

Clémentine B Igilibambe's abstract

The Rwandan Genocide and Civil war of 1994 was one of the most intensive killing campaigns in human history. A total of about 800,000 people including Tutsis, Hutus and Twas were killed in four months. This ethnic conflict was the result of tensions between the majority Hutus and the minority Tutsis that began as early as colonialism. The effects of colonialism persist among Rwandans both in Rwanda and abroad.

Fourteen years later, human rights abuses, discrimination, hatred and injustice persevere. The local Gacaca courts seem to create more fear and hatred among the Rwandans. How has the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda helped with the healing process? How can the people of Rwanda reconcile when the truth is still not being told? How can they reconcile with so much one-sided politics? Can Hutus and Tutsis live together in peace and harmony? Can the international community assist in the reconciliation process? What is the role of the Rwandan youth? Truth, peace and justice among Rwandans all over the world are essential in order for the healing process to begin.