

## **REPORT NO. 236 OF SOS-TORTURE/BURUNDI PUBLISHED ON 20 JUNE 2020**

This SOS-Torture/Burundi report covers the period from 13 to 20 June 2020 concerning cases of human rights violations and abuses in Burundi.

At least two (2) people were murdered during the period. The victims are a man shot dead by a police officer in Bubanza and a woman stabbed by her husband in Gitega. Both criminals were arrested.

The report also mentions five (5) cases of arbitrary and illegal arrests. The victims are members of the opposition party CNL including two candidates in the hill elections.

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

- A man named Elysee Havyarimana murdered his wife Rose Nahimana with daggers on Mugitega Hill, Bugendana commune, Gitega province (Central country) on the night of June 10, 2020. Witnesses report that the husband had already tried to eliminate his wife in order to remarry another woman.

Sos-Torture/Burundi notes that the alleged perpetrator was arrested and imprisoned at Gitega prison.

- A police officer shot down Renovat Nduwayo on Gifurwe Hill, Musenyi zone, Mpanda municipality, Bubanza province (west of the country) in the evening of June 14, 2020. Witnesses report that the victim is a bistro owner. Police officers entered his bistro to ask him to turn off the music on his radio, which he did. Mr. Nduwayo then received two bullets for refusing to give the policeman the flash disk containing his music. Another customer of the bar was injured as a result of the shooting.

Sos-Torture/Burundi notes that APC Police Officer Charles Hakizimana was arrested and sentenced to life imprisonment by the Intermediate Court of Bubanza in a so-called flagrante delicto trial on 19 June 2020.

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

- Members of the imbonerakure militia arrested Emmanuel Manirakiza, Jean Nzoyisaba and Fabien Nzeyimana on ruziba Hill, Mugina commune, Cibitoke province (northwest of the country) on 11 June 2020. Relatives report that these three people were at their respective homes before an imbonerakure group called them. They accuse the three young men of celebrating the death of former Burundian President Pierre Nkurunziza.

Sos-Torture/Burundi notes the illegal arrests by members of the ruling party as well as the complicity of the Mugina area police services. Relatives also report that these three persons are members of the opposition party CNL (National Congress for Freedom), which allegedly led to their illegal and abusive detention.

- The head of the National Intelligence Service of Rumonge province arrested André Hakizimana and Gasongo in the municipality and province of Rumonge (southwest of the country) on June 16, 2020. Relatives report that the two men are members of the opposition CNL party and candidates for the hill elections next August. Mr. Hakizimana was also questioned as he was about to submit his candidacy file to the municipal office of the Electoral commission.

Sos-Torture/Burundi notes arbitrary arrests. The NRS did not give any reason for these detentions, which raises fears of political motives.



## 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 including torture, arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, sexual violence and summary executions.

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

The affected zones are said to be protesters 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.

SOS-TORTURE