

# Education Amid Conflict

## How ADHA is Keeping Sudanese Children in School

As war and displacement disrupt the lives of millions in Sudan, one of the most significant casualties is education. With an estimated 19 million children out of school and over 6.5 million losing access due to escalating violence, the future of Sudan's youth hangs in the balance. However, in the midst of this crisis, Action on Development and Humanitarian Aid (ADHA) is working tirelessly to ensure that children—both internally displaced within Sudan and those seeking refuge in Chad—continue to learn despite the odds.

### **A Generation at Risk**

Before conflict engulfed Sudan in April 2023, nearly 7 million children were already out of school due to systemic poverty and instability. Now, as the crisis deepens, even those who had access to education find themselves cut off from learning opportunities. Schools have been shuttered, teachers displaced, and families forced to prioritize survival over schooling.

Without education, Sudanese children face a bleak reality—vulnerability to exploitation, recruitment by armed groups, early marriage, and a cycle of poverty that could last generations. For girls, the situation is particularly dire. Deep-rooted societal norms and a lack of female educators make it even more difficult for them to access quality education, further exacerbating gender inequalities.

### **ADHA's Mission: Education in Emergencies**

Understanding the urgent need for intervention, ADHA has been at the forefront of providing education in emergency settings. Through a comprehensive approach that includes field assessments, resource provision, and teacher training, the organization is helping displaced children regain a sense of normalcy and hope.

### **Education Support in Chad**

In Chad, where over a million Sudanese refugees live in camps, ADHA has implemented various initiatives to bridge the educational gap. Recognizing the shortage of teachers, the organization has trained volunteer educators to ensure that core subjects continue to be taught. ADHA has also provided essential school supplies, from textbooks to writing materials, and established makeshift classrooms, allowing children to continue their studies in a structured environment.

### **Reviving Education in White Nile State, Sudan**

In White Nile State, located 300 kilometers south of Khartoum, ADHA has been a key player in supporting thousands of displaced children. Partnering with local NGOs, the organization has introduced informal education programs, trained volunteer teachers, and provided didactic materials. Makeshift classrooms have been set up to accommodate displaced students, ensuring that learning does not come to a complete halt amid the crisis.

## **Overcoming Challenges**

Providing education in war-torn Sudan is fraught with challenges. Power outages, internet disruptions, and a lack of educational infrastructure make remote learning difficult. Additionally, many children, like those in Kassala, struggle with the psychological trauma of displacement. For them, school is not just a place to learn—it is a safe space where they can find stability and community.

One Sudanese mother, who fled Khartoum with her daughter, describes the impact of ADHA's efforts: "My daughter misses her friends, her school, and the life we had. But with ADHA's support, she is able to continue learning. It gives me hope that one day, when peace returns, she won't be left behind."

## **The Road Ahead**

As the conflict in Sudan continues, ADHA remains committed to expanding its reach and impact. The organization is advocating for more resources to support education in emergencies and is calling on international donors, governments, and humanitarian partners to prioritize the educational needs of Sudanese children.

Education is more than just a fundamental right—it is a lifeline. By ensuring that Sudanese children continue to learn despite displacement and war, ADHA is not only safeguarding their futures but also laying the foundation for a more stable and hopeful tomorrow.

For those who wish to support ADHA's mission, donations and volunteer efforts can make a tangible difference. Together, we can ensure that no Sudanese child is left behind in the darkness of conflict.