

SUDAN VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME



Pre-Departure Guide

Welcome to SVP!

This guide compiles information relevant to SVP volunteers who will be living and teaching in Sudan. It specifically focuses on useful pre-departure information.

We hope to make your transition into the programme as exciting and painless as possible.

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i. Placement Information

SVP has placement obligations to the Ministry of General Education and the Ministry of Higher Education. There are different obligations depending on which Ministry grants your residency. These obligations dictate the cities and towns where volunteers work, as well as whether volunteers will primarily be working in schools or universities. Furthermore, SVP policy prioritises the placement of volunteers outside of Khartoum, as this is where the need is greater and the cultural exchange stronger.

It is also SVP policy that, where possible, volunteers are placed in pairs. For safety, cultural and companionship reasons, single female volunteers will be placed with at least one other female.

These obligations and priorities prescribe where you will be located while in Sudan. It is possible that on your arrival that SVP Sudan will have a small number of vacancies (possibly in different locations) and will discuss these with you. Together, you can choose the best fit for you and for SVP's vision and commitments.

Because placements take many hours to arrange, we request that volunteers accept the placement that is set up for them.

Areas where volunteers have previously been placed include Atbara, Shendi, Kassala, Dongola, El Obeid, Gunaid, Wad Medani, Khartoum, and Port Sudan.

There are sometimes placement options available for couples. If you are intending to come with a partner, you must inform us as soon as possible.

ii. Medical and Malaria Prevention

SVP requires you to undertake a fitness and inoculation report by a registered medical professional. You must get your doctor or medical adviser to send SVP the fitness and immunisation report to SVP UK to show that you are fit and have received the appropriate inoculations (including hepatitis, typhoid, tetanus, polio and meningitis).

Consult your Doctor about the specific immunisations you need for your trip to Sudan. The following are useful guides but cannot replace advice from a trained professional:

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/sudan>

<http://www.mdtravelhealth.com/destinations/africa/sudan.php>

It is advisable to consult your Doctor as early as possible in your preparation for departure as some immunisations require 6 – 8 weeks between doses.

Yellow fever is not reported in northern Sudan but there have been cases in El Obeid - so if traveling to the west, or going south of Khartoum, get a free immunisation in Khartoum first.

Malaria Prevention

You should also check that you are tolerant of and have been recommended a course of anti-malarial prophylactic. The most effective is Lariam (also called Mefloquine) but it has side effects with some people. The recommended alternatives for use in Sudan are Doxycycline or Malarone. Malarone is not available in Sudan. Doxycycline is relatively cheap in Sudan and can be purchased without a prescription at pharmacies throughout Sudan. There has been some scepticism by doctors in Sudan over the effectiveness of Doxycycline and some people find that their skin becomes very sensitive to the sun. However, it is a great barrier against bugs generally and worth taking for an initial period in any case. Read for yourself the advice given on the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine's website: <http://www.malaria-reference.co.uk>

The most important part of preventing malaria is not to get bitten. By taking care, you are unlikely to catch malaria: bring with you an impregnated mosquito net plus DEET or 'Jungle Formula' (available from Boots) insect repellent and use them both. Try to maintain a high intake of garlic and apparently the less sugar you eat the better. Volunteers in Khartoum have only very rarely had problems and some volunteers in more central areas find that though do not need to take an anti-malarial at all in the summer time. However, in all areas you need to be especially vigilant about using your net in the rainy season (July, August, September).

Most volunteers favour a generously sized box type net, which you can hold up with sticks at the corners of the bed if you have not got ceiling hooks. There tends to be plenty of bamboo sticks available for this but if you want to take your own then four light wood stakes of about 15mm square section each 110cm long plus two cross pieces 80cm long all with rounded ends to avoid snagging the net are recommended. Take 1.5" wide masking tape or string to fix sticks to the bed legs to hold the mosquito net up clear of your body. During the rainy season Dilling, Gedaref, and other towns are notorious for malaria although volunteers have not been affected recently. For traveling inside the country the pop-up type are best as quickest to set up.

You should start taking the anti-malaria drug a week or two before departure. If you do get a fever or feel unwell in Sudan it is important to get tested and treatment as soon as possible. If you catch it early, eat well and rest for the full three or four days that a doctor will always recommend and you will recover quickly. If you are traveling and do not have access to a doctor take Quinine tablets at the recommended rates at the same time every day. Anti-malarials should be continued for 4 weeks after return to your home country, except Malarone where this is seven days. The preferred treatment is now Coartem a combination of antibiotic and Artemisenin made by Novartis.

The SVP arrival and placement booklet (you will get this when you arrive in Khartoum) provides more information about how to deal with medical issues while you are in Sudan.

iii. Disclosure/Police Background Check/Criminal Record Clearance.

Regardless of nationality, all candidates must undergo a thorough police vetting before they will be offered a role as a volunteer with SVP. The background check/clearance is very important because you will be working with sensitive populations, such as children and because it is critical that the right people on the ground in Sudan.

Candidates from the UK are required to use uCheck. This service is free to the volunteer. Follow these instructions:

- 1) Go to: <https://www.dbsassist.co.uk/ucheck/>
- 2) Click on DBS Application, Start Application
- 3) Enter Organisation reference: **SUDA1** and password: **sudaone**. Click 'Log on.'
- 4) Confirm to have read the 'Statement of Fair Processing' and click 'next.'
- 5) A blank application will appear. Complete this application, which requires your NI Number, previous addresses and other identifying information. Use the notes on the right of the screen for guidance.
For the Employment option, tick – 'Child and Adult workforce' and for Position write: 'Teacher'
- 6) Review your details and then tick 'Confirm your Consent' and 'Submit.' Make a note of the unique form reference number (important)
- 7) Click 'Home' (You MUST leave this area of the website before SVP can complete the application.
- 8) Contact David Wolton to finalise the process and pay fees due. You need to send him the unique form reference number (important)
- 9) Results typically take one to two days to be delivered to SVP.

For all other nationalities it is your responsibility to undergo and pay for an appropriate background check and submit the results directly to SVP. You must request one as an individual and send the results to SVP. Every country has different procedures for undergoing a background check/clearance. The following are links on how to obtain one for nationals of our most common, non-UK applicants:

Australia: <http://www.afp.gov.au/what-we-do/police-checks/national-police-checks.aspx>

Canada: <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cr-cj/fing-empr2-eng.htm>

Ireland: <http://www.garda.ie/Controller.aspx?Page=2742&Lang=1>

New Zealand: <http://www.justice.govt.nz/services/criminal-records/get-a-copy-of-your-criminal-record>

United States: <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/abroad/legal-matters/criminal-record-check.html> (We only require a local police check for 'lack of criminal convictions' and/or 'certificate of good conduct').

If you are a national of a country not listed above, please seek the appropriate authority to receive your police background check/clearance.

iv. Visa Procedures

Once SVP receives your Medical Report, Police Report, references and your signed Agreement and Confirmation form, the process of acquiring an entry permit visa on your behalf will begin. To do this SVP UK, specifically David Wolton, needs to take your Passport to the Sudanese Embassy in London. SVP absorbs the application costs of your visa.

Before you give your Passport to SVP UK, please make sure that your passport is valid for at least six months after your stated leaving date from Sudan and is valid for the whole time you will be away from your home country.

SVP will need your passport details at least six weeks before departure to make the entry permit application for you.

If you are in or near London, David will arrange to meet with you, possibly at the Sudanese Embassy. David will advise you when to expect it to be ready and you can pick it up from the Embassy once it is ready.

Increasingly, volunteers are non-UK citizens. If you are such an applicant, it will be necessary to send your passport to SVP UK. Even if there is a Sudanese Embassy in your home country experience has taught us to use the Sudanese Embassy in London to make visa applications. SVP's mission is understood and respected in the London embassy and David maintains a personal relationship with Embassy staff, which ensures the quick processing of visa applications.

Send your passport by track and trace courier to the following address:

David Wolton
34 Estelle Road
London NW3 2JY

[+44 7910 940 819](tel:+447910940819)
david@svp-uk.com
davidwolton@gmail.com

Priority postage costs more but will arrive to SVP UK roughly a week earlier than standard track and trace, depending on which country you are sending your passport. Priority postage is only necessary if your visa needs to be processed quickly.

SVP will pay to return your passport to you by UK Mail, typically on the same day as the visa is issued.

Visa processing typically takes two working days.

Please note: Your visa will be valid for two months from the date of issue at the Embassy it is therefore important that you arrive in Khartoum within this period.

Before mailing please scan the information page of the passport and email it to David along with a passport style photo of yourself (colour, full face on white ground) to help SVP Sudan start the registration process in Sudan ahead of your arrival.

v. Documents

Before you arrive in Sudan, make numerous photocopies of your passport, **entry permit**, prescription information, inoculation records and doctors notes. Email these to yourself and to a trusted family member or friend.

In the extremely unlikely event that you lose your passport or other essential documents, these photocopies and email records will be invaluable for replacing the lost document. SVP has a safe for keeping these valuables and your hard currency.

vi. Packing Guide

The following is a list of items that previous volunteers recommend you bring on top of the more obvious things like your Passport, toothbrush and underwear. These items are not available or difficult to find, expensive or of poor quality in Sudan.

Item	Details
Cash: Hard Currency	<p>US Dollars are best, though Sterling is fine.</p> <p>You need to bring enough cash to support yourself until your first salary payment, which can sometimes take as long as two months. You may also want to do some traveling during your first few weeks, so may need to budget for that.</p> <p>SVP recommends that you bring at least £400 or \$500 in cash. This can be stored safely in the SVP flat and converted into Sudanese pounds as required.</p> <p>The cost of living is cheap and your hard currency will take you a long way. If you are frugal, use public transport, eat at local food joints, you will find it difficult to make a significant dent in your hard currency before you receive your first salary payment.</p> <p>There are also limitless possibilities for private tutoring, paid on the spot, so the likelihood of running out money is extremely unlikely.</p>

	Due to trade embargoes, Credit Cards and International ATM cards <u>do not work</u>.
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Tech

Item	Details
Laptop	You can purchase new good quality brands (Sony, HP) here in Khartoum, often at a cheaper price than at home. A laptop is useful for lesson planning and communication but is not essential, though strongly recommended.
Antivirus Software	Most standard antivirus protection do not work in Sudan, including Avast and AVG. Research an antivirus that is not restricted by sanctions and will not expire during your time in Sudan.
Camera	Despite the rumours, you can and will take photos in Sudan! Cameras can be purchased here at the major Malls in Khartoum.
Mobile Phone/Smartphone	A mobile phone is essential. Calls are cheap. Bring your own or buy one here. A large selection of brands are available everywhere. (Galaxy, Nokia)
Ebook reader, Kindle	Useful if you want to read quality English books, which are difficult to find here.
	<p><i>Note:</i></p> <p><i>Extra care has to be taken of all of these things from the dust which is exceptionally bad at times.</i></p> <p><i>Two prong European Standard plugs are the norm.</i></p>

Essentials

Item	Details
Prescriptions in original packaging	“Bring a big supply of any prescription you may need as you cannot guarantee they will have it here or that the quality will be up to standard. Antibiotics are fine I think but you should be a bit careful about what they are handing out at the pharmacy if you are not consulting a doctor beforehand.”
Doctor’s note	Detailing your medications, especially for controlled substances
Contraception	The pill. Condoms are available at Sena Hypermarkets in Al Waha and Afra Malls in Khartoum and at some pharmacies.
Ibuprofen, Imodium, rehydration tablets, antibiotic cream.	Difficult to find, Panadol and derivatives are ubiquitous.

Sun hat	If you are sensitive to the sun, bring a sun hat. Hats are not readily available in Sudan.
Stand-alone mosquito net	As you are located out of Khartoum, it is essential you have a mosquito net. The same applies in Khartoum during certain times of the year. The ones available in Sudan at pharmacies are not high quality and are not stand alone, meaning you have to tie it to walls or sticks for it to cover you properly. It is a wise investment to get a stand-alone before you come to Sudan. Example: http://www.travelpharm.com/mosquito-nets-and-repellents-c154/nets-c163#:page2
Sunglasses with UV protection (x2)	Sunglasses are available but are typically of poor quality. Invest in some good quality pairs before you arrive.
Sunscreen with high SPF	Sunscreen is not common in Sudan. It can be purchased at some pharmacies and Malls in Khartoum but typically at a high price. You will be able to get it cheaper and of a higher quality at home.
Mosquito repellent	Deet type roll-on is best
Day pack	It is hard to find a good, strong daypack in Sudan; take this with you.
Prescription glasses, x 2	If you wear prescription glasses, bring two pairs in case one breaks. Optometrists are available here but the quality of the lens are lacking.
Contact lens solution	

Dressing Guide (Males and Females)

- The sun is strong so cover up.
- No shorts or bare shoulders for cultural reasons.
- Hair should always be tidy and feet should be clean.
- Temperatures are high so you may find you need to shower and change clothes twice a day.
- Weddings and other parties are frequent so take some smarter things to attend these. There is a perception that foreigners dress too casually at formal events such as Weddings. It's a big day for the people involved, so dress appropriately as a sign of respect.
- You should not wear flip-flops except in the house or when popping over to see a neighbour or to go to the local shop. Sandals are fine.
- Sudan is **particularly hard on shoes**, so you really need good quality brands and products to look after them.
- You will find all Sudanese take great care to wear freshly laundered and ironed clothes - maintain their respect for you and for SVP by doing likewise. Cotton shirts are a good option.

Clothing/Accessories Female

“Self-care is not cheap, shampoo and stuff is expensive and quality is lacking.”

“Bring mainly conservative clothing but also some normal clothes as you might wear different things for different occasions depending on where you will be based. If you are outside Khartoum, clothes that are more conservative are better.”

Item	Details
Clothing	<p>Patterns are your friend and hide dirt. Anything dark = overheating. Anything white or pale will end up with a ring around the collar and dirt around the hems and this dirt will never come out. It is fine when you're there, but it can drive you nuts.</p> <p>Women may also want to purchase a long lightweight denim skirt in Sudan; they are inexpensive and very suitable. Other dresses, skirts, tops that you can buy in Sudan tend to be non-natural fibres and so quite hot.</p> <p>Trousers (loose fitting & with loose over-shirt) for Western women are OK but as in everything be guided by your Sudanese friends or other volunteers.</p> <p>Long skirts are great, but if they are white, they'll probably get stained at the bottom quickly.</p> <p>Tops that cover your butt and crotch -- As a rule, if you can buy tunic tops or anything that gets to mid-thigh or longer, it will be more modest. Similarly, you want to cover shoulders and upper arm, and from the collarbone down. Lightweight 'hippie' tops with embroidery (like from India) are great for this. Long sleeves are preferred but not required. Volunteers find loose long sleeves cooler in the heat because you do not feel the sun fry your skin and they keep the cool air inside your clothes.</p> <p>Women may need a headscarf for some occasions.</p> <p>You can purchase as many scarves from Omdurman Souq as you could possibly desire.</p> <p>Rural areas and towns are likely to be more conservative in general; jeans or fitted trousers are not suitable. Shirts that reach down to the mid forearm are fine for girls. Wearing a vest underneath a shirt to cover up a plunging neckline is a good idea and stops shirts from being ruined so quickly.</p> <p>Keep underwear plain and well hidden when drying.</p>
Deodorant	Expensive and limited selection.
Lotion/cream (body, face)	Expensive and limited selection.
Basic make up	Expensive and limited selection.
Lip balm	Expensive and limited selection.

Hair ties	It is hard to get hair ties that are not just the little ones you use for braids.
Leggings/slip	Sometimes they are good for wearing under skirts that are maybe a bit short or you realise are slightly see through.
Shoes/Sandals	<p>“Definitely shoes! Hardy sandals, pretty sandals, heels/smart shoes, trainers.”</p> <p>“It is worth taking at least a few pairs of sandals and shoes as some might break and you can't buy good sandals here. Maybe for men there are some options but women's shoes here are generally very badly made and break after 2 weeks.”</p>
Swimsuit	There will be times and places where it is possible to swim.
Formal dress	For weddings, celebrations, Embassy parties.
High heels	For weddings, celebrations, Embassy parties.
Shower gel	Expensive and limited selection.
T-Shirts	For home wear and relaxing.
Tampons	Tampons are virtually impossible to find. Maxi pads are easier, but still uncommon, bring a very large supply of whatever you prefer to use.
Purse	“Any purse you take should be something that is hard to get into. Sudan is very honest, but if your purse gapes open, it is very tempting. I recommend something either cross-body or that you can wear tucked under your arm.”
Deep conditioner	If you have long hair, some deep conditioner will be useful.

Clothing/ Accessories Male

Item	Details
Deodorant	Expensive and limited selection.
Lightweight long trousers	Chinos are good, anything breathable.
Shirts, long and short sleeve	Thin smart shirts - buyable at most camping shops are great as they breathe better. Avoid very light colours, as they will stain quickly, whites become yellow. Durable natural fibres that are fade resistant are best.
Sandals/shoes	<p>Shoes are typically of poor quality here.</p> <p>Slip on sandals, Teva is a good brand.</p>
Shaving razor and blades	Expensive and limited selection.
Hair gel	Expensive and limited selection.
Shower gel	Expensive and limited selection.

T-Shirts	For casual and home wear.
Swimming trunks	

Optional

Item	Details
Fitted sheets and pillow cases	If you like clean freshly washed sheets and pillowcases bring your own. Sudanese do not change sheets (which are more like thin flat cloths) each time a different person sleeps in a bed. Some people have enjoyed silk sheets in hotter times of year.
Pocket English/Arabic dictionary	You can find a limited selection at the bookshop in Afra Mall.
Sewing kit and safety pins	
Sportswear, trainers, sports shoes (astroturf shoes, hiking boots)	If you are a sports enthusiast you will be invited to play football or similar. It is better to bring your sportswear with you than to get it here.
Dry eye, allergy eye drops	
Small portable mirror	Difficult to find.
Headlamp/torch	Options available.
Water purification tablets	Difficult to find and expensive.
Ziplock plastic bags	Difficult to find but very useful.
Simple first aid kit	Good plasters, and bandages for emergencies or minor irritations.
Hand sanitizer/towellettes	Useful before eating (which is typically done with your hands)
Trinket gifts as "thank you" for favours	Postcards, souvenir items from home etc.
Photos from home	Your new friends and colleagues will be very curious about your home. As an aside, make sure none of your pictures are revealing (i.e. do not show photos of you and your friends in swimsuits on the beach, and even photos of you in t-shirts, tanks and mini-skirts aren't ideal). It is an easy mistake to make, and it would be almost as uncomfortable as showing a Western co-worker a picture of you in lingerie.
Steri Pen	A plastic wand that can sterilize water inside a plastic water bottle.
Rechargeable batteries and a charger	Available in Sudan as well.
Arabic	Some language in your head will be immediately useful.
Multi-tool pocket knife	There will regularly be situations when various tools are needed.
Travel Iron	To press your clothes. An Iron is readily purchasable in Sudan and are cheap, basic but effective.

vii. SVP Google Drive

SVP maintains a Google Drive that contains essential information to prepare you for your arrival. You can also access this anytime during your placement. The drive contains pdfs of SVP teaching materials and books, colloquial Sudanese language guides, travel guides, maps, detailed information about Insurance cover and books that that give a background to Sudan, its people, and its history.

To log onto the SVP Google Drive, follow these instructions.

If you have a google account, sign out of it.

Go to the Google or Gmail log in page.

Write the username: **Sudanvolunteerprogramme@gmail.com** and password: **(We will give you the password once you are accepted on the programme)**

Once you have logged in, click on the google application symbol:  which is located at the top right hand corner. From the list of options, select Google Drive.

If you have problems signing in due to account verification requests, just complete the backup email request as follows: **hapticsynaptics@gmail.com**. This information should be enough to get you there the verification protection. Contact us if you require further verification information.

viii. Teaching Preparation

You will receive formal training for your school placement at an institute in Khartoum. You will also get the opportunity to observe Sudanese teachers and/or current volunteers delivering lessons. However, there is a lot that you can do yourself to prepare for teaching in Sudan. Try to prepare yourself as much as you can before you arrive by reading teaching manuals and gathering resources, materials and ideas.

You will primarily facilitating English discussion clubs, for which you are not expected to have an intimate knowledge of formal English Grammar. Your goal is to make students engaged and talking through enjoyable lessons that focus on pronunciation, simple and clear sentences and vocabulary.

The SVP Google Drive contains SVP teaching manuals to guide you in lesson planning, classroom management and suitable topics for your classes. It also contains lesson plans from previous volunteers as well as pdfs of teaching books that are invaluable teaching guides.

The SVP Google drive contains:

- *J. Barker's The English Language Teacher's Handbook*, which familiarises readers with TELF methods for successful lessons.
- B. Marsland's *Lessons from Nothing*, which offers excellent advice for preparing lessons with minimal resources and tips for classroom activities
- F. Klippe's *Keep Talking*, which provides valuable strategies to engage students in discussion.
-

Please read these guides to prepare yourself for your placement. You can also purchase these books in your home country or via Amazon if you prefer hard copies.

Books that we recommend but are not included in the SVP drive include:

- J. Wingate's *Getting Beginners to Talk* (Cambridge)
- M. Lewis and J. Hill's *Practical Techniques for Language Teaching* (Language Teaching Publications).
- J. Hadfield's *Communication Games*.

If possible, talk to any current TEFL teachers and ask to sit in to observe their classes.

It is very useful for beginner teachers to have their own course book to work from (including the teacher's book for support). Sometimes course book are not available at the schools. Ensure that the one you bring is geared towards the age group of the students you are teaching.

More experienced teachers who want to design their own lessons can plan with the recommended materials above thus saving a lot of planning and preparation time.

Shaping the Way We Teach English:

Our trainers in Khartoum recommend that all volunteers watch the University of Oregon's 'Shaping the Way we Teach English' online teacher training series. It is available on You Tube at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kLpwuQsNiLg&list=PL47A04D9EECA3E792>

ix. Media Resources

Blogs of Former SVP Volunteers:

Many of our former volunteers have documented their experiences on personal blogs. These blogs will give you a great insight into the fun and challenges of volunteering in Sudan.

[Second Story Sudan](#)

[Alien In Sudan](#)

[Detours in Sudan](#)

[Dust Bowl Diaries](#)

[I Should Tend to My Sunburn](#)
[Lonesome Planet Diaries](#)
[Mark Tanner](#)
[Salams from Sudan](#)
[Rebecca Mallinson](#)
[The Beels in the Sudan](#)
[Tom Wharton](#)

English Language Sudanese News Media Links

International	National
All Africa Al-Arabiya Al Jazeera BBC Africa	Radiodabanga Sudan.Net Sudan News Agency Sudanese Online Sudan Post Sudan Tribune Sudan Tweeps Daily Sudan Vision Daily The Citizen Newspaper The Niles.org KhARToum Art and Culture Hibiscus with Ginger

Novels:

Notes: (GD) means that a copy is available on the SVP Google Drive.

- **Daughter of Dust: Growing Up an Outcast in the Desert of Sudan** (2010) by Wendy Wallace. The story of an orphan girl, Leila, and her struggle to overcome societal prejudice as she tries to build a new life for her and others like her.
- **Emma's War: Love Betrayal and Death in the Sudan** (2004) by Deborah Scroggins. A narrative of Southern conflict and politics, told through the story of Emma Machar, a British aid worker who married Riek Machar (former Vice-President of South Sudan). **(GD)**
- **The Translator** 1999), **Minaret** (2005) and **Lyrics Alley (2010)** by Leila Abulela – novels about Sudanese women in the Diaspora and, to a lesser extent, Sudan. **(GD)**
- **Season of Migration to the North** and **The Wedding of Zein & Other Stories** by Tayeb Salih– The masterpieces of Sudan's most famous author.
- **What is the What: The Autobiography of Valentino Acak Deng**. Vintage by Dave Eggers – an account of the life of a southern Sudanese boy during the second north-south war who seeks refuge first in Ethiopia, then Kenya and finally in the US.

Non-Fiction:

Travel Guides:

- **Bradt Sudan Travel Guide** (2012). This guide has excellent advice on health and safety while in Sudan. Recommended read. **(GD)**
- **Travellers Good Health Guide** (2006) by Ted Lankaster; Sheldon Press.

Autobiographies, History, Culture and Politics

- **A History of the Sudan: From the Coming of Islam to the Present Day** (2000) by Holt and Daly – a readable introduction to the history of Sudan.
- **A Short History of Islam** (2002) by Karen Armstrong - A comprehensive and enjoyably written overview of Islam. **(GD)**
- **In Search of the Forty Days Road** (1980) by Michael Asher - An account of the author's journey by camel along the forty day trade route that runs from Darfur to Egypt.
- **Slave: My True Story** (2005) by Mende Nazer – An autobiographical account of slavery in Sudan in recent decades: the story focuses on a girl from the Nuba Mountains abducted from her home and sold as a domestic slave to a rich household in Khartoum and then in London.
- **The Root Causes of Sudan's Civil Wars** (2003) by Douglas Johnson - a brisk survey of history up to the 1970s, and a very detailed account of subsequent events and southern politics.
- **A History of Modern Sudan** (2008) by Robert Collins - lively and detailed history of the post-independence period.
- **Sudan: a Nation in the Balance** (1996) by Chris Peters. Oxfam's country profile of Sudan. **(GD)**
- **Empowering Communities: A Casebook in Western Sudan** (1997) by Peter Strachan with Christopher Peters. Overview of an Oxfam Initiative. **(GD)**
- **The Camel Strayed An Aid Worker's View of Islam in the Modern World** (1994) by Richard Poole. Poole discusses his life as an aid worker in Sudan's Islamic society.
- **The White Nile** (1960) and **The Blue Nile** (1962) by Alan Moorehead. Account of four early European explorers venturing through the Niles.
- **The Scramble for Africa** (1991) by Thomas Pakenham. Offers the reader a detailed and interesting account of the European powers race to 'civilize' the African continent.

- **The Sudan Handbook** (2012) by John Ryle, Justin Willis et al (eds.) – an accessible introductory text on the history, geography, politics and culture of Sudan. **(GD)**
- **The International Criminal Court, Europe’s Guantanamo Bay?** (2010) by David Hoile. This book is available free at the Sudanese Embassy in London. **(GD)**

Films

- **The Four Feathers** (1939 and 2002). Fictional films about one British soldier’s journey to Sudan to prove his bravery, after being given the four white feathers of cowardice, by saving his friends from attack and imprisonment by the Mahdi’s army during the Anglo-Egyptian ‘reconquest’ of Sudan at the end of the nineteenth century.
- **East of Sudan** (1964). Terribly politically incorrect B grade British Adventure film set during the height of the Mahdist insurrection.
- **Khartoum** (1966). A film focusing on the siege of Khartoum by the Mahdi’s army and the death of General Gordon in 1885. Featuring Charlton Heston.
- **Darfur** (2009). Darfur is a film directed by Uwe Boll focusing on six western Journalist in Darfur. Also released as Attack on Darfur.
- **In a Better World** (2011). Danish Language film set in a refugee camp in Sudan.

Documentaries

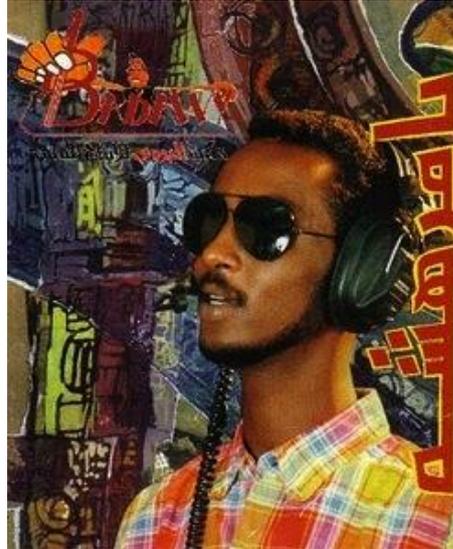
- **Pole to Pole** (1992). Michael Palin presents. The Nile section focuses on Sudan.
- **The Price of Survival** (1994) Shot in southern Sudan during the second civil war, this film shows the impact of the war on the lives of Southerners. Directed by John Ryle and Bapiny Tim Chol.
- **Leni Riefenstahl: Her Dream of Africa** (2000). Documentary following Riefenstahl’s (aged 97) to Sudan for one final farewell to the Nuba that she lived with for 8 months, photographed, and filmed extensively.
- **The Lost Boys of Sudan** (2003). A documentary about two Lost Boys, Santino Majok Chuor and Peter Nyarol Dut, who went to the US.
- **God Grew Tired of Us** (2006). A documentary directed by Christopher Dillon Quinn about former lost boys, John Dau, Akim Bunny, Daniel Pach and Panther Bior.
- **Sudan: History of a Broken Land** (2011). A film by Jamie Doran for al-Jazeera Media. It explores Sudan’s modern history.

- **Machine Gun Preacher** (2011). A film about Sam Childers, based on his book *Another Man's War*, concerning Childers work with Sudanese war victims.

Music

Names to look out for:

Mahmoud Abdul-Aziz - 'El Hud'
 Abdel Aziz El Mubarak
 Abdel Gadir Salim
 Mohammed Wardi
 Abdel Aziz El Mubarak
 Egda Gilat
 Omer Ehsas (Darfur)
 Al Balabil (Nubia)
 Rasha
 Emmanuel Kembe
 Emmanuel Jal (South Sudan)
 Mohammed el Amin
 Sudan Roots Band
 Mohamed Badawi
 Nancy Agage
 Kamal Tarbas



x. Confirm Flight to SVP

Once you have booked your flight, inform SVP UK and Sudan immediately of your date and time of arrival. We will collect you at any arrival time, on any day of the week. Please keep us updated if there are any delays or changes.

xi. Arrival at Khartoum Airport

Ensure that you have received confirmation by SVP about your arrival date and time in Khartoum.

Arrival procedures at Khartoum airport are generally a painless and relaxed affair. Be sure to carry a pen to fill the entry card.

Write your address as :c/o Ministry of General Education, Department of Foreign Relations, Government of Sudan.

Getting the baggage off the plane can take a long time. Afterwards you will go through Passport and then Customs control. As non-travelers are not permitted into the building you will find an SVP representative outside the entrance, past the duty free shop on the left, holding a sign with SVP written on it.

Make sure you have the mobile telephone number of the SVP Coordinator at hand. You should be able to use a local phone or send a text using your international mobile if you are not approached by a SVP representative or in the unlikely case that you encounter problems or delays during processing.

SVP Sudan looks forward to meeting you!



Three Girls. Photo by Kathryn Bruce