

THE EFFECTS OF GENOCIDE ON TOURISM INDUSTRY IN BUGESERA DISTRICT IN
RWANDA.

BY

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ABSTRACT

The study aimed at exploring the effects of genocide on tourism industry in Bugesera District in Rwanda. The study was guided by three objectives namely; find out the effect of genocide (1994) on the tourism industry in Bugesera District in Rwanda; and to suggest possible solutions for improving the tourism industry in the post genocide era in Bugesera District in Rwanda. The study was both qualitative and quantitative in nature. Both simple Random and sampling (general informants) and purposive sampling (key informants) were used to select 50 respondents for the study. The researcher used the questionnaire, interview and observation guides to collect primary data from the field. Data was finally presented in tables, pie charts and graphs.

The study results revealed that all the 100% of the respondents replied yes meaning that they were aware of the effects of the 1994 genocide on the tourism industry in the study area (see table 4.3.1). The study results also indicated that the majority of respondents 76% reported that the 1994 genocide negatively affected the tourism industry (see table 4.3.2). Basing on the finding of the study, it was concluded that majority of respondents (32%) noted that there were visits to cultural sites of the formal kings and traditional before genocide and crocodile viewing also took place in the study area after genocide (see table 4.3.3). Among the tourism activities that took place before the genocide period, it was also concluded that the majority of respondents (40%) noted that there was touring the genocide memorial sites and tours and travels taking place in the study area after genocide (see table 4.3.4). It was further concluded that the majority of respondents (32%) rated the progress of tourism industry between 51% and 75% (see table 4.2.1). Among the progresses included peace and security facilities that guaranteed tourism safety and transport companies that were involved in the tour and travel businesses transporting international and local tourists to and from different destinations in the study area (see table 4.4.2).

The researcher concluded the study requesting respondents to suggest possible solutions for improving the tourism industry in the post genocide era in Bugesera district in Rwanda where they suggested that there was need for better infrastructural development especially in line with better ICT facilities, hotels and resorts, road networks to the extent that they could be affordable to the local tourists and also that there was need for the intervention of international cooperation especially to facilitate the poor third developing country towards reaching prosperity and independent growth through the tourism development in the post-genocide period (see table 4.5.2)

The researcher recommended that there was need for explaining how tourism can be used in promoting Rwanda a country, and what Rwanda's views on sustainable tourism are in the future to come in the post genocide period and also that he Government of the Republic of Rwanda could possibly have significant role in boosting countries economic among others.