Kadugli Newsletter and Prayer Diary

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

Recent News on Sudan.

The civil war in Sudan continues to go back and forth; first one side seems to be winning, then the other. A little while back the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) regained Khartoum city, and then Khartoum State, and the Rapid Support Force (RSF) seemed in retreat. The SAF drove south towards South Kordofan and again the RSF were displaced. Then the RSF kicked back and retook the area around the border between North and South Kordofan; they also made a drone attack on the hitherto quiet region of Port Sudan. They have also taken control in the extreme north, in the area bordering Libya and Egypt.

Even in the capital, Khartoum, now under SAF control, lack of security and poor services such as electricity, water, internet, and telecommunications in the Sudanese capital of Khartoum are causing people who had returned to the capital to leave again, though conditions seem better in the adjoining city of Omdurman.

In the last newsletter we quoted Bishop Hassan as saying "My loved ones, we are a very difficult time more than any time, because the war will be in the big cities like Dilling and Kadugli, and there is a severe risk that we cannot speak, but we ask for the help of God and protection for our lives." It is not clear whether the "severe risk we cannot speak" refers to being unable to speak within Kadugli or to being able to communicate with us in Britain. We hope and pray it is the latter, and is caused by a similar failure of services as in Khartoum.

From all this you might draw a picture of anarchy, and while it does not use the term, in an article dated 16 June the BBC paints a picture of Sudan as a nation "in danger of self-destructing as conflict and famine reign". The BBC points out that there is "strategic stalemate", but that while neither side is free from criticism, there is a possibility of further violence, human rights abuses and indeed genocide if the RSF win in the north and west of the country.

The BBC also points out that the UN requested £3bn of emergency aid for Sudan, but by the end of May 2025 only 13.3% of this had been funded. We may note that with current UK concerns about public spending, overseas aid has now a lower priority. And where aid is provided, both sides in the conflict in Sudan continue to restrict aid agencies' access to the starving.

And What of the Church in Sudan?

There is little up-to-date news about the church in Sudan as a whole. As with the nation as a whole, there is little news, but as the principal combatants seem largely at least nominally Muslim, so the church is politically in a weak position.

What about Kadugli?

Last month Bishop Hassan was very conscious of the dangers the population faced. The population was living, and no doubt continues to live in fear. Hassan's request for prayer for his family reminds us that these are people like us, with families whom they wish to keep safe now, and to educate so they can prosper as adults. But conditions remain hard in Kadugli, and in particular for Christians there. As a general rule in Sudan, Christians seem to be discriminated against when any aid is given. Aid, indeed, is in short supply, and we in Bradford Deanery make a point of targeting the church in Kadugli.



The Mother's Union is an important pillar of the church in the Nuba Mountains - Photo from Ludia Shukai

We continue to support the desperate need for food and other essentials, and in addition, we have been supporting Hassan's son Yassa with help for his fees for his course at a university in Uganda. For administrative and other reasons any money given for Hassan's son Yassa would need to be kept distinct from other funds, so anyone wishing to donate for Yassa can use the same payment details as for other funds for Kadugli, but with the reference "Yassa" instead of "Kadugli."

Across Bradford Deanery there has been a continuous warm and generous response to this need; thank you all. The church in Kadugli is intensely grateful for our support, both financial and in prayer. Please continue to 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. Or, as mentioned above, Yassa. (N.B. This is important)

Please also consider ways of raising funds for Kadugli.

And as always, we ask you to pray.

Prayer Diary

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

We continue to pray for the nation of Sudan, that God will bring about peace and tolerance instead of conflict, greed and intransigence. Above all, we pray for the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts and minds of the people there and to bring them to a saving knowledge of God in Christ Jesus.

We pray especially for the Diocese of Kadugli and for the Christians there, for their protection and for the provision of food and medicine and other necessities of life, and especially that God will uphold them in their Christian faith.

We also pray for the young people and for their education, and that God will provide them with hope for their future.