

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- The referendum takes place 01/09/11 -01/15/2011
- In the US there are three places where Sudanese can vote: Omaha, NE, Washington DC and Phoenix, AZ

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# Immigrant Herald

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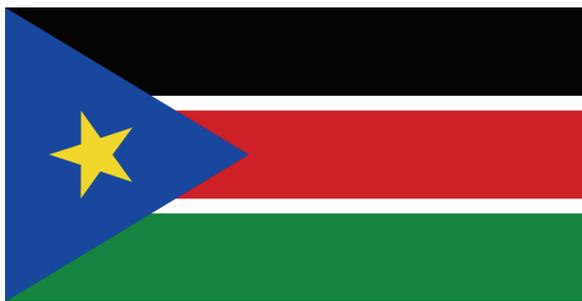
REFERENDUM 2011

## The South Sudan Referendum

In 2005, Khartoum and the SPLA signed the Naivasha Agreement. The agreement was mainly to bring peace to Sudan, introduce democracy to all Sudanese, to equitable share the country's oil revenues and to set a referendum by which South Sudan would have a referendum for its own independence. Sudan had been in war in two phases: from 1955 and from 1983. The war originated in South Sudan, and then spread countrywide to the Nuba Mountains and the Blue

Nile, Dafur and the east. Over two million people died from the war, the highest civilian death toll of any war since

Finally, the referendum is being held to decide whether South Sudan should remain part of Sudan or be a country on its own. A simultaneous referendum will be held in South Abyei on whether or not they will join South Sudan. The referendum will be held from the 9th to 15 January 2011. Provision has been made for the people of Sudan in the United States to be able to take part in the Referendum. Sudanese people in the United States will be able to vote in three places in the United States: Omaha, NE, Washington D.C and Phoenix, AZ. Please cast your vote, your future is stake.



**The flag of South Sudan**

WW2. Over 2 million people became refugees, and over 5 million were displaced. The root cause of the war was exploitation and domination.

## Repubilika ya Congo: "La Congolaise"

Congo Brazzaville (not DRC) is in Central Africa. The former French colony became independent on 08/15/1960 under Fulbert Youlou, a priest. The country has had a series of coups: Youlou was ousted in a 1963 coup, and the military ruled briefly before

installing the civilian government of Massamba -Debat, which adopted "scientific socialism". A coup d'etat of 08/1965 led by Ngouabi ousted Debat. Ngouabi himself was assassinated on 03/16/1977, and a military junta led by Yhombi-Opango

took over. Yhombi-Opango was forced out of power in 1979 and Sassou Nguesso took over till 1992 when he lost power to Lissouba after introducing multiparty politics. In 1997, after bloody a bloody civil war, Sassou Nguesso returned to power.

**"The new Prime Minister is a Somali American "**

**"Africa's biggest success story"**

**"She was married at 17."**

## News from the *Jamhuuriyadda Soomaaliya*

Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed has been named the new Prime Minister for the transitional government by the President of Somalia, Sharif Ahmed. The previous Prime Minister resigned in September 2010. The new Prime Minister is a Somali American who has worked in the Somali Embassy in the United States. There is a "4.5 formula" in Somalia, a

system which divides the whole country into four major clans and an alliance of smaller clans. Under this system, the president, prime minister, speaker of parliament and Supreme Court chief of Somalia cannot be from the same clan. The new President is 48. The federal government of Somalia has been having insurgency problems, and the insurgents have been

controlling the capital Mogadishu, parts of the south and central Somalia. Since 1991 when warlords overthrew the government of Siad Barre, Somalia has not had a fully operational government. After the coup, the rival clans failed to agree to form a government, and the country fell into anarchy. The new Premier is 48.

## Rwanda Nziza!

Rwanda, a former Belgian colony, is located in the middle of Africa. The major ethnic groups are Tutsi (15%) and Hutu (84%). At independence, a Tutsi king was at the helm, and many Hutus were not happy with that. The Tutsi king was overthrown, and many Tutsis then went to exile and started waging a civil war against the government,

throwing the country into turmoil that culminated in the Genocide of 1994. Over 800,000 people died in the Genocide, while over 2 million became refugees. Many Rwandans have since returned to their country, but some went to the Democratic Republic of Congo where they started an insurgency against the Rwandese government. The last elec-

tions in Rwanda were in 2010, and the sitting president, Paul Kagame, won by a 93% margin after all political parties opposed to him were disqualified. Under him, Rwanda has been called "Africa's biggest success story".

## Liberia: The love of liberty Brought us here!

Liberia has an amazing female President who has been duped one of the top ten female leaders of the world and the best president her country has ever had. Grandmother of four, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf won the Liberian elections in November 2005. Sirleaf is a

graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, The University of Colorado, Boulder, and Harvard's John F Kennedy School of Government. Ellen's achievements are truly amazing considering that she was married at 17. The women of Africa are proud of her.

# Arizona style bill coming



A happy Immigrants child in NE

State Senator Janssen of Fremont intends to introduce an Arizona style bill. Remember that the Arizona law required police officers in their regular duties to ques-

tion suspects they suspected to be in the country illegally of their immigration status. The constitutionality of the Arizona law has been questioned, and a federal judge has blocked some parts of the Arizona law. State Senator Janssen is reported to have said that "This is something the people in my district —

and the state of Nebraska — want to see done." Others do not think that is how Nebraskans feel though. " I think, in general, this is an idea that doesn't resonate with Nebraskans," said Becky Gould, executive director of the Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest. ( story from the Grand Island Independent , December 31st, 2010)

*“this is an idea that doesn't resonate with Nebraskans”*

## Who is hiring in Grand Island?

- Home Depot - cashier, morning and Night Freight.
- Fairfield Inn and Suites - Front Desk Associate.
- Malace International - Fork Lift operators.
- Anderson Ford - Part Time Receptionist
- JBS- Production/ slaughter- Human Resource Clerk, RN/LPN
- City of Grand Island- Firefighter/ Paramedic
- Wal-Mart Stores
- VA Home

## Our Homework Help Program

Immigrants are faced with many challenges. We might not know how to read and write. Yet our children are in schools, and homework is a vital part of education. Homework is a tactic for a child to remember the things that he or she learnt in class. Homework also helps the child to digest the things that he

is learning at school, and enables the teacher to measure the fruits of his or her labor. Homework also instills self discipline in children. Realizing the importance of Homework, the Immigrant Center has started a Homework Help Program Monday through Friday from 3P-5P. This pro-

gram helps children to do their Homework. We work closely with teachers, who guide us as to exactly what they need us to do to help the children. The Homework Help class will be held every day between 3 and 5 P.M. We have limited spots for this program. To sign up your child, please call or email us.



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service to all with dignity, respect and  
without discrimination

The Immigrant Center of Nebraska was formed in November 2010 by a group of immigrants with a vision to empower immigrants in Nebraska through the provision of services through organizations manned by immigrants who speak the languages of and understand the cultures of the recipients of the services. It is our vision to provide services with respect, dignity and without discrimination. Our aims and objectives include welcoming immigrants to Nebraska through the provision of immigration services; helping immigrants with educational services e.g. helping children with parents who cannot read and write with homework so as to improve the performance of immigrant children at school; helping immigrants with job searching; encouraging and empowering immigrants to start businesses, especially businesses that cater to unique needs of immigrant communities, and providing advocacy for the elimination of discrimination, especially in the work place. You can sign up for this newsletter by calling us, emailing us, faxing us or posting us your request.



## An African Children's Story: Thou shall not steal

Once upon a time, there was an old man called Bhopop. Bhopop had the largest peanut farm in Lupane District of Zimbabwe, and he made a lot of money selling his peanuts to shop owner's in the area. However, Bhopop was very worried because someone kept on stealing his peanuts. He would hire people from the village to pluck out the peanuts from the ground and place them upside down so that the rain would clean them up before they were plucked off the plants. The peanuts would be left in the farm in several large round heaps. However, Bhopop noticed that every time he left his peanuts in the farm this way, someone would come and steal some of the heaps of peanuts. This had been happening for several years. Bhopop decided that he

was going to put a stop to the thievery.

In Zimbabwe there is a special tree where Bhopop lived called inofi. The bark of this tree has a white sap that solidifies into a sticky substance. Bhopop collected as much of the inofi tree

sap as he could, and made a large statue out of it. The statue was as tall as him and as big as him. He placed the statue right in the middle of his peanut farm, near where there were some heaps of peanuts that had been plucked off the ground.

That night, the thief came to Bhopop's farm. As usual, he had a large sack to put the harvested peanuts in.

Find out what happened in the February 2011 issue of the Immigrant Herald)



From left to right: a future space scientist, a water engineer and a heart surgeon.