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## Millennium Dam: a Report on the Ethiopian Dam, Its Impact on Sudan

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The projected millennium dam is 12.5 kilometers away from the Sudanese border on the Blue Nile inside Ethiopian territories and is 35 kilometers behind the confluence of Ples River and the Blue Nile. The dam is 505 meters above sea-level while the water at the operational point is 610 above sea-level. The dam is 145 meters high and 1,800 meters long with a storage capacity of 74 billion cubic meters. Considering its height, the Millennium Dam is regarded among the world's large dams. This dam, of such a size, was not mentioned in anyone of the Ethiopia proposals and since the study that was made by the US Bureau of Reclamation in 1964. It was not either among the projects proposed by the Ethiopia government to the Nile Basin Initiative in 1999. The Ethiopian projects which were previously submitted, studied and accepted were: Karadobi, Mabil, Mandaia and Border dams which were all planned for hydro-electric power generation and designed to yield a total 5,570 megawatts.

The International Water Law and Agreements on Dealing with International Waters:- The relations between nations are subject to the international law and the United Nations Charter and construction of the Millennium Dam in Ethiopia is subject to the International Water Law that is part of the Statute of the International Court of Justice which, in turn, is part of the UN Charter. The mandate of the International Court of Justice is restricted to cases submitted to it by the litigants and the cases specifically indicated in a convention or in valid treaties or agreements. A nation that is a party to the Statute of the Court may make a statement under which, without referring to a specific agreement, it will recognize arbitrary mandate of the Court to consider all legal disputes with another nation that accepts the same commitment so long as those legal disputes are connected with explanation of the treaties or the international law or instances of violation of an international commitment. International Agreements, Public & Private:- Those are the agreements which lay down rules explicitly recognized by the disputing nations and which are of a wider scope than any other source, whether those agreements are public ones that apply to all nations committed to them or private agreements that apply to a limited number of nations. The public agreements include the UN Charter, the Maritime Law Agreement, the 1915 Vienna Water Treaty, the Rome Agreement of 1958, the Helsinki Water Agreement of 1966, etc. The private agreements which apply to a limited number of nations include the Mekong River Agreement, the Senegal River Agreement and the Nile Water Agreement between Egypt and Sudan, 1959. The Ethio-Sudanese Agreements Before & After Sudan Independence: Mentioned below are some international agreements and arrangements on use of the Nile water concluded during the colonization era between a number of nations that include the Sudan and Ethiopia and are now rejected by Ethiopia on grounds that they were signed by the colonization governments and countries to protect their own interests rather than the interests of the colonized peoples. But many of those agreements remained valid and binding, particularly those dealing with demarcation of the borders between the nations. These agreements include the following.

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