



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. 484 PUBLISHED ON 23 MARCH 2025

This report by SOS-Torture Burundi covers the period from 15 to 22 March 2025 and documents cases of human rights violations that have occurred in Burundi.

During this period, two (2) people were murdered in the provinces of Gitega and Muyinga.

The report also mentions the case of one (1) person who was kidnapped in Bujumbura town hall.

1. Violations of the right to life

- On Sunday, March 16, 2025, during the day, Pierre Claver Manirakiza, 33, succumbed to his injuries after being violently beaten by police officers in the dungeon of the Uwingoma area, Butihinda commune, in the province of Muyinga. According to eyewitnesses, Pierre Claver Manirakiza, a native of Kabuye-Shoororo hill, Vumbi commune, Kirundo province, was arrested on March 12, 2025 after being assaulted by Imbonerakure on trumped-up charges of theft of equipment while working at REGIDESO (Water and Electricity Production and Distribution Board). The same sources specify that the police contacted the communal administrator of Butihinda, Gilbert Ndikumasabo, to evacuate the body of Pierre Claver Manirakiza to the morgue of the Muyinga hospital. However, no investigation has been opened to identify the police officers responsible and bring them to justice.

SOS-Torture Burundi calls for the opening of an impartial investigation in order to identify the perpetrators of the murder of Pierre Claver Manirakiza and punish them in accordance with the law.

- On Monday, March 17, 2025, in the morning, the lifeless body of Nestor Niyongabo, 57, was found near his home, on the hill of Kigara, Nyarusange commune, in the province of Gitega.

According to an eyewitness, Nestor Niyongabo's body had numerous head injuries and was lying in a pool of blood. He was allegedly murdered with a club.

SOS-Torture Burundi calls for the opening of an investigation in order to identify the perpetrators of this crime and punish them in accordance with the law.

2. Cases of abduction or enforced disappearance

- On Saturday, March 22, 2025, on the night, around 8 p.m., police officers and Imbonerakure from the Buterere area, Ntakangwa commune, in Bujumbura town hall, kidnapped Emmanuel Bizimana, 50, from his home in the Kiyange I district and took him to an unknown destination.

According to members of his family, police officers and Imbonerakure, including Térence and Benjamin as well as the nicknamed Wakenya, broke into the home of Emmanuel Bizimana, an activist of Agathon Rwasa's CNL party, and immediately handcuffed him before putting him on a motorcycle.

SOS-Torture Burundi calls on the authorities of the Burundi National Police (PNB) to reveal the fate of Emmanuel Bizimana as well as the place of his detention.



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SOS-Torture/Burundi was initiated with the aim of informing national and international opinion about the serious human rights violations underway in Burundi through monitoring reports, particularly on torture, arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, sexual violence and summary executions.

This initiative to inform about the realities of the country followed the carnage of a hundred people killed during the day of December 11 and December 12, 2015 by police and soldiers under the pretext of pursuing rebels who had just attacked military camps located on the outskirts of the capital.

The affected areas are said to be protest areas of President Nkurunziza's third term, namely Musaga, Mutakura, Cibitoke, Nyakabiga, Jabe, the last two being located in the center of the Bujumbura City Hall.