



## **SOUTH SUDAN**

Restoring Unity & Dignity of the People

**National Salvation Front/Army**

**General Headquarters**

Office of the Chairman and Commander-in-Chief

**25<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

### **Christmas and New Year's Message**

#### **Fellow South Sudanese,**

I greet you all in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ, our movement the National Salvation Front and our beloved country South Sudan. I wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy festive season.

I convey special Christmas wishes to our gallant NAS forces, families of our martyrs, all NAS members, supporters, and sympathizers.

As we celebrate this Christmas, let us reflect on God's love and salvation plan for mankind. Christmas accords us the opportunity to renew our faith and embrace the message of love, sharing hope, forgiveness, peace and reconciliation. It is my hope and desire that this message shall contribute towards fostering a safe and free country where good governance, rule of law, justice and freedom reigns!

#### **Fellow countrymen,**

South Sudan is ending yet another year with pain, trauma and untold agony imposed on its people by a ruling kleptocracy that neither cares nor caters for the needs and welfare of its citizens. All the emotional and psychological traumas are outcomes of widespread insecurity marked by targeted and extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests, robbery, psychological torment, physical torture, sexual violence, severe hunger, and lack of medical service to mention but only a few.

The National Salvation Front condemns such gross violations of human rights and crimes committed against humanity by the de facto regime in Juba. Instead of protecting citizens, the regime is deliberately and systematically unleashing terror and insecurity upon them. The dictatorial regime has also forced its infamous National Security Bill on our people by means of coercion, intimidation and blackmail.

I assure our masses that NAS remains a determined and a committed movement with a mission to salvage the country from the claws of tyranny, tribal hegemony and the greedy elite. NAS remains focused on accomplishing its objectives.

## **Fellow Countrymen,**

The country's superficial economy has literally collapsed; with its major economic resource - oil - no longer a viable foreign currency generator. Civil servants, officers and personnel of the security sector and contractors, have all not been paid their wages and dues for over a year; a cardinal responsibility of a functional and responsible government that the Kiir regime has failed to live up to. Most of our people are living below the poverty line, and in squalid and excruciating economic conditions. As a matter of fact, I painfully recognize that many of you are not likely to celebrate Christmas because you have not been paid your deserved salaries due to the absence of a responsible governance system.

NAS applauds your resilience and steadfastness during this difficult time. I urge all our people not to surrender to tyranny and dictatorship but to be united in their struggle for freedom and justice. Do not allow the regime to shatter the fabric of our families and society.

I call on the IGAD countries and the International Community to focus on supporting the people of South Sudan in their relentless quest for free, justice, peaceful and prosperous country. It is high time to review the support to the regime and its failed agreements that will not bring peace to the country. Such tolerance will only breed more conflicts which will hasten the collapse and disintegration of South Sudan.

In our ardent pursuit of the salvation of the people and the country, NAS is committed to bringing about genuine peace. This is the basis for our relentless call on the government in Juba to join us in a Roundtable Conference where the people of South Sudan can discuss the root causes of the conflict and find solutions. We firmly believe that it is the best and practical mechanism for achieving lasting and sustainable peace.

## **Fellow Countrymen,**

The Juba regime abandoned the Rome peace mediation process and instead connived to circumvent it by launching a new peace process dubbed "*The Tumaini Initiative*"! Time has shown that the *Tumaini Initiative* is another attempt to consolidate power by the SPLM and the ruling elite – not to bring genuine peace to the people of South Sudan. Despite the notable widespread condemnation by our people and most foreign governments, his de facto regime is adamant and reluctant to bring peace, as it thrives on chaos, disorder and instability.

NAS assures the people of South Sudan that it shall not be party to a peace negotiation process that is bent on offering positions and individual benefits to members of the opposition. It is our firm belief that this initiative will not revive the so-called Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS). On the contrary, it will create more conflicts. It is only through a genuine, comprehensive and an inclusive process that brings all stake-holders together that can bring about sustainable peace.

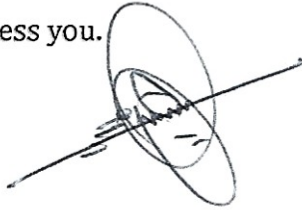
Time has come to convene a comprehensive, inclusive and genuine peace-process in a neutral venue to discuss the political crisis in South Sudan to achieve sustainable peace. This is the best way to rescue the country from collapse and disintegration.

Silencing the sound of guns alone without preventing Kiir and his security apparatus from killing our people, looting of their resources and robbing them of their freedoms and rights is **not peace!** Kiir is using other deadlier ways like hunger, absence of medical care, lack of proper schools, lack of clean water, and promotion of community conflicts to kill and torture our people.

NAS shall continue to remain firm in the struggle for the rights of the people of South Sudan and shall resist the current political status quo imposed by the de facto regime.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a New Year (2025) of Peace and prosperity!

God bless you.



**Gen. Thomas Cirillo Swaka**  
Chairman and Commander-in- Chief  
National Salvation Front (NAS)