

## **RESOLUTION REGARDING THE GENOCIDE IN DARFUR**

**WHEREAS**, The Torah commands us in Leviticus 19:6 to “Not stand Idly By while our neighbor bleeds.” and,

**WHEREAS** we Jews, as victims of genocide and racial bigotry, have the obligation to help current victims of discrimination and genocide and,

**WHEREAS** according to the Jewish faith all human beings are created *b'tzelem elohim* in the image of G-d and,

**WHEREAS**, The United Nations and the world community declared “never again” after the Holocaust and,

**WHEREAS**, the United States was among the signers of the 1948 U.N. convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, which stated that the U.N. was to prevent and punish genocide and,

**WHEREAS** in the last three years in the Darfur region of the Sudan, the government-backed Janjeweed militia has caused, according to recent reports by the World Food Program, the United Nations and the Coalition for International Justice, 3.5 million people to be hungry, 2.5 million to be displaced due to violence, and 400,000 people to have died in Darfur thus far.

**WHEREAS** on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2004, for the first time in its history, the Committee on Conscience of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum declared a “genocide emergency” for the situation in Sudan; and,

**WHEREAS** on July 22, 2004 the U.S. Congress passed resolutions defining the escalating crisis in Darfur as a genocide; and,

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations Commission of Inquiry declared on January 25, 2005, “government forces and militias conducted indiscriminate attacks, including killing of civilians, torture, enforced disappearances, destruction of villages, rape and other forms of sexual violence, pillaging and forced displacement, throughout Darfur. These acts were conducted on a widespread and systematic basis ... The vast majority of the victims of all of these violations have been from the Fur, Zaghawa, Massalit, Jebel, Aranga and other so-called 'African' tribes”; and,

**WHEREAS** on March 2, 2005 Senator Sam Brownback (R-KS) and Senator Jon Corzine (D-NJ) introduced the Darfur Accountability Act, reiterating “that the atrocities taking place in Darfur are genocide” and calling for various measures that would serve as vital steps in bringing an end to the genocide; and

**WHEREAS** on November 18, 2005 the United States Senate passed the Darfur Accountability Act and,

**WHEREAS** the United States House of Representatives still hasn't passed the Darfur Accountability Act and,

**WHEREAS** as people of conscience, we have a particularly poignant responsibility to

speak out against injustice on behalf of vulnerable and disenfranchised people across the globe; and,

**WHEREAS**, The Union for Reform Judaism is a member of the Save Darfur Coalition and,

**WHEREAS**, Resolutions N.F.T.Y. C.A.R. and N.F.T.Y. Northern have passed resolutions embodying the ideas of this resolution,

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED**, North American Federation of Temple Youth hereby call upon the United States, Canada, and the United Nations as leaders of the international community to immediately act to stop the killing, the rape, and the destruction of villages, and to assure that humanitarian relief reaches all those in need,

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED**, N.F.T.Y. endorses the Darfur Accountability Act and calls for its swift passage in the House of Representatives as long as no parts conflict with the tenets of Reform Judaism,

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED**, N.F.T.Y. calls on the President of the United States to sign it in upon its passage and engage in a dialogue with American and Canadian allies to garner an international effort to take action in Darfur,

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED**, on the passing of this resolution, all N.F.T.Y. regions, at its next two events, are strongly encouraged to have programs that that inform and take action concerning the genocide in Darfur. These actions may include, but not limited to, letter writing campaigns, protests, and signature campaigns,

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED**, NFTY becomes a coalition member of the Save Darfur Coalition, an alliance of over 100 faith-based, humanitarian and human rights organization.

Respectfully Submitted,

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