

MINISTRY AMONG THE CHILDREN OF WAR AND THE TRUTH OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

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Introduction

- ▶ Definitions and background (case study Northern Uganda)
- ▶ Effects of war
- ▶ Is there any relationship between human trafficking and conflict?
- ▶ Gods redemption and restoration
- ▶ GLA and other ministries responses
- ▶ How can each of us be part of this reconciliation?

DEFINATIONS

WAR– a state of armed conflict between different states or different groups within a nation or state.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING –trade of humans, most commonly for the purpose of sexual slavery, forced labor or commercial sexual exploitation for the trafficker or others.

What causes war –some scholars have argued that war is a universal and ancestral aspect of human nature, others have argued that its only a result of specific social –cultural or ecological circumstances.

War and conflicts is a result of human sin and fallen nature



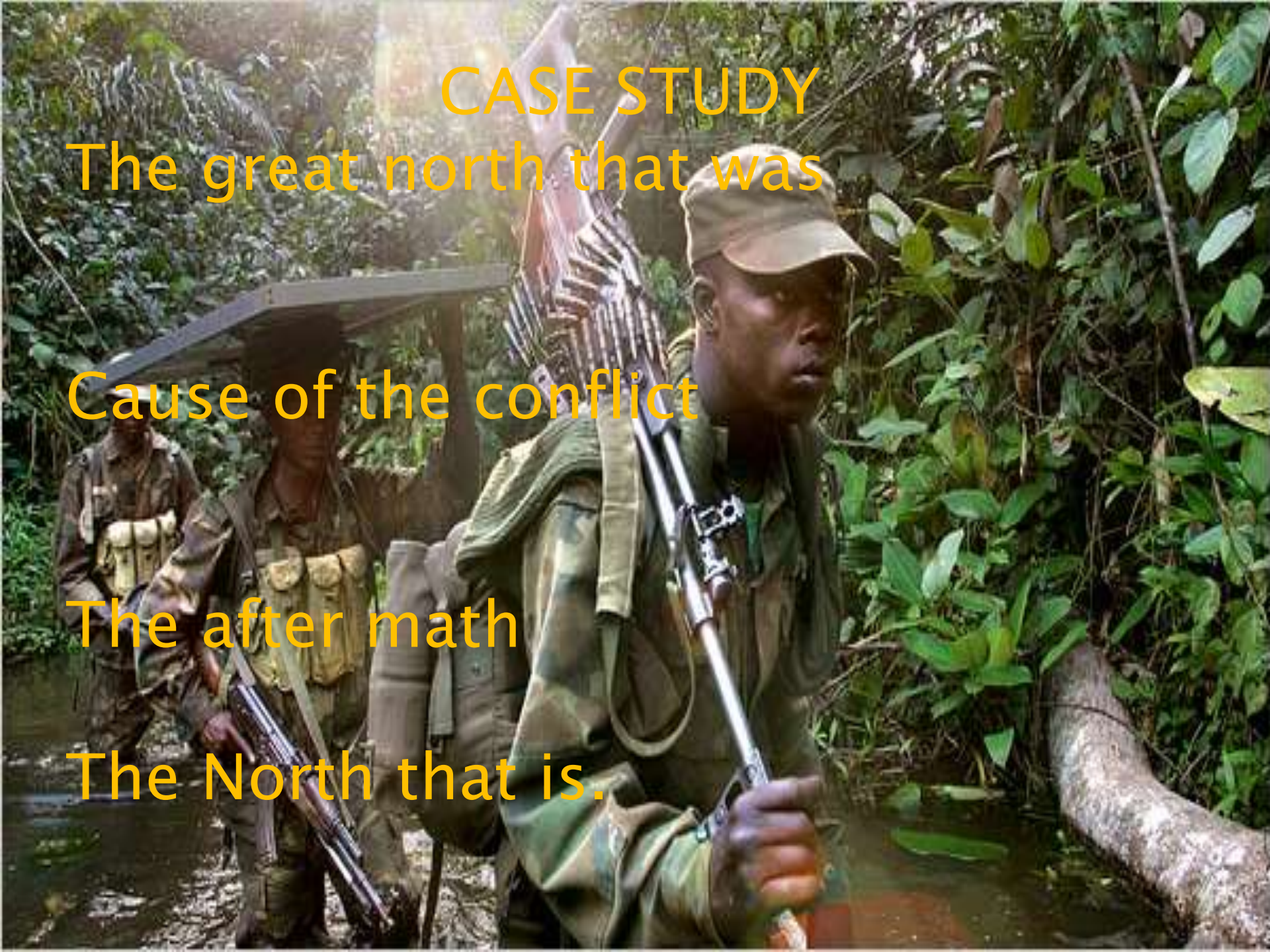
CASE STUDY

The great north that was

Cause of the conflict


The after math

The North that is.




EFFECTS OF WAR on communities and individuals


1. Dependency

- ▶ During war people are brought to safe grounds (camps) where they receive supplies from aid organizations.
 - ▶ They are reduced to depending on someone else and this has long term impact on communities.
 - ▶ The culture of hard work is taken away.
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2. Poverty


- ▶ communities and individuals that were able to take care of themselves are no longer able to because all they had gathered is destroyed. Houses are burnt , animals and wealth looted, plantations all gone.
 - ▶ It becomes very hard to recover from war.
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- ▶ During the war schools are converted to camps and this means no school during war, for girls this especially translates to many of them being married at an early age.
 - ▶ They then produce children and the cycle of poverty is reinforced
 - ▶ Land conflicts and wrangles.
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3. Social effects

- ▶ Denial of the child mothers –they do not necessarily appreciate the children they bore.
 - ▶ War victims face rejection by their own families and communities on return.
 - ▶ The social outcasts – If they survive the bush they come out and they cannot go back to normal life of school going and in a family set up.
 - ▶ They are not able to integrate fully into their communities.
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- ▶ A community that has to deal with a whole generation of “war kids” children that were born from the bush, they have no sense of belonging and they can't even trace their origin
- ▶ They have to also deal with camp generation that knows no hard work and have even lost their culture.

- ▶ Communities have to deal with a whole generation of” war kids” children that were born from the bush, they know no normal life but brutal life, they also don’t know their fathers and if they do they are not proud of some of them since they are the well reknown commanders.
 - ▶ The children have no sense belonging and they cannot trace their origin.
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4. Health effects

- ▶ Story of the three kids

Diseases and infections are easily transmitted during war because of congestion and the way of live in camps.

HIV and Aids for example is rampant in the camps which leads to orphans as the parents die and leave young children orphaned. They leave old people to take care of children. OR children take care of children




5. Physical torture

- ▶ The abducted young girls are repeatedly raped and later on used as slaves in the commander's houses, and the boys are forced to become brutal soldiers.
- ▶ Those who rebel are pushed into a huge mass of water and they drown, others are set on fire.
- ▶ The pregnant women are operated with knives and the babies killed and they are raped to death,



Others have some parts of their bodies mutilated, while others are locked on every opening on their bodies with padlocks. They have permanent scars raging from bullet remains and all the torture.

6. Emotional trauma

- ▶ Emotional torture: They witness and perpetrate terrible acts, such as murdering family members using axes, hoes, knives, guns and sharp objects and also burning people houses.
 - ▶ Due to this a lot of them are haunted by evil spirits and nightmares which are hard to deal with.
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7. Stigmatization and rejection


- ▶ The victims face rejection from their own communities and family members. They are viewed as outsiders, killers and people fear that they will kill them.
- ▶ They have nowhere to belong again. Their children are also rejected by families since they fear for them growing up and sharing in the family wealth while they are not viewed as part of the family.




- ▶ These children grow up aware that they are not accepted and they are stigmatized.
- ▶ A generation whose childhood has been forever stolen from them.


What issues and
needs rise from the
above effects


▶ Bitterness, despair
unforgiveness, lost of self
worth, homelessness,
defilement, rape, Fear
,refugee crisis .. Endless
list...




CONFLICT AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- ▶ There is a lot of trafficking of women and children during and after war. One of the contributing factors being the Economic vulnerability especially with women.
 - ▶ After the war in any area there is always high level of political instability and institutional dysfunctions which make it easier for trafficking to happen. Eg lack of an accountable justice system which would lead to impunity of the perpetrators.
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- ▶ The offer is always appealing since it has economic implications to it and many of them are willing to take anything .
 - ▶ The victims face huge social need and economic problems after escaping from the bush, putting them at a higher risk due to the social isolation and extreme vulnerability.
 - ▶ Children are abducted and held as slaves and do forced lab our
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- ▶ They end up being forced by community and relatives or more so intermediaries to domestic servitude and sexual exploitation, herding and begging.
 - ▶ They are taken as house maids in the Middle East where they are treated very harshly and cannot return since there is nothing to return to and also their passports are confiscated.
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- ▶ Their esteem and self worth is diminished that they are willing to take up prostitution and they move into nearby cities to earn a living through that.
 - ▶ Both girls and boys are recruited by security companies to serve in countries in war and in the middle east, where their passports are also confiscated by their sponsors, they work 24 hours without rest and are denied any interaction with any person outside their homes.
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Where is God in this?



Restoration & redemption

- ▶ God is already at work through different people and He is restoring all things to himself.
- ▶ This situations seem very trying and tough for anyone to go through. Our role as children of God is to join Him as he turns them to his constant presence and love. (I have seen this in the girls at CVI)
- ▶ .

CHRIST WORK IN RECONCILIATION

2ND Cor 5:18-21

Ephesians 2:14-16

Colossians 1:20-22




GLOBAL LINK AFRIKA'S INVOLVEMENT

- ▶ IELS strategy
- ▶ GIP Strategy

Interns and GIP stories (Simon and Aaron)



ISAIA 43

- ▶ This is what God sees when He sees them
 - ▶ They are precious and honoured in the sight of God, they are loved .
 - ▶ He reminds them . vs 18 Forget the former things do not dwell on the past see I am doing a new thingGod is doing a new thing in their lives and God is a creator and yes he does create in them a new heart. Restoring them indeed.
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Jeremiah 30 „31

- ▶ The Lords commitment is clear to them He promises like He did to Israel He will restore their health, and heal their wounds because they were called outcasts ,he will restore their fortunes and have compassion on their dwellings.
- ▶ He will rebuild the city and the place will stand in the proper place, ,, from them will come songs of thanksgiving ,,
- ▶ God will bring them honor and they will not be disdained ,their community will be established before Him.

Let's see what needs restoration?????

- ▶ Their dignity, self worth, skills etc but what we must not assume is that they only need that,, they need the true restoration from God that which make them view themselves as children of God loved and cared.

How can you be part of this?

- ▶ **PRAY -**
- ▶ **Go - love those affected , accept them show them the way to restoration.**
- ▶ **LOVE - Helping them understand that they were victims , reach out to them with love and kindness listening to their stories with empathy.**
- ▶ **We must go. its not charity its justice.**
- ▶ ***Mathew 25:31***

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- ▶ God is still in the business of sending people .
- ▶ The call from Isaiah still stands “Whom shall I send” and you have a chance to respond and say Here I am send me like Isaiah.

Isaia 58:10–12

- ▶ And if you spend yourself on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noon day.
 - ▶ The Lord will guide you always, he will satisfy your needs in a sun scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well watered garden like a spring whose waters
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