



Save Darfur Coalition and Genocide Intervention Network are now

**UNITED TO END
GENOCIDE**

SUDAN: U.S. Leadership Needed to Stop Bashir's Attacks

Sudanese President **Omar al-Bashir** — wanted by the International Criminal Court for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur — continues to direct atrocities with impunity. The situation has escalated significantly resulting in devastating



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have been displaced by violence in Darfur, South Kordofan, Abyei, and Blue Nile. The United States and international community must take steps immediately to impose consequences on the Government of Sudan and help protect civilians, including those at risk of death by starvation.

consequences for an increasing number of civilians. In the face of this ongoing violence, action from the international community is critical. During 2011, over half a million civilians

What Can the United States Do?

It is essential for U.S. action to reflect Bashir regime's crimes; therefore, we call on the Obama administration to respond to the Sudanese government's atrocities against civilians by:

- Pressing for full and unimpeded access for international humanitarian organizations to South Kordofan and Blue Nile and immediately preparing alternative means of distributing emergency assistance to civilians wherever denial of aid is being used as a weapons of war;
- Pushing the United Nations Security Council to demand the Government of Sudan immediately cease conducting offensive military flights in and over South Kordofan and Blue Nile;
- Pushing the United Nations Security Council to authorize a peacekeeping force for South Kordofan and Blue Nile that contains a human rights monitoring component along with the appropriate resources and mandate necessary to protect civilians;
- Working to expand the existing United Nations arms embargo for Darfur to all of Sudan;
- Holding perpetrators of violence accountable by strengthening and expanding U.S. and UN sanctions against those responsible for violence in South Kordofan, Blue Nile, and Abyei; and
- Demanding an independent international investigation into crimes committed against civilians in Abyei, Blue Nile, and South Kordofan, preferably through the International Criminal Court.

Recent Violence in Blue Nile, South Kordofan & Abyei

Beginning in May 2011, violence has escalated in contentious regions along Sudan's border with the newly independent Republic of South Sudan. In the Blue Nile and South Kordofan regions, the Government of Sudan has utilized its military forces to launch attacks in civilian areas. There are widespread reports from South Kordofan that churches have been targeted, and civilians have been arrested and even executed on the basis of their ethnic and political identity. In Abyei, Khartoum has done everything in its power



Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir

to avoid the chance that it might lose the region to South Sudan and has displaced nearly the entire Ngok Dinka population. On multiple occasions, the Sudanese army has also bombed refugee areas in South Sudan where civilians from Blue Nile and South Kordofan fled to avoid government attacks.

Abyei

On May 21, 2011, the Government of Sudan invaded the disputed Abyei region which resulted in the displacement of more than 113,000 civilians. According to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement the residents of Abyei were scheduled to have a referendum vote on whether or not they would be part of Sudan's South or North. This referendum for Abyei was to run at the same time as the referendum on South Sudan's independence. However, it was indefinitely postponed due to an inability of the parties to reach agreement on logistical issues. On June 27, 2011 the United Nations Security Council authorized the deployment of 4,200 peacekeepers through a mission known as the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA).

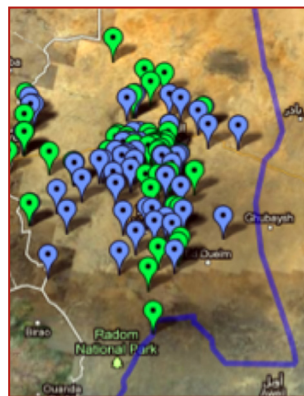
South Kordofan

On June 5, 2011, fighting erupted between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan People's Liberation Army-North (SPLA-N) in Sudan's border region of South Kordofan. The SAF and allied militias rapidly escalated the violence conducting house to house raids, supporting widespread looting, imposing roadblocks, and continuing to conduct aerial bombardments which has caused over 200,000 civilians to flee their homes. The Sudanese government has singled out Nuba civilians on the basis of their ethnic identity and political ties, going house to house targeting civilians accused of being affiliated or supporting the SPLA-N and subjecting them to arrest, torture, and extrajudicial killings. The Government of Sudan has cut off nearly all access and prevented humanitarian organizations and UN peacekeepers from providing desperately needed aid and security and from gathering information of abuses being committed. The fighting has also disrupted the crucial cultivation season which has worsened the humanitarian food crisis. By March 2012, it has been warned that most families will be without food. According to the UN, civilians have reportedly been targeted while attempting to cultivate their land which has cut them

off from their only means of survival which is especially troubling as the SAF continues to restrict the delivery of humanitarian aid. A report from the United Nations Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights has found that the Government of Sudan's actions likely amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Blue Nile

On September 1, 2011, fighting broke out in Ed Damazine, the capital of Blue Nile state, between the SAF and the SPLA-N internally displacing 60,000 and forcing 28,500 refugees that fled into neighboring Ethiopia and another 6,200 into South Sudan. It is reported that the SAF have been responsible for ground attacks and the aerial bombardment of civilian areas. The Government of Sudan has sacked the elected governor, Malik Agar, and installed a military governor. Khartoum has also banned the Sudan People's Liberation Movement as a political party. Aerial bombardments and fighting have been reported in Dindero, Ulu, Kurmuk, Geissan, Menza, Yabus and Um Darafa, as well as in various places in Ed Damazine. On November 4, 2011, the Sudanese army took over the last major rebel town of Kurmuk and will likely capture the rest of the state as the rainy season comes to an end.



Location of attacks in Darfur in
2010 & 2011

Attacks Continue in Darfur

Fighting between rebels and the Sudanese Armed Forces continues. Despite the recent agreement between Khartoum and one of the rebel groups in Doha, a genuine peace is unlikely any time in the near future without an inclusive process. Ongoing reports of bombings by the Government of Sudan, along with the continued arrest and detention of human rights advocates, civil

society leaders and UN peacekeepers (UNAMID) are extremely troubling. Since 2010, the United Nations has reported over 196 attacks in Darfur which have displaced over 375,000 civilians. There continues to be concern about the limited access that both humanitarians and peacekeepers have in the region.