



Sudan Rights
Watch Network

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Darfur Caught in the Jaws of Conflict

Ongoing Violations and Escalating Humanitarian Crisis

**A report on the security situation and human rights violations
in Darfur region during December 2024.**



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Introduction

The Sudan Rights Watch Network - Sudan ¹ is a specialized Sudanese network dedicated to monitoring and documenting human rights violations, with a particular focus on security incidents and rights abuses across the country, especially in the Darfur region. The network's mission is to enhance the human rights situation in Sudan and raise awareness of fundamental rights.

To achieve this, the network provides accurate and reliable information on human rights conditions in Darfur through periodic reports that document security incidents and violations. It also issues urgent bulletins on critical events that have a significant impact on the region. These reports are based on data collected directly from monitors in Darfur, utilizing an advanced event tracking system that enables statistical analysis of violations, including their patterns and geographical distribution.

Beyond documentation, the network is committed to advocacy efforts aimed at promoting justice and accountability. It seeks to preserve the collective memory of human rights violations and support the rights of individuals and communities affected by these abuses. Through these efforts, the network aspires to contribute to building a more just and rights-respecting society in Sudan.

¹ [Home - Sudan Rights Watch Network](https://www.sudan-watch.net/)





Methodology

This report is based on information collected by the Sudan Rights Watch Network - Sudan field monitors operating across the five states of Darfur. To ensure accuracy and efficiency in data collection, the network utilizes Kobo Toolbox, a specialized digital platform designed for field data gathering. A comprehensive survey form has been developed within this tool, specifically tailored to document human rights violations and security incidents.

The survey form includes detailed questions covering the nature of violations, their patterns and context, the identification of perpetrators, as well as demographic and humanitarian details that provide deeper insights into the affected groups and their locations. Field monitors deployed in North Darfur, Central Darfur, West Darfur, South Darfur, and East Darfur collect this data, which is then reviewed and verified by legal analysts to ensure its accuracy and reliability.

This methodology enables the safe and systematic collection of credible data while maintaining high standards of integrity, transparency, and accountability throughout all stages of the reporting process.





Executive Summary

In December, the Darfur region, encompassing its five states, witnessed widespread and systematic violations against civilians and civilian infrastructure. The situation was particularly severe in North Darfur State and its capital, El Fasher, which has been under siege by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) for over nine months. This prolonged siege has led to a sharp deterioration in the humanitarian situation, significantly increasing the suffering of the population.

The report documents the systematic targeting of residential neighborhoods, displacement camps, markets, and healthcare facilities, including the Saudi Hospital in El Fasher. These areas, densely populated with civilians, were subjected to continuous and near-daily shelling. Additionally, the report highlights incidents of aerial bombardment by the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) on the city of Nyala, further exacerbating the destruction and humanitarian distress.

The escalation of security incidents across Darfur's states underscores the direct consequences of the ongoing armed conflict, deepening security fragility and pushing the humanitarian crisis to catastrophic levels. The situation remains in a state of continuous deterioration.

The report also notes that RSF-controlled areas are experiencing widespread insecurity and systematic violations, including extrajudicial killings, armed robbery, threats, kidnappings, arbitrary arrests, and severe restrictions on freedoms. The proliferation of hate speech is another alarming development. Additionally, recurring armed conflicts between herders and farmers, incidents of banditry, and targeted assassinations further illustrate the complex security and humanitarian challenges facing the region.





Legal Framework

The armed conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), which erupted on April 15, 2023, has created a new humanitarian catastrophe for civilians, including displaced populations. The crisis has escalated to unprecedented levels, with emerging indicators of famine and starvation-related deaths. Throughout the ongoing conflict, the RSF has systematically targeted civilians through military operations, including artillery and missile attacks, particularly in displacement camps and residential areas. Reports have also documented cases of deliberate obstruction of essential goods and services, including restrictions on humanitarian aid deliveries. Simultaneously, SAF warplanes have carried out aerial bombardments on civilian-populated areas and infrastructure—targets that are explicitly protected under international humanitarian law and related treaties.

According to the Second Additional Protocol of 1977 to the Geneva Conventions, the conflict between the SAF and RSF is classified as a non-international armed conflict. The intensity of hostilities escalated significantly in December 2024, further exacerbating the suffering of civilians across the Darfur region.

An analysis of the documented violations and security incidents within this report, considering international humanitarian law and relevant legal frameworks, indicates that these acts constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity. Furthermore, some of these actions may amount to genocide. These violations contravene several international legal instruments that regulate armed conflict, including:

- The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (2006) – Ratified by Sudan on February 25, 2021.
- The Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1984) – Ratified by Sudan on February 25, 2021.





- Article 147 of the Fourth Geneva Convention (1949) – Prohibits attacks on and destruction of civilian objects. Additionally, Article 25 of the Hague Regulations (1907) states: "It is prohibited to attack or bombard cities, villages, dwellings, and buildings".
- Article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) – Prohibits arbitrary arrest and detention of individuals and groups.
- Common Article 3 to the Four Geneva Conventions (1949) – Establishes the fundamental protections for individuals who do not directly participate in hostilities.
- Additional Protocol II to the Geneva Conventions (1977) – Provides further protections for victims of non-international armed conflicts.
- Articles 6, 7, and 8 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) – Define the crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes.

National Legal Considerations

Under Sudanese law, the Sudanese Penal Code of 1991 (amended in 2020) criminalizes such violations under Articles 186 to 192. However, due to the current conflict, Sudan's judicial institutions are unable to effectively apply these legal provisions. Key challenges include:

- Weak judicial independence from the executive branch.
- The absence of fair and functional national courts in the Darfur region due to ongoing hostilities.

Given these constraints, there is an urgent need to explore alternative judicial mechanisms to ensure accountability for the documented violations and security incidents occurring during the conflict.

First: The Security Situation

North Darfur State

The security situation in North Darfur continues to deteriorate due to ongoing military operations and direct clashes between the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and the Sudanese



Armed Forces (SAF). The region has witnessed intensified hostilities, including artillery, missile, air, and drone strikes, leading to significant civilian casualties and destruction of critical infrastructure.

Key Security Incidents:

- **December 11, 2024:**

- The city of El Fasher experienced mutual artillery shelling between the two sides.
- SAF warplanes launched two airstrikes targeting RSF positions in the eastern part of the city (morning and midday).
- The RSF responded with artillery strikes on Zamzam displacement camp, the livestock market, and southwestern neighborhoods, resulting in 15 civilian deaths and 64 injuries.
- Shelling also targeted a school housing displaced persons near the Saudi Hospital.

- **December 12, 2024:**

- Clashes erupted between SAF and RSF east of El Fasher between 6:00 and 8:00 a.m.
- The RSF continued shelling southwestern neighborhoods, including Al-Thawra South, Umm Shajira, and Al-Madraj, causing partial destruction of Al-Thawra South School.

- **December 13, 2024:**

- At approximately 2:30 a.m., the RSF launched a drone attack on the Saudi Hospital, partially destroying the facility.
- At around 5:00 a.m., SAF warplanes bombed RSF positions in eastern El Fasher.
- Later in the day, at 4:00 p.m., clashes resumed in the southern neighborhoods, including Ab Shenibat, Bashariya, and Al-Manara.
- At 4:30 p.m., the RSF shelled Zamzam camp and surrounding areas with artillery fire.
- Fighting continued into the next day, with RSF targeting SAF positions at the military command and airport, while SAF warplanes bombed RSF strongholds in Al-Salam, Al-Kahraba, and Al-Hijra neighborhoods in the east.
- Impact and Ongoing Concerns



The escalating violence in North Darfur, particularly in El Fasher, has resulted in severe humanitarian consequences, with continued attacks on residential areas, displacement camps, markets, schools, and medical facilities. The targeting of civilian infrastructure, including the Saudi Hospital and Zamzam Camp, raises serious violations of international humanitarian law. The intensity of clashes and aerial bombardments highlights the worsening security fragility in the region, further exacerbating the humanitarian crisis.

The security situation in North Darfur continued to deteriorate with a series of intensified attacks and escalating hostilities between the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF). The period between December 15 and December 18, 2024, witnessed a significant rise in civilian casualties, destruction of infrastructure, and mass human rights violations.

Key Security Incidents

December 15, 2024:

- At approximately 11:00 p.m., the RSF targeted a gathering of civilians at a mini-market in the Awlad al-Reef neighborhood, launching four drone-fired missiles.
- The attack resulted in the death of 38 civilians, including women and children, and left more than 20 others wounded.
- Earlier that day, the SAF carried out two airstrikes on RSF positions on the eastern outskirts of El Fasher.
- At around 2:00 p.m., the RSF shelled the southern neighborhoods and the livestock market, killing a young girl and injuring several others.
- The Artillery Corps of the Sixth Infantry Division bombarded RSF positions in the eastern part of the city.
- December 16, 2024:
 - At 2:30 a.m., the city was shaken by heavy shelling, causing widespread panic. It was later confirmed that the SAF had successfully shot down an RSF strategic drone.



- At 4:00 p.m., the RSF launched long-range artillery attacks on El Fasher, targeting public transportation hubs, the livestock market, and adjacent residential areas.
- The attack led to significant destruction of shops and civilian homes.
- December 17, 2024:
 - At approximately 5:00 a.m., the SAF conducted a successful airdrop operation.
 - At sunrise, the operation was followed by intermittent skirmishes in the southeastern part of El Fasher between the SAF and RSF.
 - Later in the morning, the RSF deployed a drone over the city and targeted the livestock market, resulting in the death of three civilians.
 - Meanwhile, SAF warplanes intensified their aerial bombardment of RSF positions on the outskirts of the city.
- December 18, 2024:
 - At around 8:00 a.m., the RSF launched long-range artillery shelling on Zamzam displacement camp and several residential neighborhoods in southern El Fasher, killing two civilians, including a woman and a child.
 - The Saudi Hospital was attacked for the second time in a week, with more than eight shells striking the vicinity, leading to the death of 10 civilians and injuring dozens, including women and children.
 - On the same day, RSF forces carried out a raid on villages in the Abu Zariqa area (Dar Salam locality), arresting 60 civilians. It was later confirmed that they had been executed by the RSF after being taken to an unknown location.
 - The next day, RSF continued indiscriminate shelling, targeting civilian gathering areas with long-range artillery strikes in the southern, southwestern, and northern neighborhoods of El Fasher.
 - The Saudi Hospital was shelled for the third time in a week, with over ten long-range artillery shells hitting its vicinity.
 - The attack killed a hospital guard and injured two others, including a child.



Humanitarian and Security Implications

The deliberate targeting of civilians, displacement camps, hospitals, and markets underscores the worsening humanitarian crisis in North Darfur. The systematic shelling of the Saudi Hospital, one of the region's critical medical facilities, represents a grave violation of international humanitarian law.

Furthermore, the mass execution of detained civilians in Abu Zariqa highlights serious human rights violations, potentially amounting to war crimes and crimes against humanity. The indiscriminate shelling of residential areas and public infrastructure has exacerbated civilian suffering, creating widespread fear and displacement.

The continued escalation of hostilities underscores the urgent need for international intervention to protect civilians and ensure accountability for human rights violations in the Darfur region.

Between December 20 and December 28, 2024, the security situation in El Fasher and surrounding areas further deteriorated due to intensified military operations, artillery shelling, airstrikes, and drone attacks. These hostilities resulted in significant civilian casualties, destruction of homes and infrastructure, and damage to humanitarian facilities, particularly Abu Shouk displacement camp and the Saudi Hospital.

Key Security Incidents

December 20, 2024:

At approximately 2:00 p.m., the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) launched artillery shelling on the northern neighborhoods of El Fasher.

The Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) responded with counter-artillery fire.

December 21, 2024:

At around 6:30 p.m., the RSF deployed strategic winged drones, which flew over the city.



Shortly after, at 8:00 p.m., SAF warplanes carried out an airstrike targeting RSF positions in the eastern part of the city.

On the same day, joint forces loyal to the army launched a large-scale attack on the Zoraq area—an RSF-controlled desert region in North Darfur—resulting in the burning of its market.

December 22, 2024:

The city of El Fasher witnessed some of the most intense military operations.

The RSF fired more than 30 long-range artillery shells, targeting Abu Shouk displacement camp, Abu Shouk Al-Hilla, and multiple neighborhoods in the north and west of the city.

The shelling resulted in dozens of civilian casualties, in addition to widespread destruction of homes and infrastructure in the affected areas.

The following morning, the SAF's Sixth Infantry Division launched heavy artillery strikes and aerial bombardments targeting RSF sites in the southern and eastern parts of the city.

December 24, 2024:

At around 1:00 p.m., the RSF targeted Abu Shouk camp market and the Abu Shouk Al-Hilla neighborhood with artillery shelling.

In a coordinated assault, the RSF also deployed war drones over the city, coinciding with additional artillery strikes on residential neighborhoods.

The following morning, on December 25, the RSF continued shelling, targeting Abu Shouk Al-Hilla and the Saudi Hospital at approximately 8:00 a.m. with more than three heavy artillery shells.

The attack caused significant destruction of medical equipment and vital hospital facilities, further crippling access to healthcare in the region.



At 5:00 p.m., clashes erupted in the eastern and southern neighborhoods of El Fasher between the SAF and RSF.

The next day, at 9:00 a.m., RSF artillery strikes once again targeted Abu Shouk displacement camp.

December 27, 2024:

Skirmishes between the SAF and RSF persisted, with RSF artillery targeting El Fasher's Grand Market, the Saudi Hospital, and surrounding neighborhoods.

Abu Shouk displacement camp market was also attacked, resulting in the death of two civilians:

One was a bank employee at the Savings Bank in the Grand Market.

The other was a patient's companion at the Saudi Hospital.

Dozens of civilians sustained varying degrees of injuries due to the indiscriminate shelling.

December 28, 2024:

At approximately 7:00 a.m., the RSF launched another artillery strike on Abu Shouk displacement camp, causing numerous casualties and widespread destruction of homes and personal property.

Humanitarian and Security Implications

The relentless attacks on displacement camps, marketplaces, hospitals, and residential areas highlight a blatant disregard for civilian safety and international humanitarian law. The targeting of Abu Shouk displacement camp and the Saudi Hospital on multiple occasions represents a clear violation of protected civilian spaces under international law and the Geneva Conventions.

Furthermore, the destruction of markets, homes, and essential services has exacerbated the humanitarian crisis, leaving thousands without shelter, food, and medical care. The continued use of drones, airstrikes, and heavy artillery in densely populated areas



underscores the urgent need for intervention to prevent further loss of life and ensure humanitarian access.

South Darfur State

Since the beginning of December 2024, South Darfur State, which is entirely under the control of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), has experienced a significant deterioration in security. Incidents of armed robbery, extrajudicial killings, and death threats have increased alarmingly, further exacerbating the already fragile situation.

Key Security Incidents

- December 1, 2024:
 - The body of a young man in his twenties was discovered in eastern Nyala Mountain, four days after his disappearance. His car was found being sold in the local market. Upon their arrest, the perpetrators confessed that they had demanded his tablet and rickshaw, and when he refused, they killed him immediately.
- Early December 2024:
 - A young man, around eighteen years old, was found murdered along the Nyala road while on his way to his farm. His family was unaware of his fate for two days, learning about his death only through social media posts shared by individuals who had discovered the body. In the absence of any means to identify him, his body was buried, and his photo was circulated online to locate his relatives.
- December 8, 2024:
 - At approximately 6:00 p.m., a citizen traveling from Al-Junaina station to his home in Al-Sareef neighborhood (southwest Nyala) was attacked by three armed men. The assailants held him at gunpoint, looted his belongings, including his phone and a food bag intended for his family, and threatened to shoot him if he resisted.

Implications and Growing Insecurity

The complete absence of law enforcement has emboldened armed groups and criminals, leading to a wave of violence, intimidation, and impunity. The targeting of civilians, including





Farmers and daily commuters, through indiscriminate killings and armed robbery underscores the urgent need for humanitarian and security interventions in South Darfur State.

East Darfur Estate:

East Darfur State continues to witness rising security tensions, with increasing incidents of armed robbery and violence targeting civilians. The following are some of the notable incidents reported in December 2024:

Key Security Incidents

- December 6, 2024 – Armed Robbery in Al-Daien
 - At approximately evening hours, Mohammed Al-Doma (24 years old) was robbed at gunpoint by four armed men driving an Atouz Berber vehicle. The incident occurred while he was returning home in northern Al-Daien, near Shaq Tabaldi market. The assailants stole his phone and a sum of money before fleeing the scene.
- December 12, 2024 – Gunfire in Al-Safa Neighborhood
 - A group of five armed men in a box truck attempted a robbery in Al-Safa neighborhood, near the large Al-Daien market.
 - Young men sitting in front of their house were threatened, leading to an exchange of gunfire between them and the attackers.
 - The armed men fled the scene without any reported casualties.
- December 13, 2024 – Violent Robbery in Al-Safa Neighborhood
 - In a second attack within Al-Safa neighborhood, two streets away from the previous incident, armed assailants targeted travelers arriving from Adila locality who were seeking medical treatment for a patient.
 - The attackers threatened the travelers, looted their belongings, and violently assaulted them.
 - Hamdan Hamdi suffered a stab wound to the lower chest, while another victim was stabbed in the right side.



- The assailants stole 480,000 Sudanese pounds and two mobile phones before escaping.
- The attack occurred at approximately 9:00 p.m. near Abu Taqila Square, east of Al-Daien city.

Security Implications

The growing frequency and severity of armed robberies in East Darfur indicate a worsening security situation, particularly in Al-Daien city. The boldness of these attacks—some involving gunfire and physical violence—underscores the lawlessness and lack of effective security enforcement in the region. Without urgent intervention, civilians remain vulnerable to organized crime, violent robberies, and targeted assaults.

On December 14, a conflict erupted between herders and farmers in Shaeria locality. According to available information, herders attacked farms in the Abu Danqal area, southeast of Shaeria, triggering a violent armed confrontation. The clash resulted in the deaths of nine individuals and injuries to four others from both sides. Notably, security forces did not intervene, raising concerns among citizens about the potential recurrence of similar incidents.

On Sunday, December 22, a young citizen, Mustafa Musa Saleh, was fatally stabbed following an altercation with another young man at an unidentified market.

Furthermore, on December 23, at approximately 9:00 PM, farmers traveling from the north of Al Daein city in a Land Rover carrying a quantity of peanuts were ambushed by unidentified armed assailants. The attack occurred between the northern gate of Al Daein and the Shaq Tabaldi market. The perpetrators, using a Land Cruiser vehicle, looted the peanut cargo and removed the vehicle's tires before fleeing. No injuries or fatalities were reported among the victims.





Central Darfur State

Security tensions remain widespread in Central Darfur State, exacerbated by the absence of judicial institutions and accountability mechanisms. This situation is further compounded by the dominance of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), which control most of the state's geographical areas.

Key Incident

- December 2: At approximately 3:00 PM, Abdul Rahim Adam Mohammed (35), a displaced person, was stabbed in the back by a young man, who was accompanied and supported by an associate, inside the food distribution center at Al-Hamidiya Camp. The center, operated by the World Food Program in partnership with the International Islamic Relief Organization, became the site of an altercation that escalated into violence. The victim was transported to a medical clinic within the camp for treatment. To prevent further unrest and the possible closure of the distribution center, the perpetrator and his accomplice were detained within the camp.
- December 4: At approximately 10:00 AM, an Antonov aircraft was observed flying over Zalingei city from the west toward the east. No bombardment or military action was reported.
- December 10:
 - Around 5:00 PM, a displaced woman engaged in crop trading at Al-Marin Market was ambushed by three armed men on a motorcycle near Al-Salihin Secondary School in the Al-Hamidiyah East neighborhood. At gunpoint, the assailants robbed her of a sum of money as she was returning to Al-Hamidiyah Camp, Block 6.
 - At approximately 5:30 PM, Muhammad Zakaria Ismail Juma (80), a displaced resident of Al-Hamidiyah Camp, Block 1, was attacked while returning from his farm in Halat Mirm. Three unidentified armed men, carrying a Belgian Jim rifle and a Kalashnikov, assaulted him—striking his head and stabbing him in the lower jaw—before





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- attempting to rob him of his donkey and belongings. Failing in their efforts, the assailants fled eastward toward the camp.
- December 15: At around 9:30 PM, Ezz El-Din Abdel Aziz Abu Al-Bashar (from the Fur tribe) killed Wad Adam Al-Toum (from the Khazam tribe). The following morning, at approximately 10:30 AM, the Deleij area of Wadi Saleh locality was attacked by the victim's family, supported by allied Arab groups on motorcycles. The assailants looted homes and shops in the IDP camp neighborhoods of Jabrouna, Taranga, and Al-Salam. During the attack, two individuals were killed, including Musa Abdullah Musa (45), a resident of Al-Salam neighborhood, who was fatally shot while defending his home and family. Several others sustained injuries, some in critical condition.
- A formal complaint was later filed, leading to the arrest of several perpetrators, who were transferred to Zalingei prison. Among them was Saif El-Din Mohamed Ibrahim (20), a resident of Damra Fargo, a Khazam tribal area.
- December 18: At approximately 6:15 PM, Ibrahim Ahmed Jami Al-Zaki (18) was shot by unidentified armed individuals riding a motorcycle near his residence in the Algeria neighborhood, southwest of the old mosque. The assailants, armed with two Kalashnikov rifles, opened fire after he refused to hand over his mobile phone, inflicting a serious gunshot wound to his right foot. He was initially transferred to Zalingei Teaching Hospital for treatment before being moved to Nyala for further medical care.
- December 24: At 8:30 PM, local civil authorities in Nertiti arrested Haroun Adam Haroun, known as "Touchi" (30), while he was returning home from the market station in the Istrina neighborhood. He was detained overnight and ordered to pay a fine of 108,000 Sudanese pounds, which he refused to pay. He was subsequently released without further action.
- December 27: Abdel Aziz Ali Suleiman (25) was fatally shot by unidentified gunmen carrying a B6 rifle in front of the gate of Zalingei Court. The victim, a resident of Morni and a baker at Al Nour Bakery (southeast of Zalingei Teaching Hospital), was transported to the Zalingei morgue. A formal report was filed at the Rapid Support Forces police station, leading to the arrest of ten suspects (six young men and four young women) who were acquaintances of the victim. They were later released on bail of 150,000 Sudanese pounds each. The perpetrator remains unidentified.
- December 12: At approximately 9:00 PM, Zalingei witnessed the killing of a 20-year-old man known as "La'ouba," whose body was found in the Kanjoumiya West





- neighborhood. The victim, a rickshaw driver affiliated with the Rapid Support Forces, was murdered by unknown assailants. Following the incident, several homes in the neighborhood were looted and burglarized under the pretext of searching for the perpetrators. In response, the civil administration, represented by its deputy and acting head of the state security committee, Dr. Ahmed Abdullah Manawi, implemented a night curfew from 8:00 PM to 5:00 AM.

Political and Security Measures

- On December 15, Dr. Ahmed Abdullah Manawi, Minister of Finance and Economic Planning and acting head of the civil administration of Central Darfur State, chaired a meeting of the state security committee. The session, attended by Brigadier General Mohamed Adam Al-Banjors, Second Commander of the Second Infantry Division in Zalingei, focused on implementing security measures to curb escalating instability. The committee approved the continuation of night patrols from 8:00 PM to 4:00 AM.
- On the same day, the civilian authority affiliated with the Sudan Liberation Movement—under the leadership of Abdul Wahid Nour in Nertiti—issued a decision imposing a nightly curfew from 8:00 PM to 4:00 AM, effective December 16. The decree emphasized strict adherence, warning that violators would face legal consequences.
- Between December 15 and 20, the state civil administration conducted an official tour of the Greater Wadi Saleh localities. During the visit, Abdul Karim Youssef Osman, head of the civil administration, announced the establishment of the civil administration and the founding council in four localities: Wadi Saleh, Bandsi, Mukjar, and Umm Dukhun.
- As part of its policy measures, the civil administration issued a directive prohibiting the export of millet and corn outside the state borders. Violators of this regulation will face penalties, including fines, confiscation of goods, and other applicable legal measures.
- In a related development, on December 18, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry—affiliated with the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) issued a decree banning the cutting of trees



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- and the transportation of charcoal and firewood outside the state. The directive includes financial penalties for non-compliance.
- Additionally, the RSF carried out a large-scale cleaning operation at Zalingei Airport during the month as part of its ongoing activities.

Security Incidents

On December 26, at approximately 4:00 PM, an altercation occurred between two armed individuals at a tea vendor's shop in Marin Market. The confrontation escalated into heavy and indiscriminate gunfire, despite the presence of two RSF outposts—one on the eastern side near Lalouba station and the other on the western side next to the Hamidiya Health Insurance Center. The gunfire caused panic among citizens and shop owners, ultimately leading to the closure of the market.

West Darfur State

Since the beginning of December, West Darfur State has witnessed a series of political developments with significant security implications. These events stem primarily from decisions taken by both the head of the civilian authority affiliated with the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and the state governor, who is currently based in Port Sudan.

- On December 1, the head of the civilian authority, Tijani Al-Tahir Karshom, held a meeting in his office with the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs. He also participated in a joint session with civil society organizations operating in the state. Both meetings addressed the ongoing humanitarian crisis and discussed West Darfur's strategic role as a gateway for humanitarian aid destined for the Darfur and Kordofan regions.
- On December 3, the civil administration in West Darfur formally rejected the Sudanese government's decision to relocate Sudanese Certificate examinations outside the state. The government had mandated that all students in West Darfur sit for their exams in Abeche, Chad, a decision that faced strong opposition from local authorities.





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- On December 12, the state's civil authority, led by Karshom, convened at the General Secretariat of the Government, where it approved the general budget for the year 2025.
- On December 11, Governor Bahar Al-Din Adam Karama issued a decree dissolving four major councils in the state:
 - The Supreme Council for Youth and Sports
 - The Supreme Council for Culture and Information
 - The Supreme Council for Community Peace
 - The Supreme Council for Environment and Urban Development
 - Additionally, all departments affiliated with these councils were abolished.
- On the same day, Governor Karama issued another decree establishing new ministries and administrative departments:
 - Ministry of Finance and Economy – overseeing the General Administration of Finance, Manpower and Resource Development, Investment, Trade and Industry, as well as Agriculture and Animal Wealth.
 - Ministry of Education and Services – comprising the General Administration of Education and Endowments, Infrastructure and Engineering Affairs, Youth and Sports, and Culture and Information.
 - Ministry of Health and Social Development – overseeing the General Administration of Health and the General Administration of Social Development.
- The overall security situation in the state remains precarious, with continued mobilization and heightened alert levels from multiple factions. Hate speech has also become increasingly prevalent, exacerbated by ongoing political and security decisions issued by the rival authorities—one based in El Geneina and the other in Port Sudan.
- On December 16, the European Union imposed sanctions, including asset freezes and travel bans, on four senior figures from both the Sudanese Armed Forces and the RSF. Among those sanctioned was Tijani Al-Tahir Karshom, accused of facilitating the recruitment of militia to fight alongside the RSF, as well as planning and directing serious human rights violations in West Darfur.





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- On December 19, Governor Karama issued a decree establishing the State Committee for Mobilization and Popular Resistance in West Darfur. The committee comprises 12 members under his direct supervision. Furthermore, he established eight technical committees within this body, bringing the total number of appointed members to 43.
- Meanwhile, Sultan Saad Abdel Rahman Bahar El Din traveled to New York, where he met with UN Secretary-General António Guterres. Their discussion centered on the recent crisis in the Sultanate of Dar Masalit, the ensuing humanitarian catastrophe, and the dire conditions faced by Sudanese refugees in eastern Chad, including their urgent need for necessities.
- On December 28, the Rapid Support Forces conducted a military parade within El Geneina. The demonstration featured heavily armed military and combat vehicles patrolling various neighborhoods of the city. The show of force was widely condemned by residents, who viewed it as an act of intimidation amid the already fragile security situation.

Second: Human Rights Violations

North Darfur State

Amid ongoing military operations between the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), North Darfur has witnessed a severe escalation in widespread human rights violations against civilians and civilian infrastructure. The conflict has resulted in numerous civilian casualties, displacement, and destruction of vital facilities.

- December 1–2: The RSF launched artillery strikes on Zamzam Camp for displaced persons, killing at least one person and injuring 13 others with varying degrees of severity.
- December 3: The RSF attacked Abu Zuraika and its surrounding villages at approximately 12:00 PM, killing at least 20 civilians and wounding more than 14 people, including women and children.
- December 4: The RSF continued its shelling of Zamzam Camp, killing at least six people and wounding eight others, while also destroying homes and civilian properties. The same





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- day, SAF warplanes bombed Al-Koma at approximately 9:30 AM, striking residential areas and killing nine civilians, including women and children, and injuring 11 others.
- December 7: Three people were killed, and eight others were injured in an attack by joint forces loyal to the SAF in the Malha area.
- December 9: The RSF shelled the western neighborhoods of El Fasher, killing nine civilians. The same day, SAF aircraft bombed Kabkabiya's central market, resulting in at least 44 civilian casualties. The Tijaniya Zawiya religious center in El Fasher was also targeted, killing a child.
- December 10: The RSF shelled Zamzam Camp twice in a single day, killing and injuring at least seven people, in addition to destroying multiple homes and properties.
- December 13: The RSF launched a drone attack on Saudi Hospital at approximately 2:30 AM, targeting patient wards. The attack killed nine patients and their companions and partially destroyed the hospital.
- December 14: At 11:00 PM, RSF forces bombed Awlad al-Reef neighborhood in northern El Fasher, killing 20 civilians and injuring 18 others.
- December 15: SAF warplanes bombed Al-Koma, causing partial destruction of homes, while the RSF continued shelling El Fasher's livestock market, damaging civilian businesses.
- December 16: RSF artillery strikes killed two people in the livestock market in El Fasher, while SAF airstrikes in Al-Koma at 9:00 AM killed one civilian and destroyed at least four homes.
- December 18–19: The RSF bombed Zamzam Camp, setting fire to and destroying several homes. The following day, the RSF again targeted Saudi Hospital, killing at least one person and partially damaging patient wards.
- December 20–21: SAF warplanes carried out repeated airstrikes on Al-Koma, destroying residential properties. The RSF and SAF also clashed in Al-Zarq, leading to the destruction of the local market.





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- December 24: The RSF in Kabkabiya arrested and tortured pharmacist Yahya Sanin Mahmoud to death after detaining him on his way from Tawila to Kabkabiya. RSF forces also attacked the Abu Shouk Camp market in Naivasha, killing one woman and wounding a merchant in an artillery strike.
- December 25–26: The RSF shelled Saudi Hospital, causing further destruction. The following day, Abu Shouk Camp was struck by long-range heavy artillery, killing seven displaced persons and injuring at least three others.
- December 27: The RSF launched an artillery attack inside the central market in El Fasher, killing a worker at the Savings and Social Development Bank. At approximately 10:00 PM, they targeted Qoz Bina, near the Abu Zureika administrative unit, with four shells, hitting a shelter center and killing 17 people, including women and children, while injuring 12 others.
- December 28: The RSF continued its artillery campaign, targeting Abu Shook Camp once again and partially destroying its health center.

South Darfur State

The conflict in South Darfur has intensified, with continued airstrikes by the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), resulting in civilian casualties and significant damage to infrastructure.

- December 9–10 (7:00–8:30 PM): SAF aircraft conducted airstrikes on multiple locations across South Darfur, targeting:
 - Nyala Airport (east)
 - Musaya (southeast)
 - Jebel Seqira (northeast)
 - Water wells in the Texas neighborhood (south of Wadi Birli)
 - Dagrís village (south)
 - Umm al-Qura (north)





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These bombings resulted in numerous civilian deaths, particularly at the water wells, where individuals fetching water were killed or injured. Additionally, homes and properties sustained considerable damage.

- December 18: SAF warplanes bombed Nyala city, striking a shelter center at Nyala Secondary School for Boys. The attack killed four people and wounded 16 others, including women and children.
- December 21: The Musaya area, east of Nyala, was targeted once again, leading to the death of at least one civilian and the destruction of homes and properties.
- December 26: An airstrike by the SAF killed four members of the same family.
- December 28: SAF warplanes resumed bombing Nyala, targeting key locations, including:
 - Nyala Technical College
 - The Stock Exchange
 - The Legislative Council
 - Musa Area

East Darfur State

The Rapid Support Forces (RSF) continue to commit widespread violations against civilians across East Darfur, particularly in markets, residential areas, and major roads connecting the state's districts and villages to Al Daein city.

- December 19: RSF forces attacked traders traveling from the Bahr Al Arab local market, beating them for failing to stop at an RSF checkpoint near the Awqaf market in Al Daein.
- RSF personnel pursued the traders in a military vehicle, forced them off their transport, and ordered them into an RSF vehicle.
- The traders were then forced to pay a sum of money to avoid further consequences.

Central Darfur State

- December witnessed numerous human rights violations and security incidents across Central Darfur, particularly in displacement camps.





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- December 11 (1:00 PM): A group of RSF soldiers, wearing military uniforms armed with Kalashnikov rifles, G3s, pistols, and a Starlink network, entered Al-Hamidiya Camp in the Janja Dola neighborhood.
 - They arrived in two pickup trucks and a rickshaw, causing panic among camp residents.
 - They proceeded to arrest an individual, known as (Tri), who worked at the Starlink center, on allegations of stealing a mobile phone.
- December 19 (7:15 PM): An Antonov aircraft flew over Zalingei city, circling Al-Hamidiya Camp for several minutes.
 - The plane, approaching from the northwest and heading east, did not conduct a bombing but caused widespread panic and fear among civilians.

West Darfur State:

Throughout December, West Darfur State experienced a continuous escalation of human rights violations against civilians. These abuses included extrajudicial killings, severe restrictions on freedoms, the spread of hate speech, and widespread threats and armed looting. The Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and their allied and affiliated groups, which maintain full control over the state, were responsible for these violations.

- December 7: Elements affiliated with the RSF carried out an armed looting and threatened staff members of CRS in the Murni administrative unit, located in Kerinek locality.
- CRS personnel were passing through the area en route to For Baranga when RSF-affiliated individuals looted one of their vehicles, seizing all equipment and property belonging to the employees.
- December 9 (approximately 3:00 AM): RSF elements shot and wounded a civilian, Aisha Mohammed Ibrahim (45 years old), inside her home in the Lima neighborhood of Kerinek.

She sustained a gunshot wound to the abdomen and was immediately transported to Kerinek Rural Hospital before being transferred the next morning to Geneina Teaching Hospital for further treatment.





The attack occurred when RSF elements attempted to steal her cow at gunpoint. When she resisted, they shot her before fleeing the scene.

Recommendations :

Based on the findings of the December report, the following recommendations are put forth:

1. Immediate Cessation of Armed Conflict

- Urgently halt the ongoing armed conflict that erupted on April 15, 2023, between the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), which has had devastating consequences on all aspects of life in Sudan.

2. Compliance with National and International Laws

- All parties to the conflict must strictly adhere to national, regional, and international legal frameworks, including treaties ratified by Sudan that govern both international and non-international armed conflicts.

3. Protection of Civilians and Civilian Infrastructure

- Conflict parties must uphold their legal and moral obligations to ensure the full protection of civilians and civilian objects, avoiding any form of targeting or harm, as stipulated in international humanitarian law.

4. Commitment to Negotiated Agreements

- All warring factions must honor and implement their legal and diplomatic commitments, including the Jeddah Agreement and Swiss negotiation recommendations, particularly those ensuring the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure.

5. Lifting of the Siege on El Fasher

- The siege on El Fasher and its surrounding areas must be lifted immediately, given its catastrophic humanitarian impact on civilians, including displaced populations.



6. Unhindered Humanitarian Access

- Facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid to all individuals in need throughout the Darfur region, where the crisis is worsening daily and resulting in silent yet significant loss of life.

7. Urgent and Strategic Civilian Protection Measures

- Develop and implement urgent and long-term strategies to protect civilians and uphold their rights under international humanitarian law, in line with the four Geneva Conventions and their two Additional Protocols.

