Darfur in Transition
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In 2006, the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) deployed in Darfur, followed in early 2008 by an unprecedented hybrid operation, the African Union and United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID), which today stands as the largest peacekeeping operation in the world.

In the same year, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 1706, creating a new framework for the protection of civilians in Darfur through the deployment of the Hybrid Peacekeeping Force (Unified Police and Rapid Intervention Brigades). This marked the beginning of a new phase in the conflict, with the aim of restoring a semblance of normalcy to the region.

Despite all the struggles and difficulties, daily life continues in Darfur in much the same way it has for generations.

In 2003, the conflict in Darfur erupted, leaving thousands dead and hundreds of thousands displaced. The sources of the conflict are varied and complex, with disputes over land, resources, and political power at the root of the violence.

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Through the deployment of peacekeepers and the establishment of a new framework for the protection of civilians, the UN and AU are working to bring an end to the conflict and support the transition to lasting peace in Darfur.
While there are many positive signs of recovery and peace emerging across Darfur, the region’s many years of conflict have resulted in hundreds of thousands of people still enduring the hardships of life in temporary camps. The peace process moves steadily forward, but tensions in the region continue to emerge from fierce competition over natural resources, generations-old tribal feuds and clashes between Government forces and armed movements.

Caught in these ongoing conflicts are innocent civilians, the men, women and children of Darfur. Not a single person living in this region has been untouched in some way by the conflict here. While the situation on the ground has improved in many ways since the beginning of the clashes more than one decade ago, violence in some parts of Darfur has escalated, presenting a challenge for the people of Darfur.

Peace in Darfur remains an interest shared by everybody—including Sudan, the international community and, above all, the long-suffering people of Darfur. In this context, as this book illustrates, the African Union - United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) has been working toward its mandate-driven objectives of protecting civilians, facilitating humanitarian assistance and supporting the peace process.

This book consists of a series of photos designed to highlight the current situation in Darfur, especially the transformation from conflict to recovery. The book visually explores aspects of the region to tell the story of Darfur’s people as they continue to face the dire effects of the ongoing conflict while at the same time struggling to move slowly but steadily toward a future of peace and prosperity.

Consistent with the themes of transitions and transformations, the book is divided into sections to reflect three of Darfur’s present realities: a persisting conflict, a movement toward recovery and signs of normal life. This book is a tribute to those who have paid the ultimate price in this journey to peace, to those who have been suffering and to those who will one day be able to return to their chosen homes. Above all, it is a tribute to all Darfuris and to all those who want to live in peace.
PERSISTING CONFLICT
الصراع المستمر
Darfur’s conflict, the sources of which are varied and complex, erupted in 2003, leaving thousands dead and hundreds of thousands displaced. In addition to hostilities generated by competition over natural resources and age-old blood feuds, modern weapons and armed movements have played a major role in shaping the current situation.

Destroyed medical clinics, dilapidated schools, looted homes and entire communities burned to the ground remain lasting vestiges of the violence that has plagued this corner of the world, leaving in its wake extreme unemployment, families without their fathers or mothers, an abundance of street children and a people struggling to come to terms with a sadness that runs so deeply here it might be considered synonymous with Darfuri culture.

Darfur’s widespread destruction and displacement have resulted in countless vocational opportunities lost and few sustainable alternatives for making a viable living inside or outside the camps for the displaced. The men, women and children of Darfur, determined not merely to endure, continue to struggle against the effects of the conflict.

For many Darfuris, hoping that peace will prevail in this troubled region remains the only remaining emotional response to the violence of the past and the conflict of the present.
Members of the Sudanese Army maintain vigilance in Jawa village, in the area of East Jebel Marra. (18 March 2011)

Attah Mohammed Sigit, the leader of Sigili village, North Darfur, inspects some of the damage that occurred in his village during violent clashes. Attah says he lost his son and nine other community members in the incidents. (6 November 2012)

Members of the Sudanese Army maintaining vigilance in Jawa Village, in the area of East Jebel Marra. (18 March 2011)

Attah Mohammed Sigit, the leader of Sigili village, North Darfur, inspects some of the damage that occurred in his village during violent clashes. Attah says he lost his son and nine other community members in the incidents. (6 November 2012)
An abandoned sandal is pictured near Tangarara, a village located 15 kilometres north of Shangil Tobaya, North Darfur. The residents of the village abandoned it due to clashes between Government forces and armed movements.

A member of an armed movement stands near the remains of a dead animal near Tukumare village, North Darfur. Inhabitants of the village abandoned it due to violent clashes in the area.

 tej - 6/2011

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 tej - 6/2011
In the El Sereif hospital in North Darfur, a mother watches over her baby suffering from malnutrition. In early January 2013, disputes over the ownership of a gold mine in the Jebel Amir area of North Darfur led to clashes between tribes in the area, resulting in an estimated 100 deaths and 100,000 people displaced. Many of those displaced sought refuge in the locality of El Sereif. (13 May 2013)

A member of one of the armed movements is pictured in the area of Fanga Suk village in East Jebel Marra. (18 March 2011)

A member of the Sudan Liberation Army (Abdul Wahid faction) in Forog, North Darfur. (30 May 2012)
A UNAMID peacekeeper patrols Jawa village in an East Jebel Marra area controlled by Government forces. (18 March 2011)

A member of the Sudan Liberation Army (Unity faction) inspects a UNICEF clinic in Majo, North Darfur. The village was looted and burned by armed men, forcing the 27,000 people living in the area to flee. (7 February 2010)
Members of an armed movement escort women and children leaving Tukumaré village, North Darfur, due to clashes in the area. Fighting in January 2011 affected eight other nearby villages and led to thousands of people fleeing their homes. (6 February 2011)

A child is pictured near Tukumaré, North Darfur. The residents of Tukumaré abandoned the village due to clashes in the area. Fighting in January 2011 affected eight other nearby villages and led to thousands of people fleeing their homes. (6 February 2011)
Asha Omar, an elderly woman from the Kassab camp for displaced people, sheds tears as she waits to be seen by a doctor in Kutum, North Darfur. Residents of the Kassab camp were forced to flee their homes following a series of violent attacks in the area, displacing those already displaced. (9 August 2012)

A girl from Forog, North Darfur, welcomes the arrival of a UNAMID delegation and asks for help with a handwritten sign. Residents in the area reported a serious shortage of water and medicine. (30 May 2012)
A member of the Sudan Liberation Army (Abdul Wahid faction) wearing hijabs (amulets designed to offer protection from harm) is pictured near Forog, North Darfur. (30 May 2012)

Zalingei University students demonstrate during the visit of a high-level delegation arriving from Doha to hold peace talks and discuss the situation on the ground. The demonstrations turned violent, resulting in at least two people killed and several wounded. (1 December 2010)
Community leader Adam Hamis pays respect to one of the 47 people buried after being killed in fighting in Taraba, North Darfur. (28 September 2010)

A community leader from the Monrei camp for internally displaced people in West Darfur expresses anguish following a recent attack in which his family was killed. (22 August 2010)

A woman from the Kassab camp for internally displaced people in Kutum, North Darfur, sheds tears following reports of rapes in the area. (19 January 2012)
A man and woman from the Kassab camp for internally displaced people wait in Kutum, North Darfur, to be examined by doctors. Residents of the Kassab camp were forced to flee their homes following a series of violent attacks in the area, displacing those already displaced. (9 August 2012)

A baby from the Kassab camp for internally displaced people is pictured in the waiting area of a medical clinic set up to help those affected by the attacks that drove the residents of the Kassab camp to seek safety in the nearby town of Kutum. (9 August 2012)
Ahmed Mohamed, age 12, is pictured in his house in the Al Salam camp for displaced people in North Darfur. Ahmed lost his right hand and the sight in his left eye in an incident involving the detonation of unexploded ordnance. (3 April 2012)

Suleiman Fatul Saim, age 10, poses for a photo in El Fasher, North Darfur. Suleiman, originally from Dar Al Salam, suffered burns to more than 90 per cent of his body when his brother detonated a device he found near their house. One of their friends was killed in the incident. (2 April 2013)
A child drinks water from the tap at a water point in the Shaddad camp for internally displaced people in Shangil Tobaya, North Darfur. (18 October 2010)

Community leader Halima Ismail inspects a clinic that had been run by the nongovernmental organisation Goal for residents of the Kassab camp for internally displaced people. The clinic was one of the many buildings that were looted in attacks that displaced all the camp's residents, forcing them to flee to the nearby town of Kutum. (28 August 2012)

A man shows an injury sustained in fighting on the outskirts of El Sereif, North Darfur. In early January 2013, due to a dispute over the ownership of a gold mine in the Jebel Amir area of North Darfur, clashes between tribes in the area led to an estimated 100 deaths and 100,000 people displaced. Many of those displaced sought refuge in the locality of El Sereif. (13 May 2013)

A young girl drinks from the tap at a well in the Kassab camp for internally displaced people in North Darfur. (10 August 2012)
TOWARD RECOVERY

 نحو الإنعاش

 Darfur in Transition
I n 2006, the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) deployed in Darfur, followed in early 2008 by an unprecedented hybrid operation, the African Union-United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID), which today stands as the largest peacekeeping operation in the world.

UNAMID has the protection of civilians as its core mandate, but it is also tasked with contributing to security so humanitarian agencies can do their work. UNAMID monitors and verifies the implementation of agreements, works to support an inclusive peace process and contributes to the promotion of human rights and the rule of law.

Despite these peacekeeping efforts, the situation for Darfuris displaced from their homes remains dire, and recent clashes in 2013 have resulted in an increasing number of villagers fleeing their homes in search of safety, usually near large towns. In their new temporary locations, the recently displaced make shelters typically consisting of a framework of branches covered by tarps. After long months in these conditions, these makeshift huts evolve into brick homes. Temporary markets emerge as the hubs of micro-economies, fostering trade with other camps and with farmers and merchants from nearby localities.

When the situation returns to a fragile calm in their original villages, some of the displaced may return to rebuild their villages and start new lives. Others have decided to abandon their chosen places of origin because their original villages have been so badly destroyed by the conflict that there is little point in returning until a comprehensive peace agreement is in place and there are no more violent clashes.

Despite the camps for the displaced becoming an ever-present fixture of Darfur's stark landscape, the peace process is moving steadily forward, with some signs that those movements that have not signed the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur—the current peace agreement—may join the peace process. UNAMID continues to press the holdout movements to join the peace process, and has been actively promoting reconciliation and mediation activities to address tribal clashes, many of which directly relate to the root causes of the conflict here.
New shelters built in Tawilla, North Darfur, by people displaced from Fanga and Taraba. Residents were forced to evacuate their villages due to armed clashes.

ملاجئ جديدة بنيت في قرية طويلة، شمال دارفور، بواسطة النازحين من فنقا وترابا حيث أجري اجلاء السكان على إثر اشتباكات مسلحة.

A woman, who had been displaced for nine years in South Darfur, builds a new shelter in Damra Toma, North Darfur.

إمرأة نازحة منذ تسع سنوات في جنوب دارفور، تبني مأوى جديداً في دامرا توما، شمال دارفور.

Darfur in Transition

Toward Recovery
A woman from East Darfur carries humanitarian supplies distributed by UN agencies at a new settlement in Zaraar Zaraar camp for internally displaced people in North Darfur. (12 May 2012)
A woman holds her baby near a newly formed camp for displaced people near Shangil Tobaya, North Darfur. (26 January 2010)
A UNAMID peacekeeper patrols in an armoured personnel carrier in Kutum, North Darfur (3 August 2010).

A group of UNAMID peacekeepers keep watch over farmers near the Kalma camp for internally displaced people in South Darfur. (11 August 2011)
Sadias Imam collects millet on land her community leased near El Fasher, North Darfur, while UNAMID peacekeepers keep watch over the farmers in the area.

(21 November 2010)
A UNAMID peacekeeper prays beside the coffin containing the body of one of his comrades killed in an ambush near Katio village, South Darfur. (5 May 2011)

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A UNAMID peacekeeper recovers in an El Geneina, West Darfur, hospital after sustaining injuries in an ambush in which four peacekeepers were killed and eight others injured by unidentified assailants. (3 October 2012)

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During a morning patrol, a UNAMID peacekeeper interacts with children in the Abu Shouk camp, for internally displaced people in North Darfur. (18 August 2012)  

A UNAMID Police woman embraces a Sudanese Police woman before participating in a march organized by UNAMID to commemorate International Women’s Day in El Fasher, North Darfur. (11 March 2013)

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A woman from Kabkabiya, North Darfur, receives medical attention from a UNAMID nurse. UNAMID's Hospital in Kabkabiya is staffed by a military contingent with the sole purpose of providing medical services not only to peacekeepers, but also to members of the local community. (10 December 2012)

A UNAMID nurse assists a child with an eye infection in Basma, North Darfur. (15 November 2011)
A doctor examines a family in the Kalma camp for internally displaced people in Nyala, South Darfur before they return to their original homes villages as part of a Government-run operation with the support of UN agencies. (6 December 2010)
A woman and her baby are pictured in a bus before their departure to their chosen home village. More than 200 displaced families returned from Aramba, North Darfur, to their homes in Sehjanna, North Darfur, in a program organized by the UN Refugee Agency and the Sudanese Humanitarian Aid Commission, with logistical support from UNAMID. (14 July 2011)

صورة لامرأة وطفلها في حافلة قبل مغادرتهما إلى قريتهما. أكثر من 200 عائلة نازحة عادت من أرامبا، شمال دارفور، إلى ديارها في سهجانا، شمال دارفور، كجزء من الرنامج الذي نظمته وكالة اللاجئين في الأمم المتحدة ولجنة المعونة الإنسانية السودانية وبدعم لوجستي من اليوناميد. (14 يوليو 2011)

A woman says goodbye to friends departing from the Kalma camp for displaced people in South Darfur as part of this Government-run operation, after months of preparations, hundreds of Kalma residents began to return to their chosen homes with UN assistance. (7 December 2010)

يعرف إمرأة تودع أصدقاءها المغادرين من معسكر كلمة للنازح في جنوب دارفور كجزء من مشروع تنفذه الحكومة. بعد أشهر من الترتيبات، بدأ مئات من سكان مخيم كلمة بالعودة إلى الديار التي اختروها بمساعدة الأمم المتحدة. (7 ديسمبر 2010)

A boy is pictured in a bus prior to departing to his family’s chosen home village. More than 200 displaced families returned from Aramba, North Darfur, to their homes in Sehjanna, North Darfur. It is a program organized by the UN Refugee Agency and the Sudanese Humanitarian Aid Commission, with logistical support from UNAMID. (14 July 2011)

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Returnees arrive at their village, their chosen homes, in Sehjanna, North Darfur, and greet their relatives after a long trip. The return was organized by the UN Refugee Agency and the Sudanese Humanitarian Aid Commission, with logistical support from UNAMID. (14 July 2011).

Returnees arrive at their village, their chosen homes, in Sehjanna, North Darfur, and greet their relatives after a long trip. The return was organized by the UN Refugee Agency and the Sudanese Humanitarian Aid Commission, with logistical support from UNAMID. (14 July 2011).

Dozens of displaced families depart from Kalma camp, South Darfur, to their chosen home villages in West Darfur as part of the first Government-run returnee operation. After months of preparations, hundreds of Kalma residents began to return home with logistics assistance provided by UNAMID and UN agencies. (7 December 2010).
A UNAMID doctor attends to sick children in Buro, West Darfur. The nearest medical clinic is 30 kilometres away. (30 March 2011)

A woman shows her ration card at a World Food Program distribution centre in the Abu Shouk camp for displaced people in North Darfur. (18 October 2012)
Toward Recovery

UNAMID soldiers train at a team site in Um Baro, North Darfur, beside their well-groomed pet, an old sheep. Having a sheep nearby is an old tradition in their army. (14 November 2011)

A UNAMID staff member draws on a mural during the commemoration ceremony of the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers. (29 May 2011)
Saleh Mohammed Hamid (age 18) from Gocker, West Darfur, receives treatment for Yellow Fever at the Teaching Hospital in El Geneina. (14 November 2012)
Salah Aldin Abdurrahman, age 27, is blind and an active member of the Sudanese Association for Disabled People in El Fasher, North Darfur. (17 November 2011)

A disabled person is accommodated in a wheelchair during a ceremony in which items were given by United Nations Volunteers to the disabled community in the Abu Shouk camp for internally displaced people. (19 July 2012)

A disabled person is accommodated in a wheelchair during a ceremony in which items were given by United Nations Volunteers to the disabled community in the Abu Shouk camp for internally displaced people. (19 July 2012)
A woman collects water from UNAMID near El Sereif, North Darfur. The nearest water point is 15 kilometres away. Women in the area typically walk three hours, each way, each time they collect water for their families. (26 July 2011)

"าวاقع دارفور المتغير" تشير إلى ميدان الوضع في شبه جزيرة نهر النيل، حيث نشأت قضايا الصراعات، وخصوصاً بين الشرق وأجزاء أخرى شمال دارفور.

اِبْنَة النَّاس نساء في المنطقة تسير لمدة ثلاث ساعات ذهاباً وإياباً، كلّ مرة، للحصول على المياه لأسرهن.

In a Abu Shouk camp for internally displaced people in North Darfur, Ismael Adam, age two, is given water by his grandmother. (19 March 2013)
A child helps his family make bricks in Tora, North Darfur.
(19 April 2010)
A child helps his family make bricks in Tora, North Darfur.
(19 April 2010)

Kaltoum Yakoub Issa, age 19, makes bricks for a new home in the Abu Shouk camp for internally displaced people in North Darfur. Kaltoum, originally from Jebel Seet, North Darfur, lost her left hand and suffered serious injuries to the other hand. (21 February 2011)

A child helps his family make bricks in Tora, North Darfur.
(19 April 2010)

Kaltoum Yakoub Issa, age 19, makes bricks for a new home in the Abu Shouk camp for internally displaced people in North Darfur. Kaltoum, originally from Jebel Seet, North Darfur, lost her left hand and suffered serious injuries to the other hand. (21 February 2011)
NORMAL LIFE
الحياة الطبيعية

Darfur in Transition

Waq Was Dafur Metgur
Despite all the struggles and difficulties, daily life continues in parts of Darfur in much the same way it has for generations. Tradition and religion, which together knit the social fabric that has connected Darfuris for decades, are today playing a vital role in helping a culture of peace overcome conflict and violence. Violent clashes continue to displace villagers, but some internally displaced people and refugees are returning to their chosen homes and to normal life.

Still, across Darfur, after more than 10 years of conflict, much infrastructure remains damaged, and many families remain without a means of making a living. Many Darfur communities lack water sources and other basic services. The basic services that do exist have either been overstretched or have collapsed completely due to lack of maintenance.

UNAMID, humanitarian agencies, nongovernmental organizations, the Government of Sudan and Darfuris themselves are working diligently on recovery projects so normal life in Darfur can flourish. The Mission's many quick-impact-projects, for example, have helped build confidence in the peace process by fostering early socioeconomic recovery. More than 500 such projects are benefitting the communities across Darfur. Projects have included school construction, health centre rehabilitation, agricultural training, women's education, water projects and a broad variety of unique and innovative transformative projects designed to directly impact the lives of Darfuris.

While there are many signs across Darfur of life returning to normal—as evidenced by diverse cultural performances, a thriving education system, music concerts, horse races, active markets and even international trade—the fragile peace that exists in areas across Darfur remains in jeopardy.

A child from the Abu Shouk camp for internally displaced people in North Darfur performs a traditional dance. (29 May 2012)
Leila Omar Mohamed and her 20-month-old child are pictured in a new school room in Kuma Garadayat, North Darfur. (1 August 2012)

Abdulhamid Abdulmahdi, an English teacher, stands in front of his pupils in the Ahigro private school in El Fasher, North Darfur. (5 December 2010)
Children sit in a classroom in a local school in Sullu, West Darfur. Three volunteers from the community teach at the school. (23 January 2011)

Gima Awada Yakub (left) and her sister Zamai (right) read books at the newly restored library in the Cultural Centre in El Fasher, North Darfur. (18 July 2012)
Women from the same family pray together for Ramadan in a house in El Fasher, North Darfur. (18 August 2010)
Two men set up food trays at Al Tijane School in El Fasher, North Darfur, to celebrate the evening meal when Muslims break their fast during the month of Ramadan. (12 August 2012)

Residents of El Fasher, North Darfur, attend morning prayers on the outskirts of the city to celebrate Eid al-Fitr, the feast marking the end of the Ramadan fast. (19 August 2012)
Members of the Kinnin tribe from El Fasher perform a traditional dance in North Darfur. (27 March 2011)

Residents of Swilinga, North Darfur, perform a traditional dance. (3 February 2010)
Members of the Rezeigat tribe in El Daein, East Darfur, perform traditional dances and songs. (3 December 2012)

Members of the Falata tribe perform a traditional dance in El Fasher, North Darfur. (24 October 2012)
Women in Shagra, North Darfur, work as part of a community cooperative to make flour that later will be sold at market. (18 October 2012)

The internally displaced people who settled in Dali camp, next to Tawilla, North Darfur, farm the lands rented to them by local owners. (16 August 2011)
Participants in a horse racing competition in El Fasher warm up before the last race. (3 February 2012)

Football players celebrate their first place victory during the closing ceremony of a community football competition in the Zam Zam camp for internally displaced people near El Fasher, North Darfur. (24 June 2013)
Sidig Ahmed Mohamed, a traditional healer known locally as a Faki, prepares a treatment against mental illnesses.

(21 June 2012)
Locals traveling by truck between Kabkabiya and El Fasher, North Darfur. (23 June 2010)

Hamada Khater works on the construction of a new house in the Amsijera area of El Fasher, North Darfur. (26 January 2012)
A mother and her new-born baby resting at the Women's Hospital in El Fasher, North Darfur, shortly after delivery. (31 October 2011)

Nurses prepare to assist in a delivery at the Maternity Hospital in El Fasher, North Darfur. (25 January 2012)

A mother and her new-born baby resting at the Women's Hospital in El Fasher, North Darfur, shortly after delivery. (31 October 2011)

Nurses prepare to assist in a delivery at the Maternity Hospital in El Fasher, North Darfur. (25 January 2012)
Students from the Midwifery School in El Fasher, North Darfur, participate in a march to commemorate International Women's Day. (11 March 2013)

المخرجة سميحة عبد المنعم (في الوسط) وأعضاء من فرقتها الدرامية "أشواق السلام" في مركز الفاشر الثقافي. (17 أكتوبر 2012)

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A member of the Mahammid nomadic tribe pictured in Damra Toma, North Darfur. (14 February 2012)