



National Catholic Student Coalition

45 Lovett Avenue † Newark, DE 19711
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NCSC/RES/2010[2]

RESOLUTION - Calling for an End to the Genocide in Sudan

Whereas,

- The National Catholic Student Coalition is committed to participating actively in the Roman Catholic Church and to representing Catholic students in the United States in national and international forums.
- The National Catholic Student Coalition is committed to the social teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

Solidarity:

- The National Catholic Student Coalition would like to extend and share solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Sudan.
- The National Catholic Student Coalition would also like to encourage its constituents to take action to stop the genocide in Sudan and aid those who have been displaced.

History:

- When allied rebel groups began an uprising in Darfur, they were looking for a reform in the political system. They hoped that black Africans, who constitute 50% of the population, could have a greater political presence in the Sudanese government. Sudanese authorities viewed this as a threat. They feared it would cause other neglected regions to do the same, so the Sudanese government carried out a purposeful extermination policy on the African tribal people in Darfur. The Sudanese government employed an Arab militia, the Janjaweed, to carry out their policy of genocide. To date, 400,000 people have been killed and 2.5 million people have been internally displaced due to the acts of the Sudan government.¹ The Sudanese government denies any wrong-doing or involvement with the genocide. However, the evidence shows that there are high ranking officials who are involved with the coordination efforts of the genocide.²
- During this grave humanitarian crisis, not only are people being murdered, but their homes and villages are being burnt, their crops and livestock are being destroyed, vital infrastructures are being targeted, and wide-scale rapes are occurring.³
- Many organizations, such as the UN, have already taken the first steps to provide the necessary aid. The UN is leading the largest campaign to assist the 4.2 million people affected by this crisis.⁴ Though many lives have been saved, there are still many more that need help.



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- Steps for peace were taken when a declaration of intent for peace was signed by the Sudanese government and the leading rebel group in Darfur, The Justice and Equality Movement.⁵ There are hopes that this will eventually lead to a final peace agreement between the parties.

Underlying issues:

- The genocide in Sudan has caused hundreds of thousands of deaths by horrible and tragic means. Women and children continue to be the ones who are affected the most by these events. The global malnutrition rates in Darfur have risen to 16.1% which is above the emergency level.⁴ There is a noticeable reduction in the water supply at some of the refugee camps, as well as reports of attacks on the internally displaced people, and sexual violence.^{6&7}

Action:

- Action must be taken in order to bring an end to the horrible events that are happening in Sudan. Silence and passiveness supplement and passively defer the current crisis.
- The USCCB statement on the occasion of the save Darfur rally, emphasizes that “Our country can and must do more, much more, to defend and protect innocent civilians in Darfur. Anything less would be unworthy of us as a people committed to human life and dignity. We must “Save Darfur”.”⁸
- We encourage all people of good will to reach out to their representatives and lawmakers in order to condemn the intolerable moral and humanitarian crisis in Sudan, while strengthening relief efforts in Darfur until a lasting peace agreement is achieved. Relief initiatives should be maintained post-genocide era to aid in the rebuilding of the socio-economic structures affected by the crisis.

Resolve:

- NCSC resolves to take steps to educate our communities on the crisis in Sudan.
- NCSC resolves to take steps to aid our displaced and suffering Sudanese brothers and sisters.

Sponsored by: Anne Terpack, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, 2009 NCSC International Relations Committee Member

Reviewers: Mr. Jeff Schaffer, Lock Haven University; & Mr. Ifeanyi Onor, Xavier University of Louisiana

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