



SUDO (UK) Situation Updates – July 2015¹

Overview

During the month of July our network of human rights monitors situated throughout Darfur, Blue Nile, and South Kordofan, has verified **56 specific incidents of human rights abuses; 41 of which were committed by largely pro-Government militias, 6 by Government forces or officials, and 3 each from the armed opposition, ethnic militias, and unknown bandits respectively.**

Of the 56 incidents, SUDO (UK) has recorded the deaths of **221** people, **35** victims of rape, **19** victims of abduction, and the arrest and torture of **1** individual. Additionally there were **20** incidents of looting, **17** incidents of direct attacks on villages and civilian infrastructure, and **6** incidents of displacement resulting in some **12,000** newly displaced persons.

SUDO (UK) is greatly concerned that in the month of July there was a clear trend exhibited by **Government and pro-Government attacks on civilians in Darfur looking to cultivate their farms in order to provide for themselves.** In total there were **10** such attacks in which our monitors directly addressed this link. Several explanations have been identified for these attacks ranging from extortion to the seizure of land for militias in order to provide pasture for their livestock.

Furthermore, July saw continued ethnic conflict occur unabated in **Darfur** with clashes between the Zayadia and the Berti, in addition to a much-publicised battle pitching the Rezeigat against the Habaniya. A total of 178 people were killed in both clashes.

Blue Nile state again witnessed what appears to be a consorted effort by Government forces to continually harass the Ingessanna ethnic group - amongst

¹ It is important to note that the number of specific human rights abuses recorded in this document certainly underestimate the total number of abuses and their effects on the civilian population. SUDO (UK) only uses information provided to it by its monitors.

others deemed as supporters of the armed opposition. SUDO (UK) monitors estimated the displacement of **7,500** as a result of such attacks by the Sudanese Armed Forces and Military Intelligence. These attacks were characterised in reports for their ferocity and brutality with comments that **soldiers were involved in acts of rape, summary executions, as well as the destruction of civilian infrastructure including schools and health and water facilities in order to prevent re-settlement.**

Recommendations

Using reports submitted by our monitors throughout Sudan, SUDO (UK) recommends the following:

To the Government of Sudan

- Halt all direct, indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks on the civilian population by its armed forces, and investigate those that have previously occurred in order to hold to account those responsible.
- Fulfil its obligation to protect civilians by disbanding, investigating and holding to account all government militias, including the Rapid Support Forces and the Janjaweed, for human rights violations they have committed.
- Immediately facilitate urgent humanitarian assistance for displaced civilians.
- Ensure that all allegations of sexual and gender-based violence are investigated and that those responsible are brought to account. Further ensure that the security forces, the judiciary and the administrative authorities are adequately trained in the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence.
- Ensure individuals who have been arrested are either charged with a criminal offence and given a fair trial, or are immediately released. Ensure that all detainees are protected from torture and other ill-treatment as stipulated in Sudanese and international human rights law.

To the Armed Opposition Groups

- Cease all attacks on the civilian population and civilian infrastructure.

UNAMID

- Take action in order to fulfil its mandate to “contribute to the protection of civilian populations under imminent threat of physical violence and prevent attacks against civilians, within its capability and areas of deployment, without prejudice to the responsibility of the Government of the Sudan”, and the requirement “to investigate and hold accountable those who are responsible, and promote efforts to disarm the Janjaweed and other militias”.

Darfur

North Darfur

7/7/2015

Seven Janjaweed militiamen attacked two pickup trucks in Martal, west of Tawila. The cars were transporting civilians and their produce to market. As a result six persons were abducted and their produce looted.

7/7/2015

Five members from a Janjaweed militia attacked and raped two women, aged 26 and 31 respectively, in Abu Zaid Agricultural Scheme near their home village of Goz Dor, East Jebel Marra.

8/7/2015

A commercial lorry was hijacked and its passengers abducted by members of a Janjaweed militia whilst travelling between Beni Sereif and Al-Fasher. Following the incident the lorry drove north west of Tarni where the mobile phones of the abductees were then switched off. The following are the civilians kidnapped during the incident:

- Mohamed Ibrahim Abdelrahman – The driver
- Ahmed Abdelhamid Musa
- Abdulrahim Yahya Noredin
- Amin Adam Yagoub
- Abdelrahman Ibrahim Abdelrahman
- Musa Eisa
- Tigani Adam Ali
- Unknown

8/7/2015

Members of the Border Guards, a Government backed militia under the command of Doda, abducted two civilians in Abu Garan Mountain, south of Malha.

9/7/2015

Members from a Janjaweed militia kidnapped 8-year-old Abdalla Adam Khatir from Rwanda IDP Camp situated in Tawila. The kidnappers later contacted Abdalla Adam Khatir's family demanding 20,000 SDG for his safe return.

9/7/2015

Three members of a Janjaweed militia attacked two internally displaced persons (IDPs) - Ismail Musa Muhagir and Abdelshakoor Mohamed – from Al Salam Camp situated in Kebkabevia.

10/7/015

Janjaweed militias have been attacking farmers around Kebkabevia demanding 50% of the farmers cultivated produce. Should the farmers fail to agree to the exorbitant terms, the militias have stated their intention to halt all production through the use of force.

10/7/2015

Members from the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) killed Yousif Haroon Ahmed and Ismail Yagoub Adam after they refused to obey the RSF's order against tending to their farms. The two civilian victims were from Dolo village, east of Fanga.

13/7/2015

A Janjaweed militia attacked the village of Um Lago, in East Jebel Marra east of Fanga, burning it to the ground and looting 80 heads of sheep amongst other civilian and merchant possessions. During the attack Salih Mohamed Abdalla Salih was killed. The other villagers have been displaced higher up the mountain.

13/7/2015

A Janjaweed militia attacked a commercial truck travelling from Zamzam to Tawila killing the driver Abdelmagid Mohamed Abdalla, in addition to looting the truck and its contents. The police were informed.

14/7/2015

The RSF, currently stationed in Fanga, attacked the village of Sharq looting civilian possessions in the process. Following the attack members of the RSF raped three women in farms adjacent to the village for a total of two hours. The women were found later in a very bad condition and were admitted to hospital.

21/7/2015

A Janjaweed militia attacked the villages of Dowa and Kargo, located roughly 20km south of Tabit, which led to the rape of five girls and women.

In Dowa the women were aged 19, 30, and 32, whilst in Kargo a 14-year-old girl and a 40-year-old woman were both raped in their farms.

22/7/2015

Beginning at 05.00, a Janjaweed militia attacked the area of Anka and Amraj in Dar Zagawa killing 12 civilians, injuring one, and abducting Mohamed Suleiman Adam Musa, whilst also looting their properties. SUDO (UK) monitors have thus far been able to identify 11 of the 12 civilians killed:

- Waleed Anka, 30
- Hamid Sandal, 34
- Gamal Abakr Hasballa, 32
- Waleed Eisa Ahmed, 27
- Mustafa Adam Hasabo, 41
- Mohamed Adam Hasabo, 38
- Khadeega Abakr Gardia, 42
- Ali Kindi, ?
- Mubarak Ahmed Azrag, ?
- Ishag, ?
- Suleiman Adoma Tieman, ?
- Unknown

22/7/2015

A Janjaweed militia attacked the villages of Ain Aldas, Hillat Hamid, Hilat Abdelrahim, Abugira, and Hilat Hashaba and burned them to the ground. An estimated 500 civilians were displaced to Melit.

25/7/2015

A Janjaweed militia attacked a car transporting passengers from Nyala to Al-Fasher near Kalamendo, killing three and injuring four.

25/7/2015

A Janjaweed militia attacked a commercial lorry on its way from Khartoum to Al-Fasher killing six persons and looting the contents of the lorry.

25/7/2015

Members from a Janjaweed militia attacked farmers in their fields in order to prevent them from cultivating their crops. Ahmed Al-Nour, a local Chief, stated the Janjaweed wanted to prevent farmers from cultivating their crops in order so they may utilise it for grazing their livestock.

26/7/2015

Janjaweed militiamen raped an 18-year-old woman from the village of Koto, west of Tabit.

27/7/2015

A Toyota pickup truck belonging to Salih Gandool Abdelrahman was hijacked near the village of Koto.

Another Toyota landcruiser belonging to Abdelhamid Adam Mohamed, from Al-Salam IDP camp in Al-Fasher, was hijacked between Kafot and Al-Fasher.

27/7/2015

Janjaweed militiamen raped one minor, aged 17, and two women, aged 27 and 32 respectively, near the village of Koto.

28/7/2015

Men from the Zayadia ethnic group attacked the village of Hilat Ahmed, near Melit, which is inhabited by members from the Berti ethnic group, and looted a number of livestock in the process. In response members from the Berti followed the men from Zayadia out from Hillat Ahmed, clashing with them 2km away from a Government garrison. The Zayadia fled into the garrison and a number of soldiers fired on the Berti killing two:

- Ahmed Gido
- Adam Abusalambo

That same day the same Zayadia militia also attacked Ahmed Khalil, from the Berti ethnic group breaking his leg in the northern part of Melit. Ahmed Khalil is currently receiving treatment.

29/7/2015

Members from a Janjaweed militia, arriving on two Landcruiser vehicles, raped four women from the village of Fado, near Fanga, the youngest of whom was only 16.

30/7/2015

Janjaweed militiamen, arriving on four Landcruiser vehicles, attacked nine women in their farms near the villages of Dolma and Masalit, east of Tabit. The women were raped in an ordeal that lasted three hours before the men left. The women were found in a very bad condition and were immediately taken to receive health care. The police have been informed.

31/7/2015

A Janjaweed militia has started planting bombs in the farms around the area of Tabit as a result of farmers preventing them from grazing their livestock. On this day a bomb exploded killing El-Tayeb Ibrahim Tayman and injuring Mohamed Ahmed Adam whilst they were both working on their farm.

South Darfur

8/7/2015

Six Janjaweed militiamen killed Salama Omer, a local herder, stealing his eight cows. Salama Omer was moving his cattle from Um Labassa to Nyala when the six militiamen riding camels and horses attacked him. Salama Omer's family found him dead near Nyala after a search following his late arrival. The police were informed, but no action was subsequently taken.

10/7/2015

Ahmed Abakr, the Executive Director of Kass locality, was caught in the act whilst he raped an IDP. Ahmed Abakr had previously been accused of several other reported acts of rape though the police had previously refused to open investigations. Indeed SUDO (UK) reported in our May update that on the 16th May 2015 Ahmed Abakr raped a 14-year-old girl, and when her family reported the incident to the police that they had failed to act.

As Ahmed Abakr was caught red handed the police were forced to finally file a case against him. However, Ahmed Abakr has since fled from Kass to Nyala. Locals have accused the police of aiding his escape.

15/7/2015

A Janjaweed militia attacked the village of Abubakr, in Al-Radoum locality, looting civilian property. On their way out of the village they came across Yasir Bushara Bashir, a local cow herder, killing him and stealing his cows and possessions.

19/7/2015

A Janjaweed militia attacked the village of Gertobeik, 7km east of Gereida, looting the properties of the villagers. During the attack Ishag Adam Abakr, a local shop owner, was shot dead. The militia further threatened the villagers to ensure they did not tend to their farms. The police were informed.

20/7/2015

A Janjaweed militia attacked farmers in their homes near Babanosa, south east of Gereida, looting their livestock and possessions. During the attacks Ahmed Adam Ibrahim, a local farmer, was killed whilst in his farm. Once again the militia have told the villagers to not tend to their farms, and have threatened them with violence should they do so.

20/7/2015

A Janjaweed militia killed Yagoub Ibrahim and looted his property and his motorcycle whilst he was travelling to the village of Hikma, west of Um Labasa, for Eid. His fellow villagers recovered his body and reported the incident to the police.

Four of the same militia killed Abdalla Yousif, an IDP, on his return to the camp from the market in Khor Ramla. The police were informed though no action has been taken.

22/7/2015

Members from a Janjaweed militia attacked the shop of an IDP in Gereida looting mobile phones and money. During the attack they shot the owner Abdalla in the leg. The police were informed and a case has been filed. Abdalla is currently in hospital receiving treatment.

24/7/2015

Members from a Janjaweed militia forcibly entered their livestock into farms in the villages of Nimra, Dalma, and Dora. When the farmers sought to protect their lands the Janjaweed fired upon them. The farmers have reported the matter to the police in Dirbat, though no action was taken.

24/7/2015

SUDO (UK) received reports from monitors based in Mershing of the deaths of numerous IDP's as a result of a shortage of food and medical care. The IDP's situated in the area have thus far been without support for the last four months. They are furthermore unable to farm due to repeated Janjaweed attacks and threats to prevent them from farming.

24/7/2015

Three members of the RSF attacked a shop owner in Tor, 20km from Kass, following his request for them to vacate the door as they were blocking the entrance. The men responded by attacking the shop owner, Hasson Hamid, before shooting him dead. The men then killed his friend Abdelshafie Adam Abdelrazag, who was with him at the time.

The people of Tor identified Abdelrahman Adam Abdelrahman, an RSF member from the Khuzam ethnic group, as the killer of the two men. Despite this, the police have failed to arrest the perpetrator. The reason for the lack of action is believed to be the immunity that has been granted to the RSF and its members, thereby adding only to the suffering of civilians.

24/7/2015

SUDO (UK) monitors have recorded the presence of 40 checkpoints on the road leading from Nyala to Al-Fasher, in addition to an increase in price extorted from passengers from 10SDG to 20SDG.

On this day a bus driver refused to pay the sum at a checkpoint near Nyala. As a result, the militia in charge of the checkpoint tried to kill the man; however, the passengers protected the man and chased away the militia before taking the driver to Nyala Hospital.

24/7/2015

One of the consequences of the vast levels of impunity granted to actors in Darfur is the blatant disregard for law and civilian life. On this day a member of a local Janjaweed militia killed Aisha Mohamed Ahmed through reckless driving. The man failed to stop at the scene of the accident.

31/7/2015

At 12.00 five members of a Janjaweed militia killed Hassan Ishag, an IDP, in his farm in the Shangi area which lies east of Kalma camp. The men looted his doney and his other possessions. The people of Shangi ran to the farm when they heard the gunshots, but the perpetrators had fled by that point. The police in Kalma camp have been informed of the incident.

Kalma IDP Camp Situation

Heavy rain has destroyed 766 houses in Centre 1, Kalma IDP Camp in Nyala. This section is assigned for newly displaced people and was recently visited by UNAMID and several NGOs, though no assistance has been granted to the victims.

Central Darfur

8/7/2015

Three members of a Janjaweed militia attacked and raped a woman aged 18 whilst she was in her farm in Wad Bari, Nertiti locality. The woman was raped for four hours between 10.00 and 14.00. Her family found her in the farm at 16.00 in a very bad condition and took her to Nertiti hospital. The police were informed, however no action was taken.

22/7/2015

A Janjaweed militia abducted Issam Adam Abdelgabar, an employee of UNAMID, whilst he was driving his motorcycle home from work in Zalingei. UNAMID have been informed, though to this date nothing appears to have been done about the situation.

24/7/2015

A Janjaweed militia surrounded the Hamidiya IDP Camp situated in Zalingei in response to the killing of one of their members by the Government led Popular Defence Forces (PDF). The killing occurred following the PDF reclaiming of a vehicle that was earlier hijacked from their forces by the militia. The displaced within the camp informed UNAMID of the situation, yet nothing was done.

27/7/2015

Janjaweed militiamen raped three women, the youngest of whom was only 17, near the village of Dalma, east of Nertiti. The ordeal lasted four hours. The women were found in the bed of a seasonal river in a terrible condition and were taken to hospital. The police were informed.

East Darfur

15/7/2015

Heavy fighting between members from the Rezeigat and the Habaniya ethnic groups resulted in the deaths of some 176 individuals, with 41 dead confirmed from the Habaniya and 135 from the Rezeigat. The fighting was situated between Fardos and Abu Sineidra localities in East Darfur, and was the result of the theft of 39 cows from the Habaniya by members from the Rezeigat.

Blue Nile

1/7/2015

An Austin lorry with the plate number BN 9/159 was destroyed, and its passengers killed and wounded, following an explosion caused by a landmine. The incident occurred in Jebel Gilda Mol, between Khor Fatih Ainak and Maganza, in Kurmuk locality killing:

- Yousif Komondan Afindi, 15, Student from Deireng
- El-Sheikh Sirdal Wadabouk, 23, Policeman from Deireng

- Waleed Matar Badous, 12, Student from Deireng
- Yida Eidak Yabalif, 25, Farmer from Deireng
- Mohamed Haroun Mekki, 25, Freelancer from Deireng

And injured:

- Ali Gad Waga, 33, Freelancer from Deireng
- Omer Al-Agab Afindi, 31, Freelancer from Deireng
- Maragan Khalifa Afindi, 25, Freelancer from Deireng
- Suelieman Bonj Khalifa, 44, Freelancer from Deireng
- Al-Zubeir Al-Nour Hammad, 20, Policeman from Deireng

Both the SPLM-N and the Government of Sudan accuse one another of planting the landmine.

8/7/2015

A 68-year-old farmer by the name of Hassan Al-Mardi was arrested by Military Intelligence after the former presented the latter with a Kalashnikov he had found in his farm situated in Belang, south of Demazin. The officials from Military Intelligence accused Hassan Al-Mardi, resident in Al-Higra neighbourhood in Demazin, of belonging to SPLM-N and have transferred him to the force division army headquarters in Demazin.

Hassan Al-Mardi is being held in solitary confinement and has been subject to torture. Sources state that during the holy month of Ramadan he was only fed at 8pm, approximately one hour after Itfar.

10-11/7/2015

Fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the SPLM-N have forced the displacement of 4,000 civilians from the Funj ethnic group from villages 9 and 10, in Geisan locality, to the cities of Roseris and Demazin.

11/7/2015

An estimated 2,500 civilians from the Ingessanna ethnic group were displaced from Dendro, in Kurmuk locality, to Al-Shaheed Afendi, an IDP settlement camp south of Demazin, and Reih Balak, north of Demazin.

The displaced have told SUDO (UK) monitors that they fled their homes following an attack by Government soldiers, which was characterised by the destruction of homes and acts of sexual violence. Testimonies from the victims stated that soldiers from the SAF raped their daughters and their wives in front of them. Those that resisted were deemed by the Sudanese Army as members of SPLM-N and faced summary execution. Testimonies further note the disappearance of men and the confiscation of personal possessions including livestock

Those who were displaced to Al-Shaheed Afendi do not have access to shelter, water, and food, and are furthermore suffering as a result of the heavy rains.

The Ingessenna are often targeted by the Sudanese Authorities in Blue Nile as they belong to the same ethnic group as Malik Agar, Chair of the SPLM-N, and are deemed loyal supporters of the SPLM-N.

15/7/2015

National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) situated in Belgowa, Kurmuk locality, have forced civilians working in the traditional mining of gold to leave the mines in Jebel Ansar, Sharia Al-Mout, Al-Tartra, Banjadeed, and Belgowa. This decision has affected an estimated 10,000 civilians who have flocked to the region from all parts of Sudan.

This follows previous forced displacements of the Ingessana and Dowala ethnic groups who were forced to leave their land and were consequently removed of their wealth as a result of the war in Blue Nile State.

15/7/2015

Sudanese Military Intelligence forcibly displaced 5,000 civilians from Belang, Kurmuk locality, to Shin Tashrab, Demazin, where there is no shelter, water, or health services available to the affected people.

In Belang, Military Intelligence has destroyed hand pumps, agricultural crops and livestock, in addition to closing schools and health facilities to ward off against resettlement in the near future.

The displaced are from the Ragrek, Dowala and Ingessanna ethnic groups and have been accused by the Sudanese Army of providing supplies and intelligence to the SPLM-N.

South Kordofan

The humanitarian situation in South Kordofan continues to be dire, and is only exacerbated by the lack of humanitarian access to a significant portion of the civilian population. Negotiations over such access have broken down numerous times between both the Government of Sudan and the SPLM-N. Indeed, territory held by the SPLM-N has not officially received any access since the conflict began in 2011. Whilst in the Government held areas humanitarian relief is provided only by the Sudanese Red Crescent.

SUDO (UK) monitors have not observed any direct fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the SPLM-N this month.

Despite this, indiscriminate aerial bombardments continue on a daily basis, though our monitors have not yet reported any casualties within the civilian population for the month of July. However, the main focus of such attacks has been to prevent civilians from cultivating their farms. This, in turn, is a systematic programme designed to force civilians from SPLM-N held territory, to areas controlled by the Government, or even to force them into South Sudan.

13/07/2015

SPLM-N forces, based in Jebel Al-Bedeiryia roughly 1km from the ring road connecting Abasyia to Rashad, attacked a group of nomads from the Awlad Gaboush ethnic group (a sub-ethnic group from the Hawazma) heading north as part of their migration away from the south due to the onset of the rainy season.

Following the attack the SPLM-N soldiers looted 350 cows from the victims, after which a separate group from Awlad Gaboush tried to rescue the looted cows. The SPLM-N soldiers fired upon the rescue party killing Fadlalla Mohamed, who is aged 52 and married to two wives and has 11 children.

The situation remains tense between the Hawazma and the Nuba ethnic groups. The Hawazma view such attacks as a concerted effort to force Arab ethnic groups away from South Kordofan, whilst the Nuba blame the Hawazma, and other Arab ethnic groups, for colluding with the Government's attempts to cleanse South Kordofan of Nuba.