MISSIONS ATLAS PROJECT EAST AFRICA / CENTRAL AFRICA BURUNDI

Snapshots Section

Country Name: Republic of Burundi

Country Founded in: 1962

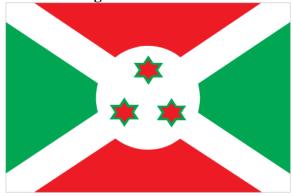
Population: 8,988,091 (2009 estimate)

Government Type: Republic

Geography/location in the world: Burundi is located in east-central Africa and is bordered to the north by Rwanda, to the east by Tanzania, and to the west by Lake Tanganyika and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Number of people groups: 12

Picture of flag:



Religion Snapshot

62% Roman Catholic, 23% Traditional religions, 10% Muslim, 5% Protestant

Burundi's constitution provides for freedom of religion, but religious groups must register with the Ministry of the Interior. Those who do not register can be forced to shut down and the representative of the group can face prison time. However, that has not happened in recent years.

Source: http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2821.htm

Source: http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2008/108356.htm

Source: https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/BY.html

Country Profile

Basic Facts

Country Name: Republic of Burundi

Demographics: Burundi's population is nearly nine million. About 10% live in urban areas.

Approximately 85% are from the Hutu people group, 14% are Tutsi, and 1% are Twa.

A slight majority of Burundi's people (51.3%) are from 15 to 64 years old. 46.2% are 14 or younger. Only 2.5% are 65 and older.

Life expectancy of Burundians is about 53 years for women and 51 for men. As of 2009 estimates, there were 41.42 births per 1000 population and 12.67 deaths per 1000 population.

Source: http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2821.htm

Source: https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/BY.html

Source: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/country_profiles/1068873.stm

Language: The common language of the Burundi people is Kirundi. In addition, French is an official language. Swahili is also spoken in some areas of the country, especially along the shores of Lake Tanganyika and in Bujumbura, the capital of Burundi.

Source: http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2821.htm

Source: https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/BY.html

Source: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/country_profiles/1068873.stm

Society/Culture:

The Arts

Poetry, songs, storytelling, art, and dancing are part of the Burundi culture.

They recite poetry during late-night social gatherings and sing songs during family and communal celebrations. Burundians sing while working in the fields, and shepherds have pastoral songs for when they bring their animals home from the pasture. Older Burundians often tell younger ones the legends and stories of their ancestors.

Burundi art includes sculpture, pottery, wicker, wrought iron and bas-reliefs that are often embellished with highly stylized geometrical patterns.

Different regions of Burundi have their own dance styles. There are the Inamukosi and Intore dancers of Muyinga; the Agasimbo dancers of Makamba; the Batimbo dancers of Gitega, who tour international festivals and perform to tambourines; the dancers of Kirundo with the traditional rhythms of their ancestors; and the Intore troops and dancer-drummers from Kabanga

and Mukenke who have a style where the dancers set the rhythm for the musicians instead of the usual way.

Source: http://www.burundi-embassy-berlin.com/BDepth/BDepth.html#culture

Holidays

New Year's Day – January 1

National Unity Day – February 5

Ntaryamira Day – April 6

Commemorates the day of Cyprien Ntaryamira assassination

Easter

Labor Day – May 1

Ascension Thursday -40^{th} day of Easter (39 days after Easter Sunday)

Independence Day – July 1

Feast of the Assumption – August 15

Aid El Fitr (or Eid al-Fitr) – Different dates each year Muslim holiday marking the end of Ramadan

Rwagasore's Day – October 13

Commemorates the day of Prince Louis Rwagasore's assassination

Ndadaye's Day – October 21

Commemorates the day of President Melchior Ndadaye's assassination

All Saint's Day – November 1

Aid El Kebir (or Eid al-Adha) – Different dates each year Muslim Festival of Sacrifice

Christmas – December 25

Source: http://www.qppstudio.net/publicholidays2009/burundi.htm

Source: http://www.burundi-embassy-berlin.com/BDepth/BDepth.html#important

Source: http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2008/108356.htm Source: http://www.everyculture.com/Bo-Co/Burundi.html

Source: http://www.burundi-embassy-berlin.com/BInfo/BInfo.html

Health

HIV/AIDS has devastated the country of Burundi. As of 2007, approximately 110,000 people—both adults and children—were living with HIV/AIDS.

At least 200,000 people have died because of HIV/AIDS since its discovery in Burundi in 1983. Because so many men and women have died, the number of orphans has risen. In 2001, there were about 72,000 orphans in Burundi. That number was estimated to be 110,000 in 2007.

Source: http://data.unaids.org/pub/GlobalReport/2008/jc1510 2008 global report pp211 234 en.pdf

Source: http://data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2006/2006_country_progress_report_burundi_en.pdf
Source: http://www.who.int/globalatlas/predefinedReports/EFS2008/full/EFS2008_BI.pdf

Source: http://www.unaids.org/en/CountryResponses/Countries/burundi.asp

Government:

Burundi is a Republic, which gained independence from Belgium on July 1, 1962. The current constitution was ratified on February 28, 2005. Burundi is divided into 17 provinces, which are subdivided into 117 communes. The communes are subdivided into collines (the French word for *hills*).

Executive: The president is chief of state and head of the government. The current president is Pierre Nkurunziza, who was elected August 26, 2005. The first vice president oversees political and administrative affairs. The current first vice president is Yves Savinguvu, who has held that post since November 9, 2007. The second vice president oversees social and economic affairs, as well as the president's cabinet (26-member Council of Ministers). The current second vice president is Gabriel Ntisezerana, who has held that post since February 9, 2007.

Legislative: Burundi has a bicameral parliament with a National Assembly and a Senate. One hundred members of the National Assembly are elected by popular vote. However, the ethnic and gender composition of the National Assembly must be as follows: 60% Hutu, 40% Tutsi, 30% women—plus three people from the Twa people group. In order to make the percentages work right, additional people are appointed by the National Independent Electoral Commission as needed.

The Senate has 54 members who serve five-year terms in office. They are chosen by the electoral college, which is made up of locally elected provincial and communal councils. There are two senators—one Hutu and one Tutsi—from each of the 17 provinces. In addition to those 34 senators, another three are from the minority Twa people group. 14 senators are appointed by the president, and three additional seats are reserved for former presidents. Also, 30% of the senators must be women.

Judicial: Burundi's judicial system includes the Supreme Court, Constitutional Court, and three courts of appeal in Bujumbura, Ngozi, and Gitega. There are other courts according to different administrative divisions. For instance, the county courts are at the province level.

At the commune level, there are "Courts of Residence" or magistrate courts. They have jurisdiction over land disputes and evictions; they are able to impose fines up to one million Burundi Francs and jail terms up to two years.

At the "colline" or "hills" level, there are the "Courts of Hills." They are made up of elders and others who are elected. They have not been given the power to impose punishments.

There are also specialized courts, such as commercial, administrative, labor and court martial.

Source: http://www.nyulawglobal.org/globalex/burundi.htm

Source: http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2821.htm

 $Source: \underline{https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/BY.html}$

Economy:

90% of the people in Burundi depend on agriculture to survive. Burundi is heavily dependent on financial aid from other countries and donors.

Burundi's primary exports are coffee and tea, which are greatly affected by weather conditions and international prices. The country's primary export partner is Germany, followed by Pakistan, Belgium, Sweden, Rwanda, France, and Sudan.

Burundi's primary imports are capital goods, which are used by manufacturers to make other goods. The country also imports petroleum products and foodstuffs. Their import partners are Saudi Arabia, Kenya, Belgium, France, Uganda, Germany, India, and Pakistan.

As of August 2009, one US dollar was worth just over 1200 Burundi francs.

Source: http://finance.yahoo.com/currency-converter#from=USD;to=BIF;amt=1

Source: http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2821.htm

Source: https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/BY.html

Literacy: 59.3% of total population over the age of 15 can read and write. As of 2000 estimates, 67.3% of men could read compared to 52.2% of women.

Source: https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/BY.html

Land/Geography:

Burundi is a landlocked country with an area of 27,830 square kilometers (10,745 square miles).

The country is located on a high plateau. The altitude ranges from as high as 2670 meters (8760 feet) at Mount Heha down to 772 meters (2532 feet) at Lake Tanganyika. Burundi is located along the East African rift and sometimes experiences tremors and earthquakes.

The average annual temperature ranges from 23°C (73°F) to 17°C (63°F).

There are two rainy seasons. The first is from February to May; the second is from September to November. Average rainfall is 150 cm (59 inches).

There are lots of trees, especially in high altitudes and on mountain slopes. However, as farming has spread, Burundi has experienced soil erosion and deforestation.

Source: http://www.everyculture.com/Bo-Co/Burundi.html

Source: https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/BY.html

History

There are several theories about the early history of the Twa, Hutu, and Tutsi people in the area now known as Burundi and Rwanda. One commonly held belief claims the Twa, descendents of the pygmies, were the earliest inhabitants. Later, migration from other parts of Africa changed the social and political conditions in the region.

Some researchers think the Hutu people began moving into the Burundi/Rwanda area from western Africa between AD 600 and AD 1300. The Hutu outnumbered the Twa and began to establish their own culture, language, and regional kings. At that time, most of the Twa moved further into the highlands.

In the 1400s and 1500s, the Tutsi are believed to have moved into the area from the Nile regions in northern and eastern Africa where modern day Sudan and Ethiopia are located. The Tutsi were typically taller than the Hutu and the Twa, and though there they never numbered more than about 15% of the population, they took control of the region. The Tutsi established a kingdom, controlled most of the land, and taxed local farmers and herders.

The Tutsi kingdom expanded from the 1600s until the 1800s to encompass some of modern-day Tanzania and Rwanda. The kingdom, however, was decentralized, more like a feudal system. Internal strife eventually left the king in control of only about half the territory.

Also in the 1800s, Europeans discovered this part of Africa. Richard Burton and John Speke, explorers from Britain, visited the area in 1858. In 1885, Germany claimed the territory as its own. Although the Tutsi kingdom was incorporated into German East Africa, Germans did not start to settle in the territory until 1906.

During World War I, Belgium sent 1400 troops to the Burundi/Rwanda area and seized control from the Germans. Then in 1923, Burundi and Rwanda were mandated to Belgium by the League of Nations. At that time, the territory was called Ruanda-Urundi. Belgium controlled the area indirectly by working through the Tutsi aristocracy.

After World War II, Ruanda-Urundi became a "Trust Territory" under the United Nations. Belgium retained administrative control. After 1948, Belgium allowed other political parties to compete.

The Tutsi-Hutu relationship has always been tense. In 1959, after violence broke out in the area now known as Rwanda, Tutsi refugees fled into the Burundi area.

In 1961, one of the new political parties—the Union for National Progress and Unity (UPONA)—won a majority in the National Assembly. Just weeks later, Prime Minister Louis Rwagasore, of the UPONA party, was assassinated. His brother-in-law, Andre Muhirwa, succeeded him.

As the territory of Ruanda-Urundi moved toward independence, the United Nations suggested that both parts of the territory should stay together as one nation because the population had the same people groups and the same language. However, leaders from each area wanted independence separately. In 1962, the two territories were split, and Urundi became Burundi, an independent nation ruled by King Mwambutsa IV.

Although Burundi was initially organized as a constitutional monarchy with equal representation by Hutus and Tutsis, the country was ultimately controlled by Tutsis. Rising tension between the Hutu and Tutsi peoples eventually led to a series of violent revolts, strong reaction from the government, multiple governmental coups, and genocide several years later.

The civil war that began in 1971 resulted in the deaths of many Tutsi and many more Hutu. Between 100,000 and 150,000 Hutu people were killed, and another 100,000 Hutu were left homeless. Many sought refuge in neighboring countries, such as Tanzania.

This pattern of ethnic tension, violence, political coups, and new constitutions has repeated itself many times over and has continued into the 21st century.

The most recent civil war ended in 2006, though occasional violence still occurred afterward. In April 2009, the African Union supervised a ceremony in which Burundi's last rebel group laid down its arms and officially became a political party.

The country is now focused on rebuilding its infrastructure and its relations with neighboring countries. Many of those who fled Burundi have returned.

Source: http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2821.htm

Source: http://www.everyculture.com/Bo-Co/Burundi.html

Source: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/country_profiles/1068991.stm
Source: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/country_profiles/1068873.stm
Source: http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/399981/Mwambutsa

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Origins_of_Tutsi_and Hutu

Christian History

European missionaries brought Christianity to the Burundi region in the late 1800s, but it was not until after World War I that Christian churches began to grow. Both Protestants and Catholics established churches in the area in the 1920s and 1930s.

The Roman Catholic Church started experiencing rapid growth around 1930 with about 1000 baptisms each week. The East African Revival, which started in the Rwanda territory in 1927, made its way to Burundi in the 1930s, mostly affecting the Anglican churches.

In the early 1960s, most members of the Anglican church left to form another church. In the 1990s, Pentecostal and Charismatic renewal movements grew.

Source: Source: World Christian Encyclopedia, Vol. 1, 2nd ed. ISBN: 0195103181

Religion

Non Christian

Islam

As of 1995, there were an estimated 82,000 Muslim adherents in Burundi (around 10%). Islam was growing at a rate of about 2.5% per year.

Hinduism

As of 1995, there were an estimated 5300 Hindus in Burundi. They were experiencing a growth rate of about 1.2% per year.

Baha'i

As of 1995, there were an estimated 4900 in Burundi with a growth rate of about 3% per year.

Jehovah's Witness

Jehovah's Witnesses began in 1960. As of 1995, there were 50 congregations and 450 members; 804 were affiliated with the church.

Non-religious

As of 1995, there were an estimated 3500 people who could be classified as *non-religious* with a growth rate of 1.8% per year.

Source: Source: World Christian Encyclopedia, Vol. 1, 2nd ed. ISBN: 0195103181

Catholic/Orthodox

The Catholic Church began in 1879. As of 2000, there were 1,562 congregations and 2,187,166 members; 3,828,000 people were affiliated with the church.

The Greek Orthodox Church as established in 1958. As of 1995, there were six congregations and 500 members; 1000 people were affiliated with the church.

Source: Source: World Christian Encyclopedia, Vol. 1, 2nd ed. ISBN: 0195103181

Source: http://www.operationworld.org/country/buru/owtext.html

Christian/Evangelical

Anglican

The Anglican Church began in 1934. As of 1995, there were 1,621 congregations and 148,600 members; 443,000 people were affiliated with the church.

The Church of God of Burundi was formed in 1962 by people who left the Anglican Church. As of 1995, there were 14 congregations and 700 members; 1400 people were affiliated with the church.

Source: Source: World Christian Encyclopedia, Vol. 1, 2nd ed. ISBN: 0195103181

Methodists

See Union of Methodist Churches under the *Pentecostal and Holiness* section.

Baptists

Baptist Union began in 1911. As of 2000, there were 167 congregations and 20,000 members; 35,000 people were affiliated with the churches.

Source: Morld Christian Encyclopedia, Vol. 1, 2nd ed. ISBN: 0195103181 Source: http://www.operationworld.org/country/buru/owtext.html

Pentecostals and Holiness

The Church of God, as of 1995, had 10 congregations and 1800 members; 3,270 people were affiliated with the church.

The Churches of Pentecost began in 1935. As of 2000, there were 2,773 congregations and 208,000 members; 520,000 people were affiliated with the church.

Emmanuel Church, as of 1995, had 33 congregations and 5000 members; 10,000 people were affiliated with the church.

Evangelical Episcopal Church (Holiness) began in 1938. As of 2000, there were 168 congregations and 21,000 members; 42,000 people were affiliated with the church.

The International Pentecostal Holiness Church, as of 1995, had one congregation and 50 members; 100 people were affiliated with the church.

New Apostolic Church, as of 1995, had six congregations and 400 members; 748 people were affiliated with the church.

Pentecostal Evangelical Fellowship of Africa began in 1950. As of 1995, there were 75 congregations and 9000 members; 18,000 people were affiliated with the church.

Union of Methodist Churches began in 1935. As of 2000, there were 160 congregations and 29,000 members; 60,000 people were affiliated with the churches.

Source: Morld Christian Encyclopedia, Vol. 1, 2nd ed. ISBN: 0195103181 Source: http://www.operationworld.org/country/buru/owtext.html

Independent churches found in the country

Evangelical Fellowship, as of 1995, had five congregations and 500 members; 909 people were affiliated with the church.

Open Brethren began in 1938. As of 1995, there were 44 congregations and 3000 members; 4000 people were affiliated with the church.

Seventh-day Adventists began in 1921. As of 2000, there were 210 congregations and 62,000 members; 100,000 people were affiliated with the church.

Evangelical Friends Church (Quaker) began in 1932. As of 2000, there were 84 congregations and 8000 members; 16000 people were affiliated with the church.

Kimbanguiste Church began in 1968. As of 1995, there were 35 congregations and 7000 members; 14,000 people were affiliated with the church.

United Church of the Holy Spirit began in 1993. As of 1995, there were 20 congregations and 2000 members; 4000 people were affiliated with the church.

The Living Church began around 1995. As of 2000, there were 50 congregations and 35,000 members; 70,000 people were affiliated with the church.

Brotherhood of Christ Community, as of 2000, had 20 congregations and 2000 members; 35,000 people were affiliated with the church.

Source: http://www.evangelicalfriends.org/Africa

Source: Source: World Christian Encyclopedia, Vol. 1, 2nd ed. ISBN: 0195103181

Source: http://www.operationworld.org/country/buru/owtext.html

People Groups

14463

Arab (2,438)

The Arabs in Burundi are mostly Muslim. Less than 2% are Evangelical Christians. The Bible, the *Jesus* film, Gospel recordings, and radio broadcasts are available in their language.

Source: http://www.imb.org/globalresearch/downloads.asp

Source: http://www.joshuaproject.net/peopctry.php?rog3=BY&rop3=100425

14472

Belgian-Walloon (2,438)

The Belgian-Walloon people are mostly Roman Catholic and they speak French. The Bible, the *Jesus* film, Gospel recordings, and radio broadcasts are available in their language.

Source: http://www.imb.org/globalresearch/downloads.asp

14465

British (366)

The British people in Burundi are mostly Protestant. The Bible, the *Jesus* film, Gospel recordings, and radio broadcasts are available in their language.

Source: http://www.imb.org/globalresearch/downloads.asp

14468

Burundian (7,740,615)

The Burundian people are mostly Roman Catholic. The Burundi people speak Rundi. The Bible, the *Jesus* film, Gospel recordings, and radio broadcasts are available in their language.

Source: http://www.imb.org/globalresearch/downloads.asp

Source: http://www.joshuaproject.net/peopctry.php?rog3=BY&rop3=103926

47720

Deaf Burundian (37,190)

People who cannot hear are often believed to be cursed, which puts them at a disadvantage in society. Resources for the deaf are limited. There is a National Association for the Deaf, but there are few schools dedicated to teaching deaf students. One school is in Gitega; another is in Burundi's capital, Bujumbura. However, many are not able to attend, and most schools do not go past the primary grades. Many of the deaf in Burundi never learn sign language or how to read and write.

Source: http://deafybu.weebly.com/history.html

Source: http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/IRIN/4389e6dde213222aaa18b47e3c8609d2.htm

Source: http://www.imb.org/globalresearch/downloads.asp

Source: http://www.joshuaproject.net/peopctry.php?rog3=BY&rop3=114916

14466

Gujarati (9,752)

The Gujarati people in Burundi are mostly Hindu. The Bible, the *Jesus* film, Gospel recordings, and radio broadcasts are available in their language.

Source: http://www.imb.org/globalresearch/downloads.asp

Source: http://www.joshuaproject.net/peopctry.php?rog3=BY&rop3=103544

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Lingala, Congolese (138,000)

The Lingala people in Burundi are mostly Roman Catholic. At least 22% are Evangelical Christians. The Bible, the *Jesus* film, and some Gospel recordings have been translated into their language.

Source: http://www.joshuaproject.net/peopctry.php?rog3=BY&rop3=105785

Source: http://www.ethnologue.com/show_language.asp?code=lin

Source: http://globalrecordings.net/langcode/lin

14467

Nyankore-Hima (9,021)

The Hima people mostly follow their traditional religion. The Bible, the *Jesus* film, and Gospel recordings are available in their language, but there are no radio broadcasts.

Source: http://www.imb.org/globalresearch/downloads.asp

14470

Rwandese, **Hutu** (130,432)

The Rwandese people in Burundi are mostly Roman Catholic. The Bible, the *Jesus* film, Gospel recordings, and radio broadcasts are available in their language.

Source: http://www.imb.org/globalresearch/downloads.asp

Source: http://www.joshuaproject.net/peopctry.php?rog3=BY&rop3=108463

14471

Swahili (7,802)

The Swahili are mostly Muslim. There are few, if any, evangelical Christians. The Bible, the *Jesus* film, Gospel recordings, and radio broadcasts are available in their language.

Source: http://www.imb.org/globalresearch/downloads.asp

Source: http://www.joshuaproject.net/peopctry.php?rog3=BY&rop3=109644

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Tutsi (1,255,000)

The Tutsi people in Burundi are mostly Roman Catholic. At least 22% are Evangelical Christians. The Tutsi people speak a dialect of Rundi, the primary language in Burundi. The Bible, the *Jesus* film, Gospel recordings, and radio broadcasts are available in their language.

Source: http://www.joshuaproject.net/peopctry.php?rog3=BY&rop3=110325

Source: http://www.ethnologue.com/show_language.asp?code=run

Source: http://globalrecordings.net/langcode/run

00000

Twa, Pygmy (97,000)

Most of the Twa people follow their traditional religion. At least 7% of the Twa people are Evangelical Christians. The Twa people speak the Rwanda (or Kinyarwanda) language. The Bible and the *Jesus* film have been translated, and there are also Gospel recordings and radio broadcasts available.

Source: http://www.joshuaproject.net/peopctry.php?rog3=BY&rop3=110338

Source: http://www.ethnologue.com/show-language.asp?code=kin

Source: http://globalrecordings.net/langcode/kin

Missiological Implications

- 1. Evangelical Christians and churches should develop and train local Christians to use materials for evangelizing followers of Traditional Religions. Groups such as the Nyankore-Hima (9,021) and the Twa, Pygmy (97,000) would be primary targets for this ministry.
- 2. Evangelical Christians and churches should develop and train local Christians to use materials for evangelizing Roman Catholics and Orthodox members.
- 3. Evangelical Christians and churches should make genuine efforts to meet the needs of the almost 100,000 orphans (many of whom are victims of AIDS) in Burundi. This tremendously needy group should receive both physical and spiritual care.
- 4. Evangelical Christians and churches should seek ways to meet the particular needs of the Deaf Burundian that number over 37,190.
- 5. Evangelical Christians and churches should seek to find ways to bring about reconciliation between the Tutsi and Hutu peoples and avert further civil war.
- 6. Evangelical Christians and churches should seek ways to minister to the many refugees in Tanzania and Congo as well as displaced peoples in Burundi.
- 7. Evangelical Christians and churches should maintain evangelical interest in Burundi, a county that may have a population over 11,500,000 by 2025.

Links

Burundi photos on Flickr – Search all photos

http://flickr.com/search/?q=burundi&ct=0

A search link to all the Burundi photos on Flickr.com

Burundi photos on Flickr – Search Creative Commons

http://flickr.com/search/?q=burundi&l=commderiv&ct=0

A search link to Creative Commons-licensed photos of Burundi on Flickr

Background Note: Burundi

www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2821.htm

Information about the country of Burundi in Africa

CIA – The World Factbook – Burundi

http://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/by.html

Information about the country of Burundi in Africa

Country profile: Burundi (from the BBC News) http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/country profiles/1068873.stm

Information about the country of Burundi in Africa

Burundi - The New York Times

http://topics.nytimes.com/top/news/international/countriesandterritories/burundi/index.html

A page of Burundi-related news stories from the New York Times

State to strip Burundian refugees of asylum status

http://thecitizen.co.tz/newe.php?id=11612

Tanzania will strip Burundian refugees of their status if they do not go back to their country by end of June this year, Home Affairs minister Lawrence Masha said yesterday.

Burundi – 1972: Burundi Since the Genocide

http://www.burundi-agnews.info/agnews_burundisincegeno1972.htm

A 1987 report about the Burundi after the 1972 genocide

Burundi: Finding our place

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijTiNm5WWPE&feature=channel

Around 75,000 Burundian refugees returned home in 2008. Returning is one thing, finding a home after years of exile is another. In this small and densely populated country, land is scarce and property disputes threaten the fragile post-war peace. UNHCR is lending a hand by mediating land conflicts and helping the most vulnerable to build homes.

Tanzania: A new start. The story of Mawazo Pardon, a Burundi refugee

www.youtube.com/watch?v=hc Fsie6j8M&feature=channel page

Mawazo Pardon has a new lease on life. After spending his entire life as a refugee in Tanzania, he now has the possibility to become a citizen of Tanzania.

Ethnicity and Burundi's Refugees

http://web.africa.ufl.edu/asq/v7/v7i1a5.htm

These three books show that the ethnic designation an individual uses is only part of the story because what is also significant is who you consider "not Burundian," or "not Hutu" or "not Tutsi." Depending on the group of "Burundians," you get different answers, often in the form of what Liisa Malkki calls "mythico-histories" about who are "we," and who "they" are.

Tanzania, Burundi & Rwanda – Linguistic mapshttp://www.muturzikin.com/cartesafrique/6.htm
African linguistic maps for Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda