

## **SOS-TORTURE BURUNDI REPORT N° 372 PUBLISHED ON 28 JANUARY 2023**

This report by SOS-Torture Burundi covers the period from 21 to 28 January 2023 regarding cases of human rights violations in Burundi.

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

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

- On the morning of Sunday 22 January 2023, the lifeless body of a woman known as Daphrose Nizizgiyimana, aged 41, was discovered by passers-by in the early hours of the day on the Muhingo sub-hill of Buhoro hill, in the commune of Mabayi of the Cibitoke province (north-west of Burundi).

According to witnesses to the gruesome discovery, the body of the mother of four and maker of 'Urwarwa' banana wine was naked and initial signs point to a rape followed by murder. Local sources reveal that the victim had just been paid the money she earned from the daily sale of banana wine and that the criminals, suspected by local residents to be among the Imbonerakure who make night patrols, were waiting for her halfway to murder her after having stripped her of her money. The same sources state that an Imbonerakure from the locality, whose sock was found at the scene of the crime, was almost lynched by an angry population had it not been for the intervention of the local police.

SOS-Torture Burundi denounces the repeated violations committed by the Imbonerakure, members of the youth league of the CNDD-FDD (National Council for the Defence of Democracy-Forces for the Defence of Democracy) party, which has been in power for almost 20 years, with impunity and with the support and cover of the administrative authorities and the party's officials. It calls for an

independent and impartial investigation to uncover the perpetrators of the assassination and bring them to justice.

- On the morning of Monday 23 January 2023, the lifeless body of Patricie Cizanye, aged 32, was found hanging from a rope in her bedroom at her home on the Monge hill in the Ntega zone and commune of the Kirundo province (northern Burundi).

According to local sources, a letter explaining the motive for the suicide was found at the site of the macabre body find, although, according to the same sources, the victim could not read nor write.

- On the night of Thursday 26 January 2023, at around 9 p.m., the lifeless body of Salvator Manirakiza, aged 50, was found hanging from a rope on the roof of his house located on Bugorora hill of Rusaka commune, in Mwaro province (central Burundi).

According to local sources, the victim's body was hanged to cover up a murder. The identity of the perpetrators as well as the motive and circumstances of the murder are still unclear.



## 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.