

# Re: Genocide

---

*Source:* <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.space.policy/2007-01/msg01090.html>

---

- *From:* Pat Flannery <[flanner@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:flanner@xxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 29 Jan 2007 14:48:44 -0600
- 

columbiaaccidentinvestigation wrote:

Hey pat, how would you apply jim's anecdote of stopping and helping people, to the genocide that occurred in Rwanda between the Hutu and the Tutsi in the 90's?

I'd just stay out of it.

I'm an isolationist.

I also had a really hard time taking two tribes named "Hutus and "Tutsis" seriously, as they sounded like something that W.C. Fields would have made up: "Ah yes, it was in deepest Africa, during a tribal war between the Hutus and the Tutsis that I was bitten by the Giant Congo Vampire Bat...unfortunately the bite proved fatal, but I gave the bat a decent burial...".

They showed scenes on TV yesterday of the climax of the Shia holy festival of Ashoura in Iraq that commemorates the murder of Muhammad's grandson.

People were marching around flagellating themselves, and dancing in lines with nasty glittering swords (I'm pretty sure they were Qamas; I once had one of these) and all I could think was: "This FUBAR place deserved Saddam; and Saddam deserved to be the leader of a FUBAR place like this."

Can't we just leave and let everyone get on with their civil war?

It's like watching a scorpion fighting a tarantula...do you really want to try and pry them apart with your bare hands and see what happens?

Pat

.