

REPORT NO. 200 OF SOS-TORTURE/BURUNDI PUBLISHED ON 12 OCTOBER 2019

This report of SOS-Torture/Burundi covers the period from 5 to 12 October 2019 concerning cases of human rights violations and abuses in Burundi.

At least two (2) people were murdered in Cibitoke province. The victims have not been identified. Another person escaped an assassination attempt in Muyinga.

The report also refers to six (6) cases of arbitrary arrest, all of them are members of the opposition, as well as attacks by members of the imbonerakure militiamen.

1. Violations of the right to life and physical integrity

- Unidentified individuals murdered two men whose bodies were found on Ngoma Hill, Murwi commune, Cibitoke province (northwest of the country) on 6 October 2019. Witnesses report that the victims were found tied to a tree.

Sos-Torture/Burundi noted that the police had not identified the victims to date. The administration, however, ordered the burial of the two bodies without allowing for further investigations that would make it possible to identify them and to know their executioners.

- Unidentified individuals attempted to assassinate Karl Munoga on The Hill Rugari, Commune and Muyinga province (north-east of the country) on the evening of 3 October 2019. Relatives report that the victim received a violent blow from an iron object to the head, which left him dying.

Sos-Torture/Burundi notes that Mr. Munoga was rescued by local residents and evacuated for treatment. The victim is also a member of the communal committee of the opposition party UPRONA (Union for National Progress). Police haven't arrested any suspects yet.

2. Violations of the right to liberty and physical security

- On 4 October 2019 police agents arrested five persons, including four teachers, on Karonda Hill, Kigwena zone, Rumonge Commune and province (south-west of the country). Witnesses report that all five persons are members of the opposition Party CNL (National Congress for Freedom) who were pointed out to the police by members of the imbonerakure militiamen of the ruling CNDD-FDD party. They accuse the five of having held a night meeting of their party.

Sos-Torture/Burundi notes arbitrary arrests based on false accusations made by members of the party at stake.

- Members of imbonerakure militiamen attacked opposition activists who were sharing a drink in a bar in Nyange-Bushaza neighborhood, Kirundo Commune and province (north of the country) on 10 October 2019. Witnesses report that militiamen of CNDD-FDD party landed in the bar and demanded that the owner chase members of CNL party. Clashes occurred and five people were injured.

Sos-Torture/Burundi notes the violence of the clashes orchestrated by imbonerakure militiamen who caused serious injuries to three CNL militants: Cyprien Nkuzimana, Philbert Jumapili and Jean Hatungimana. Sos-Torture/Burundi notes that during the battle, two militiamen members, Marie Mbarushimana and Jean Barukwege, were also injured. Kirundo police did not conduct any investigations.

- Members of the imbonerakure militiamen under the supervision of national Police agents arrested Mr. Silas Majambere, a member of CNL party leadership group on Gitumba Hill, Nyamakarabo zone, Mugina Commune, Cibitoke province (northwest of the country) on October 10, 2019.

Sos-Torture/Burundi notes the abusive arrest of members of the Imbonerakure militia for Political Purposes and interference in judicial affairs, and deplores the complicity of the police in the intimidation of opponents by Imbonerakure.



SOS – Torture/Burundi

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

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

This initiative to inform on realities of the country followed the carnage of a hundred people killed during the day of 11 and 12 December, 2015 by police and military under the pretext of pursuing rebels who had just attacked military camps located on the outskirts of the capital.

The affected zone are said to be the protestors of the third term of President Nkurunziza, namely Musaga, Mutakura, Cibitoke, Nyakabiga, Jabe, the last two being located in the center of the Town Hall of Bujumbura..

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