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Codifying a jurist's law: Islamic criminal legislation and Supreme Court case law in the Sudan under Numairi and Bashīr

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General Chronology¹⁶⁷⁶

1820.1881	Turkiyya (Egyptian-Ottoman rule)
1881.1898	Mahdiyya
1896.1899	Conquest of the Sudan by Anglo-Egyptian army
1899	Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes
1925	New Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes
1.1.1956	Independence of the Sudan
11/1958	Coup d'état by General `Abbūd
1956-1969	Discussion about an Islamic constitution
10/1964	General `Abbūd deposed
23.5.1969	Umma and DUP declare their agreement with regard to an Islamic constitution
25.5.1969	Coup d'Etat by Numairi
21.10.1971	New, Arabic, Civil Law Code based on the Egyptian Civil Law
1972	Addis Ababa Agreement
1973	Return to the Common Law
1973	Sudan Permanent Constitution, Islam <i>one of the</i> "main sources of legislation"
1974	Arabic Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes based on their 1925 predecessors
7/1976	Failed coup d'état
7/1977	National Reconciliation, Ḥasan al-Turābī becomes, next to Aḥmad al-Mahdī and Aḥmad al-Mīrghanī chairman of the committee for the checking of Sudanese laws as to their conformity with the sharī'a (10.8.1977)
8/1979	Ḥasan al-Turābī becomes Minister of Justice
1980	Numairi publishes "The Islamic Path, Why?"
Spring 1983	Foundation of the SPLM/SPLA
5.6.1983	Aministrative re-partitioning of the South
Summer 1983	Mutiny in Bor, beginning of a new civil war
6-9/1983	Strike of judges
9.9.1983	Promulgation of the Islamized Penal Code
24.9.1983	Coming into force of the new Penal Code
23.9.1983	Destruction of alcohol
29.4.1984	Declaration of the State of Emergency, establishment of Emergency Courts (1.5.)
7/1984	Foundation of the opposition alliance "National Salvation Front"
29.9.1984	End of the State of Emergency

¹⁶⁷⁶Various sources, mainly BBC website: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/827425.stm

18.1.1985	Execution of Muḥammad Ṭāhā for apostasy (ridḍa)
10.3.1985	Sidelining of the Muslim Brethren. All decisions of Islamic courts to be checked
6.4.1985	Numairi deposed
9.4.1985	Transitional Military Council established. Suspension of the application of the sharī'a (i.e. its regulations concerning penal law)
3/1986	Conference of Koka Dam, except DUP and NIF all parties demand the abolition of the September laws
4/1986	Military cedes power, elections, first government of Ṣādiq al-Mahdī
1986	Project of new Penal Code proposed by Sudan Bar Association
15.5.1988	Second government of Ṣādiq al-Mahdī. NIF joins a coalition government. Ḥasan al-Turābī becomes Minister of Justice
11.9.1988	Under the guidance of Ḥasan al-Turābī new project of sharī'a-based Penal Code
16.11.1988	Agreement between SPLM and DUP. The problem of the sharī'a to be solved by a constitutional conference. Suspension of the sharī'a until the convening of the conference
12.4.1989	Debate on sharī'a adjourned by parliament
20.4.1989	Ultimatum of the army: formation of a unity government and approval of the agreement between SPLM and DUP within 8 days
mid 6/1989	Mahdī announces imminent abolition of the sharī'a-based legislation on July 1, 1989
30.6.1989	Coup d'Etat by `Umar Ḥasan al-Bashīr
9.7.1989	Formation of a government with a strong participation of the NIF
31.7.1989	Detention of judges and lawyers opposing the sharī'a
1/1989	Re-application of the sharī'a
7/1989	al-Turābī in prison (until 12/89)
9.9.-10.1989	National Dialogue on Peace conference in Khartoum
12/1989	Nairobi talks founder
17.12.1989	First executions after the coup
1/1990	Crucifixion of two
22.2.1990	Umma and SPLA form common front for the restoration of democracy in the Sudan
9.3.1990	Sudan-Libya unification
5.4.1990	Men banned from working in hairdresser's for women
23.4.1990	Failed coup d'état
5.6.1990	RCCNS member Khalifa rebuffs US-SPLA peace plan
8/1990	Talks with SPLA in Addis Ababa
1.1.1991	al-Bashīr announces the application of the sharī'a in Northern Sudan. Southern Sudan to apply its own laws
5.2.1991	Decree al-Bashīr on the introduction of a federal system, meant to facilitate also the application of the sharī'a in the North
10.-18.3.1991	Conference of the legal profession in Khartoum. Emphasis on the role of the sharī'a
22.3.1991	New Criminal Act officially comes into force
24.3.1991	Garang calls for an intensification of the struggle against the „Islamic regime“ in Khartoum

- 3.4.1991 al-Bashīr announces the formation of a national fund for the implementation of the sharī'a and the Islamic missin (da'wā)
- 26.-28.4.1991 Arab-Islamic conference in Khartoum. Founding of an International Islamic People's Organisation with headquarter in Khartoum. Secretary General is Ḥasan al-Turābī.
- 20.8.1991 Uncovering of an attempted coup
- 29.8.1991 Partition of the SPLA into two factions
- 16.-17.11.1991 Islamic-Christian conference in Khartoum
- 3/1992 Biggest offensive of government troupes against the SPLA since 1983
- 24.5.1992 Peace talks between government and the two SPLA factions in Abuja (Nigeria)
- 1995 Egyptian President Mubarak accuses Sudan of being involved in attempt to assassinate him in Addis Ababa
- 1998 New Constitution
- 1999 President al-Bashīr dissolves the National Assembly and declares a state of emergency following a power struggle with parliamentary speaker, Ḥasan al-Turābī.
- 9/2000 Governor of Khartoum issues decree barring women from working in public places.
- 12/2000 al-Bashīr re-elected for another five years in elections boycotted by main opposition parties
- 4-5/2001 Police continue arrests of members of al-Turabi's Popular National Congress party (PNC).
- 20.7.2002 After talks in Kenya, government and SPLA sign Machakos Protocol on ending 19-year civil war. Government accepts right of south to seek self-determination after six-year interim period. Southern rebels accept application of Shariah law in north.
- 2/2003 Rebels in western region of Darfur rise up against government, claiming the region is being neglected by Khartoum.
- 10/2003 PNC leader al-Turābī released after nearly three years in detention and ban on his party is lifted.
- 1/2004 Army moves to quell rebel uprising in western region of Darfur; hundreds of thousands of refugees flee to neighbouring Chad.
- 3/2004 UN official says pro-government Arab "Janjaweed" militias are carrying out systematic killings of African villagers in Darfur. Army officers and opposition politicians, including Islamist leader Ḥasan al-Turabi, are detained over an alleged coup plot.
- 19.-21.4.2004 Conference on Shari'ah, Justice and Ijtihad in Khartoum
- 5/2004 Government and southern rebels agree on power-sharing protocols as part of a peace deal to end their long-running conflict. The deal follows earlier breakthroughs on the division of oil and non-oil wealth.
- 6/2005 Government and exiled opposition grouping - National Democratic Alliance (NDA) - sign reconciliation deal allowing NDA into power-sharing administration.
- President frees Islamist leader Hassan al-Turābī, who was detained in 2004 over an alleged coup plot.

- 1.8.2005 Vice president and former rebel leader John Garang is killed in a plane crash. He is succeeded by Salva Kiir. Garang's death sparks deadly clashes in the capital between southern Sudanese and northern Arabs.
- 9/2005 Power-sharing government is formed in Khartoum.
- 10/2005 Autonomous government is formed in the south, in line with the January 2005 peace deal. The administration is dominated by former rebels.
- 5/2006 Khartoum government and the main rebel faction in Darfur, the Sudan Liberation Movement, sign a peace accord. Two smaller rebel groups reject the deal. Fighting continues.
- 11/2006 African Union extends mandate of its peacekeeping force in Darfur for six months.
Hundreds are thought to have died in the heaviest fighting between northern Sudanese forces and their former southern rebel foes since they signed a peace deal last year. Fighting is centred on the southern town of Malakal.
- 04/2007 Sudan says it will accept a partial UN troop deployment to reinforce African Union peacekeepers in Darfur, but not a full 20,000-strong force.
- 05/2007 International Criminal Court issues arrest warrants for a minister and a Janjaweed militia leader suspected of Darfur war crimes.
- 07/2007 US President George W Bush announces fresh sanctions against Sudan. UN Security Council approves a resolution authorising a 26,000-strong force for Darfur. Sudan says it will co-operate with the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur (Unamid).
- 10/2007 SPLM temporarily suspends participation in national unity government, accusing Khartoum of failing to honour the 2005 peace deal.
- 12/2007 SPLM resumes participation in national unity government.
- 01/2008 UN takes over Darfur peace force.
Within days Sudan apologises after its troops fire on a convoy of Unamid, the UN-African Union hybrid mission.
Government planes bomb rebel positions in West Darfur, turning some areas into no-go zones for aid workers.
- 04/2008 Counting begins in national census which is seen as a vital step towards holding democratic elections after the landmark 2005 north-south peace deal.
UN humanitarian chief John Holmes says 300,000 people may have died in the five-year Darfur conflict.
- 05/2008 Southern defense minister Dominic Dim Deng is killed in a plane crash in the south.
Tension increases between Sudan and Chad after Darfur rebel group mounts raid on Omdurman, Khartoum's twin city across the Nile. Sudan accuses Chad of involvement and breaks off diplomatic relations.
Intense fighting breaks out between northern and southern forces in disputed oil-rich town of Abyei.
- 06/2008 President al-Bashir and southern leader Salva Kiir agree to seek international arbitration to resolve dispute over Abyei.

- 07/2008 The International Criminal Court's top prosecutor calls for the arrest of President al-Bashīr for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes in Darfur; the appeal is the first ever request to the ICC for the arrest of a sitting head of state. Sudan rejects the indictment.
- 09/2008 Darfur rebels accuse government forces backed by militias of launching air and ground attacks on two towns in the region.
- 11/2008 President al-Bashīr announces an immediate ceasefire in Darfur, but the region's two main rebel groups reject the move, saying they will fight on until the government agrees to share power and wealth in the region.
- 01/2009 Sudanese Islamist leader Ḥasan al-Turābī is arrested after saying President al-Bashīr should hand himself in to The Hague to face war crimes charges for the Darfur war.
- 03/2009 The International Criminal Court in The Hague issues an arrest warrant for President al-Bashīr on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur.
- 06/2009 Khartoum government denies it is supplying arms to ethnic groups in the south to destabilise the region.
The leader of South Sudan and vice-president of the country, Salva Kiir, warns his forces are being re-organised to be ready for any return to war with the north
Ex-foreign minister Lam Akol splits from South's ruling SPLM to form new party, SPLM-Democratic Change.
- 07/2009 North and south Sudan say they accept ruling by arbitration court in The Hague shrinking disputed Abyei region and placing the major Heglig oil field in the north.
Woman journalist tried and punished for breaching decency laws by wearing trousers. She campaigns to change the law.
- 10/2009 SPLM boycotts parliament over a Bill allowing intelligence services to retain widespread powers.
- 12/2009 Leaders of North and South say they have reached a deal on the terms of a referendum on independence due in South by 2011.
- 01/2010 President 'Umar al-Bashīr says would accept referendum result, even if South opted for independence.
- 02/2010 Judges of International Criminal Court are ordered to review their decision to omit genocide from the war crimes arrest warrant issued for Pashīr.
- 02/03/2010 The Justice and Equality Movement (Jem) main Darfur rebel movement signs a peace accord with the government, prompting President al-Bashīr to declare the Darfur war over. But failure to agree specifics and continuing clashes with smaller rebel groups endanger the deal.
- 04/2010 President al-Bashīr gains new term in first contested presidential polls since 1986.
- 12/2010 President al-Bashīr announces reenforcement of Islamic legislation if Sudan splits.
- 05/2011 Northern Sudan occupies disputed province of Abyei.
- 01/2011 Southern Sudan holds referendum on its independence, a majority of 98,83% of the votes in favor of independence from Khartoum.

09/07/2011

The Republic of South Sudan gains its independence.