‘Joshua Kennedy

Ms. Brittany Nicholson

Humanities

A letter to the editor of a certain newspaper about the genocide in Rwanda.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Good day sir, my name is Joshua, and I’m writing this letter to further inform you about the genocide of Rwanda, especially if you haven’t heard about it yet.

Now let’s not waste time and get to the main topic. This genocide in Rwanda has taken the life of over a million Tutsis, and not of a good reason, too. This, of course, has broken quite a few of human rights that have been officially declared by the UN. Here are the rights that has been broken in the genocide:

1. Human rights #1, We are born free and equal: the Tutsis are killed just because they are Tutsis.
2. Human rights #2: Don’t discriminate: the Tutsis are obviously discriminated in this case.
3. Human rights #3: The right to life. The Hutus have taken the Tutsis right to life, since they killed them without mercy.
4. Human rights #8: Your human rights are protected by the law: There is no official course of law related action that has been taken during the genocide,
5. Human rights #13: Freedom to move. The Tutsis at that time no longer have the freedom to move, since they are killed if they are seen in the streets.
6. Human rights #14: The right to seek a safe place to live: The Tutsis no longer have any safe place to live at that time.
7. Human rights #24: The right to play. Tutsis children are not allowed to play by their own will anymore, since the risk of being killed is too high.
8. Human rights #28: A fair and free world. This, most certainly, is not fair at all.
9. Human rights #30: No one can take away your human rights. The Tutsis rights are certainly taken away from them at this time.

I am ashamed of myself, I am ashamed of humanity, I am ashamed of the world. I can’t think straight, how would anyone, in this sane world, let such things happen in their own world, and do not take any action to prevent or even minimize the damage? Of course, I take pity on the Tutsis, but that would not help anyone in this matter. I think the most powerful organization that can help the Tutsis at that time is the UN. But, because of the circumstances, even UN cannot do anything to stop this.

 Of course, I am really glad this tragedy doesn’t occur in my time. If this were to continue any longer, more lives would be lost, more human rights would be broken. Maybe, just maybe, the tragedy will spread all around the world, tribes similar to the Hutus, inspired by this, began to kill other tribes that are similar to them, so that their tribe will be the only one and will live without any disturbance from any other tribe, I cannot even help to imagine that happening, killings everywhere, not a single safe place to live, especially here in Indonesia, the home of hundreds different tribes. Fortunately, of course, that didn’t happen. The genocide was stopped. This has saved the small amount of Tutsis remaining, but not only that; this has prevented any other genocide that is inspired by the killings.

 Fortunately, my life has been has been wonderful all this time. I have not encountered these kinds of situations in my life. Although, I have heard stories about them, even seeing them by my own eyes. In Pontianak, my hometown, once, the Malays are killing every Chinese in their sight. This is, some say, is caused by jealousy. The Malayan is the original tribe back there in Pontianak, but, their “visitors”, the Chinese, has been far more prosperous compared to the Malayan. So, this results in the killings. The Chinese cannot fight back, since they are the minority. Fortunately, this doesn’t continue for long, and even though the killing has stopped, the Chinese and Malayan haven’t been living in peace ever since.

 I think the UN can prevent such things to happen nowadays by giving attention to the tribes in small, developing countries like Indonesia, help them so that they can live life in peace with the tribes near them. And to take immediate actions, if, by any chance, a genocide like this would happen again some time in the future.

 I think that’s all to my letter. Thank you for your time, I highly appreciate it. I hope that by reading this letter, you will kindly present an article about the genocides all around the world in your newspaper, since many people are reading it and hopefully moved by it.

Best regards,

Joshua Kennedy