

"We fled because of bombs from the sky and hunger"

A man displaced from Southern Kordofan, Sudan, Yida refugee camp, South Sudan, April 2012 One year on, the Sudanese Armed Forces continue to commit grave violations of international human rights and humanitarian law in Sudan's Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states, with devastating consequences for the civilian population. Indiscriminate aerial bombardments have led to injuries, loss of life, destruction of property and severe food shortages due to disrupted agricultural cultivation and mass displacement.

Despite this, the Sudanese authorities have effectively denied human rights and humanitarian organizations access to conflict-affected areas in both states, preventing the delivery of much-needed assistance.

More than 500,000 people have been displaced since armed conflict erupted in Southern Kordofan in June 2011 and Blue Nile in September 2011, including some 150,000 refugees who have fled to neighbouring Ethiopia and South Sudan.

TAKE ACTION NOW

Image: Displaced people fleeing Southern Kordofan after bombings in Tessa and Buram, Sudan, January 2012. © Private Index: AFR 54/018/2012 English PLEASE SIGN AND SEND THIS POSTCARD TO MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE 15 UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBER STATES, CALLING ON THEM TO PRESSURE THE COUNCIL TO ADDRESS THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN SOUTHERN KORDOFAN AND BLUE NILE.



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



Dear Minister.

One year on, grave violations of international human rights and humanitarian law continue unabated in Sudan's Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states. As a member of the UN Security Council, I call on your government to ensure that urgent measures are taken to protect civilians affected by armed conflict in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile.

The UN Security Council must take immediate action to:

- Demand an end to indiscriminate aerial bombings and other violations of international human rights and humanitarian law by the Sudanese Armed Forces in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile:
- Demand that the Government of Sudan allows humanitarian organizations and independent human rights monitors immediate and unhindered access to both states;
- Mandate a full and independent investigation into alleged human rights violations and abuses committed by all parties to the conflict in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile since June 2011.

Yours sincerely,

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Image. Children carry their family's belongings to Yida refugee camp, South Sudan, as they flee their homes in the Nuba Mountains, Southern Kordofan, Sudan, May 2012. © REUTERS/Goran Tomasevic Amnesty International, International Secretariat, Peter Benenson House, 1 Easton Street, London WCIX ODW, United Kingdom

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