

## Popular consultations in Ora

## **Fact Sheet**

Popular Consultations began in various locations across Blue Nile State on 14 January (for further information, see Popular Consultations in Blue Nile State FAQ). The hearings will be held for 21 days in 116 centers.

The events were chaired by members of the State Legislative Assembly and Popular Consultation Commission, who briefed villagers about the process and its impact on the people of Blue Nile.

The officials explained that popular consultations had reached a stage called "Opinions – Taking", which gives attendees a chance to transparently express whether the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) had met their needs over the last five years.

Along with citizen participants, observers from political parties, non-governmental organizations were present at the hearing center. The prevailing mood among speakers was that the CPA had failed to meet their expectations and basic needs.

Following are excerpts of opinions made by about 60 in Ora village, Kurmuk County.

## Ora village, Kurmuk County

## Itnain Mitir, Chief of ORA village (man)

Nothing has been done for the population of Ora over the preceding period. Infrastructure and basic needs have been totally neglected.

We need road access to link ORA with vital areas.

#### Nimairi Tinga (man)

There is no sign of development in the area, education is very poor and rights have been violated.

#### Al-Nur Ahmed Al-Nur (man)

Economically, there is nothing to reflect an improvement in living conditions for the population of Blue Nile State.

#### Yusuf Sila (man)

Drinking water is a big challenge in the village.

#### Ali Landi (man)

I am disappointed about the CPA. The only improvement is the security situation.

## Fadl Al-Mawla Afodi (man)

I think Blue Nile State people are considered as second class residents in their own territory".

#### Shadia Braima (woman)

There is no hospital or acceptable health center in Ora. If there are any problems, we have to go up to Kurmuk, which is very difficult to access, particularly during the rainy season.

#### Abdalla Suliman (man)

There is no more fighting in the area, but challenges still remain in improving our living

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conditions.

#### Hassan Adam Eltayeb (man)

I think that no aspects of the CPA have been implemented properly, except political ones, which gave us the chance to participate in fair elections last year. We need self-governance, in case popular consultations fail.

#### Al-Baqir Abdelbakhit Abdalla (man)

I think that nothing had changed. The CPA has brought security, but Blue Nile people are suffering, particularly those living in south Blue Nile State.

#### Alhadi Ardalla (man)

People's rights had been violated.

#### Ramadan Ma'anni Rajab (man)

I think there is not any kind of development at all in the area.

### Rawda Rajab (woman)

The women are suffering. We need to give them quick assistance.

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