

National radio broadcasts call for blood in Rwanda

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NEW YORK, April 15 (Reuter) - National radio broadcasts in Rwanda are inciting bloodshed and such calls over the airwaves for violence must stop, a human rights group said Friday.

Abdullahi An-Anaim, executive director of Human Rights Watch/Africa, accused the Rwandan Ministry of Defence of broadcasting hate messages over national radio on April 12.

Daily, a political party, was broadcasting appeals for bloodshed over a privately owned radio station, An-Anaim said.

An-Anaim said he believes the party was Hutu-based and the radio station Hutu owned. He did not have immediate details of the broadcasts.

The group has asked the defence ministry to stop the national broadcasts and urged the Rwandan Armed Forces to end the slaughter of thousands of Rwandans.

Thousands of people have been killed in an orgy of ethnic violence involving the majority Hutu and minority Tutsi tribes.

Forces of the Hutu-dominated government and rebels of the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) are battling for control of the capital, Kigali.

“In the face of these massacres, it is absolutely crucial for military commanders of all forces to take full responsibility for the conduct of their troops and to enforce strict discipline among them,” the group said in a statement.

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