

DARFUR – A SONG SHEET

This song sheet has been created for Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) 2018 and is part of a series which provides lyrics and music for songs created during, or in response to, a genocide. As part of your Holocaust Memorial Day commemoration, you are invited to perform this song and learn more about the genocide below.



Refugees in Menawashi
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THE GENOCIDE IN DARFUR

Darfur is a region in the west of Sudan. Before the current conflict, Darfur was home to a population of around six million people, from nearly 100 different tribes. In recent years the Sudanese government has enacted policies that have marginalised the non-Arab population of Darfur and increased ethnic tensions. In 2003 rebel groups attacked the Sudanese military in protest at the government's policies. The Sudanese government has responded with a brutal campaign of destruction directed at ethnic groups whom the government believes to be supporting the rebels.

The civil war in Darfur has led to the deaths of between 200,000 and 400,000 civilians, and the United Nations estimates that 2.7 million people are displaced in Darfur. These atrocities have been condemned as genocide by the International Criminal Court and governments around the world.

It is difficult for international peacekeepers to accurately assess what is going on in Darfur

as charities and humanitarian organisations working on the ground have been expelled from the country. The Sudanese government regularly bans, intimidates and tortures journalists who attempt to record the events of the genocide.

The Genocide in Darfur continues today, and Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir faces charges of genocide at the International Criminal Court. The ongoing genocide is often the main focus of any discussion around Darfur, but the region has a rich culture and history that must be preserved.

On the next page is the song *Darfur's Peace (Salaam Darfur)* by Omer Ihsas, a Sudanese singer-songwriter and peace activist.

We invite you to perform and reflect on this song, and to be mindful of the ways in which words are used in the context of an ongoing genocide.

Find out more:

The Genocide in Darfur: hmd.org.uk/darfur
You can find the rest of the song sheets and hear recordings of the songs at hmd.org.uk/songs



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DARFUR'S PEACE / SALAAM DARFUR

Omer Ihsas is a Sudanese singer-songwriter and peace activist. Since 1989, Omer and his group *Peace Messengers* have been working to promote Sudanese unity and raise awareness of the conflict in Darfur. Omer's 1991 song *Darfur Baladna* is his greatest hit, and calls for peace and unity throughout Sudan.

Omer has written a new song, *Darfur's Peace* (*Salaam Darfur* in Arabic). This song speaks of Omer's hope that the many tribes of Darfur will stop fighting, and will come together in the spirit of peace and reconciliation in the beautiful land of Darfur.



Omer Ihsas

Chorus **Refrain** SS

Let's live to - ge-ther Let's live to -

Main Melody *Ar-abs and Fur* *Zha-gha-wa and Fur*

6 -ge-ther *Let's live to - ge-ther*

Ri-zei-gat and Fur *Ha-bba-ni-ya and Fur* *Ma-sa-lit and*

11 *Let's live to - ge-ther* *Let's live to - ge-ther* *Let's live to -*

Fur *Ber-ti and Fur* *Tun-jur and Fur*

16 -ge-ther *Let's live to - ge-ther*

Gi-ma and Fur *Dar-furs lands are green and lo-vely, What-ev-er*

21 *Let's live to - ge-ther*

ha-ppens we're roo - ted to - ge-ther *Ar-abs and Fur*

25 **Verse 1** **Repeat three times**

This si - tu - a - tion and this war's no u - se, and our peace-ful past not so far a-way

30

yes, our peace-ful past not so far a-way, Let's join to - ge - ther hand in__ hand.

Chorus

Arab and Fur	Let's live together
Ta'aisha and Fur	Let's live together
Rizeigat and Fur	Let's live together
Terjam and Fur	Let's live together
Gima and Fur	Let's live together
Burno and Fur	Let's live together

Darfur's lands are green and lovely,
Whatever happens we're rooted together.

Arab and Fur Let's live together

Verse 1

This situation and this war's no use,
And our peaceful past not so far away x3

Yes, our peaceful past not so far away,
Let's join together, hand in hand!

Chorus

Verse 2

These tough times will go and we will have
peace,
No matter how long our conflict lasts x3

No matter how long our conflict lasts,
We'll be saying again that we're great!

Chorus

Verse 3

This land spreads for a million miles,
No, we wouldn't trade it for anything;

No, we wouldn't trade it for anything,
We'll live as friends and neighbours again!

Chorus

