



## REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

### The President

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His Excellency Salva Kiir Mayardit  
President of the Republic of South Sudan  
Statement on Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) Day

May 16, 2021

Fellow citizens,

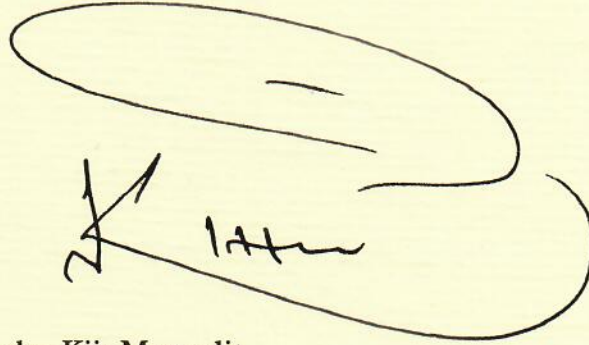
Today marks 38 years since battalion 105 fired the first bullet in Bor, the act that started the second phase of our journey to statehood. The SPLA day is a landmark event in our history. On this day, we recall the sacrifices made by our martyrs and reflect on the heroic deeds of men and women who didn't live to see the birth of our country.

In their honour, let us salute all the SPLA formations from battalion 105 and 104, Jamus, Tiger & Timsa, Koryom, Mour Mour, Kazuk, Zal Zal, Intifada to Intisar, and all other units who answered the national call. Let us also salute the officers, chief among them, our leader, Comrade Dr. John Garang de Mabior who ably led these formations to the attainment of our aspiration: free and independent South Sudan.

To organized forces, I applaud you for your dedication to your duty in the face of mounting challenges. Things will not remain this way for long. With progress in peace implementation, there is a silver lining in the horizon.

To our fellow citizens, this year's SPLA day is significant. We are celebrating it in the midst of the Revitalized Peace Agreement implementation. We are also seriously engaged with Holdout groups to make this peace inclusive.

Our intention in this process is to restore stability in our country and I call upon all of you to fully support us in this process by embracing peaceful coexistence and shunning violence. Long live the history of our liberation struggle and long live South Sudan!

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'S' shape with a horizontal line through it, and the name 'Kiir' written below it.

**Salva Kiir Mayardit**  
President  
Republic of South Sudan  
Juba, South Sudan

