

## **Rutshuru**

### *Eastern Rutshuru:*

#### **Banyabwisha (Bahutu)**

The Bwisha are Rwandan speaking peoples who have lived in Rutshuru for over 100 years. They would be classified as 'Hutu' agriculturalists and comprise virtually 100% of the population of the Eastern Rutshuru sub-zone. The pre-colonial kingdom of Rwanda under Rwabugiri attempted to conquer this kingdom unsuccessfully, therefore Rwandan claims to this territory would be viewed very suspiciously.

### *Western Rutshuru:*

#### **Banyabwisha (Bahutu)**

The Bwisha are Rwandan speaking peoples who have lived in Rutshuru for over 100 years. They would be classified as 'Hutu' agriculturalists and comprise 80% of the population of the Western Rutshuru sub-zone. This group was targeted for attacks in the 1993, and about 5000 people were killed.

#### **Bahunde**

The Hunde see themselves as the original inhabitants of this zone and the Bwisha as in-migrants, however, they pay tribute to and acknowledge the Bwisha *Mwami* (king) as their leader. The Hunde of this region were instrumental in the attacks carried out against Bwisha in 1993, and again in 1995. The pre-colonial kingdom of Rwanda under Rwabugiri attempted to conquer this kingdom unsuccessfully, therefore Rwandan claims to this territory would be viewed very suspiciously.

#### **Banande (Wanande)**

The Nande are migrants into this area and have also had tense relations with the Bwisha and the Banyarwanda. (See above)

## **Masisi**

### *Eastern Masisi:*

#### **Bahunde**

The Hunde see themselves as the original inhabitants of this zone. There have been major tensions in this region with the Rwandan speaking populations in recent years. This group comprises less than 20% of the population of this region. The Hunde are very closely related to the Nyanga, and are seen as a subgroup by many.

#### **Banyarwandan**

Until the expulsion of the Tutsi from the Masisi in 1995, the population of Rwandan speaking peoples in this area was both Tutsi and Hutu. The Banyarwanda in this area forms the majority of the population and arrived there as migrant labour for the Belgian plantations in this area. There continued to be