

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	895
Land:	Sudan
Kilde:	Medicins Sans Frontières (MSF)
Titel:	"Sexual violence in Sudan: "They beat us and they raped us right there on the road in public"
Udgivet:	28. maj 2025
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	29. august 2025

Document #2127742

MSF – Médecins Sans Frontières (Author)

"Sexual violence in Sudan: "They beat us and they raped us right there on the road in public"

- In the Darfur region of Sudan, and in eastern Chad, MSF teams are caring for women and girls who have survived horrific sexual violence.
- Victims and survivors need tailored and accessible care.
- These brutal attacks and rapes must stop.

BRUSSELS/AMSTERDAM - Women and girls in [Sudan's](#) Darfur region are at near-constant risk of [sexual violence](#), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) warned today. The true scale of this crisis remains difficult to quantify, as services remain limited, and people face barriers in seeking treatment or speaking about their ordeal. Yet all the victims and survivors who speak with MSF teams in Darfur and across the border in [Chad](#) share horrifying stories of brutal violence and rape. With men and boys also at risk, the extent of the suffering is beyond comprehension.

"Women and girls do not feel safe anywhere. They are attacked in their own homes, when fleeing violence, getting food, collecting firewood, working in the fields. They tell us they feel trapped," says Claire San Filippo, MSF emergency coordinator. "These attacks are heinous and cruel, often involving

ecoi.net description:

Darfur and eastern Chad: MSF provides care for women and girls who survived sexual violence; according to MSF, women and girls in Darfur are at constant risk of sexual violence

Country:

Sudan

Source:

[MSF – Médecins Sans Frontières](#)
(Author)

multiple perpetrators. This must stop. Sexual violence is not a natural or inevitable consequence of [war](#), it can constitute a war crime, a form of torture, and a crime against humanity. The warring parties must hold their fighters accountable and protect people from this sickening violence. Services for survivors must immediately be scaled up, so survivors have access to the medical treatment and psychological care they desperately need.”

Sexual violence has become so widespread in Darfur that many people chillingly speak about it as unavoidable.

“Some people came at night to rape the women and take everything. I heard some women being raped at night. The men were hiding in toilets or in some rooms where they could close the doors. The women didn’t hide because it was just beating and rape for us, but the men would get killed,” a woman told MSF’s team in West Darfur.

It is not only during attacks on villages and towns or during the journey to safety that people have been raped and beaten. Limited humanitarian assistance is forcing people to take risks to survive. People are walking long distances to meet their basic needs and taking work in dangerous places. Others decide against taking the risk but are then cut off from their sources of income, further reducing their access to water, food and healthcare. This itself is no guarantee of safety, as people can be attacked at home as well.

MSF provided care to 659 survivors of sexual violence in South Darfur between January 2024 and March 2025:

- 86% reported that they were raped.
- 94% of survivors were women and girls.
- 56% said they were assaulted by a non-civilian (by a member of military, police or other security forces or non-state armed groups).
- 55% reported additional physical violence during the assault.
- 34% faced sexual violence while working in, or travelling to, the fields.

Published:
28 May 2025

Original link:
<https://www.msf.org/sexual-violence-sudan-%E2%80%9Cthey-beat-us-and-they-raped-us-right-there-road-public%E2%80%9D>

Document type:
Appeal or News Release

Language:
English

Available on ecoi.net since:
13 August 2025

Document ID:
2127742

- 31% were younger than 18, with 7% younger than 10 years old and 2.6% younger than 5 years old.

These disturbing statistics are likely an underestimate of the true scale of sexual violence in South Darfur.

The situation is similar in other places where MSF is able to provide care for victims and survivors such as eastern Chad, which currently hosts over 800,000 Sudanese refugees. In Adré, almost half of the 44 victims and survivors treated by MSF since January 2025 were children. In Wadi Fira Province, 94 victims and survivors were treated between January and March 2025, 81 under the age of 18. The testimonies of patients and caregivers in both eastern Chad and Sudan's Darfur region bear this out.

"Three months ago, there was a little girl of 13 years old who was raped by three men...They caught her and raped her, then they abandoned her in the valley... They called some people to carry the girl to the hospital. I was one of them," one man told MSF's team in Murnei, West Darfur.

Many survivors report being raped by more than one person. In Metché in eastern Chad, 11 out of 24 victims and survivors treated between January and March 2025 were attacked by multiple assailants.

"When we arrived in Kulbus, we saw a group of three women with some RSF [Rapid Support Forces] men guarding them. The RSF also ordered us to stay with them," says a 17-year-old survivor. "They told us, 'You are the wives of the Sudanese army or their girls.' ... Then they beat us, and they raped us right there on the road, in public. There were nine RSF men. Seven of them raped me. I wanted to lose my memory after that."

In some cases, the attackers directly accused the survivors of supporting the other side.

"I have a certificate for first aid nursing. [When they stopped us], the RSF asked me to give them my bag. When they saw the certificate inside, they told me, 'You want to heal the Sudanese army, you want to cure the enemy!' Then they burnt my certificate, and they took me away to rape me," says one woman. "They told everyone else to stay on the floor. I was with some other women, including my sister. They only raped me, because of my certificate."

It is vital that victims and survivors access services after the attack, as sexual violence is a medical emergency. The immediate and long-lasting physical and psychological consequences which can be life-threatening. Yet survivors struggle to access medical care and protection because of a lack of services, limited awareness of the few services that exist, the high cost of traveling to facilities, and a reluctance to speak about the abuse due to shame, fear of stigma or retaliation.

"I cannot say anything to the community because it will be a shame for my family. So, I didn't say anything about what happened to me before today. I'm only asking for medical help now," says a survivor in eastern Chad. "I was too afraid to go to the hospital. My family told me, 'Don't tell anybody'."

Where services exist, survivors need clear and accessible referral pathways to get the help they need. In South Darfur, the state with the greatest number of displaced people in Sudan, in late 2024, MSF added a community-based component to our care for survivors of sexual violence. Midwives and community healthcare workers were trained and equipped to provide emergency contraceptives and psychological first aid to survivors. They also supported survivors' referral to clinics and hospitals where MSF teams work for comprehensive care. Since the addition of this community-based model, we have seen a steep increase in women and adolescents seeking care.

MSF teams continue to see new survivors of sexual violence. In Tawila, where people continue to arrive after attacks on Zamzam camp and in El Fasher, North Darfur, the hospital received 48 survivors of sexual violence between January and the beginning of May, most of them since the start of fighting in Zamzam camp in April.

"Access to services for survivors of sexual violence is lacking and, like most humanitarian and healthcare services in Sudan, must urgently be scaled up. People – mostly women and girls – who suffer sexual violence urgently need medical care, including psychological support, and protection services," says Ruth Kauffman, MSF emergency medical manager. "Care must be tailored from the outset to mitigate against the many overwhelming barriers survivors face when seeking medical care in the aftermath of sexual violence."

Brutal attacks and rapes must stop, warring parties must ensure that civilians are protected, respecting their obligations under international humanitarian law to protect civilians, and medical

and humanitarian services for victims and survivors of sexual violence must be scaled up urgently in Darfur and eastern Chad.

Austrian Red Cross

Austrian Centre for Country of Origin and
Asylum Research and Documentation
(ACCORD)

Wiedner Hauptstraße 32, 1041 Wien

T +43 1 589 00 583

F +43 1 589 00 589

info@ecoi.net

Contact

Imprint & Disclaimer

F.A.Q.

Data Protection Notice

ecoi.net is run by the Austrian Red Cross (department ACCORD) in cooperation with Informationsverbund Asyl & Migration. ecoi.net is funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Austrian Ministry of the Interior and Caritas Austria. ecoi.net is supported by ECRE & UNHCR.

