



Republic of South Sudan

The President

24/12/2020

His Excellency the President Christmas Message

My family and I convey our warmest Christmas greetings to all believers who are celebrating the birth of our lord Jesus Christ, both within our country and across the world. As you come together to celebrate this joyous occasion with your families, friends and communities, I am urging all of you to maintain peace during this festive season. Let this season reflect our lord's status as the Prince of peace through our conduct toward each other.

To Christians who do not celebrate Christmas, kindly allow the spirit of ecumenical solidarity to bind you with your neighbours as they partake in these festivities. To members of other faiths, the same applies to you, because

our values in this country cherish harmonious co-existence of all faith groups.

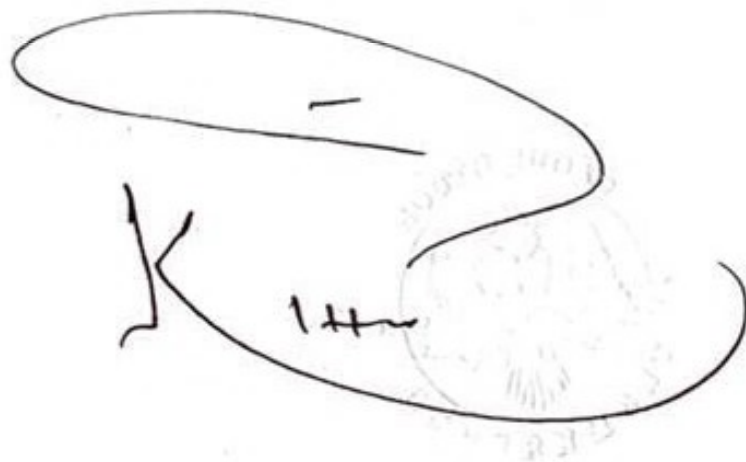
As we welcome the lord in our hearts, I encourage you to remember the challenges we have faced as a country this year and pray that the lord's spirit will continue to nurture and strengthen our unity to stand together as a people despite these difficulties. We also need to collectively pray for God's guidance and blessing as we strive to foster deeper understanding in our work to resolve conflict in our country once and for all.

During this festive season, let's remember the compatriots we lost to COVID-19 pandemic and pay tribute to health workers who have been in the fore front in the battle against this virus since the first case was reported.

I also would like to take this opportunity to salute all the public servants for their dedicated service to our country, especially the members of organized forces for their

sacrifice in defence of this country. The people whom you served with dedication will always remember you for your service.

I pray that your hearts are filled with hope, love and joy during this festive season, and I send you my best wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'S' shape with a horizontal line through it, and a 'K' followed by some scribbles below it. The signature is written over a faint, circular official seal of the President of South Sudan.

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