

SOS-TORTURE BURUNDI REPORT NO. 469 PUBLISHED ON 8 DECEMBER 2024

This report by SOS-Torture Burundi covers the period from 30 November to 7 December 2024 and documents cases of human rights violations in Burundi.

During this period, at least eight (8) people were murdered in the provinces of Cibitoke and Gitega.

1. Violations of the right to life

- According to information received by SOS-Torture Burundi, at dusk on Friday 29 November 2024, passers-by discovered seven lifeless bodies of unidentified men in FARDC (Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo) uniforms in the Kibira nature reserve, on the Rutorero hill in the Butahana area, in the commune of Mabayi in the province of Cibitoke, close to the Kaburantwa river.

According to eyewitnesses, the decomposing bodies had been killed and decapitated with machetes and knives, and their huts had been set on fire by unidentified individuals. The same sources said that the seven bodies were buried on the spot by Red Cross volunteers and Imbonerakure¹.

SOS-Torture Burundi is calling for a thorough investigation to identify the circumstances and the perpetrators of these murders so that they can be prosecuted and punished under the law.

¹ Members of the youth league of the National Council for the Defence of Democracy-Forces for the Defence of Democracy (CNDD-FDD).



SOS – Torture/Burundi

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

- On the afternoon of Thursday 5 December 2024, the lifeless body of an unidentified man in his thirties was found on the hill of Rutoke, in the commune and province of Gitega.

According to eyewitnesses, the victim was clubbed to death by unidentified assailants and a solar panel was found not far from where his body lay.

SOS-Torture Burundi is calling for an investigation to identify the perpetrators of this crime and bring them to justice so that they can be punished in accordance with the law.

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 in office, namely Musaga, Mutakura, Cibitoke, Nyakabiga and Jabe, the last two being located in the centre of Bujumbura city.