



REPORT N ° 100 OF SOS-TORTURE/BURUNDI PUBLISHED ON 11 NOVEMBER 2017

This SOS-Torture report covers the period from 4 to 11 November 2017 concerning serious human rights violations in Burundi.

At least four (4) persons were murdered during the period. In addition to these murdered persons, at least seven (7) victims were injured in armed attacks in Karusi, Rutana and Kirundo. A young man brutally arrested in Kamenge has also been missing for almost a week. He was last seen in the hands of police agents traveling in a civilian vehicle.

The report also refers to eleven (11) cases of arbitrary arrests including three (3) activists of the opposition party Front National de Liberation (FNL) in Cibitoke. Among the arrests are also senior officers of the CECAD, the Savings Cooperative of Burundian military, they were released after several alerts, the national intelligence service is at the origin of this arbitrary arrest. A case of torture is also listed.

The Ruyigi Procution service released three (3) men arrested illegally by imbonerakure militiamen in Bweru, Ruyigi Province. This is a logical release, although the victims have spent a week in detention without reason. This report No. 100 coincides with the announcement of the opening of investigations into crimes committed in Burundi by the International Criminal Court. SOS-Torture Burundi is pleased that its weekly alerts through the reports may have contributed to a historic decision that marks a start for the fight against impunity in Burundi.

1. Violations of the right to life and to physical integrity

- Unidentified individuals murdered Dieudonné Cimpaye whose body was found in Nyabututsi quarter, Gitega commune and province (center of the country) on November 4, 2017. Witnesses report that the victim holds several wounds on the body.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes that the police announced the arrest of a suspect, without disclosing his identity.

- Unidentified individuals attacked by grenade Pascal Nkuzimana's home located in the Kigoma displacement site, Buhiga commune, Karusi province (central-eastern part of the country) on 4 November 2017 in the evening. The

perpetrators of the attack injured the father, his wife and one of the couple's children.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes the arrest of a suspect by the police.

- Individuals identified as police agents arrested Clovis Ngabirano in Kamenge zone, Ntangwa commune (north of Bujumbura town) on November 5, 2017 in the evening. Witnesses report that the victim was loaded into a civilian vehicle model Toyota TI, typically used by National Intelligence Service agents.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes that the young man is nowhere to be found in the cells and official places of detention. There is a risk of forced disappearance and execution of the young student, especially since the police and the SNR deny to date have made his arrest.



Student Clovis Ngabirano, missing since his arrest in Kamenge

- Unidentified individuals murdered Damien Nkengurukiyimana on Minyago Hill, Buhoro Zone, Bwambarangwe Commune, Kirundo Province (North of the country) on November 5, 2017 at night. He is an activist of the opposition party FNL (National Front for the Liberation) faithful to AgathonRwasa. Relatives report that the victim had just returned from exile to Tanzania.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes that no suspects were arrested by the police despite threats to the victim. There is also concern that Mr. Nkengurukiyimana is a victim of a political crime.

- Unidentified armed individuals attacked Matutu Hill, Rutana Commune and Province on November 6, 2017 in the evening. Witnesses report that three (3) persons were injured during the attack, including Regis and Niyonsenga; the victims were all in local bistros.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes that the police have not identified any suspects to date.

- Unspecified individuals have murdered Florida Nibigira whose body was discovered half-naked between the 11th and 12th crosses (secondary road) of the Buringa Zone, Mpanda Commune, Bubanza Province (a few kilometers west of Bujumbura) November 6, 2017. The victim was married and lived in the Musenyi zone of the same municipality of Mpanda.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes that police arrested the young woman's husband as the main suspect.



The young woman found murdered in Buringa

- Unidentified individuals murdered Colette Kandava on Butegana Hill, Bwambarangwe Commune, Kirundo Province (North of the country) on November 6, 2017 in the evening. The perpetrators also injured Miburo, the husband of the murdered victim.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes that no suspects have been arrested so far.

2. Violations of the right to liberty and physical security

- Imbonerakure militiamen tortured a man on Butare Hill, Kayogoro commune, Makamba province (southern Sudan) on November 4 during night. Witnesses report being awakened by the victim's cries for help, but no one was allowed to approach the scene. They identified some of the militia members, including Karenzo and Sylvère Sindayihebura, leader of the

imbonerakure in Kayogoro commune, who hid the victim so that it would not be identified by the neighborhood.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes a risk of execution or forced disappearance, since the victim of torture is still unknown.

- Agents of the national intelligence service arrested four (4) staffs of CECAD (Savings Cooperative and Credit for Auto Development) on November 6, 2017 during the day. They are Colonel Viator Munyankindi (Deputy Manager of the Cooperative), Major Nestor Bigirimana (Administrative and Financial Director), Colonel Antoine Bigayi and Lieutenant-Colonel Claver Ndikumwami. Witnesses report that they were arrested at their workplace and taken to the SNR premises.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes that the four senior cadres of the Military Cooperative were released after several hours of interrogation. The army spokesman said it was a strategic meeting to better protect the assets of members of the cooperative. SOS-Torture Burundi recalls here that the CECAD welcomes for the last few months all the funds intended for the payment of the Burundian soldiers deployed within the mission of peacekeeping in Somalia (AMISOM). This is several hundred million francs representing several months of arrears of premiums.

This official announcement of the army's spokesperson to explain the arrest of the officers raises doubts about the real purpose of these arrests, and suggests rather intimidation and threats to the arrested officers. If it was a meeting, the officers concerned would have been invited to visit the offices other than the National Intelligence offices.

Sos-Torture Burundi notes, however, that there have been arrests in front of several witnesses.

- Police agents threaten Elie Ndayiragije and Godefroid Momanyi who both live in the center of Burambi commune, Rumonge province (south-west of the country). They conducted searches at their homes on November 6 and 7, 2017. Relatives report that police officers search for weapons, but the search did not result in any seizures.



SOS – Torture/Burundi

Monitoring sur les cas de torture, les arrestations arbitraires, les disparitions forcées et les exécutions sommaires au Burundi

SOS-Torture Burundi notes the fear of two men who claim to be victims of not belonging to the party in power CNDD FDD. Mr. Momanyi says he is particularly targeted since the departure of his brother in exile, and fears for his safety.

- The governor of Makamba province (south of the country) ordered the arrest of Leonidas Ndayishimiye in the center of Makamba commune on November 6, 2017. This is the director of the communal high school Gahosha, arrested while he had responded to an appointment at the cabinet of the same governor.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes that no reason has been given for his arrest. Mr. Ndayishimiye is the victim of abusive detention, especially since an administrative authority such as the governor does not have the status of JPO. The police who hold him must release him.

- Police agents arrested Fiston Mpawenayo and Anicet Bitariho in the center of Karusi province on 6 November 2017. This is a construction site manager from the Karusi stadium under construction. From a local trader. The two men were then charged and deported on the same day before the judges of the Karusi Intermediate Court for the theft of cement bags.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes an unusually expeditious justice, since the judges held a hearing in the same evening around 22 hours to judge the two men who risk between 5 and 10 years of imprisonment according to what the prosecution required. These expeditious hearings constitute a violation of the rights of the presumed who have not had time to prepare their defense. The minimum guarantees for a fair trial have not been respected.

- Police agents arrested Tite Nduwayo in the center of Burambi commune, Rumonge province (south-west of the country) on November 6, 2017 in the evening. This is a teacher from Gitaramuka Basic School (Burambi). Witnesses report that he is accused of punishing a student at the school.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes an arbitrary arrest. Relatives report that Mr. Nduwayo is the victim of having won his case against his redeployment to another establishment, which redeployment was intended to give its current place to another teacher member of the ruling party. The police must

communicate the reasons for his detention, and release him promptly in the absence of substantiated charges and which constitute a criminal offense.



Mr. Tite Nduwayo, a teacher victim of arbitrary arrest and detention

- - The chief of police of Rugombo commune arrested Jean Ndikumana, Wilson Nzeyimana and Gabriel Nibigira on Mparambo I hill, Rugombo commune, Cibitoke province (north-west of the country) on November 8, 2017. They are all members of the opposition party FNL (National Front for the Liberation) faithful to AgathonRwasa. The Rugombo police chief accuses them of collaborating with rebel groups based in the DRC.
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- SOS-Torture Burundi notes the concern of relatives who mention politically motivated arrests; the three young men were arrested at the request of the youth of the ruling party of the locality. The police must produce evidence of the allegations or otherwise release them quickly.
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- - A man named Ndavuga Jean was seriously beaten by young members of the ruling party CNDD FDD led by their leader Claude Nsabimana on November 10, 2017 around 9 pm on Mparambo Hill II, Rugombo commune, Cibitoke province (North West of the country). The victim met a group of youths with clubs who beat him and Ndavuga Jean is in critical condition at the health center.

3. Paramilitary training in Rumonge

SOS-Torture Burundi learned about the organization of intensive paramilitary training in Karevya localities, Kanyenkoko sector, commune and Rumonge province (south-west of the country). Witnesses report that these training sessions concern the young imbonerakure militiamen of the ruling party CNDD FDD in the afternoons between 3 pm and 6 pm, where they learn how to handle weapons. These trainings take place in places accessible to the public, as a desire to no longer hide their existence (see report **Sos-Torture Burundi No. 99 for the case of Cibitoke province on paramilitary training**: <http://sostortureburundi.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/SOS-Torture-Burundi-nume%CC%81ro-99-en-En.pdf>).

These trainings arouse the fear of the inhabitants. The objective of these paramilitary trainings is unknown, and SOS-Torture Burundi notes the complicity of the security forces and the administration which know the existence of these trainings.

4. A Burundian refugee survives an attack

SOS-Torture Burundi learned that a Burundian refugee Armel Igiraneza survived an attack on 24 October 2017 in Nakivale, Uganda. Relatives report that this is a second attack on the young man. On September 27, 2017, Igiraneza was almost kidnapped by unidentified individuals.

He was injured in the leg during this second attack and bears traces of backstroke.



Mr. Armellgiraneza, Burundian refugee attacked for the second time in Nakivale



5. Ruyigi Prosecution service releases victims of arbitrary detention

The Ruyigi prosecution service decided to release Martin Kayimba, Thacien Igirivyiza and Adrien Bavugamenshi on November 7, 2017. These three men were illegally arrested by members of the imbonerakure militia in complicity with police agents on Rushwahunga sub-hill. Hill and Bweru Commune, Ruyigi Province (East of the country) on November 1, 2017; and arbitrarily detained (see **Sos-Torture Burundi report N ° 99**: <http://sostortureburundi.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/SOS-Torture-Burundi-nume%CC%81ro-99-en-Fr.pdf>).

These three men were released basing to the testimony of several residents of their neighborhood and Mr. Longin Ndarurereye, director of Masama Primary School MM. Kayimba and Igirivyiza teach. SOS-Torture Burundi notes however that Mr. Ndarurereye is the victim of threats following his testimony in favor of the release of his colleagues. He was summoned on November 8, 2017 to the office of the ruling party (of which he is a member) in Ruyigi to explain the reasons for his testimony. This educational leader should not be a victim of having done his duty, and CNDD FDD party officials in Ruyigi must respect a court decision.

6. Announcement of the Opening of Investigations by the International Criminal Court

Thursday 9/11/2017 is a historic day for human rights defenders in general and members of SOS-Torture Burundi in particular. Pre-Trial Chamber III of the International Criminal Court released its decision under seal on 25 October to the Prosecutor's Office's request for the investigation of crimes in Burundi. According to the spokesman of the International Criminal Court, it was first necessary to mitigate the risks to the lives and wellbeing of victims and potential witnesses in making this decision public.

SOS-Torture Burundi is delighted that this decision has come to give hope to the victims of the serious crimes that have been committed and continue to be committed with impunity in Burundi.

This is an opportunity to redouble efforts to continue documenting human rights violations to facilitate the work of investigators from this prestigious international judicial institution.



SOS-Torture Burundi is now convinced that no crime will go unpunished and calls on the victims' families to collaborate effectively in establishing the truth.

The SOS-Torture / Burundi was initiated with the aim of informing national and international opinion about the serious human rights violations under way in Burundi through monitoring reports, based particularly on torture, arbitrary arrests, forced disappearances, sexual violence and summary executions.

This initiative to inform about the realities of the country followed the slaughter of a hundred persons killed during the day of December 11 and 12, 2015 by by the National police and Army on the pretext of pursuing rebels who came to attack military camps on the outskirts of the capital Bujumbura.

The affected zones are said to be contesting President Nkurunziza's third mandate which are Musaga, Mutakura, Cibitoke, Nyakabiga, Jabe, the last two being located in the center of Bujumbura City Hall.