Volume 1: Introduction, Index, and Bibliography

People, Politics, & Power: Sudan in Transition

June 2020

Introduction

Volume 1 focuses on two areas of research in particular; North Darfur, and the RSF.

Geographically, North Darfur is the focus. Many of the interviews are with Darfurians or those working on the issues at hand in Darfur. Is Darfur, with its large internally displaced persons population, ready for an election from a logistical perspective? Has Darfur had time to form political parties? If not, could the region once again be left behind by a Nilotic elite?

Within the government, the Rapid Support Forces and their leader, General Hemeti, are the focus. A series of articles asks how they fit in to transitional Sudanese society, how they have been viewed in the media, and what the Truth and Reconciliation process may be taking into consideration as it proceeds. We call it a "truth and reconciliation" process, but many will feel that it is either truth or reconciliation. The RSF are used as a case study to expose the potential for such division, and one possible solution from a sociological perspective is provided.

A photo essay brings the two themes, RSF and Darfur, together. The author was privileged to spend some time living in North Darfur with both the RSF and numerous local hosts, whose generosity was striking for its abundance and good grace.

Project Director

Anton Lin

Mr. Lin is a Senior Fellow at the Institute for Statecraft and the overall project director.

He has worked on and researched Sudanese affairs since 2014, including lobbying against Bashir's regime in the UK Houses of Commons and Lords, the US Senate and House, and in other countries.

After reading Jurisprudence at Oxford University, Mr. Lin spent five years as an Officer in the British Army. Since leaving the Army he has worked in finance in Africa, China, and the UK, and remains a partner in a cross-border M&A fund. He holds an MBA from INSEAD.



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