

St Mary's University Twickenham London

Faculty of Sport, Technology & Health Sciences

Lessons from Rwanda

Hosted by the St Mary's Psychology and Sport Psychology Programmes in cooperation with the Faculty of Sport, Technology and Health Sciences to mark 30 years since the 1994 genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda

25th April 2024

2pm in G7, St Mary's University

Keynote Speaker: Eric Murangwa Eugene MBE

In 1994 Murangwa was a goalkeeper for the renowned Rayon Sports Football Club. He and his immediate family survived the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, in part, thanks to the courage and humanity shown by his teammates. Since his arrival in the UK in 1997, Murangwa has been one of the leading members of the UK's Rwandan community and has coordinated several community programmes that have delivered tangible results in areas of community cohesion, peace building, community health and active citizenship. He uses his story to raise awareness of genocide and has inspired hundreds of thousands of young people in the UK.

In 2015 Eric co-founded Ishami Foundation, an umbrella that brings together two of Eric's past organisations: 'Survivors Tribune' and 'Football for Hope, Peace & Unity'. As a result of his services to the community, Murangwa was awarded an MBE by the late Queen Elizabeth II in 2018.

"For many years after the genocide, I kept asking myself, 'why me?' And only recently I came to realise that those who survived had all survived for a purpose, which is to make sure our loved ones were not lost in vain. The only way we can do that is to make sure that what happened to them, and to us, never happens to our children."

