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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

SUDANESE ARMED CONFLICT, CONSEQUENCES AND SOLUTIONS

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Abstract

The study examined Sudanese armed conflict, consequences and solution, three research questions and three specific objectives were drawn for this research. The theoretical framework used in this work is the "Relative Deprivation Theory" by Gurr, (1968). The study adopted a mixed research methodology of descriptive (survey) research design. The population of the study Area is 46.8 million as at 2023 according to United Nations population commission. The sample size of the study is 400 using the Taro Yamne formula. The accidental sampling technique was used. Simple percentage was used to analyse the numerical data, while content analysis was used to analyze the non-numerical data. Findings disclosed that: the crisis have resulted 19 million children to be out of school, 5 million people displaced within Sudan, and disease outbreak that have resulted to 5,000 cholera cases. The study therefore recommends that: the army should conduct election and hand over power to civilian, the RSF should be fully integrated into the Sudanese regular armed forces, panel of inquiry should be set to probe human Rights abuse and the army should hand over lucrative to expand techno-craft and there should be an amicable resolution to the Sudanese crisis so as to restore the peace that existed among members of the various tribe and religion in Sudan.

Keywords: Sudan, Development, Armed, Conflict, Population, Respondents, Consequences and solution.

INTRODUCTION

Property Sudan, officially the republic of the Sudan, is a country in North-east Africa. Its borders the central African Republic to the south-west, Chad to the west, Egypt to the North, Eritrea to the North-east, Ethiopia to the South-east, Libya to the North-west, South Sudan to the South and the red sea. It has a population of 45.7 Million people as of 2022 and occupies 1,886,068 square kilometres (728,215 square miles) making it Africa's Third Largest Country by area and Third Largest by area in the Arab league. It was the largest country by area in Africa and the Arab league until the secession of South Sudan in 2011,



since then both titles has being held by Nigeria its capital city is Khartoum and its most populous city is Omdurman (part of the metropolitan area of Khartoum).

Sudan in the early (3800 BC -3100 BC) was rule by Egypt and partly by United Kingdom, Egyptian's first President who was half Sudanese and had been raised in Sudan made securing independence a priority of the revolutionary government. The following year, under Egyptian and Sudanese pressure, the United Kingdom agreed to Egypt demand for both governments to terminate their shared sovereignty over Sudan their shared Sovereignty over Sudan and to grant Sudan independence on 1 January 1956, Sudan was declared an independent state.

After Sudan became independent, the Gaafar Nimeiry Regime began Islamist rule. This exacerbated the rift between the Islamic North, the seat of the government and the Animists and Christians in the south. Differences in language, religion and political power erupted in a civil war between Government forces, influenced by the National Islamic Front (NIF) and the Southern Rebels, whose most influential faction was the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) which eventually led to the independence of South Sudan in 2011.

Between 1989 and 2019, a 30 years long Military Dictorship lad by Omar Al-Bashir ruled Sudan and committed widespread human rights abuses, including torture persecution of minorities, allege, sponsorship of Global Terrorism and Ethic Genocide in Darfur From 2003-2020 overall, the regime killed an estimated 300,000 to 400,000 people protests erupted in 2018, demanding Bashir's resignation, which resulted in a coup d'etat on 11 April 2019 and Bashir's Imprisonment.

Sudan have fought so many armed conflict in different years with two civil war and one of the conflict was in February 2003 when the Sudan Liberation Movement Army (SLMA) and Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) groups in Darfur took up arms, accusing the Sudanese government of oppressing non-Arabs Sudanese in favour of Sudanese Arabs, predicating the Darfur war the conflict has since been described as a genocide and the International Criminal Court (ICC) in the Hague has issued two arrest warrant for Al-Bashir and Arabic speaking nomadic militias known as The Janjaweed Stand accused many atrocities.

On 9th January 2005, the government signed the Nairobi Comprehensive Peace Agreement with the Sudan People Liberation Movement (SPLM) with the objective of ending the second Sudanese Civil War. The United Nations in Sudan (UNMIS) was established under the UN Security Council resolution 159 to support its implementation. The Peace agreement was a prerequisite to the 2011 referendum the result was a unanimous vote in favour of secession of South Sudan the region of Abyei will hold its own referendum at a future date.

Causes of the Armed Conflict

The cause of armed conflict in Sudan has consisted of the following;

Ethnic Tensions

Most of the cause of the different armed conflicts that arise in Sudan was as a result of ethnic tension, one of such is the Sudan liberation Movement/Army and Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) which are purely non-Arab ethnic group/tribe as they were accusing the government of oppressing them and favouring the Arabs tribe/ethnic group in term of the government appointment key Government position and siting of most Government social amenities project.

Power Struggle between Two Main Factions of the Military Regime

There was power struggle between Sudanese armed forces which are loyal to General Adbel Fattah Al-Burdan, the country's de facto ruler, while the paramilitaries like the

Rapid Support Forces (RSF) a collection of militia is led by the Former War lord Gen Mohammed Hamdan Dagolo known as “Hemedti”. The power struggle has its root in the years before a 2019 uprising that ousted the dictatorial ruler of Omar-Al-Bashir who built up formidable security forces that he deliberately set against one another.]

A central cause of the armed conflict since the 2019 uprising has been the civilian demand for oversight of the military and integration of the RSF into the regular armed forces.

Civilians have also called for the handover of lucrative military holdings in agriculture, trade and other industries.

Another point of contention is the pursuit of justice over allegation of war crimes by the military and its allies.

Foreign Invasion and Resistance

Major geo-political dimension are also part of the issue as Russia, US, Saudi, Arabia, UAE and other powers are battling for influence in Sudan. The Saudi and UAE have seen Sudan transaction as an avenue to push back against Islamic Influence in the region.

Coup

The October 2021 coup is also a major cause of the armed conflicts this is because the power sharing deal with the Civilian who led the protest against Bashir which was supposed to bring about a transaction towards a democratic government was interrupted by a coup in October 2021.

Religious Disputes

Dispute over resources

Consequences of Armed Conflict in Sudan

The following are the consequences as a result of the conflict between Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF);

Almost 5 Million Displaced within Sudan \$1.2 Million Crossed the Borders

According to the international organization for migration displacement tracking matrix (IOM DTM) close to 5 million people have been displaced because of the fighting within Sudan and have sought refuge in 5,3,2 locations across the 18 states, while neighbouring countries e.g. South Sudan etc.

Close to 5,000 Suspected Cholera Cases, other Disease Outbreaks

The conflicts have increased the outbreak of disease due to the disruption of basic health services and laboratory.

19 Million Children out of School

The conflict has derived 12 Million children from schooling with the total number of children in Sudan currently that are out of school to be 19 Million according to the UN Children Agency (UNICEF).

Livelihood Decimated, Economy to Shrink by 12 Percent in 2023

About 4.5 Million People receive Lifesaving Assistance since April 2023

Dispute various challenges – insecurities, looting, bureaucratic impediments, poor network and phone connectivity problems, lack of cash and fav technical and humanitarian staff on the ground affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance in many parts of the country, the humanitarian organization have reached about 4.5 Million people with multi section life-saving assistance and 5.5 Million people with live hood support since the start of

the conflict prior to the conflict, 2.7 million people were reached with some form of humanitarian assistance from January to March 2023. This includes vital education, health, food, nutrition and water assistance and protection services.

More Funding needed to reach more People

The 156 UN and NGO partners in Sudan can provide more people with assistance and services if the funding for humanitarian response is expedited. The revised 2023 Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) requires US \$2.6 Billion to provide lifesaving multi-sectoral and protection assistance to 18.1 Million people in desperate need through the end of this year 2024. According to the financial tracking services the appeal is only 33.4 percent funded, with \$856.2 million received as of 15th of November 2023.

Solution to Sudan Armed Conflict

The army should conduct election and hand over power to civilians.

The Sudan regular armed forces is loyal and headed by the president/head of the ruling military Junta General Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan while the paramilitaries known as the Rapid Support Force (RSF) which is made up of collection of militia is loyal and headed by Former Warlord who is currently the Sudan Vice President General Hamdam Dagolo, so for a lasting end to the armed conflict I am proposal that military and the integration of the RSF into the regular armed forces so it can be headed by one person being the president and commander in chiefs of the entire armed forces.

Also, there should be handover of lucrative military holdings in agriculture, trade and other industries to civilians who are specialist and expert in these fields so as to help develop the country fast.

There should be panel of inquiry set up over the allegation of war crime by the military and its allies in the following conflict and offenders punished:

In the conflicts in Darfur from 2003 which the military forces is been accuse of war crime.

Pro-democracy protesters killed in June 2019 in which military force are implicated.

125 people killed by security forces in protests since the 2021 coup.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

This study is descriptive in nature as it relied on qualitative analysis; also the data and literature used in this article analysis are from secondary sources.

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