

SAVE DARFUR

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Instead of mourning a genocide, what if you could STOP one?

The Situation in Darfur

Darfur, a region in western Sudan the size of Texas, is home to what the United Nations has called the world's worst humanitarian crisis. Since February 2003, an estimated

400,000 men, women and children have died while another 2.5 million innocent civilians have been forced to flee their homes. Many, particularly the women and children, have escaped death only to fall victim to repeated rape and beatings at the hands of the government-backed Janjaweed militias. Today, survivors face starvation and disease in overcrowded refugee camps and shattered villages. These horrific events have unfolded in western Sudan even as a brutal 21-year civil war between the Muslim government in the north and Christian and Animist population in the south has been brought to a halt by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement signed in January 2005. The peace agreement has done nothing for the people of Darfur, however, where

villagers and refugees are still being killed, starvation is again on the rise, and international aid workers have become targets of attack.

Thus far, the international community has responded to the crisis with humanitarian aid and stern warnings, but without the concrete action needed to end the suffering. With limited international support, the African Union has put military observers on the ground in Darfur, but they lack the funds, equipment, and specific mandate needed to protect civilians.

We must do more to save the people of Darfur. A United Nations peacekeeping force, stronger than the current African Union deployment, is urgently needed to end the violence against civilians, ensure the disarmament of the Janjaweed militias, and establish a lasting peace.

The Rwandan genocide woke the world up to the true horrors of ethnic cleansing in Africa. Until we end the violence in Darfur, we must all live with the knowledge that we are allowing another genocide on our watch.



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**VOICES TO STOP
GENOCIDE**

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**For information: www.savedarfur.org/now
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