URGENT CALL SUDAN'S AL-FASHIR: AN ONGOING HUMANITARIAN CRISIS







Urgent call

Sudan's Al-Fashir: An ongoing humanitarian crisis

The Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession (ACIJLP), together with the Arab Coalition for the International Criminal Court, is following with deep concern the unfolding humanitarian crisis in the city of Al-Fashir, the capital of North Darfur in Sudan. The two organizations call upon the international community, the warring parties, and human rights and humanitarian organizations to act urgently to halt the ongoing catastrophe in Al-Fashir and the grave violations being committed against the civilian population.

Eyewitness accounts from the city, corroborated by numerous verified reports, confirm that the armed conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces has resulted in serious breaches of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, including acts that may amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

The ACIJLP further notes that Al-Fashir is enduring a worsening humanitarian disaster. Hospitals have ceased operations and essential medicines have run out, according to Sudanese doctors. The Saudi Hospital and a nearby mosque sheltering displaced civilians were reportedly bombed, resulting in the deaths of dozens of civilians.

Multiple violations against civilians have also been reported, including:

- The death of at least 73 children under the age of five and 22 elderly persons have died of starvation over the past 40 days in the Abu Shouk camp.
- Refugee camps have been bombed, killing dozens, including children, amid
 deliberate targeting of civilians, particularly those belonging to specific ethnic
 groups, who have been subjected to torture and field executions.
- Sexual violence has been used as a weapon of war on a wide scale, with women and girls suffering from mass rape.

- Entire ethnic communities have been forcibly displaced from their homes and villages, and their agricultural lands confiscated, constituting acts of ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.
- The city's residents are also enduring a total siege, preventing hundreds of thousands from accessing food, clean water, medicine, and healthcare—a deliberate blockade designed to starve the population.

The ACIJLP and the Arab Coalition affirm that the tragedy unfolding in Al-Fashir is not the result of a natural disaster, but of a brutal conflict that has flagrantly violated the four Geneva Conventions of 1949, particularly their grave provisions concerning the protection of civilians during armed conflict. These practices further constitute clear violations of Articles 6, 7, and 8 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

The ACIJLP and the Arab Coalition urgently call upon the international community to:

- Establish safe and permanent humanitarian corridors, free of obstruction, to enable international and regional organizations to deliver emergency humanitarian aid—including food, medicine, and water—to the besieged civilian population.
- Impose and secure an internationally protected safe zone in Al-Fashir to safeguard civilians from ongoing attacks.
- Incorporate these incidents into the investigations currently being conducted by the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court concerning the situation in Sudan.

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