

SOS-TORTURE BURUNDI REPORT N° 351 PUBLISHED ON 3 SEPTEMBER 2022

This report by SOS-Torture Burundi covers the period from 27 August to 3 September 2022 regarding cases of human rights violations in Burundi.

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

The report also deplores the case of one (1) young girl who was raped by a man in his fifties in Rumonge province.

1. Violation of the right to life

- On the night of Monday 29 August 2022, at around 11 p.m., a retired soldier named Thérence was stabbed to death by a neighbouring policeman named Bonaventure Niyongabo (assigned to the Makamba police station) in the Nyaburumba District of the capital of Makamba province (southern Burundi).

According to local sources, Thérence was killed while looking for his mobile phone, which he had lost in the toilet. The victim died in Makamba hospital where he had been rushed to.

- On the morning of Tuesday 30 August 2022, the lifeless body of a woman named Niyonzima was found in a swamp at the foot of the Kajaga hill in Nyamurenza commune of Ngozi province (northern Burundi).

According to the testimony of another woman who survived in extremis and was with her at the time of the attack, unidentified men had ambushed them the night before and murdered and beheaded Niyonzima before fleeing.

SOS-Torture Burundi calls on the police and judicial authorities to conduct a full investigation to identify the criminals and bring them to justice.

- A report received by SOS-Torture Burundi on Tuesday 30 August 2022 reveals that a young man known as Jean Marie Vianey Nkuzimana, aged 33, succumbed to his injuries on 22 August 2022 in Kibumbu hospital following the blows and wounds inflicted on him by a group of four Imbonerakure (the youth league of the ruling CNDD-FDD party) on a night patrol during the night of 19 August 2022 on the Muyange hill in Nyabihanga commune of Mwaro province (central Burundi).

According to local sources, Jean Marie Vianey Nkuzimana was beaten and then stabbed by four Imbonerakure who were making a nightly round led by Jean Bernard Ntimpirangeza, head of the Imbonerakure on the hill of Muyange. He was admitted to the Mbogora health centre in the same commune before being transferred the same day to Kibumbu hospital where he succumbed to his injuries two days later.

- On the night of Wednesday to Thursday 1st September 2022 at around 2 a.m., a young man known as Christ Rodric Vyuzura, aged 21, was seriously injured by an unidentified individual in the Kigwati District, in the capital Karusi province (central-eastern Burundi).

According to local sources, the young man was stabbed to death in the lower abdomen when he was about to relieve himself in the toilet and was evacuated to the 'Natwe Turashoboye Cinquantenaire' Hospital in Karusi where he succumbed to his injuries a few hours later. The perpetrators and motive for the murder have not been identified.

- In the afternoon of Thursday 1st September 2022 at around 4 p.m., a decomposing lifeless body of an unidentified young man was discovered by farmers on the

Mbaza-Miduha sub-hill of Rukana 2 hill, in Rugombo zone and commune of the province of Cibitoke (north-western Burundi), close to the Rusizi river bordering the Democratic Republic of Congo.

According to witnesses to the gruesome discovery, the decomposing body was found very close to a military position guarding the border. Local residents are at a loss to understand how someone could be killed near a military position without the soldiers knowing about it.

The same sources state that the body of the victim was buried the same day at the place of his discovery on the orders of the local administrator of Rugombo, Gilbert Manirakiza.

2. Cases of gender-based violence

- On Sunday 28 August 2022, a 9-year-old girl, A.N., was raped by a 50-year-old man named Jérôme Ndikumana on the Gakora hill in the Kivyuka zone of the commune and province of Rumonge (south-western Burundi).

SOS-Torture Burundi calls on the police and judicial authorities to conduct a full and impartial investigation with a view to punishing the alleged perpetrator in accordance with the law.

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.



SOS - Torture/Burundi

Monitoring sur les cas de torture, les arrestations arbitraires, les disparitions forcées et les exécutions sommaires au Burundi

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.

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