

# The Role of International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Handling Sudan Conflict 2023

## Nur Afni Oktavia

University of Darussalam Gontor nurafniokta54@gmail.com

### ABSTRACT

The root cause of the Sudanese conflict, which began in April 2023, is tensions between two opposing military factions: the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), led by General Abdul Fattah al-Burhan, and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), led by General Muhammad Hamdan Dagalo, known as Hemedi. These tensions escalated following a 2021 military coup, when leaders from both sides attempted to seize control of the government and implement a transition to civilian rule. The outbreak of armed conflict in Sudan in 2023 between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) has triggered a serious humanitarian crisis. The clashes centered around Khartoum and spread to other regions, resulting in thousands of deaths, millions of refugees, and significant damage to infrastructure. The root causes of the conflict are complex and include power struggles, divergent political interests, and complex socio-political dynamics in Sudan. The conflict poses major challenges to regional stability and global security. When devastating conflict erupted in Sudan in 2023, the UN International Organization for Migration (IOM) proved to be a vital lifeline for many people displaced by the violence. Challenges facing IOM include limited access to the conflict area, security risks, and increasing humanitarian needs. Highlighting the organization's steadfast commitment to alleviating the suffering of the Sudanese people and paving the way for a more stable future, this study provides context on the causes, impacts, and efforts to resolve the conflict and IOM's assistance to migrants Keywords : Sudan Conflict, Sudanese Armed Forces, Role of IOM

### INTRODUCTION

Sudan is a country in northeast Africa. The population of Sudan is divided into two regions based on religion and ethnicity : South Sudan and North Sudan. The majority The population of North Sudan is Arab-Muslim, while majority South Sudan's population is predominantly African-American and Christian. animism. Conflict increased in South and North Sudan due to difference race in a way directly. Next, the conflict changed along the walk time Because existence intervention foreigners in the conflict, considering location South Sudan's rich geography source Power natural like oil, gas, and uranium. There are two types main residents in Sudan, which is the dominant Arab group part north and the African Sudanese tribes in southern Sudan. Although the number of countries in Africa is large, the policies established by the government usually use Spirit unity and oneness nation through expansion of Islamic law and culture throughout the country. leader take sides to One group has cause lack of justice that has an impact on welfare its people (2020).



The roots of conflict in Sudan date back to the colonial era. Like many other territorial boundaries on the African continent, Sudan's current borders were established in the 19th century by the powers colonial, without notice aspect ethnography and demography. The people of South and North Sudan, who have background behind ethnicity and very different religions, were first united under government and administration centered on the reign of ongoing Turkish-Egyptian colonialism from 1820 to 1882. policy colonial has increase gap between population of northern and southern Sudan. Schools for children from family upper class was built in cities in northern Sudan. The system irrigation and facilities agriculture was also built in the north to improve productivity goods export. Almost all projects infrastructure and development economy concentrated in the north-central region, where production agriculture is richer. On the other hand, in the South only there is A little development structure economic, social and administrative. After independence until 2005 (signing) Naivasha Agreemen), Sudan experienced two wars prolonged civil war. First in progress from August 1955 to March 1972. The war ended with signing Addis Ababa Agreement. However, in 1983 the agreement was violated and war broke out you return erupt until 2005. (M. Alfiandra Yudistira, 2024)

After decades of suffering civil war, signing Agreement Peace Comprehensive in Sudan in 2005 provided an unprecedented opportunity previously to build peace and repair situation humanity and development. However, the affected communities impact the conflict in the border region has not yet been resolved benefit from peace, and tension about source Power Still Keep going happened. Lack of service social and opportunities eye livelihood, as well as perception isolation and exclusion, all of them contribute to weakening lasting peace in the border region Where level poverty reached 90%. Battle armed with weapons ongoing, pressure to land grazing and resources water power, as well as dispute about land rights contribute to instability.

Abyei has become center tensions and violence in recent years. This research focuses on the violence that occurred in Abyei and the surrounding area, addressing root reason conflict, increasing violence during a year lastly, and political status as well as unresolved Abyei regional conflict. This study explains what could happen If action politics not taken, source Power seeks to share. The oil -rich province of Abyei located on the border between the West Kordofan state in Sudan and the Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap, and Unity states in South Sudan. The region has claimed and disputed by both countries since South Sudan gained independence in 2011. Abyei has interest strategic and contains oil fields, land agriculture, and fields grass. At least Since 2011, this area has often hit by violence caused by disputes land and division source Power between community living there. Abyei's political status is still unclear and residents civil Keep going bear burden violence, because there is no action taken to address it conflict intercommunity.

Although Sudan and South Sudan have recently increased bilateral relations, the resolution of the Abyei status does not appear to be priority for both countries because they Keep going hit by crisis politics and internal security. In March 2022, President Kiir of South Sudan and General Abdul Fattah al-Burhan, Chairman of Sudan's Sovereign



Council, met in Juba and agreed to cooperate, particularly in the development of the Abyei oil field. In January, the two countries also agreed to deploy troops combination along border throughout 1,800 kilometers to strengthen security. However agreement latest does not mention the political status of Abyei. Many academics who previously state his worries that cooperation between the two countries only aims to share source power and ignore situation unresolved politics in Abyei, and concerns they of course reasonable. Until currently in 2023, dozens of people are reported died in violence between community Tuik Dinka and Ngok Dinka in Abyei. (Sudan: Deadly Violence in the Disputed Abyei Area, 2023)

South Sudan officially independence in 2011 and separated self from Sudan through a separation referendum myself. However This separation does not stop conflict both in Sudan and South Sudan. In 2019, the former leader Sudanese authoritarian Omar al-Bashir used the RSF to help military press rebellion civil. Situation the Sudanese military at that time was partly big consists of from force strong air and tools heavy. The Sudanese war is also a vortex conflict transnational and global competition that threatens will burn wider area. From the Red Sea to the West African Sahel, from Mediterranean to Central Africa, neighboring countries influenced by the current refugees, movement group armed, and disturbance trade. South Sudan is dependent on revenue from export oil through pipelines that cross contested territory with fierce.On October 2021, a cout d'etat occurred in Sudan against Prime Minister Abdallah Hamdok occurred in Sudan, involving a number of official government led by a leader Sudanese military General Abdul Fattah. Meanwhile, the Sudanese military is committed to continuing transition going to democracy, with objective divert power into the hands government civil selected. In this context, leader Troops Support Sudanese Rapid Forces (RSF), General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, known as Hemedi, also plays a role in government after coup, but the RSF was unable to control the Sudanese government to hand it over. In addition, there are provisions that regulate integration RSF members into the organization larger military, leading to the possibility leadership double in this group.

This country does not have government led by civil since at that time. Political process next facilitated together by the Union United Nations, the African Union, and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) produced signing agreement between military and some actor political civil main in the month December 2022, efforts main done done going to reconstruction credibility government democratic civil society. At the same time, the country's economy is experience decline, clash mass and violence armed other the more often happened, and the citizens civilians must bear as a result. Many people died and houses were destroyed. devastated in the Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile regions. The crisis politics in progress in progress has to worsen conflict ownership unfinished land, as well as alienation and dissatisfaction politics. (2024b) A number of RSF members were also arrested Because considered as threat military. troops Support Fast (RSF) is strength the military which was originally formed and operated by the Sudanese Government known as as Janjaweed, deployed by the Sudanese government during war in Darfur in western Sudan. On April 15, 2023, there

was clash between Sudanese military with Rapid Support Forces (RSF) troops, which resulted in the RSF successfully seize position strategic government and palace president in mother city, Khartoum.

On October 11, the United Nations Human Rights Council Nations adopt resolution that forms mission search fact independent international mechanism to Sudan. This mechanism should investigate and identify facts, circumstances and roots reason from all the allegations violations and violations right human rights, violation of humanitarian law international, including to refugees, and crime related in the situation conflict armed with weapons ongoing. Conflict second split party the more intense along struggle power in the country of Sudan reached point crisis. (AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL 2022/23 GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION REPORT, 2023) SAF and RSF personnel, who often use material explosive impact high, regularly launched attack from inside and outside densely populated civilian areas its population, so that result in Lots inhabitant civil caught in a trap shoot. As a result, many people were killed in the house. them or when separated hope of finding food and necessities others. Period 27 April 2023 number of deaths as many as 528 people and 4,599 people were injured. UNICEF report collected by the facility health and organization health different in Sudan stated that 190 children killed and 1,700 children injured. This figure shows that chaotic conflict threaten life children and cause deep trauma for them. As many as 600 children suffer lack nutrition acute and at least 450,000 children forced leave House they by seeking refuge in neighboring countries such as Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya and South Sudan in South Darfur, more than 1 million polio vaccine among others intended for children were also looted and destroyed, followed by reports the disappearance World Food Program supply worth +/- Rp 208 billion (2023).

## METHODS

In this study, researchers use method qualitative Because This method is considered as one of the the right method to achieve objective research. In research qualitative This research does not use method mark different numerics in the data collection process. Research This qualitative emphasizes on how meaning, understanding, comprehension to phenomena or events highlighted in the research found. Data analysis method using normative law with approach doctrinal, based case and conceptual, where information obtained from studies documentary or bibliography conducted through review ingredients reference like books, journals, articles, journals, articles and bulletins and related websites with object written. The variables used in this study are UN security in dealing with Sudan and South Sudan conflict in 2023

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Apart from internal conflicts, Sudan's post-colonial period was also marked by with regime dictator Omar al-Bashir. Bashir served in the Egyptian army during the reign of condominium and then as SAF officers before seize power through coup in 1989. As President, Bashir oversees part big war brother, separation self, and the conflict in



Darfur in South Sudan. The Darfur war broke out in 2003 and then condemned by the Court Criminal International Cooperation and Development (ICC) and the US Department of State as genocide to non-Arab communities such as the Far, Zaghawa, and Masalit tribes of western Sudan. Bashir introduced restrictive interpretation of sharia, using militia private sector to fight and moral police to enforce his decision. Persecution against Christianity, Sunni apostasy, Shia, and minority religious activities others. This system continues until 2019. Omar al-Bashir served as president of Sudan for 30 years. Approaching decade At the end of his term, Bashir faced increasing public protests increasing demands democracy, access to service basic, and system new government.

Revolution reach the peak with coup in April 2019 which was carried out jointly by the SAF, led by General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, and the RSF, a group paramilitary led by Mohamed Hamdan "Hemedi" Dagalo. The RSF is the most powerful militia that emerged during the Bashir era. RSF was formed from Janjaweed militia. Janjaweed militia is group armed Arab majority funded by President Bashir to quell South Sudanese rebellion and, most importantly, fought in the Darfur war. The group has do brutal attacks in the Darfur region, causing refugee camp mass, violence sexual, kidnapping and crime more than 200,000 people died in the first two years. the Darfur conflict, and more than 100,000 people were killed since 2005. Janjaweed affiliated in a way loose in a way official formed under RSF flag in 2013 with Bashir's support and has been used since as troops borders and army payment for the Saudi coalition in the war in Yemen and has hired by the troops security to press people's rebellion. RSF leader Hemedi control mine gold during RSF operations tasked RSF to carry out defense to coup and attempt murder towards him. However Thus, RSF finally participated in the coup that ousted Bashir in 2019 and worked with SAF to form government transition.

Civil war in Sudan involved a series of conflict involving neighboring African countries to the east and west. The RSF has its roots in the notorious Janjaweed militia brutality in Darfur and recruiting migrants from Chad and Nigeria. His troops operating in Libya and the Central African Republic. Egypt supports the SAF but wants to pressure Islamic elements in the SAF. Meanwhile, efforts Ethiopia's aggressive move to get access maritime change alliance in East Africa. Currently, Ethiopia is allied with the RSF, while Eritrea is allied with SAF. Negotiations between Cairo and Addis Ababa regarding Dam The Great Ethiopian Renaissance failed, so cause concern will existence conflict proxy. South Sudan, which is economy Still depends on the relationship with Sudan, also facing risk. Al-Burhan and Hemedi do cout d'etat together in 2021. However second the general was unable finish Sudan's problems. In fact, they are more ruthless in maintaining power, which in the end to aggravate conflict between they.

Between member civil, the council members elected Abdallah Hamdok, a economist and expert development with experience in various multilateral institutions, as prime minister. During his short tenure, he try to ease turmoil economy extreme in Sudan and reached stability external, but He arrested and dismissed in October 2021. SAF and RSF launched cout d'etat to Hamdok and suspend constitution. As in response, the



organization international such as the World Bank and the Monetary Fund International suspending much needed debt and aid others to Sudan, and demonstrations big rising in demanding Khartoum return control civilian. Hamdok temporarily lifted return as prime minister in November 2021 after agree to submit part power government to Burhan, Hemedi, and Sector security in a way overall. Hamdok Finally to resign themselves in January 2022. This can be seen clear that the protesters in Sudan are dissatisfied with condition his appointment back, and that He has fail control action hard work done troops security forces repeatedly attacked and killed protesters. Since resignation self Hamdok, Sudan lacks leadership effective civil servant. Burhan served as de facto head of state. (2024a )

In early 2022, Burhan and Hemedi appointed as leader government that has power to lead transition democracy. Negotiations regarding the future of the Sudanese government throughout 2022 reached the peak with agreement on the month December 2022, which puts base for two year transition towards leadership civil and electoral general national. Government reject plan to ignore demands special from the movement leaders and groups rebel others. Riots return increasing, continuing from month December until spring, so that trigger action harder harder against the demonstrators. Point come back important happen when government transition, which is still led by Mr. Burhan, starting negotiations to carry out the plan. As a result this agreement, Hemedi promoted on the same level with Burhan, and therefore no longer a deputy general. The agreement also regulates RSF integration into the armed forces legitimate Sudanese armed forces and subordinate SAF and RSF to leadership Civil. Weaknesses from the agreement does not mention a time limit RSF integration.

On April 15, 2023, there was battle between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Troops Support Fast (RSF). Conflict This armed influence life millions of people in Sudan, causing refugee camp scale big, vulnerability food, and problems education, as well as need help urgent humanitarian needs. This conflict is especially is struggle power between the leaders of the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and the militias strong so called Troops Support Fast (RSF). Second the group, led by General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and Moha Council UN Security in New York centralized attention to the worsening crisis in Sudan when inhabitant civil Keep going suffered in a brutal battle between competing forces, but the Geneva - based Human Rights Council hear from investigator independent who found " neglect openly " against right human rights and international law. Meanwhile, efforts mediation fail bear fruit results because the leaders of the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and the Army Support Fast (RSF) refuses to stop violence them, and regional and international actors has take sides in the war.

The conflict that erupted on 15 April 2023 between the SAF and the RSF continues cause devastating consequences for inhabitant civil. Almost eight month after conflict took place, more than 12,000 people have died and millions of people have leave House them to seek security and access to goods and services. basis, both within Sudan and across borders to neighboring countries. Crisis increasing humanitarian crisis in Sudan with background behind problem economy that has long- standing in the country and the



hostility that has There is previously in some area, which is disturbing access millions of people against food, water, cash, supplies burn, care health, and services important others. This is increasingly exacerbated by the collapse of service banking and finance, often disruptions to the internet, telecommunications and power supply electricity, as well as the destruction infrastructure public, such as facility health.

Moment after civil war, there is looting mass, expulsion inhabitant in a way force, destruction treasure object, murder to about 30 residents civil, and rape against more than 130 women and children women, good in a way Alone and also in large numbers. Organization International Organization for Migration (IOM) in collaboration with its partners to respond the deteriorating situation in and around Sudan, where the need humanity be at the point highest all time. (nd) The rupture battle result in refugee camp massive inside and out country borders. IOM provides help to save lives of vulnerable people trapped in the affected areas impact worst in Sudan and neighboring countries where people are fleeing self from violence is in great need assistance. To improve access to the perpetrators humanity to the affected population impact conflict in Sudan, IOM Chad will manage center humanity in Farchana, which will operational in January 2024. The center will enables IOM to strengthen access in difficult areas reachable and provide facility general for the perpetrators humanity that responds the crisis in Chad and Sudan (Darfur), created track savior for affected population impact and function as a basis for staff, IT and services related Similarly, in Sudan, IOM aims to build center humanity in the border area with coordinate with other UN agencies, as well as partner government to help population internally displaced persons and migrants.

Study connection international give framework for understanding Sudan conflict in 2023 with analyze various factor affecting dynamics politics and social in the country. The Sudanese conflict was triggered by tensions between two factions military big. Troops Support Fast (RSF). Scramble power between both countries are increasingly intensive Because dissatisfaction to transition to government civil after coup in 2021. The integration of the RSF into the regular army became point key conflict, causing instability security and conflict armed conflict that spread throughout the country, especially in Khartoum. The conflict has cause crisis a severe humanitarian disaster, killing more than 15,000 people and forcing millions of people left House They. More than 15 million people currently need help urgent humanitarian needs, and many children at risk experience lack nutrition. This situation shows How internal conflict can lead to crisis humanity expanding and becoming attention community International. Negotiations mediated by the parties third, including Saudi Arabia, showed importance diplomacy international in settlement conflict. Although There is a number of attempt to do ceasefire weapons, battle Keep going continues, which reflects challenges in achieving agreement sustainable peace. This shows that conflicts based on complex domestic problems often need intervention international.



## CONCLUSION

Conflict in 2023 is one of the crisis humanity the biggest in the world today. The clash between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Troops Support Fast (RSF) has result in thousands of fatalities, millions refugees, and damage severe on the infrastructure. The conflict is basically is struggle power between two armies Sudan's largest, SAF and RSF. Both own idea different regarding the future of Sudanese politics post- revolution 2019. Differences ethnicity and region complicate matters situation, even though the difference is not a factor main. SAF and RSF have a support base differs in different regions of Sudan. Thousands of people were killed or injured in the conflict. The death toll Keep going increase along continuation battle. Millions of people have displaced within and outside Sudan. Access to food, clean water, and services health is very limited. However, many countries and organizations humanity has give help to refugees and affected communities impact conflict. Organization International Organization for Migration (IOM) has play role important in responding crisis humanity caused by the 2023 conflict in Sudan. As a UN agency that focuses on migration, IOM has duty to protect migrants, assist evacuation them and give help to humanity. IOM has distribute help humanity including food, clean water, medicines and necessities base other to refugees in Sudan and abroad. IOM collects and identifies refugees to ensure they accept appropriate assistance and to plan support programs term affected length impact conflict in Sudan. IOM is working with partner local to prevent exploitation, violence and human trafficking against refugees, in particular women and children. This crisis is not only cause displacement mass, but also increase risk hunger and disease among affected population impact. IOM and organizations humanity other face challenge big in giving necessary help and coping the increasing crisis complex in Sudan. This organization helps manage and protect refugees, including those who cross borders to neighboring countries such as Chad, South Sudan and Egypt. More than 2 million people are displaced in these countries. IOM is also working help recovery affected communities impact, with focus on building resilience and reduce risk future disasters. This includes efforts to overcome factors reason migration force.

### REFERENCES

- Alex of Waal. (2024a). Sudan is collapsing here's how to stop it [Chatham House]. https://www.chathamhouse.org/publications/the-world-today/2024-02/sudancollapsing-heres-how-stop-it
- Amanuel Sileshi. (2024b). IOM Report: More Than 10 Million Displaced by Conflict in Sudan. https://www.voaindonesia.com/a/laporan-iom-lebih-dari-10-juta-orangmengungsi-karena-konflik-di-sudan/7700188.html
- El Tayeb Siddig and Nafisa Eltahir. (2023). Sudan conflict could prompt 800,000 people to flee, UN says [Reuters]. https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/sudan-conflictshows-no-sign-easing-sudanese-brace-more-violence-2023-05-01/



- IOM UN Migration. (nd). Sudan: IOM Response. https://www.iom.int/sudan-iomresponse AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT 2022/23 THE GLOBAL SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. (2023). Amnesty International Ltd Peter Benenson House, 1, Easton Street, London WC1X 0DW United Kingdom.
- M. Alfiandra Yudistira, DY, Windy Dermawan. (2024). Analysis of the Failure of the Consociational Approach in the Sudanese Naivasha Agreement. 6 (1).
- Sudan: Deadly Violence in the Disputed Abyei Area. (2023). [ACLED Bringing clarity to crisis]. https://acleddata.com/2023/03/17/sudan-march-2023-situation-update-deadly-violence-in-the-disputed-abyei-area/
- Wahiduddin Wahiduddin. (2020). Sudan Conflict and the Fall of the Omar Bashir Regime. Nady al Adab, 17 (1). https://doi.org/10.20956/jna.v17i1.10086