

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 112

Regarding the human rights situation in Sudan, including the practice of
chattel slavery.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 26, 2001

Mr. PAYNE submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred
to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Regarding the human rights situation in Sudan, including
the practice of chattel slavery.

Whereas the Government of Sudan has perpetrated a prolonged campaign of human rights abuses against the people of Sudan;

Whereas the United States Department of State, Amnesty International, and Human Rights Watch have all documented human rights abuses by the Government of Sudan;

Whereas on March 21, 2001, the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom stated in a report that “the government of Sudan continues to commit egregious human rights abuses including widespread bombing of civilian and humanitarian targets, abduction and enslavement by government-sponsored militias, ma-

nipulation of humanitarian assistance as a weapon of war, and severe restrictions on religious freedom”;

Whereas the Government of Sudan has consistently and repeatedly aided militias engaged in slave raids in southern Sudan and has done little to halt the practice of chattel slavery;

Whereas government troops continue to provide logistical support in transporting these armed militias to carry out slave raids in southern Sudan;

Whereas the American Anti-Slavery Group and Christian Solidarity International have called for the disarming of militias engaged in slave raids in southern Sudan, as called for by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Mary Robinson;

Whereas Christian Solidarity International estimates that tens of thousands of southern Sudanese are being enslaved and that tens of thousands have been redeemed from slavery by Christian Solidarity International and other groups over the past several years;

Whereas scores of freed slaves have recounted to rescuers that they were systematically gang raped by members of the Popular Defense Forces of Sudan;

Whereas the NAACP Executive Board passed an anti-slavery resolution in 1995, condemning the practice of slavery in Mauritania and Sudan; and

Whereas the slave raids being carried out by progovernment militias are part of the military strategy of the Government of Sudan to defeat the Sudan People’s Liberation Army and to depopulate southern Sudan: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That the Congress—

3 (1) strongly condemns the Government of
4 Sudan and calls on the Government to honor its
5 international obligations to immediately bring an
6 end to the inhuman practice of forcing people into
7 slavery;

8 (2) demands that the Government of Sudan im-
9 mediately facilitate the reunification of family mem-
10 bers torn apart by the slave raids;

11 (3) calls on human rights organizations and
12 others to facilitate safe passage for slavery victims
13 to and from conflict zones in Sudan;

14 (4) strongly urges the President of the United
15 States to sponsor a resolution at the United Nations
16 Security Council to condemn the Government of
17 Sudan and to demand an immediate end to slavery
18 in Sudan;

19 (5) calls on the President to establish a “Slave
20 Victims Fund” to assist slave victims;

21 (6) strongly encourages the President to use the
22 funds which were appropriated for the National
23 Democratic Alliance of Sudan for fiscal year 2001 to
24 assist slave victims in Sudan;

1 (7) urges the President to mobilize inter-
2 national support to end slavery in Sudan; and

3 (8) calls upon the United Nations Commission
4 on Human Rights, UNICEF, and the European
5 Union to end the use of euphemisms, such as “ab-
6 duction”, as a substitute for slavery.

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