

“SUDANESE HEROINE”

Comic Strip Contest

To celebrate Sudanese’s Women

WITHIN THE PROJECT



WE-RISE!

Women Empowerment for Resilience,
Inclusion, Sustainability and Environment



Funded by
the European Union



ITALIAN AGENCY
FOR DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION



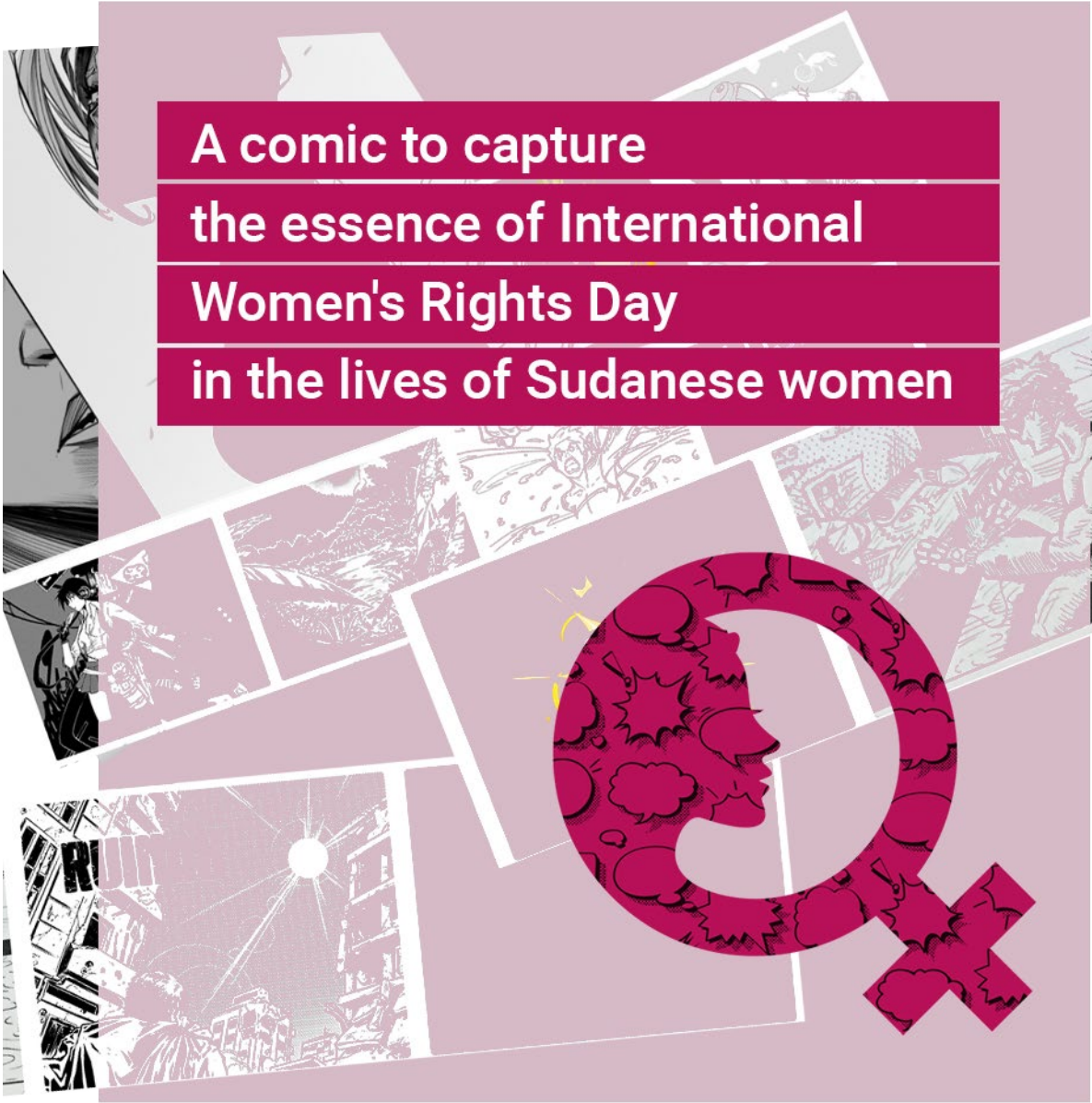
This initiative was funded by the European Union through the project «**WE-RISE!**» - **T05-EUTF-HOA-SD-96-02**.

Implemented by the Italian Agency for Development in Cooperation in partnership with UN Women.

The Comic’s contents are the sole responsibility of the Author of the Cominc and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and UN Women.

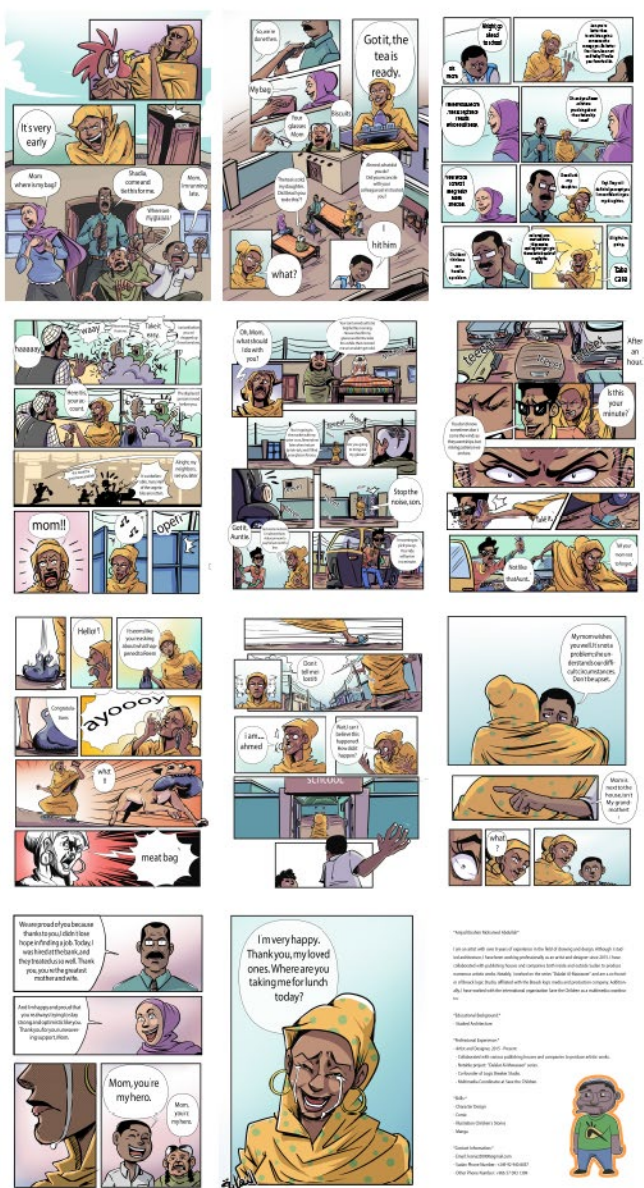
Foreword

"SUDANESE HEROINE" is a Comics Strip contest organised by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) - Khartoum Regional Office. The contest aimed to actively engage the Sudanese community in celebrating International Women's Day 2024 with the theme "Sudanese Heroine". The contest invites participants to capture the essence of March 8th in the lives of Sudanese women today. The submitted works creatively and meaningfully addressed various challenges faced by Sudanese women and girls, including the impact of the ongoing conflict. This initiative was carried out under the "WE-RISE!" program - Women's Empowerment for Resilience, Inclusion, Sustainability, and Environment. It is a collaborative effort between AICS and UN Women, funded by the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa. The project aims to build inclusive, sustainable, and resilient communities, creating a favourable environment for women's economic, social, and educational empowerment in the Sudanese states of Kassala, Gedaref, and the Red Sea.



**A comic to capture
the essence of International
Women's Rights Day
in the lives of Sudanese women**

WINNING COMICS



“SHADIA”

The heroine in this story is a mother, a woman who takes on the central role within her family. She is not merely a homemaker but the backbone upon which most daily responsibilities rest. She provides care and psychological and emotional support, working tirelessly to maintain the balance and happiness of all family members. Her sacrifices are evident in every aspect of her life, as she makes exceptional efforts to ensure the comfort and well-being of her children and husband. The story portrays the mother as the beating heart of the family, offering all her love and attention to build a cohesive and stable home.

> Read the full comic: [ARABIC VERSION](#) / [ENGLISH VERSION](#)

BY: Amejed Ibrahim Mohame

Although he studied architecture, Ibrahim is an artist with over 8 years of experience in the field of drawing and design. Throughout his career, he has collaborated with various publishing houses and companies inside and outside Sudan to produce numerous artistic works. His versatility has allowed him to work on a wide range of projects, among which "Dalalat Al-Mawaseer" stands out, continuously demonstrating his skill and creativity in each work.



“A SUDANESE HEROINE”

The comic depicts excerpts from the diaries of a woman living in Sudan during the April 15, 2023 war. It portrays the challenges she and her family faced and how they managed them, while also contributing to their local community during tough times. This comic explores overcoming difficulties with hope, resilience, and adaptability, showing how they found alternative ways to move forward with courage and creativity.

> Read the full comic: [ARABIC VERSION](#) / [ENGLISH VERSION](#)

BY: Amjad Ibrahim

He was born in Sudan in 1991 and grew up in KSA during his school years. Yousef is a self-taught graphic artist who started working as a freelancer at the end of 2014 during his college years. He developed a variety of artistic style skills in storyboards, character design, comics, and illustrations. During his career, Yousef contributed to different publications, from online and printed comics to editorial illustrations for different local and international organisations.

“SHATTERED BUT UNBOWED” THE RESILIENCE OF SUDANESE WOMEN

SHATTERED BUT UNBOWED: THE RESILIENCE OF SUDANESE WOMEN



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HONORABLE MENTIONS

“KANDAKA, A SUDANESE QUEEN”

"KANDAKA" stands as the heroine embodying women's emancipation. Through her character, it commemorates the redemption of Sudanese women throughout the years. This vibrant narrative vividly illustrates how women in Sudan courageously challenge historical stereotypes, steadfastly aiming to emerge as influential leaders, and assuming pivotal power roles in the modern world.

> full screen: [ENGLISH VERSION](#)



BY: Reem Mubarak

Reem Mubarak is a multimedia graduate from the Sudan University of Science and Technology (SUST) in the College of Communication Science, Khartoum. She describes herself as a freelance graphic designer and field activist focusing on protection. Her inspiration comes from her community and the wealth of her professional experiences.



“UNYIELDING SPIRIT”

The comic depicts the resilience and courage of Sudanese women, who despite attempts to suppress their voices, have become even stronger and an integral part of the revolution during the current conflict in Sudan. A comparison between the present and the past, showing modern Sudanese women alongside the ancient *Kandaka*^{*}, highlighting the continuity of their resilience and courage over time. This story highlights how every Sudanese woman is a hero, fighting daily challenges with the same strength and determination as their warrior ancestors.

> full screen: [ENGLISH VERSION](#)

BY: Amjad Ibrahim

Amjad is a freelance illustrator based in Sudan with over 5 years of work experience in various projects including children’s books, editorial illustration and animation. Her art style has been greatly influenced by Sudanese culture and folklore. Her art mainly portrays Sudanese women and explores the social and political issues they face.

^{*}**Kandakat** (Sudanese warrior queen - the plural of Kandaka in modern Arabic).

SUDANESE HEROINE

By the AICS Khartoum Communications Office as part of the project [WE-RISE!](#)

We want to express our sincere thanks to each participant for their extraordinary involvement in our "Sudanese Heroine" comic contest. Their sensitivity and creative expression made this initiative possible, serving as unique and meaningful amplifiers for the daily challenges faced by Sudanese women and girls.



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