African Union: Sudanese War

Chair: Jackson Baker

Co-Chair: Andy Norman

Table of Contents

I.   Letter from the Committee Chair

Dear Delegates,

Greetings! My name is Jackson Baker, and I will be chairing this committee. I am honored to welcome you to the African Union Committee -Sudanese War at BCHighMUN 30. I am currently a senior at Boston College High School and live in Boston. I have been involved in the Model UN Club here at BC High since middle school, and I currently serve as the club's liaison officer. Previously, I have been a co-chair and a crisis staff at BCHighMUN conferences. This will be my first time chairing a committee and I look forward to this. This committee will focus on the Second Sudanese Civil War, a long-lasting armed conflict which lasted over two decades. In addition to being a long and gruesome war, it also spawned a devastating humanitarian crisis which caused millions of deaths and displacements. This committee is open to all levels and I hope that we can have a great experience in this committee.

Also, for those interested in the Ben Maher '11 Best Position Paper award, please send your position paper to my email jw.baker22@students.bchigh.edu and CC our co-chair Andy Norman at am.norman22@students.bchigh.edu before the start of the conference to be considered. I invite you to reach out to me via email, if you have any questions. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Conference!

Sincerely,

Jackson Baker'22, Chair African Union Committee -Sudanese War

II. Letter from the Co-Chair

Dear Delegates,

I will be your co-chair for the committee on the Sudanese War at BCHighMUN 30.

It will be a fun and interesting debate on this unique topic. I started Model UN as a freshman, where I participated in different conferences and learned how to be a good delegate. That same year I participated in my first college conference, which was an unforgettable experience. Now, as a senior, I am co-chairing for the second year in a row at BCHighMUN 30.

Model UN has become one of my favorite clubs because I can meet new people who have a similar interest in history and world news. It has also helped me develop some important skills, such as how to compromise or present an argument. In summary, Model UN has been a very valuable experience and has helped me grow throughout high school.As a co-chair, I hope to help the committee move in a meaningful way, as we discuss and debate the topic. I look forward to meeting everyone and learning more about Model UN. I hope everyone enjoys the conference and has a great experience.

Sincerely,

Andy Norman'22, Co-Chair African Union Committee -Sudanese War

III. Introduction to the Sudanese War

The Second Sudanese War was a prolonged armed conflict that took place in Sudan from 1983 to 2005. The war was fought by the central government which was more popular in the north, and the South Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). The conflict was caused by tensions between the Muslim central government which was popular in the north, while the more Christian south part of the country opposed a Muslim government and the establishment of Sharia Law. In addition, there is major ethnic tension in the country. The northern part is inhabited by Arabs, while the southern part is extremely diverse with dozens of different ethnic groups. Following the end of the first Sudanese Civil War, the Addis Ababa Agreement was signed in 1972. This agreement led to the southern part of the country no longer being divided into three separate provinces, and were united into one province which became autonomous. Following the discovery of oil in South Sudan in 1978, the central government began violating this agreement repeatedly and unsuccessfully attempted to redraw the border to give them access to oil reserves close to the border. Following this surge in tension, in June of 1983, the central government abolished the Addis Ababa Agreement and the region returned to its pre-1972 autonomy-free state of being divided into 3 provinces. During the same month, the central government began a controversial campaign to Islamize the country. As a result of this, in July 1983 the SPLA formed and the civil war began. This would culminate in president Jafaar Nimeiry enacting the September Laws, bringing Sharia Law to the country. This included severe punishments for crimes, such as amputations for stealing. These decrees were very unpopular in the south and the civil war began shortly after. This destructive twenty-two year conflict also was the catalyst for a grave humanitarian crisis in Sudan that would lead to millions of deaths and

displacements.

IV. Situation

The situation in Sudan during this conflict is grave. During the war, many human rights violations were committed in Sudan. Both the government and the SPLA were found to have used children as soldiers during the war. In addition, the government committed various atrocities during the conflict. Firstly, they began enslaving people in the south, and they primarily targeted Christian prisoners of war. They attempted to justify this by claiming that Sharia Law allows this practice. In addition, Arab ethnonationalist militias terrorized Christian towns, killing the men while enslaving women and children. Thousands of innocent women and children were enslaved due to these raids. In addition, some 3 million people were impacted by famine throughout the war, the deadliest of which occurred in 1990, 1998, and 2001. In addition, over four million people have fled Sudan due to the conflict and the humanitarian crisis. Many of these refugees sought refuge in neighboring countries, spawning refugee crises in these nations. Despite efforts by various organizations, the war and humanitarian crisis continues to devastate the country. In terms of international support, the central government has been supported directly and/or indirectly by the other Muslim nations in North Africa, especially Libya and Egypt, as well as the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The SPLA has found support from Christian nations in Sub-Saharan Africa, particularly those who are geographically close to Sudan, such as Uganda, Ethiopia, and Eritrea.

V. Questions to Consider

- How can the religious and ethnic tensions in Sudan be resolved?

- How can peace be established in Sudan, and what long term solution could be implemented
  to prevent another civil war?

- What measures must be taken to stop this devastating humanitarian
  crisis? What must be done to resolve this refugee crisis?

VI. List of Countries

Sudan

Egypt

Libya

Uganda

Eritrea

Ethiopia

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Algeria

Kenya

Chad

Morocco

Nigeria

South Africa

Ghana

Tunisia

Senegal

Rwanda

Tanzania

Mali

Mauritania

VII. Works Cited

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