



North Darfur: Sudanese authorities must hold SAF accountable for the deaths and injuries of hundreds in the Tura area

(01 April 2025) The African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies (ACJPS) and the Humans Dignity Organisation strongly condemn the recent heinous attacks on civilians by the SAF Air Force Unit in the Tura area of North Darfur, which resulted in several fatalities and injuries. Sudanese authorities must promptly investigate these incidents, ensure that the findings are made public, and hold the perpetrators accountable. Furthermore, the authorities must guarantee that urgently needed medical assistance for the injured is available and accessible.

We also reiterate our unwavering calls for the belligerents to cease targeting civilians and to respect the international human rights and humanitarian treaties to which Sudan is a party, particularly Article 3 of the Geneva Convention, which prohibits direct attacks against civilians and individuals not actively participating in hostilities.

On March 24, 2025, at around 11:00 am, the Airforce Unit of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) carried out a raid on the weekly market in the Tura area of North Darfur, located at a distance of 50 kilometers from El-fashir City, the capital of the state. This incident resulted in the deaths and injuries of hundreds of civilians, including women and children. The exact number of fatalities remains uncertain, as some bodies were incinerated beyond recognition. Mass burials were conducted for several bodies in designated mass graves, while numerous individuals are still presumed missing.

Before this incident, the traders at the Tura weekly market had witnessed the arrival of some Rapid Support Forces (RSF) fighters from nearby areas, including Alkomab, who then allegedly extorted substantial illegal fees from them. It is alleged that the SAF Air Force unit targeted these RSF fighters when it attacked the market on 24th March 2025. Later, the spokesperson for the SAF, Colonel Nabil Abdullah, issued a statement denying any targeting of the market. He stated, "We

are concerned about our roles and responsibilities under international law. We apply them during our operations and avoid targeting civilians.”

Mr. Adam (pseudonym), an eyewitness, testified to ACJPS that “ *the bombardment targeted the weekly market in Tura during the busy morning hours. Since the war erupted in Sudan in April 2023, residents have been going to rural markets in the morning and afternoon to ensure they can return to their villages or other areas before sunset, thus avoiding any security incidents. ”*

Mr. Hassan (pseudonym) told ACJPS that “ *the military aircraft released three explosive barrels into the crowded market resulting in the death of at least 63 civilians including 20 women and children and injuring several others ”*

The Tura area serves as a strategic junction connecting Elfashir to three other areas: Alkuma locality in the northwest, Karnoi locality in the far west towards the Sudanese-Chadian border, and the Kafout area, which links to the Kutoum locality located 102 kilometers west of Elfashir and the Kurma area situated 76 kilometers southwest of Elfashir. Its significance stems from its function as a secure junction for accessing other areas in North Darfur, particularly following the attack on the main access point, Khazan Jazeed, by the SAF Air Force on February 20, 2025, which resulted in the death of at least **14** civilians, including eight children, and injuries to another **59** individuals. Since then, it has become an unsafe alternative access route.

On September 11, 2022, the former American Ambassador to Sudan, Jone Godfrey, visited El Fashir and went to the Tura area. The ambassador also visited other locations outside Khartoum, including Al Damazin, the capital of the Blue Nile, during his time in Sudan. During the visit to Tora, the ambassador met with the Executive Director of the Tura Local Council, who expressed appreciation for the services provided by the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development.

Below are the names of the deceased obtained by ACJPS. However, some bodies were burned beyond recognition and, therefore, could not be identified.

1. Abdallah Suliman Abdallah (m)
2. Muntasir Abdallah Suliman (m)
3. Aziza Abdallah Suliman (m)
4. Sanusi Abdaallah Suliman (m)
5. Muna Shomin Ahmed (f)
6. Hassan Shomin Ahmed (m)
7. Noor Ellaim Ismail (m)
8. Faiha Suliman Idris (f)
9. Ensaf Suliman Idris (f)
10. Mazin Ahmed (m)
11. Wijdan Abdul Hameed Ishaq (f)
12. Majdah Abdallah Osman (f)
13. Hendiah Mohamed Adam (f)

14. Halimah (f)
15. Badriah Abu Shama (f)
16. Salim Adam (m)
17. Khadija Omer Abdallah (f)
18. Samira Ahmed Bashir (f)
19. Islam Ali Admai (f)
20. Ehlam Ali Admai (f)
21. Aisha Mohamdeen Abdallah (f)
22. Alhaj Adam Abdallah (m)
23. Mohamed Ahmed (m)
24. Ishaq Suliman (m)
25. Ali Aboh Adam (m)
26. Mohanad Saad Eldien (m)
27. Mustafa Osman Ismail (m)
28. Daraja Yasir (f)
29. Sumiah Abakar (f)
30. Babkir Salih Haroun (m)
31. Kamal Ismail (m)
32. Adam (m)
33. Mihanad Ali Saeed (m)
34. Bab Allah Abdallah (m)
35. Abdallah Yagoup Salih (m)
36. Ibrahim Ali Darbik (m)
37. Mudathir aabu Bakar Arbab
38. Mohamed Ibrahim
39. Mergani Abdallah Adam Musa
40. Atif Ahmed Saad Eldien.
41. Abdallah Adam Musa
42. Mohamed Digli
43. Emad Mohamed
44. Adam known as Jini
45. Elfadil (m)
46. Nifasha (f)
47. Salih Idris (m)
48. Mahfuza Asaad Abdallah (m)
49. Niemat (m)

Names of those who went missing after the incident

1. Emad Ahmed Abdallah (m)

2. Islam Hussien (f)
3. Asia Noor Eldien (f)
4. Abdul Monim Elsayed (m)
5. Abdul Haleem Alsyed (m)
6. Waleed Ahmed Adam (m)