



Refugee Documentation Centre (Ireland)
LEGAL AID BOARD

Zimbabwe - Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on Tuesday 16 & Wednesday 17 February 2016

Information on ethnic conflict between Shona and Ndebele between July 2014 and February 2016

In June 2015 the *United States Department of State* commenting on events of the preceding year notes that:

“Unwillingness to acknowledge past atrocities continued to influence Shona-Ndebele relations negatively” (United States Department of State (25 June 2015) *2014 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices – Zimbabwe*).

This document also states:

“Historical tension between the Shona majority and the Ndebele minority resulted in marginalization of the Ndebele by the Shona-dominated government. During the 2013 elections, the mainstream MDC-T often accused Welshman Ncube of the MDC-N (an Ndebele) of campaigning on a tribal platform. In turn, the smaller MDC-N complained of continued victimization and neglect of the minority Ndebele by the Shona-dominated MDC-T and ZANU-PF” (ibid).

Minority Rights Group International in a report published in July 2015 includes the following on a list of “peoples under threat” for Zimbabwe:

“Ndebele, Europeans, political/social targets” (Minority Rights Group International (July 2015) *State of the World’s Minorities and Indigenous Peoples 2015*, p.260).

BMI Research in January 2016 notes the:

“...Ndebele, many of whom feel like second-class citizens” (BMI Research (1 January 2016) *Q1 2016*).

No further information on this issue could be found among sources available to the RDC.

References

BMI Research (1 January 2016) *Q1 2016*

http://www.lexisnexis.com/uk/legal/results/docview/docview.do?docLinkInd=true&risb=21_T23505813947&format=GNBFULL&sort=BOOLEAN&startDocNo=1&resultsUrlKey=29_T23505813951&cisb=22_T23505813950&treeMax=true&treeWidth=0&csi=252475&docNo=10This is a subscription database

Accessed Tuesday 16 February 2016

Minority Rights Group International (July 2015) *State of the World’s Minorities and Indigenous Peoples 2015*

<http://minorityrights.org/publications/state-of-the-worlds-minorities-and-indigenous-peoples-2015/>

Accessed Tuesday 16 February 2016

United States Department of State (25 June 2015) *2014 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices – Zimbabwe*

<http://www.refworld.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/rwmain?page=printdoc&docid=559bd5296>

Accessed Tuesday 16 February 2016

This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read in full all documents referred to.

Sources Consulted

Amnesty International
BBC News
Electronic Immigration Network
European Country of Origin Information Network
Freedom House
Google
Human Rights Watch
Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada
Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
International Crisis Group
IRIN News
Lexis Nexis
Minority Rights Group International
Online Newspapers
Refugee Documentation Centre E-Library
Refugee Documentation Centre Query Database
Reliefweb
Reuters
United Kingdom Home Office
United States Department of State
UNHCR Refworld