



The Promise of Never Again

The Struggle to Prevent Genocide in the Post-Holocaust Era

*Students Handouts and
Supporting Materials for Teachers*

Lesson 4: Genocide in Darfur

Peter Biro: A Journalist Diary.....	Page 2
Darfur: The Facts.....	Page 5
Darfur: Internet Links and Sources.....	Page 8
Survivors of Rwanda Genocide, Nazi Holocaust Find Common Ground (Voices of America news article)	Page 9
Darfur: Student Action	Page 12

Peter Biro: A Journalist's Diary

Name: _____



May 8 – 16, 2004

Violent conflict has been raging in Sudan's Darfur region. Peter Biro, a 37-year-old Swede who works for the International Rescue Committee, was sent to Chad's northeastern border with Sudan to join the humanitarian organization's emergency response efforts to aid thousands of Sudanese refugees seeking safety.

Submitted from BAHAI, Chad - "More than 20,000 refugees have fled to Bahai and the nearby village of Cariari, a stone's-throw from the border with Sudan, and my colleagues estimate that 200 to 300 more are arriving every week. The influx has tripled the population of this remote place, stretching the resources of the already impoverished communities....

"I wake in the morning to a gust of wind, which brings with it the stench of hundreds if not thousands of decomposing donkeys, camels and goats. The putrid smell is everywhere, I soon learned; when the wind blows, it only gets worse.

"The refugees, most of them from families that have long been animal herders, all came here with their livestock. But now the animals are dying from hunger, thirst and exhaustion at an alarming rate. I spend the coming days with our carcass disposal team. Their rather unpleasant job is to prevent the outbreak of disease by collecting as many dead animals as possible, transporting them to a place in the desert away from any settlements and torching them...

"So at 7 a.m., with the merciless desert sun already beating down on us, we bring the creatures to a designated spot, and with the flick of a match, hundreds of dead animals, once the livelihood, sustenance and means of transportation for their former owners, explode in a sea of flames. Thankfully, we are wearing masks...

"Forty percent of the children coming to the International Rescue Committee's clinics are malnourished and there has been an alarming increase in diarrhea and dysentery. It's May 12 and Camilo [Dr. Camilo Valderrama] is attending to Hadiya Beshir Issa, 25, and her 15-month-old daughter Munira at an IRC [International Rescue Committee] health facility in Bahai. They are recent arrivals in a seemingly endless stream of refugees fleeing brutal attacks in Darfur, Sudan.

"Munira hardly has the strength to open her eyes and her skin is shriveled from dehydration. Camilo says the tiny girl is severely malnourished and he instructs Hadiya how to administer oral re-hydration solution and antibiotics.

"Hadiya is from a village near Kutum in northern Darfur, where the IRC is also providing humanitarian aid. She told me that a militia attacked her village last August and that her family fled to the town of Orshi, on the way to Chad.

“But that town was ransacked by gunmen last month and in the chaos, Hadiya became separated from her husband and the rest of her family. She told me that she has no idea if they are still alive. After an eight-day trek, she crossed into Chad with her baby, arriving in Bahai with 17 other families.

“As Hadiya recounted her story, Camilo continued to treat Munira. But in the next couple of hours, the little girl's condition rapidly deteriorated. We quickly took her to the hospital in Tine, two hours away, but doctors there couldn't even find the child's veins in order to administer intravenous liquid. She was beyond help...

“On Sunday, May 16, I drive to Cariari, an hour north of Bahai by car, where the IRC is working to dig wells and revive existing ones, amid severe shortages of clean water. Cariari, in spite of its forbidding landscape, is currently home to thousands of refugees who have to walk six hours in either direction to find drinking water...

“In the middle of this dry wasteland, I find my colleague Abdel Majid and his team of well-diggers...

“Sure enough, it took five men two days to dig one cubic meter (this is no easy task in sand). They had struck water just as I had arrived. It was cause for celebration...

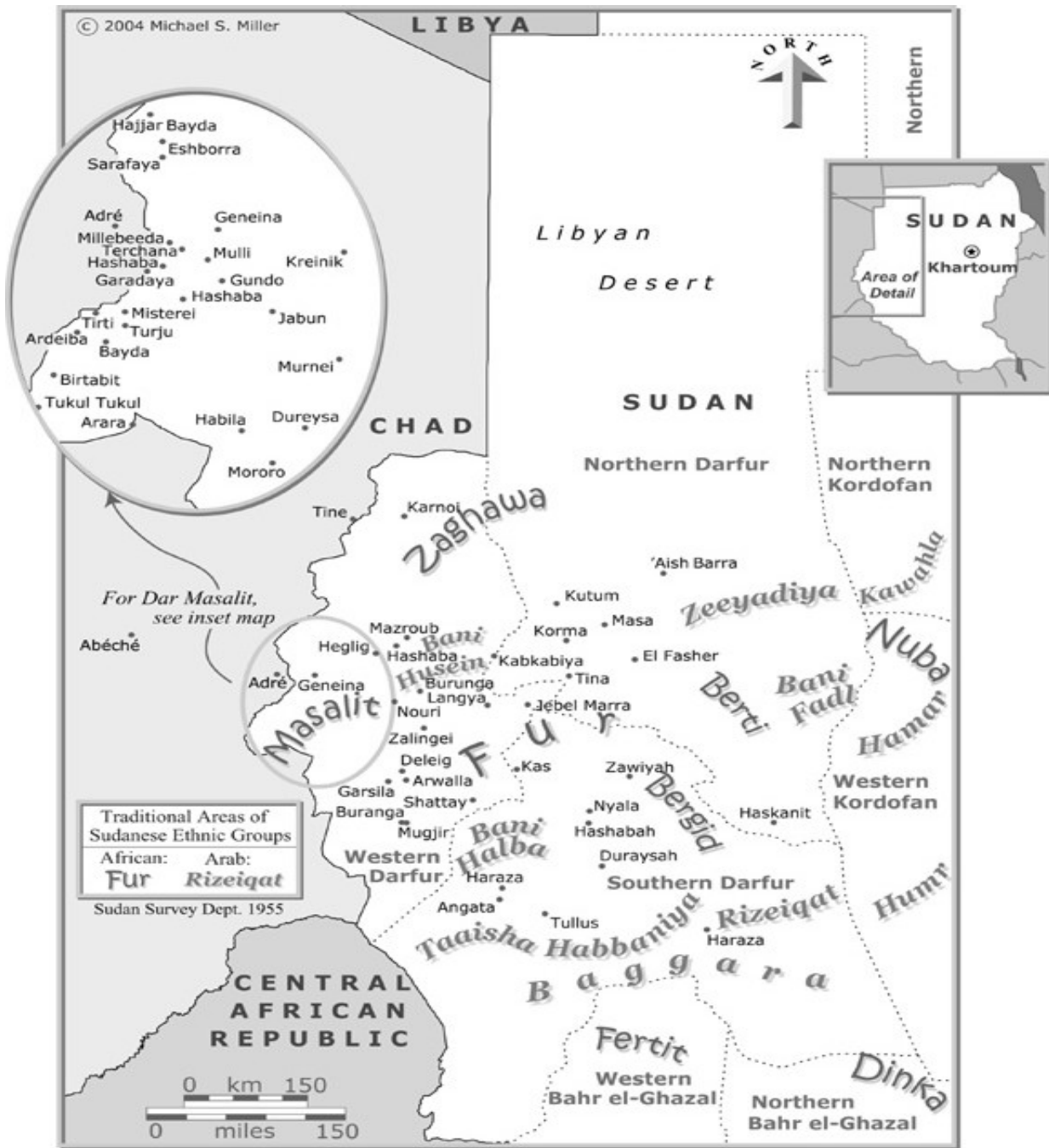
“They invite me to share a meal under a makeshift shelter. On a charcoal bed in the sand the men have cooked a porridge made up of sorghum, a type of millet, and a thick sauce from tomato powder and nut oil. It's surprisingly tasty...

“Dots of light fill the plain as thousands of refugees start fires for the night. I strike up a conversation with a group of people nearby who are seated around a flickering fire. They are part of a community of 300 people that crossed into Chad the previous day. They had come from the Sudanese village of Amburu, some 150 kilometres inside Darfur. It was attacked two weeks earlier, they said, by the government-backed Janjaweed militia.

“One man, who said his name was Muhammed Haroun, said heavily armed men riding camels and horses rode into the village and began shooting in all directions at the well. He said the Janjaweed killed villagers execution-style and raped several women. They all said their livestock was stolen.

“Next to him sat Hadiya Adem. She is in her forties and has a gunshot wound on her right foot, wrapped in dirty gauze. Hadiya told me that she and a girl from the village went to the well at night to get some water a few days before the big attack and was startled and frightened when they were confronted there by men from the Sudanese Army. The men seized the girl and shot Hadiya in the foot when she tried to stop them...And in spite of the thousands of people surrounding us, huddled around fires to keep warm in the chilly night air, you could have heard a needle drop.”¹

¹ Reprinted from “Painful cost of Sudan relief effort”, Peter Biro, July 22, 2004, (<http://www.cnn.com/2004/WORLD/africa/05/24/chad.irc/index.html>)



2

² “Darfur Destroyed”, Human Rights Watch, (<http://hrw.org/reports/2004/sudan0504/darfurmap.jpg>)

Darfur: The Facts

Name: _____

The following information covers the events in Darfur through April 2005. Students should conduct further research using the [Darfur: Internet Links & Sources](#) handout in order to obtain the most current information concerning the situation in Darfur.

Displacement

Since 2003, ethnic populations of Darfur (Fur and Masali), have been consistently attacked by Arab militias (*Janjaweed*), enlisted by the Arab-ruled Sudanese government to burn villages and homes, massacre civilians and children, torture inhabitants, and rape both women and girls in an effort to “ethnically cleanse” Sudan of its ethnic population. Both the *Janjaweed* and the ethnic groups targeted are Muslim, but the Arab militias have destroyed mosques and killed Muslim leaders in order to intimidate and destroy all aspects of the lives of ethnic peoples in Darfur.³

The conflict between the ethnic and Arab groups dates back to the 1950s, but violence escalated in February 2003 when two ethnic rebel groups (the Sudan Liberation Army and the Justice Equality Movement) sought to equalize power and economic access for ethnic people in Sudan – the largest country in Africa with a total population of approximately 39 million, of which 52% are ethnic, and 39% are Arab. In an effort to suppress the actions of these two rebel groups, the Sudanese government waged a campaign of terror and violence specifically targeting civilian communities in the region of Darfur, leaving thousands murdered, and village after village decimated.⁴

Since February 2003, up to 200,000 people are estimated to have died in Darfur, and up to 2 million people have been driven from their homes. Of the approximately 2 million displaced, nearly 200,000 have escaped to the neighboring country of Chad.⁵

Devastation & Destruction

Over the last two years, thousands of civilians in the Darfur region have been killed or “disappeared” (kidnapped or stolen), millions have fled to refugee and internally displaced persons camps, land and villages have been ruined, all sources of supplies, food and water have been pillaged or destroyed, and women and children have been systematically raped or enslaved by government militias.

Most of the refugees and displaced persons from Darfur have lost whatever livestock or belongings they may have had before the government air strikes and the mass looting of the government-backed *Janjaweed*. Many have not survived the hundreds of miles it takes to reach a refugee or displaced persons camp.⁶

³ “Darfur Destroyed”, Human Rights Watch, (<http://hrw.org/reports/2004/sudan0504/sudan0504simple.pdf>)

⁴ “Darfur Destroyed”, Human Rights Watch, (<http://hrw.org/reports/2004/sudan0504/sudan0504simple.pdf>)

⁵ “Violence and Suffering in Sudan’s Darfur Region”, Save Darfur, (<http://www.savedarfur.org>)

⁶ “SUDAN: The Quick and the Terrible, January 2005”, PBS Frontline World, (<http://www.pbs.org/frontlineworld/stories/sudan/facts.html>)

The Committee on Conscience of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has declared for the first time since its existence that there is a "genocide emergency" in the Sudan, citing the following as evidence:

“The Committee's warning is based on the following government actions:

- A divide-to-destroy strategy of pitting ethnic groups against each other, with enormous loss of civilian life
- The use of mass starvation as a weapon of destruction
- Toleration of the enslavement of women and children by government-allied militias
- The incessant bombing of hospitals, clinics, schools and other civilian and humanitarian targets
- Disruption and destabilization of the communities of those who flee the war zones to other parts of Sudan
- Widespread persecution on account of race, ethnicity and religion.”⁷

Delivery of Aide

Agencies such as UNICEF, Doctors Without Borders, and USAID have been providing food, water and medical supplies to the scattered camps located in Darfur and neighboring Chad. However, there is still severe malnutrition, poor sanitation, poor healthcare and a lack of shelter in the camps as a result of the continuous interruption of humanitarian aide by the *Janjaweed* and the Sudanese government. In addition, the Sudanese government has limited media and national press reports on the situation in Darfur to block information to the outside world community.⁸

Children in particular fall prey to high rates of famine and disease in the camps. In the wake of the war, there has been a resurgence of diseases like polio, which was completely eradicated in Sudan in 2001, but now has infected more than 10,000 Sudanese according to health professional estimates.⁹ In addition, women and girls are at grave risk when gathering firewood outside the camps because they are frequently attacked, beheaded, stabbed or raped by the *Janjaweed* patrols.¹⁰

As stated by representatives of USAID, “USAID has put over one billion dollars in humanitarian assistance into Sudan since 1989....On May 3, 2001, President Bush appointed USAID Administrator, Andrew Natsios, as the U.S. Special Humanitarian Coordinator for Sudan. His main agenda has been greater humanitarian access for all of Sudan. In September, former Senator Danforth was appointed the U.S. Special Envoy for Peace to Sudan. In the initial phase

⁷ “Sudan: South/Nuba Mtns Overview”, US Holocaust Memorial Museum Committee on Conscience, (<http://www.ushmm.org/conscience/alert/sudan>)

⁸ “Violence and Suffering in Sudan’s Darfur Region”, Save Darfur, (<http://www.savedarfur.org>)

⁹ “Violence and Suffering in Sudan’s Darfur Region”, Save Darfur, (<http://www.savedarfur.org>)

¹⁰ “Violence and Suffering in Sudan’s Darfur Region”, Save Darfur, (<http://www.savedarfur.org>)

of U.S. engagement under the Special Envoy, the humanitarian and political agendas have intertwined. The success of these efforts led to negotiations between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement on a comprehensive framework agreement for peace. It has also added to increased stability with international monitoring.”¹¹

Latest Developments

In September 2004, the United States went on record to declare that the atrocities in Darfur amounted to “genocide”. In general, however, the international community has not applied maximum pressure on the Sudanese government to end acts of violence against civilian populations in Darfur.

Sanctions by the United Nations have not been imposed against Sudan for its attacks on civilians. Sanctions would include a travel ban for senior government leaders, freezing assets of overseas companies controlled by the government, or prosecuting those that committed atrocities towards civilians. In addition, divisions and veto threats within the United Nations Security Council have prevented the release of a strong international resolution to the crisis in Darfur.¹²

A comprehensive peace agreement was signed by the Sudanese government and rebel groups in Nairobi, Kenya on January 9, 2005, although neither side agreed to disband their militias. Even though the Sudanese government still emphatically denies any involvement or connection to the *Janjaweed*, attacks on villages in Darfur have abated since the peace agreement was signed.¹³ There have been reports, however, of government bombing and forced relocation of civilians by the Sudanese police forces, since the signing of the peace agreement.¹⁴

As part of the cease fire, the African Union (AU) pledged a peacekeeping force of over 3,000 troops to protect civilians and ensure the successful implementation of the peace agreement. Unfortunately, due to the slow arrival of African troops and problems in garnering support from Western countries, there were less than 2,000 personnel on the ground as of March 2005.¹⁵ This lack of presence by the AU threatens the adherence to the peace process, and keeps the lives of civilians in danger of continued attacks.

Questions we still have?

¹¹ “A Reinvigorated Commitment”, USAID: Sudan, (http://www.usaid.gov/locations/sub-saharan_africa/sudan)

¹² “Darfur: The Failure to Protect”, International Crisis Group, Africa Report No. 89, March 8, 2005

¹³ “Historic Sudan peace accord signed”, CNN World, (<http://www.cnn.com/2005/WORLD/africa/01/09/sudan.signing/index.html>)

¹⁴ “Violence and Suffering in Sudan’s Darfur Region”, Save Darfur, (<http://www.savedarfur.org>)

¹⁵ “Darfur: The Failure to Protect”, International Crisis Group, Africa Report No. 89, March 8, 2005

Darfur: Internet Links & Sources

Name: _____

Use the following internet links to research the most recent events and news occurring in Darfur:

Anti-Defamation League	www.adl.org/sudan
BBC News	www.bbc.com <i>Use "Search" function for latest news on Darfur</i>
Cable Network News	www.cnn.com <i>Use "Search" function for latest news on Darfur</i>
Center for American Progress	http://www.americanprogress.org/
Darfur Information Center	www.darfurinfo.org
Darfur: A Genocide We Can Stop	www.darfurgenocide.org
Human Rights Watch	www.hrw.org <i>Use "Search" function for latest reports on Darfur (Africa)</i>
International Crisis Group	www.crisisgroup.org <i>Use "Search" function for latest reports on Darfur</i>
MSNBC	http://msnbc.msn.com <i>Use "Search" function for latest news on Darfur</i>
New York Times	www.nytimes.com <i>Use "Search" function for latest news on Darfur</i>
PBS	http://www.pbs.org/frontlineworld/
Save Darfur	www.savedarfur.org
USAID	www.usaid.org <i>Use "Search" function for latest reports on Darfur</i>
USA Today	www.usatoday.com <i>Use "Search" function for latest news on Darfur</i>

Survivors of Rwanda Genocide, Nazi Holocaust Find Common Ground

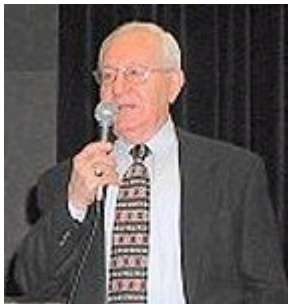
by Jenny Falcon

Name: _____



Their stories of survival are terrifying. But a young survivor of the 1994 Rwanda genocide and a Nazi Holocaust survivor are determined to tell youngsters about their painful past in the hopes of preventing such atrocities from happening again. In the process, the two have forged an unlikely friendship based on a bond of suffering.

For years, David Gewirtzman has talked to local students and community groups about his experience as a Jew in Nazi-occupied Poland.



A teenager at the time, Mr. Gewirtzman and his family barely escaped death. They survived after his father paid a Polish farmer to hide eight Jews in a small, filthy hole under a pigsty. They huddled there for close to three years.

"We came out of what we called the grave into one large cemetery," recalled Mr. Gewirtzman. "A cemetery in which six million Jews and five million non-Jews were massacred and buried all over Europe. In the town, my town, out of the 8,000 Jewish people who lived in the ghetto, 16 came

back alive."

Mr. Gewirtzman, 75, often receives letters from students he addresses. But two years ago, the retired New York pharmacist received one that touched him deeply. It was from then-16-year-old Jacqueline Murekatete, who had survived the 1994 massacres of minority Tutsis in Rwanda by the majority Hutus. She lost her parents, six siblings and scores of relatives.

Ms. Murekatete wrote: "Maybe I can make a difference in this world, if I try. And maybe I can do my part to make sure that no other human being goes through the same experience I did." Ms. Murekatete thanked Mr. Gewirtzman for sharing his story.

"I saw so many similarities, how he was going to school one day - a child, like myself - then he was dehumanized, called an enemy of the country, having to see people killed and losing relatives," she said. "I felt a bond and I felt that he understood me and that is how the friendship started."

Mr. Gewirtzman wrote back to Ms. Murekatete and they soon began working together.

They approach an auditorium of teenagers who are chewing gum and chatting happily with their friends. But it does not take long for the students to listen quietly.

"We would see people with torches and machetes and they would come towards the county [village] and every night our neighbors, our former Hutu neighbors, started following us and every night they came and killed people," she told the youngsters.

Ms. Murekatete describes her nightmare in detail. She was nine years old and was staying with her grandmother when machete- and gun-wielding Hutu mobs arrived at her parents' village. Ms. Murekatete eventually found refuge in an orphanage, but her grandmother was murdered.

After the killings, which left an estimated 800,000 people dead in 100 days, Ms. Murekatete learned that nearly all of her relatives had been butchered to death and were thrown in the river. "I did not understand, being nine years old," she said, "why they had died, why hundreds of thousands of Tutsis had been killed for no reason other than the fact that they were Tutsis."

She asked how the international community allows genocides to continue, from Cambodia to Rwanda, despite the post-Holocaust pledge to prevent any more mass killings?

"The United Nations and other world leaders always say, 'never again, never again,' but so far it has continued to happen and it is up to each and every one of us to make sure that that phrase 'never again' is not just an empty phrase but a reality," said Ms. Murekatete.

Mr. Gewirtzman says selfish motives compel him to keep speaking - he wants to make the world a better place for his six grandchildren. He says if he can influence one person to stick up for someone in need of help, then he has succeeded.

"When you see a bully in the corridor of your school beating up on somebody and that somebody is not a friend of yours, is not a relative of yours, instead of going away and saying, 'I do not want to get mixed up with that, you do something about it' because if you do not, neither your children nor my children will ever be safe," said Mr. Gewirtzman.



The students, some of them stunned and teary-eyed, ask the survivors questions about their escapes. "Before the genocide," asks one, "did you have friends of other religions or ethnic groups and if so how did the genocide impact those relationships?"

While most of the students go on to their next class, several stay behind to talk to Jacqueline Murekatete.

Students giving David Gewirtzman and Jacqueline Murekatete a standing ovation (VOA photo - J. Falcon)

Another student says, "It's upsetting that the world has let something like this occur and it helps you to think about what you can do about it."

During her talk, Ms. Murekatete begins to cry when describing the day she found out that her parents had been murdered.

David Gewirtzman says from the beginning, the two survivors understood each others' tears. "It did not matter whether she was from Africa, Asia, Europe, Jewish, Christian, it did not matter," he said. "All of a sudden, there was a blood bond between us. It was our pain that united us. I felt, my God, is that what it takes in order for her and me to unite. Can we not do it without going through the horror that we went through? She really is my sister. As close as other people are to me, as close as neighbors and friends are, they do not understand me the way she does."



Ms. Murekatete was adopted by an uncle in the United States, but Mr. Gewirtzman and his wife have taken on a role of grandparents. They invite her to their home for dinner and call to see how she is doing in school. Now a college student in New York, Ms. Murekatete is writing a book about her experience.

**David Gewirtzman, his wife, Lillian at a restaurant
(VOA photo - J. Falcon)**

Reprinted from Voices of America, New York, February 18, 2004 (<http://www.voanews.com/english/Archive/a-2004-02-18-26-Survivors.cfm>)

Darfur: Student Action

Name: _____

The following are suggested forms of action taken by students across the world in an effort to aid the victims of genocide in Darfur:

- **Organize a table, a small gathering or a teach-in support of The Save Darfur Coalition**, an alliance of over 100 faith-based, humanitarian and human rights organizations whose mission is to raise public awareness and to mobilize an effective unified response to the atrocities that threaten the lives of two million people in the Darfur region. Save Darfur suggests distributing information, or showing a [video](#) presentation (available online at www.savedarfur.org) to increase awareness about the crisis and violence in Darfur.¹⁶
- **Wear a [green wristband](#) or [ribbon](#)** provided by The Save Darfur Coalition (www.savedarfur.org). Hand them out with a flyer (also available online at www.savedarfur.org) explaining why it's important to draw attention to the situation in Darfur. Ask a teacher, an administrator or a local celebrity to wear a green wristband or ribbon.¹⁷
- **Put together a photo exhibit** featuring pictures from Darfur. Photos should include captions, which is often very helpful for educating others.¹⁸
- **Invite humanitarian experts** who are working in Sudan to present at community centers, places of worship or civic institutions.¹⁹
- **Meet with members of Congress** as a delegation to discuss the urgency needed for the US to help stop the violence in Darfur. Meet in congressional offices in Washington, D.C., or at local district offices.
- **Petition individuals from local businesses and community organizations** to divest from companies that have ties to the Sudanese government. Harvard University, after months of pressure from student activists, sold an estimated \$4.4 million stake in a subsidiary of China's top oil and gas producer, PetroChina (a subsidiary of China National Petroleum Co.) because of its ties to the Sudanese government. It was the first major victory in a national campaign for divestment from Sudan.²⁰

¹⁶ Save Darfur Coalition, www.savedarfur.org

¹⁷ Save Darfur Coalition, www.savedarfur.org

¹⁸ Save Darfur Coalition, www.savedarfur.org

¹⁹ Save Darfur Coalition, www.savedarfur.org

²⁰ "Harvard University to Sell Stake in Co", Associated Press, April 5, 2005

- **Advertise in your school newspaper, or write an Op Ed piece** to raise awareness about Darfur in your school.²¹
- **Buy CDs that support [Oxfam](#) and [UNICEF](#):**
 - ***Oxfam: Songs for Sudan***: Buy a CD created to benefit Oxfam’s relief work in Darfur. The CD features R.E.M., Jet, Ash, Faithless, and David Gray, and all proceeds go directly to Oxfam (all of the artists are forgoing their royalties). Buy a CD online at: http://www.oxfam.org.uk/press/releases/sudan_album_release_030804.htm
 - ***Waxploitation Records: Genocide in Sudan***: Proceeds from the sale of this CD will go to the United Nations Relief Agency and UNICEF. *Genocide in Sudan* includes tracks generously donated by System of a Down, Gorillaz, Jill Scott, Jurassic 5, Kinky, and X-ecutioners. You can purchase the CD at most major record stores, as well as buy it online at <http://www.waxploitation.com/genocide>
- **Push your local community council to pass a proclamation** condemning the atrocities in Darfur and calling upon the US and UN to take further effective actions.

Sample Community Council Proclamation²²:

The Crisis in Sudan

WHEREAS in Darfur, Sudan, an estimated 200,000 innocent civilians have been brutally murdered, more than 200,000 people have been forced from their homes and have fled to neighboring Chad, and more than 1,600,000 people have been internally displaced; and

WHEREAS on June 24th, 2004, for the first time in its history, the Committee on Conscience of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has declared a “genocide emergency” in the Sudan; and

WHEREAS on July 22, 2004 the U.S. Congress passed resolutions declaring Genocide in Darfur, Sudan; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations Commission of Inquiry declared on January 25, 2005, “government forces and militias conducted indiscriminate attacks, including killing of civilians, torture, enforced disappearances, destruction of villages, rape and other forms of sexual violence, pillaging and forced displacement, throughout Darfur.

²¹ Swarthmore College Sudan DIY Kit, <http://www.swarthmore.edu/socsci/peace/documents/SudanDIYKit.doc>

²² Save Darfur Coalition, <http://www.savedarfur.org/go.php?q=/takeActionNow/sampleProclamation.html>

These acts were conducted on a widespread and systematic basis ... The vast majority of the victims of all of these violations have been from the Fur, Zaghawa, Massalit, Jebel, Aranga and other so-called 'African' tribes"; and

WHEREAS on March 2, 2005 Senator Sam Brownback and Senator Jon Corzine introduced the Darfur Accountability Act, reiterating "that the atrocities taking place in Darfur are genocide" and calling for various measures that would serve as vital steps in bringing an end to the genocide; and

WHEREAS as people of conscience, we have a particularly poignant responsibility to speak out against injustice on behalf of vulnerable and disenfranchised people across the globe;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, _____, hereby call upon the United States and the United Nations as leaders of the international community to immediately intervene to stop the killing, the rape, and the destruction of villages, and to assure that humanitarian relief reaches all those in need.

- **Write letters** to President George W. Bush, your Congressional Representatives, and your Senators to take action on Darfur.

Sample Letter to President George W. Bush²³:

*President George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500*

Dear President Bush:

I am deeply concerned about the tragic events in Darfur. We have watched with growing anxiety and dismay as our government failed to respond adequately to what was described as the worst humanitarian crisis in the world. Then, after the Congress, the Senate and the President identified these atrocities as genocide, we failed to stop them.

I call on you with great urgency to take whatever measures are necessary to stop the violence. I call on you to use our tremendous power and moral authority to create safety for the innocent men, women, and children, and to provide:

- *Security – an immediate end by the Sudanese government of to the violence and the manipulative practices by which it is affecting the genocide*

²³ Save Darfur Coalition, <http://www.savedarfur.org/misc/SampleLetterToBush.doc>

- *Accountability – holding the Sudanese government officials and proxy forces responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity accountable for their crimes.*
- *Humanitarian Relief – sufficient aid to meet the basic needs of refugees and the displaced;*
- *Safe Return – establishment of conditions that allow the safe, dignified, and voluntary return of individuals to their homes and villages.*

You lead the most powerful nation in history. Your constituents want you to end the genocide and create the conditions for peace in Darfur.

Please take action today, and tomorrow, and the tomorrow after that, if necessary, to meet our shared moral obligation.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Address]

[City, State Zip]