

**CURRICULUM VITAE**  
**ALISON L. DES FORGES**  
**1942-2009**

**EDUCATION**

**Yale University**

PhD (1972) African History

MA (1966) African Studies

**Radcliffe College**

AB (1964) European History

**TEACHING POSITIONS**

Visiting Assistant Professor, University of California at Berkeley (Spring 2002)

Adjunct Professor of History, State University of New York at Buffalo (1990 – 1991)

Visiting Lecturer, Department of History, State University College at Oswego (1984 – 1985)

Visiting Lecturer, Millard Fillmore College, SUNY Buffalo (Summer 1973, 1974)

Lecturer, Department of History, Middlebury College (1970 – 1971)

Teaching Assistant, Yale University (1965 – 1966)

**HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITIES**

- Senior Advisor, Africa Division, Human Rights Watch (2001 – 2009)
- Consultant to Africa Division, Human Rights Watch (June 1994 – 2001)
- Principal researcher on Rwanda and Burundi (over 36 field missions), Human Rights Watch (November 1991 – June 1994)
- Chair, International Commission for the Investigation of Human Rights Abuses in Burundi (1993 – 1994)
- Co-Chair, International Commission for the Investigation of Human Rights Abuses in Rwanda (1992 – 1993)
- Member, Human Rights Committee of the African Studies Association

**EXPERIENCE AS EXPERT WITNESS**

- Eleven trials at the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (Arusha, Tanzania)

- Three Genocide Trials at the Cour d'Assize (Brussels, Belgium)
- Genocide Trial in Canadian court
- Trial for violations of the Geneva Convention, Military Court Martial (Lausanne, Switzerland)
- United Nations Commission of Inquiry concerning the Rwandan genocide
- Organization of African Unity Investigation by the Panel of Eminent Persons regarding the Rwandan genocide
- Hearings at the United States Senate and House of Representatives
- Hearings at the Belgian Senate
- Hearings at the British Parliament
- Hearings at the French National Assembly
- Hearings in proceedings concerning immigration cases in Canada, Belgium, and the United States

#### LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

1. **Defeat is the Only Bad News: Rwanda under Musinga, 1898-1931** (Madison: University of Wisconsin, 2011). Published posthumously, edited and with an Introduction by David Newbury.
2. **Leave None to Tell the Story** (New York: Human Rights Watch, 1999), published simultaneously in French translation, **Aucun Témoin Ne Doit Survivre** (Paris: Karthala, 1999); German translation, **Kein Zeuge darf überleben, Der Genozid in Rwanda** (Hamburg: Hamburg Edition, 2002); Kinyarwanda translation, **“Ntihazasigare n’uwo kubara inkuru”:** **Itsembabwoko mu Rwanda** (Trenton, New Jersey: The Red Sea Press, 2014).
3. “The Ideology of Genocide,” **Issue: A Journal of Opinion**, African Studies Association, vol. 23(3), 1995, 44-47.
4. “Rwanda” in **Human Rights Watch, Human Rights and Communal Violence** (New York: Human Rights Watch, 1995).
5. “Face au génocide: Une réponse désastreuse des Etats-Unis et des Nations Unies” in André Guichaoua, **Les Crises Politiques au Burundi et au Rwanda** (Paris: Karthala et Université des Sciences et Technologies de Lille, 1995), pp. 455-464.
6. **Rwanda, a New Catastrophe** (New York: Human Rights Watch, December 1994).

7. **The Aftermath of Genocide in Rwanda** (New York: Human Rights Watch, September 1994).
8. **Rapport Final de la Commission Internationale d'Enquête sur les Violations des Droits de l'Homme au Burundi Depuis le 21 Octobre 1993** (editor), Paris: Human Rights Watch, Federation Internationale des Droits de l'Homme, et al., July 1994)
9. **Genocide in Rwanda, April-May 1994** (New York: Human Rights Watch/Africa, vol. 6, no. 4, May 1994).
10. "Burundi: Failed Coup or Creeping Coup?," **Current History**, 93: 583 (May 1994), pp. 203-207.
11. "Rwanda" in **Human Rights Watch World Report 1994** (New York: Human Rights Watch, December 1993), pp. 33-40.
12. **Beyond the Rhetoric: Continuing Human Rights Abuses in Rwanda**, Africa Watch Report, June 1993, pp. 1-29.
13. **Rapport Final de la Commission Internationale d'Enquête sur les Violations des droits de l'homme au Rwanda** (editor), Paris, March 1993.
14. **Rwanda: Talking Peace and Waging War**, Africa Watch Report, February 1992.
15. "The Drum is Greater than the Shout: the 1912 Rebellion in Northern Rwanda" in Donald Crummey, ed., **Banditry, Rebellion and Social Protest in Africa** (Portsmouth, N.H.: Heinemann, 1985), pp. 311-332.
16. "Lectures on Selected Topics of African History" given at Beijing University, published in Chinese in China, 1984.
17. "Kings Without Crowns: the White Fathers in Rwanda," in Daniel McCall, Norman Bennett, and Jeffrey Butler, eds. **Eastern African History** (New York: Frederick Praeger, 1969).

## HONORS AND GRANTS

- **Remaking Rwanda: State Building and Human Rights after Mass Violence**, edited by Scott Straus and Lars Waldorf, in honor of Alison Des Forges (Madison: University of Wisconsin, 2011).
- Alison Des Forges Award for Extraordinary Activism in Defense of Human Rights. Award(s) made annually, 2009 – present, by Human Rights Watch.
- Bruno Kreisky Prize of the Renner Institute, Vienna, for best political book of the year, 2003.

- The Lemkin Award, 2001, awarded by the Institute of Genocide Scholars for the best book on genocide in the preceding two years.
- MacArthur Fellow, 1999.
- Social Sciences Research Council and American Council of Learned Societies, Fellowship for research in Rwanda and Germany, 1980 – 1981.
- Dissertation awarded highest rank in all categories, Department of History, Yale University, 1972.
- Foreign Area Fellowship for research in Rwanda, Burundi, Belgium, and Italy 1967 – 1969.
- Sterling Fellowship, Department of History, Yale University, 1964 – 1967.
- African Studies Council Fellowship, Yale University, 1966 – 1967.
- General Motors Scholarship, Radcliffe College.
- Elected to Phi Beta Kappa, Radcliffe College, 1964.

## **LANGUAGES**

English, French, Chinese, German, Kinyarwanda