

## **SOS-TORTURE BURUNDI REPORT N° 341 PUBLISHED ON 25 JUNE 2022**

This report by SOS-Torture Burundi covers the period from 18 to 25 June 2022 regarding cases of human rights violations in Burundi.

At least three (3) people were murdered during this period in different parts of the country.

The report also deplores the cases of two (2) people seriously injured by a policeman in Bujumbura city.

### **1. Violations of the right to life**

- On the morning of Wednesday 22 June 2022, at around 8 a.m., a policeman known as Emmanuel Nyandwi, on duty at the Bujumbura municipal police station, shot and killed at close range André SIBOMANA, 47 years old, a car driver who was queuing for fuel at a petrol pump station located on Boulevard de l'UPRONA, in downtown Bujumbura.

According to eyewitnesses, while the driver of the Probox car was a few meters away from the petrol station, policeman Emmanuel Nyandwi, who stands guard at a microfinance Hauge Family Umuryango near the petrol station where he wanted to get fuel, asked him for a bribe to park his car there, but the driver refused the proposal. The policeman, a native of the hill, commune and province of Bubanza, ordered him to move his car even though it could not move as it was in a long, tight queue. He immediately started slapping the driver and when he got out of the vehicle to discuss with the policeman, the latter shot him without any further ado and he fell down dead.

The same sources reveal that afterwards the policeman tried to escape, leaving his beret behind, but that he was later arrested for a judicial investigation.

SOS-Torture Burundi regrets that the lives of innocent citizens continue to be cut short by the shooting of certain police officers who believe they can do whatever they want because of the impunity that surrounds the commission of crimes for which they are responsible. It calls on the judicial authorities to crack down on the blunders of delinquent police officers in order to protect the population without distinction.

- In the early hours of Thursday 23 June 2022, at around 5 a.m., the lifeless body of an unidentified man was discovered in the capital of Cibitoke province (north-western Burundi).

According to witnesses to the macabre discovery, the body was immersed in fresh blood and this suggests that he was killed with clubs. The perpetrators and circumstances of the crime have not been identified.

- On 23 June 2022, the lifeless body of an unidentified man was found lying in a mineral deposit on Gisaba hill, Buhindo zone, Murwi commune, Cibitoke province.

According to local sources, the victim was last seen in a local bar sharing a drink with a group of people from the same locality.

SOS Torture Burundi regrets the lack of respect for the right to life which has become routine and a serious failure of the state to protect its citizens.

## 2. Violations of the right to physical integrity

- On the night of Sunday 19 June 2022 at around 11 p.m., a policeman from the Kinindo police station in the commune of Muha, south of the city of Bujumbura (western Burundi), shot and wounded two people in a bar commonly known as "Chez Musitanteri" located in the Kibenga district.

According to witnesses, the policeman in the bar asked one of the victims to advance him money for a glass of beer, which the victim refused. The policeman then fired at close range, wounding the victim in the abdomen and another young man who tried to intervene in the arm.

The same sources said that the two injured were evacuated to a local health facility where they are being treated.

SOS-Torture/Burundi was initiated with the aim of informing national and international opinion about the serious human rights violations taking place 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 11 December and 12 December 2015 by police and military under the pretext of pursuing rebels who had just attacked military camps on the outskirts of the capital.

The affected areas are said to be contesting the third term of President Nkurunziza, namely Musaga, Mutakura, Cibitoke, Nyakabiga and Jabe, the last two being located in the centre of Bujumbura city.