

Rwanda-Central Africa

TUTSI-15%

- upper class
- aristocracy-ruling class
- Belgians saw as superior
 - better jobs/pay
 - education opportunities
 - government positions
- favored for their physical characteristics
 - * lighter skin tone * taller
 - * thin noses * lighter eye color

HUTU-85%

- lower class
- servants & peasant farmers
- saw Tutsi's as collaborators with Belgium
 - resentment towards Tutsi

Even though the Tutsi held positions of power they also began to resent Belgian colonial rule

- post WWII many Tutsi were pursuing full independence for Rwanda
 - Belgium feared their rule of Rwanda was coming to an end
 - some colonial rulers thought by favoring the long oppressed Hutu & taking back some power from the Tutsi that Belgium could remain in power longer
- 1959-Hutus overthrow the Tutsi king
 - declared Rwanda an independent republic & elected the 1st Hutu president
- 1962-Belgian rule is over

-the Hutu led government used the same system of oppression that existed during colonial times except now they were in control

- during the transition of power
 - * thousands of Tutsi are killed by the Hutu who are getting their revenge on the Tutsi for years of oppression
 - many Tutsi fled to neighboring countries
- some of the Tutsi who fled formed a rebel group called the **RPF-Rwandan Patriotic Front**
 - their goal was to eventually return to Rwanda
 - 1990-Civil War**