

Largely frozen in time thanks to more than a decade of conflict, there has been very little development in Burundi's capital, Bujumbura. The steamy little city retains much of its grandiose colonial town planning, with wide boulevards and imposing public buildings.

See Article History Alternative Titles: The landlocked country, a historic kingdom, is one of the few countries in Africa whose borders were not determined by colonial rulers. Power, however, has long rested with the Tutsi minority, which historically has controlled the army and most of the economy, particularly the lucrative international export of coffee. Few real cultural differences are distinguishable between the two peoples, and both speak Rundi Kirundi. Such linguistic homogeneity is rare in sub-Saharan Africa and emphasizes the historically close cultural and ethnic ties among the peoples in Burundi. Even so, ethnic conflict between the Hutu and Tutsi has plagued the country since it gained independence from Belgium in 1962, at a great cost in human life and property. Burundians are now faced with the task of quelling ethnic dissent, promoting unity, and rebuilding the country. Gitega lies near the southernmost source of the Nile River and a spectacular waterfall, Chutes de la Kagera. Land Burundi is bounded by Rwanda to the north, Tanzania to the east and south, Lake Tanganyika to the southwest, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the west. In the northwest the narrow Imbo valley extends southward from Rwanda to Lake Tanganyika and includes the Rusizi River, which separates Burundi from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Farther south and west, along the shores of Lake Tanganyika, the land rises steeply to form part of the Congo-Nile divide, which reaches elevations of 8,000 feet (2,438 metres). East of the divide, plateaus slope gently to elevations of 5,000 feet (1,524 metres) to the southeast; the Ruvyironza River flows northeast, cutting through the plateaus. A few valleys and shallow lakes occupy the northern frontier near Rwanda. The best soils are formed from alluvium, but they are confined primarily to the lower portions of larger river valleys. Soil erosion, caused by a combination of steep slopes and frequent rainfall, is a serious problem and creates a major constraint on agriculture; ironically, erosion is further exacerbated by the clearing of land for agricultural purposes. At lower elevations the annual average is only slightly higher—for example, at Bujumbura in the Imbo valley. Annual precipitation, which averages 60 to 70 inches (1,524 to 1,778 mm) on the shores of Lake Tanganyika, is only about 40 inches (1,016 mm) in the highest-lying areas. There is a short dry season from May to August. Plant and animal life The natural forest vegetation has almost entirely disappeared from the landscape and is limited now primarily to higher mountain slopes. On the plateaus, wooded savanna is found at higher elevations, giving way to more-open savanna on the lower slopes. The elephant population has virtually disappeared, leaving only warthogs, baboons, and antelope as the less endangered species. People Ethnic groups As in Rwanda, Tutsi and Hutu are the principal ethnic communities, with the Hutu constituting the overwhelming majority and the Tutsi a significant minority. Other groups include the Twa Pygmies and a sprinkling of Swahili-speaking peoples from Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Common perceptions of Tutsi as uniformly tall and graceful and of Hutu as short and stocky do not fit the reality of physical variations because the two groups have frequently intermarried over the centuries. Traditionally, the Hutu have been farmers, while the Tutsi have been pastoralists. Some regional status differences exist among the Tutsi, with the Tutsi-Banyaruguru clan found primarily in the north of the country and the Tutsi-Bahima primarily in the south. Historically, the Tutsi-Banyaruguru generally dominated precolonial Burundi, while the Tutsi-Bahima have generally dominated Burundi since independence. Society was originally organized around family and clan loyalties. Beginning in the 16th century, these ties were adapted to include a Tutsi monarchy. Intervening between the king mwami and the masses was a princely class ganwa that kept the ordinary Tutsi and Hutu on equal footing. The relationship between the two groups began to change during the colonial period, when the German and Belgian colonial administrators favoured the Tutsi over the Hutu. Swahili, the language of trade, is widely spoken in Bujumbura, as is French. Religion The country has a relatively large Christian population, with about three-fifths of Burundians identifying as Roman Catholic and more than one-eighth identifying as Protestant. A large minority and even some Roman Catholics also practice traditional religion. Muslims

constitute less than one-twentieth of the population. Church-state relations have been a focal point of ethnic tension since the s. The government of the Second Republic â€™87 attempted to curtail the social and educational activities of the Roman Catholic Church because its policies were thought to favour the Hutu over the Tutsi. After a military coup in , the issue was temporarily defused, yet the church continues to be seen by many Tutsi as a dangerously subversive institution. Settlement patterns The hilly geography of the country discourages village formation, and traditional family compounds tend to be dispersed rather than concentratedâ€™a key settlement characteristic of the area. This pattern has encouraged isolation rather than community and has contributed to the ongoing ethnic conflict between the Hutu and the Tutsi. Nonetheless, Burundi is heavily populated, with one of the highest densities in Africa. Urban centres are rare, the exceptions including Gitega in the central part of the country, Muyinga and Ngozi in the north, and Bujumbura , the largest city, sprawled along the northern tip of Lake Tanganyika. Civil unrest that began in the early to mids forced thousands of Hutu to settle in refugee camps spread throughout the countryside and in neighbouring countries. Around the same time, Burundi received an influx of refugees from Rwanda, fleeing from the genocide and subsequent political strife in their country. Rwandans also sought refuge in Burundi in the early 21st century. A large portion of the refugee population consists of women and children. Almost half of the population is under age Life expectancy in Burundi, although low by world standards, is about average for Africa. Economy Agriculture is the economic mainstay of the country, with industrial activities accounting for less than one-fourth of the gross domestic product. Coffee, chiefly arabica, is the principal export crop and source of foreign exchange. Cash crops of lesser importance include cotton and tea. Staple food crops include beans, corn maize , cassava manioc , and sorghum. Arabica coffee traditionally has been a major commodity for Burundi. The production of coffee dropped by about half in the s because of civil strife but has since rebounded. Tea and sugar are also major export crops. Large areas of cotton are cultivated , mainly in the Imbo valley; however, cotton output has decreased to less than half the production levels of the early s. Although the density of livestock results in overgrazing, the commercial value of livestock production is virtually nil. Lake Tanganyika and the smaller lakes and rivers of the interior are rich sources of tilapia and other fish. Small farms line the slopes in the highlands of Burundi, one of the most densely populated regions in central Africa. Geologic assessments also indicate possible major petroleum reserves beneath Lake Tanganyika and in the Rusizi valley. Mineral production, however, is generally limited and includes niobium, tantalum, gold, tin, and wolframite a source of tungsten. Peat and firewood are the two major local sources of fuel. Electrical production is mostly hydro-generated, a portion of which is imported. Manufacturing Industrial activity is limited to small-scale processing and manufacturing plants, concentrated mostly in Bujumbura. Among the largest industrial enterprises are a brewery and a textile company. Agricultural products such as cotton, coffee, tea, and sugar are also processed in the country. Despite an environment long characterized by civil unrest, the government has remained committed to protecting the industrial sector. Beginning in the s, Burundi experienced a growing trade deficit and increasingly heavy dependence on foreign aid that continued into the 21st century. In , however, Burundi benefited from international debt forgiveness. On average, export earnings are small less than half the cost of imports , which reflects a steady growth of consumption and investment coupled with a sharp decline in the international price of coffee and rising import prices. Labour and taxation About nine-tenths of the labour force of Burundi is engaged in agricultural activity. Revenue sources include taxes on domestic goods and services, international trade , import duties, and social security contributions. Transportation and telecommunications In the absence of railroads, only three major routes are available across the country: A secondary road network connects Bujumbura to various provincial capitals. An international airport is located in Bujumbura. By the early 21st century, telephone services had increased, as had the number of mobile cellular phones in use. Internet access is also expanding in Burundi. Government and society Constitutional framework Under the constitution, power is to be shared by the Hutu and the Tutsi. Executive power is vested in the president , who is ordinarily elected directly to a five-year term, renewable once. The president appoints the Council of Ministers. There is a bicameral legislature, with power exercised by the National Assembly, which is mandated to comprise 60 percent Hutu and 40 percent Tutsi, and by the Senate, which includes one Hutu and one Tutsi representative from each province, with three seats reserved

for former presidents. In addition, three seats in each house are reserved for the Twa, and at least 30 percent of the seats in both houses are to be held by women. Members of both houses, most of whom are elected by universal suffrage, serve five-year terms. Parliament House, Bujumbura, Burundi. Power at the local level rests in the hands of centrally appointed authorities. Courts of appeal, administrative courts, a constitutional court, and tribunals of first instance, trade, and labour also exist in Burundi. In the United Nations Security Council adopted a resolution to create a National Truth and Reconciliation Commission, as well as a special court to prosecute war crimes and human rights violations. Political process Political parties are legally recognized only if they show a national rather than a regional or ethnic membership. Female representation in Burundi government increased following the constitutional mandate that at least 30 percent of the seats in both houses be held by women. Indeed, in the post-transition government installed in , women constituted about one-third of both the National Assembly and the Senate. Historically, the bulk of the armed forces were Tutsi-Banyaruguru. A new armed forces, mandated to comprise equal numbers of Hutu and Tutsi, was created in December and absorbed more than 20, former rebels. Burundi troops have participated in international peacekeeping missions in Africa. Health and welfare The most common health problems stem from communicable diseases and nutritional deficiencies, which account for most infant and child mortality. Those suffering from malnutrition receive some relief from feeding centres set up by international aid workers. Malaria, cholera, measles, influenza, and diarrhea are the major causes of death. Sleeping sickness is widespread in the lakeshore areas, and pulmonary diseases tuberculosis are common in the central highlands. At the beginning of the 21st century, the number of reported cases appeared to stabilize in urban locales but had escalated at an alarming rate in rural areas. Burundi has limited hospital facilities and an insufficient number of medical personnel; these resources have been further strained by civil strife.

Chapter 2 : Life beyond the protests | The Wider Image | Reuters

Burundi's capital, Bujumbura, lies at the northeastern end of Lake Tanganyika. The old section of the city comprises buildings from the German and Belgian colonial periods, as well as a central market filled with hundreds of vendors' booths.

A local conservation group that conducts birdwatching tours of Rusizi Park and other areas. Some of their guides speak English. Culture[edit] Check local flyers for information on Burundian drummer performances, or just be on the look out for a wedding reception taking place somewhere. With help from locals, you can also arrange to visit a drum troupe, get a lesson, and then see a private performance. Extensive monthly film, theatre and music programmes available from their offices. CCF also offers courses in French and Kiswahili individual and group. The only cinema in the country, and a place to enjoy some air conditioning on hot dry season nights. Sports[edit] Several swimming pools available for who wants to cool down from the hot days. Federation Football soccer games at the Stade in Rohero are at Entrance as of late is FBU regular and FBU first class. Entente Sportive, Avenue du Stade. Daily open from 07 – 19 hours, FBU Old spacious colonial entourage. There are separate pool for children and even 3 m and 5 m high-dives. Length of the pool is 33 metres. Daily open until FBU during the week and FBU during the weekend. Hotel pool, but in the weekends meeting point for the ex-pat community of Bujumbura. Breakfast and lunch served at the poolside. The Belvedere and Chez Vaya restaurants are nearby and offer equally good views - although during weekdays they only open at Remember that at Gar du Nord bus station there is only one ATM around which sometimes is out of service, so come prepared. Groceries[edit] Most of the things that one needs can be found in one of the stalls in the Central Market. Stiff bargaining is needed to get it for the right price. Small supermarkets can be found all over town. They normally stock luxury items at a luxury price. Do not expect too much, but Dimitri has shopping trolleys! Always busy, but then it offers a wide variety of meat, cheese and charcuterie. Opposite the butcher you find vendors with exclusive and rare vegetables and in the rainy season wild mushrooms of all kinds. The best place to buy souvenirs is the small curio market on Avenue de Stade. Eat[edit] The people in Bujumbura love their food and enjoy eating out with friends or family. A beef or fish brochette, chips or fried plantain and a fresh salad is available in all restaurants. But take your time. All food is freshly prepared and the cooks take time. Waiting an hour before the food arrives is certainly not abnormal. Restaurants are scattered all over town, but the best are located in Rohero and Kiriri. Some restaurants that are worth a visit are:

Chapter 3 : Burundiâ€™United States relations - Wikipedia

Bujumbura (formerly Usumbura) Capital and chief port of Burundi, e central Africa, at the ne end of Lake Tanganyika. Founded in as part of German East Africa, it was the capital of the Belgian trust territory of Ruanda-Urundi after World War I and remained capital of Burundi when the country achieved independence in

Tensions in Burundi have been mounting for months in the lead up to the recent civil protests and failed military coup. However, nothing about the current situation was not predictable. Since the end of the Civil War in , underlying development problems have been progressively worsening. Burundi has been ranked the hungriest country in the world for three years in a row; it is also the second poorest. In March , our Conflict Scan showed that an overwhelming majority felt that the security situation was getting worse. Land is the greatest cause of conflict in Burundi, a severely overpopulated country with the third highest fertility rate in the world. The government has strained in recent years to manage the massive influx of returnees, originally displaced by the genocide of and the Civil War. The move stemmed from allegations of corruption, accusations of catalyzing ethnic divisions, and several cases of CNTB employees being attacked by angry mobs. Land conflicts are indeed representative of a wider range of issues. Land in Burundi is a matter of life and death; 89 percent of the population are farmers, unable to keep their families fed without access to their own land for cultivating. Agricultural productivity has been limited due to war, environmental factors, and inefficient farming practices. Dependency on land is increased by a very poor education system, extremely high rates of illiteracy, and insufficient economic growth, which have stunted opportunities for non-agriculture related work. Resource and food scarcity are persistent problems that will continue to arise, regardless of the outcome of the current conflict, or election results. To solve them, Burundi needs greater investment in education, efficient agriculture practices, and business development. They are told to leave refugee camps with the promise that their land will be returned to them when they do. Instead they are habitually marginalized, and treated as the source of all problems. They have to fight to regain their land, because multiple families are recognized as legitimate owners; those that have documents proving the land belonged to them before they left, and those who legitimately purchased it while it was abandoned. As the returnees originally fled because of ethnic violence, they are often grouped by ethnicity. This creates very dangerous divides in society, and has the greatest potential for reigniting conflict. The risk is heightened by the lack of a functioning Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The international community needs to support Burundi in managing land conflicts and compensation packages for non-land recipients, as well as endorse a functioning Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Corruption and abuses of power fuel the dissatisfaction of the public, which extends to the justice system. This visible lack of confidence in institutions is a long-term problem that will continue to resurface and jeopardize peace in the country. The space for dialogue around development and peace is still scarce. Many report that authorities are actively blocking community gatherings. In our research we have found that youth are the most boxed out of opportunities to participate in dialogue and constructive community activities centered around peacebuilding. In a country where two thirds of the population are under 25, and almost 50 percent are under 16, this represents a real long-term problem. Local NGOs need to support spaces for dialogue, to reinforce community participation in peacebuilding. Peace is necessary for successful sustainable development, but development is also essential to providing an infrastructure for sustainable peace. People cannot be expected to focus on long-term issues when they are worried about day-to-day survival. In many parts of the capital, Bujumbura, prices have doubled overnight. People are unable to travel safely to and from work to earn a living. Over the last three months, scarcity of fuel has severely impacted the business of taxi and bus drivers, as well as anyone who relies on public transportation, increasing tensions and perceived insecurity. Many international donors are pulling their expatriate staff and funding, which is also contributing to a climate of fear. The intense dissatisfaction and unhappiness of the population are not going to fade even if elections are conducted in a fair manner. The only way to really solve this crisis, and keep history from repeating itself, is to provide greater and sustained diplomatic and development assistance.

Chapter 4 : What Is The Capital Of Burundi? - calendrierdelascience.com

Bujumbura is the capital city of Burundi, a recognition the city received after the country gained independence from Belgium in Bujumbura is also the biggest city in Burundi and covers an area of square miles and has a population of over , residents.

Between the 7th and 10th centuries AD , the Hutu, a Bantu agricultural people, occupied the region, probably coming from the Congo Basin. In the 15th and 16th centuries, tall warriors, the Tutsi, believed to have come originally from Ethiopia, entered the area. The Tutsi, a nomadic pastoral people, gradually subjugated the Hutu and other inhabitants of the region. A feudal social system based on caste—the conquering Tutsi and the subject Hutu—became the dominant feature of social relations, and especially of economic and political relations. The Hutu did the farming and grew the food in return for cattle, but generally had no part in government. The Tutsi were the ruling caste and did no manual labor. To a certain extent, however, the castes were open to each other. Custom allowed a particularly worthy Twa or Hutu to rise to the rank of a Tutsi; conversely, an impoverished Tutsi who had fallen from his former estate could be assimilated into the Hutu. The Tutsi conquest initiated a process of political integration. The ownership of land was gradually transferred from the Hutu tribes to the mwami, the king of the Tutsi. The first mwami, Ntare I Rushatsi, is thought to have come to power in the 16th century. While the ruling mwami was in theory an absolute king, he was often regarded as primus inter pares among the Ganwa, aristocrats of royal lineage. But he had his court and his army and could not easily be removed from office. They paddled to the north end of the lake in their search for the headwaters of the Nile. Subsequently, other explorers, principally German, visited Burundi. The first Roman Catholic missionaries came in . The German authorities made no changes in the indigenous organization. They administered the territory through the traditional authorities in accordance with the laws and customs of the region. However, the history of Burundi under the German administration was marked by constant factional struggles and rivalry, in contrast to the peaceful state of affairs in Rwanda. When Belgian troops occupied the country in , they found it in dissension and the three-year-old mwami, Mwambutsa IV, the center of court intrigue. In , the League of Nations awarded Belgium a mandate in the region, which was known as Ruanda-Urundi present-day Rwanda and Burundi. The Belgians adopted the same policy of indirect administration employed by the Germans, retaining the entire established structure. On 13 October , shortly after Prince Rwagasore had become premier, he was assassinated. Two leaders of the Christian Democratic Party were charged, convicted of responsibility for the murder, and executed. The UN had strongly urged that Urundi and Ruanda come to independence united, since their relationship had long been close, their economies were integrated, and their people were ethnically one. However, the UN reluctantly decided that there was insufficient support for the union in both regions, and on 27 June , the UN General Assembly passed a resolution that called for the creation of two independent nations, Burundi and Rwanda. On 29 November , Mwami Ntare V in turn was overthrown by a military coup headed by Premier Michel Micombero, and Burundi was declared a republic with Micombero as president. In , an alleged Hutu coup attempt ended in the arrest of 30 prominent businessmen and officials. Another Hutu-led coup attempt in April led to widespread civil war, in which mass killings of Hutu by Tutsi and of Tutsi by Hutu were reported. On 21 July , the UN High Commissioner for Refugees reported that there were at least 85, Hutu refugees from Burundi, of whom an estimated 40, were in Tanzania, 35, in Zaire, and 10, in Rwanda. President Micombero later conceded that more than , persons had been killed in the course of the insurgency. Most of the deaths were among the Hutu, and educated Hutu were systematically massacred. By the end of , however, the government was fully in control. On 1 November , President Micombero was stripped of all powers by a military coup led by Lt. The new regime, like the old one, was dominated by Tutsi. In reality, however, the military remained active in both the party and in the government. A new constitution was adopted in a national referendum in , and a National Assembly was elected in . Bagaza was reelected unopposed to a new five-year term in , but in September , he was overthrown by the military while he was attending a conference in Canada. Pierre Buyoya became president. Ethnic violence erupted again in . In response to rumors of the murder of Tutsis in the north, the

army massacred between 5, and 25, Hutu. Over , were left homeless and 60, took refuge in Rwanda. Buyoya agreed to the restoration of multiparty politics in , and a new constitution was approved in March Ndadaye began to talk of reform of the Tutsi-dominated armed forces. But, on 21 October , Ndadaye and several cabinet members were assassinated by Tutsi soldiers. Ethnic violence continued, with some 10, murdered and , fleeing the country. As many as , may have been killed in this round of violence. The military coup attempt, however, failed. But his coalition was unable to restore order. In an effort to negotiate peace, he went to Tanzania for consultations. Two other members of his cabinet also died in the attack. The constitutionally provided line of succession left the post of president to Sylvestre Ntibantunganya. He served in a transitional capacity until October when the Assembly elected him to serve a four-year term. In contrast to the genocide that erupted in Rwanda following the April killing of the presidents, Ntibantunganya managed to maintain relative stability in Burundi for a time. Sporadic violence continued, prompting the government to impose a curfew in Bujumbura in December. The death toll attributable to ethnic strife and political problems continued to mount during the first half of In alone, an estimated , had died in ethnic violence between Hutus and Tutsis. The averting of a citywide strike in the capital of Bujumbura in early February helped ease the ethnic tension, but the relief was short-lived. This was followed later in the month by fighting in the central market that left four people dead. By 25 March, thousands of people were fleeing Bujumbura to escape the violence, and hundreds were feared dead in new fighting. The exodus grew to 50, refugees from the city with a total population of , Two suburbs where clashes had occurred were practically deserted. The flare-up also affected refugees from neighboring Rwanda who had fled to seven northern Burundi camps to escape Hutu-Tutsi violence in their own country. An estimated 20, refugees undertook a two-day trek to Tanzania to escape the violence at one of the camps, which left 12 dead and 22 wounded. The seven camps, which once held more than 25, Rwandans, were closed by August as the last group of the refugees returned to its homeland. The OAS mission was aimed at ending months of fighting between the majority Hutus and the Tutsis before the clashes could develop into an all-out war. On 25 July , Maj. Pierre Buyoya seized power in a coup backed by the Burundi military. Soon thereafter, six East African nations cut trade ties to the country and imposed an economic embargo after demanding Maj. The African leaders also demanded that Maj. Buyoya, president of Burundi from to , begin peace talks with Hutu rebels. Yet ethnic violence escalated in the months following Maj. In his role as special peace envoy for Burundi, Nelson Mandela asked all parties the government, rebel forces, and international organizations to sit down and discuss the issues. In the early months of several such meetings were held in Tanzania. Seeking to secure national borders, Burundian troops intervened in the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in , but were redeployed to Burundi to engage rebels operating within the country and from across the Congolese border. Under the Arusha peace deal, a three-year transitional government was inaugurated 1 November On 30 April Pierre Buyoyo stepped down under the terms of the accord, making way for a Hutu vice president, Domitien Ndayizeye, to assume the reigns for the remaining 18 months. On 3 February , the African Union authorized an African Mission in Burundi AMIB , which fielded troops from South Africa, Ethiopia, and Mozambique to safeguard cantonment areas and to provide technical assistance to the disarmament and demobilization process. Because of delays in funding the mission, the Mozambicans and Ethiopians had only partially deployed by mid, and had not been able to stop the conflict. Also read article about Burundi from Wikipedia User Contributions: William Mar 30, 2: Comment about this article, ask questions, or add new information about this topic:

Chapter 5 : Bujumbura - Wikitravel

Bujumbura is the largest city and capital of Burundi. Get in [edit] You can get in via the airport, which is close to the city. 1st language is Kirundi, 2nd is French, only a few speak English.

History of Burundi Burundi is one of the few countries in Africa, along with its neighbour Rwanda among others such as Botswana, Lesotho, and Swaziland , to be a direct territorial continuation of a pre-colonial era African state. While the groups might have migrated to the area at different times and as distinctly different ethnic groups, the current distinctions are contemporary socio-cultural constructs. Initially the different ethnic groups lived together in relative peace. The first conflicts between ethnic groups can be dated back to the 17th century, when land was becoming ever more scarce because of the continuous growth in population. Kingdom of Burundi[edit] Main article: Kingdom of Burundi The first evidence of the Burundian state dates back to the late 16th century where it emerged on the eastern foothills. Over the following centuries it expanded, annexing smaller neighbours. The Kingdom of Burundi, or Urundi, in the Great Lakes region was a polity ruled by a traditional monarch with several princes beneath him; succession struggles were common. The Kingdom of Burundi was characterized by a hierarchical political authority and tributary economic exchange. By this time, the royal court was made up of the Tutsi-Banyaruguru, they had higher social status than other pastoralists such as the Tutsi-Hima. In the lower levels of this society were generally Hutu people, and at the very bottom of the pyramid were the Twa. The system had some fluidity however, some Hutu people belonged to the nobility and in this way also had a say in the functioning of the state. Hutu farmers that managed to acquire wealth and livestock were regularly granted the higher social status of Tutsi, some even made it to become close advisors of the Ganwa. On the other hand, there are also reports of Tutsi that lost all their cattle and subsequently lost their higher status and were called Hutu. Thus, the distinction between Hutu and Tutsi was also a socio-cultural concept, instead of a purely ethnic one. The location of the present-day city of Gitega served as an administrative centre for the Ruanda-Urundi region. The allied powers , the British Empire and Belgium launched a coordinated attack on the German colony. The German army stationed in Burundi was forced to retreat by the numerical superiority of the Belgian army and by 17 June , Burundi and Rwanda were occupied. After the war, as outlined in the Treaty of Versailles , Germany was forced to cede "control" of the Western section of the former German East Africa to Belgium. In practical terms it was considered part of the Belgian colonial empire. Ruanda-Urundi continued its kingship dynasty despite the invasion of Europeans. Chiefdoms were in charge of land, and lower sub-chiefdoms were established. Native authorities also had powers. Flag of the Kingdom of Burundi “ Independence Square and monument in Bujumbura. As a result of the Rwandan Revolution, many Rwandan Tutsi refugees arrived in Burundi during the period from to In the wake of the elections, on 13 October, the year-old Prince Rwagasore was assassinated , robbing Burundi of its most popular and well-known nationalist. The Tutsi dominated army, then led by Tutsi officer Captain Michel Micombero [52] purged Hutu from their ranks and carried out reprisal attacks which ultimately claimed the lives of up to 5, people in a precursor to the Burundian Genocide. In November that same year, the Tutsi Prime Minister, then-Captain Michel Micombero, carried out another coup , this time deposing Ntare, abolishing the monarchy and declaring the nation a republic , though his one-party government was effectively a military dictatorship. He imposed a staunch regime of law and order and sharply repressed Hutu militarism. Civil war and genocide against Hutu[edit] Further information: Burundian genocides In late April , two events led to the outbreak of the First Burundian Genocide. On 27 April , a rebellion led by Hutu members of the gendarmerie broke out in the lakeside towns of Rumonge and Nyanza-Lac and the rebels declared the short-lived Martyazo Republic. On 29 April , the year-old Ntare V was murdered. In subsequent months, the Tutsi-dominated government of Micombero used the army to combat Hutu rebels and commit genocide, murdering targeted members of the Hutu majority. The total number of casualties was never established, but contemporary estimates put the number of people killed between 80, and , In , Colonel Jean-Baptiste Bagaza , a Tutsi, led a bloodless coup to topple Micombero and set about promoting reform. During his tenure, Bagaza suppressed political opponents and religious freedoms.

Major Pierre Buyoya Tutsi overthrew Bagaza in , suspended the constitution and dissolved political parties. The government put the death toll at 5,[citation needed]; some international NGOs believed this understated the deaths. The new regime did not unleash the harsh reprisals of Its effort to gain public trust was eroded when it decreed an amnesty for those who had called for, carried out, and taken credit for the killings. Analysts have called this period the beginning of the "culture of impunity. They were arrested and jailed. A few weeks later, Buyoya appointed a new government, with an equal number of Hutu and Tutsi ministers. Buyoya also created a commission to address issues of national unity. An estimated total of , people died in Burundi from the various conflicts between and Both were described as genocides in the final report of the International Commission of Inquiry for Burundi presented in to the United Nations Security Council. He became the first Hutu head of state, leading a pro-Hutu government. In October , Tutsi soldiers assassinated Ndadaye, an act which resulted in a genocide against Tutsi, which led to years of violence between Hutu rebels and Tutsi majority army. It is estimated that some , people, mostly civilians, were killed in the years following the assassination. More refugees started fleeing to Rwanda. A coalition government involving 12 of the 13 parties was formed. A feared general massacre was averted, but violence broke out. A number of Hutu refugees in the capital,[citation needed] Bujumbura, were killed. The mainly Tutsi Union for National Progress withdrew from the government and parliament. He suspended the constitution and was sworn in as president in , this was the start of his second term as president, after his first term from to In response to rebel attacks, the government forced much of the population to move to refugee camps. The agreements took four years to plan. Belligerents of the Second Congo War. Burundi backed the rebels. On 28 August , a transitional government for Burundi was planned as a part of the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement. The transitional government was placed on a trial basis for five years. After several aborted cease-fires, a peace plan and power-sharing agreement has been relatively successful. Throughout the year, elections for parliament and president occurred. The peace talks took the form of Track I mediations. This method of negotiation can be defined as a form of diplomacy involving governmental or intergovernmental representatives, who may use their positive reputations, mediation or the "carrot and stick" method as a means of obtaining or forcing an outcome, frequently along the lines of "bargaining" or "win-lose". It was to take place in two major steps. First, a transitional power-sharing government would be established, with the presidents holding office for three-year terms. The second objective involved a restructuring of the armed forces, where the two groups would be represented equally. As the protracted nature of the peace talks demonstrated, the mediators and negotiating parties confronted several obstacles. First, the Burundian officials perceived the goals as "unrealistic" and viewed the treaty as ambiguous, contradictory and confusing. Second, and perhaps most importantly, the Burundians believed the treaty would be irrelevant without an accompanying cease fire. This would require separate and direct talks with the rebel groups. The main Hutu party was sceptical of the offer of a power-sharing government; they alleged that they had been deceived by the Tutsi in past agreements. In , the Burundian President signed the treaty, as well as 13 of the 19 warring Hutu and Tutsi factions. Disagreements persisted over which group would preside over the nascent government, and when the ceasefire would begin. The spoilers of the peace talks were the hardliner Tutsi and Hutu groups who refused to sign the accord; as a result, violence intensified. Three years later at a summit of African leaders in Tanzania, the Burundian president and the main opposition Hutu group signed an accord to end the conflict; the signatory members were granted ministerial posts within the government. However, smaller militant Hutu groups – such as the Forces for National Liberation – remained active. UN involvement[edit] This section has multiple issues. Please help improve it or discuss these issues on the talk page. This section relies largely or entirely on a single source. Relevant discussion may be found on the talk page. Please help improve this article by introducing citations to additional sources. March This section needs to be updated. Please update this article to reflect recent events or newly available information. March Learn how and when to remove this template message Between and , many rounds of peace talks, overseen by regional leaders in Tanzania, South Africa and Uganda , gradually established power-sharing agreements to satisfy the majority of the contending groups. Initially the South African Protection Support Detachment was deployed to protect Burundian leaders returning from exile. These forces became part of the African Union

Mission to Burundi , deployed to help oversee the installation of a transitional government. In June , the UN stepped in and took over peacekeeping responsibilities as a signal of growing international support for the already markedly advanced peace process in Burundi. The mission has been allotted 5, military personnel, civilian police and about 1, international and local civilian personnel. The mission has been functioning well. It has greatly benefited from the transitional government, which has functioned and is in the process of transitioning to one that will be popularly elected. By June , the group had stopped fighting and its representatives were brought back into the political process. All political parties have accepted a formula for inter-ethnic power-sharing: Disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration were done in tandem with elections preparations. In May, June and August , three separate elections were also held at the local level for the Parliament and the presidency. While there are still some difficulties with refugee returns and securing adequate food supplies for the war-weary population, the mission managed to win the trust and confidence of a majority of the formerly warring leaders, as well as the population at large.

Chapter 6 : Bujumbura – Travel guide at Wikivoyage

Burundi's Brutal Civil War Nears Its End. The frequency of ethnic clashes increased, developing into a low-intensity civil war. A six-nation regional proposal to send troops into Burundi to maintain peace and order was devised in July

But a group repeatedly named in stories of detention and harassment is the feared youth wing of the ruling party, the Imbonerakure. Critics say they have never fully shaken off the mentality of war, although the government insists they are just a political group. They also appear to be involved in reported efforts to turn the conflict into an ethnic one. Burundi neighbours Rwanda and has a similar ethnic make-up to the country whose genocide in still casts long shadows of shame and fear. Like Rwanda, Burundi has also seen bitter, genocidal wars between Hutu and Tutsi. A carefully structured peace deal that ended the most recent war in had defused many of those tensions, creating an ethnic balance across the military, government and even state-owned firms. Groups such as the Imbonerakure are outside those formal power structures and undermine them. The army is already divided. Last month a senior army officer seen as close to Nkurunziza was shot dead while reading a noticeboard inside military headquarters. What can that point to but a very high risk? It was later colonised by Germany and then Belgium. When Hutus win a majority in parliamentary elections three years later, he refuses to appoint a Hutu prime minister. In army chief Michel Micombero seizes power. Micombero is ousted in a military coup. A year later thousands of Hutus are massacred by Tutsis. Many more flee to Rwanda. In October, Tutsi soldiers assassinate the president, sparking revenge killings of Tutsis and then army reprisals. It is the start of an ethnic conflict that will claim more than , lives. He wins a nationwide poll in after opposition parties boycott it, and in argues that his unusual route to office allows him to defy the constitution and stand for one more term. A campaign of violence, murder and intimidation sparks a regional refugee crisis, destroys the economy and isolates Burundi. The African Union considers sending in peacekeeping troops.

Chapter 7 : Islam in Burundi - Wikipedia

The black diamonds of Angola --The long march of the tigers --The end of history in Bujumbura? -- The headaches of Carlos Castañeda -- The pharaoh and the Nuba. Other Titles.

Get in[edit] You can get in via the airport, which is close to the city. Visa rules and prices change frequently. As of November , two different visas were available on arrival both at the airport and land borders - a one month, multiple entry visa costing USD90, and a 3 day 2 night transit visa for USD Visas can be obtained from embassies abroad prior to travel. As of late , rides within downtown are about Burundian francs; a ride from downtown to the beach clubs bora bora, club du lac tanganyika and saga beach were BIF Rides with the small yellow tuk tuk trikes are fun and usually half the price of a taxi. They are a great choice for a maximum of 2 persons without baggage. You can go only until the boundary of the city center as Tuk tuks are banned from the very city center. A even cheaper option is a moto-taxi single seat on a motorbike, dangerous costing BIF a journey, but these were recently banned from the city centre for safety reasons. Burundians typically rely on the many mini-buses, costing BIF to anywhere in city centre in mid, and BIF to the suburbs. The price is probably a bit higher today. The last mini-buses leave around It is not advised to walk at night after that; if you need to go anywhere, take a taxi. To catch a lift in any type of vehicle from the side of the road, hold out your hand with your palm facing upward. This works for taxis, buses, motorcycles, and all sorts of private and commercial vehicles. Mini-bus conductors will honk and use their fingers to show how many seats are available. If the bus is full, they will wave their hand with their palm facing downward. It is not uncommon for private vehicles to pick up foreigners requesting lifts during the daytime. They range from high-end SUVs driven by white-collar workers to flat bed pickup trucks where you must stand up. Payment is generally not expected for hitchhiking short distances, but working-class Burundians regularly give each other money for small favours, so there is no harm in offering. If you want to drive a car: It is advisable to do it like the burundians and honk before every potentially dangerous situation as many of them show poor situational awareness and driving style is "naturally impulsive". Sometimes gas stations run out of fuel for days. It is advisable to have the tank at least half full at all times. Small zoo and natural history museum. Exhibits include a chimpanzee fish from Lake Tanganyika, crocodiles, birds, and snakes. For about BIF2, per person, a guide will show you around. For extra money they will feed live rabbits and Guinea pigs to the crocodiles and snakes. Sometimes, local cultural events occur on the grounds, such as performances by the Burundian drummers. See hippos and crocodiles sunning themselves on the banks of the Rusizi River. There are also some amazing birds to be seen. For about BIF3, per person plus tip , a guide and a guard will join you in the car and give you a tour of the park. For BIF, you can have a boat tour for up to 8 people lasting 30 to 45 minutes. This will get you even closer to hippos, crocodiles, birds and out to Lake Tanganyika. Best time is the morning from Livingstone, I presume," but it has a gorgeous view of the lake. Livingstone and Stanley passed through the area and a monument has later been raised. Find a place to enjoy banana beer or maybe a Fanta and chit-chat with store keepers. Only the locals can be seen in the lake. Beaches are 20 Mintutes West of town in the vicinity of the airport. Bora Bora, Uvira Roadway. Beach Club west of the town where the young, beautiful and rich meet. Lovely garden and architecture, stunning views to the lake, Pool, Beach Volleyball. Beach with restaurant, entertainment complex, and hotel. Nice place to pass some time. Beach hut with restaurant. A local conservation group that conducts birdwatching tours of Rusizi Park and other areas. Some of their guides speak English. With help from locals, you can also arrange to visit a drum troupe, get a lesson, and then see a private performance. Extensive monthly film, theatre and music program available from their offices. CCF also offers courses in French and Kiswahili individual and group. The only cinema in the country, and a place to enjoy some air conditioning on hot dry season nights. Sports[edit] Several swimming pools available for who wants to cool down from the hot days. Federation Football soccer games at the Stade in Rohero are at There is a small bar on the overlook above the pool that is good for sundowners. Many people run up the mountain, through Kiriri to the University, a grueling run but worth the beer at the top. Entente Sportive, Av du Stade. Length of the pool 33m! Daily open till 20 hours. Hotel pool, but in the

weekends meeting point for the ex-pat community of Bujumbura. Breakfast and lunch served at the poolside. Viewpoints[edit] War Memorial at the top end of Ave Belvedere - for great sunset views. The Belvedere and Chez Vaya restaurants are nearby and offer equally good views - although during weekdays they only open at 6. Cash in Euros or USD recommended. When changing money at a forex bureau or on the street, be aware that only US dollar bills dated Series or newer will be accepted. Groceries[edit] Most of the things that one needs can be found in one of the stalls in the Central Market. Stiff bargaining is needed to get it for the right price. Little boys sell plastic bags for BIF at the market. The Central Market and the very crowded big vegetable market at the bus station is the favourite area of criminals. They will cut your bag to get your purse or mobile phone. Small supermarkets can be found all over town. They normally stock imported goods at a luxury price. The store is very clean, they have a great selection of vegetables, fresh meat, grilled chicken, milk, yoghurt, cheese, pastries, ice-cream, snacks, water, kitchenware, and the prices are very reasonable. The selection of fresh vegetables is very limited but you get cheese, snacks, sausage, chocolate, kitchenware, water, spices. Always busy, but then it offers a wide variety of meat, cheese and charcuterie. Opposite the shop you find vendors with exclusive and rare vegetables and in the rainy season wild mushrooms of all kinds. Be prepared for a repetitive approach and attention engaging you in persuasive sales techniques. The best place to buy souvenirs is the small curio market on Av de Stade. Eat[edit][add listing] The people in Bujumbura love their food and enjoy eating out with friends or family. A beef or fish brochette, chips or fried plantain and a fresh salad is available in all restaurants. But take your time. All food is freshly prepared and the cooks take time. Waiting an hour before the food arrives is certainly not abnormal. Restaurants are scattered all over town, but the best are located in Rohero and Kiriri. Some restaurants that are worth a visit are: Ask the taxi driver. Nice tiny garden, good for brunch on weekends, has wireless. Popular with business, government and expats. Bujacafe Av du 18 Septembre, good coffee, great croissants, located in a beautiful quiet garden, they also offer cakes, fresh juices and basic fastfood. Basic beer garden that serves a local speciality, beef "michopo", deliciously seasoned steamed beef served with little dough cubes. General Burundian dishes, but also Cameroonian food. Le Cafe Gourmand Avenue de France, popular french bakery opposite to Dimitri supermarket - Very sweet patisserie cakes, tartlettes, croissants, brownies , coffee, fresh juices, salads, sandwiches, panini, bread, baguette, nice view of the city from the terrace. Popular restaurant serving Burundian dishes. Busy for lunch, especially if you want a table upstairs. Menu items are not always available, so it is best to ask the server what is available. The Sangala fish topped with onions is excellent, and the stewed beef lunch only is very reasonably priced. Oasis Greek restaurant and pizza on the main drag in town - next to Havana. Pont Muha, continue Bld de la Liberte till you reach the river Muha. Best Burundian brochettes in town.

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Amid rising tensions in a region with a history of ethnic conflict, crowds of cheering, singing people streamed onto the streets of Bujumbura, the capital of Burundi, on a day that may amount to a coup prompted by a bid by President Pierre Nkurunziza to seek a third term in office. While recent.

It values in particular his wish to have a stronger collaboration between the Society of Jesus and Jesuit alumni and assures him that they will pray for the accomplishment of his mission. The General Assembly warmly thanks his Excellency Mr. Yves Sahinguvu, first vice-president of the Republic of Burundi, for taking an active part in the Congress, as an alumnus of Jesuit Fathers, and for constantly supporting its organisation. It assures him of its high esteem and warm wishes for his action in serving his country. Is deeply grateful to the Organising Committee of the Congress and to its president Mr. Congratulates them on the considerable work of preparation that they performed and on the outstanding success of this Congress. What have we done? What are we doing? What must we do? Brings its full support to the proposal of studying the establishment of an initiative for promoting superior education of excellence for the Great Lakes area. Jesuit alumni attach great importance to the organisation of quality teaching in schools, which includes notably a high level of social commitment among the teachers, the pupils and the alumni. This position is the logical consequence of our priority commitment for the deprived, who not only need such teaching but have a right to it. Any measure of public authority that prevents schools from ensuring that pupils and their parents are ready to comply with the pedagogic project of the school, is therefore to be regarded as a hindrance to such a teaching of excellence. During the last decades, the three countries of the Great Lakes area, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Burundi, have gone or are still going through massive criminal violence, whether ethnical, political or mafia-type, that have created huge human suffering reaching to the point of genocide. We believe that Jesuit alumni can contribute to restoring peace, starting with themselves. We therefore recommend that the concerned associations organise a gathering of alumni from the three countries, in which people are able to speak freely and frankly to each other, if needed with the presence of Jesuit fathers, in order to contribute to restore the sense of common good necessary to the resumption of development. The General Assembly is very pleased with the many and excellent conclusions and suggestions presented both by the working groups and by the young participants during the congress. As it cannot immediately draw up the many resolutions that might come out of these conclusions and suggestions, it entrusts the Council to analyse them as soon as possible, to draw an action plan from them for the four coming years, with objectives and deadlines for the implementation of this plan, for individual alumni, for their associations and for the World Union itself, and to make this plan public in three months at the latest. It wishes the Council to present an assessment of this action plan to the general assembly planned for Join the Wuja Community! WUJA " the World Union of Jesuit Alumni " brings together former pupils or students of Jesuit schools and universities in the entire world in order to build international relationships between these people, to contribute to the mission of the Society of Jesus and to promote the universal dynamic of Jesuit education. For these purposes, WUJA organizes world meetings of Alumni around themes related to the commitment in the world and the society in the perspective of Christian and humanistic values, as practiced and promoted by the Society of Jesus in its educational work.

Chapter 9 : Crisis in Burundi: a Development Problem | Search for Common Ground

Bujumbura: Bujumbura is the largest city and capital of Burundi. Get in You can get in via airport, which is close to the city. Visa rules and prices change frequently.