**SOS-TORTURE/BURUNDI REPORT No. 175 PUBLISHED ON APRIL 20, 2019**

This report of SOS-Torture/Burundi covers the period from 13 to 20 April 2019 concerning cases of violations and abuses of human rights in Burundi.

At least nine (9) persons were murdered during the period in different localities. The victims include two (2) unidentified men whose lifeless bodies were found tied up in the town of Mabayi in Cibitoke. Another victim is a person in custody who was killed by fellow inmates in Gitega. Police agents were also wounded a member of the opposition CNL when they came to arrest him during the night.

The report also mentioned the beating of opposition members: three (3) members of CNL were injured from the beatings inflicted by Imbonerakure militiamen. Two (2) of them were later arrested by the police without their attackers are worried.

1. **Violations of the right to life and physical integrity**
* Unidentified individuals have murdered two (2) men whose bodies were found on the Ngara hill area Ruhororo, common Mabayi, Cibitoke province (north-west) on April 14, 2019. Witnesses said that the victims' bodies were bound and wearing military fatigues.

SOS-Torture/Burundi notes that local residents or the local administration did not identify these two (2) men. Residents report that young people in military uniform armed attempt to embed in Rwanda through that area of ​​the town Mabayi and the bodies found were those of young people. The Burundian army has also reported no losses among its personnel, which tends to confirm the fears of those people. Since the beginning of the crisis in 2015, the Burundian authorities accuse Rwanda to destabilize Burundi.

* Unidentified individuals murdered Wazo Bunyoni Ndayizeye and Basirisa (the last 2 victims are women) on Nkaramanye hill, Kayogoro town, Makamba province (south) April 14, 2019 in the evening. Witnesses report that the victims were killed and decapitated with machetes while they shared a drink at the home of Ms. Ndayizeye.

SOS-Torture/Burundi notes that Kayogoro Police identified no suspects so far. Residents, however, report that only members of the militiamen Imbonerakure can circulate in the evening and night in the hills, and suspected are the perpetrators of these murders.

* Unidentified individuals murdered Judith Nzeyimana (70) whose body was discovered at his home on Kirambi hill Rusaka commune, Mwaro province (central of the country) on April 15, 2019. Witnesses said his executioners beheaded the victim.

SOS-Torture/Burundi notes that Rusaka Police identified no suspects so far.

* Unidentified individuals murdered Anicet Ndayishimiye at his home on Kabonga hill town Nyanza Lac, Makamba province (south) April 15, 2019 in the night. Relatives reported that the victim is a member of the militia Imbonerakure.

SOS-Torture/Burundi notes that the police did not identify any suspects yet.

* A kid named Wilson (12) was killed by a grenade on Nyabitaka hill area Buvyuko, town and province Bubanza (west) on April 15, 2019. Witnesses said he was handling a grenade belonging to his father when it exploded.

SOS-Torture/Burundi notes a death caused by the presence of unauthorized weapons in the house of a civilian. The father of the victim is a member of the militia Imbonerakure. He was arrested by police but released the next day without any further ado.

* Agents of the National Intelligence Service kidnapped Gabriel and Claude Niyonzima Mporenzi on Nyamitanga hill Ndava zone, Buganda Commune, Cibitoke province (north-west) April 16, 2019 in the evening. Witnesses report that the two (2) men were tied up and loaded on the back of a van registered H4895A. This is the service vehicle of the head of the SNR in Cibitoke named Venant Miburo.

SOS-Torture/Burundi notes that the two men were not found since. The SNR in Cibitoke denies being in their possession. There is great danger of enforced disappearance victims.

* Individuals murdered Nestor Nsengiyumva (25) in his cell at Gitega prison (Central Region), April 16, 2019. Witnesses said a group of prisoners in the same prison beated him. The victim succumbed to his injuries at Gitega hospital where he had been evacuated.

SOS-Torture/Burundi noted that prison authorities placed two (2) held in isolation: Prosper Niyonzima and Jean de Dieu Nkurunziza are considered authors of the assassination.

* Unidentified individuals murdered Samuel Shaka whose body was discovered in the Gisyo district, Kanyosha zone Muha commune (south of Bujumbura) on April 17, 2019. Witnesses said the victim was shot twice in the head, and that its members were tied up.

SOS-Torture/Burundi notes that the police did not identify any suspects yet.

* Police agents injured Gervais Ndayajemwo and arrested Frederic Rugugu on Gitaramuka hill Murago zone, Burambi commune, Rumonge province (south-west) on April 18, 2019. Relatives reported that the victims were activists of CNL opposition party. Police agents shot the first victim when they came to arrest them.

SOS-Torture/Burundi note the violence of the operation and the arbitrary arrest of a member of the opposition. This act shows the violence against members of the CNL party especially since its approval in February of this year.

* Unidentified individuals attempted to assassinate the Rev. Pastor Samuel Niyungeko at his home in Kibenga district, Kinindo zone, Muha commune (south of Bujumbura) on April 18, 2019. He is the head of the Pentecostal church of Bujumbura. Witnesses report that a grenade was thrown at him but did not reached.

SOS-Torture / Burundi notes that the police did not identify any suspects yet.

 

 **A grenade thrown damaged Pastor vehicle**

1. **Violations of the right to liberty and physical security**
* Members of the militiamen Imbonerakure beated Marc Rwasa, Salvator Sinzobatorana (nicknamed Kaburo) and Samuel Mugisha on Rukore hill, Ntega commune, Kirundo province (north) on April 14, 2019. Relatives reported that the victims were members of the opposition party led by the member CNL Agathon Rwasa. Witnesses reported further that the attackers were acting under orders from Damascene Karuhura, Rukore hill leader.

SOS-Torture/Burundi notes the violence constantly used by members of the militiamen Imbonerakure and the complicity of the police agents who were subsequently imprisoned victims and their attackers left free.

* Members of the militiamen Imbonerakure beaten up Desire Nduwimana on Gerangabo hill, Mutaho commune, Gitega province (central of the country) on April 15, 2019 in the evening. Relatives reported that the victim is the provincial youth representative of the opposition party CNL (National Congress for Liberty). Nduwimana was injured and evacuated by relatives to a health center.

SOS-Torture/Burundi notes that the police have not yet arrested authors of beating, although the victim had identified the leader of the group of abusers. This is Emmanuel Ndayikengurukiye member of the militiamen of the ruling CNDD-FDD.

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

This initiative to inform about the realities of the country follows the slaughter of hundreds of people killed during the day of December 11, and 12, 2015 by police and military under the pretext of pursuing rebels who came attacking military camps located on the outskirts of the capital.

The affected areas are said to be protesters of President Nkurunziza’s third term namely Musaga Mutakura, Cibitoke Nyakabiga, Jabe, the last two being located in the center of Bujumbura.