

Human trafficking in Sudan: The Urgent Need for Genuine Policy and Institutional Reform

Although Sudan has laws and regulations criminalizing human trafficking, there is a significant gap between the legal framework and its actual enforcement. Weak protection systems, insufficient psychological and social support for victims, and low public awareness all contribute to this crime remaining hidden and ongoing.

Therefore, there is an urgent need to reconsider intervention policies, such as;

- Establishing specialized units within governmental and law enforcement institutions to protect victims.
- Training judicial and security personnel to identify trafficking victims, not treat them as criminals.
- Establishing specialized prosecution offices and courts//tribunals to handle human trafficking cases and ensure swift justice.
- Providing immediate and secure shelter and support services for victims.
- Collaboration with civil society organizations to provide protection, assistance, and awareness raising.
- Involving local communities, especially in conflict and displacement areas, in awareness campaigns and early monitoring.
- Conducting thorough investigations and prosecuting perpetrators, ensuring they do not escape punishment.

We believe that prevention starts with citizens and civil society organizations, but true protection is the responsibility of the state. With political will and social justice, the vice of human trafficking can be curbed, and the dignity of those whose freedom has been taken away can be restored.

