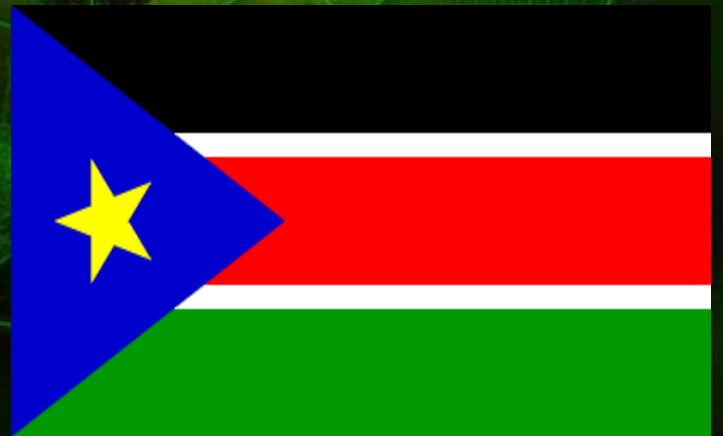# South Sudan:
Lessons in Secession

SS7CG2

History

- Sudan was a collection of small, independent kingdoms and principalities from the beginning of the Christian era until 1820-21, when Egypt conquered and unified the northern portion of the country. Historically, the pestilential swamps of the Suud discouraged expansion into the deeper south of the country. Although Egypt claimed all of the present Sudan during most of the 19th century, it was unable to establish effective control over southern Sudan, which remained an area of fragmented tribes subject to frequent attacks by slave raiders.

History

- In February 1953, the United Kingdom (which had taken over parts of Sudan) and Egypt agreed to grant Sudan its independence. Promises were made to the tribes in southern Sudan to create a Federal system in which they would be equally represented. However, the Arab-led Khartoum government reneged on that promise, sparking a civil war that lasted 17 years.

History

- The ongoing civil war displaced more than 4 million southerners. These people were unable to grow their own food or earn money to feed themselves, which led to massive malnutrition and starvation. Many humanitarian organizations, mainly from the United Nations and the United States, have stepped into help with this food shortage.

History

- However, due to Sudan's human rights abuses, many donors began cutting their aid to the Sudan. After a severe drought in 2000, the U.S. and other donors began providing aid once again, and continue to do so today.

Economic Conflicts

- 2010: Sudan is the 17th-fastest growing economy in the world.
  - Mainly from oil profits in the southern part of the country.

Economic Conflicts

- July 2011: South Sudan secedes, taking 80% of Sudan's oil production with it.
  - Caused Sudan's economy to slow significantly.

Economic Conflicts

- Sudan relies heavily on agriculture.
  - Employs 80% of the workforce.
  - Fields susceptible to drought.
- South Sudan relies heavily on oil production.
  - Landlocked.
  - Must rely on a pipeline to Port Sudan on the Red Sea coast.

Social Conflicts: Religion

- Sudan: Sunni Muslim
  - Adhere to strict Sharia Law.
    - Makes rules for religions AND government.
    - Believes there is no distinction between the religious world and the secular world.

Social Conflicts: Religion

- South Sudan: Mainly Christian with some traditional African religions, such as Animism.
    - One of the few countries in Africa that still adheres to traditional religions.
- Differences between the religions have been a factor in the ongoing civil unrest in Sudan.
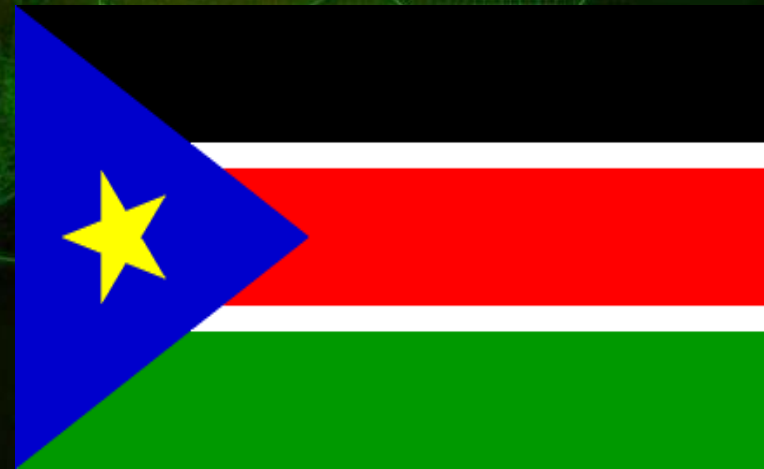
Social Conflicts: Government

- Sudan: Federal Republic
    - Democratic form of government
    - Run by the National Congress Party (NCP)
    - Posts filled by southern Sudanese people were abolished following independence of South Sudan.

Social Conflict: Government

- South Sudan: Republic
  - Representative Democracy
  - Gained independence in July 2011
    - Conflict began over dispute about oil-rich region of Abyei in southern Sudan.

Social Conflict: Terrorism

- Sudan has been on U.S. list of state-sponsored terrorists since 1993.

Social Conflict: Terrorism

- Terrorism first introduced to Sudan by Osama bin Laden in 1990.

Social Conflict: Terrorism

- Terrorist organizations in Sudan:
  - Hisballah, Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Egyptian Islamic Jihad

Social Conflict: Terrorism

- Joseph Kony

Social Conflict: Terrorism

- Joseph Kony
  - Head of Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) based out of Uganda.
  - Has begun operating in South Sudan.
  - Kidnaps children, kills their family and neighbors, and forces them to fight for him.