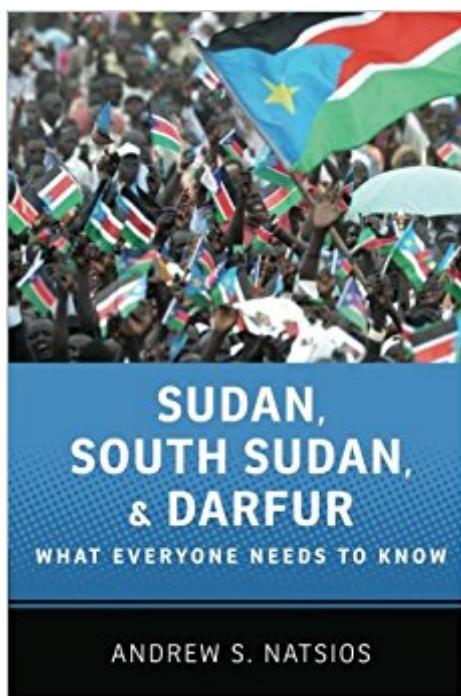


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# Sudan, South Sudan, And Darfur: What Everyone Needs To Know®



## Synopsis

For thirty years Sudan has been a country in crisis, wracked by near-constant warfare between the north and the south. But on July 9, 2011, South Sudan became an independent nation. As Sudan once again finds itself the focus of international attention, former special envoy to Sudan and director of USAID Andrew Natsios provides a timely introduction to the country at this pivotal moment in its history. Focusing on the events of the last 25 years, Sudan, South Sudan, and Darfur: What Everyone Needs to Know® sheds light on the origins of the conflict between northern and southern Sudan and the complicated politics of this volatile nation. Natsios gives readers a first-hand view of Sudan's past as well as an honest appraisal of its future. In the wake of South Sudan's independence, Natsios explores the tensions that remain on both sides. Issues of citizenship, security, oil management, and wealth-sharing all remain unresolved. Human rights issues, particularly surrounding the ongoing violence in Darfur, likewise still clamor for solutions. Informative and accessible, this book introduces readers to the most central issues facing Sudan as it stands on the brink of historic change. What Everyone Needs to Know® is a registered trademark of Oxford University Press.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

**WHAT EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW About This Series** Who it's for: Busy people with diverse interests, ranging from college students to professionals, who wish to inform themselves in a succinct yet authoritative manner about a particular topic. What's inside: An incisive approach to a

complex and timely issue, laid out in a straight-forward, question-and-answer format. Meet Our Authors Top experts in their given fields, ranging from an Economist correspondent to a director at the Council on Foreign Relations, you can trust our authors' expertise and guidance. Popular Topics in the "What Everyone Needs to Know" Series International Politics Environmental Policies World History Sciences & Math Religion & Spirituality

an enlightening first port of call for those who wish to know more about this region. \* Andrew S. Natsios, *Times Literary Supplement* \* Natsios provides a clear and dispassionate general introduction to the country's history and politics, designed for the lay reader ... The book's main achievement, though, is to succinctly explain Sudan's history of conflict and violence. \* Nicolas van de Walle, *Foreign Affairs* \*

Really good background information that gives those going to work there a great understanding of how Sudan and South Sudan got to where they are today.

Gives a nice introduction to South-Sudan and the history of the country. Okay reading, glad I read it before I went.

Very informative! The different Muslim persuasions involved were unknown to me. Other historical influences were also important to understand. The author seems to have been a real insider.

Very Informative. Must Read for anybody interested in the Genesis and follow up on the crisis.

The book is awash with factual errors. I have stopped counting them. It lacks what should be the backbone of contemporary history writing: analysis of societal structures, such as the "Sudanese Middle Classes", or the current regime. According to the author, it was written during a lonely island holiday. This shows. Some reading might have shaken the author's untrammelled convictions. The result is a superficial essay between fact and fiction. It is not "what everyone needs to know".

I haven't read it yet, but I am interested in Darfur and I want to know the story behind the news.

The book views the Sudanese conflicts through a "good guys versus bad guys" lens and inappropriately forces the various groups involved in the conflicts into one or the other category. The

book overall did not do justice to the complexity of either the conflicts in Sudan or the people living there. The author does not present a deep understanding of the region, its people, or its problems. It is also very pro-Christianity and the author seems delighted at the spread of Christianity among previously animistic peoples. He presents the missionaries as saviors of the South Sudanese and glosses over how many of the South Sudanese have not converted to Christianity. He presents an unrealistic image of the brave Christian missionaries saving the poor helpless South Sudanese. Also, note that at the time I purchased this book as a Kindle book, it did not have page numbers, so it was difficult to use it for research.

Somewhat superficial given the extremely complex nature of the issues, it is a better book than some of these critics - who seem to have their own axes to grind - give it credit for. Natsios does know the players and the issues and has some important things to say about a volatile part of Africa.

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