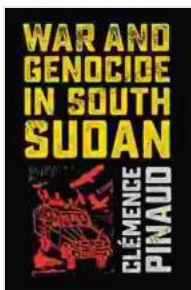


# War and Genocide in South Sudan: A Long and Tragic History

The war and genocide in South Sudan is a complex and tragic conflict that has resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people. The conflict began in 2013, when President Salva Kiir accused his former vice president, Riek Machar, of attempting to stage a coup. Machar denied the allegations, and the two sides have been fighting ever since.



## War and Genocide in South Sudan by Judge Victoria Pratt

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The war has been marked by widespread human rights abuses, including mass killings, rape, and torture. The United Nations has accused both sides of committing war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The conflict has also had a devastating impact on the people of South Sudan. The country is now one of the poorest in the world, and millions of people have been displaced from their homes. The war has also caused a severe food crisis, and malnutrition is widespread.

## History of the Conflict

The roots of the conflict in South Sudan can be traced back to the country's long history of ethnic and political tensions. South Sudan is home to a diverse population of over 60 ethnic groups. The largest ethnic group is the Dinka, who make up about 35% of the population. Other major ethnic groups include the Nuer, the Shilluk, and the Azande.

For many years, South Sudan was ruled by the north, which was dominated by the Arab-speaking Muslim population. The south is predominantly Christian and animist. The north-south divide has been a source of tension for decades.

In 2005, the north and south signed a peace agreement that ended the second Sudanese civil war. The agreement gave South Sudan a semi-autonomous government. However, tensions between the two sides remained high.

In 2011, South Sudan voted to become an independent country. However, the independence of South Sudan did not end the conflict. In 2013, President Salva Kiir accused his former vice president, Riek Machar, of attempting to stage a coup. Machar denied the allegations, and the two sides have been fighting ever since.

## Causes of the Conflict

The war in South Sudan is a complex conflict with a variety of causes. Some of the key causes include:

- **Ethnic tensions:** South Sudan is home to a diverse population of over 60 ethnic groups. The largest ethnic group is the Dinka, who make up

about 35% of the population. Other major ethnic groups include the Nuer, the Shilluk, and the Azande. For many years, South Sudan was ruled by the north, which was dominated by the Arab-speaking Muslim population. The south is predominantly Christian and animist. The north-south divide has been a source of tension for decades.

- **Political tensions:** The war in South Sudan is also a political conflict. President Salva Kiir and his supporters accuse Riek Machar and his supporters of trying to overthrow the government. Machar and his supporters deny these allegations.
- **Economic tensions:** South Sudan is one of the poorest countries in the world. The country is heavily dependent on oil revenues, which have been declining in recent years. This has led to economic hardship for many South Sudanese.

## **Consequences of the Conflict**

The war in South Sudan has had a devastating impact on the people of South Sudan. The conflict has resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people. Millions of people have been displaced from their homes. The war has also caused a severe food crisis, and malnutrition is widespread.

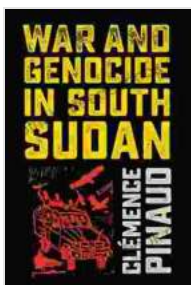
The war has also had a negative impact on the region. The conflict has destabilized the region and has led to an increase in violence in neighboring countries. The war has also made it difficult for humanitarian aid to reach those in need.

The war and genocide in South Sudan is a complex and tragic conflict. The conflict has resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people.

Millions of people have been displaced from their homes. The war has also caused a severe food crisis, and malnutrition is widespread.

The conflict has also had a negative impact on the region. The conflict has destabilized the region and has led to an increase in violence in neighboring countries. The war has also made it difficult for humanitarian aid to reach those in need.

The international community must continue to work to end the conflict in South Sudan. The UN and other organizations are providing humanitarian aid to those in need. The international community must also work to support the peace process and help to rebuild South Sudan.



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