

# Kadugli Newsletter and Prayer Diary

“Please do not grow tired of praying for Sudan” (Archbishop Ezekiel)

## What is the Current Situation in Sudan?

For months now we have had news of terrible things taking place in Sudan, but is it really true? Here is an extract from a report by a member of AFRECS (American Friends of the Episcopal Church of the Sudans) in August:

“Yes, sadly it is really bad, and I believe that it could well be considerably worse than the famine of 40 years ago: that one was caused by drought, whereas this one is caused by war, the fighting is still going on, we can’t get to most of the needy people, and there is all the associated trauma of killing, rape, displacement. And finally, most of the cities have been severely damaged, infrastructure destroyed, and even farming equipment destroyed or stolen. Let’s hope and pray that the two sides come to the table for the ceasefire talks on August 14 and come to an agreement to stop fighting and allow humanitarian access. the same throughout that sadly war-torn country?”

A recent BBC report tells vividly of the violence. Truthfully, it is shocking, and the details are not to be repeated here. The reports tell of widespread violence in the neighbourhood of Omdurman/Khartoum, but they are widespread as AFRECS say, and most, though not all of the blame is laid at the doors of RSF and its fellow travellers.

On the hunger, a joint report has been published by Norwegian/Danish/US aid groups with the challenging title **If Bullets Miss, Hunger Won’t**. Among so many other things, it says *“We cannot be clearer: Sudan is experiencing a starvation crisis of historic proportions. And yet, the silence is deafening. People are dying of hunger, every day, and yet the focus remains on semantic debates and legal definitions.*

*“Every opportunity to head-off the worst of this situation has been missed, and now the people of Sudan face a crisis unmatched in decades. As the peak of the lean season approaches, widespread death and suffering is advancing across the county. Children are starving to death.”*

## Is it the Same Throughout the Country?

Certainly we hear mostly about the capital Khartoum, where there is all kinds of violence, and Darfur in the West, where on top of everything else there are reports of ethnic cleansing, and at the other extreme things are less severe in Port Sudan in the North East. Kadugli is in the province of South Kordofan, and less news comes from there. Nevertheless, latest reports suggest the violence and the suffering are no less severe.

## What about Kadugli?

Detailed news from Kadugli has been difficult to come by. Is the suffering as bad there as elsewhere? Is the siege of Kadugli and Dilling towns by RSF still continuing? Does this affect the Nuba Mountains area? What has the harvest been like? And what is the church, both in Sudan and in the UK doing about it? Some answers can be gained from Archbishop Ezekiel’s recent Relief Report:

Since July 2023 the Province of Episcopal Church of Sudan, through the support of its friends, funds are sent to the five Dioceses with exception of the new Diocese of Heiban so that people are given relief food each month or each two months depending on the availability of funds. The Episcopal Church of Sudan is very much indebted to its friends for their generosity.

### **Diocese of Kadugli (town)**

The Diocese is divided into 2 parts but we dealt with the part under the authority of the government, mainly Kadugli and Dilling towns. Due to the escalation of the war, Assistant Bishop Hassan, who used to be in Kadugli, has now moved to the SPLA/N controlled area. There are 4 parishes functioning with 2 pastors and 2 Laymen who oversee the parishes both in Kadugli and Dilling respectively. Kadugli town has been under siege for many months now. Nobody goes out or comes in, there is no food coming in. Many people have left the town to the other areas to find something to eat.

The area of Nuba Mountains was declared as "Hunger Zone by the SPLA/N" while the government says otherwise. It has been said people eat tree leaves in order to survive!

The report **If Bullets Miss, Hunger Won't** points to a less obvious consequence of the famine. The following quotation is from someone in Kadugli:

*"[Children] all complain about the lack of meals before and after the school day. Their ability to understand has decreased because of the hunger, so parents prefer to let them stay home instead of being enrolled in school."*

The church in Kadugli Diocese does what it can to provide for its members, helped by our contributions.

For this reason we are asking you to give to Bradford Deanery for Kadugli. Please give via your church if you can, or directly. The account details are:

Bank:	Lloyds Bank Trowbridge
Name of Account:	Bradford Deanery
Sort Code:	30-98-75
Account No.	00710285
Reference	Kadugli. ( <u>N.B. This is important</u> )

Please also consider ways of raising funds for Kadugli. Chris Fielden of St Mary's, Broughton Gifford, has issued the following invitation:

"St. Mary's Church, Broughton Gifford, will be holding a quiz from which all the proceeds will go to support the church in Kadugli, in Broughton Gifford Village Hall, on Saturday 23rd November, at 7.30pmm. We would welcome teams from round the Deanery. Please register with Annette Stone. Price £7 per person to include a Ploughman's Supper."

Annette Stone's contact details are:  
annettestone7a@gmail.com

or telephone 01225 782610

Please support this event.

And as always, we ask you to pray.

## Prayer Diary

**“Please do not grow tired of praying for Sudan”** (Archbishop Ezekiel)

“He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.” - Psalm 46:9

Please pray that God will indeed make the war in Sudan cease, and provide food, medicines and other necessities for the people of Sudan.

Pray too that he will protect his people and bless them.

Pray for Bishop Hassan as he leads ministry in the Nuba Mountains.