A Country in Flames
The assassination of President Ndaye led Tutsis to rise up and claim responsibility. Thousands of Tutsis, the Tutsi-organized army, responded by rounding up all suspected Hutu civilians. In the following months, many Hutus were killed or forced to flee their homes. The war continued for weeks and led to the death of approximately 50,000 civilians in the first year. The conflict continued until the early 2000s.

The World Reacts
The international community was unable to prevent the atrocities that occurred in Burundi. The United Nations failed to intervene effectively, and few countries were willing to take action. The world watched the events unfold with concern, but no significant action was taken.

President Ndaye’s assassination, however, set in motion a series of events that resulted in a genocide.

Commission’s Conclusions
The Commission of Inquiry concluded that a genocide had been committed against the Hutu minority, pointing to the number of the victims. The report lists the names of the Tutsis who were responsible for the massacre, emphasizing the criminals’ role in perpetrating the conflict against the Hutus. The report states that the investigations were not properly conducted.

Moving on From Genocide
Peace Agreements - Resolution and Rebuilding

Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Accords
- Signed in 2000
- Led to the end of the civil war
- Transition led by a interim government with power sharing
- Creation of a Senate and changes to the constitution of the National Assembly
- Judicial and military reforms to decrease Tutsi domination
- Integration of former warring factions into the army
- Establishment of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission
- Presence of an international military force to assist in the transition

Balancing two objectives:
Guaranteeing the full participation of the Tutsi minority
Allowing the deep mistrust of the Tutsi minority in power to end

Subsequent Developments
- Power was shared between two parties for 36 months. Pierre Buyoya was at the head of the country for 18 months, succeeded by Domitien Niyonzima.
- Subsequent cease-fires with parties that had left out in a Power-Sharing Agreement in 2004
- Civil war finally came to an end
- Passed the way for the 2005 democratic elections, won by the CNDP-HD

No Agreement is Perfect
- There was never one agreement that included all of the parties, which made spoilers a real problem
- Over representation of Tutsis angered many, especially excluded parties
- The Constitution ensures power-sharing but not elite cooperation
- An excessive amount of external pressure can lead to an accord that overlooks certain local issues

Sources

[Diagram showing timeline of events and key dates]