

## **REPORT NO. 82 OF SOS-TORTURE / BURUNDI PUBLISHED 8 JULY 2017**

This SOS-Torture report covers the period between 1 and 8 July 2017 on human rights violations in Burundi. At least five (5) persons were murdered during the aforementioned period. Among the victims there are two unidentified persons. However, local administrative officials hastened their burial without prior identification. Among the victims murdered, is an Italian citizen. The reports also evoke eleven (11) cases of arbitrary or illegal arrests in different localities. Among these arrests there is two activists of the FNL party tortured by imbonerakure, who find themselves in the cell in lieu and place of their executioners.

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

- Unidentified individuals assassinated Florence Nduwimana in the village IV, Gihanga commune, Bubanza province (west of the country) on 29 June 2017 in the evening. The victim is a mother of three children.

SOS-Torture Burundi has been informed that a suspect has been arrested by the police.

- Individuals murdered a man whose body was discovered on Mugerere Hill, Matana commune, Bururi province (south of the country) on July 1, 2017 in the evening. The police and the neighbors did not identify the victim.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes, however, that the Matana administration has decided to bury the victim before investigations are completed to allow his identification and the perpetrators of the murder.

- Unidentified individuals murdered a woman whose body was also found on Gabiro-Ruvyagira hill, Rugombo commune, Cibitoke province (northwestern part of the country) on 1 July 2017. The victim was not identified, and the administration immediately ordered his burial before the investigations were completed.

- Franco De Simoné's body was found stabbed at his home in Kiriri quarter, Mukaza commune (center-east of Bujumbura) on 2 July 2017 at night. The victim is a medical surgeon of Italian nationality who previously served at Kira Hospital in Bujumbura.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes that the police announced the arrest of a



suspect.

### [Franco De Simoné, found stabbed at his home](#)

- Unidentified individuals assassinated François Nduwayo on Kiramira Hill, Rugombo commune, Cibitoke province (north-western part of the country) on July 4, 2017 in the evening. The victim was a displaced of war living in Kamakara camp of the same commune.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes that the local administration consider the victim as a thief caught red-handed and lynched; But the perpetrators remain unidentified. The police must investigate to determine the exact circumstances of the murder, especially since such unsolved crimes are increasing in Cibitoke province (see **SOS-Torture**

**Burundi Report No. 81:** <http://sostortureburundi.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/SOS-Torture-Burundi-nume%CC%81ro-81-en.pdf>.

- Armed men attacked three men moving by motorcycle on Kavumwe hill, Ndemeka Zone, Gisuru commune, Ruyigi province (East of the country) on 4 July 2017 in the evening. Witnesses report that the victims were injured. The police have not identified to date the alleged perpetrators.

Relatives, however, are worried about the presence of Imbonerakure militiamen of the ruling CNDD-FDD party during night on the hills conducting night patrols. These illegal activities are regularly denounced as opportunities to ransom and loot the inhabitants, under threat of reprisals.

## **2. Violations of the right to liberty and physical security**

- Imbonerakure militia beat Juvenal Sinibagiye and Emmanuel Nduwimana on Mugina Hill, Kirundo province, on June 30, 2017. Witnesses (quoted by the RPA in its Humura program) also refer to the beating of the wife of Mr Nduwimana, who was named Immaculate Mukerabirori, who came to intervene in favor of her husband. The two men are active members of FNL (National Front for the Liberation) opposition party faithful to Agathon Rwasa (deputy speaker of the National Assembly).

SOS-Torture Burundi notes that the police arrested the two men victims of assault, instead of the alleged perpetrators of the victims.

- Military agents arrested Jean Bosco Nkurikiye and his servant on Ruhinga Hill, Mugamba commune, Bururi province (southern part of the country) on 2 July 2017. He is the director of Ruhinga Communal High School, arrested after the discovery of rifle magazines at some distance from his home. Witnesses reported that two other persons from the same family as the domestic were also arrested.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes that the police have not yet proved the ownership of the weapons to any of the arrested persons.

- The chief of police in Rugombo commune, Cibitoke province ( in the north-western) known as Jean Baptiste Habumuremyi arrested Fataki Ciza and Claver Nihoreho on Gabiro-Ruvyagira hill on 6 July 2017. Witnesses report that the two Men are accused of selling vegetables in Rwanda (border country in thr northwest of Burundi with Cibitoke province).

SOS-Torture Burundi also notes that Mrs Ciza and Nihoreho suffered to torture acts by agents of Rugombo police chief before embarking them in his vehicle (plate number C9909A) to the town of Cibitoke. The latter handed them over to the head of the national intelligence service in Cibitoke, but relatives were not informed of the place of detention of the two young men.

- Imbonerakure militiamen affiliated to the ruling party CNDD FDD arrested three men of Rwandan nationality on Ruhororo Hill, Mabayi commune, Cibitoke province (northwestern part of the country) on 7 July 2017. Witnesses reported that they were on the market of Nyarure located in Mabayi.

SOS-Torture Burundi notes that during the unlawful and arbitrary arrest, Mabayi's police chief was with Imbonerakure militiamen. The place of detention of the three men was not disclosed.

- At least eighteen (18) persons arrested on order of Cibitoke Public Prosecutor (northwestern of the country) have just spent three weeks in police custody at Cibitoke Police Station. Relatives report that there is no burden on these persons.



## 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 that the legal time limits for police custody have been largely exceeded and that they are kept in the custody in flagrant violation of the law. They are sixteen (16) men and two (2) women.

*The SOS-Torture / Burundi campaign was initiated with the aim of informing national and international opinion on serious human rights violations under way in Burundi via monitoring reports, particularly based on torture, Arbitrary arrests, forced disappearances, sexual violence and summary executions. This initiative to inform the realities of the country followed a slaughter of a hundred people killed during the day of 11 and 12 December 2015 by the police agents and soldiers under the pretext tracking rebel groups which came and attacked Military camps on the outskirts of the capital City. The affected quarters are said to be challenging the third term of President Nkurunziza which are Musaga, Mutakura, Cibitoke, Nyakabiga, Jabe, the last two being located in the center of Bujumbura City Hall.*

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