

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Intractability and the Sudan**

We have talked about disputes, conflicts, and intractable conflicts. An example of an intractable conflict is what is going on in Darfur. Cate Malek's article is a long one and there is a reason for it. Intractable conflicts are deep-rooted, long-standing problems. It takes awhile to explain them. No quick blurbs will adequately capture the patterns of disputes that have grown into humanitarian crises. So, buckle up and get ready to do some reading!

1. Cate Malek opens her article by describing a particular event in the life of Hamid Maraja Hassan. What was the event and why do you think that Malek describes it in such detail in the beginning of her piece?

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2. Malek writes, "similar conflicts have erupted in Rwanda, Bosnia and Cambodia." In what ways are the conflicts of Rwanda, Bosnia, and Cambodia similar to what is taking place in Darfur? Please list at least two similarities.

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3. Read the section entitled "The Beginning."  
Make a little conflict map that illustrates the disputes that escalated this conflict.

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Before the 1980s

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Ethnic "Africans" and ethnic "Arabs" often fought over water and land.

Tribal councils were usually able to resolve problems.

4. Read the section called “Devils on Horseback.” Who are the Janjaweed and what do they do?

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5. What does the author think motivates the actions of Janjaweed?

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6. Now read “The International Response.” Why does Malek suggest that humanitarian aid workers have had a hard time helping people who need them in Darfur?

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7. What are two things that might make a peacekeeping mission difficult or risky?

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8. Even though Sudan has an intractable conflict on its hands, that doesn’t mean the situation is hopeless. Read “What can be done.” What does Malek think gives the Arab and Black ethnic groups common ground?

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9. What does Malek suggest might help keep the peace when refugees return to Darfur? Please list at least 4 things.

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10. This article was written in July, 2005. Look on the Internet to discover what is going on in Darfur today. The following PBS site is extremely useful:  
[http://www.pbs.org/newshour/indepth\\_coverage/africa/darfur/](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/indepth_coverage/africa/darfur/)

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