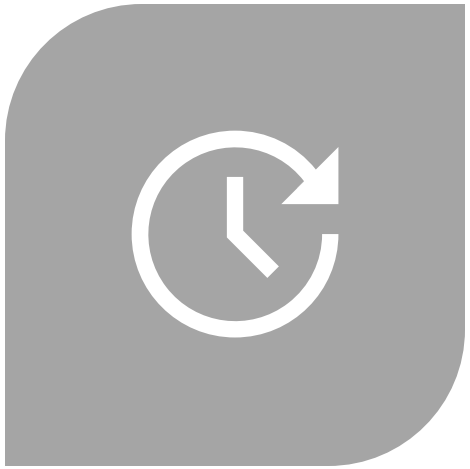
الجمعية السودانية للمعرفة

Sudanese Knowledge Society

Critique of Development: Sudan in the Matrix

The symposium a multitude of topics were explored in the presentations and panel discussions. The multidisciplinary presentations explore relevant and urgent topics pertaining to the past, present and the future of development in Sudan.

VISION



DEVELOPMENT OF SUDAN:
CAN WE HAVE HOPE?

PAST FUTURE

GOALS

WE OFFER THESE IDEAS AS CHALLENGES TO SCHOLARS AND ACTIVISTS IN ANALYZING SUDAN'S HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CAPABILITIES, LIFE ON THE GROUND, AND THINKING ABOUT POSSIBLE FUTURES.

TODAY TOMORROW

Some of the thematic and practical questions the participants might consider

1.Which development theories are dominant (or less tapped) in Sudanese projects? What does their selection (or omission) reflect about Sudanese notions of social change?

2. What are some of the Sudanese small-scale/neighborhood projects that we can follow as models?

3. What might be the importance of using other lenses to assess development projects, e.g., gender, disability, class, ethnic identities, etc.?

4. What are the fields/disciplines that have gained most from and given most to development projects?

5. What can Sudanese (or each Sudanese person) do or be 15 years from now?

The Symposium subject distribution reflects the amount of work that needs to be done in many areas related to the Development Concept

1. The development Trend
2. The development Term meaning
3. Alsayal case study for Development
4. Urban Change
5. Health Development
6. The Sudan DEVELOPMENT IMPASSE
7. Energy as a source of Development

NOTES ON A CRITIQUE OF DEVELOPMEN: A SNAPSHOT OF TRENDS

Sondra Hale

Do we have any "success" stories to put forward about Sudan, many of us scholars and practitioners—Sudanese and non-Sudanese alike-- having written extensively about the failures?

To some critics to partnerships of (IMF) and the World Bank with the State have led to greater poverty among the people.most of these "partnerships" were with the State, upon which donor agencies foisted neoliberal projects and procedures. This has had the effect of driving local economies into the ground and oftentimes bolstering oppressive governments

- Assessments of failures began to contain qualities apart from economics. Scholars' and activists' calls for *sustainable development* began to involve more inclusive approaches
- But the world changed, and processes such as independence movements in colonized areas and the long process of decolonization had profound effects on development
- Beginning in the post-World War II period (especially 1944-49), as a result of many people and countries seeing a need to rebuild the infrastructure and economies of damaged and destroyed cities and villages few exceptions, aid from the outside, exogenous aid, was usually for the purposes of what came to be known as "development;" and development projects were seen as highly positive interventions.

THE "EMPTYING" OF MEANING AND "DE-POLITICISATION" OF TERMS: KNOWLEDGE REPRESENTATION IN DEVELOPMENT

Gada Kadoda

- In this presentation, I consider a number of commonly used development words and terminology, showing their conceptual life, their parents and children, their birth, demise, and re-birth, with the intention to discuss the trends that may be persisting and those that are changing.
- I map the histories of poverty, women, the environment, and development itself, using material. I attempt to generate a discussion on desirable and undesirable meanings, their beginnings and incarnations, to reflect on the knowledge, and therefore power, they represent in defining national policies.
- I will hopefully contribute to interrogating our understanding of what is entailed when we describe and implement commonly used, and sometimes abused, development concepts in our projects.

Alleviation
Reduction
Eradication

AL SAYAL— A COMMUNITY- BASED DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

Omer Sulieman

- This paper is a description and analysis of a Sudanese development project--Al Sayal Community-based Project [SDI-2022]:

Project SDI-2022 aims at creating a replicable rural development initiative, which includes improvement of people's quality of life, their life styles, social relations. It also includes building their capacity and introducing appropriate technology in productive areas. Major priorities consist of poverty alleviation, environmental promotion and protection, education, women's empowerment and youth support.

Alsayal, like other rural areas of Sudan, is suffering from:

1. Lack of a national vision for dealing with rural development.
2. Poverty.
3. Emigration of youth.
4. Harmful traditional practices.
5. Negative life styles; low voluntary work culture and the absence of effective action-oriented community organization.

AN ATTEMPT TO APPLY SYSTEMS THEORY TO URBAN CHANGE

Osman Elkhier

THE STORY OF TWO CITIES: Om Durman <Nile> Khartoum

- They both arose due to military circumstances and developed as rival towns. They, therefore, demonstrate very different morphologies and life styles, and in spite of locational detachment, they are still required to function as complementary parts of the capital city.
- The city is mostly composed of perishable structures that can be lost through neglect. All this, however, has to be corrected, together with solving basic questions of essential services and securing life, giving assistance to the population first.
- Its touristic, sport and commercial benefits are not tapped.

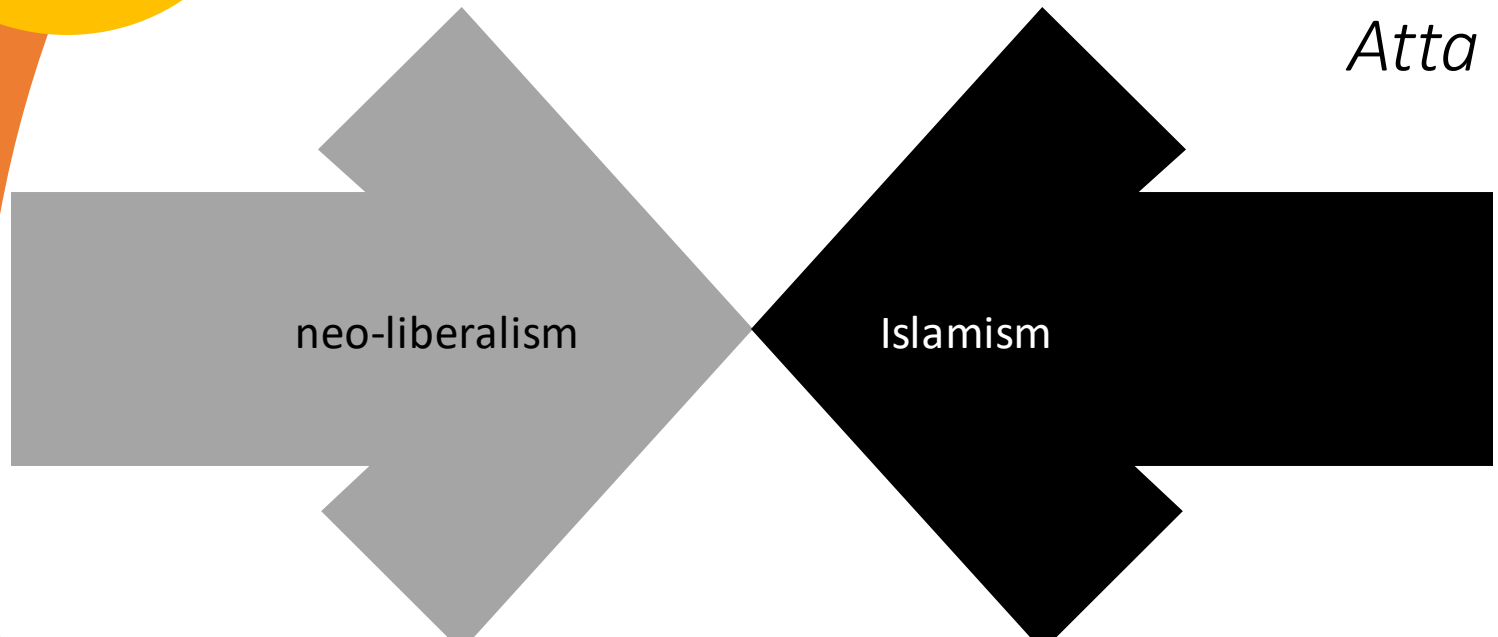
WITH SUDAN IN THE MATRIX, WHERE CAN FUTURES THINKING LEAD US? THE CASE OF HEALTH DEVELOPMENT

Asma Elsony

- **Countries-Health-Performance is measured through achievement of the Health-related-Sustainable-development-Goals-(HR-SDGs). Sudan is far from the accepted SDG/index.**
- **In Sudan's-Scenario, is it the government's role to raise citizens above-the-threshold on all ten capabilities?**
- **Should the people have a role to play or should all nations aim at a Global threshold/target?**
- **We tried to analyze the performance of current-health-systems, taking into account the development theories, other lenses to assess health projects, proposing an innovative-model to promote primacy of people that may lead to a good and flourishing/life.**

FROM IMPLICIT PROGRESS TO EXPLICIT RETROGRESSION: EXPLORING THE COINCIDENTAL CORRELATION BETWEEN NEO-LIBERALISM AND ISLAMISM IN THE SUDAN DEVELOPMENT IMPASSE

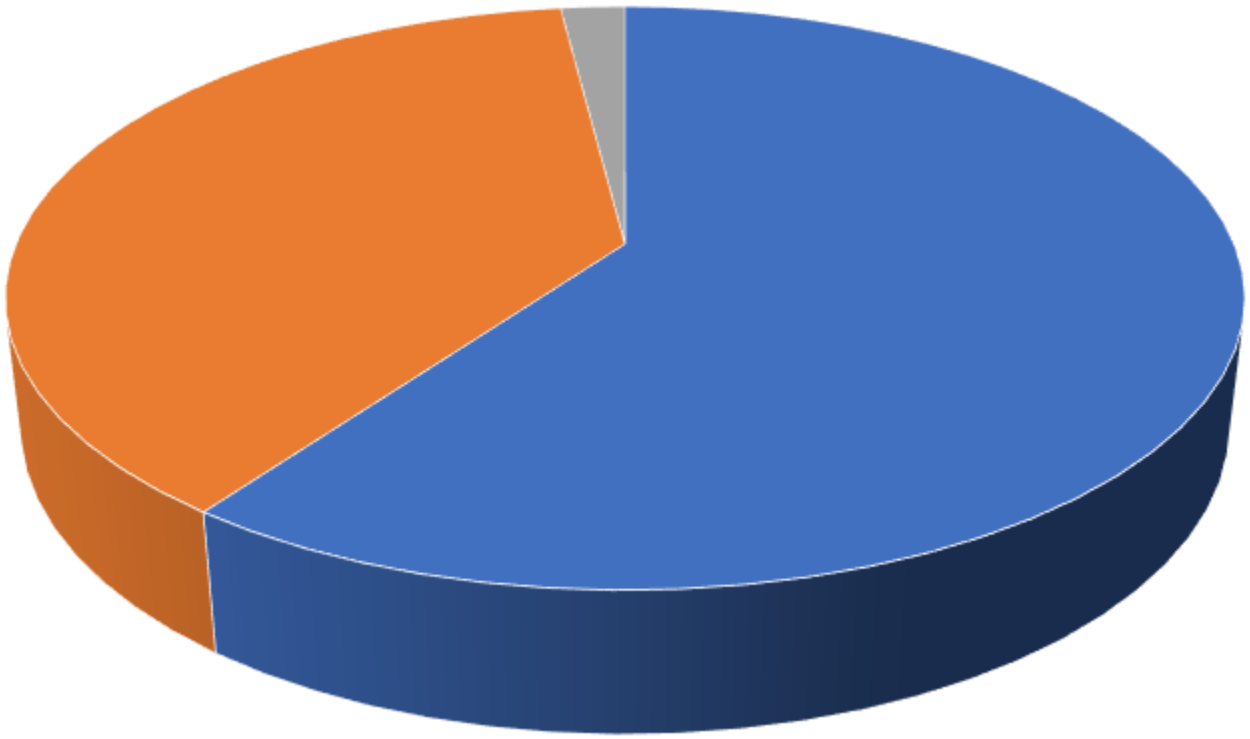
Atta Elbatahani



- This new development path gradually intermeshed and transformed/transfigured into an underlying symbiosis/coincidental correlation between neo-liberalism and Islamism in Sudan. The development outcome is an explicit retrogression.
- The paper warns against taking lightly the challenges ahead, pointing to the colossal task hanging over organic Sudanese intellectuals in not only challenging dominant development discourse (bizarre confluence of neo-liberalism and Islamism).
- But putting forward convincing alternative concepts of development (embraced by a historic change agency), a task that may require intellectuals to think and look beyond the borders of Sudan.

THE TRAJECTORY OF ENERGY POLICY IN SUDAN: ACCESS, PRIORITIES, AND EQUITY

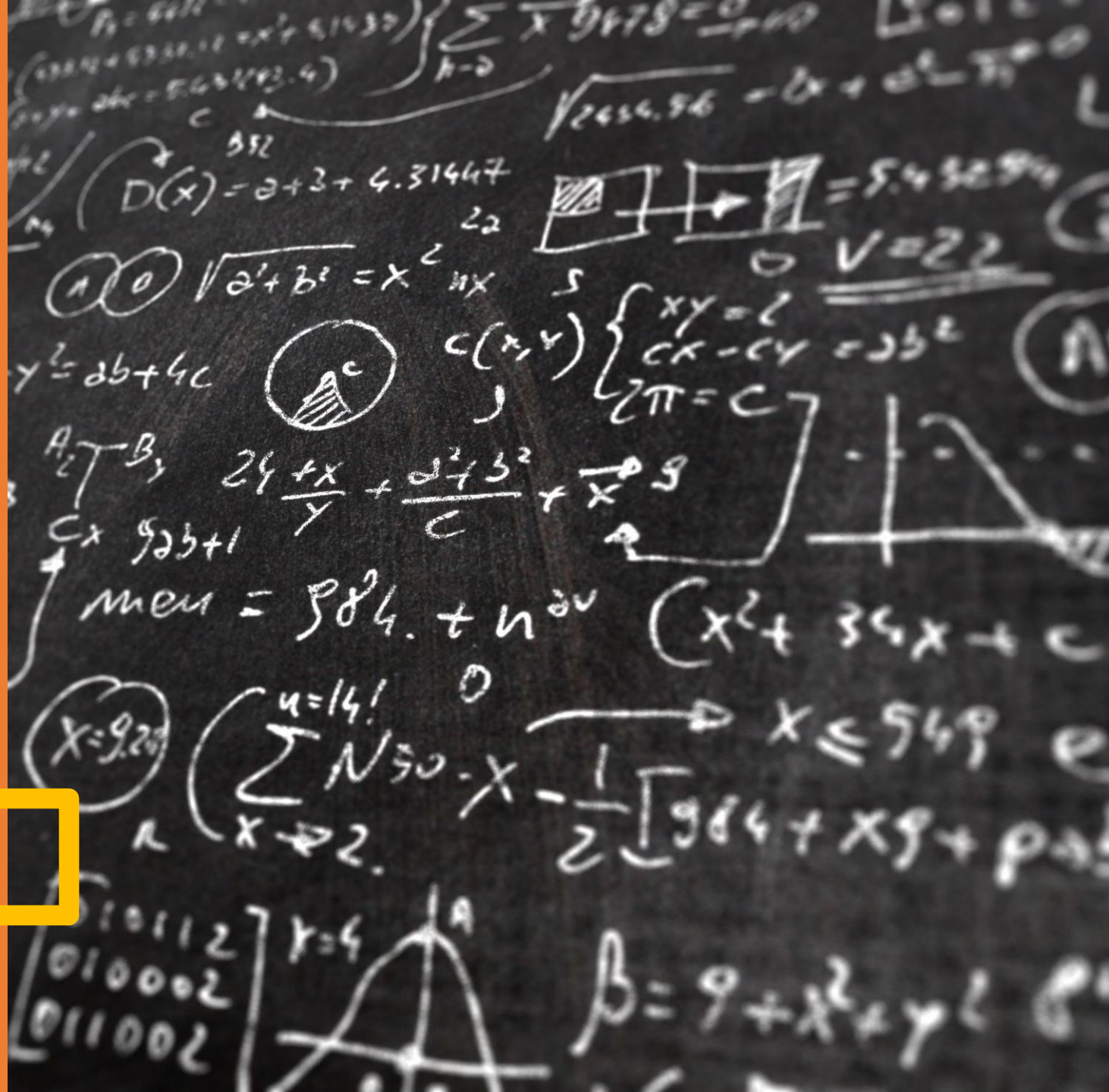
Sarah Khalifa and *Marwan Adam*



The real dilemma resides in the skewed energy balance which indicates that **the residential sector** had **the highest** demand **over transportation, services, industry and agriculture respectively**. Surprisingly, industry and agriculture sectors, which are main pillars for economic growth and development had a lower record for fulfilling demand. Increasing the access for these sectors would make a large contribution to economic development.

Conceived /Coordinated

By Professor *Sondra Hale* and Dr. *Gada Kadoda*



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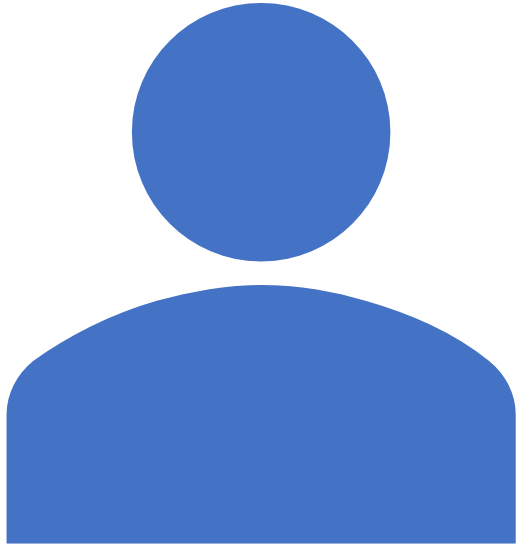

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THANK YOU
Any questions?