



This is the testimony of Valentina

My name is Valentina. I am 19 years old. My parents, both secondary school teachers, were killed in the genocide. Only my elder sister, Ariane, three brothers and I survived.

Until 1991 we lived in Burundi as refugees, but my parents decided to return to Rwanda, believing that there was peace. I was still a baby at the time, but I learnt from my elder sister that my father was imprisoned soon after. Following his release, he was appointed a teacher at the Roman Catholic Secondary School in Kabgayi. My mother also taught at the same school.

In 1994, when the killings began we fled to the Roman Catholic Church in Kabgayi. The priests requested that the men be separated from the women. The boys were separated from us. First the men were killed, and then the boys. My mother and I managed to escape the killing, and together we hid. I was only 5 years old.

e y d s fu e the ed a



Our salvation came when the RPF arrived in Kabga



am happy now, as I have just been admitted to secondary school, at where I plan to take the national exam.

I pray to God to bless all these people who have helped me!