Mr. Speaker, for nearly 20 years, the people of

Sudan have been engaged in a civil

war. The government in Khartoum,

known as the National Islamic Front,

has been ruthlessly terrorizing its own

citizens in the south, killing and starving those who are not Muslim Arabs.

This religious hatred has evolved

into genocide. Christians in southern

Sudan are the subject of ethnic cleansing. Over 2 million people have died.

Over 4 million people have been displaced. The war in Sudan is clearly one

of good versus evil.

If this persecution was not bad

enough, southern Sudan is a source of

enormous oil reserves, causing the National Islamic Front to literally clear a

path of black Christians in order to

reap the benefits of this commodity.

Sudan is perhaps the most prominent

purveyor of slavery, an atrocity of unspeakable proportions. Women and

children are subjected to extreme cruelty. Men are removed from their

families and given Arabic names before experiencing the worst of conditions.

There have been many prayers and

vigils for the people of Sudan recently.

I commend those who speak up for the

persecuted and enslaved in the south of

Sudan, and I urge the Sudanese government to resume peace talks with the

Sudan People’s Liberation Army. We

must have peace, Mr. Speaker, in Sudan.