## INTERNATIONAL

# DR Congo killings 'may be genocide'

### Draft UN report says

**BBC ONLINE** 

A draft UN report says crimes by the Rwandan army and allied rebels in Democratic Republic of Congo could be classified as genocide.

The report, seen by the BBC, details the investigation into the conflict in DR Congo from 1993 to 2003.

It says ten of thousands of ethnic Hutus, including women, children and the elderly, were killed by the Tutsi-dominated Rwandan army.

Rwanda's justice minister has dismissed the claims as "rubbish".

The report also lists human rights violations committed by security forces from all the countries involved in what has been called "Africa's world war".

The final UN High Commission for Human Rights report should be made public in the next few days.

Although the conflict is officially over, eastern DR Congo, near the Rwandan border, remains volatile.

On Thursday, the UN Security Council held an emergency session to discuss allegations that Rwandan Hutu rebels were among armed men who raped at least 150 women and baby boys in the town of Luvungi and surrounding villages earlier this year.

The 545-page report, prepared by about 20 human right officers, documents what they call widespread and systematic attacks by the Rwandan army and the Congolese AFDL rebel movement.

The AFDL rebels were led by Laurent Kabila, father of current Congolese

President Joseph Kabila. Those targeted were Rwandan Hutus

who had fled into what is now DR Congo,

then called Zaire, after the 1994 genocide. Rwandan Hutu extremists slaughtered some 800,000 ethnic Tutsis and moderate

Hutus during the genocide.

Many of those responsible fled Rwanda as Tutsi rebels took power in Kigali in June 1994, taking hundreds of thousands of Hutu civilians with them.

'RWANDAN PRESSURE'

But the report says that attacks against Hutus who were not refugees seem to confirm that Congolese Hutus were also targeted.

In some regions, it says, checkpoints were used to identify people of Hutu origin, and kill them.

Tens of thousands were killed, the report estimates, saying such acts suggest a premeditated and precise methodology.

"The extensive use of edged weapons... and the systematic massacres of survivors after [Hutu] camps had been taken, show that the numerous deaths cannot be attributed to the hazards of war or seen as equating to collateral damage," the report says.



Maluza Abramishvili, left, 52, and Nunu Basaria, 49, Georgian refugees from Abkhazia, are seen with their lips sewn together during a hunger strike in Tbilisi yesterday. Dozens of refugees protested against the government's decision to evict them from the houses they live in now.

### more displaced by Pak floods

AP, Thatta

Hundreds of thousands of Pakistanis fled floodwaters yesterday after the surging River Indus smashed through levees in two places, but many refused to leave the danger zone while others took shelter in an ancient graveyard for Muslim saints.

The new flooding came after the Taliban issued a veiled threat against foreign aid workers helping out in the crisis, a development likely to complicate the massive relief effort. More than 8 million people are in need of emergency assistance across the country.

## UN: 1 million | Myanmar generals resign to contest polls

IANS, Yangon

Myanmar's defence minister and other top generals resigned their junta and military posts yesterday to contest the upcoming polls as civilians, officials said.

Defence Minister General Thura Shwe Mann has retired both his ministerial and army posts to join the Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDA), the political wing of the military regime.

General Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo, the first secretary of the junta, has also resigned and joined the USDA to contest the Nov 7 election, officials close to the military said.

'Thura Shwe Mann will probably become president after the election, a source close to the regime told DPA.

Another 10 lieutenant generals have also resigned, although it was unclear whether they would all stand for election or be given new posts. The resignations have led to a major reshuffle

Mother Teresa

within the military establishment which has blocked democracy for the past 20 years.

The 1990 election was won by a landslide by the opposition National League for Democracy (NLD) headed by Aung San Suu Kyi.

Myanmar's junta this time made sure that an opposition party will not win, and even if they did the army can control the legislature

through a party-appointed senate. The USDA is expected to field 1,100 candidates in the polls for lower, upper and regional houses, compared with a total of 500 candidates from the pro-democracy parties.

Non-junta parties have complained the government has not given them enough time to raise the money to register their candidates before an Aug 30 deadline.

The Election Commission said their offices will remain open over the weekend for candidates to register for the country's first elections in 20 years, but this may not be enough for many to raise the \$500 registration fee.

### Dhaka too

**FROM PAGE 16** 

Students of Viquarunnesa Noon School claimed that the sound of honking often distracts them when they attend classes. Very few of them knew that their school is a silent zone.

An earlier study of WBB Trust in 2007 revealed that the magnitude of sound was almost double compared to the level set in 2006 rules. Honking was 96 percent responsible for sound pollution.

Swelling noise pollution in the capital in the last two years worsened the residents' physical and mental health, especially those of the children, added the study.

"Currently the sound pollution level in the city and especially in its residential suburbs is 80 decibels on an average. The range remains between 80 and 90 decibels at Shahbagh intersection, Farmgate and Mohakhali rail crossing," said Pran Gopal Datta, vice chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU).

"A person can stay at a place for only half an hour if the sound level is 90 decibels. Otherwise he will have noise-induced hearing loss. But the sound level should remain 40 to 50 decibels for a properly suited workplace," added the VC, also an ENT expert.

Physicians at BSMMU said children's mental development is hampered severely due to sound pollution. It is also responsible for headache, heart disease, reduced thinking capacity.

If a person with hypertension is constantly exposed to sound pollution, his blood pressure will increase certainly and it will finally lead to cardiac arrest, warned the physicians.

Noise pollution also creates irritation and from irritation people gradually get frustrated and suffer from depression and anxiety, said a psychiatrist of BSMMU.

The Noise Pollution (Control) Rules 2006 prohibited honking in 100-metre radius of the hospitals, educational institutes and offices. It also barred using machines in breaking bricks and stones for construction work within 500metre radius of a residential area. Prior permission was made mandatory for using loudspeaker for any occasion.

The rules also made provision for punishment to stop noise pollution. The sentence includes a maximum of onemonth jail term or fine of Tk 5,000 or both for the first time offence. For repeated offence, the punishment would increase to the maximum of six months' jail term or fine of Tk 10,000 or

While talking to The Daily Star, Director of Department of Environment (DoE) Billal Hossain said a special drive was launched in the city in 2008 to checknoise pollution.

"But as we are paying more attention to drives against using polythene, emission of black fumes from vehicles and industries, the monitoring on noise pollution has slowed down recently," he admitted saying that as the mobile court is not incorporated in the rules of 2006, they face trouble in fining the offenders.

The authorities of DoE also admitted that their drive has seen a slow pace.

In September 2008 the Directorate of Environment through an advertisement at different newspapers forbade the drivers to honk randomly.

It also said "High volume of sound causes hearing impairment, high blood pressure, hinders digestive system, creates muscle problem and obstructs child's development process. It may even lead to death."

But for the lack of continuous drive and campaign people pay little heed to mindless honking.

Many bus and truck drivers say nobody ever checked the horns and they were not fined for honking randomly.

PHOTO: AFP

### India cancels China defence exchanges after visa row

**BBC ONLINE** 

India has cancelled defence exchanges with China after China refused a visa to a Kashmirbased general.

The Indian government said that China had to be sensitive to India's concerns, one of which is the disputed area of Kashmir.

As well as India and Pakistan, China also claims part of Kashmir.

Defence ties between China and India have remained tentative due to long-standing disputes and a lack of trust; the two fought a shortwar in 1962. Indian Lt Gen BS Jaswal is responsible for

Indian army operations in the Indianadministered state of Jammu and Kashmir. He had hoped to travel to Beijing in August as part of a high-level exchange, but was denied a visa.

"While we value our exchanges with China, there must be sensitivity to each others' concerns. Our dialogue with China on these issues is ongoing,' India's foreign ministry spokesman said in a statement.

The Times of India said the row had blocked the visit of Indian generals to China and another planned visit of Chinese generals to India.

The Indian foreign ministry noted that defence exchanges with China in recent years had proven "useful".

China and India fought a short border war in 1962. China is strongly critical of India for granting residence to the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama.

It is also close to India's traditional foe, Pakistan, with whom it is cooperating on military and missile development, cross-border infrastructure, and a deep-water port.

Last year, India protested against the Chinese practice of issuing visas to Kashmiris on separate pieces of paper, unlike the standard visas it offered to other Indians.



OLDTENSIONS

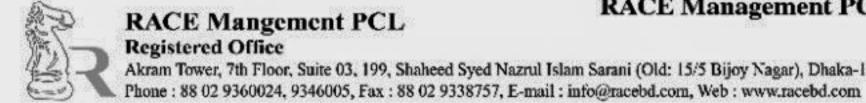
First Janata Bank Mutual Fund (Asset Manager: RACE Management PCL)



#### NOTICE FOR LOTTERY OF ALLOTMENT OF UNITS

RACE Management PCL is pleased to announce that the lottery for allotment of public offering of First Janata Bank Mutual Fund will be held on Sunday, August 29, 2010 at 10.00 A.M. at the National Sports Council Auditorium, NSC tower 62/3, Purana Paltan, Dhaka-1000. We hereby request all concerned parties to attend the event.

> CEO & Managing Director **RACE Management PCL**



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গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর মহাখালী, ঢাকা-১২১২ ফার্ম নিয়োগ

#### স্মারক নং-স্বাঃ অধিঃ/রোঃ নিঃ/জিএফএটিএম/কনস্থালটেন্ট-৭৮/২০০৭/১০৭৬ তারিখ ঃ ২৬-০৮-২০১০ইং ০১ মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয় ০২ এজেঙ্গী স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর ০৩ সংগ্রহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নাম পরিচালক, রোগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ ও লাইন ডাইরেক্টর, সিডিসি ০৪ সংগ্ৰহ পদ্ধতি উনাক্ত দরপত্র ০৫ অর্থের উৎস জিএফএটিএম রাউন্ড ৬ খাত, ফেজ-২ ২০০৯-২০১০ অর্থ বছরের ম্যালেরিয়া নিয়ন্ত্রণ কর্মসূচীর ০৬ কাজের নাম GFATM supported অংশের আর্থিক নিরীক্ষা। আর্থিক নিরীক্ষা কাজে অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন অডিট ফার্ম তাহাদের ০৭ দরপত্র দাতার যোগ্যতা ২০০৯-২০১০ আর্থিক সালের ট্রেড লাইসেন্স হালনাগাদ আয়কর পরিশোধ সনদ, ভ্যাট রেজিষ্ট্রেশন সনদ এবং অভিজ্ঞতা সংক্রান্ত কাজের কার্যাদেশের সত্যায়িত কপি যে কোন ব্যাংক হতে ২০০৯-২০১০ সনের আর্থিক স্বচ্ছলতা সনদপত্র, বিগত ৬ মাসের ব্যাংক স্টেটমেন্ট (জানুয়ারী-২০১০ ইং হইতে জুন-২০১০) এবং দি ইঙ্গটিটিউট অব চাটার্ড একাউন্টেন্টস অব বাংলাদেশ এর নিবন্ধনকৃত সহ স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ মন্ত্রণালয় এর অধিনে বৈদেশিক সাহায্য পুষ্ট প্রকল্পের অডিট সংক্রান্ত বিষয়ে কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা সহ মোট ৫ বছরের কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে। ০৮ দরপত্র দাখিল, বিক্রয়কারী ম্যালেরিয়া কন্ট্রোল প্রোগ্রাম অফিস, বাড়ী নং-২৩৯, রোড নং-১৭, নিউ ডিওএইচএস, মহাখালী, ঢাকা-১২০৬। অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা ০৯ যে অফিসে দরপত্র গ্রহণ ম্যালেরিয়া কন্ট্রোল প্রোগ্রাম অফিস, বাড়ী নং-২৩৯, রোড নং-১৭, নিউ ডিওএইচএস, মহাখালী, ঢাকা-১২০৬। করা হবে তার ঠিকানা ১০ দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের ০২-০৯-২০১০ ইং থেকে ১৫/০৯/২০১০ইং পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়। তারিখ ও সময় ১১ দরপত্র গ্রহণ/দাখিল এর ১৯-০৯-২০১০ ইং বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত। সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়

২০-০৯-২০১০ ইং বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকার সময় উপস্থিত দরপত্র

ক) পিপিআর/২০০৮ইং এর প্রবিধানমালা অনুসারে পরিচালনা করা হবে।

খ) অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী দরপত্র সিডিউল-এর সাথে সংযুক্ত করা হবে।

গ) দরপত্র সিডিউলের টাকা ট্রেজারী চালানের মাধ্যমে স্বাস্থ্য ও পরিবার কল্যাণ খাতের কোড নং সোনালী ব্যাংক/বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক-এ জমা দিয়ে

(অধ্যাপক ভাঃ মোয়াজ্জেম হোসেন) পরিচালক (রোগ নিয়ন্ত্রক) ও লাইন ডাইরেক্টর, সিডিসি স্বাস্থ্য অধিদপ্তর, মহাখালী, ঢাকা।

মূল কপি দাখিল করে দরপত্র সিভিউল গ্রহণ করতে হবে।

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দাতাদের সন্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন)

3000/-

A person holds a book about Mother Teresa as several hundred people protest a decision by the Empire State Building not to light the top of the building in blue and white in honour of the 100th birthday of Mother Teresa on Thursday in New York.