



TV

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UN IN ACTION

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A RADIO STAR IN SUDAN'S BOOMTOWN JUBA

VIDEO

MAAL AT MICROPHONE IN
RADIO STUDIO

MAP OF JUBA

PEOPLE IN MARKETPLACE

AUDIO

NARRATION

He's one of the most popular talk-show hosts in the country...(3")

NAT SOUND (MAAL'S RADIO SHOW): M

"Every afternoon starting one o'clock until five, your greetings and phone calls live all over south Sudan..." (6")

NARRATION

27-year old Maal Thiong is a star in Juba, the capital city of semi-autonomous south Sudan. (8.5")

NAT SOUND : (JUBA SONG)

NARRATION

Extraordinary changes are taking place in Juba. Nobody is quite sure what the city's current population is. Just over two years ago it was 65 thousand. Now it is probably close to one million.

CONSTRUCTION

One thing for sure is that Juba is experiencing explosive growth. It's one of Africa's biggest boomtowns. But until recently it was a city under siege. (29")

MILITARY TANKS

For over two decades a bloody civil war was fought between Sudan's Muslim north against Christians and animists in the south, leaving 1.5 million people dead. Like so many young people in southern Sudan, Maal fought during the war. (16")

MAAL ON CAMERA

MAAL: (English)

"I became a child soldier when I was 12 years old." (3")

PAST PHOTOS OF MAAL

"... Life for me was simple: you shoot and you still remain alive. So when I became 15 years old I realized that it was painful because some of my friends...were killed." (14")

CHILD SOLDIERS WITH GUNS

NARRATION:

MAAL IN RADIO STUDIO

Maal and his family fled south Sudan and became refugees in Kenya. He was fortunate to be able to continue his studies there and eventually graduated as a journalist. (11.5")

PHOTOS OF MAAL AS YOUNG ADULT

REFUGEES / DISPLACED BOARDING TRUCKS

After both sides made peace in 2005 a staggering two million people who had been displaced by the war returned to southern Sudan, and many of them to Juba. (11.5")

MAAL IN STUDIO	Among them, Maal and his family. Upon returning he got a job with United Nations- supported Radio Miraya FM. (9")
ANTENNA / ELECTRIC POSTS / PETROL TANKS BRICK FACTORY	Juba's spectacular growth is being fuelled by Sudan's booming oil industry and foreign aid. But little of the wealth being generated is trickling down to Juba's poor. Many of those with jobs are migrant workers from neighbouring countries such as Uganda and Kenya. (18.5")
MARKET CROWD	The southern Sudanese simply don't have the required skills to find decent jobs. For years many of them lived off humanitarian aid in exile. Now that they have come home, many are excluded from the region's economic boom. (15")
WOMEN COLLECT STONES AT QUARRY	At this quarry, outside Juba, women and children collect stones to sell at the city's countless building sites. They get almost nothing for this back-breaking work. (10")
BUILDING WITH BANK SIGN DUST DEVIL CARS	Will the excluded population ever benefit from the rapidly expanding economy? Will Juba be able to sustain its growth? Much will depend on how the government of south Sudan manages to spread the region's wealth. (13.5")
RIVER / PORT	The city is fairly close to Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, The Democratic Republic of Congo and

the Central African Republic. The White Nile passes through here and many believe that trade with Sudan's neighbours will play a major role in Juba's future. It could well become a transport and commercial hub for this part of Africa. (24")

PEOPLE RELAXING/ CHATTING

People also come to the river for relaxing, chatting and having a cold drink... It's one of Maal's favourite spots in Juba. (8")

MAAL WALKS IN MIDDLE OF CROWD AT MARKET

He also enjoys the hustle and bustle of the city's main markets. Here he is a celebrity. (6")

MAAL WITH STUDENTS IN CLASSROOM

MAAL:

"Whenever people appreciate what you do, you're living a good life." (4")

MAAL ON CAMERA

NAT SOUND (MAAL'S RADIO SHOW):

"I join you with the afternoon mix down...." (2")

CONSTRUCTION

NARRATION:

The future could turn out to be bright for both Juba and Maal. Both city and journalist have big and ambitious dreams. Juba could well be on its way to becoming one of the most important cities in the entire Africa continent and Maal Thiong could play a major role in chronicling the development and growth of his town. (22.5")

MAAL IN STUDIO

UN LOGO

This report was produced by Chaim Litewski for the United Nations.

