

# DARFUR FAST FOR LIFE

Standing in Solidarity with our Sudanese Brothers and Sisters and Children

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **DAVID HODGES JOINS DARFUR FAST FOR LIFE**

*Grammy Award-Winning Writer, Producer and Artist Lends His Voice To Darfur*

**Los Angeles, CA** — Today, recording artist and former Evanescence keyboardist and writer David Hodges announced that he will fast in solidarity with the refugees suffering in Darfur. Hodges' fast follows the fasting chain kicked off yesterday on Capitol Hill by U.S. Congresswoman and Congressional Black Caucus Chairwoman Barbara Lee (D-CA). Representative Lee has long been a leader in promoting policies that foster international peace, security and human rights. In addition, she has been a leader in the bipartisan effort in Congress to end the ongoing genocide in Darfur, Sudan, including through passage of legislation she authorized to allow divestment from companies doing business in Sudan.

Hodges said, "I have been so blessed to live in a place and time in history that I am not in constant fear of starvation, malnutrition, violence against myself and my family, and displacement from my home and community. May I not take these things for granted. And may we not, as a community of people given a voice, stand idly by as the basic human rights of the Sudanese people are being stripped away. In a time where the world is so politically, economically, and socially connected, may we be good stewards of our privilege and influence that the mass atrocities in Darfur be put to an end. While mine is just one voice, I join the voices of many; may our voices be heard."

Hodges hails from Little Rock, Arkansas and as a former writer and keyboardist of the band Evanescence, he and his band mates won 2 Grammys for their debut album *Fallen*, which went on to sell 15 million copies. Hodges then wrote and produced Kelly Clarkson's biggest worldwide single to date, "Because of You", which appeared on Clarkson's 12 million-selling *Breakaway* album and garnered him the 2007 BMI Song of the Year honor. Hodges also penned "What About Now" for Daughtry's 4x platinum debut album, and wrote the first hit single "Crush" for American Idol's David Archuleta. He has recently written songs with Celine Dion, Carrie Underwood, Train, Dashboard Confessional, Reba McEntire, Nick Lachey, Backstreet Boys, and Amie Miriello. Hodges is preparing to release his debut solo album under Reprise Records later this year.

Hodges joins a string of fasters including Actress-Activist Mia Farrow, Virgin CEO Sir Richard Branson, Recording Artist Peter Gabriel, Recording Artist Jon Foreman, Olympic Swimming Champion Josh Davis, U.S. Representative Donald Payne and U.S. Representative Barbara Lee among others. A complete list of fasters and video and blog posts are available at [www.fastdarfur.org](http://www.fastdarfur.org).

**The Darfur Fast for Life** | We are leaders, activists and citizens around the world who fast in solidarity with the people of Darfur because they do not have a choice. We fast as a personal expression of outrage at a world that has allowed the suffering of millions of innocent people. We fast because as we simply watched, Darfur's defenseless people were forced into wretched camps where today they are facing starvation and disease. We fast because those in positions of authority who know what is right and just, could and should do more to alleviate their suffering and bring peace, protection, and justice to the people of Sudan.

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We fast for Darfur's courageous people —because we yearn for a world where human rights are respected and a life of dignity is the legacy for every man, woman and child.

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