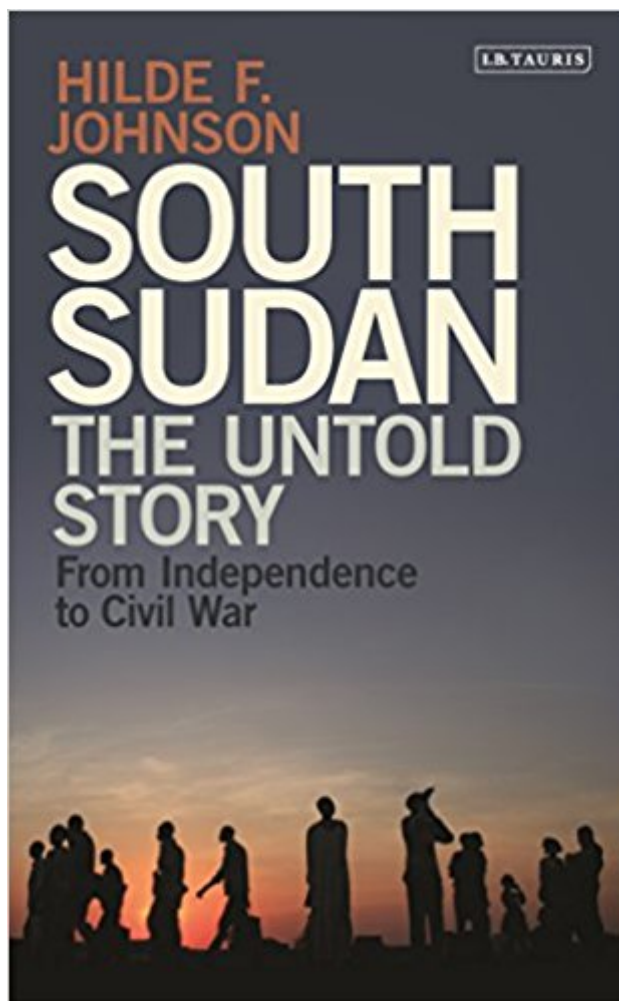


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# South Sudan: The Untold Story From Independence To Civil War



## Synopsis

In July 2011, South Sudan was granted independence and became the world's newest country. Yet just two-and-a-half years after this momentous decision, the country was in the grips of renewed civil war and political strife. Hilde F. Johnson served as Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan from July 2011 until July 2014. As such, she was witness to the many challenges which the country faced as it struggled to adjust to its new autonomous state. In this book, she provides an unparalleled insider's account of South Sudan's descent from the ecstatic celebrations of July 2011 to the outbreak of the disastrous conflict in December 2013 and the early, bloody phase of the fighting. Johnson's frequent personal and private contacts at the highest levels of government, accompanied by her deep knowledge of the country and its history, make this a unique eyewitness account of the turbulent first three years of the world's newest—and yet most fragile—country.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 304 pages

Publisher: I.B.Tauris (September 9, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 178453644X

ISBN-13: 978-1784536442

Product Dimensions: 5 x 1 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #560,840 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #41 in Books > History > Africa > Sudan #146 in Books > History > Africa > North Africa #151 in Books > History > Africa > East Africa

## Customer Reviews

“From the West, we observe countries of civil war, famine, and institutional degradation with a bewildered, hopeless eye. Hilde Johnson takes us inside one of the world's sketchiest countries. South Sudan. It's challenges, collapses, proxy interventions, and the courage of its hope. She's been at the center of it, and has candidly written an eye-opening exploration of its history, political maneuvering, and it's brave people's journey forward.” (Sean Penn 2016-05-16)  
“In 2011 South Sudan became the world's newest nation. I was among those who celebrated with the people who had endured and lost so much. It was a jubilant

time. But instead of the longed for peace and justice, there came mayhem; massacres and atrocities of the worst kind. How could the leaders, liberators of South Sudan betray themselves and their people? Hilde F. Johnson was there. In *South Sudan: The Untold Story*, she gives us an inside account. With insight and uncommon objectivity, she details the corruption and greed for power that brought this hope-filled, newborn nation into catastrophe. This is an invaluable, outstanding book. (Mia Farrow 2016-05-16)

Those engaged with Sudan and South Sudan for decades are all asking fundamental questions about how the world's youngest nation go from celebrating its freedom in 2011 to plunging into the abyss three years later. Hilde Johnson's in-depth analysis leaves no stone unturned in her search for answers in this excellent and well-researched book. *South Sudan: The Untold Story* tells it all with sharp observation, honesty and uncompromising objectivity. It is a must read for anyone interested in Africa and the fate of South Sudan, as it stands on the brink of state implosion. (John Prendergast 2016-05-16)

This devastating insider account by the former UN Special Representative in South Sudan of the corruption and bad governance that have brought the world's newest state to its knees provides a vital service not only to the truth, but to the people of South Sudan. (Christopher Clapham, Centre of African Studies, University of Cambridge 2016-05-16)

"This is more than an autobiographical memoir. It is a sharp analysis of South Sudan's launch into nationhood, based on her insider's knowledge as an active participant, and buttressed by extensive independent reporting by academics, journalists and NGOs. For anyone involved in South Sudan now who wants to learn lessons from past failures in order to avoid them, this book is essential reading." (Douglas H. Johnson, Fellow of the Rift Valley Institute and author of *South Sudan: A New History for a New Nation* 2016-05-25)

Hilde F. Johnson was the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (2011-2014). She has since served as a Member of the UN Secretary General's High Level Panel for the Review of UN Peace Operations. From 2007-2011 Hilde F. Johnson was Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF, where she was in charge of the organization's humanitarian operations, crisis response, and security issues. She is currently a Senior Visiting Fellow at Norwegian Institute for International Affairs (NUPI). As Minister for International Development of Norway (1997-2005), Hilde F. Johnson was in charge of development policies and programmes, and was a key player in brokering the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) for Sudan in 2005. She is the author of *Waging Peace in Sudan: The*

Inside Story of the Negotiations That Ended Africa's Longest Civil War.

AMAZING work!! I'm from Bar Gazelle, South Sudan. I left Sudan in 1998 having lost half of my family to the civil war and had suffered a shot wound myself. I was only ten and now wanted to know more about my country's history!! Great detail so far, can't wait to finish the book. A lot of what I've read I already know somehow.

Great Book and I like the real Story of the Country, God the People & the Country.

A very documented book and well-informed from first hand sources. I particularly appreciated the fact that the book goes beyond the basic set of information and chronology by offering useful case studies for viability of newly created states and the need to offer sustainable institutions and long-term development plans. A recommended book to anyone interested in the latest evolutions on the African continent, but also on conflict resolution and emergent statehood. Disclaimer: Book offered by the publisher in exchange for an honest review

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