Rwandan rebel leader holds talks with OAU official

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ADDIS ABABA, April 17 (AFP) - The vice-chairman of Rwanda's rebel movement on Sunday met the secretary-general of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and reaffirmed his group's commitment to peace in the central African country.

Patrick Mazimhaka of the rebel Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) had lengthy discussions with the OAU top official Salim Ahmed Salim who appealed for an immediate stop to the tribal bloodletting in Rwanda.

Fierce fighting between the mainly Tutsi RPF and Hutu-dominated government troops has raged in the Rwanda capital, Kigali since president Juvenal Habyarimana was killed in a plane crash believed to have been caused by a rocket attack 11 days ago.

Mazimhaka asked Salim to assist in the restoration of peace in Rwanda and the implementation of the peace accord reached last year between Habyarimana's mainly Hutu government and the RPF, according to an OAU press statement.

The agreement was signed in the Tanzanian town of Arusha last August.

Salim expressed OAU's "deep concern" over the tribal massacres that followed Habyarimana's death and urged both government forces and the RPF to cease hostilities immediately.

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