

Burundi

Ethnicity in Burundi

Power relations

1962-1965: A kind of inter-ethnic power-sharing with more or less equal proportions of Hutu and Tutsi; parallel, the Ganwa King ruled until 1966 before he was deposed and exiled in a coup led by Tutsi officers; however, the unsuccessful coup of Hutu officials in 1965 was the major turning point.

1966-1988: In 1966, Burundi became a republic; one should note the significant split among the Tutsi => Tutsi-Hima elites from Bururi province dominated politics for decades, also excluding Tutsi factions from northern Muramvya; But Hutu continued to be the main victims of discrimination and prosecution until the reform programme of Buyoya.

1989-1993: Through the reform programme, Hutu became equally represented in all major state bodies of political nature and were increasingly recruited into higher civil service positions; but since Tutsi domination in the army and the security services prevailed and Buyoya as a Tutsi and his UPRONA party were still in power, Hutu are coded only as junior partner. One might even argue that Hutu were still "powerless". This might be a matter for further discussion. Power shifted in presidential and parliamentary elections in 1993 followed by the installation of a government of national unity under Ndadaye and a strong FRODEBU/Hutu majority in the National Assembly. This shift of power was only temporary because of a coup in October 1993, therefore the short period of "Hutu rule" is not coded separately.

1994-2001: This period was especially difficult to code because of recurrent institutional vacuums and changing arrangements at the centre; the coding here mainly starts with the "Government Convention" of September 1994 which granted the (Tutsi) opposition 45% of government positions. Though this is close to a 50-50 powersharing, institutions were increasingly paralyzed, president and parliament impotent and de facto the Tutsi dominated army ruled; thus this is not coded as a power-sharing arrangement, but a domination of Tutsi that was continued after the military coup in 1996 until the Arusha agreement in 2001.

2002-2005: In November 2001, the transitional government was installed, led first by Buyoya (as the UPRONA/Tutsi representative) with the FRODEBU/Hutu representative as his deputy; the FRODEBU led Hutu faction received few more government posts (14 compared to 10 "Tutsi" posts), but taking other compensating mechanisms into account and continuing Tutsi domination over the army, this basically was a 50-50 power-sharing - even after the presidential changeover on 30 April 2003. The transition period ended with the newly elected president, Pierre Nkurunziza, taking power in August 2005. There are no reliable population data over all time periods, therefore the group's shares are partly estimations.

2006-2010: Elections in 2005 after the transitional period. Power-sharing provided by constitution: 40% of the cabinet seats are reserved for Tutsi. The ruling party can still be considered a Hutu party being the former Hutu rebel group, and president Nkurunziza is a Hutu as well. Thus, Hutu coded as "senior partner", Tutsi as "junior partner".

2011-2013: Elections were held in 2010. After the boycott of the elections by most parties, Nkurunziza was the only presidential candidate to run and won the election with over 90% of the vote. There are reports of harassment of opposition parties conducted by Nkurunziza's party CNDD-FDD and violent actions including executions taken by its youth wing Imbonerakure. It seems that the violence was rather a matter of political than ethno-political competition, as the Hutu-led (and more extremist) FNL was also targeted by the CNDD. Aside from the mainly Hutu-dominated CNDD-FDD (representing mainly rural Hutus), the Tutsi-led UPRONA participated in the election. The government was built using the constitutional power-sharing formula. Given the weight of the CNDD-FDD in the coalition, Hutus are again coded as being Senior Partners and Tutsi as junior partner. Thus, the preceding period is extended to 2013⁽³⁹⁴⁾.

³⁹⁴ [Bertelsmann Country Report, 2014]

2014: In March 2014, the Tutsi prime minister was dismissed and 3 other ministers from UPRONA stepped down. This is considered to be threatening ethnic power-sharing. ⁽³⁹⁵⁾

³⁹⁵ [?]

Bibliography

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- [Reuters, 2014] Reuters. (2014). Ethnic power-sharing under threat in Burundi, says party. Retrieved on 02.03.2015 from: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/02/12/us-burundi-crisis-idUSBREA1B0US20140212>

Political status of ethnic groups in Burundi

From 1962 until 1965

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hutu	0.85	SENIOR PARTNER
Tutsi	0.14	SENIOR PARTNER

From 1966 until 1988

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hutu	0.85	DISCRIMINATED
Tutsi	0.14	DOMINANT

From 1989 until 1993

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hutu	0.85	JUNIOR PARTNER
Tutsi	0.14	SENIOR PARTNER

From 1994 until 2001

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hutu	0.85	POWERLESS
Tutsi	0.14	DOMINANT



Figure 95: Political status of ethnic groups in Burundi during 1962-1965.



Figure 96: Political status of ethnic groups in Burundi during 1966-1988.



Figure 97: Political status of ethnic groups in Burundi during 1989-1993.



From 2002 until 2005

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hutu	0.85	SENIOR PARTNER
Tutsi	0.14	SENIOR PARTNER

From 2006 until 2013

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Hutu	0.85	SENIOR PARTNER
Tutsi	0.14	JUNIOR PARTNER

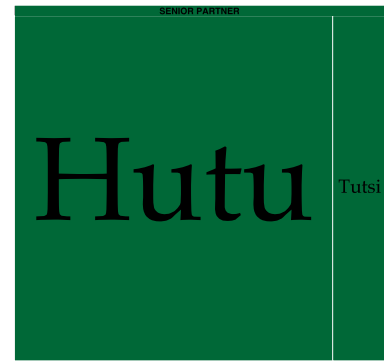


Figure 99: Political status of ethnic groups in Burundi during 2002-2005.



Figure 100: Political status of ethnic groups in Burundi during 2006-2013.

Geographical coverage of ethnic groups in Burundi

From 1962 until 2013



Figure 101: Map of ethnic groups in Burundi during 2006-2013.

	Group name	Area in km ²	Type
■	Hutu	27 307	Statewide
■	Tutsi	27 307	Statewide

Table 33: List of ethnic groups in Burundi during 1962-2013.

Conflicts in Burundi

Starting on 1965-10-18

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of Burundi	Military faction (forces loyal to Gervais Nyan-goma)	Hutu	1965-10-18	Explicit	Yes	No
Government of Burundi	Frolina	Hutu	1990-08-13	Explicit	Yes	No
Government of Burundi	Palipehutu	Hutu	1991-11-23	Explicit	Yes	No
Government of Burundi	CNDD	Hutu	1994-09-13	Explicit	Yes	Yes
Government of Burundi	Palipehutu-FNL	Hutu	1997-03-14	Explicit	Yes	No
Government of Burundi	CNDD-FDD	Hutu	1998-06-07	Explicit	Yes	Yes