



[Fighting Escalates in Sudan as the Death Toll Continues to Rise](#)

Sudan has been plunged into another crisis, with deadly violence erupting in Khartoum earlier this week, causing nearly 200 deaths and 1,800 injuries. The conflict between the forces of Army Chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and his former deputy, Mohamed Hamdan Daglo, has taken a devastating turn, with explosions, airstrikes, artillery, and heavy gunfire shaking the capital city. The situation is dire, and urgent action must be taken to end hostilities and restore peace in Sudan. The violence has begun to spread to other regions of the country, where humanitarian operations have been disrupted, and medical and other supplies have been pillaged.

Misinformation has proliferated on social media, confusing civilians who are anxious for news about attacks and reported looting, how safe it is to move, and what pharmacies are still open. The violence has stopped the few remaining grocery stores from restocking the few businesses that are still operating, leaving civilians with dwindling food supplies. The situation has been made worse by the fact that many people lack access to electricity and the Internet, making it harder for locals to acquire trustworthy information. This has left many civilians feeling helpless and vulnerable, with no clear idea of what is happening around them or how they can protect themselves and their loved ones. Four hospitals have been shelled and evacuated in the greater Khartoum area, and 16 hospitals across the nation are out of service, dealing with serious shortages of medical personnel, water, and food supplies. The violence has also grounded flights to and from Khartoum airport and damaged many commercial aircraft.

The international community has called for an end to hostilities, with G7 foreign ministers meeting in Japan, calling for the warring parties to "end hostilities immediately." US Secretary of State Antony Blinken has reportedly "underscored the urgent necessity for a ceasefire" in a conversation with the two generals. "The RSF has reaffirmed its approval" of a 24-hour "armistice to secure the safe movement of people and the evacuation of the wounded," but the army has bluntly dismissed the statement, warning that it is not aware of any coordination with the mediators and the international community about a truce. Secretary Blinken also emphasized the Sudanese people's desire for democracy. This crisis is a tragic reminder of the urgent need to strengthen Sudan's transition to democracy, which has been delayed since the coup in 2021. The power battle between Burhan and Daglo over the proposed incorporation of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) into the regular army has escalated into the deadly violence that has claimed innocent lives. The RSF is a paramilitary force that the government of Sudan formerly operated under former President Omar al-Bashir. It largely consists of former Janjaweed militia fighters, who, during the War in Darfur, were reported to have committed multiple crimes against humanity. The violence has also disrupted humanitarian operations and deprived the Sudanese people of much-needed aid. This has led to a worsening humanitarian crisis, with one-third of the population in the country requiring assistance. The situation is critical, and urgent action must be taken to prevent further loss of life and suffering.

The likelihood of the violence and this incident ending is impossible to predict with precision since it will rely on several variables, including the behavior of the parties involved, how the authorities react, and the general political and social atmosphere in the impacted areas. It's important to remember, though, that historically, conflicts and violent occurrences have a tendency to escalate and de-escalate in cycles, so this situation may do the same. In addition, there can be chances for mediation and negotiation between the parties, which might help to regulate the situation. Moving toward peace in Sudan will require a combination of political will, dialogue, and compromise from both sides. The Sudanese government must demonstrate a genuine commitment to addressing the root causes of the conflict and take concrete steps toward reconciliation with rebel groups. This could include granting greater political autonomy to the regions where the conflict is most acute and addressing the grievances of marginalized communities. Rebel groups, in turn, must be willing to engage in meaningful dialogue and compromise on their demands, while committing to the cessation of violence. At the moment, this avenue appears to be unlikely, as a proposed 24-hour ceasefire failed. The international community can also play an important role by providing diplomatic support and pressure on both parties to end hostilities and negotiate in good faith. Ultimately, a peaceful and stable Sudan requires a comprehensive and inclusive peace process that addresses the underlying political, economic, and social issues that fuel the conflict.

Ultimately, it will be important for all parties to prioritize de-escalation and peaceful resolution of the situation, to prevent further harm and restore stability to the affected communities. Urgent action is needed in whatever case, to end hostilities and restore peace in Sudan. The Sudanese people deserve to live in peace and security, with access to basic necessities such as food, water, and healthcare. The Sudanese government must also take immediate steps to protect civilians and ensure that humanitarian aid can reach those who need it. Members of the international community must provide support and resources to help the Sudanese government and humanitarian organizations address the crisis and prevent further suffering.