



Above and below: Residents of Molujore come out to greet President Carter



Former President Jimmy Carter speaks to the crowd and the media.

FORMER US PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER VISITS SOUTHERN SUDAN TO HIGHLIGHT GUINEA WORM

During a visit to Molujore village in Terekeka county former US President Jimmy Carter spoke about the dangers of Guinea Worm, which is endemic in southern Sudan. The Carter Center, founded by the former president, has been working to eradicate Guinea Worm worldwide. Guinea Worm, also known as Dracunculiasis, is a parasite that enters the body through contaminated drinking water and grows inside the body before emerging through a painful blister. There is no vaccine for Guinea Worm and the only treatment once infected is through a slow painful process of removing the worm once it emerges. While southern Sudan accounts for up to 90% of the global cases of Guinea Worm, the number of cases has fallen 98% from 118,578 in 1996 to (a provisional total of) 2,753 cases in 2009 according to the Carter Center. Through education and monitoring programs, the Carter Center has been working in close cooperation with the Government of Southern Sudan Ministry of Health to break the transmission cycle of Guinea Worm and eradicate the disease.

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SUDAN in pictures



Mundari young men prepare themselves for a traditional dance.



Covered in red paint made from dirt, Mundari women prepare for a traditional dance.