

## President Kiir Honours “Mr. Kwacakworo!”

The President of the Republic of South Sudan Salva Kiir Mayardit yesterday congratulated and honoured the renown Swiss anthropologist Dr. Conradin Perner, locally known as “Kwacha Kworo” in South Sudan by his local name given by the Anyuak ethnic community.

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President Kiir honours "Mr. Kwacakworo!" for his role in the liberation-struggle [ ©T. Kenneth]

JUBA, 14 July 2011 – The President of the Republic of South Sudan Salva Kiir Mayardit yesterday congratulated and honoured the renown Swiss anthropologist Dr. Conradin Perner, known as “Kwacakworo!” in South Sudan by his local name given by the Anyuak ethnic community.

Dr. Perner who is also one of the *Gurtong* Trust - Peace and Media Project founders, has been honoured by President Salva Kiir for his enormous and appreciable work in South Sudan during the civil war.

He was one of the key guests invited by the President of the new Republic to the celebration of the independence of South Sudan on July 9th.

President Kiir was congratulated by the Swiss expert and father of the lost boys who worked tirelessly during the struggle with the Sudan People’s Liberation Army. Dr. Conradin Perner is also renowned for his contribution in transporting the South Sudanese “Lost Boys” to safety in the Kenyan based refugee camps to escape oppression and imminent threats by the then Sudanese regime. He also extensively worked in South Sudan for many years with different groups as a UNICEF consultant and wrote a monograph on the Anyuak people (A South Sudanese Community).

The president expressed his appreciation by giving Dr. Perner the *Yellow Star Medal*, a symbol of hope and prosperity on the flag of the new Republic of South Sudan.