

1960

Chad gains independence from France. Francois Tombalbaye, a Christian southerner, becomes president.

1963

Political parties are banned, triggering an Islamic insurgency in the north under Frolinat, the Chadian National Liberation Front.

1975

Another Christian southerner, Felix Malloum, takes power after Tombalbaye is killed in a coup.

1982

Hissan Habre takes power from a rebel base in Darfur.

1996

Deby wins Chad's first multi-party elections.

1979

Libyan-backed Muslim northerner Goukouni Oueddei takes power in a coalition government.

1990

Habre is overthrown by Idriss Deby, also from a rebel base in Darfur.

2003

Chad begins to export oil from large reserves in the south.

2004

More than 100,000 refugees arrive in eastern Chad, fleeing violence in Sudan's Darfur region. Fighting spills over the border.

2006

In 2006, the security situation has sharply deteriorated in eastern Chad. Clashes between Chadian security forces and chadian rebels, incursions of janjaweed militias and armed groups from Sudan, attacks on villages and killing targeting of civilian population, banditry and attacks on humanitarian organisations have all increased. The deteriorating security environment has resulted in limited and sporadic access thereby hampering humanitarian operations in affected areas. Tension also continued to mount over Chad's accusation of Sudan of arming and financing rebels in the East, which resulted in the temporary suspension of diplomatic relations between Sudan and Chad (*CAP2007*).

13 Apr

Government forces fight off rebels and brings the situation under control. 100 dead and 200 wounded.

14 April

Deby breaks diplomatic relations with Sudan, alleging support of armed groups in Chad and closes the border with Sudan.

3 May: Presidential elections held. Opposition parties boycott the poll, which Deby wins.

Nov - Dec: Following intensification of fighting between chadian armed forces and chadian rebel groups in Abeche, Iriba and Guereda regions, humanitarian organisations evacuate non-essential staff from eastern Chad, where UN security phase IV is implemented. In refugee camps, basic services continue to be provided by trained refugees. Interethnic clashes in the area south of Abeche result in at least 360 casualties and an additional 50,000 chadians being displaced.

2007

March: Interethnic clash in Tiero and Marena Causing an additional 25,000 IDPs

September

- Prorogation of parliament mandate for one year

October:

- Emergency state in Eastern
- Negotiating of Syrte peace agreement between ANT and rebels
- Following Zoe's Ark affair, surveillance of humanitarians accrued.

November

- Violent fights between ANT, RFC and UFDD in the Eastern Chad

2008

January

- Chadian aviation bombed positions in Darfour
- Popular manifestation to support the government of Chad against a possible Sudanese' attack
- Effective deployment of MINURCAT and EUFOR announced for mid-February 08