

Africa's longest-
running civil war
ended in July 2011



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Africa's longest-running civil war ended in July 2011 when South Sudan became an independent nation.

This was a result of an agreement made in 2005. Prior to that, Sudan used to be the largest country in Africa; however, it had always suffered from ethnic and religious conflicts. This was because South Sudan was inhabited by a Christian majority while North Sudan was mainly Muslim. As a result, Sudan was divided into two states marking it as the first time in recent history where a Christian territory was separated from an Islamic State. According to BBC news, 99% of Southern Sudanese voted to split from Sudan. At the time, its independence was considered a huge success; however, South Sudan has virtually no infrastructure. It is considered one of the poorest countries in the world and has struggled with ethnic conflicts.

South Sudan is also highly fragmented, militias, and suffers with frequent outbreaks of violence. Its government's capacity is very limited, and its economy is dependant on a single resource; oil. Oil represents approximately 98% of the country's income. The relationships between Khartoum and Juba are tense as the citizens lack nationalism. This is because the same forces that helped South Sudan separate itself from Sudan, caused them to divide themselves based on their tribe or ethnicity.

For this reason, they formed militias which came together as the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). Two and a half years after South Sudan's independence, on December 15, 2013, violence broke out in Juba (South Sudan's capital), when the troops in the presidential guard started fighting each other. The violence erupted after President Salva Kiir accused

Riek Machar (his ex-Vice-President) , of plotting to overthrow him. It spread to other parts of the country until a ceasefire was signed in late January.

As of late February, the ceasefire was violated and conflict continued to disseminate. As a result, South Sudan has experienced one of the world's most devastating civil wars since World War. The war officially ended in August 2015 when President Salva Kiir signed the "Compromise Peace Agreement". In July 2016, an attack on the President takes place in Juba and the conflict is renewed.

Hundreds of people were killed and thousands fled to neighbouring countries. Currently, famine threatens almost half of the 11 million citizens in South Sudan. According to Human Rights Watch, "Thousands of people are still sheltering in United Nations compounds, too afraid to return home. Military and political leaders on all sides have failed to make any serious attempt to reduce abuses committed by their forces, or to hold them to account." Definition of Key Terms Salva Kiir He's the current president of South Sudan. Riek Machar During the north-south conflict, Riek Machar switched sides multiple times in hopes of strengthening his position and the position of his Nuer ethnic group. He was named South Sudan's vice-president in July 2013. In December 2013, he had a fallout with President Kiir which led to more than two years of conflict.

He was removed from office but was sworn in again in April 2016. Nuer is an ethnic group located in the Nile Valley of South Sudan. They account for

approximately 16.2% of the South Sudan population. During the South Sudanese Civil War, the Nuer people of eastern and central Sudan allied with the SPLM-IO and fought against the SPLM. Dinka is an ethnic group situated in the Bahr el Ghazal Nile basin region of South Sudan. It is composed of approximately 11 people, which accounts for 36.

4% of their entire population. They make up most of Sudan's

People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) with the first President of South Sudan, Salva Kiir, of Dinka ethnicity. Abyei is an oil-rich area between north and south Sudan, that played an important role in the north-south civil war.

Settling the status of the Abyei region is one of the fundamental strides

Sudan and South Sudan need to take in order to guarantee long-term peace

in their countries. Dhahran Ahliyya Schools Model United Nations 2017 | 24th

- 25th of February 2017 Research Report | Page 3 of 10 Sudan People's

Liberation Movement/Act (SPLM/A) The SPLM was originally established as a

rebel force formed on 16 May 1983 in the South. After South Sudan gained its

independence, it emerged as the ruling party of South Sudan During the

South Sudanese Civil War (2013-2015), SPLM was a major belligerent against

the SPLM-in-opposition (SPLM-IO). Sudan's People's Liberation Movement-in-

Opposition (SPLM-IO) Riek Machar (the first Vice-President of South Sudan)

established the SPLM-IO in 2013 to oppose the Sudan People's Liberation

Movement (SPLM).

It was composed of mainly Nuer, and was a major belligerent in opposition of

the SPLM. Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) It is an agreement signed

on January 9, 2005 by SPLM and the government of Sudan. It is what brought

an end to the Sudanese second Civil War. It proposed the development of

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democratic governance, the share of oil revenues, and called for the government to withdraw its troops from southern Sudan.

It also establishes a schedule for South Sudan's referendum in 2011. South Sudanese refugees After the 2016 Juba clashes, approximately 26, 000 South Sudanese refugees fled to Uganda. The number of Sudanese refugees has exceeded one million after the renewed violence in Juba forced thousands of South Sudan's people to flee their countries, creating one of the world's worst humanitarian crises. Ethnic cleansing Mass killings of people of one ethnicity and/or religion by another. South Sudan's second civil war has the largest number of human rights violation which included ethnic cleansing.

Civil War A war between organized groups within the same country. Because Sudan has long suffered from ethnic and religious intolerance, it struggled with two civil wars until South Sudan gained its independence in 2011. In 2013, South Sudan also had its own civil war that went on for two years.

Background Information Sudan's first Civil War Dhahran Ahliyya Schools Model United Nations 2017 | 24th – 25st of February 2017 Page 4 of 10 | Research Report The first Sudanese civil war, from 1955 to 1972, was between the Southern rebels and the government. The war started when Sudan became officially independent and the majority of the British power was transferred to Northern leaders.

The war lasted for 17 years, during which the rebels fought for greater autonomy in their region. The war ended with the Addis Ababa Agreement in 1972, which allowed significant regional autonomy and natural resources to southern Sudan. Sudan's Second Civil War The second Sudanese civil war is

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one of the longest civil wars in history. It lasted for 22 years and had devastating effects on Sudan. In the late 1970s, as the North's violations of the Addis Ababa agreement started to rapidly increase, unrest spread in the South. In 1982, the Sudanese government abolished the Addis Ababa Agreement and decided to divide South Sudan into three regions.

The President of Sudan decided to transform Sudan into a Muslim Arab State. As a result, uprisings took place throughout the South and rebel forces grew. John Garang, forms The Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), in Ethiopia. Soon, Civil war erupted through the South and the SPLA continued to fight government forces. Villages in the South were destroyed and slavery became a very common act.

Consequently, many Sudanese people decided to flee to UNHCR refugee camps in Kenya. Afterwards, the Sudanese government sent in militiamen to wreak havoc in Southern villages. Thus, the Darfur conflict rose and a genocide occurred in the region. Thousands of Southern Sudan's people left their villages and towns to join the new movement. In that same year, the SPLM manifesto was published, and its leadership was established. At this point, the history of Sudan took a sharp turn, as the effects of the civil war were everlasting. CPA and South Sudan's independence Many negotiations of South Sudan's independence took place during Sudan's second civil war.

In 2002, the Machakos Protocol was approved, and granted the South the right to vote. The Comprehensive Peace Agreement officially ratified a new constitution and the South's independent government became operational. As a result, Islamic law was followed by the north while the South's laws were

decided regionally. In 2010, after 20 years, Sudan held its election where Omar Hassan al-Bashir became president of Sudan and Salva Kiir was announced president of the government of southSudan. On July 9, 2011, South Sudan officially became an independent nation.

South Sudan's Civil WarIn December 2013, two years after South Sudan's independence, a civil war broke out in the region. This was a result of President Salva Kiir's accusations of Vice President Riek Machar. Multiple cease-fire agreements were signed and violated before the former Sudan People's Liberation Movement-in-Opposition (SPLM-IO) logistics chief, Gathoth Gatkouth, and the rebel commander, Peter Gadet, declared their split from Riek Machar as they rejected the ongoing peace talks between him and the President. They believed that the President (Salva Kiir) and Machar are symbols of " hate, division, and Dhahran Ahliyya Schools Model United Nations 2017 | 24th - 25st of February 2017 Research Report | Page 5 of 10 failed leadership". After the release of this statement on August 2015, President Salva Kiir signed a peace agreement called the " Compromise Peace Agreement" mediated by IGAD + that reinstates Riek Machar as Vice-President. This was what marked the end of the civil war as it proposed the development of a democratic government throughout the country and the share of oil revenues between South Sudan and Sudan.

Major Countries and Organizations Involved Sudan In 2011, the Sudanese government - containing Arab Muslims - approved an autonomous South Sudan. In comparison to South Sudan, Sudan's government is very stable. Currently, it is struggling with the situation in Darfur and the oil revenues. Be that as it may, there are still tensions between these two states <https://assignbuster.com/africas-longest-running-civil-war-ended-in-july-2011/>

as there has been a continuous conflict between their borders. The North-South civil war resulted in the death of 1.5 million people, and the ongoing conflict in Darfur's western region has already driven over two million people from their homes.

South Sudan In January of 2011, the majority of the South Sudanese population voted for South Sudan to secede and become a new country. Shortly after its independence, a power struggle between the president and deputy president of South Sudan embarked it into crisis. This was what started the South Sudan Civil War (2013-2015). Following the war, were the 2016 Juba clashes.

On 18 November 2016, the UN Security Council released a press statement urging the need to address the increasing hate and ethnic violence in South Sudan. Currently, South Sudan is struggling with the ethnic and religious intolerance within its state as well as the Abyei dispute. That is because although South Sudan's economy has long been based on agriculture, it is now highly oil-dependant. The UN High Commissioner For Refugees (UNHCR) Approximately 500,000 individuals fled to neighbouring countries after the overwhelming violence broke out in the capital of Juba in December of 2013. UNHCR staff helped the 4.9 million people who were in need of humanitarian aid. Currently, UNHCR staff have been providing humanitarian aid in 23 refugee camps and five transit sites in South Sudan. United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) UNMISS is a United Nations peacekeeping mission in South Sudan.

As of 2015, it comprises 12,523 total personnel, and its headquarter is located in Juba, the capital of South Sudan. It has a clear mandate on supporting the consolidation of peace and developing South Sudan. The mission formed to Dhahran Ahliyya Schools Model United Nations 2017 | 24th – 25th of February 2017 Page 6 of 10 | Research Report protect the civilians of South Sudan and help promote long-term economic and social development in the nation. Currently, UNMISS is struggling to assist IDPs in South Sudan.

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of event
1820	Egypt conquers northern parts of Sudan
1955	Start of first civil war
January 1, 1956	Sudan becomes an independent nation
1972	All rebel groups join the Southern Sudan Liberation Movement (SSLM)
1978	Oil is discovered in Southern Sudan
June 1983	Sudanese government officially abolishes the Addis Ababa agreement
July 1983	SPLA forms in Ethiopia
Mid 1980s	Second civil war arises
1992	UNHCR starts accepting refugees
2001	Famine affects three million Sudanese citizens
February, 2003	Darfur conflict begins
January 9, 2005	The CPA is signed granting a six-year period of trial independence to South Sudan
April 2010	Sudan holds its first national election in 20 years
July 9, 2011	South Sudan officially becomes an independent nation
August 2011	As a result of ethnic clashes, more than 600 people are killed in the state of Jonglei
January 2012	100,000 people flee the state of Jonglei and South Sudan declares it a crisis
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August 2012	200,000 refugees become internally displaced within South Sudan to escape violence between the Sudanese army and the rebels in Sudan's southern border states
December 2013	Civil war erupts in South Sudan
July 2014	The UN Security Council describes South Sudan's food crisis as the worst in the

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world February 2015 General elections are called off because of the ongoing conflict. April 2016 Riek Machar finally returns to Juba Relevant UN Treaties and Events Latest Resolution by the Security Council • 27 June 2011 (1990) • 11 July 2011 (1997) • 14 December 2011 (2024) • 22 December 2011 (2032) • 2 May 2012 (2046) • 17 May 2012 (2047) • 16 November 2012 (2075) • 29 May 2013 (2104) • 25 November 2013 (2126) • 29 May 2014 (2156) • 14 October 2014 (2179) • 3 March 2015 (2206) • 15 December 2015 (2252) Dhahran Ahliyya Schools Model United Nations 2017 | 24th – 25th of February 2017 Page 8 of 10 | Research Report • 2 March 2016 (2271) • 7 April 2016 (2280) • 12 May 2016 (2287) • 31 May 2016 (2290) • 29 July 2016 (2302) • 12 August 2016 (2304) Previous Attempts to solve the Issue There has been many resolutions that aim towards resolving conflicts in South Sudan. The Security Council adapted Resolution 2046 (2012) at its 6764th meeting, on 2 May 2012.

This particular resolution was based the border violence between Sudan and South Sudan. The Security Council agreed that both nations must immediately resolve all conflicts, implement previously agreed security council resolutions, and withdraw their forces. SC also agreed that the SPLM should cooperate with the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) to decide on security arrangements. However, South Sudan violated the agreements made by SC which resulted in continuous conflict between their borders and Sudan's borders. Resolutions continued to be written but not implemented in South Sudan. After the end of the civil war in 2015, hope was born and a possibility of a new South Sudan didn't seem so far-fetched.

However, after the 2016 Juba clashes, UN chief stated: “ The renewed violence is outrageous.

It is yet another grievous setback. It deepens the country's suffering. It makes a mockery of commitments to peace.” South Sudan's situation has not improved. So far, all attempts made to resolve the conflict in South Sudan haven't been beneficiary. Possible Solutions There are two general methods that could be used to resolve the situation in South Sudan: short-term and long-term policies.

Given the multitude of opposing sides in South Sudan, a ceasefire, a short-term solution will be extremely difficult to reach as emphasized by the failure of previous ceasefires already. However, the implementation of a ceasefire could be arranged if done by the right broker. As for a long-term solution, South Sudan's insecurity and political instability is partly affected by relative deprivation and by conflicting identities, which include political and tribal allegiances. This is why Dhahran Ahliyya Schools Model United Nations 2017 | 24th – 25st of February 2017 Research Report | Page 9 of 10 focusing on resolving ethnic conflicts within the region could help in preventing ethnic intolerance within the region. Although this issue is very complex, delegates must find a general consensus on what the future of South Sudan should look like.