



AFRICA/SUDAN-"The population is fleeing from Abyei under the rain and is at risk of epidemics, no one helps them" dramatic appeal of the parish priest and the Apostolic Administrator

Khartoum (Agenzia Fides) - "The population fleeing from the city is still moving towards south, " says Fr. Peter Suleiman, pastor of Abyei to Fides, a town on the border between north and south Sudan, occupied by troops in Khartoum on 21 May. "The government of Bahr el Ghazal is sending vehicles to transport people fleeing on foot. From what I know, so far there are no humanitarian organizations on the ground to help these people, who are without shelter under the rain, without food or medicine, " says Fr. Suleiman.

"There are about 19-20 thousand people totally without any humanitarian assistance, " confirms Mgr. Roko Taban Mousa, Apostolic Administrator of Malakal to Fides. "Nobody seems to pay attention to the drama of these people. If this situation continues, many people, especially children and the elderly will certainly die. The displaced are under the rain, without shelter, with the risk of the spread of cholera and malaria. It is an appalling situation and a solution must be found by everyone, " concludes Msgr. Taban. (L.M.) (Agenzia Fides 25/05/2011)