# Sudan conflict poses long-term societal harm as recruitment of child soldiers surges

NAIROBI, Kenya: Child soldiers are being recruited by both sides in Sudan's ongoing civil war, a cruel practice that threatens to destroy the fabric of the country.

Sudan's capital, Khartoum, is now a war zone where child soldiers are actors in a nightmarish script. Recent clashes between the Rapid Support Forces and El-Shajara Armored Corps have exposed the horrors Sudanese children must endure, with witnesses reporting instances of child soldiers fighting on both sides.

## Iranian foreign minister rejects interference in Lebanese presidential election

BEIRUT: Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian said in Beirut on Friday that Lebanon's presidential election is an internal matter and that Tehran rejects foreign interference in the country's internal affairs.

He added that Lebanon's leaders possess the wisdom and competence to elect a president.

Amir-Abdollahian was speaking at a press conference with his Lebanese counterpart Abdallah Bou Habib, and he urged external support for dialogue among Lebanese factions to elect a president.

### Morocco launches probe into Algeria's jet ski killing

RABAT: Morocco has begun an investigation into the death of a French-Moroccan after he and another Moroccan on jet skis were shot dead by the Algerian coast guard, media reports said on Friday.

The French Foreign Ministry in Paris reported only one death without providing the circumstances, saying another of its citizens had been jailed

in "an incident involving several of our nationals."

In Morocco, the prosecutor's office began investigating the death of one of the young men "after the discovery of his body on the beach at Saidia," the Al-Omk website reported.

#### <u>Libyan forces mobilize against protest</u> call

TRIPOLI: Armed forces in the Libyan capital mobilized a massive security presence on Friday, apparently to prevent any further protests over the interim government's meeting with Israel last week.

Dozens of military vehicles, some armed with heavy weapons, lined major roads and traffic intersections while convoys belonging to powerful armed factions patrolled the city, Reuters journalists said.

### US and Yemen sign cultural property agreement

LONDON: The US and Yemen have signed a bilateral cultural property agreement that renews and extends protections for Yemeni cultural property that were put in place in 2020 on an emergency basis, the US State Department announced on Friday.

The deal was signed by US Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs Lee Satterfield and Yemeni Ambassador to Washington Mohammed Al-Hadhrami, accompanied by the US Special Envoy for Yemen Tim Lenderking on Wednesday.