

SOS-TORTURE BURUNDI REPORT N° 345 PUBLISHED ON 23 JULY 2022

This report by SOS-Torture Burundi covers the period from 16 to 23 July 2022 regarding cases of human rights violations in Burundi.

At least five (5) people were murdered during this period in different localities in the country.

1. Violations of the right to life

- On the night of Saturday 16 July 2022, a policeman named Leonidas Ntakimazi kicked with booties a 73-year-old man known as Longin Havyarimana to death in the dungeon of Gatara commune, in Kayanza province (northern Burundi).

According to local sources, Longin Havyarimana had been arrested and detained earlier in the day by another policeman, Egide Nibaruta, for stealing fodder from him, while his assassin was prosecuted for public drunkenness. The two suspects were placed in custody in the same cell which was guarded by policeman Jean Baptiste Banyiyezako. The victim was murdered with a boot and blood was spilled on the ground on Sunday morning, with traces on the boots of the perpetrator.

SOS Torture Burundi condemns police brutality that has become routine and whose perpetrators are rarely punished, which fuels cases of recidivism.

- On the morning of Sunday 17 July 2022, four decomposing lifeless bodies of unidentified men were discovered in the Kibira forest on the Gafumbegeti hill, Butahana zone, Mabayi commune, in Cibitoke province (north-western Burundi).

According to local sources, the four bodies were buried on the spot by Burundian soldiers without any prior identification procedure.



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 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.