

**Cyprien Musabirema :**

In his speech welcoming the Prime Minister, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Maurice Ntahobali, also spoke briefly about the views and recommendations that the Butare intellectuals have expressed to the Government. Let us listen to the Vice-Chancellor of the *Université nationale du Rwanda*, Maurice Ntahobali:

I am delighted to have this opportunity to welcome His Excellency Jean Kambanda, Prime Minister of the Republic of Rwanda and to thank him for having taken the time, despite his numerous duties, to come and talk to the people of Butare, especially the staff of the *Université nationale du Rwanda*.

Please join me in expressing our joy in welcoming the Prime Minister by giving him a round of applause (*Applause*).

Your Excellency, Mr. Prime Minister, your visit affords us the opportunity to express to you, once again, our deep sorrow at the death of His Excellency Juvénal Habyarimana, President of the Republic of Rwanda and Chancellor of the *Université nationale du Rwanda*, who was killed by criminals, together with his counterpart, His Excellency Ntaryamira, President of the Republic of Burundi, an alumnus of our university.

Your visit is an opportunity for us to tell you ourselves that the *Université nationale du Rwanda* supports the authorities of the Republic of Rwanda, in particular the President of the Republic and your Government. Right from its formation, your Government set itself the task of restoring peace to the country and establishing government institutions including the *Inkotanyi*, within six weeks. This decision was taken without knowing the objective of the *Inkotanyi*, who are known in English as « RPF », an acronym that stands for « *récupération du pouvoir par la force* » [retaking power by force] (*Applause*). We did not expect them to have such an objective and that is why I believe it will not be easy for the *team* headed by you to attain the objectives you set yourself for these six weeks. It will be necessary, and I

hope you have already started doing so, to see how you can «readjust» these objectives in view of the difficulties facing us at present, caused by RPF-*Inkotanyi*.

Most the staff of this university have communicated their views to you in writing although they worked in different *teams*, and although they did not consult each other before sending you their views, I realize that their views coincide on various points, notably the following:

First, they believe that the Arusha Accords no longer have any value, since RPF which was the biggest beneficiary in the Accords has been the first to refuse to implement them. Today, RPF even says, and the Radio Muhabura listeners can testify to that fact, that these Accords are no longer applicable.

Second, as you have noted yourself, they thought it necessary to sensitize the population to find ways of defending themselves, since RPF-*inkotanyi* does not want the war that it has started to drag on.

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