



NARRATIVE REPORT

Peaceful Conference Between Misseriya Arab Muslim of Sudan and Dinka Twic of
South Sudan

Project Pin Number: 001

Report: 25-28 January 2024

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Opposite: Twic County High Court,

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1. Introduction:

The Transformation of the World in Christ (TWIC) in partnership with the government of Twic County successfully conducted a three-day peace and reconciliation conference between the Misseriya community in Sudan and the Dinka of Twic County in South Sudan, intending to open their borders to allow cross border movement, an event that has led to the free movement of refugees/returnees and internally displaced persons from Sudan to South Sudan, allow free movement of cattle from both sides in search of water and grass as well as free movement of goods especially from North Sudan to South Sudan. The conference was held in Wunrok, in Twic County between 25th to 28th January 2023. It was attended by 100 representatives from Misseriya and 100 from the Dinka Twic community in Twic County. Among those who attended the conference included women and youth leaders, opinion leaders, government representatives including village elders, chiefs, government representatives, and religious representatives from both sides.

The borders between the Misseriya from Sudan and the Dinka of Twic in South Sudan were closed down in 2012 by the former President of Sudan, President Omar Bashir of Sudan following the declaration of South Sudan's independence on 9th July 2011, a situation which led to the disintegration of local communities living at the border. Many people were killed as well as displaced from their homes, churches were burnt down and/or closed down due to hostility between the two conflicting groups, and well as strained to death as they could not access food. The two communities lived in fear, suspicion, and intimidation as the local Dinka tribe from South Sudan struggled to protect their children whom they feared would be kidnapped by the Misseriya Arabs from Khartoum who would later enslave them in their houses as domestic workers. Those who were kidnapped were forcefully married, recruited into their armed groups, worked on their farms and homes without payment, and converted forcefully to the Islamic faith, and those who resisted them were killed, tortured, maimed, disabled, raped, and sometimes burnt alive.

1.1. The impact of the Peace Conference

The Peace conference resulted in reconciliation and peaceful coexistence, free movement of pastoralists and goods, improved good neighbourliness, rebuilding of markets along the border, inter-governmental relationship within the local

governments, reduced child trafficking and child labor, led to the return of South Sudanese refugees and internally displaced persons, and Sudanese refugee's peaceful settlement in Twic County of South Sudan, the establishment of businesses as well as opening up of new road networks, springing up of trade, operationalization of schools, access to clean and safe drinking water, improved security, the establishment of new trading centers, peaceful interaction between different communities (Arabs and Dinka communities), and hosting of other social programs like sports.

1.2. Recommendation from Peace Conference:

The conference recommended the following to sustain the peace that has been achieved;

1. Enough funds to make follow-up meetings and continuous monitoring
2. Support peace Ambassadors from both sides to engage in continuous peace-building
3. Procure a vehicle to help in security oversight and report to the government
4. Organize youth and women into social and economic groups such as sports, microfinance enterprises, etc.
5. Provide funds to purchase farm tools, seeds, shelter, and any other input to socio-economic recovery.
6. Establishment of early warning centers and police units along the borders
7. Procurement of communication gadgets for information sharing such as Thuraya phones.

1.3. Testimonies from participants



Muhammed Sadik, a community leader from the Misseriya tribe of Sudan appreciated the conference and officials of the Twic government who organized for the peace conference after they were supported by the National NGOs to organize for the peace conference between the two communities. He appealed to funders and their partner the International donors to continue with the same spirit to bring the two communities together. “For the last 11 years since South Sudan was declared independent I

have not stepped into South Sudan due to poor relationship between my tribe, the Arabs from Sudan, and the Dinka tribe of Twic in South Sudan but through this peace I hope now our children will enjoy peace as well as find it easy to go to South Sudan and live harmoniously with them,” he remarked

In the photo is Miss Martha Angong, the Transformation of the World in Christ

nurse supervisor who is standing with Hussein Abdi, an elder from the Misseriya tribe in Sudan. Mr. Abdi appreciated the peace conference after taking part and further thanked the MAMA Project for providing funds to organize such a successful conference. He further lauded the efforts of the two local governments for leading their communities and showing them leadership. Elder Abdi further appealed to local leaders and members of the local



communities to embrace peaceful coexistence. He asked the Dinka of Twic to forgive his tribe for the past mistakes and promised to mobilize his tribe for peaceful coexistence. He appealed to the government of Sudan and South Sudan, and local and international organizations to help the communities along the border sustain peaceful coexistence.

1.4.Conclusion.

The achievement of peaceful coexistence between the Misseriya of Sudan and the Dinka of Twic, South Sudan is a very significant step in the stabilization of the communities living along the Sudan and South Sudan borders. It's for this reason that the international community and the two governments of Sudan and South Sudan, NGOs, civil societies, and faith-based organizations working in the region to take advantage of the new development to entrench peaceful coexistence and harmonious living within the borders. There is therefore urgent need to support the Transformation of the World in Christ to continue partnering with local governments and communities in their pursuit to bring about lasting peace along the border.

2. Pictorials



Photo: 1 Participants at the Misseriya Arabs from Sudan and Dinka Twic of South Sudan conference which was held in Panyok Payam



Photo 2: Members of the Misseriya Arabs from Sudan celebrating the signing of a peace agreement with the Dinka of Twic County from South Sudan after nearly 10 years of turmoil.



Photo 3: From left is Rev. Paul Lueth, the Transformation of the World in Christ Director, at the center is the Executive Director of Twic County government, and on the far right is the Relief & Rehabilitation (RRC) Coordinator in charge of operations of all the NGOs in Twic County when Rev. Paul handed to them USD 1000 donated by MAMA Project for the peace conference.

A letter of appreciation from the government of Twic County following the successful outcome of the Misseriya Arabs and Dinka of Twic, South Sudan Peace Conference.



THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN
WARRAP STATE- KUAJOK HQRS
TWIC COUNTY- TURALEI HQRS



Ex-Director's Office

RSS/WSK/TC/EDO/HF.1.A.

Date 21/02/2024

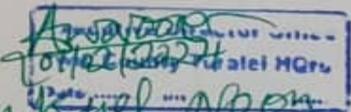
To: (Twic) Transformation of the World in Christ.

Subject: Appreciation and acknowledgment.

The Government and Community of Twic County are grateful to extend their appreciation to your management and donor for the support of (1000 USD) one thousand USA dollar Cash only to the Dinka Twic and Misseriya Communities periodic peace Conference which was held on 23rd, Jan, 2024 at Wunrok Payam of Twic County.

We are optimistic to continue cooperating in the areas of peace building and services delivery.

Yours in service


Amel Wunkeel Noon
Executive Director
Twic County - Turalei HQRS.

FOLLOW-UP VISITS AT THE BORDER BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONER OF
TWIC AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD IN
CHRIST.



Photo 5: Standing at the center above is Commissioner of Twic County, Hon Simon Aguek Chan and Rev. David Anguei, the Transformation of the World in Christ representative wearing a brown MAMA Project jacket leading other local leaders during their visit to Chan Wandit refugees/returnees/IDPs camp in Twic County after the conference to appreciate MAMA Project (USA) and the Transformation of the World in Christ for their support that has so far seen two boreholes for clean and safe drinking water drilled in the area. He appealed further for more support as more returnees/refugees/IDPs are expected in the region.



Photo 6: Miss Martha Angong of the Transformation of the World in Christ heading to Chan Wandit refugee camp with materials for the drilling of two boreholes.



Photo 7: The vehicle that carried the drilling materials got stuck on a muddy road as the drilling materials were being ferried to Chan Wandit refugee/IDP camp in Twic County.