

Sudan's General "Hemeti" Dagalo



■ **1974: Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo – “Hemeti”** – is born to Chadian Arab clan of camel-herding nomads

■ **1980s:** Clan settles in northern Darfur. Hemeti attends elementary school, avidly studying Koran

■ **1987:** Formal education ends at age 13. Settles in Libya, trading camels across border with Chad

■ **2003:** Hemeti returns to Darfur and becomes leader of **Janjaweed** militia

■ **2003-13:** President **Omar al-Bashir** (right) deploys Janjaweed and **Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF)** to carry out brutal campaign of ethnic cleansing



■ **2013:** Fearing SAF uprising, Bashir makes Hemeti head of new paramilitary unit, **Rapid Support Forces (RSF)**

■ **2015:** RSF mercenaries fight for Saudi-led coalition in Yemen

■ **2017:** Hemeti's family takes control of gold mines in Darfur – allowing gold mining by Russian **Wagner** mercenaries in exchange for weapons

■ **2019:** Following protests over decades of economic hardship and repression, Hemeti and SAF Chief General **Abdel Fattah al-Burhan** work together to topple President Bashir

■ **2020:** Hemeti backs Russia's bid to establish naval base at Port Sudan, Burhan blocks deal

■ **2021:** RSF and SAF seize power in military coup

■ **Apr 2023:** Political groups and tribal leaders reject U.S.-sponsored deal to transfer power from military to civilian government

■ **Apr 15: Hemeti attempts coup to take control of Sudan**