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## Atrocity Alert No. 456: Sudan, Cameroon and Nicaragua

29 October 2025 | **ATROCITY ALERT**

**ATROCITY ALERT IS A WEEKLY PUBLICATION BY THE GLOBAL CENTRE FOR THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT HIGHLIGHTING SITUATIONS WHERE POPULATIONS ARE AT RISK OF, OR ARE ENDURING, MASS ATROCITY CRIMES.**

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### **ATROCITIES SURGE AS RAPID SUPPORT FORCES SEIZE EL FASHER, DARFUR**

After besieging **El Fasher**, the capital of North Darfur, for 18 months, on 26 October the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) announced it had taken control of the city. Local sources report that the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and its allies withdrew from the 6th Infantry Division headquarters, their final stronghold in El Fasher, late Saturday after sustained bombardment.

An estimated 36,183 people have fled between 26 and 29 October, while many others remain trapped inside the city. RSF-recorded videos show fighters firing on escaping civilians and detaining thousands, while the fate of many remains unknown. The UN Human Rights Office

has received alarming reports of atrocities committed by the RSF fighters, including summary executions. With telecommunications cut off, assessing the situation on the ground has become nearly impossible. Satellite imagery **reveals** house-to-house clearance operations and evidence consistent with the presence of human bodies near RSF vehicles. The humanitarian situation is catastrophic, with civilians facing severe shortages of food, water and medical care.

According to human rights organization Avaaz, videos shared on social media show RSF fighters repeatedly using the derogatory term “falangayat,” historically associated with enslaved people, to demean both African communities in Darfur and anyone perceived as affiliated with the SAF. For over two years, the **Global Centre**, Sudanese civil society and others have **sounded the alarm**, warning that the RSF’s pattern of systematically targeting non-Arab communities across Darfur, in conjunction with the destruction of critical civilian infrastructure, appears to be a continuation of their campaign of ethnic cleansing, potentially amounting to **acts of genocide**. On 27 October the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Türk, warned that “the risk of further large-scale, ethnically motivated violations and atrocities in El Fasher is mounting by the day.”

The RSF’s capture of El Fasher, as well as recent advancements in North Kordofan, mark a major strategic turning point in the conflict that has devastated Sudan since April 2023. With the RSF now controlling nearly all major urban centers in Darfur, SAF authority in the region appears to have drastically diminished. These advances may also signal a de facto partition of the country, strengthening the RSF’s leverage in any future political negotiations while simultaneously undermining international efforts to secure a ceasefire and a civilian-led political transition.

The ongoing crisis in Darfur has exposed the international community’s continued failure to respond decisively and effectively, despite 18 months of escalating violence and civilian suffering. As the conflict enters a critical phase, urgent action is needed to protect civilians. The international community must urgently intensify diplomatic pressure and demand that all parties comply with international law. Warring parties must immediately guarantee safe and unimpeded passage for civilians wishing to leave El Fasher and ensure that humanitarian aid can be delivered safely. External actors who have fueled the conflict, particularly the United Arab Emirates, must be held accountable for prolonging violence and enabling the targeting of civilians.