ERADICATING DELAY IN THE PROSECUTION OF CRIMES OF GENOCIDE IN RWANDA THROUGH GACACA COURTS: WILL ANY FORM OF JUSTICE DO?

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ABSTRACT

This comment discusses the establishment and expediency of the gacaca courts in prosecuting the Rwanda genocidaires of 1994. Reflecting on the principle of equality of arms, the comment unravels the procedural imbalances within the gacaca system that impinge on the right to be tried by a competent court/tribunal. It then makes an appraisal of the competence of the inyangamugayo, whose training and qualifications are evaluated. Finally, the comment highlights the technical evidential subtleties that the inyangamugayo are expected to grapple with amidst the muddle of identification evidence.