



SOS – Torture/Burundi

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

SOS-TORTURE BURUNDI REPORT NO. 465 PUBLISHED ON 10 NOVEMBER 2024

This report by SOS-Torture Burundi covers the period from 2 to 9 November 2024 and deals with cases of human rights violations in Burundi.

During this period, at least three (3) people were murdered in the provinces of Bubanza and Gitega.

The report also mentions a case of one (1) violation of civil and political rights where a Sahwanya FRODEBU¹ party office was vandalised by Imbonerakure in the province of Bubanza.

1. Violations of the right to life

- On Saturday 2 November 2024, the lifeless body of a woman in her sixties known as Félicité Mvuyekure was found on the Mirama hill in the commune and province of Gitega. According to neighbours, as yet unidentified individuals had strangled the victim to death, and her body bore wounds to the ears and forehead.

SOS-Torture Burundi is calling for a thorough investigation to identify the perpetrators of this murder and bring them to justice.

- On the morning of Saturday 2 November 2024, the lifeless body of a man known as Claude Ngendakumana, aged 35, was found hanging from the rafters of his father's house by means of a rope on the hill of Muremera, in the commune of Giheta of the Gitega province.

¹ Front for Democracy in Burundi.

Although the local administration claims that Claude Ngendakumana committed suicide, members of his family believe that he was killed elsewhere and that his body was taken to his father's house to fake suicide.

SOS-Torture Burundi is calling for a thorough investigation to clarify the circumstances of the murder and identify the perpetrators so that they can be brought to justice and punished in accordance with the law.

- On Monday 4 November 2024, some Imbonerakure² from the Gasebeyi hill, in the commune of Gashoho of the Muyinga province, murdered a man known as Burundi over false allegations of theft of a bicycle belonging to another Imbonerakure called Kwizerimana, nicknamed Bunyoni.

According to eyewitnesses, three Imbonerakure, namely the Gisanze zone chief known as Cyriaque, the local Imbonerakure chief known by the pseudonym Ndiku and the chief of the Gasebeyi hill, attacked Burundi in the Gasebeyi valley as he was cutting grass for the cattle. They tied him up before beating him violently with clubs until he succumbed to his injuries.

SOS-Torture Burundi has learned that two Imbonerakure, the zone chief of Gisanze known as Cyriaque and the chief of the Gasebeyi hill, have been arrested by the police as part of an investigation, while the local Imbonerakure chief nicknamed Ndiku is on the run.

It is calling for an active search for the Imbonerakure leader on Gasebeyi hill so that all those responsible for the crime can be brought to justice and punished in accordance with the law.

² Members of the youth league affiliated to the CNDD-FDD party (National Council for the Defence of Democracy-Forces for the Defence of Democracy).

2. Violation of civil and political rights

- On the night of Tuesday 6 November 2024, Imbonerakure from the commune of Mpanda in the province of Bubanza vandalised a Sahwanya FRODEBU party office on the hill of Butembe in the same commune.

According to local residents, the Imbonerakure completely destroyed a house that was still under construction, as shown in the photo below.



SOS-torture Burundi is calling for an investigation to identify the perpetrators of this vandalism and punish them in accordance with the law. It is also calling for political tolerance on the part of members of the ruling party towards activists from other parties, so that the current electoral process can take place in a peaceful atmosphere.



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SOS-Torture/Burundi was set up to inform 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 provide information on the realities of the country followed the carnage of around a hundred people killed on 11 December and 12 December 2015 by police and soldiers on the pretext of pursuing rebels who had just attacked military camps on the outskirts of the capital.

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