



DARFUR: A Call To Action

Lessons from faith leaders



Discussion Guide for Muslim Communities

After the film, use the texts and questions below with the entire audience or break into small groups first and then return to the larger group to share ideas. You may wish to distribute this sheet before the film to acquaint the audience with these texts, or wait until after the viewing. We hope this discussion will lead your community to think about ways that you can help solve the crisis in Darfur.

- 1** **Text:** Adapted from Al-Qur'an, Surah 49:10, it is written that, "The believers are brothers, so make peace between your brothers."

Questions: *The violence in Darfur is inflicted on Muslims by Muslims. Does that change the obligation of Muslim people around the world to intervene?*
- 2** **Text:** Adapted from Al-Qur'an, Surah 5:32, it is written that, "He who has killed an innocent soul, it is as if he had killed all humanity. And he who has saved an innocent soul, it is as if he has saved all humanity."

Questions: *Allah rewards us immensely for saving a single soul. What kind of reward do we get if we play a part in saving thousands—even hundreds of thousands—of souls?*
- 3** **Text:** Hadith 248 "Abu Hurayra reported that the Messenger of Allah, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, said, "There is sadaqa owed by every joint people have every day on which the sun rises. Putting things right between two people is sadaqa. Helping a man with his mount and helping him up onto it or lifting up his baggage onto it is sadaqa. A good word is sadaqa. Every step you take to the prayer is sadaqa. Removing an obstruction from the road is sadaqa."

Questions: *Does speaking out against the violence in Darfur fall into any of those categories? Is it putting things right between two people? Is it removing an obstruction from the road?*
- 4** **Text:** In the film, Bishop Ricard says: "One of the first questions in the Old Testament was 'Where is your brother?' when the Lord asked Cain where his brother Able was. And he says, 'Am I my brother's keeper?' And throughout the remainder of the scripture is an answer to that question - yes you are!"

Questions: *How will we as a community be the keeper of our brothers and sisters in Darfur?*
- 5** **Text:** In the film, Moheamed Dafalla Ishag talks about his brother, who was like a father to him, and was shot five times in the back by the Janjaweed militia. He says, "If I have a chance to say something for my brother, I'm praying all days for you."

Questions: *What role does prayer play in healing the wounds in Darfur? If you made a prayer for one person in Darfur, what would it say?*
- 6** **Text:** In the film, Dr. Mattson also says that "There is a rule in Islamic law that if you keep silent you are consenting to an action."

Questions: *What does it mean to keep silent on Darfur? Is it enough to tell one person? To tell ten?*