



Sudan Liberation Army-Historical Leadership/Command (SLA-Historical Leadership/Command)

Origins/composition

This SLA splinter was formed by dissident SLA-Abdul Wahid (SLA-AW) commander Osman Ibrahim Musa Mohamed during factional fighting in Jebel Marra in 2010. It is not yet clear how much support the group enjoys among SLA dissidents outside Osman Ibrahim's immediate area of control.

Leadership

Osman Ibrahim was the representative of SLA-AW in the ceasefire commission in al Fasher before the non-signatories of the Darfur Peace Agreement were expelled from the commission in 2006. He subsequently liaised with international relief agencies working in Jebel Marra, impressing many with his command of English and grasp of development work.

Areas of control/activity

The faction is based around the Katur area north of Deribat in eastern Jebel Marra. Other SLA-AW dissidents involved in the factional fighting include Mohamed Ibrahim in the Boldong and Kutrum areas of western Jebel Marra; Babikir Dali, Osman Yousif, and Adam Idriss in northern Jebel Marra; and Abdel Rahim Mohamed Adam in the Dobo al Umda area of eastern Jebel Marra. One of the complaints of the dissidents is Abdul Wahid's failure to equip them logistically, even with ammunition.

Sources of financing/support

The SLA-AW dissidents were supported financially by members of the Fur diaspora during the factional fighting in Jebel Marra. When funding ran out, Osman Ibrahim made a truce—some say an agreement—with government forces in eastern Jebel Marra, and did not move against them when they occupied the town of Deribat in March. In September 2010, Historical Leadership fighters prevented a team from the African Union/United Nations Hybrid operation in Darfur (UNAMID) reaching the village of Tabara after it was attacked by an Arab militia and scores of Fur civilians were killed. The UNAMID team was subsequently stopped for a second time by government forces, who claimed they were carrying out a large-scale 'security operation' in the area.

Status

Osman Ibrahim is in contact with rebel negotiators in Doha and is reportedly in favour of having a presence at the talks.

Updated October 2010