

Sudan Civil War: Rivals meet & break up AGAIN AT Jeddah

November 3, 2023

November 3-4, 2023: **Brig. Nabil Abdalla**, a spokesman for the **Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF)**, suspended its participation in talks with a paramilitary force **Rapid Support Forces (RSF)**. SAF and RSF have been battling, since April 15, 2023, for control of Sudan.

Abdalla said that RSF is repeatedly violating the humanitarian cease-fire. He added that RSF continued the occupation of hospitals and other civilian infrastructure in the capital, Khartoum. Residents, meanwhile, reported clashes on **Tuesday** in parts of **Khartoum** and its neighboring city of **Omdurman**.

Responding to the military's move, the RSF said it "unconditionally backs the Saudi-US initiative."

PEACE TALKS RE-START: The meeting in Jeddah on October 26, 2023, was a continuation of the peace talks between the SAF, led by **Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan** and RSF, commanded by **Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo**. The talks were being held with the aim of

- securing access for humanitarian aid to reach beleaguered civilians and
- achieving a cease-fire, in the civil war, which started on April 15, 2023..

US Officials have clearly informed the two parties that "there is no acceptable military solution to this conflict. Hence, the talks would not tackle political matters as both belligerents" have shown that they were unsuitable for governance in post-conflict Sudan since both of them

- cared not for the lives of civilians or for basic facilities like power and water supply, sewage systems, bridges and roads,
- used **artillery and drone strikes** indiscriminately causing civilian casualties.

The United States and Saudi Arabia have been brokering ceasefire talks between the two factions since May 1. However, when fighting continued in Khartoum and elsewhere, with each side accusing the other of cease-fire violations, US adjourned the talks on June 21, 2023. So far, there have been seven declared cease-fires in the country, all of which have been violated to some extent.

The talks, beginning on October 26, 2023, were facilitated by the regional bloc IGAD (**Intergovernmental Authority on Development**). IGAD Executive Secretary **Workneh Gebeyehu**, a former foreign minister of Ethiopia, took part in the talk. Sudan's neighbors in the Horn of Africa are playing a role in the latest negotiations as well.

IGAD is one of the regional economic communities recognized by the African Union. It has eight members: **Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda.**



The meeting was held against the backdrop of an escalating humanitarian crisis in Sudan. An estimated 5.6 million people have been displaced within and outside Sudan after more than six months of fighting, according to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Sudan has become the largest internal displacement crisis in the world.

Notes: www.DiGiNews360.com has described the extreme distress, being faced by the civilian people in Sudan due to the civil war.

Please read “Sudan’s Civil War escalates to a wider geographical area” dated October 21, 2023 at <https://diqinews360.com/sudans-civil-war-escalates-to-a-wider-geographical-area/>.

Please read “Sudanese Civil War Flares up again” dated September 19, 2023 at <https://diqinews360.com/sudans-civil-war-escalates-to-a-wider-geographical-area/>.

In another development, **BNN Bloomberg** reports that Iran is quietly rebuilding ties with the SAF. Iran had good relations, with the erstwhile President of Sudan, **Omar al-Bashir** (Bashir served as the **head of state** under various titles from **1989 until 2019**, when he was deposed in a coup d’état). Would Iran’s renewed association with SAF deepen the civil war in Sudan?

Reference:<https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/iran-sudan-rapprochement-threatens-to-deepen-deadly-civil-war-1.1989603>