

Responsibility ethnic cleansings in rwanda and yugoslavia. kofi



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Responsibility to Protect' was a report presented in International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS) which was developed by Government of Canada in December 2001. The development of '

Responsibility to Protect' has a long tragic history; the humanitarian atrocities committed in Rwanda, Yugoslavia and Kosovo in 1990s generated a new debate on the role of International community on the prevention of the use of force, violation of human rights and maintenance of peace.

In Rwanda, 800,000 members of Tutsi minority were murdered from April to July 1994, while in Yugoslavia by 1995 almost 100,000 minority Muslim Serbs were killed. What was unique about these humanitarian crises was that these were deliberate actions of recognized government of sovereign states. The gross humanitarian catastrophic events witnessed in this period changed the entire approach of International community towards State Sovereignty.

Earlier to these events the State sovereignty was considered absolute and intervention of any sort was considered violation of International customary law. The State sovereignty was unbreachable therefore the

International community was unable to stop these genocides and ethnic cleansings in Rwanda and Yugoslavia. Kofi Annan the then Secretary-General of United Nations in Millennium Report of 2000, expressed dissatisfaction over the inability of Security Council and International Community at large for their insufficient role in deterring these humanitarian crises. Kofi Annan in the same session famously in response to these challenges and possible threats, member states in United Nations World Summit 2005 endorsed and accepted Responsibility to protect, whereby all member states formally acknowledged the responsibility their respective state to ensure the welfare and protection

of their population as a pre condition to Absolute or unbreachebleState Sovereignty. If a stateis unwilling or unable to protect its population then according to R2P, International Community has ‘ residual responsibility’ or ‘ shared responsibility’to play its role in ending or discouraging crime against humanity, ethniccleansings, war crimes and genocides.

It aims to create a secure world free ofany humanitarian crises. Thesis Statement: Although R2P was a genuine effort by theUnited Nation to assist the humanitarian causes more effectively and efficientlybut sill it has failed to end the problem of deadlock in the United NationSecurity Council. R2P at the cost of just one veto is considered void. The idealistic notion of ‘ Shared responsibility’under R2P is ineffective because States still put their Individual Interestahead and makes no compromise to it.