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**Translation of Three Chapters From the Book Titled  
The Sudanese Press-History and Documentation**

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**بحث تكميلي لنيل درجة ماجستير الآداب في الترجمة**

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## The Verse

*(In the name of Allah, the most beneficent, the most merciful)*

**(Read! In the Name of your Lord\* who has created\*  
Has created man from a clot\* Read! And your Lord is  
the Most Generous\* Who has taught by the pen\* Has  
taught man that which he knew not)**

**(Al-Alaq: 1-6)**

## Abstract

It was the foreigners who laid the foundation of the Sudanese press. Egyptians, Shawam the Greek community who participated in that effort by publication of the Sudanese “Gazette” which escorted the British colonization of Sudan.

The Book “The Sudanese Press-History and Documentation” covers nine chapters out of which three are the focusing point. The first chapter covers the emergence of the Sudanese Press by the foreigners. “Hadarat Al – Sudan”, “Alnahda” and “AlfajrAljadeed” were the first national Sudan newspapers. That was succeeded by the emergence of the parties’ newspapers in 1935 reflecting the ideas, ideologies and political skirmishes of the major parties; “Alumma” and the “Unionist National Party”. That period also witnessed the emergence of the regional press “Kurdfan” and “Aljazeera” newspapers.

The South had its share of the press by the writings of some Southern Sudanese intellectuals like the former minister, Bona Malwal. The research also covers the Sudanese press during the first military rule “1958-1964” and the second military rule “1965-1985” in addition to the parties’ press from the first period “1956-1958”- and “1964-1965”.

**Recommendations:** the gap since the mid seventieth up to date concerning the serious authenticated tracing of the development of the Sudanese press is English highly requested:

- The need for supply of new cadres of journalists with training and state of the art equipments of the press.
- Coping with the new global technological trends and attitudes of the press through close contact with the Arabian and western media.

## خلاصة

كان للأجانب القدح المُعلى في وضع اللبنات الأولى للصحافة السودانية كالمصريين والشمام والجالية الإغريقية التي ساهمت بالجهد بإصدار "الغازيتة" السودانية التي رافقت الاحتلال البريطاني للسودان.

ويغطي كتاب "الصحافة السوانية- تاريخ وتوثيق" تسع فصول، ثلث منها هي مركز الاهتمام، وتغطي الفصول الثلاث منها ظهور الصحافة السودانية بفضل الأجانب، وقد كانت "حضارة السودان" و "النهاية" و "الفجر الجديد" أول صحف وطنية، ثم أعقب ذلك ظهور الصحافة الوطنية في عام ١٩٣٥م والتي عكست أفكار وأيديولوجيات والمناوشات السياسية للأحزاب الرئيسية كحزب "الأمة" والحزب "الاتحادي الوطني" . كما شهدت تلك الفترة ظهور الصحافة الإقليمية كصحيفة "كردفان" و "الجزيرة". كما كان للجنوب نصيبيه في الصحافة من خلال كتابات بعض مثقفيه كالوزير الأسبق "بونا ملوال".

ويغطي البحث أيضاً الصحافة السودانية أثناء الحكم العسكري الأول ١٩٥٨-١٩٦٤ والحكم العسكري الثاني ١٩٦٥-١٩٨٥" بالإضافة إلى صحف الأحزاب من الفترة الأولى ١٩٥٨-١٩٥٦م" .

## الوصيات:

- الحاجة الملحة إلى ملء الفراغ منذ منتصف السبعينيات إلى تاريخه فيما يختص بمتابعة تطور الصحافة السودانية بالإنجليزية من خلال الدراسات المسؤولة الموثقة باللغة الإنجليزية.
- إضافة إلى تزويد الكوادر الجديدة من الصحفيين بالتدريب والمعدات الحديثة للصحافة.
- مساعدة الاتجاهات والمدارس التكنولوجية الحديثة للصحافة من خلال العلاقة الحميمة للصيغة بوسائل الإعلام العربية والغربية.

## **Acknowledgement**

Acknowledgment goes to Mr. Waleed Mahmoud, Libertarian, Faculty of Media, Omdurman Islamic University for the assistance in providing me with this rare reference.

It also covers my honorable professors to whom I say; “Thank you”, had it not been for their guidance and advice, this work would not have emerged to light.

Finally, the appreciation is to my wife, “wife of the wives” whose mid-night prayers and blessings have charged me with the spiritual zeal I need. To all I say; “if I grow, the favor is yours”.

I hope that this would be helpful to the current students of journalism and who might be interested in the political social and cultural roles played by the Sudanese press, be they nationals or foreigners.

## **Introduction**

This book deals with the development of the Sudanese press since its origination in 1899, with the emergence of the “Gazette” newspaper which appeared with the British occupation of Sudan. It traces the historical stages through which the Sudanese press had undergone since then to the present status.

The book is divided into three parts which combine nine chapters as follows:

**The first part:** It explores the Sudanese press before independence, and contains four chapters; the first chapter deals with the origination of the Sudanese press by the efforts of foreign nationals starting with the Sudanese Gazette, then the emergence of the first Sudanese newspaper in 1903 which was “Sudan” newspaper that was initiated by the help of the Lebanese who were the owners of “Almugattam” newspaper which was being issued in Egypt. It also discusses the other newspaper which emerged because of the efforts of foreigners, such as the Greeks and Shawam. These newspapers appeared in a span of time that extended until 1924.

Pertaining to the second chapter it deals with the presence of the national press which was founded by the Sudanese who

contributed in it by capital or editing. It was “HadaratAlsudan “, followed by both newspapers “Al Nahada” and “AlfajrAljadeed”. The third chapter explores the emergence of the parties’ press which emerged in response to the establishment of the Sudanese parties in 1935. This was represented in “Alneel “ newspaper followed by “Soat Al Sudan” newspaper and “Al Umma” newspaper.

Concerning the fourth chapter, it deals with the political issues which were discussed by Sudanese press whether by the newspapers of the parties or the independent ones prior to independence. Those issues which then dominated and controlled the political life in Sudan were represented by the Sudanese Egyptian relationship, the different views of the parties about this relationship and the establishment of the legislative assembly about which the conceptions of the parties disagreed, and finally the Southern Sudan problem.

The fifth chapter discusses the emergence of the provincial press and the specialized one. It focuses on ‘Kurdofan newspaper” which is considered to be the first provincial newspaper in Sudan, in addition to the other newspapers. It also focuses on the laborers’ press which is considered to be the most prominent aspect of the specialized press in Sudan. Thus the first part ends and the second part starts.

**The second part:** it deals with the Sudanese press of the independence. This section is divided according to the diversity of the military regime's systems to the parties' system. As a result this part covers two chapters, which are the sixth and seventh. The sixth chapter deals with the press during both military rules from 1958 to 1964, and the second military rule from 1969 to 1985.

The seventh chapter discusses the Sudanese press during both periods of the parties' rule. The first period runs together with the independence years, 1956 to 1958, to be succeeded by the second parties' rule.

This continued after October revolution in 1964 until May coup in 1969. The second phase started with the public uprising in April 1986 that ended Numeiry's rule, which is the second military rule in Sudan. Thus the second part ends and the third part starts.

**The Third Part:** it covers two chapters: one of them is about the third part which tackles the legal legislation press work through the occupation years and after independence. It discusses the press legislations for the press work through the occupation years and after independence. It discusses the press legislations which were issued in 1930. The other chapter deals with the general features of the Sudanese press and the influence of the Egyptian press.

In the final chapter, the book includes a special documentary appendix that contains a surveillance of the Sudanese newspapers and journalists since the emergence of the first newspaper until 1989, and the press resolutions through different periods.

### **The Study's Method:**

The study utilized the historical method and the survey method. It used its content analysis method for the historical description of the study as well as the national interview.

### **The study's References and Tools:**

To obtain the information of the fourth studies of books, scientific studies and essays in English and Arabic, the researcher relied on the reference that have just been referred to. He also referred to Sudan Records Center and reviewed the content's of the newspaper that were issued in their first years, such as "Sudan" Newspaper, "Hadarat Al Sudan and AlrayAla'm". He also relied on the official communities' reports and seminars papers which discussed the Sudanese press. In addition he conducted interviews, with a number of pioneer journalists in Sudanese Papers.

### **The Previous Studies:**

The previous studies which dealt with the Sudanese press have been divided into three sections:

- **Specialized books and Studies:**

These are of two categories; the first ones are studies written by specialized journalists, and university studies submitted by Sudanese to obtain the M.A or Ph. D degrees.

- **Personal Memoirs** Written by a number of Sudanese journalists in which they recorded journalistic events that occurred during their life through their professional experiences. These memories were dominated by the personal subjectivity in which the political, social and journalistic life was portrayed.
- **Public Books:** These were books that discussed part of the modern history of Sudan interposed by some information about the Sudanese press as an intellectual phenomenon related to the development of the political, cultural and social life in Sudan. What concerns us, here, from the three types of studies is the first one though the remaining parts are not neglected.

### **Firstly- Books and Studies:**

The study that was written by Mahjoub Mohammed Saleh in 1971 issued by the publication Department, Khartoum university is considered the first modern and serious study about the Sudanese press, entitled “The Sudanese press In Half a Century” the first section, which deals with the history of the Sudanese press from its

emergence up to thirties. The writer had the intention to complete his study by issue of the second part of the study, but he stopped at the thirties of the last century. The study consist of 135 pages of the small size and eleven chapters .In the study's introduction the writer refers to the fact that his motive for the study was to respond to the request of the Sudanese philosophical society to write them a short research about the history and development of the press in Sudan. However the short research developed into a study that drew attention to the significance of the fact that researchers should take interest in history and development of the Sudanese press.

The writer initiated his study by an introduction about the establishment of printing press, the press and the printing press entry in Sudan through Egypt at the end of the nineteenth century as the share of Sudan was a small stone printer whose entry in Sudan could not be specifically known.

In the second chapter, which was dedicated to the Sudanese circumstances in the first years of occupation, the writer mentions that the first newspaper known in Sudan was “ The Gazette” which was published after the condominium’s “ Egypt and Britain” agreement in 7 March 1899. It was assigned for the spread of the government legislations, orders and advertisements. Afterwards, he discusses. “The Sudan” newspaper which was issued in the first of

February 1903. In consecutive chapters , he deals with the second newspaper which is “Raed Al Sudan” issued in 4 January 1913, followed by “ Al Sudan” newspaper which appeared in 1919.

The researcher did not refrainfrom penetrating into these newspapers using the content of analysis which he restricted to the analysis method of the content of editorials of some newspapers that were discussed within the study. He also didn’t ignore the political, educational and social circumstances that accompanied the period of the emergence of the Sudanese press. In addition to that, the writer took notice of the press legislations during the first years of the birth of the Sudanese press. In a chapter that he assigned for “ The press and law ” in which he mentioned the fact that the colonial government thought, in 1912 to issue a legislation for the press, but the outbreak of the first word war deterred its appearance.

The writer concludes his study by speaking about “Alnahdha” magazine which was issued in 1951 followed by “Alfajr” magazine in 1932. Both magazines represented an outlet for the Sudanese intellectuals to express their opinions. The writer ends his study in 1936.

2/ Next comes the second book by Dr. HassanainAbdulhader which was issued in 1987 by AlnahdaAlarabia press in Egypt with

the title “ History of the civilization of Sudan, The first part, 1899-1919”. The book includes the details of history and development of “Hadarat Al Sudan” newspaper where the writer discussed the content of the political, social and cultural essays, using the style of analysis. He also considered the news aspect as a source of history and reflected the political point of view of the newspaper.

The writer sums up his opinion about “HadaratAlSudan” newspaper in its first stage, and considers it a newspaper that reflects opinion which connects the Sudanese with news of the outside world. It also cared for the subject of the Arabic language and considered it the first pioneering newspaper in Sudanese press from which Sudanese journalists graduated in later years.

According to Dr. HassanainAddulghader’s study the newspapers was devoid of pictures, caricature and the literary story. Its style was almost a literary one rather than a journalistic one, thus this study was restricted to “ HadaratAlSudan” newspaper.

3/ Dr. MahasenSaad study “ The Sudanese press 1900-1939” was issued by Khartoum University in 1977 in a series of studies on Sudanese journalism and is of a small size consisting of 50 pages .Its introduction reflects a general view of the newspapers and magazines which were issued in the last third of the twentieth

century. In fact , it is a concise historical narration for the newspapers which were issued the time period of the research. Afterwards she dealt with “Al fajr” magazine as a literary magazine and its role in the political circumstances in that period which witnessed the emergence of the parties’ life in 1935 and 1937. Those years were included in the time period of the research.

The researcher focuses on “ Alfajr” magazine. She mentions that the magazine had the favor for allowing many Sudanese national personalities in the national policy, the press and diplomacy which lately greatly influenced Sudanese politics. Of those ones were Mohammed Ahmed AlMahjoub , SalehAbdulgadir , Ahmed YousfHashim and Yousof Mustafa Altiney.

Those are the books which discussed the Sudanese press. It is observed that they stopped at the early years and didn’t search through the succeeding years of the thirtieth period of the last century. If Mahjoub Mohammed Saleh’s study had greatly reviewed the Sudanese press generally, in the first third of the twentieth century, Dr. Hassan Abdulghader’s study had specialized in the research and analysis of “HadaratAlSudan” Dr. MahasinSaad study focused on “Alfajr” magazine as a Sudanese national magazine that expressed the Sudanese intellectuals views during the colonizer period in the thirties of the last century.

The favor of the studies of MahjoubMoahmedSlaeh and HassanainAbdulghader is that it opened the door for the researchers to study the history and development of the Sudanese press, and drew the attention of the significance of carrying on from the point they stopped at to complete the research in the history and development of the Sudanese Press.

Following is a review of the scientific studies to receive the M.A or PH.D degree from College of Media, Cairo University, or Khartoum University:-

1- A research presented by MahjoubAbdulmalikBabiker for the P.H.D degree, University of Khartoum, written in English. Later he issued it in a book in 1985 by University of Khartoum. The research contains six chapters, a conclusion and five appendixes. The first chapter deals with the political, cultural and economic circumstances in Sudan under the foreign occupation from 1884 to 1935. The second chapter also deals with the origination of the Sudanese newspapers by the foreign nationals because of the fact the Sudan was one of the colonized African states. The chapter tackles the emergence of the local press and its contemporary social conditions. He deals with “ Alhadara newspaper” as it was owned by Sudanese characters that enjoyed a religious and

sectarian role in Sudan like SayyedAlMirghani, SayyedAbdulrahmanAlmahdi and SayyedAlshareefAl.Hindi.

He hints to the origination of the party of Sudan in 1935 and the emergence of “Al-Neel” newspaper and formerly “Al-Fajr” magazine.

The researcher doesn't pause much at the thirties era of the last century like his predecessor, but he talks about the forties era “SoatAlSudan” newspaper in 1943 and its role in the political life and the parties' movement.

He assigns the third chapter of this study to explore the financial circumstances of the newspapers and printing, and how they were poor newspapers that relied on contributions and government advertisements which led to the disappearance of many of them due to the stoppage of these allowances and government advertisements, for reasons dealing with its government's relations or political attitudes.

In this chapter he discusses “Kurdofan” newspaper as the first provincial newspaper issued in Sudan about Kurdufan district which is one of Sudanese regions.

In the fourth and fifth chapter, he talks about the future of the press in Sudan from the economic side, the role it can play in the

political, social and cultural life and its relationship with the government. He also talks about the pressure encountered by the press from the government. For instance he considers the methods of press censorship and the press legislation in 1950, which imposed censorship of the press, and how the national press strived for its freedom.

2/ The media policy in Sudan through the period from January 1962 to January 1967, an analytical study of both “Al- Ayyam and “Al-sahafa” newspapers.

The study was prepared in 1978 by Ahmed Mustafa Omer, from college of Media, Cairo University for the M.A degree. It discussed the status of the press under the supervision of the government, and the one party policy, which was the socialist union since the just of April 1972.

Theoretically the study focused on the governmental data and resolutions which cancelled the former newspaper , and restricted the newspapers to two , which were “Al Ayyam” and “AlSahafa” to be the property of the socialist union in accordance with the Egyptian experience in 1961.

The study presented an analysis for the content of “Al Ayyam” and “AL sahafa” newspapers and their interests that focused primarily on the news of the state prime minister. It also

cared for the capacity of distribution for the two newspapers through the years of research time.

3/ The role of the Sudanese press in the national movement for the period 1937 – 1956, which is a P.H.D thesis for the Sudanese researcher Salah Aldeen Mohammed from the college of Media, Cairo University 1984. This research studies the comprehensive role which was played by the Sudanese press in the national movement which targeted achievement of the national independence, wherein this period witnessed the first public organizational form for the national work represented in the emergence of the graduates conference in 1937. According to the researcher the national newspapers in this period formed the main public means in education until the final idea for establishing the command of the organization of the public graduates conference for the national work, and that this period acted as the basic foundation on which the recent press in Sudan was established.

In his study, the researcher discusses the emergence of the parties' newspapers which appeared with the beginning of the parties' movement. He also discusses the Sudanese newspapers which were issued in Cairo throughout the period.

This study is considered to be a serious study that is distinguished from its former ones by the scientific method, and

covers all sides and stages through which the press passed in Sudan, whether before the emergence of the Sudanese parties or that until few years before independence.

The study emerges as a completion of the former one which was written by the researcher to obtain the M.A degree from college of media, Cairo University in 1978 about a former period under the same title which is “The Role of the Sudanese press in the national movement during the period “1918-1935”. The researcher used the same method which he used in the second message; the historical and surveying method.

“The Sudanese Parties’Press and Its Attitude from The National Unity Through The Period 1945-1969” This is a P.H.D message presented by the Sudanese researcher “ AlNourDafallah Ahmed” from college of media, Cairo University in 1986. The message covers six chapter distributed in two sections. The first section covers three chapters about the national parties, their press in Sudan and the emergence of the parties’ newspapers. Afterward, the role of the parties’ press towards the critical circumstances in southern Sudan. The second section covers three other chapters, which are the attitude of the parties towards the national unity, the stand of the parties’ press from the parties’ crisis after October until the 25th. of May coup in 1969. He also discusses the press

technique and the technique production and advertisement in the parties' press.

### **Secondly- The personal Memoirs:**

There are a vanity of books that deal with the political and journalistic memoirs of the Sudanese politicians and journalists. Of these are the memories of Khider Hamad, Abdulmagid Abuhasabu and Mohammed Ahmed Mahjoub. Those memoirs dealt with the developments of the political life in Sudan from the conception of those as politicians who participated in making the events. Those memoirs covered their conception of those writers about the newspapers and the process thru the periods in which they shouldered the political and parties' responsibilities, whether before or after independence. In addition to the emergence of three books which are journalistic and political memories narrating the experience of their writers. They are "A Pauper's Memoir" for the Sudanese journalist, the deceased Abdullah Rajab, what was written by the journalist Mohammed Saeed Mohammed Alhassan, and what was published by the Sudanese journalist Alsir Hassan Fadl in series in politics newspapers in 1987 about his journalistic memoirs.

### **Thirdly- public books that dealt with part of the Sudanese press:**

Of those books was what some researchers of Arabic newspapers wrote like Philip De Trozy in his book about the history of the Arabic newspapers in 1913, and what was written by the Lebanese researcher Adeeb Marwa in his book, “The Arabic Newspapers Its Emergence and Development in 1961” and Ibrahim Abdu book about the distinguished ones of the Arabic press in 1930.

Those book dealt with the” Sudanese press in its first stage” out of what it dealt with in the Arabic press.

There are other books that dedicated some pages about the Sudanese press like “Sudan” for its writer Abdulla Hussein which was published in Cairo in 1935.

Those are of the most former studies that dealt with the Sudanese press. Most of them are characterized by the following:

- There were restricted to the first stage of the Sudanese press since its emergence until the pre establishment era of the parties in 1937, and two scientific studies that dealt with the Sudanese press during the parties’ period, and in the period at the aftermath of May coup in 1969, but that study focused on two newspapers only which were “Alayyam and

Alsahafa" from the angle of what they contained of news and governmental resolutions. It didn't discuss the political, economical and social circumstances in that period.

- Those studies were void of documentation except for Dr. Salah Muhialdeen message thru a specific period of the history of the Sudanese press, which is the period from 1937-1956.
- Most of those studies cared for the political role of the Sudanese press.
- Those studies, though limited in their size and redundancy, are considered pioneer studies for research in the history and development of the Sudanese press which necessitated the researches to proceed on through the same style and its development adding what is new to it that coped with the development of the political , social and economical incidents, and accordingly the development of the press itself, its diversity and role, specially that Sudan symbolizes a far extended society, with an area of one million miles with a diversity of races and cultures, and were basically established on the nature of the tribal and sectarian society. This diversity could influence the development of the

Sudanese press pertaining to its political, social and cultural role, and the range of what it reflects of the general symptoms for the society and the attempt to upgrade it.

## **THE FIRST CHAPTER**

### **The Pre Independence Sudanese Press**

#### **The first section:**

#### **The origination of the Sudanese press by the assistance of foreigners:**

The origination of the press in Sudan differs from the African states and the Arab ones .If the press had originated by the Europeans in Africa, the nationals and the educated in the Arab states , in Sudan it had originated by the foreigners who were loyal to the British .This is incase if we consider the "Sudan" newspaper as the first newspaper that was issued in Sudan .Its owners were the owners of "Almughattam" newspaper that was issued in Egypt.

Prior to the establishment of the "Sudan" newspaper there were some kind of journalistic forms which can't be considered newspapers in the strictest sense of the scientific meaning of the newspaper if the conception of the newspaper means the paper, the printing and the readers public, then the journalistic forms which appeared before the appearance of "The Sudan " do not enjoy this conception; for example, we don't consider the pamphlets of the Mahdia in 1885 a kind of newspaper. They were pamphlets acting as reports that spread the conception of the Mahdia at the

beginning of the mission, afterwards it became the tool of the Mahdia government to issue the orders and instructors, and to spread the ideas of the Mahdia and Mohammed Ahmed Almahdi , leader of the Mahdia revolution. Those pamphlets were later collected in volumes called "Almahdia pamphlets". In return there were hostile pamphlets of the Mahdia published in Sawakin east of Sudan.

In 1896 some pamphlets about the British occupation were issued. They contained the news of the occupying invader army; one of those pamphlets was “ Dongola” News and “Halfa” Journal.

In the seventh of March, 1899 the first copy of the “Gazette” newspaper was issued covering the text of the condominium agreement between Egypt and British concerning the administration of Sudan.

“Sudan Gazette” was issued in 4 pages of the small size .The following was included in the first issue. This gazette was issued by Sudan government to spread the law, panels and advertisements to guide the Sudanese people fairly and direct them to abide by the rational government. The price of the copy was 5 millems, and it was ready to publish the commercial advertisements; in the first year it was published twice a month. Later on it was published only once<sup>(\*)</sup>

The gazette is considered similar to the Egyptian "Waghae". Some researchers see that it is a complementary part to the British plan to occupy Sudan .It is considered a means of communication between the British administration and the people of the country so that it makes them feel through its publication to the orders and law of their country that it is governed by the law and not by the desire of the rulers as it had been during the Turkish state era and the Mahdia era<sup>(1)</sup>.

Thus appeared some press forms before "Sudan" newspaper . They weren't newspapers in the scientific meaning of the word as we have indicated though some researchers predate for the origination of the press by this gazette, while in reality it was only a print for "the publication of the legislations , the government panels, khedive assignments and the official telegraphs" .The researchers who consider the gazette the beginning of the emergence of the press in Sudan rely on the fact that it was regular in issue and was printed and distributed among the government employees.

If we adopt this view, then the press in Sudan would have started in the beginning of the British occupation in 1899 and that the

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<sup>1</sup> )FaroughAbdulrahim , the classification Documents for the Conquest of Sudan , Dar Alwadi ,Khartoum 1997.

(\*)Still being published by the Sudanese Ministry of Justice , it only cares for the publication of laws and acts as the official newspaper in Egypt

gazette was only one of the tools of occupation, and the British occupation was not convinced of its importance in spreading its ideas, policies, and the propagation for the British, in addition to connecting Sudan with its targets and policies .Thus Lord Cromer directed the owners of "Almughattam" newspaper in Egypt to issue the " Sudan" newspaper in Sudan.

### **Sudan Newspaper:**

Almughattam owners who were fares Nimer , YagoubSarouf and ShaheenMacarious established a half weekly newspaper "The Sudan " that was issued Thursday and Monday of every week .The first copy of it was issued on 28 September 1903.The newspaper pinpointed its targets which were " work for the settlement of government, publication of the movement of the government rulers through the country, registering the most significant events and afterwards propaganda for Britain during the first world war and publication of what can guarantee tranquility and calm in peoples hearts to pray for victory for Britain and happy life for the Sudanese<sup>(1)</sup>.

“Sudan” was issued after few years from the fall of the national rule and the outbreak of the power of the Sudanese revolution. The

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<sup>1</sup> ) MahasenSaeed , The Sudanese press 1900-1939,Khartoum university publications, 1977, page23.

population of Sudan at the time of the newspaper's publication was two millions and 870 thousand persons. The states' revenues were 469 thousand pounds, and suffered an annual deficit of 194 thousand pounds covered by the Egyptian treasury. The number of government schools students in 1904 was 1,533 half of them were in the elementary schools.<sup>(1)</sup>.

Thus the newspaper grew out of a backward economic condition; the state's budget was suffering a deficit, education could barely be available for the Sudanese and the external trade was controlled by foreigners such as the British, Syrians and Greeks.

Since its beginning the newspaper was in close relation with the government circles expressing lord Cromer's policy and the British occupation policy and its foreign friends who were loyal to the British. Those were the ones who established Almugattam house and Almughtatam in Egypt, in addition to the assistants of the British colonization in Egypt and Sudan.

The historical sources mention that Fares Nimer was married to the daughter of the British Consul in Alexandria , not only that, but he was also correlated with the English culture<sup>(2)</sup> .Therefore , some

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<sup>1</sup> ) Mahjoub Mohammed Saleh ,The Sudanese Press in half a century , Khartoum University, publication Department, first print 1971. Page 12.

<sup>2</sup> ) MahjoubAbdAlmalik,Press and Politics in Sudan, Graduate College publication, No. 14, University of Khartoum, 1985.

pioneer journalists believe that lord Cromer himself was behind the establishment of the newspaper in Khartoum. It used to express the British policy in Sudan and give emphasis to the issues of trade, agriculture and the Nile waters. No Sudanese journalist worked in the newspaper all that time; it used to transmit the news from the British newspapers and the western news agencies like Havas and Reuter. It was observed that there were some experts and specialists who worked in the British administration and wrote through it studies about the agricultural and trade issues.

On the other hand “Sudan” newspaper is considered a proof of the Sudanese press since its origination with the Egyptian press, and if the press in Egypt, through the beginning period of the British occupation of Egypt, after Urabi revolution was loyal to the foreign influence from which it derived protection and propagation, it was the same in Sudan , that was Almughattam home which started in Beirut 1876 under the care and encouragement of lord Cromer then moved to Cairo in 1885. Almughattam owners established Almugnattam newspaper in 1888. The owner was described by Ibrahim Abdu, the historian of the Arabian press, as a “pure English man who praised all government services, translated and printed the commissioners’ report<sup>(1)</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> ) AdeebMarwa , The Western Press, Alhaya Office , Beirut, 1963.

Almughtatam newspaper didn't hide its relationship with the British and its connection with them. Their owners said frankly that the purpose was to support the British policy <sup>(1)</sup>.

With the same role played by Almughattam newspaper in Egypt for the service of the British policy, Cromer advised its owners to issue “ Sudan” newspaper. The three partners got permission to establish a printing press in Khartoum and issue a half weekly newspaper.<sup>(2)</sup>..

The owners of Sudan newspaper imported the printing press and got its workers and started to train the Sudanese in the printing services. They assigned the newspaper's chief editor's job to Mr. Shaheen Macorios, one of the three partners. Afterwards it was entrusted to Khalil Thabit(\*) after that Labeeb Jardeeny was assigned as chief editor after Khalil Thabit left to Cairo to be chief editor of “Almugattam” newspaper.

The Sudanese researchers believe that the “ Sudan” newspaper printing press was considered the first modern printer operated by steam jumbo machines until the printers' management agreed with the Sudanese laborers' department to make some

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<sup>1</sup> ) Mahjoub Mohammed Saleh , A former reference , p22

<sup>2</sup> ) Ibrhanem Abdu , “ The Development of the press in Egypt , the second print , Cairo, November 1951.

(\*) Father of kareem Thabet , advicer of the former king “ Farough”

reports of the printers' machines to be electrically operated since 1911 <sup>(1)</sup>

“Sudan” newspaper assigned its policy from the beginning by dealing with the researcher and news that cared for Sudan and its people, quoted the external incidents which were interesting ,and confirmed that it would act as a link between the rulers and the ones ruled, and after years of its issue it declared that it succeeded , thanks to Allah, in gaining the trust of those charged with authority, the good ones of the Sudanese, and the traders for its performance of the public service.

The newspaper used to receive the assistance and support from the occupation government. It authorized its printers to print some official prints such as the translation of the annual report of the British commissioner in return for financial assistance that compensates for any difficulties that it might encounter .It also received little income of the advertisement due to the scarcity of commercial advertisements at the beginning. Soon the capacity of the advertisement increased. Its advertisement rate in the newspaper was ranging between four piaster per one line on the

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<sup>1</sup> )Mahjoub Mohammed Saelah .p.23

first page, to 3 piaster in the second and the third pages and 15 millimes on the last page<sup>(1)</sup>

Khartoum municipality used to publish the government advertisement in “Sudan” newspaper. Afterwards the newspaper established a library for the foreign newspapers, stationery and the prints which it called “Library of Sudan”.

Pertaining to its distribution it was distributed among its subscribers. There were no locations for the sale of the newspaper. The annual subscription was sixty piaster; i.e. the price per copy was approximately 5 millimes .The distribution was restricted to the government employees of the Syrians and Egyptians, the traders and the good of the Sudanese society who participated in it to satisfy the state .To increase the distribution , the newspaper set from the fifteenth of December 1904 to publish a page in English language which is the fourth last page, justifying that by saying that “it would be read by those who don’t know Arabic and those who care for its news from the people of foreign countries”.

The newspaper focused its journalistic Sudanese stuff on essays and news to praise Britain and its policy, and to give credit to Lord Cromer specially .An extract of what it wrote about him is the following: “Those who think that lord Comer is revengeful are

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<sup>1</sup> )The former reference .p.24

mistaken. His first target was to reform Egypt , and still he does that .His honor doesn't permit any other sentiment or tendency to obstacle this great deed to which he dedicated the best of his life years <sup>(1)</sup>

When Lord Cromer retired, the “Sudan” newspaper published a long essay praising his remarkable deeds. It said, “After two weeks, his honor lord Cromer would leave the Egyptian country leaving behind him the good reputation, the commended deeds, the feats and pride which he deserves to be boasted of and admiration of its greatness and in importance. History would preserve for him the first rescuers of the pharos’ land, the coming generations would benefit of his deeds which exceed counting. This is also applicable to a country which flourishes by the favor of one man and is doomed by another <sup>(2)</sup>.

The newspaper carried on praising Lord Cromer: “ If we would mention the favor of Cromer on Egypt , we will not forget his favor on Sudan which gained a lot of his care and interests. If Egyptians will preserve for him the favor for the benefits of welfare, the Sudanese and their country’s foreign residences will not forget what he had done for Sudan of welfare by saving its people from the state of oppression, tyranny and chaos, beside

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<sup>1</sup> )12 October 1905 issue

(\*) Currently “ Sudan time” newspaper is issued, its former chief editor was Bona Malwal of the southern politicians.

<sup>2</sup> ) MahasenSaeed , The Sudanese press, 1900-1939,Khartoum University publications.

paving the way for the means of prosperity by facilitating the means of transports, the establishment of an unchangeable, fair government and taking measurements to extent the wealth of the country<sup>(1)</sup>.

The newspaper suggests the establishment of sub-communities in Sudan, and a central committee at Khartoum to undertake collection of subscription to establish a project for commemorating the memory of Cromer.

From the technical part the Sudan newspaper was distinguished by the fact that it was issued in the size of the contemporary daily newspapers of the big size with the variety of modern press features such as the size printing, the news, the essay and advertisement. It used to transfer the international news from the foreign agencies or the British newspapers, was also avoid of other journalistic arts such as interviews and reports, and had its correspondences in the provinces of Sudan like Port Sudan, Sawakin and Atbara. Concerning the production it adopted the simple style, the page was divided into five columns, and its main issue was an essay that dealt with the British policy globally or locally. It also used the letter of the big points for publication of titles on the letters, then it came to know the photograph. The first

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<sup>1</sup>) 22 April 1907 issue. .

photo to be published was of Lord Kitchener at his visit to Sudan in 1911, in addition to publication of the translated novels.

## **Samples of “Sudan” Newspaper:**

We have selected samples of the newspapers numbers to know their content.

In issue No. 102, Thursday, 1 October 1904 equivalent to 3 Shaaban 1322, the newspaper described itself as a commercial, literary, informative and agricultural newspaper that is issued twice a week on Thursday and Monday.

On the lead page from the top right, it wrote the following:

The “Sudan”, its privilege owners Fares Nimer and partners,

## **Subscription Fees:**

- In Sudan and Egypt 60 piaster per year.
- In Sudan and Egypt 35 piaster for half a year.
- In foreign countries 80 piaster per year.

## **Advertisement Fees:**

The fees for one line are 4 piaster in the first page, 3 piaster for the second one, for the third page is 3 piaster, the fourth one is  $\frac{1}{2}$  piaster. In case of desire for publication of the advertisement, this should be coordinated with the newspaper<sup>(1)</sup>.

All correspondences should be addressed to “Director, Sudan Newspaper” and are to be signed by the normal signature owner, with his name written in clear letters.

The telegraphic address: Sudan – Khartoum.

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<sup>1</sup>)22 April 1907 issue. .

All of that was translated at the left of the page.

The main subject in this issue was: “The Second Year for Sudan Newspaper” with the following content:

“Thanks to Allah, Sudan newspaper has passed its first year, and entered its second year, insisting to carry on its plan to which it is adapted pertaining to discussing the researches and the news that Sudan cares for its people and extracting the most significant external incidents which one enjoys to read. Thanks to Allah that I have successfully gained the trust of those of authority, the good one of the country and the traders by implementing the public service, in addition to relationship between the two strata; the ruling one and the one ruled according to what was anticipated at the day of its issue”.

With this essay which starts its second year the researcher confirmed that this newspaper was expressing the British occupation which represented the ruling power and the countrygood ones.

Even in its essay and news it always supported Britain and defended it, it also cared for the war between Russia and Japan, in addition to the war in the Far East, and its influence on the financial circumstances, which pushed the state to borrow. Supervisor of warfare would count the army, furnish the weapons, and prepare the food and ammunition, while the navy supervisor

would purchase the warships, submarines, ammunition and arm the steamers, but the most difficult duty that was shouldered by the finance supervisor, who will be obliged to afford the money which is needed by the army to march, so that victory will not be gained. Without him the support of all that is stated was impossible, and that no fleet will depart, until people believed that money is the orbit around which people's benefits and life rotate, beside the rewards they strive for.

The newspaper proceeds on to count the military expenses of the countries and their war loans. It refers to that in figures and transfers it through Reuter News Agency and the news of the British press.

Concerning the second issue which is no. 103 it was observed that the tendencies of the newspapers were hostile to Egypt, so that it called its main article "Sudan for the Future" in which the following was included "Egypt is busy enough to care for Sudan, what it had attained of materialistic progress in this age is nothing but dreams, and if the troubles of Sudan will be shouldered by Egypt, the financial relief of it is far away. Eight years had passed since the Sudan was conquered, and the Egyptians are aware of its circumstances, but they never moved a step to counter its colonization, that is not due to laziness as some might fancy, but because they find in Egypt profit and gain which makes it

desirable to stay in their land. Concerning foreigners the British are at the front of those who are interested in the promotion and success of Sudan agriculture”.

The essay was written in three of five columns of the page. The second subject was assigned to war in the Far East, news of the Governor General, transfer of senior employees and prices of goods. It also published a reader’s message, and a rule of a court, and assigned “The message of our offices in Omdurman” that included digging water wells, plus the publication under the title “Telegraphic” in which the news of the Far East war, reports from the news agencies and the British newspapers were published. The total of that news was 22. Pertaining to the fourth page it was designated to the advertisements.

There is a similarity of the newspapers succeeding numbers; issue no 104 covered an editorial article about war in the Far East, another issue about Sudan was copied from “Times” newspaper, this is beside the publication of local news, telegraphs, news agencies, transport fees and navigation between the Sudanese towns, in addition to an advertisement page. The largest advertisement of it was about “Sudan Library” in both languages English and Arabic.

In issue no. 105 the newspapers published a serialized novel entitled “Alnazeer Fi Maseer Alsikkeer” written by Asaad Baghir.

In issue no. (106), 27 October 1904, it published the details of war in the Middle East and a scientific research about “The Swamps in Sudan” by Ibrahim Fathi who was an agricultural engineer. It also assigned in part of the first page of issue no. (107) a section entitled “The Correspondences” in which it published the local news which the newspaper used to receive from its correspondents in Omdurman, Kassala and Singa. They are separate Sudanese cities and most of the news was governmental and agricultural news.

Starting from issue (109) in December 1904 the newspaper worked to assign the last page for English entitled (local and general).

Thus “Sudan” newspaper was not published only as Sudanese newspapers, but as informative project for propaganda to the British occupation through printing, publication and the sale of books, magazines and foreign newspapers.

It carried on publication for 22 years. In 1925 an agreement between the Sudanese government and “Michrocodile” British company was reached that it would supervise the publications of Sudan government. The British company monopolized printing in Sudan by purchasing all prints that were available in Khartoum, among which were “Sudan” newspapers prints, thus ended the story of “Sudan” newspaper.

## **Other newspapers issued by the foreigners:**

“Sudan” newspaper continued to be the sole newspaper in the journalistic arena for many years. In 1908 “The Commercial Magazine” was issued by the commercial chamber which was formed the same year of representatives of commercial establishments. Most of them were Greeks, Italians, Shawam and some Egyptians. It wasn’t issued regularly, therefore, it stopped<sup>(1\*)</sup>. The report of Khartoum Province referred to it that time. It said:

“The commercial chamber established a monthly bulletin in both languages Arabic and English circulating essays about the country’s crops and its trade”<sup>(2)</sup>.

In 1909 “SaadAfendiYassiAlmassah” of the Egyptian Copts who went to Khartoum as a correspondent of “Alzaher” newspaper which was issued in Cairo by Mohammed Abushadi Beck issued a newspaper called “Alkhartoum”, but it did not last longer. As an alternative he issued “KashkoolAlmassah” but it had the same fate of its sister after a short time, and wasn’t destined to proceed on.

In 1911 two of the sons of the Greek community who were “Saolo” and “Khresto” issued a half weekly newspaper in both languages, English and Greek, under the name of (Sudan Herald). It was directed to the sons of the Greek community and the

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<sup>1</sup>) \* The remainder of this community is still in Sudan, they enjoy the Sudanese nationality and run business projects specially in hotels and restaurants.

<sup>2</sup>) MahassenSaad, a former reference, P. 15 .

incoming traders. It issued its supplements in 1913 under the name of “RaedAlsudan” in Arabic, and played a role in the history of the press in Sudan, besides playing a role in the literary and intellectual rebirth, <sup>(1)</sup>wherein it opened the door for the Sudanese for the first time to write. Also the name of HussainShareef who became later the first chief editor for a Sudanese national newspaper appeared. The first issue of “RaedAlsudan” appeared in 4 January 1913. It was a half weekly. Its Chief Editor was Abdulraheem Mustafa Gelailat who was a man of letters and a Syrian poet who worked as an employee in Engines Department in Khartoum.

In 1918 the first issue of “Sudan Messages and Records” magazine was issued. It was as a government periodical that cared for the Sudanese studies, issued quarterly and was interested in history researches, folklore, customs and traditions of the Sudanese societies was also financed by the government and supervised by a committee of senior British employees headed by the Governor General. “Its target was to supply the British administrators, politicians, and those who cared for Sudan affairs with information and data about Sudan<sup>(2)</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> ) Salah MohiEldin Mohammed, The Role of The Sudanese Press and the National Movement in 1918, 1936, an unpublished M.A Thesis.

<sup>2</sup> ) The former reference, p 39 .

It carried on issue in English until 1956 which was the independence date <sup>(\*)</sup>

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<sup>\*</sup>) After that it changed into a specialized periodical in the scientific affairs, and is still issued under the supervision of the Sudanese public society.

## **Chapter Two**

### **The Emergence of the National Press**

Sudan newspaper paved the way to the emergence of the national press of the Sudanese and according to that the Sudanese researcher MahjoubAbdulmalik sees that “Sudan” Newspaper laid the foundation for the industry of the press and the related arts in Sudan<sup>(1)</sup>. After Sudan newspaper emerged “Raed Al Sudan” which was an appendix in Arabic for a newspaper that is issued in English.

#### **Factors for the Emergence of the National Press:**

A group of factors assisted in the emergence of the national press. Firstly the emergence of the educated Sudanese who graduated from Gordon College and the primary school, according to statistics in 1909, there was in the college an Arabic language department and the Sharia judiciary with 111 students, a department for English language teachers and engineers, with a capacity of 61 students. Formerly there were five intermediate schools with 110 students, and three industrial schools in which 24 students studied, 39 elementary schools as primary ones with 2537 students. Beside that they established Rufaa Girls School with 44

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<sup>1</sup> )MahjoubAbdAlmalik, OP.CIT., P. 23.

girls<sup>(1)</sup>. The Ministry of Information that time received 28 thousand and 751 pounds.

The second factor of these is the improvement of the economic circumstances, flourishing of trade and the establishing of the transport projects such as the railway line from Khartoum to Al Obeid. in 1912, the inauguration of Port Sudan in 1909, The telephone wires were extended in the capital, hotels, small factories and the clubs were established which helped to pave the way for the emergence of an enlightened public opinion, and Sudanese writers such as AlsheikhAlbanna, Ahmed Mohammed Saleh, TawfeegSalehJibreel, who were writing in the Sudanese newspaper (Raed Al Sudan" with HussainAlshareef.

In this public atmosphere of the educational and economic development, there appeared the indications of the national movement, which led to the establishment of the "White Banner" society that shaped 1924 Sudanese revolution against the foreign occupation.

There remains another aspect that assisted in the emergence of the national press; that was when the British after using the foreign newspapers for the service of their benefits, thought that a

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<sup>1</sup> )Mahjoub Mohammed Saleh, a former reference, P. 38.

newspaper edited by Sudanese can serve them better than the foreigners service<sup>(1)</sup>.

### **“Hadarat Al Sudan” Newspaper:**

In this political, economic and social atmosphere the first issue of “Hadarat Al Sudan” newspaper appeared on 28 February, 1919 after the disappearance of “Raed Al Sudan” newspaper whose chief editor was HussainShareef who called for the establishment of a national newspaper that fills the gap left behind by “Alraed” and expresses the Sudanese intellectual conceptions and expectations, specially that the number of the Sudanese intellectuals had risen in 1918. That year the number of Gordon College graduate students reached 550.

Researchers agreed that “Hadarat Al Sudan” was the first national Sudan newspaper, and that its chief editor HussainAlshareef was the first Sudanese journalist, but it appeared as a newspaper with a national shell, its target and content were to serve the British occupation.

MahjoubAbdulmalikBabiker says in his research about the press and politics in Sudan that “Hadarat Al Sudan” newspaper passed in its development through three stages; the first stage was

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<sup>(1)</sup> Mahjoub. OP. cit(1)

\* Son of a Jewish merchant, he was DaoodMendeel who announced his Islam in the Mahdia era and married a Muslim woman.

when it was called “Raed Al Sudan” which was the Arabian newspaper that appeared from the “Sudan Daily Herald” which was owned by the Greeks who were the owners of Victoria print. The Arabian “Raed Al Sudan” was owned by Sayyed Abdulrahman Almahdi, and cared for the publication of the Islamic, literary, economic and social issues, with the participation of the second generation of the educated Sudanese. According to Almahdi, it was a means for the achievement of its political targets. The second stage was on May 1928 by the development of the ownership to become a triple one distributed between Sayyed Ali Almirghani, head of Al Khatmia sect, Alshareef Alhindi, and Sayyed Abdulrahman head of the Ansar sect. The triple stock company capital reached thousand pounds, half of it was paid by Almirghani and Alhindi, and the other half was paid by Sayyed Almahdi.

According to Mahjoub Babiker Almahdi attempted to consider the two leaders, Almirghani and Alhindi who competed him, as partners in the adventure, because the occupation government was against him. In 1930 both masters Almahdi and Almirghani knew, in spite of their political disagreement, that “Hadarat Al Sudan” can serve their political and commercial targets. The newspaper used to receive financial support from the government in the form

of government advertisements and salaries for the editors and laborers.

In 1934, the newspaper entered its third and final stage when its three owners signed a contract with SulimanDaoued, and consolidated “MultaghaAlnahrain” newspaper with “Alhadara” newspaper. This step helped the newspaper to reduce its dependence on the government. Formerly it used to get 920 pounds annually, which was the value of the government advertisements and editors’ salaries.

The newspaper stopped issuance in 1938. That time its distribution was 11,700 copies. It started ejection of its last breath with the emergence of other national newspapers due to the mistrust of the government and the readers. Its news was delayed and needed frankness of what it raised. According to its general features it was a conservative newspaper that expressed the government.

We have referred to the fact that HussainShareef had called for the issue of national newspapers administered by the Sudanese in which they express their points of views and conceptions. His wishes were fulfilled when the first company for the press was established. Its establishing members were SayyedAbdulrahmanAlmahdi, Mohammed AlkhaleefaShareef,

HussianShareef, Othman Saleh, HussainAbbo, MahjoubFadlAlmoula and AbdulrahmanJameel. The distinctive feature for most of that group members was its association with Alansar sect and its assembly itself with SayyedAbdulrahmanAlmahdi. It might be that this association was the reason which urged some Sudanese researchers like Mahjoub Mohammed Saleh to say that this group of the press “was a political feature of a special sectarian colour”.

The partners agreed to import a printing press from Egypt, and started preparation to issue the newspaper. The first issue of it appeared on Thursday 28, February, 1919.

Thus you see that some researchers consider “HadaratAlsudan” newspaper as an extension of “RaedAlsudan” newspaper which symbolized the first stage of the development. Some others believe that there was no relationship between the journalists except that HussainAlshareef was the chief editor for both newspapers. We believe that the publication of the first issue of the newspaper on 28 February was the birth day of its establishment. The statement which was issued by HussainShareef on 10 February, i.e. 18 days before its issue, reflected that “Hadarat Al Sudan” came as an alternative for “Raed Al Sudan”. Following is the content of the statement:

“Since a team of nationalists, who were the following gentlemen: his respected noblemen Sayyed Abdulrahman Almahdi, the noble gentleman Mohammed Ukasha Mr. Mohammed Alkhalifa Shareef, Mr. Hussain Alkhaleefa Shareef, Sheikh Othamn Hassan Abbo, Mr. Mahajoub Fadlalmoula and Sheikh Abdulrahman Jameel saw that “Raed Al Sudan” had been blocked, and that the country with all what was going on was in need of a newspaper that expresses its will and searches through its affairs, they had agreed among each other to establish a stock company with the target of getting a printing press, and a newspaper in the name of the printing press and “Hadarat Al Sudan” newspaper.

“They actually sent after they got the government permission to attempt to get the printing press from Egypt, due to their utmost need to serve the country and care for its welfare. They wanted to accelerate this labor so as to establish a newspaper that enjoys the size and shape according to necessity and its role until they accomplish what they prepared.

“But at last they wanted to wait the remainder of February 1919 until the mission is accomplished, finish their readiness and the newspaper would emerge on 28 February 1919 according to the targeted purpose. They announced to people that right; from now on they are ready to accept the participants in this national

newspaper which, undoubtedly, will be dedicated for the service of the country and the citizens, and would proceed on by the power of the hard and materialistic efforts that make it capable of implementing this dangerous social mission which on behalf of this country it shouldered. Whoever was interested in subscription has to contact us through the manager and responsible chief editor, P.O Box 2179 showing his name and address to fix it in the subscribers' register. Subscription fees will be very small with consideration of the category of subscribers.

To the readers we offer this great national service hoping that they will offer assistance and faith. We ask Allan to support us with his spirit, afford us with reason, facilitation and success.

Khartoum on 10 February 1919.

On behalf of the company, HussainShereef

Thus HussainShareef statement specified the method of issue of "Hadarat Al Sudan" newspaper. In reality the newspaper was issued at the specified date in the statement, and it carried on publication every Saturday morning of every week. It consisted of eight pages of the small size. The newspaper specified its subscription for fifty piaster per year, i.e. ten millimes per one copy. For sale it used to rely basically on subscriptions, and carried on publication as such for a period of ten months, and dedicated its

first page for the editorial of the chief editor beside the readers' essays and comments. It also dedicated the second page for the news of Sudan provinces and used to publish on the third page the world news transferred from Reuter News Agency which the Sudanese government used to receive free telegraphically from Cairo. In addition, it cared to publish the literary essays, poetry and cared for the social and local problems, beside opening its pages to the scientists and men of letters, of these is sheikh Mohammed Mustafa Almirghani, judge of Sudan that time. He kept on writing in it until he was transferred to Cairo in July 1919<sup>(1)</sup>.

“Hadarat Al Sudan” newspaper kept on issue regularly for ten months until it stopped after the travel of Sudanese delegation to England as representatives of the Sudanese, in congratulating His Royal Highness the King, of the happy end of the war coupled with victory. The visit of the delegation caused a split in the advocates of the English policy and advocates of Egypt and its revolution in 1919. These incidents led to the birth of the first secret political party in Sudan which was the Sudanese Unionist Society which became later the Sudanese Unionist Party and led the 1924 revolution headed by Ali Abdulatef in Sudan.

“Hadarat Al Sudan “stopped at the end of the year, i.e. after ten months of its issue. It had stopped for seven months till it

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<sup>(1)</sup> )Mahjoub Mohammed Saleh, a former reference, P. 58.

resumed publication on 24 of July 1920 with a new production to become expressive of a new company representing the leaders of the religious sects who were Sayyed Ali Almirghani, Sayyed Abdulrahman Almahdi and Alshareef Yousuf Alhindi, and entered the battle of political life after it was far away from its first stage.

According to the studies which were conducted by Mahioub Mohammed Saleh and Hossain Abdulghader about the newspaper in this stage, it became much closer to adopting the English policy in Sudan and a spokesman of the group which called for the isolation of the British with the rule of Sudan in encountering these national officials, some traders and intellectuals who opposed and supported the 1919's revolution in Egypt, withdrawal of the British from Egypt and Sudan and achievement of complete independence. What confirms these facts is that after "Alhadara" was issued in its new publication it unveiled all its masks and began calling for the isolation of the British with the rule of Sudan as an alternative of the condominium rule and refused the aims of 1919's Egyptian revolution in Egypt. By doing that it adopted the British demands and claimed that it's the spokesman of all Sudanese due to its association with the three religious leaders because it acted as spokesman of four million inhabitant of Sudan forgetting or pretending to forget the attitude of the educated

Sudanese who had another idea, but the national team will not keep silent in spite of the difficulties of its attaining means of expression. Its individuals relied on the pamphlets to distribute them secretly criticizing the British policy and “Alhadara” newspaper<sup>(1)</sup>.

Thus “Alhadara” newspaper sowed in its second stage the seeds of disunity between the Sudanese themselves on one hand and Egypt and Sudan of the other hand, and they were seeds that bear their fruits up to date. The series of essays which Hussain Shareef wrote for two weeks disclosed the policy of the newspaper and its conception about the future of Sudan, its relationship with each of Britain and Egypt. Thus “Hadarat Al Sudan” played a role in implementing the English policy which was based on stripping apart the national unity, and stirring an enmity between the Sudanese and Egyptians. It was the same policy which the British played in Egypt itself to separate Muslims from Copts. They agitated turmoil in the country.

Not only that but the newspaper played a distorted role against the press when it promised first lieutenant Ali Abdullateef to publish an article about “the requests of the Sudanese nation”, but didn’t publish it. Intelligence administration got it from “Alhadara” newspaper’s office and considered it a document

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<sup>(1)</sup> Mahjoub Mohammed Saleh, a former reference, p 71.

agitating hatred against the government. Its writer was brought to trial, and sentenced for one year in jail.

In this atmosphere “Al Hadara” newspaper grew up and was published twice a week starting 30 December, 1992 every Saturday and Tuesday. It was a natural result that the newspaper ownership would shift from the hand of its three owners to the government to become an official government newspaper, after it paid to its three owners the money with which they contributed, and paid to the bank the money that it loaned to the newspaper. Thus the property officially returned to it. “Alhadara” continued to bear the names of the three gentlemen, and its printing press became the property of the government, granted itself to cover the loss that the newspaper suffered. That loss ranged between one thousand four hundred and two thousand pounds per year.

In 1938 “Alhadara” newspaper began its first stage. Its subscriptions decreased. Its news became boring and old, lacking frankness, seriousness and stimulation. According to the memorandum of the administration secretary to the conference of the directors of the northern provinces on 3 February, 1938, “Alhadara” had become a dead newspaper. Its chief editor and publisher hated each other, and were in disagreement at every issue. In that conference and after a detailed discussion, it was agreed that “there was no need for the continuation of “Alhadara”

in Sudan “The administration governor signed a death certificate for “Alhadarah” after it continued to be issued for twenty years.

According to Dr. HassanainAbdulghader “Hadarat Al Sudan” was intellectually radical in its opining due to what it followed in its editing policy in the field of the national politics, because of its loyalty to the British policy. The newspaper was blamed for its political trend that was backing up the British occupation, and its hostility for all national power that was calling for independence or defending Egypt, specially the 1919’s revolution. However the newspaper had a favor of portraying the Sudanese life precisely at the time of its issue. It offered the reader much clear intellectual views about the Sudanese circumstances in different fields<sup>(1)</sup>.

“Alhadarah” also tried to connect the Sudanese people with modern time and scientific development through what it used to publish of the external world and the international affairs news in the aftermath of the first world war. It also cared for the cooperative and social issues, defended the woman and revealed the negative sides of the social life.

Technically the art of production and printing of the newspaper was primary experienced based on simplicity within the limits of the obtainable potential. The printing errors spread

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<sup>(1)</sup> HassanainAbdulghader, The Press History of Sudan, P. 1,3.

through it beside the linguistic ones. They were all gathered by letters of the same size; there was no variation of the sizes of pages and letters, the modern styles and methods of production were not considered, the pages were overcrowded with aligned lines without consideration to relax the reader's eyes and his attraction pertaining to its style. The essay writers used the literary style, except for what was transferred from the Egyptian and foreign newspapers and Reuter News Agency which was written in a journalistic style far away from the literary one.

Any how, the importance of "Hadarat Al Sudan" in the history of the Sudanese press is that it was the first public non foreign Sudanese newspaper, and it opened the door for the writers and youngsters to discuss the fields of the press work, which resulted in the increase of magazines and newspapers after the issue of "Hadarat Al Sudan".

### **The Literary Press as an Alternative to the Political Press:**

The educated and cultured Sudanese came to know that there would not be a newspaper destined to proceed on without the satisfaction of the British occupation authorities in the country. Press attitudes started to appear in the schools which was the literary press, especially that the first press legislation emerged in

1930 to set a tough control of the political press which criticized and opposed the English policy.

The emergence of the press led to the multiplicity of the literary magazines and newspapers which slipped through literature to politics to express their conception and the conception of their owners and writers, out of it that graduated a generation of politicians who led to independence. In addition there were the journalists who owned their own independent newspapers later.

### **“Alnahda” Magazine:**

It is considered to be the first literary magazine in Sudan. It was a handwritten one, circulated by a group of friends and its editor was Mohammed Abbas Abulreesh. At the same time there was another similar handwritten magazine distributed among friends called “Alaseel” issued by Mohammed Abdulwahab Alghadi who was a fifth class students at the scholarly institute, but the secondary manager opposed his magazine according to the British intelligence report and the sheikh of the institute issued an order to abolish it, only three copies of it were issued.

Concerning Mohammed Abbas Abdulreesh, he submitted on 11 March, 1931 a request to issue the Sudanese “Alnahda” magazine to be a literary magazine that is issued every Sunday,

and he paid one pound, as insurance fees as required by the press legislation.

The first issue of “Alnahda” magazine was on Sunday, 4 October, 1931, with the photo of Alsayyed Ali Almirghani, head of Alkhatmia sect.

On the first page was the name of the magazine and its information, with the editor’s word. We find the name of the magazine, name of license owner, publisher, chief editor “Mohammed Abbas Abulreesh”. The magazine address which was Sardar Street in Khartoum, P.O. Box number, telephone No. to the left, the subscription fees were shown as sixteen piaster per month for Egypt and Sudan, twenty piaster for half a year, and one pound for subscriptions outboard the two countries. The price per copy was 15 millimes and the number of its pages was 25.

The magazine specified its logo as a “literary, ethical, historical news magazine”.

In the lead page was the editor’s word where he spoke about the reasons behind the issue of the magazine. He said, “Since our country (Sudan) like the other oriental countries is suffering much ethical and social deficiency, and since these things can’t be physically exposed bare to the viewers’ eyes and processed except by the dailies, which no nation however worthless can get rid of,

what so ever, and since our ethics and societies are suffering of many ailments which need psychiatrists to medicate through their wisdom and patience, therefore I dared to issue this magazine hoping to serve the group in order for the public readers to contact each other in ideas, theories, researches and beliefs firstly, and that our country would be known specially in the oriental countries and the world in general. Secondly because I know for sure that the most intimate nations to us could almost ignore us completely. Not only that, but we ourselves don't know our country from the environment we were brought up in.

The magazine's owner specified that it is not political. He said:

“The principle of the magazine is to isolate itself from engaging into policies, and that it would not be exposed to its drifting current so that it would guarantee a good life to be capable to process our social and ethical ailments. Above that we like it to be a means of spreading our Sudanese culture and evoke the way for this culture.

He specified his target for the establishment of the magazine as “Management of social reform, ethics and a platform for discussion between Sudanese about the ideas, theories, researches and beliefs, a means to notify the oriental countries and the world

generally about the Sudan, and management for the spread of the Sudanese culture”.

“Alnahda” magazine had opened the door for the Sudanese intellectuals. Its graduates were Mohammed Ahmed Almahjoub, the Sudanese politician who was well known as an intellectual and a writer, Ismael Alatabani, Abdulahaleem Mohammed and Yousef Altinay. They were the ones who became later famous Journalists who possessed their own newspapers.

Mohammed Abbas Abulreesh didn’t perform writing a long in his magazine, but he opened the door for the others of intellectuals and scholars. He carried on spending for the magazine from the income of his library which also carried the name of (Alnahda) at a time when the country was suffering of a bad economical situation and the indications of splitting showed through the rows of the graduates”<sup>(1)</sup>.

For example Mohammed Ahmed Almhjoub wrote in the first issue stimulating the youth’s ambitions, and calling them to get rid of depression and laziness, explaining the meaning of rebirth in the life of nations. He sees that literature is the twin for all rebirths because it is the means of expression of the internal emotions and feelings that circled in the soul, but this does not mean that to start

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<sup>1</sup>) Mahjoub Mohammed Saleh, a former reference P. 135.

with literature and leave the other activities to grant it the first status. He brought glad tidings that Sudan is approaching a revival era.

Concerning Ismael Alatabani he wrote in the first issue in the name of the youth expressing his hope that “Alnahda” would be an arena for the youth researchers where they will be trained to become the best of youth to boast.

The pens of the educated Sudanese youngsters were activated requesting liberation of women as a beginning of the social reform, “Women liberation will not occur unless women education would be a holy duty”. It also called for the rejection of the ugly inherited traditions and opened the door for the opponents of the social reform attitudes, the veil imposed on women, and requests offering the women and men freedom of choice in marriage, and objected against the intrusion of the fathers to impose on their sons the marriage of special girls.

Thus the magazine carried on processing many literary social issues for six months until it stopped due to the deteriorating economical circumstances, the weakness of the purchasing energy of the readers and the absence of the advertisement, beside the weakness of the magazine owner’s health who was hospitalized

after a little time of its issue<sup>(1)</sup> Arafat and Moahmmed Ahmed Almahjoub shouldered the responsibility of supervising the magazine in the absence of its owner, but it could not carry on, so it stopped for seven months to quit the arena for “HadaratALSudan” alone to propagate for the English policy.

Seven month later “Alnahda” magazine was reissued after it imported its own printing press to decrease printing expenses, and perform the commercial printing services for support and continuity of the magazine issuance. The magazine was back on the six of November, 1932 in which its owner Mohammed Ahmed Abbas Abulreesh returned to writing. He mentioned the real reason for disruption of the magazine during the past seven month It was “the double rise of the printing fees in such a suffocating crisis and at a time he was suffering severe pain the diseases at Khartoum Hospital”. He called the readers to extend the hand of assistance to the magazine so that it could carry on with its message, and not refrain from granting it with the appropriate ideas and the precious remarks so that it would be capable to achieve its duties, but Alnahda did not carry on for a long time, it stopped, disease befell again and he died at the end of the year. The magazine stopped issuance after it published 32 issues that contained 457 subjects

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<sup>1</sup>GhassimUthmanAlnour. The Sudanese Uprising Magazine Index. Sudan Central Records, Khartoum.

between an essay and a literally research and poem. It published 145 poems. 31 stories, 33 critical essays and 100 subjects in the social issues, in addition to the biographies of nine Islamic characters, beside publishing researches in education, history, medicine, political science and the other arts<sup>(1)</sup>.

### **Alfajr Magazine:**

“Alnahda” magazine opened the door for the Sudanese intellectuals to express themselves, in spite of the short time through which it was issued, but it was a beginning for a new flow of the literary magazines like “Miratt Al Sudan” which SulimanKisha issued in 1933, and “ColliyatGhardoon” magazine which was edited by the college teachers and students in 1933, in addition to the emergency of a specialized magazines like “AltareghAlgaweeem” and “Alnaseer” the two Islamic magazines. Through the period a weekly newspaper emerged in 1934. Its owner was Abdularhman Ahmed and Mohammed AlasyyedAlsawakni in the name of “Al Sudan” and it carried on issue for seven year beside “AlgraeedaAltijaria” magazine from 1928 to 1930, the weekly literary for its owner SulimanGindeel.

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<sup>1</sup>GhassernUthmanAlnour, AlnahdhaAlsudania index. Sudan Central Records, Khartoum

Those magazines were characteristic of the fact that they isolated themselves from politics and entered the battle of the social cultural life which arranged for a political movement later on.

“Alfajir” magazine which was issued in June, 1934 is considered one of the most significant magazines that were issued that period. Its owner was Arafat Mohammed Abadallah whose name appeared in “Alnahda” magazine and led the social reform movement. “In the concept of many Sudanese Alfajr magazine was considered the most important and largest literary magazine issued in Sudan up to date<sup>(1)</sup>.

That magazine played a significant role in the field of culture and policies in Sudan in the third decade of the twentieth century. Its editors were of the great Sudanese writers and men of letters of the British in Sudan government and the others of the resident foreigners<sup>(2)</sup>. Mahjoub Mohammed Saleh describes this magazine in one of his essays, issue No. 46 for the year 1965 of “Sudan Notes and Records” that it was a new conquest and a new stage in the Sudanese press. It was edited by the rebellious youngsters against the traditional thinking, who were influenced by the western culture and were good readers and followed up reading all prints that came from the western and Arab words so closely. Their role,

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<sup>1</sup>MahasinSaad, a former reference p 20.

<sup>2</sup>Hussein Abdulphader, a former reference p18.

as they thought, created a blending between the Arabian culture and the European one, hoping that the results would be a distinguished Sudanese culture that inherits the best characteristics and features of the other two cultures. In literature they isolated themselves from the traditional style of expression and applied the modern theories of the literary criticism, and in politics they were accustomed to confirm the Sudanese nationality as a noticeable and independent power. They wanted to see it according to the values and the public hopes more than being based on the sectarian and tribal splitting. (Alfajr) assigned independent pages for literature science, drama, cinema and poetry. Those who backed (Alfajr) magazine looked at it as a means of advanced thinking, while its political opponents accused it as adherent to the colonizer.

“Alfajr” was an expression of a group of intellectuals who participated in its establishment. They were Arafat Mohammed Abdulah, Ahmed yousaf Hashim, Ameen Babiker, Yousaf Mustaa Altiney, Abdalla Ashri Alsiddeeq. Abdulrhaman Maohmmed Jameel, Ismael Alatabany, Abdulhaleem Mohmoud. They were a group of friends combined by one opinion and worked together in “Alnahda” newspaper. When “Alnahda” stopped publication, they decided to issue Alfajr magazine. Of the politician who worked in “Alfajr” magazine was

Mohammed Ahmed Mahjoub who graduated in the political posts after independence until he became prime minister two times. Arafat Mohammed Abduallh died before independence. Abduhaleem Abdullah Mohammed became a member of the presidential fifth committee of October revolutionary movement 1964. In 1945 Ismael Alatabani issued “AlrayAlaam” newspaper, and Ahmed YousufHashim established “AlSudanAljadeed” newspaper.

“Alfair” magazine emerged in the first of June 1934, at a time in which the national movement developed. The Sudanese intellectuals started to feel their capability to the national work. Arafat Mohammed Abdullah was one of those. He was a youth of a family of Coptic sources and his father embraced Islam during the Mahdia rule<sup>(1)</sup>. He graduated from Gordon College in 1916 and worked in Post and Telegraph administration in Khartoum until 1924. He was busy with 1924 revolution incident in Sudan and he could escape after that to Cairo where he was wrongly apprehended and kept into custody for seven month, and was suspected to be involved in the assassination incident of “Sir Lee Stack” incident. He was released after the real assassin was known. This incident affected him greatly. He left Cairo and traveled to Sinai where he worked in a British company for mining for a year.

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<sup>1</sup>MahjoubAbdallemalik OP.CTT. P30

He left it to work in an automobile company in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

He came back to Khartoum in 1931, worked in a foreign company and joined a political group which was “Alhashmab Group” and associated the intellectual elites in Sudan. He decided to issue a magazine with a motto “Sudan for the Sudanese” being affected by what he suffered in Egypt of troubles.

In February 1934 he applied to Security and Intelligence Administration to acquire a license for the issue of a half monthly magazine called (Alfajr) pinpointing its target as a magazine that cared for literature, art affairs, the public culture issues and the social interests, confirming that he would not be involved in the current politics’ issues and its incident, but after one year of the issue of the newspaper, he became more interested in politics affairs than his care for literature.

The magazine started with two hundred participants and in August 1935 the number of participants rose to 1500. It used to publish few advertisements. Arafat continued as chief editor. The magazine continued until he died in 1937 to be succeeded by chief editor Ahmed Yousif Hashim. The name of “Alfajr” was chosen to be a symbol for the movement of a new generation of Sudanese youngsters.

For three years “Alfajr” continued to be issued regularly due to the death of its owner Arafat, and due to some financial difficulties that it encountered, beside the competition that it faced with the daily “Alneel” newspaper which emerged in 1935. Thus “Alfajr” magazine stopped, its writers and editors rushed to the daily “Alneel” newspaper, but they were astonished that its intellectual attitudes were different from their conceptions and points of views.

## **The Third Chapter**

### **The Beginning and Development of the Parties' Newspapers**

The parties' newspapers were issued by a party or a special political group as means of the public work employed for the service of the targets to which the party is calling, and the spread of its politics.

According to Al-NourDafallah in his research about the Sudanese parties' press, the political parties in Sudan were the ones that manufactured newspapers inferior to the parties' newspapers in Egypt, as a phenomenon with which the Sudanese's parties' life was distinguished under the shade of the British occupation<sup>(1)</sup>. He agrees with the conception of the Egyptian historian YunanLabeebRizig in his book "the parties' life in Egypt", and what was conducted by Dr. Sami Azeez that the political parties were a product of the press. From Al-Muayyed home and Al-sheikh Ali Yousuf emerged "Aleslah" party as a rebel against the constitutional policy in 1910 in Egypt, and from "Allewa" newspaper of Mustafa Kamel emerged the national party. The Umma party rebelled against the policy which was set by Al - Jareeda newspaper of Ahmed Lutif Al-Sayyed.

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<sup>1</sup>AlnourDafa Allah Ahmed, the Sudanese Parties Press, unpublished P.H.D thesis, Media College, Cairo University, 1986.P. 16.

Pertaining to Sudan the party was formed and shaped to produce later the newspapers. This means that the parties' newspapers in Egypt preceded the establishment of the party, while the party preceded the emergence of the newspaper in Sudan, if we will agree with the Sudanese researcher AlnourDafalla in his point of view, but we exempt "Alneel" newspaper which emerged in 1935 for an economical target, then later on it became a party's newspaper expressing the Ansar Sect's conception.