



## STATEMENT

### The ICC Sentencing of Ali Kushayb

9 December 2025

We highly welcome the decision of the International Criminal Court (ICC) for sentencing Ali Kushayb for war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur (**Sudan**).

20 years ago, What a huge step forward! The International Criminal Court's 20-year sentence for **Ali Kushayb** – the first Janjaweed commander convicted for the Darfur atrocities – sends a clear signal that even the most brutal war crimes won't be swept under the rug. Prosecutors highlighted his "enthusiasm and vigor" in ordering mass executions and even using an axe on prisoners, and judges stressed the verdict is meant for both retribution and deterrence.

It's a bitter reminder of the horrors that unfolded in Darfur more than two decades ago, but the conviction does give some solace to the victims and their families. Many hope this will chip away at the long-standing culture of impunity that has plagued Sudan. As the court noted, the sentence aims to prevent future crimes, especially while the Sudan remains embroiled in fresh conflict in even wider scope. We hope it's the start of more accountability and, eventually, an end to the impunity that's allowed such atrocities to happen. As we welcome this decision we call for:

- **The Port Sudan government to handover the remaining three inductees: 1. Omer Al Bashir, 2. Abdel Rahim Hessain, and 3. Ahmed Haron.**
- **The United Nation Security Council to refer the findings of the Fact-Finding Committee to the ICC to investigate them and hold the perpetrators to account.**

**For more information please contact: -**

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