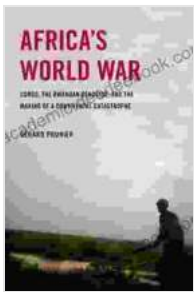


Congo, the Rwandan Genocide, and the Making of a Continental Catastrophe

The Rwandan Genocide was one of the most horrific events in human history. In just 100 days, over 800,000 people were killed in a systematic campaign of violence. The genocide was a culmination of years of ethnic tension between the Hutu and Tutsi communities in Rwanda. It was also fueled by political instability and a failure of international intervention. The consequences of the genocide have been devastating for Rwanda and the entire African continent.



Africa's World War: Congo, the Rwandan Genocide, and the Making of a Continental Catastrophe

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1442 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 563 pages
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Ethnic Tension and Political Instability

The roots of the Rwandan Genocide can be traced back to the colonial era. The Belgian colonialists divided the population of Rwanda into two groups: the Hutus and the Tutsis. The Tutsis were favored by the Belgians, and they held most of the power and wealth in the country. This led to

resentment among the Hutus, who felt that they were being marginalized and discriminated against.

After Rwanda gained independence in 1962, the tensions between the Hutus and Tutsis continued to simmer. In 1973, a Hutu extremist government came to power. This government began to persecute the Tutsis, and many Tutsis were forced to flee the country.

In the early 1990s, the Rwandan government and the Tutsi rebel group known as the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) began peace negotiations. However, these negotiations broke down in 1994, and the genocide began.

The Genocide

The Rwandan Genocide began on April 6, 1994, when Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana was assassinated. The assassination was immediately followed by a wave of violence against Tutsis. The violence was systematic and widespread. Tutsis were killed in their homes, in churches, and in schools. They were hacked to death with machetes, shot, and burned alive.

The genocide was carried out by Hutu militias and by government forces. The militias were often led by local officials. The government also played a role in the genocide by providing weapons and logistical support to the militias.

The international community failed to intervene to stop the genocide. The United Nations peacekeeping force in Rwanda was too small and ill-equipped to stop the violence. The United States and other Western powers did not want to get involved in a conflict in Africa.

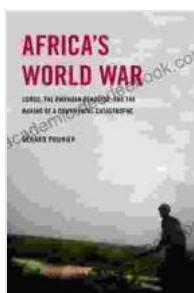
The Aftermath of the Genocide

The Rwandan Genocide ended in July 1994, when the RPF defeated the Hutu government. The genocide left over 800,000 people dead, and many more were displaced from their homes.

The Rwandan Genocide had a devastating impact on the country. The population was traumatized, and the economy was shattered. The genocide also led to a rise in ethnic violence in neighboring Burundi.

The international community has been criticized for its failure to intervene to stop the Rwandan Genocide. The United Nations has since created a new peacekeeping force that is designed to prevent future genocides. However, the scars of the Rwandan Genocide remain, and the country is still struggling to recover.

The Rwandan Genocide was a tragedy that could have been prevented. The international community failed to act, and the result was a genocide that killed over 800,000 people. The consequences of the genocide are still being felt today, and the scars will likely remain for generations to come.



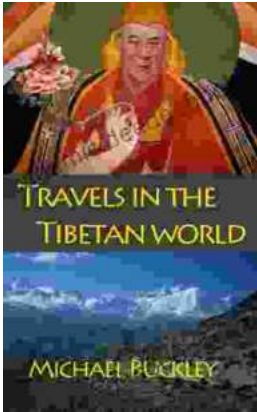
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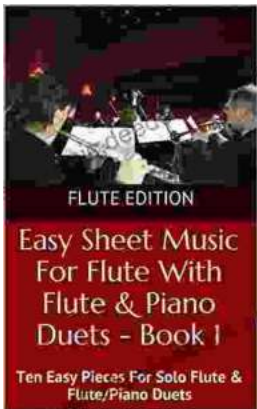
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