



NURU PRESENTS

Main Character

BURUNDI

Ludoviko Rwagasore





WHO IS HE ?



NAME

Ludoviko Rwagasore

DATE OF BIRTH

January 10th 1932

PLACE OF BIRTH

Gitega, Urundi kingdom, now Burundi

OCCUPATION

Burundian prince and politician.

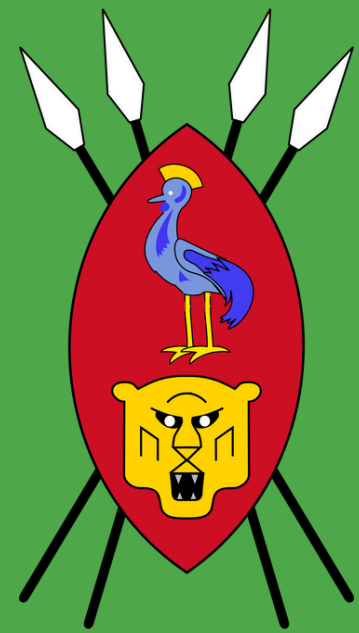


Son of **King Mwambusta IV**, **Ludoviko** or **Louis Rwagasore** was the **prince** of **Urundi**. He is a **major actor of Burundi's independence** becoming the first local **Prime Minsiter**. He was **assasinated** only **2 weeks** after his assumption of position.



HIS CAREER

1922 Belgium administrated
Ruanda-urundi



1956

L. Rwagasore returned from study abroad.

1957

1. Founded **empowerment** cooperatives for **native burundians**.
2. He **founded** and **led** the **UPRONA** political party (next slide) and started pushing for **independence** and establishment of a **constitutional monarchy**.

1960

He is put under house arrest by the Belgian administration.

1961

Legislative elections led **UPRONA** to **power** with **Rwagasore** becoming **prime minister** of newly independent Burundi.





HIS COMBAT

Union for National Progress
Union pour le Progrès national

Movement for liberty and towards unity

The Union for National Progress (UPRONA) is a **nationalist** political party in Burundi founded by Prince Louis Rwagasore. He played a pivotal role in leading the movement for independence from Belgium. Rwagasore's **vision** for UPRONA was to **unite Burundi's various ethnic groups, including Hutus and Tutsis, in a nationalist front.**

After Rwagasore

However, following his assassination in **1961**, the party gradually **shifted**. After **1966**, UPRONA became an **integral part of the one-party state established by Michel Micombero**, and its leadership came to be **dominated** by members of the **Tutsi** ethnic group, with increasing **intolerance toward Hutus**.

Today's UPRONA

Despite these shifts, UPRONA remained a **dominant political force** until the later stages of the **Burundian Civil War in 2003**. Today, it is a **minor opposition party**.



HIS ASSASSINATION

On **October 13, 1961**, Rwagasore was assassinated by a Greek national named **Jean Kageorgis**. He was believed to have been **hired by political rivals** of Rwagasore, linked to the pro-Belgian political party, the **Christian Democratic Party (PDC)**, which had opposed UPRONA's independence movement. Belgium's colonial administration was also criticized for not having done enough to prevent the assassination, and there have been allegations of their **complicity** in the broader plot.



The assassination **deeply affected** Burundi's political trajectory, leading to further instability during its transition to independence. Many studies argue that **his death facilitated the growth of hutu-tutsi tensions in the country.**