

UNHCR says more than one million people displaced by Sudan crisis



Geneva, May 20 (RHC)-- More than one million people have been displaced by fighting in Sudan so far, including a quarter of a million refugees, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) spokesperson says.

The latest figure includes some 843,000 people displaced internally and around 250,000 people who have fled across Sudan's borders, Matthew Saltmarsh told a Geneva briefing on Friday.

With hundreds of casualties and the streets of the capital Khartoum being turned into battle zones, the army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces have been engaged in weeks-long conflict.

Refugees have flocked to the neighboring countries of Sudan, including Chad, Ethiopia, and South Sudan, all of which are experiencing severe humanitarian crises.

Since the start of the conflict, Egypt has received the largest amount of Sudanese refugees than any other country, around 110,000, according to Saltmarsh.

"Many of those who have approached us are in a distressed state having been exposed to violence or traumatic conditions in Sudan, and having suffered arduous journeys," Saltmarsh said. The pace has increased in recent weeks, he added, with some 5,000 arriving each day in Egypt.

Thousands of people have been injured and hundreds of people have died as a result of the fighting in the northeast African country so far.

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