

## **SOS-TORTURE BURUNDI REPORT N° 362 PUBLISHED ON 19 NOVEMBER 2022**

This report by SOS-Torture Burundi covers the period from 12 to 19 November 2022 concerning cases of human rights violations in Burundi.

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

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

- On the afternoon of Saturday 12 November 2022, the lifeless body of Sébastien Ntakarutimana, a 47-year-old carpenter, was discovered hanging from a rope at his home on Buga hill in the commune of Makebuko, in Gitega province (central Burundi).

According to local sources, the motives and circumstances of the death of the father of six children have not been clarified.

SOS-Torture Burundi asks the judicial authority to conduct a thorough investigation to determine the circumstances of Sébastien Ntakarutimana's death and to clarify the facts with regard to suicide or feigned suicide.

- On the morning of Sunday 12 November 2022, the lifeless body of a woman known as Jeanne Maniramfasha, aged 30, was found in the valley on the Ruhororo hill in the commune of Kabarore, in Kayanza province (northern Burundi).

According to local sources, Jeanine Maniramfasha was murdered during the night of the previous day probably with a machete. Residents near the scene of the crime claim to have heard a woman's cries of distress followed by a long silence.

SOS-Torture Burundi deploras the increase in crime in Burundi and calls for a police investigation to find the alleged perpetrator and bring him to justice.

- On the morning of Monday 14 November 2022, the lifeless body of a man known as Innocent Nimbona, aged 37, was found hanging from an avocado tree on the Nyarurama hill in the commune of Butaganzwa, in Kayanza province (northern Burundi). Although the local administration announced that the victim committed suicide, the surrounding population believes that this is a new criminal strategy to disguise the new forms of targeted killings as suicides in order to make any subsequent investigation useless, since in less than two months, three men were found hanging from an avocado tree.
- On the night of Monday 14 November 2022 at around midnight, Claver Niyonkuru, a prisoner at the Bujumbura central prison (Mpimba prison), was killed by bullets fired by police agents providing security at the prison as he tried to escape.

According to witnesses, Claver Niyonkuru was executed at point-blank range after being caught by these policemen and asking them to forgive him.

SOS-Torture Burundi deploras the lack of professionalism of the Burundian police, whose agents use force outside the basic principles of the use of legal coercion, namely the principles of proportionality and expediency. It is indeed inconceivable to shoot a prisoner who is already under control, an act that is criminally reprehensible and can be interpreted as police revenge.

- On the night of Thursday 17 November 2022, a night watchman at Ngozi Cathedral (northern Burundi) was killed at his post by unknown people.



## SOS – Torture/Burundi

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

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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.