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2.1.5. Conflict-related infrastructure damage and other war impacts

The use of explosive weapons with wide area effects in densely populated Khartoum has resulted in large-scale destruction of homes, schools, hospitals, and other vital infrastructure.[656] Indeed, Khartoum has been one of the states most affected by attacks on healthcare facilities since the outbreak of the conflict, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).[657] The UN Independent International Fact-Finding Mission for the Sudan found that both the SAF and the RSF attacked, damaged or destroyed civilian infrastructure and objects, including objects crucial for the survival of civilians.[658]

According to a report by the Humanitarian Research Lab at Yale School of Public Health (Yale HRL) and the Sudanese American Physicians Association (SAPA), open-source data revealed that 112 attacks were conducted on hospitals in Khartoum state between 15 April 2023 and 26 August 2024 (including bombing, shelling, forced entry, looting, and shooting into, encircling, or other forceful incidents). An analysis of satellite imagery by Yale HRL revealed that 41 out of a total of 87 hospitals sustained damages in 55 incidents documented through satellite imagery during this period (eight hospitals were assessed as 'minimally damaged' and 33 as 'partially damaged'). Nearly half of these damage incidents were recorded between September and December 2023.[659]

Ongoing clashes inflicted severe damage to Khartoum city's water infrastructure.[660] Aerial strikes and explosives affected water treatment plants and water pipes, causing severe water shortages in a number of neighbourhoods. Civilians in the Greater Khartoum region were also left with lack of electricity.[661] Notably, airstrikes and artillery attacks[662] during the SAF's offensive launched in September 2024 resulted in extensive damage to civilian infrastructure.[663]

While 2.6 million square metres in Omdurman had been cleared of explosive remnants of war as of early September 2024, Sudan's National Mine Action Centre indicated that 470 627 square metres remained yet to be cleared.[664] Explosive remnants were also reported to be scattered in rural areas north of Bahri.[665]

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