



## Popular consultations in Ed Damazin

### 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 over 750 participants in Ed Damazin, El Hirja Centre.

#### Ed Damazin, El Hirja Centre

##### **Abdelshafie Abdelrahim (woman)**

The CPA stopped war in the state and that is

the only good thing, but it did not achieve development. We need autonomy, abolition of marginalization and participation of women in the central government. We need 80 per cent from the Roseires Dam revenue and we need to take control of our lands and improve the infrastructure.

##### **Ibrahim Ahmad, Chief of El Hijra west (man)**

The CPA did not meet our aspirations. We need bigger participation in the central government and 50-60 per cent from the (Roseires) dam revenues.

##### **Abdelmonem Abbas (man)**

We recognize that there are deficiencies in the CPA, but it stopped the war. There were funds allocated for development in the state, but where has the money gone? We need more schools and hospitals. In term of participation in the government, the former and current governors are from the state.

##### **Hussain Giha (man)**

We need to improve the judiciary system, medical treatment, free education and infrastructure.

##### **El Zaitoona Ezzeldin (women)**

The CPA has not met our needs. We need free education, medical treatment, electricity and drinking water.

##### **Ahmed Omer (man)**

Nothing has been achieved since signing the CPA. We need to use the resources of the state for the benefit of the state.

**Ali Abdella (man)**

The CPA has not met our expectations. There is a lack in basic services like education, health, drinking water, and infrastructure.

**Hussain Al Khalifa, Chief of El Dirwa area (man)**

The sons of the state are ruling the state, but they have not achieved any development. The CPA stopped the war, but we need development.

**Abdalla Elkinani (man)**

They need to activate the regulatory and legislative role of the State Legislative Assembly, reduce prices for electricity and drinking water and complete road construction.

**Mahgoob Hussain (man)**

We need representation in the federal judiciary system, participation in central government and economic development.

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