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Title of Session: International Migration: Dividing and Uniting Families

Name of Session Convener(s): Victor Agadjanian

University/Organization incl. City: Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, USA

Chair: Victor Agadjanian

University/Organization incl. City: Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, USA

I) Title of Selected Paper: The effects of migration on family relationships
of working Sudanese at the UAE

Name/s of Author/s: Musa Shallal

University/Organization incl. City: United Arab Emirates University

II) Title of Selected Paper: Labor migration and sexually transmitted diseases in rural
Armenia

Name/s of Author/s: Arusyak Sevoyan

University/Organization incl. City: Arizona State University

III) Title of Selected Paper: Male labor migration and child survival and health in
Mozambique

Name/s of Author/s: Boaventura Cau; Arusyak Sevoyan

University/Organization incl. City: Arizona State University

IV) Title of Selected Paper: Some Aspects of Return Migration in Armenia

Name/s of Author/s: Aram R. Vartikyan

University/Organization incl. City: Yerevan State University, Yerevan, Armenia

V) Title of Selected Paper: “Being Out of Place”: The Situation of Southern Sudanese Youth after the CPA

Name/s of Author/s: Ulrike Schultz

University/Organization incl. City: Free University, Berlin

Abstract: The *Three Towns* (Omdurman, Khartoum and Khartoum North) are today a multiethnic and multinational eight million metropolis. A considerable part of the population consists of people that came during the over 20 year lasting civil war in South Sudan to the capital. These people are categorized by international organisations, NGOs and the Sudanese government as displaced people, people who are “out o place”: being out of place presupposes a former situation of being in place, thereby implicitly assuming a place that can be called home. After the CPA (Comprehensive Peace Agreement) from 2005, this frequently only imagined home becomes now a real place for the IDPS to which they are supposed to go back.

In the paper I will follow the concepts of displacement and home coming and how they are reflected in the narratives of Southern Sudanese youth. The paper is part of an ongoing research on forms of belonging after the CPA. The return of all Southern Sudanese IDPS to their home areas is part of the agreement between the Government of Sudan and the SPLA and has been also on the political agenda for most of the ethnic communities and NGOs. However, many migrants and displaced people are reluctant to go back to their unknown homes in Southern Sudan. The decision about "home coming" or "staying home" depends not only on the opportunities and perspectives in their respective home areas but also on questions of belonging and identity. Different forms of belonging and often cross cutting identities became visible. These patterns of belonging are closely connected to specific places whether they are imagined or part of lived reality. Home coming is partly experienced as new form of displacement. The paper explores the negotiation of belonging and differing identities using the case of Bari youths who are brought up in Khartoum and are challenged by the opportunity to go "home." Research was conducted in the Three Towns from January 2007 to April 2007 and February - April 2008.