

# ACT for SUDAN

January 6, 2012

Dear Friends at Jubilee Debt Campaign UK,

I am writing on behalf of *Act for Sudan*, an alliance of American citizen activists and Sudanese U.S. residents, representing 59 organizations from across the United States, who advocate for an end to genocide and mass atrocities in Sudan. As you know, the situation in Sudan continues to be dire, not only in Darfur, but also for the Nuba people and throughout the South Kordofan and Blue Nile regions. The people of Sudan have suffered unimaginable violence, including genocide, under the present regime, led by Omar al-Bashir. President al-Bashir and others in his government are under indictment by the International Criminal Court for genocide and crimes against humanity.

Canceling Sudan's debt would only benefit the ruling elite in Khartoum and give the present government even more ability to wage war on the marginalized people of Sudan. In other words, canceling Sudan's debt at this time would only produce more injustice; it would not benefit the people of Sudan.

It would be extremely helpful if your organization would reiterate that you do *not* support debt relief that benefits leaders who are guilty of genocide and who continue to wage war against their own people. A strong statement from you on this point would be an important way for you to help the marginalized people of Sudan. Now is not the time to discuss the "unfairness" of Sudan's debt, as doing so would give the Government of Sudan a propaganda victory, at the same time as the Sudan Armed Forces continue to kill civilians in Darfur, Blue Nile State, South Kordofan and other regions of Sudan. Hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced and thousands injured and killed in the closing months of 2011. Debt relief would only encourage and enable more mass killing, mass rape and genocide.

Jubilee Debt Campaign UK has been very vocal about not immediately forgiving the debt of Zimbabwe (and focusing instead on an audit of the debt) because the present regime there has such a terrible human rights record and used loan money to oppress the people of Zimbabwe.

Please raise your voices -- loudly -- to oppose debt relief for Sudan until Sudan is no longer under the control of genocidaires.

Thank you.

Peace,

Tim Oslovich  
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