

Feature: Cross-border violence, Darfur – Chad,

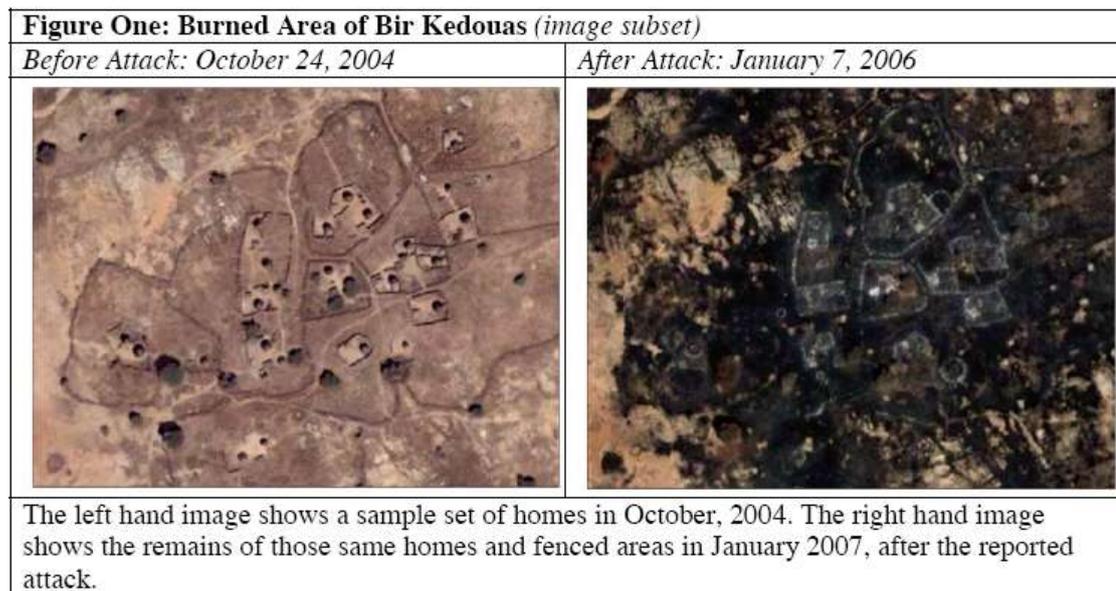
October 2006 has seen Janjawid militia launch renewed attacks on villages in eastern Chad. ([Read press release 20/10/06.](#)) These attacks are a direct product of the long-running crisis in Sudan’s neighbouring Darfur region, where the Janjawid militia, funded by the Sudanese government, have been attacking and systematically displacing those ethnic groups associated with Sudanese armed groups opposed to the Sudanese government.

Previously, between September 2005 and June 2006 Janjawid militia from Sudan launched a series of attacks targeting tribes in eastern Chad. According to the pattern of attacks, they first raid the village a few times and seize the cattle. Following that they directly attack a village, or often a cluster of villages, until most of the inhabitants have been killed or forced to flee and the villages had been totally looted. Often the Janjawid raiders took advantage of an attack by Chadian armed rebel groups against Chadian military and civilian targets to ensure that no Chadian forces would move against them.

THE ATTACK ON BIR KEDOUAS

“People were in the village when the Janjawid arrived at 10am. They were more than 300 and they were divided in three columns which were heading in different directions. They were ululating and shouting ‘We came to kill the black slaves.’”

AA, a resident of Bir Kedouas



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On 16 December 2005 the Janjawid attacked a cluster of predominantly Masalit and Wadai villages reportedly only a few hours after an attack on the towns of Ade and Borota in the same region by a Chadian rebel group based in Sudan (the *United Front for Democratic Change (Front Unique pour le Changement Démocratique, FUCD)*).

The Janjawid first attacked the northernmost village, Nahkulota, where they reportedly killed six people before attacking Bir Kedouas. Approximately 300 Janjawid, on horses and camels, wearing Sudanese defence force fatigues, circled the village while others went to seize the cattle from the cattle camps.

“ They came in the houses and ran after those who were trying to flee. I was running away next to the imam who was very old. He was shot four times in the back and in the leg. They then burnt the village. Only 10 out of 100 houses remained intact. The villagers fled to the village of Muruske.”

AA, a resident of Bir Kedouas

Some people did manage to escape while the Janjawid were still establishing a cordon around them. Villagers told Amnesty International in June 2006 that they had escaped “with only the clothes on our backs”

“When the Janjawid arrived, I took my daughter in my arms and ran away but I was shot in the leg and had to slow down. That is when my daughter Husna was shot.”

The father of a three-year-old girl who was killed in Bir Kedouas

[Read an in depth image analysis of the satellite pictures](#)