

Sudan: Rape as a weapon of war



Women from North Darfur.

“Five to six men would rape us, one after the other, for hours during six days, every night. My husband could not forgive me after this, he disowned me.”

Sudanese refugee woman interviewed by Amnesty International.

The mass rapes ongoing in Darfur are war crimes and crimes against humanity, but very little is being done to stop it.

Amnesty International's report: [Sudan: Rape as a weapon of war](#) demonstrates that despite the regional and international focus on Darfur and promises by the Sudanese government to disarm the *Janjawid* militia, there is still no protection for women and girls.

The suffering and abuse endured by these women goes far beyond the actual rape. Rape has a devastating and ongoing impact on the health of women and girls and survivors now face a lifetime of stigma and marginalisation from their own families and communities. Women and girls are being attacked, not only to dehumanize the women themselves but also to humiliate, punish, control, inflict fear and displace women and to persecute the community to which they belong.

Amnesty International is therefore calling for:

- All parties to the conflict to stop and publicly condemn the use of rape as a weapon of war and to put adequate mechanisms in place to ensure the protection of civilians.
- The *Janjawid* militia to be disarmed and disbanded and placed in a position where they may no longer attack the civilian population.
- An international Commission of Inquiry to be established immediately to examine evidence of war crimes, crimes against humanity and other violations of international humanitarian law including rape, as well as allegations of genocide.
- The perpetrators of attacks on civilians, including sexual violence against women, to be brought to justice in trials that meet international standards of fairness. The safety of victims and witnesses must be protected.

Read the full report - [Sudan: Rape as a weapon of war](#)