

THE POWER OF HOPE



She was born in Mwumba, in the north of Burundi, in a relatively well-off family. Shy, a lover of sports and hardworking, Denise Bucumi lived her childhood under her big sister's wing. Then it was time to start a family, and she met a man, Pierre Nkurunziza. He was a sports professor at

the University of Burundi, she worked for the PAFE (immigration Police). They fell in love. But fate decided otherwise. In 1993, war broke out in this central African country formerly known as 'the Switzerland of Africa', taking with it the dream of a peaceful household. When the family's father left for the bush, Denise found herself face to face with her worst enemy: loneliness. For eight years, she waited, sometimes losing hope. There was a lot of fighting, many tears, and much laughter too. And great confidence in the God that would reunite her again with her family for a more beautiful destiny: The Presidential Palace.

This autobiography is a testimony for all those who have no more faith in life.

Her Excellency Reverend Denise Bucumi-Nkurunziza has been the First Lady of the Republic of Burundi since the elections in 2005 that put her husband at the head of this African country.

She is founder and President of the BUNTU Foundation, a philanthropic organisation established in 2005 to assist orphans and widows of the war and of HIV/AIDS, the elderly, the physically disabled and other vulnerable people.

Mrs Denise Nkurunziza has a diploma in pastoral studies from the Institute of Leadership of Burundi (African Ministries Networks). Ordained Reverend Pastor in 2011, she is now studying Theology and Bible Studies at Hope Africa University, Bujumbura.

In thanks for her charity work and conscientious preaching of God's word, the Latin University of California in the United States of America awarded her an honorary degree in 2010.

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The First Lady of Burundi. My story



Preface by Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

POINTS DE VUE
L'Harmattan