



Study on: Nomads' Participation in the Election Process in Sudan

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Introduction:

Nomadic communities who are constantly on the move, are found in a number of countries in the world especially in Asia (Iran, Afghanistan, Mongolia, etc.) and Africa (Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, etc.). These communities are characterized by the hardships they face in daily life. These difficulties include lack of development and lack of basic services such as health, education and access to clean water. In addition to these physical hardships, they lack many citizens' rights, unlike other stable societies.

Instability has deprived nomadic communities of exercising the rights granted to them by constitutions including participating in the electoral process as voters or as candidates in order to elect their representatives in legislative, executive and other institutions.

Objectives of the study:

The study aims to provide practical suggestions in order to create a favorable environment for nomadic communities' participation in the electoral process in Darfur by overcoming the obstacles that prevented their participation in previous elections held in the years 1986, 2010, and 2015. The study also aims at monitoring the transformation caused by deterioration of the security situation in Darfur for decades and its impact on nomadic communities' participation in the electoral process. This study concerns nomads in the five states of Darfur who represent nearly half of the nomadic population in Sudan.



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Methodology and information sources:

The study relied on primary and secondary sources; personal interviews targeted executive, popular, political and Native administrators. Also, a large amount of information was gathered by conducting discussions with focus groups in the states.

Difficulties encountered by the study:

The most significant difficulty was the absence of a complete archive and lack of studies related to nomads' participation in the previous elections. The recent security deterioration in Darfur states, as well as the scarce information and data on nomadic communities at the higher election committees in the states were contributing factors.

Definition of nomads:

Nomadic herding and nomadic pastoralists are terms that do not fall under an agreed upon definition. The term nomadic generally means a group of people who move from one place to another with their animals looking for food and water, and they do not have a specific place in which they settle.

As for mobile grazing, nomads are in regular movement with their animals in search of pasture and water through specific "corridors" known as the livestock routes. All family members accompany the animals. One of the studies defined nomads as those who move with their livestock to the northern and southern part of Darfur region in search of pasture and water in accordance with favorable environmental conditions through known routes.

They can be divided into:

1. Purely nomadic pastoralists who move from one place to another throughout the year in search of pasture and water to avoid harsh environmental conditions; with all family members accompanying the animals.

2. Semi-nomadic or semi-nomadic pastoralists where the nomadic family is divided with women, children and the elderly remain in the village or the Damar⁽¹⁾ while adult males accompany animals to distant pastures.

1- Temporary nomadic settlement

Nomadic pastoralist groups are found in Darfur, Kordofan, Kassala and Red Sea states in eastern Sudan and are present in small numbers in White Nile and Blue Nile states.

Distribution of Nomads in Sudan



The nomadic population in Sudan reached 2,778,774 according to the fifth and last population census conducted in 2008 which makes nomads constitute 7.1% of the total population of the country.

The results of the population census for the same year 2008 reflected nomads' population in Darfur states as 1,211,317, a figure close to half of the nomadic population in Sudan. The nomadic population in South Darfur state (which includes the current state of East Darfur) was 979,427. According to the 2008 census, the population of North Darfur State was 231,890.

The population census in Darfur region faced real security threats that prevented safe movement of census teams, especially in the areas of nomadic presence.

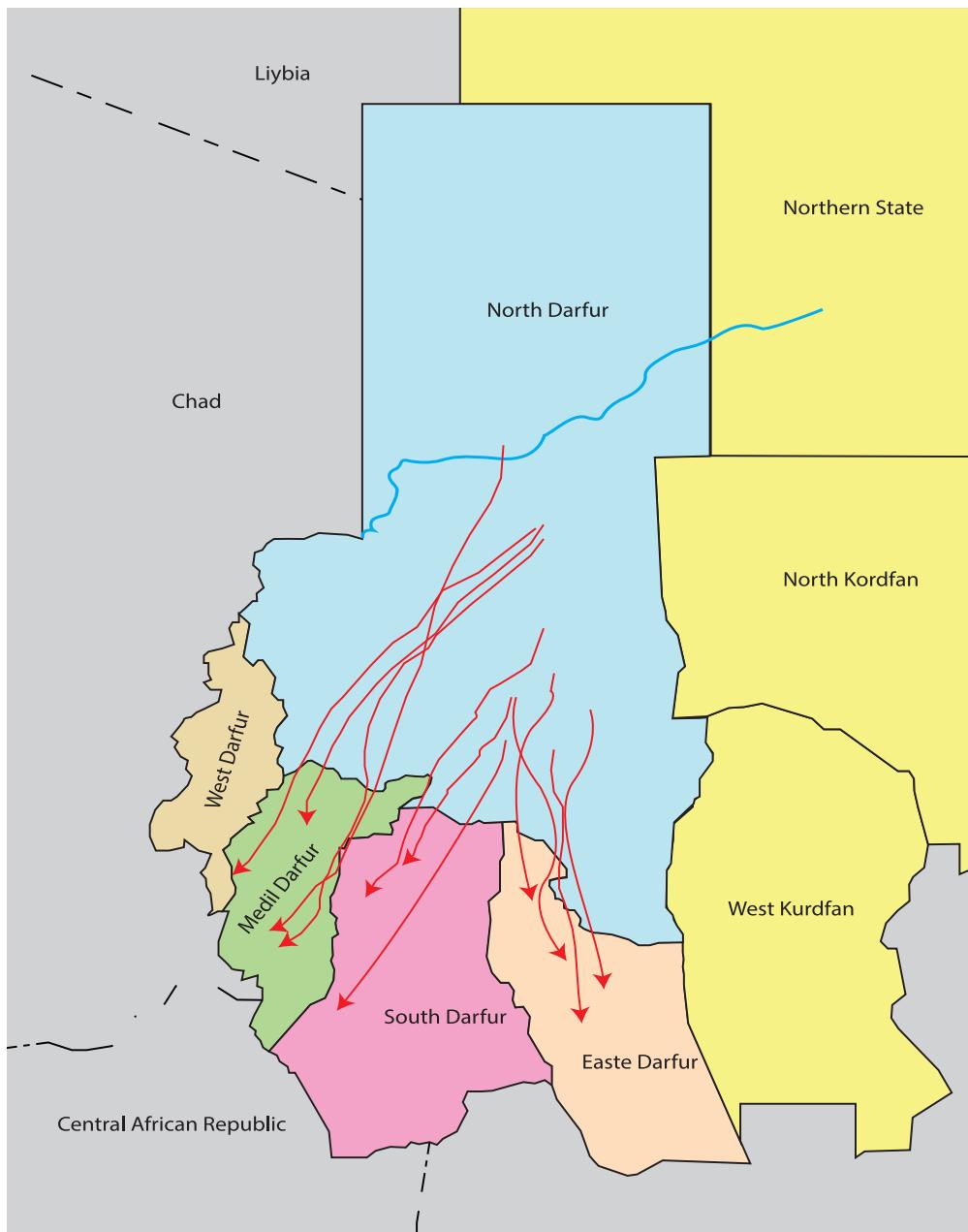
In comparing the nomads' population to the 1993 census in Darfur, the figure was in the range of only 332,179, a figure which opens the accuracy of the census to scrutiny. It is known that most of the previous statistics since 1955/1956 depended on the annual growth rate of the population except for the 2008 census. As for the increase in the numbers of nomads in the census in Darfur, there was no justification for this increase which has reached 300% since 1993. In general, the instability of nomads, their unresponsiveness to the census due to illiteracy, the lack of awareness required in such operations represent major and constant obstacles facing this group's census.

Nomads' seasonal routes in the Darfur region

Nomadic pastoralists depend on traditional routes known for decades in seasonal migrations where families and livestock cross to pastures in the northern and southern part of Darfur to avoid friction and violent confrontation with settled farmers. These routes remained accessible until the abolition of the native administration in the year 1970 by the May military regime of Numeiry, following which violent conflicts broke out between groups of nomads and settled farmers. The abolished native administration represented a mechanism that regulated nomad's seasonal movements, agricultural activity and other issues pertaining to land and resource-sharing, as well as settling disputes and initiating conciliations. The native administration plays an important and a supporting role in nomads' participation in the electoral process by facilitating the movement of election committees in the registration and polling stages as Native Administration is aware of nomad's movement and their locations during the different seasons.

Change in nomads' routes and its impact on their movement and mobility distribution in Darfur

- Abbala Nomadic tracks in Darfur



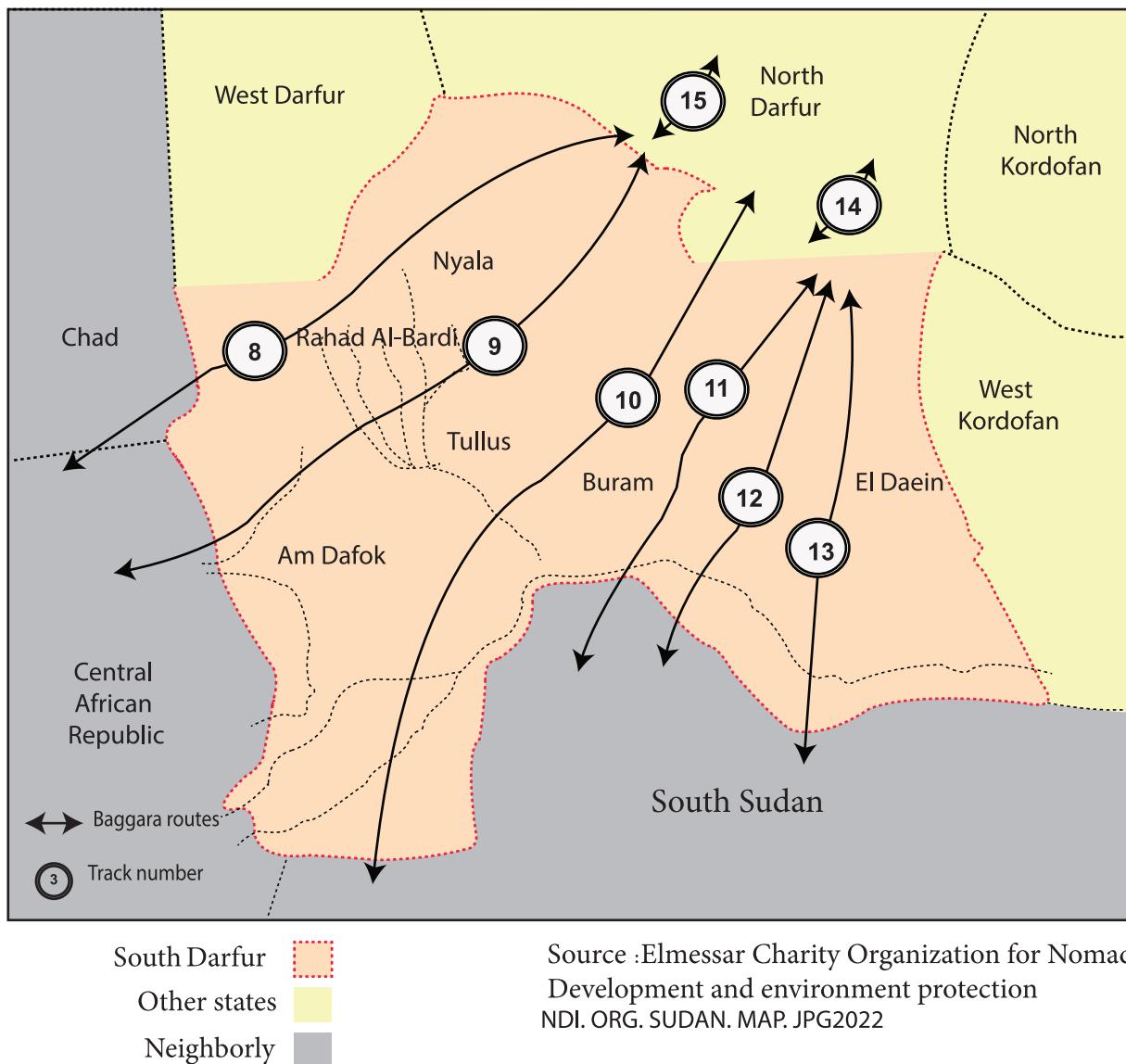
- Nomadic tribes who deal with Camels

The seasonal migrations of nomads in Darfur began to witness a remarkable change the pattern of their movement since the end of the eighties of the last century following the escalation of violent ethnic conflicts between the Abbala nomadic Arabs and the settled farmers of non-Arab Fur and Masalit tribes between 1987 and 1989.



These confrontations, along with the deteriorating security conditions in general, have led to a change in the seasonal migratory routes of nomads in Darfur. These conflicts have led to the closure of number of livestock migratory routes used by nomads, burning of natural pastures, deliberate sabotage of water sources with the aim of impeding the movement of nomads and their animals. As a result, a number of routes were inaccessible for years, some routes were completely abandoned by nomads and other routes were forcibly closed by farmers.

• Baggara Nomadic tracks in Darfur



Regarding the Baggara nomadic routes in the states of South and East Darfur, the routes were affected by the expansion of market-oriented agriculture activities in the south towards the rich savannah areas where the pastures of the Baggara are located. A result of agriculture expansion was the blockage of the Baggara's routes to the north thus forcing nomads to be confined to areas south of the state bordering the Bahr El Arab.

- Nomadic tribes who deal with Cows



The pattern of seasonal migrations of the Abbala and Baggara nomads that prevailed in earlier periods in Darfur has changed for several reasons including:

1. The deterioration of security especially following the war that erupted in 2003 in Darfur Region, forced nomadic groups - particularly the Abbala - to avoid crossing some well-known traditional seasonal routes due to increased risks and attacks.
2. The timing of the seasonal migrations of the Abbala has changed while moving from South Darfur to the dryer area of the North. This is also true for the movement of the Baggara from Bahr al-Arab to the north Darfur. In the past, the vanguards of the Abbala reached areas of North Darfur in May, however at present they extend their stay in the south to reach the north in July; this change results in violent confrontations with the settled farmers. Moreover, the Abbala migration to the south should begin following the harvest in February of each year. However, their migration to the south begins in October, resulting in inevitable confrontations with the farming communities. As for the Baggara, their movement to the north during the rainy season at present does not reach beyond the states of South and East Darfur borders while they used to stretch to areas of North Darfur.

3. A significant number of Abbala and Baggara nomads have settled their families encouraged by provision of water, education and health services by the authorities. As a consequence, a number of Baggara nomads started to practice agriculture, in addition to raising livestock.

Nomads' participation in the last elections:

Studies on the participation of nomads in the electoral process are few, except for some reports issued by the National Elections Commission and the high committees of the states. In addition to these, there have been some contributions from organizations and specialized centers or entities that have interest in issues pertaining to nomads.

From the reports of the representatives of the National Elections Commission in Darfur states on the participation of nomads in the 2010 elections, the following was observed:

1. The percentage of nomads' participation in the elections in West Darfur state (which includes the current Central Darfur state) has not exceeded fifty percent of the register.

2. In the state of South Darfur (which includes the current state of East Darfur) the percentage of nomads' who voted has exceeded sixty percent of the registration following the allocation of registration centers for them. Also, the participation of some nomads, standing as candidates in elections for the constituencies has led to igniting competition and attracting nomads' participation in the electoral process.

3. The number of voters in North Darfur State has increased due to the allocation of Al Waha ⁽²⁾

as the national geographical constituency for the nomads. In this state, the registered voters totaled 45004, and those who cast their votes reached 14,128; i.e., 32% of the number of voters.

2- Al Waha Constituency: In the 2010 elections the National Elections Commission authorized the allocation of a national geographic constituency for nomads in North Darfur state, which is the Al Waha locality. This locality was established in North Darfur state in 1997 as a local government institution, however, it was allocated to the northern Rizeigat Arab Abbala only, since they are the only ethnic group living in this area. The established Al Waha locality has no defined geographical or administrative boundaries. Thus, without these boundaries, the locality is considered a virtual administrative entity that extends within the boundaries of North Darfur state. In order to avoid conflict with the election law of 2008, the National Elections Commission has resorted to adopting the geographical boundaries of Al Waha constituency in the eastern and western Abbala * livestock migratory routes within the boundaries of North Darfur state.

Obstacles facing nomads' participation in the last elections:

a. The legal framework of the elections

1. Identification documents:

The initial obstacle is the supporting documents requirement, without which the most important condition for registration is forfeited. The required documents include the national number on the national card or passport, and they are all documents approved by the State's offices. As matters stood, nomads have not sought to obtain identification documents because they did not need them in any official or unofficial transactions pertaining to their movement since their presence is in remote areas away from urban centers. In order to obtain an identification document, whatever it may be, the place of residence, housing and permanent address must be specified. Obviously, since the nomads do not have a specific residence or a permanent address, issuing an identification document is against the law. This, in turn, led to the exclusion of many nomads from participating in the electoral process which begins with registration. Article 20(2) Paragraph (b) of the law stipulates "that a person [must] possess a personal identification document be it the national number, identity card, nationality, or passport.

The native administration chiefs who were interviewed throughout the study stated that most of the nomads do not have any identification documents and that civil registry teams faced great difficulties in accessing nomads while they are on the move. Moreover, they stated that the Civil Registry Department of the Ministry of Interior refuses to issue any document that does not state a residence or permanent address. This means that it is impossible for the nomads to obtain identification documents. To get around this obstacle, some have suggested adopting the registration card to prove nomads' identity in place of the legally required identification documents. In order to register for the elections, nomads who don't have ID card, need to have an official document given by popular committee or the native administration. Then, they should go to the registration office to be confirmed by a witness ⁽³⁾ from the area to confirm the identity of the holder. Adopting registration cards in the case

3- The witness should be appointed and endorsed by the election commission

of nomads, means their exclusion from presenting the stipulated legal documents (national identity document or passport). This exception is therefore not considered a final solution to the problem of producing identification documents for the nomads.

2. The registration process and the requirement to reside for a period of three months in the relevant geographical constituency

According to the 2008 Elections Law, amended in 2011 and in 2014, registration in the electoral register is a basic and constitutional right and it is a responsibility for every citizen who meets the legally specified conditions which are Sudanese citizenship, eighteen years of age, of sound mind and is registered in the electoral register.

There are three registration conditions. Firstly, the person registering must reside in the geographical constituency for a period of not less than three months prior to the date of closing the electoral register; secondly, they must be in possession of an identification document, or a certificate approved by the Popular Committee or the authorities of the Native Administration and thirdly, they must not be registered in any other geographical constituency.

One of the obstacles that nomads face as a condition for registration is the three-month residence in the geographical district. According to the amendment made to the 2010-2014 laws, this condition also applies to all citizens, with the exception of regular forces and nomads since the movement of the regular forces in the different regions of Sudan can take place at any time of the year. Similarly, the nomads are in a state of constant movement from one location to another throughout the year. These are the special circumstances behind the exclusion of these two groups. The law paid special attention to the participation of nomads during the electoral registration; nonetheless, the predicament remains during the polling stage where nomads' participation declines, affecting the entire electoral process.

3. Timetable for polls

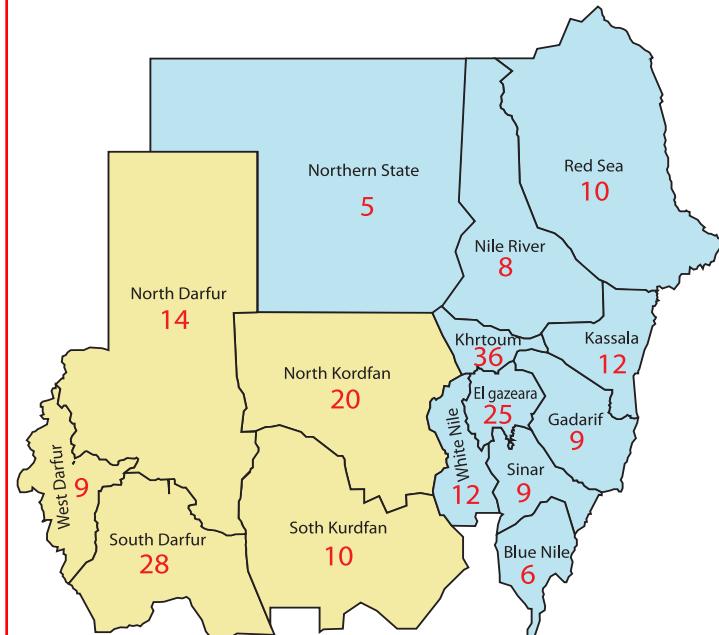
Among the obstacles that impede nomads' participation in the electoral process is the polling process. The timing and place are determined according to the electoral

schedule where in normal circumstances the polling center serves as the registration center. Since the nomads are unsettled, the place and time of their presence when it comes to voting is what determines their participation not the electoral schedule. In contrast, the registration process may extend for a longer period of time, since the timetable for polls is very critical and may not exceed several days. As a result, the Electoral Commission has resorted to allocating mobile boxes to provide the opportunity specifically for nomads to participate in casting their votes, however this arrangement experienced misconduct which eventually led to the votes being reconsidered.

4. Polling location: condition for voting Place of registration

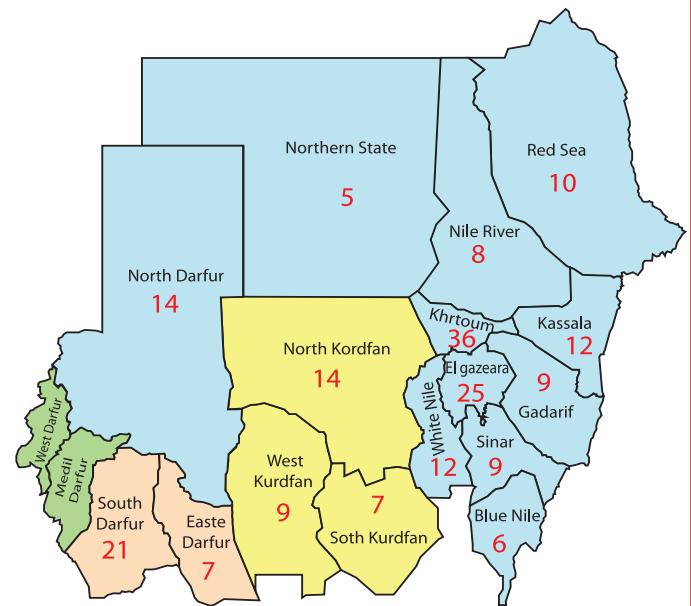
These conditions overlap with the timings of nomads' movement which is controlled by natural factors especially rainfall and their movement will not cease for any reason other than access to pastures and water sources. Accordingly, a nomad who has registered in an area in North Darfur and having fulfilled the registration requirements may not have enough time to cast their vote when polls take place in the same area or district, therefore the timetable of polls would not enable him to exercise his right to vote.

Number of Geographical constituencies Sudan 2010



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Source: National Electoral Commission

Number of Geographical constituencies Sudan 2015



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Source: National Electoral Commission

To bypass the obstacle of the residence requirement, the system of pre-prepared lists by the chief of the nomadic tribes' native administration in the 1968 elections was abolished and the direct registration law dropped the residence requirement for nomads and semi-nomads. Once again, Elections Committee in 1986 adopted pre-prepared lists ⁽⁴⁾ for nomads but the 2008 election law re-adopted the residency condition for voters without exception; as a result, a significant number of nomads lost the right to participate in the registration process thus depriving them of the opportunity to cast their votes in the voting process. An amendment was made to the 2014 Elections Law excluding regular forces and nomads from the residency requirement; also, the 2018 Elections Law excluded nomads and displaced persons from the same requirement. Article 22(2) A of the amended 2014 Elections Law stipulates the following: "The voter is required to have resided in the geographical constituency for a period of not less than three months prior to the date of closing the registration with the exception of regular forces and nomads whose registration rules are determined by the concerned regulations."

4- Each cherif of nomadic tribes prepare his own pre prepared list based on the number of his locality over 18 years old according to the law. There is no verification on this list and that is why it was

As for 2018 Elections Law which is approved by the National Council to be acted upon in the 2020 elections where Article 20(2) stipulates those voters reside in the geographical constituency for a period of no less than three months prior the date of closing the electoral registration, with the exception of nomads and displaced persons whose registration is determined by the concerned regulations. The law's exemption of nomadic groups from the residence requirement has been adopted in response to the nomads' conditions and the nature of their lifestyle which is characterized by mobility and instability.

b. Nomads' population census and lack of accurate information

Given the reality of nomadic communities and their lifestyle, which is characterized by mobility, their political participation as citizens has been weak and limited despite their significant numbers in some states. Naturally, this is due to their absence from the national arena most of the time and their geographical distance from settled communities and urban life, in addition to the widespread illiteracy leading to their neglect or marginalization.

Any elections' success is necessarily based on actual population census in addition to freedom and fairness, however population census experiences during different periods of time have demonstrated a clear shortcoming in the process of nomads' head-counting. This is due to their not being settled in specific locations throughout the year or due to the fact that reaching them requires additional human and logistical resources, resulting in them being neglected or on relying on arbitrary estimates based on the annual growth rate of the population. In order to make special provisions for nomads' participation in any electoral process it is necessary to have accurate statistics and to know their actual count. Population census experiences have proven that the native administration⁽⁵⁾

5- The native administration was established during the colonial period in the year 1922 in Sudan as indirect role to operate in accordance with the power granted to it under the native administration law. The administration that relies on social heritage, civil customs, authority of tribal and clan leaders and operates in accordance with the powers granted to it under the Native Administration Law or any other laws; and headed by a chief who acts as the leader of the clan or tribe with titles differing from one region to another, i.e. sheikh, nazir (traditional chief), mayor, etc.". Native administration is a deeply rooted social institution that has great influence among the tribal communities in Rural Darfur for centuries. Until now, they continue to operate by working closely with the authorities at municipality level but officially they are not part officially of the municipality council

c. long distances and the wide dispersal of nomads throughout remote uninhabited areas

Nomads travel vast distances during their seasonal migration in search of pasture and water. In some instances, the search may lead them, as in the Baggara case, to cross international borders and enter territories in the Republic of South Sudan, the Central African Republic and Chad. These long trips make it difficult for nomads to reach polling stations on time which hinders and weakens their participation.

In addition to this, the small number of polling stations and their concentration in cities, and the distance from the vast areas in which the nomads graze represent an obstacle to communicating with the nomads and reaching them in a timely manner during the registration and voting processes. Additionally, nomadic pastoralists are keen to stay with the herd due to the fact that conditions require them not to leave their animals behind to go to registration and polling centers, especially that the majority of these nomadic pastoralists are adult males who are legally qualified to register and vote.

d. The prevalence of illiteracy among the nomads

Illiteracy is generally widespread amongst nomads, and it is higher amongst women. In previous years, the authorities implemented the system of mobile schools⁽⁶⁾ to accompany nomads during their movement to teach the children who move along with their families, however, the number of students kept decreasing and some schools were closed due to the lack of adequate numbers of attending children. It is to be noted that these schools do not offer education beyond the primary level – there are no mobile secondary schools.

6 - Unfortunately, mobile schools faced a lot of challenges and their number decreased because of the Darfur war.

h. Poor participation of women in the electoral process

Traditions and customs entrenched in nomadic societies and their perception that women are inferior, in addition to the neglect of women's rights, are among the obstacles that hinder the registration of women in the allocated centers as it opposes the mixing of women with males who are considered strangers. Besides, there is poor awareness in pastoral societies of women's rights, including, of course, the right to participate in political activities in general and elections in particular; it is noticeable that oppression and marginalization of women is associated with nomadic communities.

Recommendations

1. Adoption of registration cards as supporting documents

According to the Identification documents, the 2018 Elections Law which repealed the 2008 law, is the law in force and is approved by the National Elections Commission. This law requires the national number on the identification card or passport to be the official and approved supporting documents during the registration and voting processes. The population group most negatively affected by this requirement is the nomads, many of whom do not possess identification documents, which weakens nomads' participation in the electoral process.

In this situation, it is essential to keep the same system to consider the possibility of approving any other documents to allow them to register the registration card for the nomads in the voting process until final solutions are presented.

2. Exemption of nomads from the residence requirement

The amended election laws in 2011 and 2014 excluded nomads and regular forces from the residence requirement while the 2018 election law excluded nomads and internally displaced persons from the residence requirement. At the registration stage, nomads are permitted to register at any center without being restricted to residing in the constituency for a period of three months.

The National Elections Commission must take into account the nomads' circumstances when setting the timetable of registration and voting processes, taking into consideration the nomad communities' whereabouts during registration and voting to facilitate their participation in the electoral process.

The presence and movement of nomads in Darfur is linked to the rainy season which presents a natural obstacle to reaching them, therefore, the appropriate timing for the registration process is during the months from October until end of December and voting to be before the beginning of the rainy season between the months of April and end of May. The partial settlement of some nomads in recent years may have provided the opportunity for more nomads to participate in the registration and polling processes; this requires the high commissions for elections in the states to follow-up on the seasonal movement of nomads and its impact on their participation.

3. Configure department for enhancing nomads participation within the National Elections Commission

From previous experience with the participation of nomads in the electoral process it is recommended to establish a special department for nomads within the organizational structure of the National Elections Commission; this will have a positive impact on the nomadic group. Moreover, the presence of this department at the level of the higher committees for elections in the states where nomadic groups are present will help in overcoming some of the obstacles facing nomads' participation.

The proposed department undertakes the task of coordinating and following-up with regard to the participation of nomads in the electoral process from registration to voting with putting into consideration the unique circumstances pertaining to the nomads which differ from settled groups. This department follows nomads in their areas of presence in the different states especially during the registration and polling stages and determines the most effective ways to provide opportunities for the nomads to participate in the electoral process. This requires the coordination with the native administrations of nomads' communities in the states determining the whereabouts of the nomads and the directions of their movement; additionally, coordinating with the native administration and registration and polling committees.

4. Bringing polling stations closer to nomads' locations

To ensure that nomads who are qualified to vote have the opportunity to exercise their right to do so, and to raise the participation rate of nomadic women who face difficulties because of their traditions and security concerns in moving long distances to reach the polling stations, nomad communities need special arrangements to ensure that they are not prevented from casting their vote during the election period. To facilitate higher voting engagement, the proposal to increase the numbers of centers or the allocation of mobile boxes consistent with the movement of nomads during the voting period can be actioned. In some instances, mobile centers are established within the geographical district where the centers are available, to enable those wishing to register during the registration period.

5. Intensification of electoral and civic education campaigns

Absence of electoral education campaigns and activities weakened nomads' participation in the electoral process in a community where illiteracy is widespread especially among women. In addition to the role that the National Elections Commission should play in this regard by virtue of its responsibility for the elections, the greatest burden in regard to education and training at the level of grassroots organizations falls on civil society organizations, political parties and other concerned entities. Political parties are interested in settled communities due to the ease of communication and a higher level of awareness and education with those communities, unlike the remote nomadic communities; coupled with the fact that reaching nomadic communities incurs a great logistical effort and a high financial cost. Naturally, in communities with high rates of illiteracy, training and awareness-raising are of paramount importance. This must be done using a variety of techniques commensurate with their limited awareness, as well as broadcasting and intensifying awareness messages to ensure the positive participation of voters.

6. Enhancing women's participation in the electoral process

As was previously mentioned women are excluded and marginalized within nomadic communities, their rights denied, including, of course, depriving them of participation in the electoral process; therefore, women's participation requires that nomads' registration and polling committees include a number of women in their membership to supervise women's participation in the registration and polling processes. The number of women within nomadic communities is large and the denial of their participation in previous elections requires urgent solutions before the upcoming elections.

7. Detailed follow-up on new population census

All previous population censuses suffered from not including all the areas and population groups. In addition, they lacked accurate information and results were unavailable within a specified time frame. The reasons for this include difficulty in transportation, high illiteracy, insecurity in some areas and the use of non-modern counting techniques, analysis and conclusions. The Central Bureau of Statistics announced in 2021 that it was conducting a comprehensive census in the country. This census will be the most accurate

and comprehensive in the country's history, in comparison with the circumstances and results of the previous five censuses. The new census is characterized by the adoption of an updated document, which will be held electronically for the first time in the country and will provide greater accuracy and confidence in information. Moreover, it will not exclude marginalized people such as nomads or displaced persons. What we propose here is the formation of a special committee of civil society to follow up on the progress of the census to ensure the integration of all vulnerable groups, especially nomads. Conducting these surveys accurately may provide a lot of important data for the entire electoral process.

8. The importance of involving the native administration of nomads

The native administration of nomads is playing a crucial roles in nomads live . They should be involve with their leadership at all level from the sheikhs⁽⁷⁾ to the chiefs⁽⁸⁾ in the population census operations for nomads, including the educational campaigns for the nomads, eases participation in the electoral process. This is important because these actors know the location of nomads and the timing of their movements, which makes their participation in electoral process easier.

9. Allocating geographical constituencies for nomads

There were clear benefits of the National Elections Commission in allocating a geographical constituency for nomads in Al Waha locality in North Darfur state in 2008. By studying and modifying that experience in line with today's international standards for election integrity, considerable gains could be made in engaging nomads in the electoral process.

7- Lower level of native the administration
8- Higher level of the native administration

Conclusion

The problem of nomad's participation in the elections in Sudan is old and renewed, and despite the attempts of successive democratic and military regimes to develop radical solutions to overcome it, recycling solutions brings it back to the fore with the approach of every election in the country. The definition of the word 'nomads' created more discussions according to changes which occurred in the lives of nomadic communities during the past five decades. They have witnessed serious environmental deterioration due to the expansion of drought and desertification and the resulting competition and wars between groups of farmers and pastoralists over the diminishing natural resources, as well as violent tribal conflicts and finally the Darfur war since 2003. These combined factors led to profound changes in the pattern of seasonal migrations of the nomads and the timing of their movement north and south within the region. All these challenges must be properly studied and addressed in order to find lasting solutions that guarantee the rights of this group of citizens.

Supporting and strengthening the political participation of the nomads in Sudan needs further study and research. Despite some of the jurisprudence of the successive regimes, they did not reach decisive solutions, and relying on temporary solutions to overcome the problem will bring it back to the scene again with any upcoming elections. All we hope is that the recommendations will reach the largest possible number of stakeholders to take the necessary decisions and measures, and that civil society organizations supporting this just cause will conduct the necessary pressure operations and the necessary advocacy and awareness campaigns to guarantee the rights of nomads, in line with the rest of the citizens.

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Interviews list :

1. Mr. Al-Ser Al-Mak, president of the National Elections Commission in charge since 2019, chairman of the High Elections Commission of North Darfur state in 2010, former secretary of the North Darfur state government and retired administrative officer.
2. Ahmed Adam Yusuf, former Director of Local Government of North Darfur State (1994-1998) and chief officer of the 1986 North Darfur Constituency elections. And retired administrative officer .
3. Hafiz Bakhit, General secretary of the Government of North Darfur State.
4. Mohamed Mahmoud Mohammed, Executive Director, Al-Maleha District, North Darfur State
5. Mutassim Jama, Executive Director of Alwaha(Nomads) North Darfur State
6. Somaya Abdullah, Director of Statistics, North Darfur State
7. Abdul Rahim Shanan, Director of Local Government, North Darfur State
8. Jama Mohammed Al-Sayah, Omada (leader of the civil administration) of Al-Maleha and a former commissioner of the locality of Al-Maleha
9. Saleh Hassab Al-Karim Omada (leader of civil administration) of Abu Qurn, Al-Maleh locality in North Darfur
10. Ali Osman Jama Mayor of The Medidob Community Department
11. Alnaser (Leader of civil administration) Hammad Abdullah Jibril, Head of The Department of Alaergat Women (nomads) Alwaha locality in North Darfur
12. Naser (leader of civil administration) Ibrahim Abdullah Jadallah, Head of Al-Atifat Department (nomads) Alwaha locality
13. Mustafa Al-Dod Mahdi, Undersecretary of the Department of Mahriyeh (nomads) Alwaha locality , North Darfur State
14. Alnaser (leader of civil administration) Yacoub Sabun, Head of The Shatia Department (nomads) Alwaha locality North Darfur State
15. Hamed Mohamed Henon, General secretary of the Government of South Darfur state

16. Abdullah Arabi Abdullah, Director of Local Government, South Darfur State
17. Alfadel Saeed, Agent of Naser (leader of civil administration) of Al-Raziqat
18. Abdullah Mustafa Abu Noba, Omda of Mahriya South Darfur
19. Almagboul Abdullahi Yusuf, Director of Statistics of South Darfur State
20. Mahmoud Hussein Sharif, Representative of the Elections Commission ,North Darfur State
21. Mohamed Ezzat, former executive and former commissioner of Alwaha locality
22. Hisham Mahmoud, Administrative Officer Alwaha (kutm) locality
23. Abdullah Safi Al Nour is retired teacher for the nomads and member of the elections committees in the (Kutm) region (1968-1986)
24. Rabaa Hussein, Leader of The nomads Women of kutm
25. Mohamed Issa Aliou, former Governor of Eastern Darfur State, Omda of wakla in Al-Raziqat district ,Eastern Darfur
26. King Dawad Salem, Head of Zaghawa ,awlad Daqin, North Darfur

Focus discussion groups :

- Leaders of the native administration of mobile tribes :
- Almahrya
- Alaergat
- AlAtifat
- Altaysha
- Alraziqat

