

in the Sudan

Sudanese Civil War Serves Interests of Exploiters

By Bayyinah Sharrieff

As I expressed in this article last week the student of the African and European university, being the most rational without historical obligations and convictions, is the initial element which brings to light the flaws in his government and its policies.

I EXPERIENCED such an initial evolution during my first year as a student in the University of Khartoum, Republic of the Sudan, October, 1964.

The Sudan has been in a state of civil war for many years. The war between the northern and the southern Sudanese was first termed "guerrilla warfare" but now the mode of weapons has advanced and doubt is that this war can still be classified as such.

The Northern Sudanese are predominately Muslims. The Southern Sudanese, pagans, with a small percentage of them Christians. The Northern Sudanese army is well disciplined and is supported by the Government of the country, and the majority of the people. The "Southern Freedom Fighters" are supported by the south and southwest. The majority of their weapons which have been confiscated are made in the U.S.A., some even have Hebrew writing on them. However, the United States government has openly

given support to the Northern Sudanese government. (It appears that the U.S.A. is lending finance to both sides of this affair to keep separation and enmity between Black and Black, to keep them divided).

I believe that many Sudanese will argue against this statement, because they are not yet aware of the tricks of the white American Government, as are we Blacks who have been under them for the past 400 years, and have now been awakened by the teachings of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad to realize the true workings and ways of the white man (devil).

THIS WAR was in progress before I went to the Sudan in 1964, and is still going on.

I was told by some Southern Sudanese that this war started because of the pressure which Southerners were receiving to accept Islam. They complained of the Christian schools being closed and that the government made it obligatory for them to send their children to the Islamic schools. They resented this and when they refused and retaliated through violence to some of the instructors, the instructors had to be withdrawn to the north for safety.

The Sudanese have fallen victim to slave drivers in their history, and to them those coming from the north represented slavers. During the time of Muhammad Ali's rule over Egypt (1805-1849) expeditions were sent to the Sudan to secure Black men for their Egyptian armies. Later during the weak rule of Ismail and Tawfig (1863 to the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century; the slave trade was at its height.

Then with the Condominium Agreement of 1899 the Sudan was placed under the rulership of England and Egypt (in actuality under England). This government forbade any northerner to go south without a pass and any southerner to go north without a pass. This restriction was in effect for approximately 50 years. The English said that this was done to prevent slaving.

Only Christian missionaries were permitted to teach in the south. Consequently the schooling, supported in part by the government, was only Christian. Before independence in 1956

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(three) wanted a separate state, but due to their lack of true representation and unity this was not permitted. So, we have southerners who believe that every northerner is a slaver and feels subjugated to accept a religion which he feels will enslave him. This was the result of the Christian missionary's teachings.

So we have the country divided, Black Brother against Black Brother, fighting and killing one another.

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad teaches us, his followers, that this has been the successful pattern of the white man (devil) ever since he was made, and that this pattern of division has kept the white man in a seat of being able to arbitrate, and rule us. This is the case in Nigeria today. Notice that most Ibos (those in the eastern region of Nigeria now termed "Biafra")

are Christian. Do not the white governments around the world give public support (and financial, too) to Biafra?

HOW CAN a country or a people advance and develop if there is internal strife?

The university students at Khartoum wished to have a panel discussion open to the public on the North and South Sudanese situation. The government at that time was a military puppet to a party whose actual purpose was to leave the wealth of the country with a few and quiet any opponents to their desires.

It was about the second week in October, 1964, that the announcement was made of the open panel discussion. Some of the southern political leaders had been invited to participate as well as some of the staff of the university.

Upon hearing this announcement, the government sent a statement to the Vice Chancellor of the university making it unlawful to hold such a meeting.

(to be continued.)

Classified