servant – not because of my worth, but in the kindness of your mercy. You have fed me with the precious body and blood of your son, our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that you may not bring condemnation and punishment, but forgiveness and salvation to the people of South Sudan.

May you be a helmet of faith and a shield of good will? Holy God, on this day and all the days of my life, I entrust to your merciful heart my body and my soul. All my acts, thoughts, choices, desires, words, deeds, my entire life, so that with your assistance, all may be ordered to the good according to the will of your beloved son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Help me God to seek you always and live righteously, to act courageously, and to speak from your wisdom. Give me a clear mind and an open heart, so that I may witness you in our country. Remind me God to be who you would want to be – regardless of what I am doing, or whom I am with. Grant, oh King of Heaven, that ever in my heart, I may have fear and love –alike for your most sweet son. That I may always give thanks for the many blessings bestowed upon me, not for my merit, but by your loving kindness.

And what I may ever make a pure and sincere confession and do true penance for my sins, in order that I might deserve to obtain your mercy and grace. Most merciful God, through my shortcomings, I have sinned against you in thoughts, in words, and deeds by what I have done and what I have failed to do.

I humbly repent and ask for your loving mercy and forgiveness. Whatever is in my power to do for the people of South Sudan, please Lord Help me to be your instrument of love, service delivery, peace, reconciliation and forgiveness. Heavenly Father, lead me safely to everlasting happiness with you. I pray that you will lead me, a sinner, to the banquet where you with your son and Holy Spirit are true and perfect live, total fulfillments, Holy Spirit, everlasting joy, gladness –without end – and perfect happiness to your saints. Grant this God, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

MARCH 02, 2017 PRESIDENTIAL ORDER FOR NATIONAL PRAYER:

“We need to ... pray, repent and forgive each other for the problems that we might have committed against one another for the last four years so that we start a new chapter in our relations as citizens of this nation. We have been going through untold suffering and it is time we should open up all our avenues for our citizens to dialogue and pray together; all the state governors to observe this day in the same spirit. We will need to ask our Diaspora community to pray with us on this day so that we turn over plights to almighty God for a better year 2017,” President Salva Kiir said on March 2, 2017 while declaring the day for National Prayers.

10.3 Annex iii

HOMILY PRAYER: BISHOP DR. ISAIAH MAJOK DAU (SUDAN PENTECOSTAL CHURCH)

“I hear people say God has cursed South Sudan. I am afraid, I disagree. We are not cursed. We are blessed, but we are sinners. That is why we hate ourselves, that is why we kill ourselves, that is why we backbite ourselves. So we are the problem! But we have been given opportunity to be forgiven, to be enriched and to be healed.

Our opportunity is if we humble ourselves. We should consider others better than us by not despising other people. That means we do not think other tribes are less human than us because we are from a particular tribe. I don't care what office you hold, you are a human-being. And we accept that we can be wrong –that is humility. Humility is not keeping quiet, but giving other people space in our heart and in our thinking.

We need to pray by turning our attention to God. But let me tell you my brother and my sister, money is not God. All of us need to turn from our bad ways. That is the meaning of repentance; If you are repenting today, and you use to kill people, don't kill anyone because you have repented. If you are repenting today, and you use to abuse others, from today, begin to love people. If you were a thief, now that you have repented, you begin to give to people instead of taking from people. That is repentance.

It is meaningless to say we are repenting, and then we go doing our normal things that we do every day. We are not cheating God, we are cheating ourselves; If we are repenting, we should stop saying that tribe or this tribe, and that person; we should begin to say the people of South Sudan are my people.

Let us turn from our wicked ways, people of South Sudan. If we want God to forgive us, let us humble ourselves. We need true healing in this country. We are sick with hatred, killing, war, poverty, tribalism, we need healing. We need complete healing; If we seek healing, our economy will be healed, our politics will be healed, our communities, roads, government will be healed.

For those of us who were born in 1955, we were born in the war, grew up, got married and even our grandchildren during war. But if today we are turning away from our sins, then I pray that I will not die in the time of war; I want to see the blessings of God on South Sudan before I die, I want to see the people of South Sudan united; I want to see them live in peace and harmony. That is my prayer. And as I hear the National Anthem every day, I have hope in myself! The hope is that the best is yet to come for this country: God is going to prosper us; God is going to heal us. But we must repent, we must return to God and we must unite.

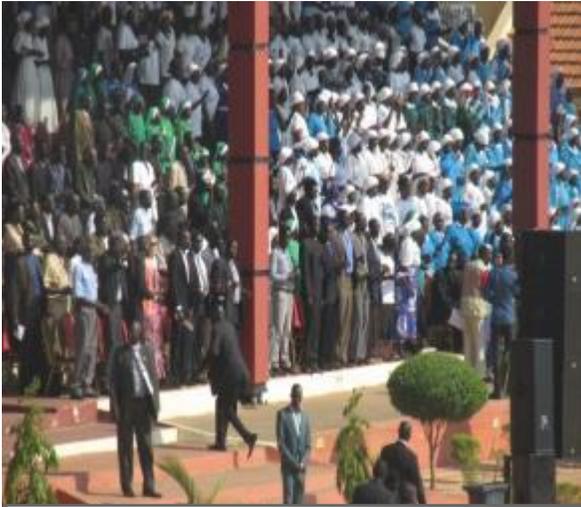
The great God of heaven will raise this nation again, and this nation shall be great one day in the community of nations. There will be a time that they will welcome you, and they will not ask you like they ask me at the airports; they say ‘why are you fighting? I pray for a time they will ask me; how did you get it together? And I will say there is God in heaven, and he has blessed us.”

10.4 Annex iv

Key Picture

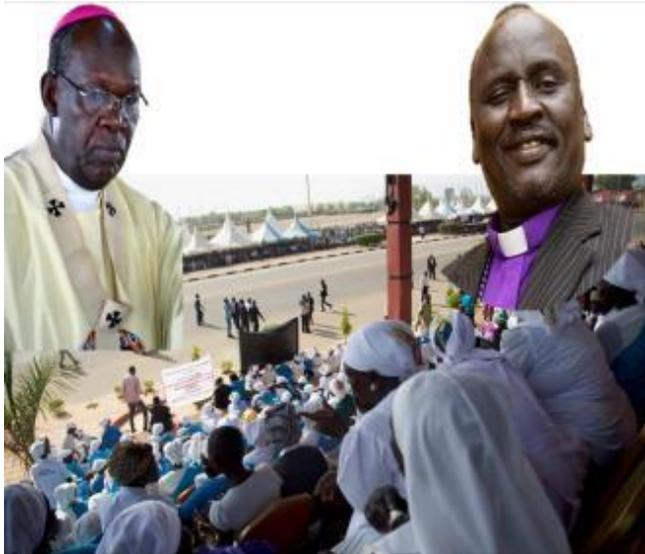


Arch. Lukudu, Arch. Bul, Bishop Paride & Anyieth



Church congregation and Employees

Church Leaders praying for the President of the Republic of South Sudan, and the Nation (South Sudanese).



Arch. Paulino LUKUDU and Bishop Isaiah



Rev. Awatif, Rev. Gabriel, Rev. Okumu

Church Leaders of South Sudan and the overall representative South Sudan church fraternity during the National Day of Prayer at Dr. John Garang Mausoleum.

10.5 Annex v



H.E Salva Kiir Mayardit greeted retired Nathaniel Garang Anyieth (middle) of the Military and the Police Forces at the extreme left and right of the pictures above.



Archbishop Deng Bul behind the greeting scene of H.E Salva Kiir Mayardit, the President of the Republic of South Sudan and H.E Wani Igga, the 2nd Vice President.

10.6 Annex vi



Fr. James OYET LATANSIO (General Secretary SSCC)



SSCC - National Choir

Fr. James Oyet (Master of Ceremony) at the podium for the Introduction of the National Prayer. Next were collective choir from various churches representing South Sudan Council of Churches.



Bishop, Reverends and women pastors on March



Church Women during Procession Session

Church Leaders at lead of the morning procession from Gudele-Custom Round-about during the National Day of Prayer.