

Sudan - Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on Friday 17 & Monday 20 January 2014

Is there any safe area (without religious/ethnic complications) to which a person could return to live (from the UAE)

A report issued in August 2013 by *Amnesty International* states:

"The situation in Sudan remains critical. Two years after the secession of South Sudan, armed conflict continues to devastate large parts of Darfur, Southern Kordofan, and Blue Nile" (Amnesty International (29 August 2013) Sudan: Human rights situation in Sudan: Amnesty International's joint written statement to the 24th session of the UN Human Rights Council, p.1).

In August 2013 a document released by the *United States Institute of Peace* notes:

"Two years after losing a quarter of its people and territory, Sudan remains in turmoil. The secession of South Sudan in 2011 did nothing to resolve Sudan's longstanding internal conflicts" (United States Institute of Peace (13 August 2013) *Pathway to National Dialogue in Sudan*).

A publication released in September 2013 by the *Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights* notes:

"Armed conflicts and lack of security continues to be a major source of human rights violations in different parts of the Sudan. Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile states have been specifically affected by continuing sporadic cycles of armed conflicts, violent attacks and banditry which have affected civilians during the reporting period" (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (10 September 2013) Report of the Independent Expert on the situation of Human Rights in Sudan (September 2013)).

A report issued by the *United States Overseas Security Advisory Council* in October 2013 points out that:

"Violent flare-ups break out between various armed militia groups and Sudanese military forces with little notice, particularly in the Darfur region, along the border between Chad and Sudan, and in areas on the border with South Sudan" (United States Overseas Security Advisory Council (11 October 2013) *Travel Warning: Sudan*).

In November 2013 a publication issued by the *International Crisis Group* points out that:

"The situation in Sudan's forgotten East – without deadly conflict since the 2006 Eastern Sudan Peace Agreement (ESPA) – stands in contrast to the fighting besetting the country's other peripheries" (International Crisis Group (26 November 2013) Sudan: Preserving Peace in the East, p.i).

A report issued in December 2013 by the *Darfur Relief and Documentation Centre*

"The human rights and humanitarian situation in Sudan continued to deteriorate during the last two weeks of December 2013" (Darfur Relief and Documentation Centre (December 2013) *Sudan Human Rights and Humanitarian Bulletin, Issue No* 5, p.1).

In December 2013 a publication released by the *United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs* shows on a map the humanitarian needs of people including those affected by conflict (United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (27 December 2013) *2014 Strategic Response Plan Sudan*).

In January 2014 the *United Kingdom Government* points out that:

"The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) advise against all travel to the following parts of Sudan: Darfur, the Red Sea State border with Eritrea; the Abyei region; Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states; areas of Northern Kordofan and White Nile states south of the Kosti-El Obeid-En Nahud road...The FCO advise against all but essential travel to the following parts of Sudan: areas west of the towns of En-Nahud in North Kordofan up to the Darfur border...There is a general threat from terrorism. Attacks could be indiscriminate, including in places frequented by expatriates and foreign travellers" (United Kingdom Government (20 January 2014) Sudan travel advice).

No further information on this issue could be found among sources available to the RDC.

References

Amnesty International (29 August 2013) Sudan: Human rights situation in Sudan: Amnesty International's joint written statement to the 24th session of the UN Human Rights Council

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http://www.wagingpeace.info/index.php/sudan/reports

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United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (27 December 2013) 2014 Strategic Response Plan Sudan

http://reliefweb.int/report/sudan/2014-strategic-response-plan-sudan

Attachment not included due to IT limitations

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United States Institute of Peace (13 August 2013) Pathway to National Dialogue in Sudan

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United States Overseas Security Advisory Council (11 October 2013) *Travel Warning: Sudan*

https://www.osac.gov/Pages/ContentReportDetails.aspx?cid=14618

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This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read in full all documents referred to.

Sources Consulted

Amnesty International **BBC News Electronic Immigration Network European Country of Origin Information Network** Freedom House Google **Human Rights Watch** Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre International Crisis Group **IRIN News Lexis Nexis** Minority Rights Group International Online Newspapers Refugee Documentation Centre E-Library Refugee Documentation Centre Query Database Reliefweb

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