

April:30th /10

To the US Secretary of the State, Madame Clinton

U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20037

Dear Madame Secretary:

As concerned members of the Sudanese community and its civil society, we are writing to express our grave concern about the recent Sudanese national elections. We come together today as diverse Sudanese leaders from all over the world to say we reject the rigged and fraudulent election and urge the U.S. government not to legitimize the victory and rule of the indicted war criminal Omar al-Bashir over our people in Sudan.

We welcome the recent statement by the U.S. State Department spokesperson that these elections will not bring the Government of Sudan redemption or legitimacy, as well as statements that Sudan's elections did not meet international standards. However, we urge you to ensure that these declarations are committed to and applied by leaders at all levels of the U.S. government. U.S. policy toward Sudan must be based on a commitment to human rights and justice for all the people of Sudan. The lack of serious measures from the international community and the US in particular have emboldened al-Bashir's government to continue its manipulative tactics in oppressing the people of Sudan.

We appreciate the United States' efforts to help resolve Sudan's multiple crises. Sudan's national elections were one of the important milestones laid out in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed in 2005 with U.S. support. As Sudanese, we all hoped that a free and fair election could transform the country to a democratic nation, if all Sudanese people could participate in a secure environment free from oppression, fear and intimidation. However, these elections fell far short of fulfilling this dream. Instead, the elections were characterized by political repression and countless irregularities both before and during the election process that made the elections in both North and South Sudan far from free and fair or credible.

Sudan's leading National Congress Party (NCP) manipulated the process, using all state organs and the state capacity to provide unfair advantage to its campaigns. Security blocked other political parties' attempts at campaigning, organizing, and accessing the media. As a result, most other political parties boycotted the presidential contest and many other races.

It was also impossible for the Darfuri people to participate in the election process in any meaningful way. As stated by the European Union observer team, which withdrew from the region, the security situation was not conducive for elections to take place in Darfur. The lands of many Darfuri victims have also been occupied by Arab nomad settlers who were introduced to the area by the government of Sudan in exchange for taking part in the fighting and destruction in Darfur. This, combined with the fraudulent census and registration process, allowed for the intentional exclusion of countless Darfuris from the voting process.

With many of our families still on the ground, we are well aware that the security situation in our home region Darfur remains tense and volatile for the nearly three million displaced persons and refugees who have been driven from their homes and are still facing constant threats to their survival. Humanitarian access also remains blocked in many areas of Darfur, such as in the region of eastern Jebel Marra where aid groups that were forced to withdraw in February have not been able to return. Attacks on civilians including rape and various forms of sexual violence against girls and women remain frequent and unaddressed. The abduction of aid workers and peacekeepers presents a huge challenge for the protection of civilians and provision of life-saving aid. The grave situation of committing heinous atrocities, forcibly displacing and replacing the original inhabitants of Darfur by Arab nomads from other countries for resettlement, combined with fraudulent census, will unequivocally jeopardize any endeavor of future peace process.

It is also important to note that, while many in the international community are well acquainted with difficulties in the implementation of Sudan's CPA and the ongoing conflict in Darfur, residents of the Nuba Mountains, Blue Nile, Eastern Sudan and Nubia regions also face grave threats to life and liberty. The fate of popular consultations in the Nuba Mountains and Blue Nile remains unknown and the non-implementation of the Eastern Sudan Peace Agreement (ESPA) leaves the grievances of the people unresolved and creates a potential for conflict.

We recognize the challenges of dealing with al-Bashir's regime, which has long specialized in divide-and-rule tactics and benefitted from intermittent focus by the international community on North-South issues and on Darfur. However, addressing the urgent situation in Darfur and the implementation of the CPA simultaneously is critical for the future of the entire country. The international community must recognize the urgency and hold the government of Sudan accountable for its actions in both regions.

Given the critical situation in the South with the referendum quickly approaching, we urge the U.S. to take serious measures to ensure that the oppression and irregularities of this election process are not repeated during the referendum. The people of the South must be able to exercise the right to decide their future.

The U.S. must also work with other U.N. Security Council member states to ensure better protection of civilians in Darfur by a more effective UNAMID peacekeeping force. It must also continue to push for an inclusive and genuine peace process that will address the root causes of the crises in Darfur and other areas of Sudan such as Nuba Mountains, Blue Nile, Eastern Sudan, and Nubia Region. The United States must proactively support justice for victims of the genocide in Darfur and continue to urge the execution of ICC arrest warrants for all those wanted for war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur.

Madam Secretary, we call for your leadership in ensuring the U.S. takes serious and concrete steps to hold the Sudanese government accountable for respecting the human rights and democratic will of the people of Sudan. This begins with recognizing and working hard with international partners to address the abuses and irregularities that denied the Sudanese people free and fair elections.

Cc: President Obama

Sincerely,

The undersigned Civil Society and Community Leaders:

Mohmed Ahmed Eisa, Darfuri Activist/ Human Rights laureate, Boston. MA

Jimmy Mulla, President, Voices for Sudan, DC

Fakir Taha Jaweesh, Nubia Project, VA

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Mr. Mansour Ahmed-, F Secretary-General- Fur Cultural Revival (Portland, ME)

Mr. Mohammed Yahay, Director -Damanga Coalition for Freedom and Democracy

Adam Abakar, Darfurian Association of Utah,

Mr. Bakheit Shata, Darfur Community Organization (Omaha, Nebraska)

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. Darfurian Urgent Action of USA

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Activists

Name	City	State
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2. Kamaldine	Fort Wayne	IN
3. Khalid Hanhdal	Houston	TX
4. Abdelrahim Khamis	Houston	TX

6. Adam Babiker	Houston	TX
7. Taragi Mustafa	Ontario	Canada
8. Basmat Ahmed	Stone Mountain	GA
9. Ezeldin Yahiya	Dallas	TX
10. Ismail Omer	Dallas	TX
11. Mohamed Hassan	Omaha	NE
12. El Gouzuli Sheruf	Manhattan	NY
13. Nusaiba Abbas	Houston	TX
14. Ahmed Yahya	Stone Mountain	GA
15. Hawa Ahmed	Stone Mountain	GA
16. Adam Abdullah	Tucson	AZ
17. Yahya Harun	Dallas	TX
19. Abdel Jabbar Seddik	Dallas	TX
20. Bakri Jumaa		NJ
21. Abdo Ashoor	Demoiner	IA
22. Elsadiq Ashoor	Demoiner	IA
23. Mansour Ishaq		
24. Makki Makki	Houston	TX
25. Mohamed Haroon	Dallas	TX
26. Sulieman Awadallah	Houston	TX
28. Ibrahim Abdelrahman	Houston	TX
29. Elsadiq Jibril	Houston	TX

30. Abdel-Raziq Ibrahim	Houston	TX
31. Adam Mohamed	Houston	TX
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European Diaspora

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