



DARFUR FACTSHEET

What is going on in Darfur, Sudan?

Since 2003 the government of Sudan and armed Arab militias known as the Janjaweed have conducted a scorched-earth campaign against the African civilian population of Darfur, terrorizing men, women and children and forcibly displacing the Darfurians from their land. More than 400,000 Africans have been killed with nearly 4 million displaced from their homes and forced to live in squalid and unsafe refugee camps, with thousands more dying each month of deprivation and disease.

What are we doing to stop the Genocide?

In its response to the genocide, the US government has condemned the violence, which includes torture and mass rape against children as young as 7. The UN has described the situation as "the world's worst humanitarian crisis". But there is still insufficient protection on the ground to stop the killing of the Darfurian refugees: the international community has spoken of its commitment to stopping the genocide, but thousands more continue to die in Darfur.

What is the current situation in Darfur?

In February 2008 the government of Sudan renewed bombing campaigns against the civilian population, leaving tens of thousands of Africans displaced for a second time and killing many. A number of aid agencies and the UN have removed humanitarian workers from the region during the Spring due to the violence that continues unabated without the full peacekeeping force on the ground, which has left Darfurian refugees in a crisis situation. The current food crisis in Darfur has left nearly a third of the population without access to food. Without aid reinforcements with food and water, millions of Africans will be at risk during the rainy season which begins shortly. The UN has renewed calls for peacekeepers in Darfur, where 26,000 peacekeeping troops were supposed to be deployed on January 1st 2008 – only 10,000 troops, with insufficient equipment or strategic support, are in Darfur currently.

What can you do to help?

The Darfur Action Group of South Carolina is asking South Carolinians to respond to the Darfur crisis by calling on our government to take action and lead international diplomatic efforts to protect the Darfurians from further tragedy. We must do all that we can to stop the genocidal regime that seeks to remove the African community from Darfur.

Take action in your community by inviting a speaker to talk about Darfur, by holding a collection, or by organizing a meeting with local representatives to ask what they are doing to end the genocide.

For more information contact Jo Read at darfuractions@aol.com or call (803) 269-1619.