

## Memory and Justice in Post-Genocide Rwanda

Following times of great conflict and tragedy, many countries implement programs and policies of transitional justice, none more extensive than in post-genocide Rwanda. Placing Rwanda's transitional justice initiatives in their historical and political context, this book examines the project undertaken by the post-genocide government to shape the collective memory of the Rwandan population, both through political and judicial reforms but also in public commemorations and memorials. Drawing on over two decades of field research in Rwanda, Longman uses surveys and comparative local case studies to explore Rwanda's response, both at governmental and local level. He argues that despite good intentions and important innovations, Rwanda's authoritarian political context has hindered the ability of transitional justice to bring the radical social and political transformations that its advocates hoped. Moreover, it continues to heighten the political and economic inequalities that underline ethnic divisions and are an important ongoing barrier to reconciliation.

Timothy Longman is Director of the African Studies Center and Associate Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Boston University. He has previously held teaching and research positions at Vassar College, the University of California, Berkeley, the University of the Witwatersrand, and the National University of Rwanda. He has conducted over twenty years of research in Rwanda, and is the author of *Christianity and Genocide in Rwanda* (Cambridge, 2010).

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Timothy Longman  
*Boston University*



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To my husband, Tracy Keene, who has put up with far too many trips during the process of research and writing this book. It was always a joy to come home to you.

“Much has been made of the doom of not remembering. But remembering has its limitations. Believe me, it is good to forget.”

“Yes,” I said. Though everything that I ever forgot I always remembered again later, so perhaps it didn’t count.

Lorrie Moore  
*A Gate at the Stairs*



Administrative map of Rwanda 1996–2006 with case studies highlighted

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## Abbreviations

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ANC	African National Congress
CDR	Coalition for the Defense of the Republic
FIDH	International Federation of Human Rights
HRW	Human Rights Watch
ICC	International Criminal Court
ICTR	International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
IDP	internally displaced people
LIPRODHOR	<i>Ligue Rwandaise pour la Promotion et la Défense des Droits de l'Homme</i>
MRND	National Revolutionary Movement for Development ( <i>Mouvement Révolutionnaire National pour le Développement</i> )
NUR	National University of Rwanda
PTSD	post-traumatic stress disorder
RPA	Rwandan Patriotic Army
RPF	Rwandan Patriotic Front
RTLTM	Radio-Television of the Thousand Hills ( <i>Radio-Télévision Libre des Mille Collines</i> )
TRC	Truth and Reconciliation Commission