PARK EAST HIGH SCHOOL
Purpose, Preparation, Pride

Name: _____ Date: _____

Part I: Genocide in Africa: Rwanda and Darfur

The **Rwandan Genocide** was the massacre of an estimated 800,000 to 1,071,000 ethnic Tutsis and moderate Hutus in Rwanda, mostly carried out by two extremist Hutu militia groups, the Interahamwe and the Impuzamugambi, during a period of about 100 days from April 6th through mid-July 1994.

The Rwandan Genocide stands out as significant, not only because of the sheer number of people massacred in such a short period of time, but also because of how inadequately the United Nations (particularly, its Western members such as the United States, France and the United Kingdom) responded. Despite intelligence provided before the killing began, and international news media coverage reflecting the true scale of violence as the genocide unfolded, most first-world countries including France, Belgium (which held Rwanda as a colony after World War I), and the United States declined to intervene or speak out against the planned massacres. Canada continued to lead the United Nations Peace Keeping force in Rwandan territory.

The United Nations established UNAMIR (United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda), in October 1993 "to help implement the Arusha Peace Agreement signed by the Rwandan parties on 4 August 1993"; its "mandate" ended in 1996. Prior to and during the genocide, the UN did not authorize UNAMIR to intervene and to use force quickly and/or effectively enough to halt the killing and other atrocities in Rwanda. While it "adjusted" UNAMIR's "mandate and strength . . . on a number of occasions in the face of the tragic events of the genocide and the changing situation in the country," given UN Security Council policy and various procedural constraints and other limitations imposed on UNAMIR, the United Nations failed to prevent the genocide. The leader of the U.N. mission was Canadian Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire.

The United Nations' peacekeeping efforts were unsuccessful. Too often, the United Nations soldiers refused to actively attack the aggressors. They were not equipped to deal with the conditions in Rwanda. President Clinton mentions the Rwanda incident as his biggest regret as President.

The genocide ended when a Tutsi-dominated expatriate rebel movement known as the Rwandan Patriotic Front, led by Paul Kagame, overthrew the Hutu government and seized power. Fearing reprisals, hundreds of thousands of Hutu and other refugees fled into eastern Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of the Congo). The violence and its memory have continued to affect the country and the region. Ethnic hatreds that fueled the Rwandan Genocide quickly spilled over into Congo, continuing after it ended and fueling both the First and Second Congo Wars. Ethnic rivalry between Hutu and Tutsi tribal factions is also a major factor in the Burundi Civil War.

The genocide also left both physical and emotional scars on the survivors of the genocide. Organizations such as the Survivors Fund give a voice to survivors in Rwanda, helping to raise awareness of their plight. It currently is working to raise awareness of the dangers faced by survivors from reprisal attacks resulting from giving evidence at Gacaca.

Answer the following questions using complete sentences using the above reading.

1. What is the most important and significant aspect of the Rwanda incident?

2. Describe what the United Nations did in the Rwanda incident.

3. How did the genocide end?

The **Darfur conflict** is an ongoing armed conflict in the Darfur region of western Sudan, mainly between the Janjaweed, a militia group recruited from the tribes of the Abbala (camel-herding Arabs), and the non-Baggara people (mostly land-tilling tribes) of the region. The Sudanese government, while publicly denying that it supports the Janjaweed, has provided arms and assistance and has participated in joint attacks with the group, systematically targeting the Fur, Zaghawa, and Massaleit ethnic groups in Darfur. The conflict began in July 2003. Unlike in the Second Sudanese Civil War, which was fought between the primarily Muslim north and Christian and Animist south, in Darfur most of the residents are Muslim, as are the Janjaweed.

Estimated number of deaths in the conflict have ranged from 50,000 (World Health Organization, September 2004) to 450,000 (Dr. Eric Reeves, 28 April 2006). Most NGOs (non government organization) use 400,000, a figure from the Coalition for International Justice that has since been cited by the United Nations. As many as 2.5 million are thought to have been displaced.

The mass media have described the conflict as both "ethnic cleansing" and "genocide." The United States government has described it as genocide, although the United Nations has declined to do so.

After fighting worsened in July and August 2006, on August 31, 2006, the United Nations Security Council approved Resolution 1706 which called for a new 17,300-troop UN peacekeeping force to supplant or supplement a poorly funded, ill-equipped 7,000-troop African Union Mission in Sudan peacekeeping force. Sudan strongly objected to the resolution and said that it would see the UN forces in the region as foreign invaders. The next day, the Sudanese military launched a major offensive in the region.

Answer the following questions using complete sentences using the above reading

1. What is Darfur? Where is it located?

2. Which religion are most people in Darfur? How is this different than the recent Civil War in the Sudan?

3. Why do you think that different organizations and experts estimate different numbers of deaths in the conflict?

4. What did the United Nations do in August 2006 to help the people in Darfur? What was the response of the Sudanese government?

Part II: Comparison

Darfur	**Alike**	**Rwanda**