

REPORT N ° 212 OF SOS -TORTURE/BURUNDI PUBLISHED ON 4 JANUARY 2020

This report of SOS-Torture/Burundi covers the period from 28 December 2019 to 4 January 2020 concerning cases of human rights violations and abuses in Burundi.

At least one person was murdered during the period. The victim's body was floating in a river.

Cases of arbitrary arrest: at least two (2) members of the opposition (CNL party) are detained following criticism of the ruling party's imbonerakure militia. Another member of this party was abducted by police officers; his relatives have no news of him.

1. Violations of the right to life and physical integrity

Unidentified individuals murdered Patrice Nkundabanyanka whose body was found floating in kizingwe River, Kizingwe zone, Kanyosha commune, Bujumbura province on 1 January 2020. Relatives report that the victim, a family man, was expected to celebrate the New Year with his family. He had left the town of Bujumbura the previous day to go to his home in the rural commune of Kanyosha.

Sos-Torture/Burundi notes that police have not identified any suspects to date.

2. Violations of the right to liberty and physical security

- Police officers arrested Biruma and Minani in ntega commune, Kirundo province (north of the country) on 27 December 2019. Relatives report that the two men are active members of the opposition CNL (National Congress for Freedom) Party. They are victims of having declared their total refusal to join the imbonerakure League of the ruling CNDD-FDD party which they accuse of committing numerous acts of violence. Witnesses report that the imbonerakure militia present then accused them of insulting the president of the Republic for maintaining that anyone who supports the actions of the imbonerakure is also a criminal.



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 arbitrary arrests of these two members of the opposition for expressing their views on the acts committed by members of the imbonerakure militia.

- Police officers arrested Onesphore Ndayikengurukiye on The Hill Muturigwa, Commune and province Rumonge (southwest of the country) on 27 December 2019. Witnesses report that the officers took him in a vehicle that headed towards the town of Bujumbura. Mr. Ndayikengurukiye is also a member of the opposition CNL party.

Sos-Torture/Burundi notes an arbitrary arrest and a risk to the victim's safety : the place of detention of this member of the opposition has not been communicated to the relatives.

SOS-Torture/Burundi was initiated with the aim of informing national and international opinion on the 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 the realities of the country followed the carnage of a hundred people killed during the day of December 11 and that of December 12, 2015 by police and military under the pretext of pursuing rebels who had just attacked military camps located on the outskirts of the capital city.

The affected zones 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.