

**THE CESSATION CLAUSE: HOW IT IS UNDERSTOOD BY THE
RWANDAN REFUGEES IN UGANDA**

By

UWINEZA MIMI HARRIET B.A

EDUC (KIE)

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ABSTRACT

This research highlighted the different positions, opinions and/or views from the Rwandan refugees living in exile in Uganda. These views were about the cessation clause set to be officially invoked by the UNHCR on 30th June 2013. The study argues that the implementation of the cessation clause to put an end to the refugee status of the concerned group should be halted and be replaced by durable solutions.

The main objectives of this study were to investigate the impacts of the cessation clause on the Rwandan refugees in Uganda, their human security and human dignity. To assess the human rights implications of the cessation clause. To understand the stake holders interests in the invocation of the cessation clause. The areas of study are chosen from the rural areas of Ssembabule (Rugyura and Kabayora-Imuguru); Mityana (Namutamba and Tanda-Kavure) and Mubende (Gifumbira village). The researcher also contacted some urban refugees living in Bondeko, Kevina and Naburagara.

The study used both primary and secondary data. Primary data was obtained from IASFM 13 Conference on Governing Migration, interviews with lead experts and observations. Secondary data was found in Journals, books, reports, international conventions and domestic laws of Uganda.

The major findings of this study are that the Banyarwanda refugees in Uganda are so different despite the cessation clause applying to them as one group. The cessation clause application is a violation of rights of Rwandan refugees living in Uganda because it is being enforced on them without other legal and durable options available.

Stakeholders have interests that are beyond the human security of refugees and they overlook that important factor for political and economic interests. The cessation clause if not halted will be a breeding group for conflict perpetuation.

⁵ ibid