Sudan Map
POST VISIT REPORT
VISIT OF SUDAN HIGH MILITARY ACADEMY DELEGATION TO NDU
17-23 MAR 2013

General
1. A four-member delegation from Sudan High Military Academy visited NDU from 17-23 Mar 13. The delegation was headed by Maj Gen Shamsuddin Kalbbashi Ibrahim, psc. The visit was spread over seven days. Initial two days were primarily meant for briefing on NDU followed by an orientation visit to National War Gaming Centre (NWGC), NDU library, auditorium and FCS. More importantly, on 18 March, a roundtable was organized to have discussion on “Structure of Sudan Higher Military Academy and System of Higher Education for Military Officers” and “Sudan’s Regional Security Perspective” by Lt Gen (Retd) Basheer Abdalla Hammad.

2. In addition to roundtable, on 20 March, delegation was briefed on PASO Module by B Div at NDU. Moreover, Sudan delegation made a courtesy call to DGJS at JSHQ, IGT&E at GHQ, followed by a visit to POF Wah and HIT.

Summary of the Proceedings of Day – 1 – 18 March 13
3. **Call on the President NDU at his Office.** President NDU welcomed the guests in his office on 18 Mar 2013 and after pleasantries following issues came under discussion:-

   a. President NDU urged the delegation to take Pakistan as their second home and then assured that Pakistani is ready to cooperate and assist Sudan in every field from training to defence production.

   b. Sudani delegation thanked and appreciated the role of Pakistan Army in assisting Sudani Armed Forces. It was stressed by the delegation, that Sudan is passing through a difficult time. Problems are existing and will take time to resolve, however they were very hopeful about the future of Sudan. They considered US and Israel as their biggest enemy and pointed out that Sudan being a reservoir of oil is subjected to power game/ interest of major powers.
c. President NDU briefed the delegation about the new concept of NSWC and highlighted that NDU is laying more emphasis towards comprehensive National Security which compass all elements of National Power. While answering a question, he briefed the delegation about the selection system of C& SC and NSWC and also about the system of OEI and OER. At the end he requested the delegation that Pakistan Army is ready to help Sudan in development of their Armed Forces.

4. **Opening Remarks by DG ISSRA.** The proceedings of the roundtable were opened with the recitation from the Holy Quran, followed by the brief talk by Major General Ziauddin Najam, DG ISSRA on the importance of the relationship between Sudan and Pakistan. He indicated that Sudan and Pakistan are going through same transitional phase. Both the countries are facing almost similar challenges like extremism and terrorism, which could be resolved in a better way by understanding each other experiences in this regard.

5. **Briefing on NDU.** After the DG’s remarks, GSO-1 Trg proceeded with briefing on NDU. He gave an overview of National Defence University. The briefing encompassed the university’s mission, vision, detailed account of NSWC’s courses, ISSRA’s activities/publications and FCS. Furthermore, he explained different disciplines offered to civilians as well as army officers for high-level training and education.

**Summary of the Proceedings of Day-II - 19 March 2013**

6. **Opening Remarks.** On 19 March 2013, proceedings of the roundtable were opened with the recitation from the Holy Quran, followed by the opening address by Major General Ziauddin Najam, DG ISSRA. In his address, he highlighted the importance of the Sudan’s history, richness of Arab culture and underlined the need for drawing lessons from Sudan’s experience of long war and chaos during past decades.

7. **Briefing on ISSRA.** After DG ISSRA’s opening remarks Director Coordination and Collaboration (C&C) proceeded with briefing on ISSRA. He gave an overview of ISSRA’s mandate and activities as providing full time assistance to
research work of the participants, carrying out research for Services Headquarters & Ministries, publishing research work conducted at NDU and interacting with other national & international research organizations by holding & attending symposia / workshops.

8. **Video Clip on Higher Education Military Academy.** Brief clip on Higher Education Military Academy, Sudan illustrated the academy’s history, mission, vision and command structure.

9. **Presentation on Sudan’s Regional Security Perspective.** After video clip on Higher Education Military Academy, Lt Gen (Retd) Basheer Abdalla Hammad made presentation on “Sudan’s Regional Security Perspective”.

Highlights of the presentation are as under:-

a. Sudan, situated in East Africa, is the largest country in Africa and has nine neighbours. Until June 1983 Sudan had about 30 million inhabitants.

b. The signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) on 9 January 2005 was hailed by some as the dawn of a new era for Sudan. However, Sudan has a number of interlocking conflicts that cannot be fully addressed by a bilateral agreement. The CPA is just one part, though a very significant one, of a piecemeal approach to resolving Sudan’s conflicts that has produced separate agreements for Darfur and eastern Sudan.

c. The two sides recognised the importance of their relationship to safeguarding Sudan’s post-CPA future. Whether southern Sudan opts to remain within a united Sudan or chooses independence, neighbouring governments must remain friendly. The time and patience given to the process leading to the CPA in spite of the ups and downs along the way – have proved vital in ensuring that Sudan has friendly relations with its neighbours.

d. The separation came in 2011, when the South voted overwhelmingly to separate from Sudan, halting the oil production. It was clear that
both the countries needed each other. 75 percent of the oil is in the South and all the refineries are in the North.

e. The year 2012, brought fighting over the contested border region, and the sharing of oil revenues. However, in September 2012, the respective presidents shook hands, and reached an agreement on trade, oil and security after days of talks in Ethiopia.

f. Going back to the history, he pointed out that, in 1993 the United States put Sudan on its list of states sponsoring terrorism. In 1996 the United States supported UN Security Council resolution 1054 which imposed diplomatic sanctions on Sudan. In 1997 the United States imposed comprehensive trade sanctions on Sudan. These aggressive policies culminated in August 1998, when the United States bombed El-Shifa pharmaceutical factory in the Sudanese capital Khartoum.

g. The United States remained involved in the internal affairs of Sudan through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) which is a very effective instrument in the United States foreign policy as it promotes the American political agenda through humanitarian work. The USAID was very active in the south Sudan region exclusively.

h. The Chinese role in developing the oil industry in Sudan has been significant. Without the Chinese investments, Sudan would have remained unable to exploit its oil resources. Chinese involvement in Sudan was instrumental in the (partial) failure of the US sanctions towards Sudan. The Chinese company provided required investment to the Sudanese oil industry to build oil pipeline and consequently converted Sudan to an oil exporting country in 1999.

i. The UN Security Council resolution 1706 that ordered the deployment of the international force in Darfur was rejected by Sudan precisely because it infringed on its sovereignty as this resolution delegates significant authority to international forces. Sudan fought
this resolution through diplomacy at the international and regional arenas to express its concern on the matter. This led to a new round of talks with the UN and the African Union (AU) when the latter agreed to extend the mandate of its force in Darfur. Negotiations yielded an agreement that stipulated three support packages by the UN to AU forces in Darfur. The agreement created the hybrid force. This was included in UN resolution 1769 accepted by Sudan, which assured the world body of its cooperation. UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon visited Sudan, praising the country’s acceptance of the hybrid force and cooperation with the world organization.

j. Sudan maintains diplomatic relations with Arab and African states. It has bilateral conventions and agreements in economic, trade, cultural and security areas. Sudan has very much benefited from its Arab and African ties. We have together confronted many challenges and these ties have played crucial role internationally in defence of Sudan.

k. Sudan did not settle for typical relations oriented towards the West, but instead opened its doors to the entire world. It fostered close and solid ties based on common interests with China, Korea, Russia, Pakistan, Malaysia, Indonesia and other Asian nations and benefited much from these relations. This is precisely why Sudan has been able to withstand the age-old aggression and attempts to isolate Sudan by the West.

**Interactive Session**

10. The questions and comments were raised regarding constraints over resources like water and oil due to the creation of Southern Sudan, role of regional powers and neutrality of UN and AU in Sudan’s mission. It was highlighted that Sudan has many more valuable natural resources apart from oil. Its mineral wealth includes significant reserves of uranium, copper, diamonds, gold and Livestock. Sudan’s half of the land is cultivable. However, very less is actually being cultivated. Sudan has a strategic position on the Red Sea having its borders with
nine countries. Sudanese potential for development is therefore vast if a situation is allowed to arise in which its resources could be fully used for the benefit of the Sudanese people and for the development of the country as a whole. It was commented by the delegation, that the possibility of emergence of a strong and independent Sudan is perceived as a threat to the interests of the United States and its regional allies. Sudan has certainly struggled with its internal problems like South, Darfur and the East.

11. The delegation was of the opinion that the international media, has somehow tended to change the facts, thus compounding the internal problems and making the search for peace elusive. The world has been divided between those who understand Sudan's situation fully and those who seek to exploit the situation, a campaign led by several Human Rights Organizations. Sudan is of the view that the UN, in order to be a more effective body, must be re-structured and systematically reformed so that it reflects the global diversity. Its dominance by few has to be altered to meaningfully promote world peace, justice, inter-dependence and equality. Clashes in the region are not between tribes of Arab or African origin but between farmers and pastorals vying for the area's resources.

12. While describing Darfur dispute, it was stated that the armed rebellion in Darfur erupted in February 2003. The crisis was manipulated and overblown by the media. But the government was able to negotiate a peace settlement. And because some forces abstained from signing the peace accord, the government of Sudan is currently exerting pressure along with the UN, African Union, Arab League and the State of Qatar to facilitate negotiations with the purpose of reaching a final and comprehensive peace deal that will help repatriate remaining refugees and bring peace to the region.

Concluding Remarks

13. DG ISSRA in his concluding remarks thanked the delegation for visiting NDU and sharing their experiences and perceptions on key security issues. He pointed out that there is lot of misperception about on ground situation in Middle East and African regions and it is only due to our inability to interact with them closely. In future, we need to interact more with our brotherly Muslim countries. At
the end, DG ISSRA ensured absolute support to the delegation in all fields and thanked the participants of the roundtable for their extremely enlightened discourse with the distinguished guests from Sudan.