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Title: Civil war and failed peace efforts in Sudan

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Abstract: Africa's longest war, in Sudan, has persisted through the country's transition from colonial dependence (1956) to the present. This chapter examines the background to the conflict in the differing views and situations of the north and the south; looks at the three failed peace settlements (the Khartoum Round Table Conference of 1965, the Addis Ababa agreement of 1972, and the Kokadam Declaration of 1986); and assesses the impasse of the 1990s. The chapter shows that during the last two decades the focus of the conflict in Sudan has shifted from 'regional protest' against political marginalization, economic conflict, and cultural domination of the south to a clash of visions and competing definitions not just of the south but of the whole country. Failing to understand this phenomenal change, the northern ruling elite has remained incapable of recognizing the necessary elements of any negotiations that are likely to succeed. Ref.

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