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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES.

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Recognizing the actions of the Rapid Support Forces and allied militias in the Darfur region of Sudan against non-Arab ethnic communities as acts of genocide.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. JAMES submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# RESOLUTION

Recognizing the actions of the Rapid Support Forces and allied militias in the Darfur region of Sudan against non-Arab ethnic communities as acts of genocide.

Whereas Article II of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (in this preamble referred to as the “Genocide Convention”), adopted at Paris on December 9, 1948, defines genocide as “any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such: (a) Killing members of the group; (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction

in whole or in part; (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group”;

Whereas the genocide that began in 2003 in Darfur perpetrated by the Government of Sudan and its proxy Janjaweed militia, explicitly targeting the Fur, Zaghawa, and Masalit ethnic communities through mass killings, forced displacement, the razing of villages and cropland, widespread rape, aerial bombings of civilians, and the blocking of humanitarian assistance, killed at least 200,000 civilians and displaced 2,000,000 people;

Whereas, on July 22, 2004, Congress declared, with the passage of House Concurrent Resolution 467 (108th Congress) and Senate Concurrent Resolution 133 (108th Congress), that atrocities occurring in Darfur were genocide, and the administration of President George W. Bush declared genocide in Darfur on September 9, 2004;

Whereas, in 2013, the Government of Sudan, under the administration of the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) and the command of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), formed the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), a formal paramilitary force composed primarily of Janjaweed militia;

Whereas Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo (commonly known as “Hemedti”), a Janjaweed militia leader during the genocide in Darfur that began in 2003, served as head of the RSF and became the deputy head of the Transitional Military Council, which took power from the President of Sudan Omar al-Bashir in 2019, and the deputy chairman of the successor Sovereign Council;

Whereas the elevation of individuals who served in leadership of the parties responsible for such genocide, including Hemedti and General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan of the SAF, into leadership roles in the transition government in 2019 only heightened the risk of atrocities recurring across Sudan, including genocide in Darfur;

Whereas fighting between the SAF and the RSF broke out in Khartoum on April 15, 2023, and quickly spread to Darfur, where the RSF has taken control of four of five regional capitals in Darfur: Nyala, Geneina, Zalingei, and El Daein;

Whereas, on August 16, 2023, CNN issued an investigative report on the June 15, 2023, atrocity in El Geneina, the capital of West Darfur, describing the atrocity as “one of the most violent incidents in the genocide-scarred Sudanese region’s history”, explaining how “the powerful paramilitary Rapid Support Forces and its allied militias hunted down non-Arab people in various parts of the city . . . reviving a genocidal playbook”, and in which survivors reported that identifying as Masalit “was a death sentence”;

Whereas, on November 3, 2023, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights stated, “We are deeply alarmed by reports that women and girls are being abducted and held in inhuman, degrading slave-like conditions in areas controlled by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in Darfur”;

Whereas, on November 14, 2023, the United Nations Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, Alice Wairimu Nderitu, expressed extreme concern with the “serious allegations of mass killings” in Ardamata, which “may constitute acts of genocide”, citing reports that the violence

killed more than 800 people and displaced 8,000 Sudanese individuals to Chad;

Whereas, on December 6, 2023, Secretary of State Antony Blinken determined that, since the fighting between the SAF and the RSF began on April 15, 2023, Sudan has experienced war crimes, crimes against humanity, and ethnic cleansing in “haunting echoes of the genocide that began almost 20 years ago in Darfur”, including Masalit civilians being “hunted down and left for dead in the streets, their homes set on fire, and told that there is no place in Sudan for them”;

Whereas a December 15, 2023, Reuters special investigative report detailed the targeted killing of Masalit men and boys by the RSF, about which an emergency protection officer for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees explained that “the objective of the killings seems to be the elimination of future fighters as well as the line of ancestry of a specific ethnic group”, referring to the Masalit people;

Whereas the RSF has killed Masalit political and traditional leaders in El Geneina, West Darfur, including Khamis Abdullah Abbakar, the Governor of West Darfur, and Farsha Mohamed Arbab, a prominent leader of the Masalit Sultanate;

Whereas, on May 9, 2024, Human Rights Watch reported that attacks by the RSF and allied militias in El Geneina, the capital city of Sudan’s West Darfur state, killed thousands of people and left hundreds of thousands as refugees, from April to November 2023;

Whereas there is significant evidence of widespread, systematic actions against the non-Arab ethnic communities of

Darfur, including the Masalit people, committed by the RSF and allied militias that meet one or more of the criteria under Article II of the Genocide Convention, including—

(1) killing members of the non-Arab ethnic communities in Darfur in mass killings of civilians, including summary executions in the streets and shootings of civilians fleeing across the Wadi Kaja river and to the Chad border, targeted killings of men and boys, targeted killings of Masalit leaders, and burials in mass graves;

(2) causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of such communities, including through extrajudicial detention, torture and beatings, extortion, sexual and gender-based violence, mass rape, sexual slavery, and forced displacement; and

(3) deliberately inflicting on such communities conditions of life calculated to bring about their physical destruction in whole or in part, including the annihilation of villages, targeted attacks on marketplaces and schools, widespread destruction of civilian infrastructure and telecommunication, the looting of homes and hospitals, assaults on camps for displaced persons, the destruction of humanitarian facilities, the killing of aid workers, and restrictions on humanitarian aid and access; and

Whereas credible descriptions of the RSF's objective of elimination of the line of ancestry of the non-Arab tribes of Darfur, survivors' statements reporting that identifying as Masalit is a death sentence, and reports that the RSF made clear that there is no place in Sudan for the Masalit, against the backdrop of the prior genocide in Darfur, evince a specific intent on the part of the RSF to destroy the Masalit and other non-Arab ethnic groups

in Darfur in whole or in substantial part: Now, therefore,  
be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2           (1) condemns atrocities, including those that  
3       amount to genocide, being committed by the Rapid  
4       Support Forces (RSF) and allied militias against  
5       the Masalit people and other non-Arab ethnic groups  
6       in Darfur, and the roles of the RSF and Sudanese  
7       Armed Forces (SAF) in perpetrating atrocities, hu-  
8       manitarian catastrophe, and the destruction of  
9       Sudan;

10          (2) calls for an immediate end to the war and  
11       all violence and atrocities in Sudan;

12          (3) urges the Government of the United  
13       States—

14           (A) to take immediate steps with the inter-  
15       national community, including through multilat-  
16       eral fora, to protect civilians, including by es-  
17       tablishing safe zones and humanitarian cor-  
18       ridors, enforcing the United Nations Security  
19       Council arms embargo on Darfur, and  
20       brokering a comprehensive cease-fire between  
21       the warring parties in Sudan;

22           (B) to support the consistent and trans-  
23       parent documentation of atrocities and geno-  
24       cidal acts in Sudan by instituting a mechanism

1           that will, to the greatest extent possible, pub-  
2           licly release such documentation on a consistent  
3           and regular basis;

4           (C) to immediately identify mechanisms  
5           through which to fund local, community-based  
6           organizations that are currently providing non-  
7           lethal assistance to the Sudanese people in con-  
8           flict-affected areas that traditional imple-  
9           menting partners cannot reach, including for  
10          the delivery of food, medical aid, and shelter to  
11          individuals impacted by the war in Sudan; and

12          (D) to review and update the atrocities de-  
13          termination for Sudan every 180 days for 3  
14          years from enactment;

15          (4) supports tribunals and international crimi-  
16          nal investigations to hold the RSF and allied militias  
17          accountable for war crimes, crimes against human-  
18          ity, and genocide; and

19          (5) calls on the Atrocity Prevention Task Force  
20          to conduct a comprehensive review of its efforts to  
21          prevent, analyze, and respond to atrocities in Sudan,  
22          in alignment with the 2022 United States Strategy  
23          to Anticipate, Prevent, and Respond to Atrocities.