

DARFUR FAST FOR LIFE

Standing in Solidarity with our Sudanese Brothers and Sisters and Children

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OLYMPIC CHAMPION JOSH DAVIS JOINS DARFUR FAST FOR LIFE

Three-time Gold Medalist Expresses Solidarity with Darfur

Washington, D.C. — Today, Olympic Champion Josh Davis joined the DARFUR FAST FOR LIFE, pressing for intervention for the 1.1 million people in Darfur who are without critical food, water and medical care as a result of the ban on humanitarian organizations. Davis follows Enough Co-founder and activist, John Prendergast, Peter Gabriel, U.S. Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Jon Foreman, U.S. Representative Donald Payne, Sir Richard Branson and Actress-Activist Mia Farrow as well as activists and participants in over 30 countries around the world.

In 1996, Josh Davis made history by becoming the only man in any sport from any nation at the Atlanta Olympic Games to win 3 gold medals. Passionate about representing the United States, Josh returned to the Olympics in Sydney in 2000 where he was elected Captain of the USA Men's swim Team. He went on to break the American record three times in his event the 200-meter free-style and won two silver medals at the 2000 Sydney Games. After 2 Olympics and 5 medals, Josh has established himself as ambassador for the sport of swimming and is pioneering the road for the next generation of professional swimmers.

Davis said, “The reason I have chosen to fast is to join Mia Farrow and others around the world who are ready to win a battle for humanity and the Darfuri people! I am grateful for those who have waged this war by taking action by calling their leaders, traveling to Darfur, and reaching out and asking more to join this effort. I am not so arrogant to think that I was able to win Olympic medals and reach my potential athletically, academically even spiritually on my own. I had a community who came together to create opportunities for me to succeed. They rallied around me and came to my aid. We, too, can do this for the Darfuris.”

Video and blog posts from fasters are available at www.fastdarfur.org.

DARFUR FAST FOR LIFE | On April 27, 2009 as a group of activists and Mia Farrow began a world-wide fasting chain to express outrage for the world’s inaction after 13 aid organizations were expelled by Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir. Bashir’s expulsion left more than 1.1 million innocent civilians without basic access to food, water, and medicine, and placed them in grave danger of disease, starvation, and death.

We are leaders, activists and citizens around the world who fast in solidarity with the people of Darfur because they do not have a choice. We fast as a personal expression of outrage at a world that has allowed the suffering of millions of innocent people. We fast because as we simply watched, Darfur’s defenseless people were forced into wretched camps where today they are facing starvation and disease. We fast because those in positions of authority who know what is right and just, could and should do more to alleviate their suffering and bring peace, protection, and justice to the people of Sudan.

We fast for Darfur’s courageous people —because we yearn for a world where human rights are respected and a life of dignity is the legacy for every man, woman and child.

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