

# Sudan: Civil War, Genocide, and South Sudan's Independence

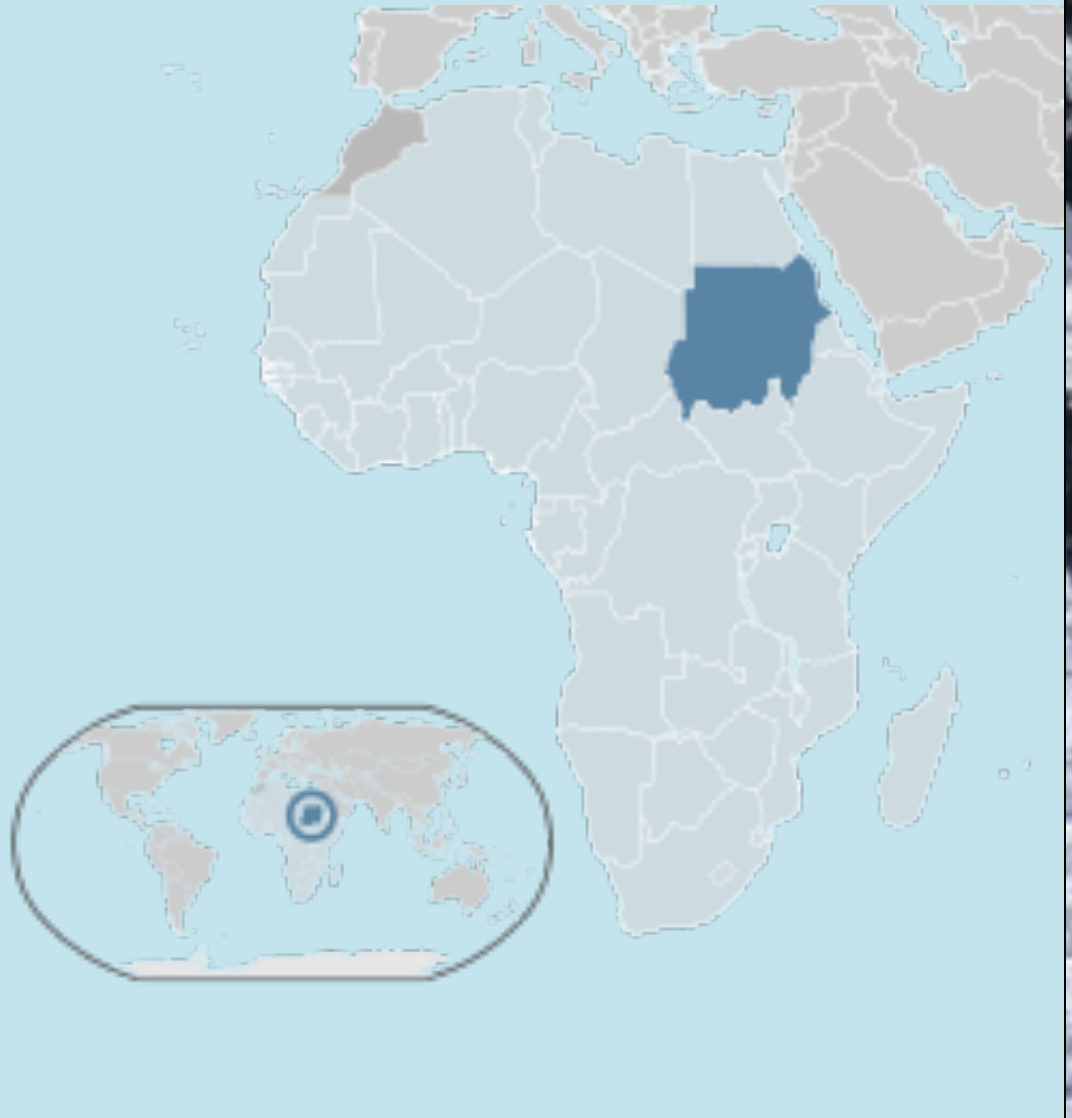
By Assessing  
Atrocity

# Aims and Lofty Goals

Warfare in South Sudan has received attention over the past few months. In order to better contextualize ongoing strife in this new country, this presentation will offer *Assessing Atrocity* readers a historical road map of South Sudan's path to independence.

# Outline

- Basic Facts
- Colonization
- Civil Wars
- Civil War and Genocide
- South Sudan Independence





The background of the slide features a complex, abstract pattern of black and white lines and shapes, resembling a stylized, high-contrast image of a face or a similar organic form. The pattern is dense and fills the entire frame.

# **BASIC FACTS**

# Sudan

- Slightly less than 1/5 the size of the US
- Population 35,482,233 (2014)
- Ethnic groups: Sudanese Arab (70%), Fur, Beja, uba, Fallata
- Religions: Sunni Muslim, small Christian minority
- Darfur is a region in west Sudan



Photo Source: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page) Wikimedia Commons

# Darfur

- Region in western Sudan the size of France
- Population: 6.2 million people from nearly 100 tribes
- Three Regions: Shamal Darfur, Gharb Darfur, Janub Darfur
- 9 September 2004 US Secretary of State Colin Powell called the conflict in Darfur a genocide





# South Sudan

- Slightly smaller than Texas
- Population 11, 562,695 (2014)
- Ethnic Groups: Dinka (35.8%), Nuer (15.6%), Shilluk, Azande, Bari, Kakwa, Kuku, Murle, Mandari, Didinga, Ndogo, Bviri, Lndi, Anuak, Bongo, Lango, Dungotona, Acholi (2011)
- Religions: Animist, Christian



Photo Source: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/od.html>

# South Sudan gains independence, July 2011

Photo Source:  
<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/su.html>







# COLONIZATION

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1821, Sudan under Ottoman-Egyptian rule

1882, Sudan under British-Egyptian rule. During this period cultural and economic distinctions solidify between the primarily Muslim north (two-thirds of the country) and Christianized south.

Colonizers viewed the north as home to *Arabs* and the south as home to *Africans* (this artificial distinction is important to understanding the future genocide)

1956, Sudan gains independence

# Colonization: Main Points

- Disparity between citizens in the North and South can be traced back to the early years of colonization, first under Turkish-Egyptian rule then under British-Egyptian rule
- The British provided northerners with Arabic education and preservation of Arabic culture.



1955 – 1972 and 1983 -2005

# CIVIL WARS

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# First Civil War, 1955 - 1972

## Civil War, 1955 - 1972

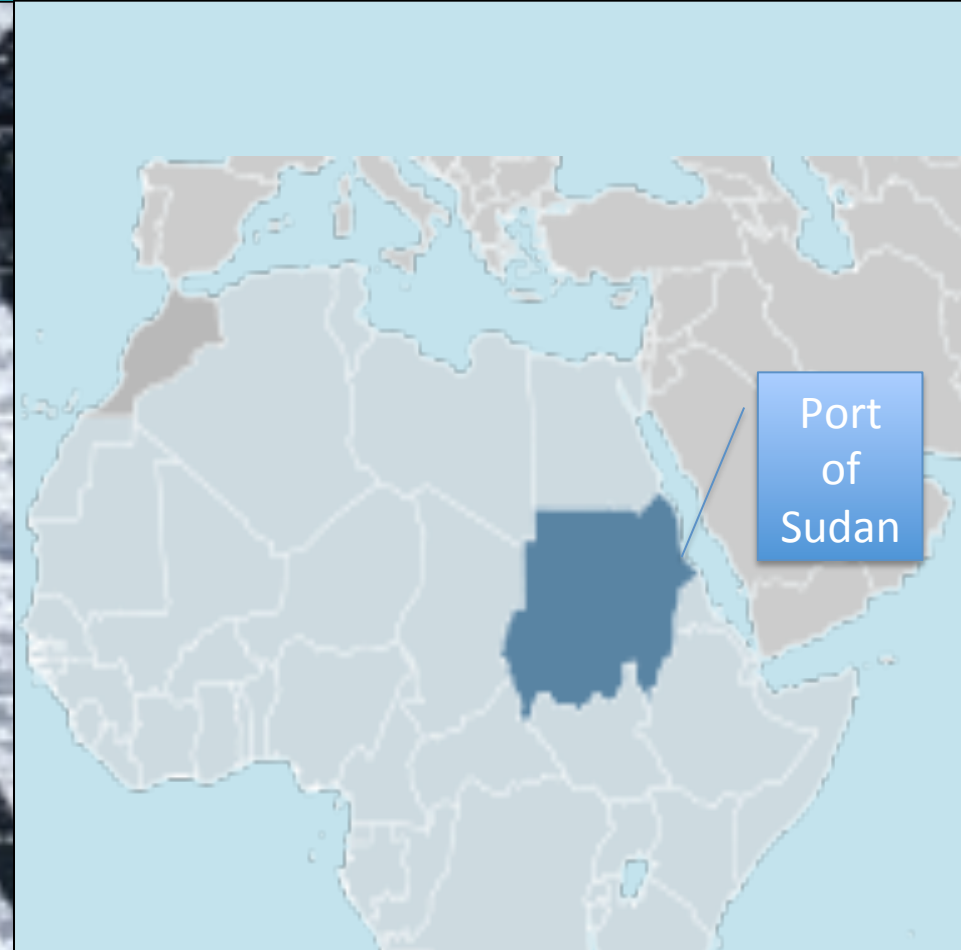
- Just before gaining independence (1956), the first Sudanese civil war began (1955)
- The south wanted regional autonomy
- Before the civil war ended (1972), half a million people had died and hundreds had been displaced

## Addis Ababa Agreement

- Addis Ababa Agreement (1972) negotiated a peace deal between Anyanya (southern rebels) and Khartoum (the seat of Sudan's government)
- This agreement created the Southern Sudan Autonomous Region

# Oil Discovered in the South

- The discovery of oil in 1978 in the Muglad Basin in the South ignited conflict in the south. Southerners protested the government's plan to export the oil through Port Sudan in the north.
- Resources such as oil play a key role in the second civil war and ongoing conflict between Sudan and South Sudan



For more information on discovery of oil in Sudan, see HRW report “The Chevron Period”:  
<http://www.hrw.org/reports/2003/sudan1103/10.htm>



# Second Civil War, 1983 -2005

- Sudanese President Jaafar al-Nimeiri (pictured right) abolishes South's autonomy (1983) in an attempt to consolidate his power; he declares Arabic official language and imposes Sharia law. He also wants to gain control of oil fields in the south.



Pictured Right: Sudanese President Jaafar al-Nimeiri  
(Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Gaafar\\_Nimeiry\\_exhib.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Gaafar_Nimeiry_exhib.jpg))

# Rise of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA)



South mobilizes and forms Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) in 1983; led by Dr. John Garang (pictured left), SPLA fights for a multi-ethnic and multi-religious state (not just independence as during the first civil war).

Picture Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:John\\_Garang\\_in\\_crowd.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:John_Garang_in_crowd.jpg)



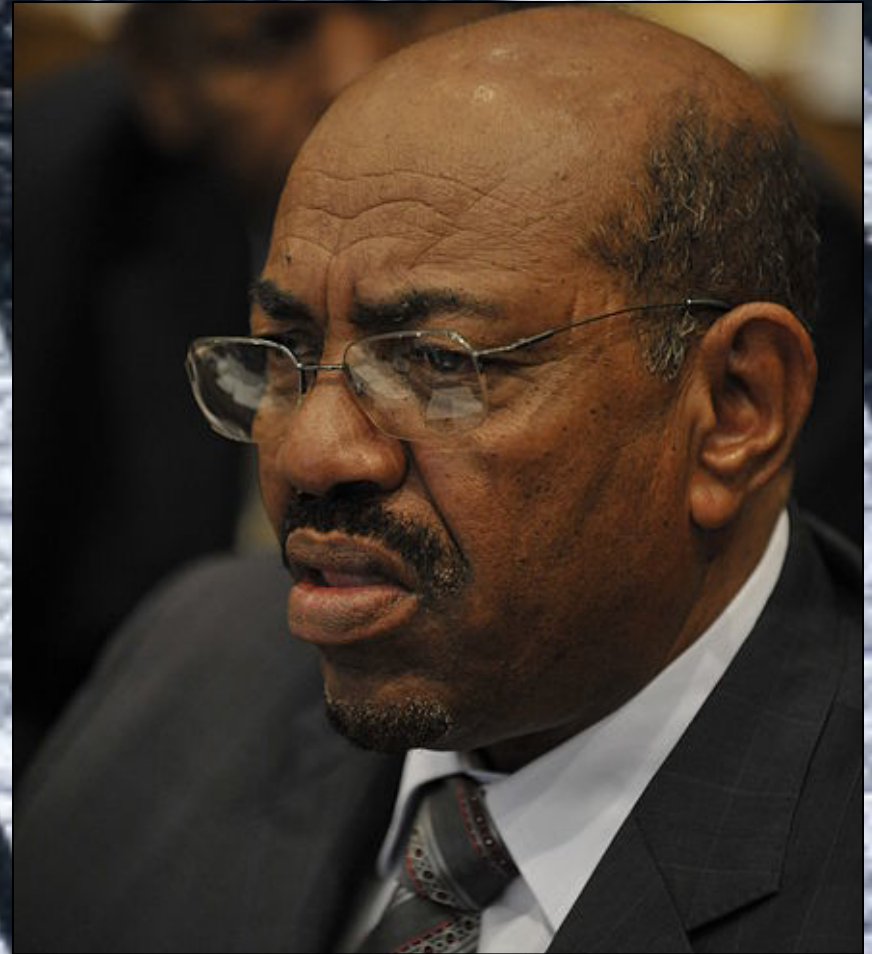
Bashir – Genocide in Darfur – North-South Peace Deal

# III. GENOCIDE AND CIVIL WAR



# The Rise of Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir

- Islamist leader Brigadier-General Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir (pictured right) gains strength in the north and on June 30, 1989 his National Islamist Front (NIF) seizes power from democratically elected government of Sadiq al Mahdi



NIF revokes the constitution, bans opposition parties, and proclaimed *jihad* against non-Muslim South

**February 2003** the Darfur Liberation Front (**DLF**) attacked military installations in protest of NIF's unequal treatment of non-Arab people


NIF army along with with the *Janjaweed* militia group —known as “devils on horseback”— launch attack on villages of Fur, Zaghawa, and Masalit (considered non-Arab and supporters of DLF)

Between 2003 and 2005, 2.5 million are driven from their homes to escape conflict, at least 200,00 killed

# North –South Peace Deal, 2005

- January 2005, Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) ends second civil war. CPA called for a permanent ceasefire, a power-sharing government involving rebels in Khartoum, and a south Sudanese referendum on independence to be reopened in six years' time.





# IV. SOUTH SUDAN GAINS INDEPENDENCE

# S. Sudan's Road to Independence

- January 2011, people of South Sudan vote in favor of independence
- South Sudan seceded from Sudan on 9 July 2011 after a six-year wait period
- Oil rich region of Abyei on border between two states remains hotly contested territory

