

JUST MY OPINION

Roger R. West

Dawn and I were in contact Monday with a close and dear friend that is suffering great turmoil. This man is not only our friend but is also a friend to many west side residents and he needs our help. I am speaking of Abdalla Adam former owner of Callahan Pharmacy. Abdalla is from the country of Sudan, Africa. As many of you know, he closed his pharmacy to return to Sudan to take care of his aging parents as his mother is suffering stage four cancer.

Abdalla is heartbroken over what he said, "The people of Sudan are in the worst misery a human mind can ever think of." He said he doesn't have enough english words to describe the brutality they are facing from their rulers. Sudan has been a disaster since 1989 which peaked in 2003 with the killing of over 350,000 innocent people from Dufar and then spread across the entire country. These days, Sudan is experiencing a peaceful uprising and revolution against the regime that has ruled Sudan for the past 30 years. The protest began when Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir's regime has arbitrarily raised the cost of a small loaf of bread 300%, along with price increases on many other necessary items. As the people started their peaceful protest, Bashir ordered his army to quell the protests by firing live rounds into the crowds. Dozens of innocent protesters

have been killed in the streets. The soldiers have even gone so far as following the wounded into hospitals and opening fire on the wounded and anyone else who may get in the way.

The inhumane and genocidal occurrences are being mostly ignored by the international news agencies as well as most all countries in the world. Abdalla wants America, along with the international news media and the United Nations, to take some sort of action to help his people. Abdalla helped so many in our community, I feel as if the least we could do is to try and help him. I have called Senator Rick Scott and Senator Marco Rubio and voiced my concern of the inhuman and the international laws that are being committed and broken in Sudan. If we can stand up for so many other countries, then why can't we stand up for Sudan?

I ask that each of you to call Senator Marco Rubio at (202) 224-3041 and Senator Rick Scott at (202) 224-5274 and tell them we need to bring these atrocities to the forefront of the international community. If you call, I also ask that you call the Westside Journal at 879-4180 and tell us you have called our Senators so that we can pass on your name to Abdalla to show him we still love him and are attempting to help him. All lives matter.

As always...that's just my opinion!