

Africa's Entrepreneur President-Paul Kagame

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Often credited as the force behind the ending of the Rwandan genocide in 1994, H. E. Paul Kagame has cut a striking image throughout the world as a leader who has been willing to go against the grain on so many levels to bring about real and lasting change in Rwanda.

Whether we are looking at the ICT industry, the tea and coffee industry, education, women's rights, or reconciliation he seems to always be at the forefront of his class-that class being the class of current African presidents and political leaders. And his leadership has not gone unnoticed in the since that since he came to leadership Rwanda has made a slow but very steady march towards stability and prosperity.

Here is a brief excerpt from President Kagame's [official website](#) that talks about his historic journey:

"His Excellency Paul Kagame was sworn in as President of the Republic of Rwanda for a seven-term mandate on 12 September 2003 after being elected in the first ever democratically contested multiparty elections held in August 2003.

Paul Kagame was born in October 1957 in Ruhango, Southern Province, to Deogratius and Asteria Rutagambwa.

In 1960, he fled persecution and ethnic pogroms that were to characterise Rwanda in subsequent decades, and became a refugee in Uganda.

Paul Kagame was among the first 27 men who, together with Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, launched a five-year liberation war in Uganda in 1980.

He served as a senior officer in the Ugandan army between 1986 and 1990 during which time he attended a staff and command course at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, USA.

In October 1990, Paul Kagame returned to Rwanda after thirty years in exile to lead the Rwandan Patriotic Army (RPA) in the struggle for the liberation of Rwanda.

On 19 July 1994, he was appointed Vice-President and Minister for Defence in the Government of National Unity.

In 1998, he was elected Chairman of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), a partner in the Government of National Unity.

On 17 April 2000, Paul Kagame was unanimously elected President of the Republic of Rwanda by the Transitional National Assembly. He took the Oath of Office on 22 April 2000.

President Kagame was awarded the 2003 Global Leadership Award by the Young Presidents Organisation

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(YPO), in recognition of his role in uniting and reconciling Rwandans and in promoting peaceful solutions to the conflicts in the region."

Listen to him talking in this interview as he talks about competition and free market principles and you will get a glimpse into why he really is the Entrepreneur President

