

Darfur Resource Kit



map: Rich Clabaugh/Christian Science Monitor

If you're reading this on paper, we suggest that you **open this on the Web**, and click its [links](#), to access dozens of resources for Darfur. Go to: www.westendsynagogue.org/docs/DarfurResourceKit.pdf

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What's going on in Darfur?

Since February 2003, Sudanese government forces and their proxy militia known as *Janjaweed* (evil men on horseback) have been engaging in genocidal campaigns to displace and wipe out communities of African tribal farmers in Darfur, Sudan.

According to the findings of the United Nations Commission of Inquiry (January 25, 2005), Sudanese government officials and the *Janjaweed* are responsible for "the killing of civilians, torture, enforced disappearances, destruction of villages, rape and other forms of sexual violence, pillaging and forced displacement throughout Darfur."

This campaign of destruction and displacement is calculated to ensure the loss of livelihood and means of survival, purposely forcing hundreds of thousands of men, women and children to face starvation and disease.

John Prendergast of the International Crisis Group calls it "Rwanda in slow motion," others call it "genocide by famine."

The brutal violence and forced displacement directly affects more than 2 1/2 million people who are in dire need of humanitarian assistance. Some 1.85 million people have been displaced from their homes and nearly 200,000 have fled across the border to Chad.

Many now live in hastily erected IDP (internally displaced persons) camps lacking adequate food, water, shelter, medical care and security. Conservative estimates put the number of fatalities as a result of violence, disease and malnutrition at 400,000 since the crisis began.

In the aftermath of the Holocaust, we declared "never again." How well have we kept our promise? Ten years ago, genocide was perpetrated in Rwanda as people and governments around the world just stood by and watched.

Darfur, in western Sudan, has been described as "Rwanda in slow motion." *Every day*, 500 more men, women, and children die. "Never again" has become "once again" in Darfur.

Elie Wiesel asked "How can a citizen of a free country not pay attention? How can anyone, anywhere not feel outraged? How can a person, whether religious or secular, not be moved by compassion? And above all, how can anyone who remembers remain silent? ... 'Lo taamod al dam réakha' is a Biblical commandment. 'Thou shall not stand idly by the shedding of the blood of thy fellow man.' "

(adapted from American Jewish World Service)

What can I do?

Senator Paul Simon, following the Rwanda tragedy, provided one answer when he observed that "If every member of the House and Senate had received 100 letters from people back home saying we have to do something about Rwanda, when the crisis was first developing, then I think the response would have been different."

Learn what's happening in Darfur. On the following pages you'll find Web sites with overviews and current news. We recommend beginning with the excellent overviews in the [articles](#) section.

Contact your representatives. We suggest whom to contact and how. It can take as little as two minutes.

Donate money – for food and medicine for Darfur refugees, and/or for advocacy to stop the killing.

Organize an event to educate and involve others.



Janjaweed raider (detail)

photo: Espen Rasmussen/AFP/Getty



burning village of Kokoba (detail)

photo: Brian Steidle



individual killed in Amaka Sara

photo: Brian Steidle

Organizations Devoted to Darfur

SaveDarfur.org

A national coalition of more than 100 Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Buddhist, humanist, and human rights organizations.

www.SaveDarfur.org

DarfurGenocide.org

A project of Res Publica

www.DarfurGenocide.org

Genocide Intervention Fund

GIF aims to increase public awareness about genocide and to support organizations, initiatives and government policies designed to help prevent and stop genocide. At this stage, GIF is focusing its fundraising on supporting African Union peacekeepers in Darfur, Sudan.

www.GenocideInterventionFund.org

Passion of the Present

platform.blogs.com/passionofthepresent

A place for sharing ideas and inspiration on how to stop the genocide in Darfur.

Eric Reeves

www.sudanreeves.org

Dr. Reeves is perhaps the best source of significant news and analysis with regard to Sudan, and an exemplar of what can be achieved with intelligent, passionate commitment.



Remains of a civilian killed by the Janjaweed in Farawyaiah, West Darfur.

Sudanese Liberation Army soldiers in background.

photo: Lynsey Addario

Other Organizations Helping in Darfur

American Jewish World Service

Provides humanitarian aid to Darfurian refugees in camps in Sudan and Chad. Because humanitarian aid is crucial but will not stop the genocide, AJWS is engaged in a simultaneous education and advocacy campaign to pressure US and world leaders to end the crisis. A key founder of SaveDarfur.org.

www.ajws.org/index.cfm?section_id=2&sub_section_id=2&page_id=296

International Rescue Committee

IRC provides relief, protection, post-conflict development, and advocacy for those affected by violent conflict & oppression. One of the largest providers of humanitarian aid in Sudan for more than 20 years.

www.theIRC.org/sudan

Doctors Without Borders

Provides medical aid wherever needed, and raises awareness of the plight of the people they help.

www.DoctorsWithoutBorders.org

International Crisis Group

ICG works through field-based analysis and high-level advocacy to prevent and resolve deadly conflict.

www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?id=3060&l=1

Human Rights Watch

HRW is dedicated to protecting the human rights of people around the world.

hrw.org/doc?t=africa&c=sudan

International Committee of the Red Cross

In Sudan since 1978; the current conflict in Darfur has required ICRC's biggest deployment worldwide.

www.icrc.org/Web/Eng/siteeng0.nsf/htmlall/sudan-food-aid-010605

Amnesty International

AI is a worldwide movement of people who campaign for internationally recognized human rights.

web.amnesty.org/pages/sdn-index-eng



Women in transit camp in South Darfur

photo: USAID

Donate

Most of the organizations on [pp. 4 and 5](#) accept donations for Darfur. In particular:

American Jewish World Service's Sudan Relief and Advocacy Fund
donate.ajws.org/03/sudan

SaveDarfur.org Education Fund
app.etapestry.com/hosted/SaveDarfurCoalition/OnlineGiving.html

Jewish Coalition for Sudan Relief
www.jdc.org/jcdr_donate_form.html

Genocide Intervention Fund to help the African Union peacekeeping force
www.genocideinterventionfund.org/donate/fromusa.php



Displaced child attending health education session with mother (detail)
photo: Ivo Freijesen/ECHO

Contact Your Representatives

Send an immediate email message to your Congressperson and Senators. These Web sites make it very easy and fast. Can you spare two minutes?

- SaveDarfur.org
hq.demaction.org/dia/organizations/darfur/campaign.jsp?campaign_KEY=1056
- American Jewish World Service
action.ajws.org/campaign/darfurcalltoaction

Call the President: [www.ajws.org/uploaded_documents/Not On My Watch Script.pdf](http://www.ajws.org/uploaded_documents/Not_On_My_Watch_Script.pdf)

Whom to call/write?

If you want to call or write your elected representatives on your own, but aren't sure who they are or how to contact them, go to www.vote-smart.org.

Help with letters and calls

If you want to write on your own and would like to see sample letters, go to the Web sites above, or to: www.genocideinterventionfund.org/action/legislation.php

A few suggestions for more successful letters and calls (from Genocide Intervention Fund):

Letters

- **Handwrite** your letters or print on personal letterhead.
- **Personalize your letters** by saying why ending the genocide in Darfur is important to you.
- Urge your legislator to do more to stop what has been called "Rwanda in slow motion."
- **Send letters** to elected officials **to the district office** nearest you. You can find the addresses for the district offices in your state on your elected officials' websites. (Mail sent directly to your elected officials D.C. office goes through an eradication process that delays the delivery of the mail by two months, but mail sent to the district offices in your state is read immediately.)
- If you choose to email, remember that emails are only taken seriously if you **include an address**; that is the only way a legislator knows if you live in his/her district.

Calls

If you choose to call your Congressperson, ask to speak with his/her legislative aide handling the Sudan crisis. If that person is unavailable, ask to leave a message with your name, address, and phone number. Remember to mention that you are a voting member of their state calling to let them know how upset you are about the situation in Sudan.

Learn

The groups in the Organizations section ([pp. 4 and 5](#)) provide information about the situation in Darfur.

Get a free weekly Darfur news bulletin

If you'd like to get a weekly comprehensive news bulletin emailed to you by SaveDarfur.org:

1. Go to www.SaveDarfur.org
2. Look on the left side of the page, and scroll down to the box that says "get email updates."
3. Type your email address and click the *Subscribe* button.

It's that easy. (To protect your privacy, you'll receive an email asking you to confirm your subscription.)

They won't sell, rent, or lend your address to anyone else.

News, Editorials, and Analysis

news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/in_depth/africa/2004/sudan/default.stm An excellent collection of stories, analysis, and interviews from the BBC.

www.sudanreeves.org Eric Reeves is among the best sources of significant Darfur analysis and news.

www.darfurgenocide.org/news.php Constantly updated list of articles about Darfur.

www.sudantribune.com/mot.php?id_mot=26 *Sudan Tribune*, based in France.

platform.blogs.com/PassionOfThePresent A center for Darfur activists; right column links to articles.

www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?id=3060&l=1#C7 International Crisis Group's broadcast & other news sources. Scroll up and down for other sections on analysis, reports, etc.

www.irinnews.org/webspecials/SudanDarfur/DarfurInt.asp Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

sudanwatch.blogspot.com Interesting selection of news & analysis culled from wide-ranging sources.



Women from Darfur with onions

photo: WorldNews.com

Articles

Crash course on Darfur

Read this first. An excellent, concise explanation of the past, present, and future of the Darfur crisis, by Eric Reeves for the *New Republic Online*, July 2005.

part 1: www.sudanreeves.org/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=62

part 2: www.sudanreeves.org/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=61

Counter-Insurgency on the Cheap

Untangling the complex ethnic, political, & economic roots of the Darfur conflict, by Alex de Waal, *London Review of Books*, August 2004

www.lrb.co.uk/v26/n15/waal01_.html

In Darfur, My Camera Was Not Nearly Enough

An eyewitness account, with photographs, by Brian Steidle

www.ushmm.org/conscience/alert/darfur/steidle

Dying in Darfur

Winner of the National Magazine Award for excellence in reporting; *New Yorker*, August 2004

www.newyorker.com/fact/content/?040830fa_fact1

How Did Darfur Happen? Good reporting by Scott Anderson, *New York Times Magazine*, October 2004

www.sudantribune.com/article.php3?id_article=6003

Official Reports

Go to www.genocideinterventionfund.org, move your cursor over *Reports* in the menu bar, and select a report category.

Videos

See videos of Darfur – the people and the issues – online.

Human Rights Watch and WITNESS

hrw.org/video/2004/sudan

Physicians for Human Rights

www.phrusa.org/research/sudan

Peace Under Fire from the United Nations humanitarian news agency, IRIN

www.irinnews.org/audiovisual/ram/Peace-Under-Fire.ram

Amnesty International

web.amnesty.org/pages/sdn-index-eng

See links to videos on left side of page.

Oxfam International

www.oxfam.com/eng/programs_emer_sudan.htm

See links to videos on right side of page.

www.darfurfilm.org

A Darfur documentary that is in the process of being edited, but is available to be shown now.

Photos

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
www.usaid.gov/locations/sub-saharan_africa/sudan/images

In Darfur, My Camera Was Not Nearly Enough
An eyewitness account, with photographs, by Brian Steidle
www.ushmm.org/conscience/alert/darfur/steidle/

Amnesty International
web.amnesty.org/pages/sdn-index-eng
See links to slides on left side of page.

Doctors Without Borders
www.doctorswithoutborders-usa.org/news/gallery/index.cfm

Teach

Background, Activities and Critical Analysis Lesson Plan
www.genocideinterventionfund.org/action/education.php

See also the resources in the [Organize an Event or Group](#) section.

Organize an Event or Group

Both of these toolkits are very useful for anyone (not just a student) who is organizing an event, advocacy campaign, or group. Each toolkit includes a history of the conflict, suggestions for raising awareness and organizing, strategies for advocacy, and more.

- **Swarthmore Sudan College Organizing Toolkit**
www.genocideinterventionfund.org/action/diy.php
- **American Jewish World Service Student Organizing Toolkit**
www.ajws.org/uploaded_documents/Sudan%20Student%20Organizing%20Toolkit%20May%202005.pdf

American Jewish World Service multimedia resource *Crisis in Darfur*.

This CD includes a PowerPoint presentation with photos and commentary by AJWS President, Ruth Messinger, and two short documentary films: *Darfur Destroyed*, produced by Human Rights Watch in collaboration with WITNESS; and *Peace Under Fire*, from the United Nations humanitarian news agency, IRIN. The CD also provides links to informative Web sites, and tools to take action in advocating on behalf of the people of Darfur. To get the CD, send an e-mail to darfur@ajws.org.

Divest

The Khartoum Regime relies heavily on foreign revenue, particularly from oil, generated by multinational corporations operating in Sudan. The sheer amount of revenue the Khartoum regime has received has allowed it purchase some of the high end military equipment it is using to perpetrate genocide in Darfur. Divestment of stock in these corporations has been suggested as one method of influencing the Sudanese government. The following Web sites have information about Sudan divestment campaigns:

www.genocideinterventionfund.org/action/divestment.php

www.divestsudan.org

Please tell us if this Darfur Resource Kit is helpful!

If you encounter problems with information in this kit, or have suggestions for improving it, we'd like to hear from you. Please contact Mark Nazimova at MarkNazim@aol.com.



Displaced woman attending health education session (detail) Ivo Freijesen/ECHO



Woman from Darfur (detail)

photo: Samaritan's Purse Canada

Yad Mordecai Social Action Committee of
West End Synagogue, A Reconstructionist Congregation

www.WestEndSynagogue.org | (212) 579 - 0777

For more information about this Darfur Resource Kit, contact MarkNazim@aol.com

To read or download the latest version: www.WestEndSynagogue.org/docs/DarfurResourceKit.pdf