

## **The PDR-Ihumure condemns the brutal attack of Rwandan ambassador towards USA ambassador Samantha Power.**

The recent remarks of the USA ambassador to the UN, Samantha Power, on the challenges of the Great Lakes Region, sparked strong reactions from Mr Gasana, the Rwandan ambassador to the UN and raises the question of whether, Rwanda remains a reliable partner of the US, especially if one remembers how supportive, the USA have been to Rwanda. With outraged arrogance, Mr Gasana, reading the message from his government, started by warning Ms Power to not confuse her name and her assignment, and that she does not have power on Rwanda. The PDR-Ihumure believes that this attack constitutes an unduly behaviour, and deserves condemnation. The PDR-Ihumure praises Ms Power for speaking out about the inhuman actions, and undemocratic behaviour of some of the leaders of the region, especially President Kagame

Mr Gasana went on to re-count what has become the gospel-like of the Rwandan leadership group, that the country has achieved socio-economic developments, and that it did not happen in a vacuum, but due to a good leadership of Kagame. In his understanding, economic development that is even concentrated into the hands of a small group in power, must justify, overshadow and cover all human rights abuses, including killings and arbitrary arrests of an autocratic regime over its population.

While Mr Gasana states that Rwanda enjoys good governance and describes the Rwandan leadership, headed by Paul Kagame as enlightened. This can only constitute a mockery for a country that:

- Has the worse records for human rights abuses
- Has silenced the opposition by not opening political space
- Does not have free press
- Led by a group that, according to the UN Mapping report of 2010, has committed crimes that may constitute a genocide against Hutus if decided by a competent court.
- Led by a group of the people that is indicted for war crimes and crimes against humanity against its own people and Congolese people
- And many more

Mr Gasana condemns the actions of the previous leadership of Rwanda that made him refugee for many years. The irony is that the leadership he is part of, has made more

refugees that it was before they are in power. He cannot think before he talks, even when he talks about the Genocide of Tutsi, while it has become everybody's knowledge that, the current Rwandan leadership, which was at the helm of the RPF in 1994, is suspected to be the one that has indeed planned and executed that genocide.

He rather continues to mislead the Security Council and the international community as a whole that the "precious" man Kagame stopped the genocide, hence Rwandans want him to continue to rule because he is a hero. Kagame is nothing other than a dictator, far less a hero, who sacrificed Tutsis, massacred Hutus, Congolese people, and killed heads of States in order to conquer power. And while Mr Gasana even plays down the role of the Security Council in stopping the genocide, he should at least remember that it was the same council that established the International Criminal Court for Rwanda in Arusha to judge the suspects of that crime in order to bring justice and reconciliation among Rwandans. By attacking the Security Council and the United States, Mr Gasana confirms the culture of ungratefulness that has characterised the RPF leadership over the years, not only to many countries and organisations that helped him, but to also some important individuals, such as the PDR-Ihumure leader -Paul Rusesabagina who saved 1268 people during the genocide. Today, he is being hunt down by Kigali regime, rather than being rewarded.

What Gasana describes as Rwandans' choices, participative democracy and the rights of Rwandans, are illusions and trickeries as they do not exist at all. Intimidated Rwandans are given leaders, and they are told what to do as it suits government's agenda of maintaining itself in power. Those who try to resist or question the practices, are jailed or killed and thrown into rivers or lakes and the recent bodies discovered in the Lake Rweru confirms our statement. Mr Gasana makes it clear that his government will not allow the United States, and anybody else in the International Community, to step into their political space. This is a clear indication that democracy is still a dream in the RPF-led Rwanda. The PDR-Ihumure calls upon the international community not to be intimidated or silenced, but to take decisive actions for the change of the attitude of this arrogant regime towards the instauration of democracy, lasting peace and stability not only in Rwanda, but in the whole Great Lakes Region.

Mr Gasana ends by trying to lecture the Security Council not to ignore the early warning signs of conflicts and shifts from culture of reaction to that of prevention, such as those occurring in Burundi. The PDR-Ihumure' s view is that, the Rwandan government and army, should rather stop their acts of aggression and provocation of the neighbouring countries, as

it did for many years in the DRC and avoid destabilising activities against Burundi, the only way through which peace and stability can reign in the region.

For the PDR-Ihumure,

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Brussels, 25 March 2016