Darfur and the myths of
Janjiwee, rape and genocide

A study by: Sudan News Agency

SUNA

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Introduction

When the incidents of armed robbery escalated in Darfur region in 2001, the President of the Republic Field Marshal Omer Al-Bashir issued a decree establishing the mechanism for maintaining the supremacy of law and effecting development in the region. In this decree, the President of the Republic transferred his constitutional powers, in an unprecedented step, to the then Wali of North Darfur State Gen. Ibrahim Suleiman and Chairman of Darfur Mechanism. It was the first time the President of the Republic mandated one of his aides with his powers, which are stipulated by the constitution. The chairman of the Darfur mechanism, started contacts with the arms holders at Jabal Mara and Karnoi areas. But the armed elements did not honour their promises and began planning for carrying out wide-ranging military activities. In this climate, the Darfur mechanism called for a comprehensive conference held in Al-Fashir, which recommended that dialogue should be the sole means for solving Darfur issues. The conference also recommended development plan for the region including Jabal Mara Agricultural Scheme and the Western Salvation Road Project to which the government allocated a sum of 120 billion dinars in the budget of the year 2003. But the armed movements attacked the engineers working in the road project and seized three vehicles, a matter that led to the stoppage of work in the project.

The Darfur problem is a creation of the Western media, which speaks about myths of Janjiweeds, rape and genocide. The Western circles are responsible of what is going on in Darfur for financing and supporting the armed groups in the region.

The Sudan News Agency (SUNA) presents this documentary file to the local, regional and international public opinions hoping that it would refute these myths.
Darfur Crisis... The World Order moves northward

Prelude:-

Following the collapse of the former Soviet Union at the beginning of the last decade of the last century and U.S. becoming the only superpower in the world, the new order of the Americanism started to reconsider the situations in the world, specially the Islamic world. The American intervention started by the Sudan, where attempts were made to isolate the government and to contain it.

US role in internationalization of Darfur Issue:-

The American role in the internationalization of Darfur question was very clear. The US Congress is continuously deliberating Darfur issue. It has remained continuously focusing on Darfur following discussion of the US budget and its security strategy.

Foreign Presence in Darfur States:-

The foreign intervention in Darfur may be traced back to the 1980s. Deputy Nur-eddin Adam announced over a daily newspaper in February 1988 that “there was a foreign presence in Darfur. The Libyan-Chadian war had moved to Darfur.”

Start of the Incidents in Darfur:-

The start of the incidents in Darfur in 2003 was due to pure local elements represented in the spread of the phenomenon of the armed robbery and the attempt by the state to end the phenomenon.
The local element that contributed greatly to the fanning of sedition was the utilization by a group of politicians to the circumstances brought about by the armed conflict to settle their account with the government. They gave the problem a political touch and started to frequent the Western capitals, especially London, where they held press conferences considering themselves as representatives of the people of Darfur, while their major goal was power and wealth.

To achieve these targets, they utilized the evils of regionalism and racism to hit the peaceful coexistence that had been characterizing the tribes in the region.
Meaning of the word "Janjiweed"

There are different interpretations for the word "Janjiweed". Some say it was derived from the Arabic phrase "jin ala jawad" or a jinn mounting a horse. Others say it was named after a person named Hamid Janjiwait, who had been practicing armed robbery with his gang in the 1980s.

President Al-Bashir: The Janjiweeds are armed robbery gangs that are not affiliated to any particular tribe or ethnicity:

President of the Republic Field Marshal Omer Al-Bashir explained in reply to a question on the Janjiweeds that they are unruly armed robbery gangs that do not affiliate to any tribe or ethnicity.

Addressing worshippers at Detroit mosque in U.S. via video conference, President Al-Bashir said the West erroneously portray the Janjiweeds as the Arab tribes in Darfur.

Chairman of the Parliamentary Group of the National Congress Dr. Ghazi Salahuddin pointed out that no one could deny presence of conflicts between tribes. But one should remember that such aggressions were committed by the two sides.

The Western media focused on what it called the Janjiweeds, which is term that has no agreed upon meaning.
The Western media portrays the situation from one side. There is also armed rebel groups that commit aggressions on the citizens.

**In a programme over Aljazeera TV Channel entitled "Darfur Arabs and the Myth of Janjiweed" on 4.12.2006, Abdel Wahid Mohamed Nur, the chairman of Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM), said Janjiweeds are a group from the nomadic Arab tribes and also from the African tribes. But it is not true that all Janjiweeds are Arabs.**

This not true, he said. He added that Janjiweeds were gangs that were not affiliated to any particular tribe.

The advisor of the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Dr. Abdul-Rahman Abudom, pointed out that what is called Janjiweeds are not from the Arab of Darfur. He explained that the name Janjiweeds is not a Sudanese. But, it mostly came from West Africa. They are a mixture of Sudanese citizens and nationals of West Africa. Their practices do not like that of Darfur's Arabs in any aspect.

In implementation of one of the recommendations of the General Conference of the Arab Journalists Union, held in Cairo on October 2-5, 2004, and at the instruction of the Chairman of the Union Ustaz Ibrahim Nafie and Secretary General Ustaz Salah-Eddin Hafiz, an Arab journalist delegation was formed to pay a visit to Sudan to get first hand information on the humanitarian situation in Darfur.

The delegation comprised Ustaz Saif Al-Sharief, the Assistant Secretary General of the Union as chairman of the delegation besides the membership of Ustaz Al-Hashimi Nowaira, the Assistant Secretary General and Ustaz Mohamed Kharaja, member of the Union from Egypt.

The delegation paid a five –day visit to Sudan during the period April 11-15, 2005, of which it spent two whole days in Darfur.

The Secretariat General of Union adopted the report in its meeting on April 17,2005 and decided its publication.
The report stated that the delegation was received in Al-Fashir, capital of North Darfur State by Deputy Wali (Governor) and Minister of Education in North Darfur State Ibrahim Abdalla Mohamed, a Mushim from Zaghawa tribe.

He strongly denied existence of any sort of genocide, ethnic cleansing or rape crimes.

He pointed that the society of Darfur rejects such practices as it is a Muslim society and it is a cohesive community.

He said the government did not support the Janjiweeds.

The report also stated that in Neyala, capital of South Darfur State, the delegation was received by the state's Wali, Engineer Al-Haj Attal-Manan on Wednesday, 12-1-2005. The report cited that the delegation found much logic in the talk of Engineer Attal-Manan, especially on rape issue. He cited that all of us are Muslims and such things could not happen in one fabric. It is difficult to differentiate between Arabs and Africans and there is inter-marriage.

Replying to a question on the Janjiweed, he said they are armed robbers that loot the properties of the government before that of the citizens.
The Western Media and the Janjiweeds Myth

The Media and its tools:

The flow of information through the international newspapers, news agencies and TV and radio channels pertinent to Darfur problem surpassed any flow on any other issue. It is comparable only to that of September 11 incidents and Iraq. Newspapers like the Washington Post, New York Times, Los Angeles Times, the Guardian and Telegraph and other Western newspapers and news agencies have made Darfur as a daily topic.

This media coverage had been characterized by the following:-

- Citing some terminologies and hammering on them continuously to consolidate the information, such as "the Janjiweed," "Arab militias supported by the government," "the black African Muslims" and the "systematic rape."

- Citing continuously the same background information which speaks of exaggerated numbers of casualties and IDPs.

- Using the headline in a way that makes the positive elements look as negative ones.

- Using the worse quotes by the UN officials and politicians or relief workers.

The Objectives of the Hostile Media Campaign:-

- Giving the necessary pretext to the anti-Sudan circles to increase pressures on Sudan or for over military intervention.

- Preparing the international public opinion for the worst scenarios for what can happen to Sudan, including military intervention, economic embargo and other sorts of sanctions.

- Diverting the attention from the American and British failures in Iraq and the abuses that happened in Abu Garib Prison, which was unprecedented in the modern history of the world.
- Presenting the Arabs as aggressors through repeating the term of the "Arab Militias" and inciting the public opinion against them in preparations for any scenarios against any Arab country in the future.

- The most important and strategic objective is that related to the war on resources, top of them oil.

**The Stances of the States:**

On the European level, the stance of France represents the most moderate one among all the European countries. Its special relations with Chad and Sudan helped in this so that the situation would not be aggravated between the two countries.

The stances of China and Pakistan have remained distinguished concerning their solid stance alongside the objectivity.

Their presence in the Security Council has led to the required balance in this connection.

On the Arab level, Egypt has adopted advanced stances rejecting imposition of any sanctions on Sudan.

The Saudi Arabian stance has also come frank rejecting any threats to Sudan, affirming its appreciation to the efforts being exerted by Sudan government for solving Darfur crisis.

**The Justifications:**

The Darfur crisis was not the first one in history of the world and not the worst the world is witnessing now. Then what made it to reach this advanced stage on the media and political levels?

**Firstly: On the International Level:**
The two superpowers, America and Britain, had been subjected to a great deal of criticism, even from inside the two countries for the weak justifications for their occupation of Iraq, a matter that undermined their credibility before their peoples and the peoples of the world in general and the international organizations.

Moreover, the Abu Garib Prison phenomenon caused a great damage to the American Administration, policy and the American people and other Western nations.

The photos of Abu Garib Prison, which entered every house, presented US as a country that does not mean what it says. US entered Iraq under the pretext of existence of weapons of mass destructions and this was proved to be false.

Then US changed this pretext to the relationship between the Iraqi regime with Al-Qada network, which was also turned to be false.

Then the US resorted to the pretext of freeing the Iraqi people from fear and prisons and later it was proved that America was the worst in this connection.

This was coupled with what has been taking place in Guantanamo base and in US prisons in Afghanistan.

At that time, the US election campaign was entering the critical days and the Republicans had to divert the attention of the world from the scenarios of September 11 incidents, Iraq and Afghanistan.

At the same time, the Democrats had been working to utilize all this to prevent Republicans from reaching the White House for another term.

The Republican American Administration selected Darfur issue to divert the attention from all these.

But the other party and in order to counter this adopted a more fierce attitude towards Darfur issue. This was
reflected by the position adopted the Democratic nominee Carey.

The most dangerous message disseminated by the Western media was that it portrayed the conflict as an aggression by the Arab Muslims against the non-Arab Muslims.

The objective was to incite non-Arab Muslims in the whole world against the Arabs as well as splitting the Muslim people into Arab and non-Arab

**The German Role:-**

Germany represented an important axis in moral and material support to the rebels. Germany's role had been most worse in the European Group. Despite the clear denial by the German Foreign Minister in a press conference he held in Khartoum during his visit to Sudan of supporting the arms holders, and his justifications that the rebels were given political asylum according to the German laws; but many indicators affirmed the suspicious Germany's role in this connection.

Germany did not show any interest with the African crisis. But it had remained showing special concern with Darfur since a long time ago. The reasons behind this concern remained unexplained. But it showed a German drive to find a foothold in the region.

Germany hosted all prominent rebel figures and became a centre for their movement, and activities. Some observers believe that Germany host the greatest number of Darfur citizens compared to other European countries.

**The Jewish Role**

In a report by the Jewish Telegraphic agency dated 8-7-2004, under the title "Sudan has become a Jewish Topic," the Jewish writer Peter Igros wrote that the Jewish groups had doubled their efforts in the recent weeks to stop “killing of tens of thousands black Muslims in Sudan.”

The writer said the Jewish council in Washington had hosted in the same week a campaign against the killings in Sudan and on July 24 the Holocaust Museum in U.S. had suspended all its activities for half an hour to draw the attention to what had been taking place in Sudan.
The writer further pointed out that the Jewish alliance for warding off disasters that comprised 45 Jewish groups from all political and religious spectrum had organized a fund raising campaign, named the Jewish alliance fund for Darfur relief.

When the foreign media gave a prominent coverage to Darfur crisis, it did so not because of pure professional motives, but it was a premeditated act masterminded by foreign circles that had special agenda that they wanted to serve through the issue of Darfur.

**The Anti-Sudan Campaign in the Western Media:**

The adviser of the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs Dr. Abdel-Rahman Abudoum explained the hostile media campaign that targets Sudan through utilization of Darfur incidents as premeditated campaign intended to prepare for a following act.

He cited as an example that the Western media portrayed the Janjweeds as Arabs supported by the government to kill the African despite our knowledge with the culture of the hambata (armed robbers), that all the Janjweeds are not Arabs and that they are just a myth.

Dr. Abudoum added that a survey slowed that Darfur problem was cited more than one hundred times daily in the international media and this was only in the big media institutions.

Dr. Abudoum called on the media men and researchers to confront the Western media campaign by utilizing all available forums, acknowledging that there was a great inefficiency in the fields of news and the humanitarian information.

**Motives of the American and Western Campaign concerning Janjweeds lie:**

The announced motives by the American administration and the Western countries related to the humanitarian considerations.

These motives are difficult to be understood by the sound mind. Were those humanitarian motives when Israelis practiced their job of destruction and demolishing of homes on
the heads of their inhabitants, till the number of those killed in one month in Lebanon reached some one thousand?

It was difficult to believe in the American and Western humanitarian considerations, while the Israeli crime had been committed in day light and broadcast over the TV channels and that Israel had attacked a sovereign country, Lebanon.

There is a hidden war between U.S. and France over the areas of influence in Africa. U.S. had one some grounds at areas which had been under the influence of France.

On the other hand, US works to reduce its imports from the middle East's oil by the 2025 by 75%.

This target can not be achieved except through resorting to oil resources in Central Asia and Africa.

Thirdly, this wide area is rich with untapped resources. A number of press reports spoke about existence of minerals and resources needed by the West.

One can say that the motives of intervention are many including material, religious and moral ones that that cope with the Western values and standards.

**The International Role in Darfur Crisis:**

In his book issued in 2000 on US foreign policy, Dr. Henry Kissinger cited in connection of Africa that that what is known about the norms of the state that the national spirit precedes the geographical borders of states and that is what is happening in all continents of the world except Africa, where the geographical borders preceded the nationalistic spirit.

Considering this reality and coupled with weak development and infrastructures and the international economic recession which led to shrinkage of the international aid to the poor countries, all these can be the root causes of such conflicts.
All continents of the world are witnessing conflicts between government and rebels. In Europe, we find that the United Kingdom has still been endeavoring for solving the Irish problem.

And in Africa and despite the particularity we cited earlier, most of the states are affected by conflicts.

Sudan despite its sensitive geopolitical position and wide area and the effects of the 50-year long war, represents one of the most cohesive African countries.

All these are coupled with the collapse of the system of the balance of power and the emergence of the unpopular system in the world besides the submission of the international organizations to the will of the one superpower. This besides the animosity showed by the West to the Arabs following the September 11 incidents as well as the policies by the current government of adoption of the Islamic values and the good customs, self-reliance, diplomatic achievements towards Security Council Resolutions 1041, 1051 and 1070 besides Sudan's maintenance of all its international and regional relations as well as its adoption to the strategy of peace.

All these factors made Sudan a target to a number of international powers.

Regarding the crisis of Darfur, the American administration worked to incite the international community against the Sudan, using its media and diplomatic might for the purpose. It embarked on encouraging and politically supporting the rebels. Former US Secretary of State Colin Powell used to make statements during the sessions of negotiations in Abuja that included negative signals that made the rebels to adopt intransigent stances that led to the collapse of the negotiations more than once.

The shift of the American policy to practicing pressures on Sudan through Darfur crisis was believed to be linked to two types of objectives one is current and the second is at the long-run. The long term objectives were part of the policies of dismantling and reformation within the strategy of New Middle East as well as economic interests linked to oil.
As to the short-term objectives, they were connected with the election campaign. This theory is supported by the relative ease in the crisis that followed the end of the elections and announcement of winning of Bush to new presidential term.

As to the British Prime Minister Tony Blair, whose stances cope with the trends of the American foreign policies, stated that he would continue pressures on the government of Khartoum to stop the killings in Darfur. The commander of the British army Mic Jackson also said that his country was ready to send 5,000 soldiers to Darfur. Blair visited Sudan and the visit was expected to make a positive breakthrough in Darfur crisis, especially the British people have great knowledge about the Sudan as the Sudan had been a British colony for more then 60 years.

As to the European Union, it was not different from the contradictions that characterized dealings by most of the Western power with the crisis.

It had threatened to impose sanctions on Sudan for alleged negligence by the Sudanese authorities to the critical humanitarian situation in the region and violence against the civilians.

Then the file was transferred to the Security Council.

The issuance of the Security Council Resolution No. 1556 in July 2004 constituted the official declaration of the internationalization of Darfur issue, despite the cooperation showed by the government with the African Union concerning Darfur issue to keep it within its regional context.

In this review of the crisis we have pointed out that the conflict in Darfur was not a new but it is a repeated phenomenon, but it has been exaggerated by the media.
Deputy Director of Emergency Department of Medecin Sans Frontiers Organization Mr. Mercedes Tany said "I do not believe that we should use the word (genocide) to describe this conflict –there is no systematic targeting to a particular ethnic group".

“Our team did not see a proof to deliberate targeting for killing persons from a particular group,” said Dr. Hagin Havey of the organization Medecin Sans Frontiers.

In an interview with the BBC in July 2005, the special envoy of President Bush to Sudan Mr. John Danforth said that the label of genocide had been something for the local consumption in the United States.

Former U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, commenting on allegations of genocide said "I do not term the killing a genocide…”.

The American administration speaks continuously on allegations of genocide taking place in Darfur.

The American accusation of genocide was made on the basis of allegations that the death toll in Darfur may reach 300,000. But the figure cited by the World Health Organization was some 70,000. But the estimation by the Sudanese Government till the year 2004 was 600, as said by Presidential Advisor Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail.

Few months after his statement, the international figures were speaking of 30,000 – 50,000 killed. Dr. Ismail commented on this saying the figure were ten folds higher than the real ones.

**President Al-Bashir denies Existence of genocide in Darfur:**
In February 23, 2007, President of the Republic Field Marshal Omer Al-Bashir denied existence of any case of ethnic cleansing in Sudan, pointing out the tribes the Western media alleges that they were subjected to ethnic cleansing have its sons in senior posts at the federal and state levels and in high-ranking positions in the Army, police and the civil service.

Addressing worshippers via video conference at the Mosque of Detroit in the United States of America, President Al-Bashir said US would not lift the sanctions it imposes on Sudan because of its desire to change the government in Sudan as it did in Iraq, pointing out that what has been circulated by the Western media were sheer lies intended to distort the image of Sudan.

**The US Envoy to Sudan:**

In a lecture at John Hopkins University on 20.2.2007, the US Envoy to Sudan, Andrew Natsios, denied existence of genocide in Darfur.

He said what was said by the human rights activist groups in this connection contradicts with the reality in the region.

Mr. Natsios criticized in his lecture the stances of the armed movements and held them responsible for the deterioration of the security situations as they were practicing armed robbery and looting in the region.

He explained that some of these movements are motivated by private interests a matter that complicate the efforts of mediation for solving the problem.

Mr. Natsios rejected existence of racial motives in the war in Darfur, saying that it was not between Arabs and Africans.

He said it was wrong to confine the problem to the ethnic dimension and neglect the economic, climatic and environmental factors.

He said there were bureaucratic obstacles affecting the humanitarian work but it was not an intended policy to impede the humanitarian work.
He said the difficulties affecting the relief organizations are similar to that in the whole African continent.

He affirmed occurrence of development in Sudan and commended the growth rates in the Sudanese economy, which has become attractive for investments, specially the Arab and Asian investments.

**African Union**

Many observers including the Chairman of the Conflict Management Centre of the African Union, members of which assume monitoring of cease- fire in Darfur, affirmed that genocide did not exist in Darfur according to testimonies of citizens and relief agencies there.

Nigerian President and Former Chairman of the African Union Olusegun Obasanjo said that what I know about Sudan did not amount in any way to that characterization, genocide. The Darfur issue, he added was basically a system of governance. It is, in his view, a political issue soon turned into a military problem when the rebels hold arms. “Before we say that it is genocide or ethnic cleansing, we have to have a specific decision and certain plan as well as government programme aiming at the extermination of a certain group of people and that is not what we know” he explained.

**The European Union**

In 8 / 11 / 2004 Reuters reported that the European Union said that his fact-finding mission in Sudan has found no evidence of genocide in Darfur region.
Pieter Feith, an adviser to the Coordinator of Foreign Affairs at the European Union, Javier Solana, said in a press conference following his return from a visit to Sudan: "We have not seen a situation of genocide there."

The European Union delegation that visited the country recently headed by the Commissioner of the Civil Affairs in the Management of Conflicts at the Union, affirmed improvement of situations in Darfur, expecting improvement process to continue until formula for restoring security and stability in Darfur can be reached.

Serrano praised the positive developments in the security and humanitarian situations in Darfur, particularly the cooperation between the government, the African Union and the European Union for the success of the task of the AU mission in Darfur.

**Does the United States deserve to make such a charge?**

Does America have the right to talk about the threat of genocide in Darfur, as well as to take it a pretext for intervention; taking into consideration its military intervention in collaboration with its allies which left a number Iraqi people of dead, injured, homeless, displaced and disabled?

The American administration has admitted killing about thirty thousand civilians since it intervened in Iraq. The US President himself before the beginning of this year 2007 stated that the killings had escalated in an unprecedented manner. Whereas circles opposing the occupation of Iraq estimated the number of dead people at about three hundred thousand people since the beginning of the campaign.

Other circles described as neutral estimated the number of dead people from 2003 until today at 49760, according to sources in the broadcast media elected reliable. Before that the American Newspaper (Village Voice) published in its issue of Sunday, August 31, 2003 based on a field study conducted by hundreds of individuals in the new Iraqi Freedom Party estimated the number of dead Iraqi civilians since the beginning of the American pre-emptive strike to about 37 thousand and 137 deaths for the final proceeds to be over eighty thousands dead people, as well as the disabled, immigrants and displaced persons.

In another study published nearly two years ago, the British medical journal (The Lancet), in cooperation with the Iraqi Mustansiriyah University, the number of civilian dead at that time estimated at one
hundred thousand civilians since March 21, 2003 until September 2004. Before a few months ago the number of people dead estimated to exceed two hundred thousand. While other Iraqi bodies said that death toll had reached one million dead, as well as thousands of missing and abducted.

Perhaps the confidence in the figures released by medical journals and field studies were probably more. Studies, surveys and statistics are closer to the reality than fabrications of American President whose General Commander, Tommy Franks denied their conduct of a survey on the number of dead, said: “We don't do body counts” and this is more surprising; especially if those who were not counting the dead, killed with their hands or under their rule or guardianship, exaggerate cases in the counting of the dead they did not see it!

A recent study from the American University of Johns Hopkins, and funded by other prestigious university (Michigan) proved reality of the previous studies. Gilbert Burnham of Johns Hopkins Bloomberg school for public health in the United States said that previous studies: “We estimate that as a result of the alliance invasion on Iraq, March 18, 2003, 655 thousand Iraqis died and the death toll increased the expected number to have been died in a situation where there is no conflict.

He added that this means that 2.5% of the Iraqi population died as a result of the invasion and ensuing fighting.

BBC news network published on its website under the title: one out of every 40 Iraqis die in Iraq.

It is worth mentioning that the British government as well as the American cast doubt on those statistics because it is based on interviews with the families, instead of counting the corpses one by one. Although the study, which included about 1849 families comprising 12801 individuals in 47 locations, has been randomly chosen from different parts of Iraq.

Gilbert Burnham defended the method followed by the study, describing the difficulty of collecting data in times of war.

**The United Nations:**

Upon reaching of the allegations on the existence of genocide in Darfur to the level of international anxiety and fear, the Security Council of the United Nations formed the International Commission
for Inquiry on Darfur Issue in accordance with Security Council resolution 1564 adopted on September 18 September 2004.

In October 2004, the UN Secretary-General appointed a Fact-Finding Commission consists of five members headed by the Italian Judge Mr. Antonio Cassese. It has been entrusted to the commission to investigate reports of human rights violations by all parties and to decide whether there was genocide in Darfur or not.

The committee was requested to submit its reports on this matter to the Secretary-General in January 2005. It submitted a report stated that despite the serious violations of human rights in Darfur but that there was no genocide.
Darfur at the Focus of the world's Concern

Until early before mid-July 2004, the number of reports and news gathered by the Yahoo website from limited agencies including AFP, Associated Press and Reuters and BBC and other agencies exceeded 17 million article newsgroups and from all of this less than 5% of those stories end with background repeats the same charges made by all international circles.

The United States of America and Britain:

The two countries had made unprecedented bilateral relations hardly be found in modern history. It is characterized by the American decision-taking and involvement of Britain in it and its contribution to the marketing and promotion. It is a practice devoted by the experience of Afghanistan and Iraq invasions.

It has been hoped after those two experiences and their internal and international repercussions, the two states to pursue a diplomatic option taking into account the world status quo. The signs of that took place already through patronization of the United States to the Sudanese peace talks and cautious diplomatic dealing, exercises pressure and avoids threat.

Many observers considered that the United States had benefited from the two experiences and intended to launch a new approach to the world’s affairs characterized by diplomatic perseverance and sometimes perhaps a temptation.

The observers noted that the bulk of American political and media comments on the events in the Sudan until shortly before that date were of a positive nature in comparison to the familiar position of Sudan since the early 1990s. However, signs of other attitudes have begun to emerge
on the surface. In an interview with the American Charge d'affaires, Gerhard Galoshi by Sudanese Al-Ayam daily, he stated that the problem the conflict in Darfur in western Sudan is a stumbling block to the normalization of relations between Khartoum and Washington.

All this comes in synchronization with the increasing coverage of the BBC and Reuters to the events in Darfur with exaggerations and the further publications of very influential images to the world public opinion.

Some organizations, news agencies, press and politicians have contested in bringing a statement after statement, news after the other and a report following the report with the common denominators, hardly missing a written text or audible or live scenes. (Government-backed Arab militias) .... (Burning of villages and rape) .. Displacement of African Muslims from their lands .. The government bombing to villages by aircrafts ... If an observer counted the number of words like (Arabs against Africans) and (organized rape), (Janjaweed), (burning of villages), he would find that what has been covered by the news agencies on those issues might exceed that of the agency or the newspaper since its inception.

**Combating violence against women and Children**

The Director of the Unit on Combating Violence against Women and Children at the Ministry of Justice, Dr. Attiyat Mustafa said that she had discussed with the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in Sudan, Ms Sima Samar the issue of rape but she (Samar) did not manage to tell any evidence on it.
Dr. Attiyat said that she demanded Samar for legal or medical evidence of hospital or doctor’s report and even a social proof concerning a victim name or address, adding that I found nothing from her.

Dr. Attiyat unveiled that the security organs detected one of the organizations while preparing to fabricate a film on rape committed by some men dressing in Janjaweed uniform with some hired women.

She announced that the cases of rape in the three Darfur states amounted to 36 cases in the period from January to July 2006 according to the records of attorney office.

She added that eight cases were confirmed and names of the victims were handed over to the Council of Human Rights in Geneva in its second session last September.

Dr. Attiyat went on, during a news forum organized by Sudan News Agency (SUNA), to say that what the Western media circulated on the rise of cases in Darfur stands further from the truth.

She said that some international organizations exploited situations of women in Darfur due to the deterioration of security conditions to serve its interests, stressing that Sudan non-signing to the Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) does not represent a barrier against combating violence against women, pointing out that the Interim Constitution granting women their full rights.

**Foreign organizations at camps:**

Foreign voluntary organizations and those of the United Nations represented one of the most dangerous tools on which organized media campaigns relied on. It is obvious that there was a tight linkage among all those circles. This was reflected by repeating of that circles the same terminologies and narrations. And that could be confirmed by the testimonies of the refugees and displaced persons which were identical. A matter that constitutes a direct dictation to those people by staff and delegates of the foreign organizations.

Delegate of Sudanese newspapers have witnessed delegates of those organizations taking aside Western reporters. When a Sudanese journalist approaches them, they stopped telling any information. In fact majority of foreign organizations’ staff refrained talking to local newspapers and agencies.
Axis (6)

Measures adopted for limiting phenomenon of security violations

The government of Sudan has exerted much effort to contain the crisis in Jabal Marrah since it broke out in August 2002. The government, urged and pursued to convening of Naertiti (a country side of Jabal Marrah) conference on August 16-20 to adopt comprehensive resolutions for the causes of tension and conflict in the area. However, the conflict developed from a local and limited tribal one to an expanded tribal dispute which in turn evolved to a confrontation with the government.

A republican decree was issued forming a fact- finding committee on determination of causes of the problem under chairmanship of the Supreme Court’s judge. An other republican decree was also issued forming a committee to quantify and evaluate losses of the affected parties. After a few days a conference was held in Kass (a town in southern Darfur) on September 9 of the same year. As well as a third conference convened in Al-Fasher (capital of Northern Darfur State) in 2003.

Many popular initiatives were launched to stop bloodshed and the government supported all these initiatives endlessly since it was affected by the security violations in some areas of the region.

The government also declared general amnesty to arm holders and rebellions and released all the detainees including one of the rebel leaders, Abdul-Wahid Mohamed Nur.

Efforts of the government of Sudan to settle the conflict could be outlined as follows:

Firstly, Decisions of the Representative of the President of Republic to Darfur States concerning situations in Darfur:-

Representative of the President of the Republic to Darfur States and Minister of Interior issued 15 decisions on the situations in Darfur. The decisions were issued in accordance with his Authorization of Power pursuant to provision 50 of the Constitution of Sudan and the emergency order No.2 of 2004 which was issued by the President of the Republic on 24/6/2004 and provision 132 of the constitution.

The following is the full text of these decisions:
1- Decision No. 1 (2004) on:

Consolidation of security measures and protection of Darfur States’ citizens:

1- Headquarters of Police begins immediately recruitment and training of 6000 police personnel as a first batch to complete the target number of police forces in Darfur states.

2- Immediate deployment of adequate number of police forces from the various police departments to consolidate the forces in Darfur states in boosting security there.

To implement the decision, the police headquarters sent great numbers of police forces from other states and from the Central Police Reserves Forces to the Darfur states. According to the accord signed by the UN and the government, Minister of Interior has to deploy 8000 police forces due to the first and second plan. But the actual number the ministry has sent exceeded the required number with 5205 police personnel.

These forces performed several tasks. Because duties of these forces increase, a decision of establishing sectors of the Central Reserve Police Forces in all Sudan states was issued. Darfur states were given eight of these sectors.

Following the agreement with the United Nations on deployment of police forces to restore security in Darfur and due to the spreading out of the gangs of armed robbery, many tasks were assigned to those forces.

According to the agreement with the United Nations, some places were specified as secured areas. These areas were secured by police forces in a circle with radius of 20 km which are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>No. of secured circles</th>
<th>remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Darfur State</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Al-Fasher and surrounding areas, Zamzam and Abu Shock Camps and Tawela Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Darfur State</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Neyala focusing on surrounding villages, Kulma camp, Thani Dalaiba and Abu Ajura area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Darfur State</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Al-Geneina Town and surrounding village- Morni camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2- Decision No.2 (2004) on:**

Opening of police centers at displaced camps and consolidation of security measures in Darfur states:

1. Opening of police centers at all camps of displaced persons;

2. The police camps receive all kinds of information leveling on abuses, human rights violation and all other crimes;

3. Coordination with attorneys to conduct necessary investigations on all kinds of human rights violations besides taking all measures to secure rights and realize justice;

4. Ensure the right of litigation to all persons and those who commit an offense will be subject to legal accountability without discrimination and all immunities will be lifted on them in accordance with the law and all individuals who are found guilty shall be provided before a fair trial;
5- All security bodies should have raise state of alarm and mobilize all their potentials and coordinate their efforts to enhance security in Darfur.

For implementation of what mentioned above, the following equipment were brought forward during 2003 - November 2006

**Firstly, the Central Reserve Police:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Land Rover</th>
<th>Land cruiser</th>
<th>Trucks</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>North Darfur State</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>South Darfur State</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>West Darfur State</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>89</strong></td>
<td><strong>106</strong></td>
<td><strong>12</strong></td>
<td><strong>207</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Secondly, Darfur States Police:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Land cruiser</th>
<th>Land Rover</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>North Darfur State</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>South Darfur State</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>West Darfur State</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>156</strong></td>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td><strong>158</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thirdly, Total of Darfur States’ Police Forces**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Darfur State</td>
<td>3450</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>3561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Darfur State</td>
<td>2078</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>2160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Darfur State</td>
<td>1924</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td><strong>7452</strong></td>
<td><strong>249</strong></td>
<td><strong>7701</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fourthly, Women Police at Darfur States:**  
Participation of women police contributed effectively in alleviating crimes against women. And their work at the IDPs shared in prevention and combating offenses against displaced women. Following are statistics of women police at police sections and IDPs camps in Darfur states:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Darfur State</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
South Darfur State 170  
West Darfur State 41  
**Total** 293  

Fifthly, Total of the Central Reserve Police Forces at Darfur sectors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. and place of sector</th>
<th>officers</th>
<th>other ranks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Nineth- Al-Fashir</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Tenth - Kabkabia</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Eleventh- Al-Geneina</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Twentieth- Borders</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Thirteenth- Zalengea</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Fourteenth- Neyala</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>79</td>
<td>5425</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sixthly, Total of Police Forces at Darfur states amounted to (13543)

**3- Decision No. 3 (2004):**

Provision of essential assistances to the African commissions and Monitoring Forces:

1. All leaders of the regular forces, their employees and all organs of the State have to provide all necessary assistance and facilities to the African committees and monitoring force to enable them to perform the cease-fire and the follow-up of any violation from any side.
2. The monitoring forces are allowed to move freely without any restrictions in all parts of Darfur alongside with taking the necessary measures to ensure their movements.
For implementation of this decree displaced camps were secured, receiving their information leveled through points of the police at camps, conduct joint patrols with the African Union police in the camps, organizing and securing the exit of displaced women for collecting woods in coordination with the African Union police.

Full coordination with the Shiukh (tribal leaders) and the native administration in the camps except the Kulma Camp in South Darfur, which was characterized by flagrant hostility between the displaced persons and the police forces due to the penetration of the outlaws within the camp and poisoning ideas displaced.

There are other 13 decisions of similar attitudes, orientations and contents. All of which aiming at restoration of stability and security, realization of peace, provision of humanitarian aid to the affected people and all requirements and basic needs to Darfur states.

**Secondly: The National Fact-finding Committee:**

President of the Republic also issued a republican decree on May 8, 2004 forming a National Fact-finding Committee on human rights violations in Darfur under chairmanship of former Chief Justice, Dafaallah Al-Haj Yousuf.

The committee submitted its final report to the President of the Republic at mid January. The report recommended importance of conducting judicial investigation on cases recorded by the committee. The report reviewed all submitted allegations and confined them in ten and it included information including:

- What happened in Darfur despite its gravity was not a crime of genocide as alleged in accordance with the international legal standards.

- Armed opposition committed several violations.

- The Committee established that many of the killings committed by the various tribes against each other.
- The killing of civilians in all previous cases constitutes a violation of article three of the Geneva Conventions 1949; a matter requires further investigation and inquiry.

- In regard to rape the Committee established that incidents of rape and sexual violence were committed in Darfur. The report said that these incidents were not committed in a systematic and widespread.

- The Commission established that the reports of some international organizations are not accurate and do not correspond to reality.

- The committee proved the involvement of some officers and members of the Chadian armed forces in the attacks on the Kolbus area.

- The Committee recommended in its report formation of judicial committees.

**Thirdly: Formation of committees to investigate cases of alleged rape:**

The Ministry of Justice in July 2004 formed three committees of inquiry to investigate the allegations relating to the issues of women's affairs, along with allegations of rape headed by the Judge of the Supreme Court, Maha Mohammed Al-Sadiq. The committee comprised legal advisers, judges and police officers and all of them were women.

These steps came in implementation of the agreement signed with the United Nations on human rights in Sudan. The Committee assumed its tasks once it was formed. It had paid field visits to sites of events in Darfur and submitted its final report in September of the same year.

The report stated that the Committee found during its field visits a number of rape cases but not at the number repeated by the Western media organs.

The former Justice Minister Ali Mohamed Osman Yassin said that his ministry lifted the immunity of ten members of the regular police found to be involved in the events in Darfur and brought them to trial.
In mid-September 2005, the acting Minister of Justice, Ali Mohamed Osman Yassin decided establishment of attorney office specialized in crimes against humanity.

Also the Minister of Justice, Mohamed Ali Al- Murdi in late November 2005 directed fifteen of counselors with expertise to go immediately to Darfur to oversee the investigations and inquiries in the criminal information leveled and to reactivate criminal work in Darfur states.

The committee visited the camps to receive complaints of rape and also visited police stations and attorney offices to obtain all information on rape cases recorded by police before conducting medical examination of victims and their access to medical care.

**Fourthly: Specialized Criminal Court on Darfur incidents:**

Specialized Criminal Court on Darfur incidents was established on June 27, 2005 in El Fasher headed by Supreme Court judge the degree of its member not less than a member of the public court. The Court shall have jurisdiction in acts which constitute crimes under the Sudanese Criminal Law and international humanitarian law, violations contained in the report of the fact-finding committee, as determined by the Chief Justice. It sits in public and the public may attend, may also observers from the African Union or any other country to attend court hearings. Members of the Court deliberating on the issue at hand and take the opinion of the majority at the difference, and may appeal to the Court of Appeals before the competent management by the Chief Justice of the five judges of the Federal Supreme Court. And on the 21st of March 2006 a team of the International Criminal Court, that visited Sudan on that date, listened to the heads of the Special Courts in the three states of Darfur to get acquainted with the measures taken by the courts to punish the perpetrators of crimes in the region.