

**Country/entity** South Sudan  
Sudan  
Southern Kordofan - Blue Nile - Abyei

**Region** Africa (excl MENA)

**Agreement name** Communique: Dinka Malual & Rezeigat Grassroots Peace Conference

**Date** 25 Jan 2010

**Agreement status** Multiparty signed/agreed

**Interim arrangement** Yes

**Agreement/conflict level** Intrastate/local conflict

### **Sudan Conflicts (1955 - )**

Agreements relate to several distinct dyads, and also the negotiated independence of South Sudan, and subsequent internal conflict in South Sudan. Sudan-South Sudan. The long-standing conflict between the north and the south of the country dates back to colonial times, where the British introduced a so-called 'Southern Policy', severely hampering population movements between these big regions. Immediately after gaining independence in 1956, southern movements started to fight for independence; this fight became professionalised in 1983 with the foundation of the soon internationally supported Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). When the Islamic Front government introduced strict sharia laws in the south after it took over power in 1988 the war intensified. A decade later, the military situation reached a stalemate, enabling internationally facilitated peace negotiations to begin in 1997. After more fighting, a final negotiation push began in 2002, leading to the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in January 2005.

Sudan-South Sudan post referendum. South Sudan became independent in July 2011; since then, relations between the two countries are complicated and violent conflict led by the SPLM (North) in the Sudanese Nuba mountains region has since intensified.

Darfur. Other long-standing violent conflicts are in the east and the west of the country. In the east, the Beja Congress, established in 1957, is the spearhead of a currently 'peaceful' opposition movement. In the west, the violent conflict in Darfur intensified in the early 2000s and rapidly gained international attention, even resulting in genocide charges against leading figures of the Sudanese government. The situation on the ground is complex, with over a dozen organisations (most notably the Sudanese Liberation Movement and the Justice and Equality Movement) fighting the Sudanese government and allied groups like the Janjaweed – although all parties have switched sides on numerous occasions. Several mediation attempts have not been successful, due to the shaky commitment of the Sudanese central government and the distrust among the armed opposition.

South Sudan - internal

In December 2013, after president Salva Kiir accused opposition leader Riek Machar of attempting a coup, violent conflict broke out between government forces of the SPLM/A and anti-governmental groups. In addition, several other political militias as well as communal militias have joined the conflict. In 2015 the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS) was signed. Due to unsuccessful implementation the agreement was revitalized in 2018. In September 2019, Kiir and Machar agreed to establish a power-sharing government after struggles on forming a unity transitional government.

Close

Sudan Conflicts (1955 - )

**Stage** Framework/substantive - comprehensive

**Conflict nature** Inter-group

**Peace process** Kordofan - Blue Nile - Abyei process

**Parties** (1) Malual West, (2) Malual North (3) Malual Centre (4) Abeim and (5) Malual East being the Dinka Malual on one hand and on another hand the Rezeigat communities of (1) El Nawaiba of Western Grazing Route – Elfordous to Aroyo (2) Um Dhahiya of the Eastern Grazing Route – Abujabra, Wanjok and Warawar (3) of Abumatariq of Gok Machar and (4) Mahameed of Althouthah of Asalaya through to Timsah and Raga;

Dinka Malual:  
P/Chief Achein Achein Yor of Malual East;  
P/Chief Garang Diang Akok of Malual West;  
P/Chief Peter Makuec Makuec Kuol of Abeim;  
Chief Santino Deng Nyuol of Malual North;  
Elder Anyat Dut Diing of Malual Centre;  
P/Chief Ayaga Ayaga Ayaga of Ayat West;

Rezeigat:  
Ustaz Mohamed Ali el Gourashi;  
Ustaz Mohamud Fadhel Nabi Sharif;  
El Said Abdallah Abu Basher Mohamad;  
Altaib El Nair Abdaallah;  
Ibrahim Musa Jad El Karim;

**Third parties** Witnessed by H.E. Garang Diing Akuong, Minister of Finance, Industry, Trade and Economic Planning, Northern Bahr Ghazal State.

John Marks, USAID

**Description** Agreement between the communities of Rezeigat and the Dinka Malual committing to respect customary law, create a Joint Customary Court between the two communities, enhance cultural and religious tolerance and communication and to broaden inclusion to women and children, among other commitments.

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**Agreement document** [SS\\_100125\\_Communiq  , Dinka Malual & Rezeigat Grassroots Peace Conference.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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## Local agreement properties

<b>Process type</b>	Formal structured process
<b>Rationale</b>	The agreements resulted from a four-day 'Grassroots Peace Conference' facilitated by the NGO Policy Advocacy and Strategic Studies (PASS). A secondary source states that the sub-national governments of South Darfur and North Bahr El Ghazal state had agreed to this conference taking place (see reference: Reliefweb, 2010a), and there was high-level involvement at the event (Minister of Finance, Northern Bahr Ghazal State). It does not appear to be an isolated example. PASS facilitated another 'Grassroot Peace Conference' in Aweil about two years earlier (see Joint Communique: Dinka Malual and Messiriya Grasroots Peace Conference 14/11/2008), albeit not between the same groups.
<b>Is there a documented link to a national peace process?</b>	Yes
<b>Link to national process: articulated rationale</b>	The agreement references the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) (p.1) and refers to the 'wisdom and good leadership by the Presidency of H.E. Omar Basher, H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit First Vice President and GoSS President, H.E. Ali Osman Taha, Vice President of Republic of Sudan' (p.1). This agreement was preceded by the 'Joint Final Communique and Resolutions: Dinka Malual and Misseriyya Grassroots Peace Conference' (14/11/2008) which appears to be (indirectly) linked to post-CPA national-level processes.
<b>Name of Locale</b>	South Darfur (Sudan) - Northern Bahr al Ghazal (South Sudan) border area
<b>Nature of Locale</b>	Region
<b>GPS Lat/Long (DD)</b>	9.624437, 27.456523
<b>Participant type</b>	Central state actor Local state actor International or transnational actor Domestic religious organisation/leader or other elder Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations Regional state actor
<b>Mediator, facilitator or similar</b>	Mediator or similar referred to
<b>Mediator (references)</b>	Facilitator: Policy Advocacy & Strategic Studies (PASS) Logistical, financial, and planning supporters: Dinka Malual and administration, people of Aweil town, USAID/OTI/AECOM, PACT Sudan, Southern Sudan Peace Commission (SSPC), USAID/Bridge, Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (also see reference Winrock International (n.d.))
<b>Type of mediator/facilitator/similar</b>	Central state actor Local state actor Local community/civilian group(s)/civil society organisations International or transnational actor

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**Local issues**

**Ritual/prayer and process (including use of scripture)** Page 3 (of the PDF), Unnamed preamble, Joint hands in prayer, plea and to put our destiny to The Will of All-Mighty God-The Allah;

**Grievance List** Page 2 (of the PDF), Unnamed preamble, Cognizant of the consequence of instability and destruction of property that has been mutually inflicted upon our own communities during the North-South war between 1983 and 2005 where innocent youth were mobilized by the warring parties to cause self destruction, abduction of children and women, wanton killing, displacement and devastation of property in the area; Recalling the long history of marginalization by successive government in Khartoum since 1956 until our present days;

**Cattle rustling/ banditry** No specific mention.

**Social cover** No specific mention.

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