

1. First of all I want to greet you in my language; **AMAHORO** which means peace! Amahoro is our greetings in Burundi; Amahoro; Shalom; peace be with you; is our greetings!
2. Let's me first of all thank the Almighty God who allowed us to attend this National prayer breakfast from Burundi, a country which is very far from yours but to which you attach a friendship spirit.

Dear friends;

3. **We are here to testify the good work of God. Burundi was not known but now my presence here is a testimony that things change in the name of Jesus Christ. In my country, when Christians decide to come back to God we discovered what Burundi is. God opened our eyes to see exactly what Burundi really was.**
4. **The Republic of Burundi where we come from his topography is referred to the topography of the land**

of Canaan that we read in the bible; Burundi is a miracle of God.

If you refer to the scriptures, Deuteronomy 11, verset 11, Burundi is like the land of Canaan. It is also a land of mountains and valleys that drinks rain from heaven.

In our country, we have 9 months of rain per year.

5. And if we refer it to scriptures again, Deuteronomy 8: 7-11; Burundi is a land flowing streams, and pools of water, with fountains and springs that gush out into the valleys and hills.

6. In agriculture, it is a land with all plants: cereals, all kind of fruits, tubers, etc.

Before colonization till today, Burundi is called a country of honey and milk.

Burundi is a land where food is plentiful and nothing is lacking.

7. In terms of natural resources, Burundi is a land where iron is common stone and copper is abundant

in the hills. In terms of minerals, it is better to ask what we don't have than to describe what we have.

So, we came from a hidden garden, in the heart of Africa, between central and east Africa.

Unfortunately, we have not yet started the exploitation of our natural resources; the reason why Burundi is not well known.

8. Despite this, we praise the Lord all the time for the good land he has given us.

A common prayer is organized by me two times per year. We hope that one day we will share those wonderful moments with you.

Dear friends in Jesus;

9. If we praise God, that is not coming from nothing. Burundians are one people like the family of Israel; we believe in one God since the creation of the Kingdom of Burundi in the 13th century. As I told you before, Burundi has a similarity with Israel. The

example is the festival of harvest in Exodus 34, verse 22.

10. During the kingdom time in Burundi before colonization, a festival of harvest was organized with the first crops, and it was organized at the end of the year as it was in Israel. At the time of kingdom in Burundi the national motto was **“God-King-Burundi”** which is almost like the American national motto **“In God we trust”**. **God is enshrined in our constitution. It is why our society is founded on family.**

11. That is why today; it is greater honor for me and my delegation to be at this American national prayer breakfast, sharing my perspectives on this nice theme: **“Friendship around the person of Jesus”**.

This moment is be a time to tie our strong friendship as I am coming from a village of Kibimba in Gitega Province built by American missionaries of Evangelic friend’s church in 1934. I give them my respect.

Dear friends;

12. This theme chosen for this National Prayer Breakfast reminds me the disciples around Jesus Christ at the last holly supper, as the children around their father.

Around Jesus, we cement our bonds of friendship, and we are happy that the leaders of America had understood that; let's applaud them.

13. Burundi experienced this theme during the period of reconciliation. We saw the power of the Holy Spirit helping us to strengthen friendship and reconciliation between citizens. Now our country is reconciliated; peaceful and stable because of prayer.

14. In Burundi, to all the government programs we say "God first"

15. This occasion also, my brothers and sisters, reminds me the disciples who wanted to resign, going to Emmaus after the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Referring to Saint Luke 24: 30-33:

16. Jesus is the guarantor of love between people.

The hearts disciples were burning and also, they returned to join others.

Those actions are the affirmation of friendship around Jesus.

So today is good time; we appreciate your hospitality and your friendship.

17. Jesus Christ assembled us and we became one in Jesus Christ as it is written in Romans 12: 4-6

“For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same function, So we, being many, are one body in Christ and every one members one of other. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us”.

18. By this occasion, we became one in Jesus Christ. It is why in turn I invite you, my brothers and sisters, to come to Burundi, to contemplate the heart of Africa.

Together we become strong.

Thank you very much for your kind attention;

May God bless you.