

Aim: How was the Rwandan genocide handled by the world powers?

Notes Rwanda

I. Background:

- Two Main Ethnic Groups
- Hutu and Tutsi
- Hutu were 90% of population
- Tutsi were considered aristocracy

II. Colonial Background

- Belgians received Rwanda after the First World War
- They made the Tutsi elite
- They enjoyed more privileges:
- Colonial Identity Cards used to determine who is Hutu and who is Tutsi

III. Tensions begin 1990's

- 1962: Rwanda received its independence
- The Hutu seized power
- Hutu began discriminating against Tutsi
- UN sends peacekeeping forces in 1990
- Hutu extremists plan to exterminate Tutsi

IV: Turning Point 1994

- **April 6th 1994:**
- Rwandan president Habyalimana and President from Burundi were assassinated
- Rwanda plunged into political violence
- Death lists were made (ex: Tutsi politicians ,leaders, moderate Hutu's)

V. Genocide Begins

- The Hutu militia begin to kill Tutsi's in cold blood
- The Hutu radio encourage killing by broadcasting non-stop propaganda
- Tutsi's take refuge in churches and hospitals became main targets
- Tutsi were forced by Hutu to kill their own families

VI. The World Response

- The UN sent in 5,000 soldiers
- UN and US were careful not to use the word "genocide"
- The UN army pulled out and only 200 soldiers were left to guard the entire country

VII. The Aftermath

1. The killings end when Tutsi rebels invade from neighboring countries and Defeat the Hutu
2. Genocide ended July 1994
3. Two million Hutu refugees fled Rwanda to neighboring countries
4. America gave financial support and food
5. By 1996, UN trials began
6. March 31st, 2005 finally condemned the Genocide of 1994