

# AN INTRODUCTION TO THE CRISIS IN SUDAN

In 1989, army veteran Omar al-Bashir seized power with the support of the military. Wielding a Koran and Kalashnikov rifle, he promised to reengineer Sudan into a country dominated by an elite group of Arab tribes and oppressive Islamic law.

Since the coup more than three decades ago, the military junta has orchestrated systematic campaigns of destruction against all who have stood in their way. Ethnic African minorities in Sudan's oppressed hinterlands are besieged in genocidal wars by Sudan's military and their paramilitary allies. Over 2.5 million Sudanese have been killed, with millions more being driven off their land and out of their homes.

Regime insiders have remained in power because they have rigged the country to work for them. Here's how:

## **Violent Kleptocracy**

Regime insiders have hijacked government institutions and overrun the private sector to enrich themselves. It's estimated that regime insiders now own over 500 major companies and control most economic fields.

## **Oppressing Civil Society**

Grassroots activists, journalists, and opposition political figures face violence and murder at the hands of security forces. Peaceful protesters face live ammunition and public beatings in the streets.

## **Religious Persecution**

Regime leaders have enforced a violent strain of political Islam. This has resulted in the persecution of moderate Muslims, Christians, and animists. Churches have been demolished in major cities.

## **International Terrorism**

Regime insiders shelter, fund, and arm fighters from several international terrorist organizations.

## **Poaching & Arms Trafficking**

Military generals and paramilitary leaders are the key players in an elephant poaching and arms trafficking network that is spreading chaos across central Africa. Regime militias kill elephants and park rangers and trade stolen ivory to Sudanese commanders in exchange for weapons and money.

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## **The Regime Today**

Bashir fell to a palace coup in 2019. A fledgling transitional government that brought hope to Sudan for the first time in decades has since been overthrown by the regime. Despite this harsh reality, peaceful protesters and those in the oppressed periphery regions of the country continue their fight to uproot this brutal junta.

*We exist to empower these brave heroes.*

# AN INTRODUCTION TO OPERATION BROKEN SILENCE

**Operation Broken Silence is building a global movement to empower the Sudanese people through innovative programs as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.**

We work diligently to identify local Sudanese community leaders, teachers, and healthcare workers who are already making a difference in the lives of their people. We get to know each other. We hear their triumphs and hardships. What makes them celebrate and what makes them weep. What their dreams are and what they need to get there. *And then the real work begins.*

## **Sudan Storytelling**

We capture inspiring Sudanese stories and use them to introduce citizens around the world to this crisis and the brave people living through it. Our stories are crafted to showcase the hope, struggles, and dreams of the partner.

## **Building A Movement**

We invite people to give and fundraise directly for the Sudanese partner featured in the story. Today, our movement has spread throughout 48 U.S. states and 19 countries.

## **Education & Healthcare**

We invest funds raised in Sudanese heroes to empower their life-changing education and healthcare work. *And they make the big program decisions, not us.*

## **Education in Yida Refugee Camp**

In 2014, our supporters began funding four Nuba teachers in Yida Refugee Camp. This partnership has blossomed into the *Endure Primary and Renewal Secondary Schools*, where 24 Nuba teachers serve roughly 900 students every week. Over 10,000 children have been positively impacted to date.

## **Healthcare in the Nuba Mountains**

In 2016, our supporters began fundraising for Mother of Mercy Hospital in the heart of the war zone. This is the only referral hospital in a region of 1.3 million people. It is staffed by a growing team of indigenous doctors and nurses. A small group of internationals provide training to current and future healthcare workers. Together, they serve upwards of 150,000 patients a year.

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We're helping local heroes in Sudan build a better future from the ground up, and with the help of supporters like you, we're making tangible progress every day.

Will you join us?



**OBSILENCE.ORG**