

# South Sudan 10 years on



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parallel zero



Nzara, Western Equatoria. Allau Garang, leader of a Nzara-based unit of the Sudan People's Liberation Army. At the time of the Independence, he was responsible for hunting down the rebels of the Lord's Resistance Army in the Western Equatoria region.



Rumbek, Lakes State. Inmates at local prison.

## **Africa's youngest nation has little reason to celebrate**

Despite gaining independence (on 9 July 2011) following a long war after which Africa, for the first time, changed the national borders it inherited from its colonisation, Africa's youngest country continues to be torn apart by civil wars and afflicted by an unprecedented humanitarian crisis.

The UN has launched its umpteenth appeal to tackle a tragedy that's affecting 6.6 million people (around half of the population), caused by the escalation in violence and subsequent evacuation of the population. And whilst the political elite and the military continue to demonstrate their inability to find a path towards peace and reconciliation, the people face death from hunger as well as from a complete lack of infrastructure and services.

Their only alternative is to continue their traditional cattle farming, a symbol of wealth and prestige, however it often leads to outbreaks of violence and interethnic revenge attacks that seem impossible to resolve. And so, after a long and bloody conflict to gain its independence from Khartoum, in South Sudan we can only speak about an independence without freedom, democracy or growth.



Two women doing some housework in the church of Yirrol, Lakes State.



A panoramic view of Juba.



Juba. Two boys wearing Arsenal shirts pose in a photo studio.



Nzara, Western Equatoria. A member of the Arrow Boys, a self-defense militia established in Western Equatoria villages in order to counter Lord's Resistance Army attacks.



Santo Domich Chol (right), in charge of the security services for the Lakes State, in the seat of the regional government in Rumbek.



A Mundari cattle camp near Tarakeka.



Rumbek, Lake State. A young man fallen asleep on a table in a public building.



Philip Aguer Panyang, spokesperson for the Sudanese People Liberation Army, pictured at the Army headquarters in Juba.



Young Dinka girls performing a traditional dance in Adior, a village in the Lakes State.



Juba. The Citizen, the oldest newspaper printed in South Sudan was closed in 2015 by the authority without any reason, after some editorials on the peace process of the civil war.



Western Equatoria. Ugandan Army soldiers take part in military operations against Lord's Resistance Army rebels.



Mundari kids dragging a cow to a pirogue in order to cross the river Nile.



Juba. The printer of The Citizen. The oldest newspaper printed in South Sudan was closed in 2015 by the authority without any reason, after some editorials on the peace process of the civil war.



A journalist working at "Radio Bakhita", a Catholic radio based in Juba.



A Dinka cattle camp near Yirol, Lakes State.



Juba. Fishermen on a small pirogue on the Nile. In the background the city's only bridge.



Young Dinka playing basket in the main square of Rumbek, Lakes State.



A Catholic church in the Congolese refugee camp in Makpandu, Western Equatoria. The camp gives shelter to many refugees who escaped from the attacks of the Lord's Resistance Army. On the left, a picture of Daniele Comboni, founder of the homonymous missionary order; on the right, a picture of Bakhita, a Sudanese nun who was declared saint by Pope John Paul II in 2000.



Juba. A soldier posing before the grave of John Garang, the historic leader of the Sudan People's Liberation Army who died in a plane crash in 2005.



Juba. A shop selling creams and cosmetics in Konyo Konyo market.



A portrait of an Arrow Boy from Nzara, Western Equatoria. Arrow Boys is a self-defense militia established in Western Equatoria villages in order to counter Lord's Resistance Army attacks.



Juba. Photos for a wedding along the Nile at the luxurious Da Vinci restaurant.



Adior, Lake State. An in-patient at the local hospital.



Juba. At dawn, some newspaper sellers arrive at the newspaper's print shop to collect the new issue and to return the unsold copies. The Citizen, the oldest newspaper printed in South Sudan was closed in 2015 by the authority without any reason, after some editorials on the peace process of the civil war.



A young Mundari gets the ground ready for the evening bonfire in a cattle camp near Tarakeka.

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