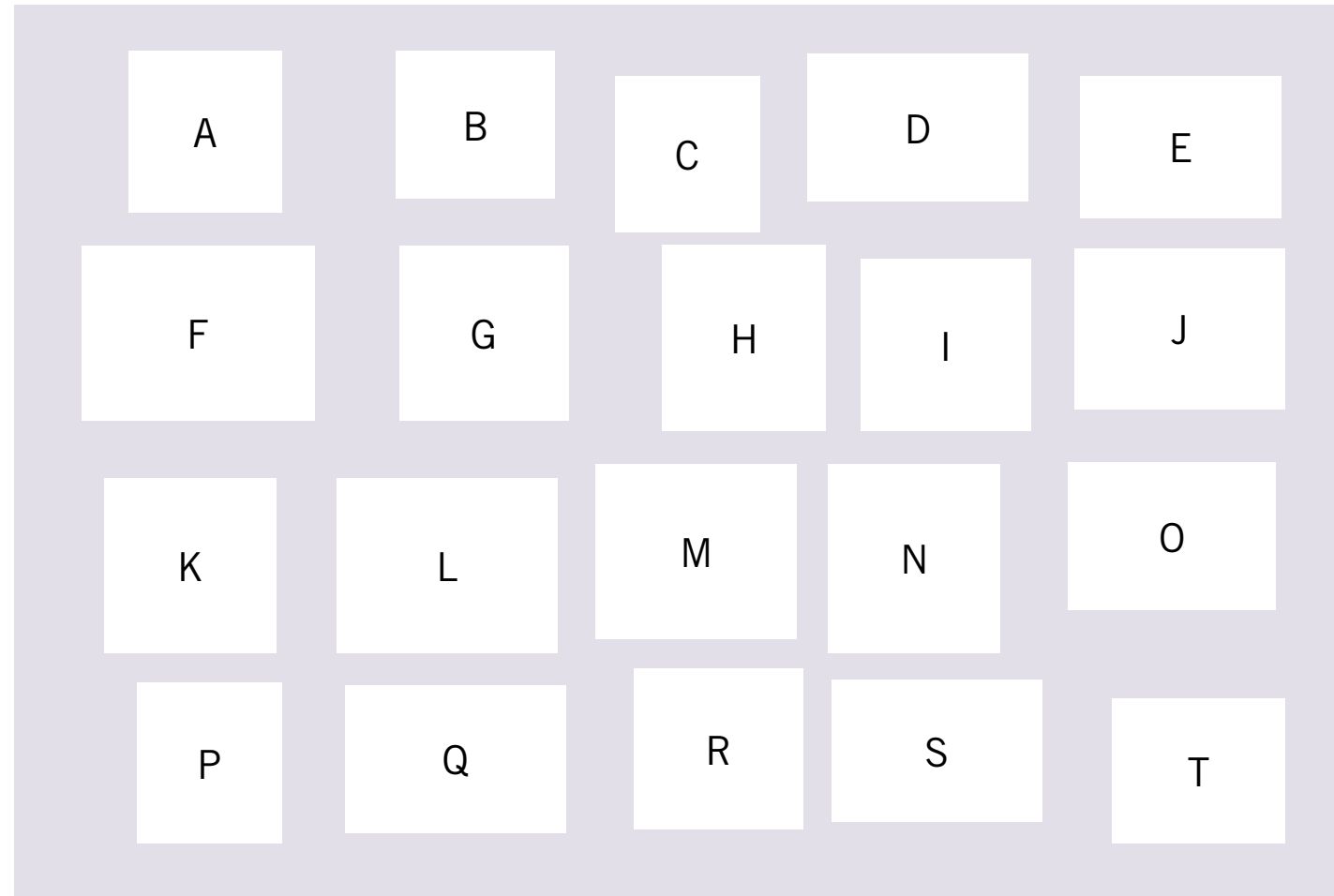


The First Ahadi (Promise) Quilt



Sewing the panels was a group effort for women at the SOSFED center in Mboko.



Sally Timko was one of the members of the Faithful Circle Quilting Guild from Columbia, Maryland who assembled the Ahadi Quilt.



A: Mlasi Abwe hopes that her images of a woman falling will show the world the need for peace in the Congo.



B: Sophia Mema's image depicts a woman being raped by a soldier. She screams and raises her arms, but nobody comes to her aid.



C: Ecasa Mwenembele's panel shows a woman being attacked by two soldiers. She hopes to warn Congolese women not to collect water and firewood alone.



D: Honorine Apoline's panel depicts pillage by soldiers. Not only was she attacked, but her family has been driven from their house by the violence.



E: Sadi Mlebinge's panel is disturbingly explicit. For Sadi, the most devastating consequence of war is being separated from her loved ones.



F: Salima Sahidi was cultivating alone when she was attacked and raped. She hopes that her panel will warn other women against going into the fields alone.



G: (No photo) Elise Asende was raped while cultivating on her own. She still works to feed her family, but her panel is a warning against farming alone.



H: (No photo) Byaombe Endani's panel shows two women crying after they were attacked. She was raped while farming alone. Her husband later disappeared.



I: Julienne Ngalula lost her husband and seven children in a massacre. Her panel shows a woman taking revenge against an attacker, using a knife.



J: Salima Sahidi's second panel depicts the terror and violence of rape, and the way that soldiers single out women in the fields.



K: Mawa Sango is a mother of five. Her panel depicts the responsibilities of motherhood - which are hard to carry out when women are targeted for violence.



L: Mardalene Zabibu depicts a soldier chasing a woman. There have been frequent attacks against women in Mardalene's home village of Mboko.



M: (No photo) Uziyah Mapatano's panel shows a woman being beaten by her husband. War is not the only cause of violence against Congolese women.



N: Neema Amani's panel shows her arrival at the SOSFED center after she was raped. "I was someone without hope," she says. But she has found comfort at SOSFED.



O: Andjela Maneno shows a housekeeper who is about to be attacked. Her panel is a warning against the risks that can come with manual labor and of domestic violence.



P: Suzana Kataya's panel shows a child being slaughtered by a soldier. Orphans are particularly vulnerable to war.



Q: Mlasi Abwe's second panel shows a woman who has fallen to the ground after being attacked. Mlasi Abwe prays for peace in the Congo.



R: After Laheli Makololo was raped and beaten, the soldiers shot her husband in the back. He is now disabled and dependent on her.



S: (No photo) Mwalihsha Mwenebato shows a woman crying after being raped. She feels that she has lost the support of her community.



T: Bahati Johari's name means "luck". She was 12 years old when she was raped while fetching water for her family. She has since faced constant derision in her village.