

KIT FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARTICIPANTS

Everything you need to know about the campaign!



the **DARFUR**
Challenge

Check out the website: www.DarfurChallenge.org

*The Darfur Challenge is a campaign of The Darfur/Sudan Peace Network,
formerly known as Save Darfur Canada*



Join the *Darfur Challenge* and make a difference for kids in Darfur, Sudan!

In Darfur, kids your age have a lot of worries.

They worry about the safety of their families, friends and loved ones every day, because of the violence they have seen with their own eyes. They worry because they don't always get the food and medical care that they need.

They wonder what their futures hold when more than half of them can't go to school.

Most kids in Darfur have been forced to leave their villages. What they dream of most is returning home with their families and living in peace.

Darfuri kids just want to be kids. And you can help.

The *Darfur Challenge* is a way for Canadian students to make a difference for Darfuri kids and their families. Elementary school students like you will fundraise to support organizations working on and in Darfur. They will also participate in national campaigns so that Canada continues to help people in Darfur.

Groups and classes across the country will compete in the *Darfur Challenge*, and the most successful ones will win prizes. *The Darfur Challenge* runs from October 19, 2009 – April 30th, 2010.

Taking part in the *Darfur Challenge* means you will be making a difference in the lives of kids a world away.

Join us, won't you?

Abigail Plener
Communications Coordinator
The Darfur Challenge Team
info@darfurchallenge.org

HOW DO I JOIN THE DARFUR CHALLENGE?

GET STARTED IN THE DARFUR CHALLENGE IN 5 EASY STEPS:

1. COMPLETE A REGISTRATION FORM for yourself or your Darfur Challenge group. You can find the registration form on the last page of this package, and on the www.DarfurChallenge.org website. You only need to complete ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER GROUP.

2. SEND YOUR REGISTRATION FORM to the Darfur Challenge team.

Email your completed electronic registration form to: registration@darfurchallenge.org

OR mail your completed registration form to:

DARFUR CHALLENGE REGISTRATION
C/O The Darfur/Sudan Peace Network
PO Box 56094, Montreal, QC H3Z 3G3

3. CHECK OUT THE DARFUR CHALLENGE WEBSITE to find learning materials, campaign posters, fundraising and campaign ideas – and more: www.DarfurChallenge.org

4. START PLANNING ACTIVITIES with your Darfur Challenge group!



IDEA: Check out the information materials, campaign graphics, fundraising and activity guides, photos of Darfur and campaigns of the month on the www.DarfurChallenge.org website!

5. CONTACT THE DARFUR CHALLENGE TEAM if you have questions, if you would like to tell us about your plans or if you need help with ideas. We want to hear from you!

By email: Info@DarfurChallenge.org

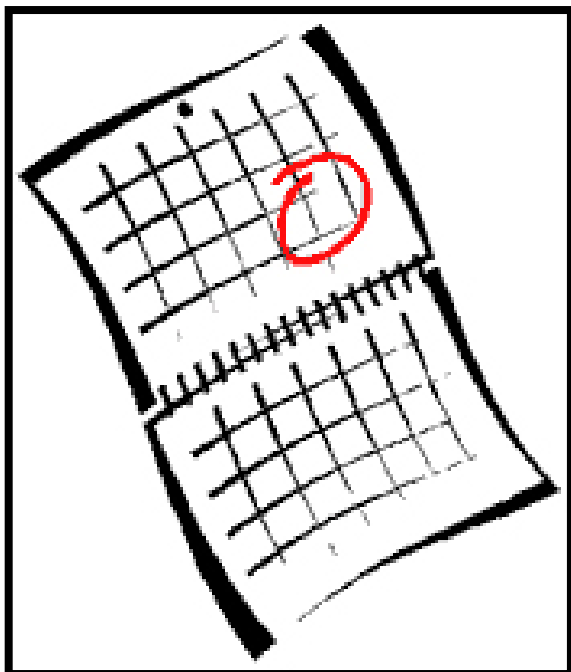
By phone: (514) 935-8806

By mail:

THE DARFUR CHALLENGE
C/O The Darfur/Sudan Peace Network
PO Box 56094, Montreal, QC H2L 1H9

By fax: (514) 931-0252

IMPORTANT 2009 DATES TO REMEMBER



October 19: The Darfur Challenge begins!

December 10: International Human Rights Day

December 31: 2 years since UNAMID (the international peacekeeping mission in Darfur) was deployed

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN DARFUR?

Check out the information sheets on the 2 next pages to find out more about the Darfur crisis, and how your participation in the *Darfur Challenge* activities will help Darfuri kids and their families.

You can also find more information on the www.DarfurChallenge.org website, including pamphlets, answers to frequently asked questions and a constantly updated news feed of the latest developments in Darfur.



Two Darfuri girls living in a displaced people's camp. Source: www.miafarrow.org.



IDEA: Make copies of the next 2 pages and use them in your *Darfur Challenge* activities – they will help others learn about the Darfur crisis and how your efforts are making a difference!



WHAT IS HAPPENING IN DARFUR?

Darfur is the western region of Sudan, Africa's largest country.



A burning house in a Darfuri village, during an attack. Source: Brian Steidle, www.ushmm.org

For more than 5 years, the people of Darfur have been under attack. The majority have seen their villages burned to the ground, and their loved ones hurt and killed. Most affected families and communities have nothing to do with the people who are fighting – they are innocents caught in the middle of terrible violence.



Children in a camp for displaced people in Darfur. Source: www.miafarrow.org

1.8 million children are affected by the fighting. Most have lost family and friends to the conflict. Many have been forced out of their homes and they now live under plastic tents in the desert, alongside thousands of other people in the same situation. They call these temporary settlements 'displacement camps,' and they are not a place you would want to live.

Life is difficult for kids and their families in Darfur. It is not easy to get essential things like food and water. Children have to help their families to survive, and they do so by collecting supplies like firewood for cooking. It is very dangerous to go out of their camps and villages for what they need, but they often have no other choice.



Taha's drawing of the attack on his village. Source: www.hrw.org.

The drawing above is the work of Taha, an 13 year old boy from Darfur. He drew what he saw when the Government of Sudan and a group called the Janjaweed attacked his village, and burned it to the ground. Though it is hard to imagine violence like this in Canada, it is common in Darfur. Taha dreams of returning to his village and living in peace. At night, he still has nightmares about the attack.

HOW CAN CANADIAN STUDENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

By joining the *Darfur Challenge*, Canadian students are helping Darfuri kids in their families. Elementary schools participate in two important ways:

BY RAISING MONEY for Canadian organizations working on and in Darfur, Darfur Challenge participants are supporting *War Child Canada's* projects in Darfur, and *The Darfur/Sudan Peace Network's* work to bring an end to the crisis.

BY RAISING AWARENESS about the *Darfur crisis in their schools and communities*, Darfur Challenge participants will motivate others to join them in making a difference for kids and their families in Darfur.

The Darfur Challenge is The Darfur/Sudan Peace Network's national student campaign. To find out more see our website at: www.DarfurChallenge.org

WHERE DO FUNDS RAISED IN THE DARFUR CHALLENGE GO?

Funds raised by participants in the Darfur Challenge will benefit organizations working to address the crisis in Darfur. By supporting their work, Darfur Challenge participants are making a difference in the lives of Darfuri kids and their families.



50% OF PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE DARFUR/SUDAN PEACE NETWORK

The Darfur/Sudan Peace Network (formerly known as Save Darfur Canada) is a national coalition of over 30 organizations and groups committed to making peace in Darfur and all of Sudan a priority for the Canadian government.

Through national campaigns, meetings with decision-makers and by providing resources to individuals and groups across the country, **The Darfur/Sudan Peace Network** ensures that the Canadian government plays a positive role in addressing the Darfur crisis.



The *Darfur Challenge* is **The Darfur/Sudan Peace Network's** national youth campaign.

Find out more at: www.Darfur.PeaceNetwork.ca or www.SDCanada.org

50% OF PROCEEDS WILL SUPPORT WAR CHILD CANADA

50% of the *Darfur Challenge's* proceeds will go to **War Child Canada's** projects in Darfur.

War Child Canada provides essential on the ground programming and resources for displaced Darfuri children and their families. **War Child Canada** is a registered Canadian charity.

Find out more at: www.WarChild.ca



DARFUR CHALLENGE REGISTRATION FORM

CONTACT PERSON 1 FOR YOUR GROUP:

Name: _____

email address: _____

phone number: _____

CONTACT PERSON 2 FOR YOUR GROUP:

Name: _____

email address: _____

phone number: _____

YOUR TEAM'S NAME: _____

YOUR SCHOOL, YOUTH GROUP OR OTHER AFFILIATION: _____

A SNAIL MAIL ADDRESS FOR YOUR DARFUR CHALLENGE GROUP: _____

WE ARE IN (circle one): elementary school middle school high school

THERE ARE (#): _____ MEMBERS IN OUR DARFUR CHALLENGE GROUP.

HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THE DARFUR CHALLENGE? _____

EXPLAIN (1-2 SENTENCES) WHY YOUR GROUP IS TAKING PART IN THE DARFUR CHALLENGE: _____

OUR FUNDRAISING GOAL FOR THE DARFUR CHALLENGE (by May 2, 2009) IS:

\$ _____

Once completed, snail mail this registration form to:

Darfur Challenge registration
c/o The Darfur/Sudan Peace Network
PO Box 56094, Montreal, QC H3Z 3G3