



TV

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

UN IN ACTION

Release Date: September 2015

Programme: 1488

Length: 5'01"

Languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish, Russian

VIDEO

AUDIO

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: THE PATH OUT OF VIOLENCE

MARIE-THÉRÈSE KEITA-BOCOUM:

(In French) F

UN ARCHIVE VISUALS OF CONFLICT *"There is such poverty and misery that today everything is a pretext for a crisis, for settling scores, for vengeance."* (11)

NARRATION

AISHA AND MUSLIMS IN DISTRICT OF BANGUI Since the end of 2012 the Central African Republic – a small and very poor landlocked country of 4.5 million – has been convulsed by civil war and sectarian violence. A struggle over political power, land and resources now sees mainly Christian militia groups known as Anti-Balaka pitted against a mostly Muslim militia known as Ex-Séléka. (22)

AISHA: (In Sango) F

AISHA ON CAMERA AND WALKING *"People lost their belongings and their close ones. They saw their families being killed like beasts."* (9)

NARRATION

Nearly half a million people are displaced – almost 200 thousand – including most of the country's Muslims have fled the country – and tens of thousands – like Aisha Amadou are trapped in enclaves unable to escape. (13)

This is the very outer limit of a district called PK5 in the nation's capital Bangui. Aisha says she can't take a single step further. (11)

AISHA: (In Sango) F

"It's certain death because you are identified as Muslim. Peace has not returned yet. A lot of people are coming here talking about reconciliation but there is no reconciliation yet. If a Muslim shows up in some areas they will be killed on the spot. A few days ago a Muslim was killed and they brought the body here and he was buried on Monday." (27)

NARRATION

Meanwhile 20,000 Christians are trapped in this miserable displacement camp near the capital's airport.

MARIE-THÉRÈSE: (In French) F

"I had heard about this crisis, but the scale of the crisis really struck me." (4)

MARIE-THÉRÈSE ON CAMERA

NARRATION

MARIE-THÉRÈSE WALKS AND TALKS
WITH PRESS

In the midst of this, Independent Expert Marie-Thérèse Keita-Bocoum, appointed by the United Nations Human Rights Council, arrives

IMAGE OF MUSLIM REPS IN PK5

in the country for her fourth visit – here she confers with Muslim representatives in PK5. Her task is to monitor and make recommendations on the human rights situation in the country. (18)

MARIE-THÉRÈSE ON CAMERA

MARIE-THÉRÈSE: (In French) F

“The crisis has exploded over the past one and a half years. The whole population is suffering. And you see the suffering on people’s faces.”

MARIE-THÉRÈSE ON PLANE,
ARRIVING AT BERBERATI

NARRATION

Marie-Thérèse travels the country to assess the crisis – here, she goes east to Berberati. A human rights officer from the UN Peacekeeping Mission – MINUSCA - provides support. (10)

UN PEACEKEEPERS BERBERATI,
ARRIVAL OF CONVOY

Marie-Thérèse visits a local prison – the mayor has assured her there are no women prisoners – but... (8)

MARIE-THÉRÈSE ON CAMERA

MARIE-THÉRÈSE: (In French) F

“What was most striking to me was to see a woman in the same cell as all these other men. And even more startling, was that the prisoners had absolutely nothing to eat.” (17)

RECREATED VISUALS OF CAR
BEING_MOBBED

NARRATION

A key ally in Marie-Therese’s efforts toward reconciliation is the catholic archbishop of Bangui, Dieudonné Nzapalainga.

DIEUDONNÉ NZAPALAINGA ON

DIEUDONNÉ NZAPALAINGA: (In French) M

“What we’ve lived through stays on in the

CAMERA

deepest part of ourselves – like a ticking bomb.”

(8)

PEUHL GIRL AND MOTHER AT
ARCHBISHOP’S RESIDENCE

NARRATION

The archbishop believes that the route to a new era for the country can only pass through a deep, honest and shared accounting of what happened. (8)

DIEUDONNÉ NZAPALAINGA: (In French) M
“People make mistakes, do bad things. Maybe you didn’t kill my father. Maybe you were forced to. If you confess that you killed, I’m liberated. I can mourn, and now there’s a path to reconciliation.” (17)

ARCHBISHOP AND IMAM DINING
TOGETHER

NARRATION

In a practical demonstration of reconciliation, the archbishop protected an imam who had to flee for his life after fighting broke out in his district. Imam Kobine Layama still lives close by.

CONSULTATION MEETING WITH
MARIE-THÉRÈSE

The UN is striving to build on these hopeful signs by helping organize nationwide consultations. After her visit Marie-Therese, one of the experts of the Special Procedures System of the Human Rights Council – brings her recommendations to the council in Geneva. Her goal is to mobilize international support for the conflict’s resolution.

UN LOGO

This report was produced by Francis Mead for the United Nations. (4.5)

