

Rwanda Direct Newsletter

Spring 2024



30 Years Remembrance of the Genocide

Dear friends of Rwanda Direct,

Please forgive this additional letter so soon after the Spring edition. This letter, though, has one point and one request. It is to remember before God the horrific events of 1994 when at least 800,000 people were killed in the Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda. The 30th year of remembrance starts this Sunday, 7th April.

Rev Dr Appolinaire Hakizimana, Country Director of Scripture Union has written this letter that we wish to share overleaf.

SPECIAL PRAYER TIME

On the 12th April at 8.00 p.m. we have a time of prayer for Rwanda on Zoom and we will be joined by Rt Revd Louis Muvunyi. Bishop Louis survived the genocide as he was studying outside the country, but he lost many, many of his family. If you are not yet on the Prayer Time mailing, do join us by contacting Barbara Willingham on the phone number below or through the email address. Barbara will then send you the Zoom details so that you can join in.

Newsletter Circulation – Spread the News Further

If you know of others who may be interested in helping the Church in Rwanda, do share this Newsletter with them and suggest they get in contact with us as below.

All data is stored with due regard to GDPR legislation, so we will not share contact details with anyone without permission.

Website – www.rwandadirect.org.uk

Email – info@rwandadirect.org.uk or phone 07941 916205

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LIGUE POUR LA LECTURE DE LA BIBLE AU RWANDA (LLBR)

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Dear Friends / Partners

RE: Special Prayer Request

Greetings from Scripture Union Rwanda!

I am writing to remind you that from April 7th/2024 we are starting the commemoration of the Genocide against Tutsis of 1994 in our country of Rwanda. It is a time when the Rwandan community especially the survivors of that Genocide turn their eyes back at that horrible time, asking many questions; including: Where was the World during the time of our suffering; Where was God during the time of our suffering? What was the mistake we did to the communities that we deserved to be killed?

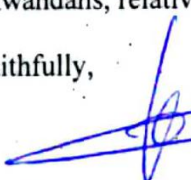
Therefore, since there hasn't yet been an answer to those questions, commemoration of the Genocide against Tutsis is not something easy, not only for the community of Rwanda, but also for the Church Leaders and Christian Institutions like us, SU Rwanda. For that reason, this is a time that requires many prayers, to be more useful during the grieving of individuals and the whole community in general.

The Church of Rwanda is criticized for two reasons; while some church leaders betrayed their frocks during the time of the genocide against Tutsis, other church leaders were directly involved in that Genocide. We do pray and hope that the church in Rwanda today could make difference, as the Church encourage the community and individuals to be engaged in the healing process from the wounds of that Genocide. Moreover, the Rwandan church of today is encouraged in the community reconciliation, social and psychological healing.

However, we thank God because of the Government and churches' achievements from 1994 up to today. The community is working together to solve issues that were caused by that Genocide. We appreciate our friends and partners who have been together with us since then. We have many reasons to give thanks to our Lord Jesus, and we keep having hope in Him.

Please, take your time to pray with Rwandans to take courage and strength as we remember our fellow Rwandans, relatives and friends who were killed during the time of the Genocide.

Yours faithfully,


Rev. Dr. Hakizimana Appolinaire

Country Director of Scripture Union Rwanda.