



**This is the testimony of Denis, a survivor of the Rwandan genocide**

My father died in the killings in 1994 and my mother died as a result of them 2 years later.

I was just 6 at the time of the genocide. I remember the killers came and attacked our neighbours first. When my father saw this he fled the house immediately because he knew he was on the list of the people to be killed. He was later caught and killed.

There was chaos everywhere. I was able though to strap my little brother to my back and flee the house. Soon after that a war of bullets started.

We fled to where our maternal grandparents lived and spent a week there. But my grandfather chased us away saying that we were collaborating with the Inkotanyi soldiers. We were able to survive though.

We have been lucky, and at least have a mud house. We also have some animals to rear. We live on subsistence farming and the plot of land we have is small and cannot provide for our food needs.

I can never forgive those that killed my father. If my father and mother were here, I would not be out of school trying to look after my brother and sister. I am suffering terribly now because I lost my parents and remember I am only 19

I am still dealing with the effects of the killings, and will have to do so for ever. Though I do receive some help, it can never be enough to replace my parents.

**Today's Reading of the Testimonies marks the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Rwandan genocide, in support of survivors like Denis.**