

Country/entity	South Sudan Sudan
Region	Africa (excl MENA)
Agreement name	Nuba Mountains Ceasefire Agreement on Sudan
Date	19 Jan 2002
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 Ceasefire/related

Conflict nature Government/territory

Peace process	Kordofan - Blue Nile - Abyei process
Parties	FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SUDAN Dr. Mutrif Siddig Ali
	FOR THE SUDAN PEOPLES' LIBERATION MOVEMENT/NUBA (SPLM/NUBA) Cdr. Abdul Aziz Adam El Hilu
Third parties	AS WITNESSES:
	FOR THE SWISS CONFEDERATION Ambassador Josef Bucher
	FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Col. Cecil Dennis Giddens
Description	Ceasefire agreement calling for the redeployment of all combatants from the Nuba Mountains region. Empowers a Joint Military Commission to monitor the ceasefire. The agreement is renewable after six months upon agreement of both parties.

Agreement document [SD_020119_Nuba Mountains Cease-fire Agreement.pdf \(opens in new tab\) | Download PDF](#)

Local agreement properties

Process type	Formal structured process
Rationale	This agreement was the result of seven days of negotiations between the Government of Sudan and the SPLM/Nuba in Buergenstock, Switzerland that were facilitated by teams of Swiss and American mediators. The SPLM/Nuba and the Government of Sudan engaged in other negotiations prior to and after the signing of this agreement.
Is there a documented link to a national peace process?	Yes
Link to national process: articulated rationale	The Nuba mountains are one of the main contested areas between Sudan and South Sudan, and they were one of the key topics in the pre-2005 peace negotiations between the two parties. This agreement is regarded as part of this series of negotiations and agreements that have paved the way for the wider IGAD/Naivasha talks which resulted in the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in January 2005.
Name of Locale	Nuba mountains (Southern Kordofan and the province of Lagawa in Western Kordofan)
Nature of Locale	Region
GPS Lat/Long (DD)	12.000067, 30.749996

Participant type Central state actor
Local armed group
International or transnational actor

Mediator, facilitator or similar Mediator or similar referred to

Mediator (references) Facilitators and mediators: Ambassador Josef Bucher (Switzerland); Col. Cecil Dennis Giddens (United States of America). Both have signed the agreement as witnesses and a secondary source describes in detail their role in facilitating and mediating this agreement (Mason, 2007; see references).

Type of mediator/facilitator/similar International or transnational actor

Local issues

Ritual/prayer and process (including use of scripture) No specific mention.

Grievance List Page 1, Preamble, Aware of the vital need to establish a settlement to the conflict which has been taking place for many years and to promote peace in the Nuba Mountains;

Cattle rustling/ banditry No specific mention.

Social cover No specific mention.
