

SOS-TORTURE BURUNDI REPORT NO. 527 PUBLISHED ON JANUARY 18, 2026

This report by SOS-Torture Burundi covers the period from 10 to 17 January 2026. It documents cases of human rights violations committed on Burundian territory.

During this period, one (1) person was murdered in Bujumbura province.

1. Violation of the right to life

- On Saturday, January 10, 2026, around 6 p.m., a 53-year-old farmer whose identity is not yet known, was shot dead by Burundian soldiers as he was on his way to his rice field located in the Rugombo area, Cibitoke zone, province of Bujumbura, on the banks of the Rusizi River separating Burundi from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), near the military post of the Mparambo project.

According to eyewitnesses, the victim, a resident of the Mparambo district, was on his way to his rice field on the banks of the Rusizi River. He was in the company of another man to help him maintain the rice field. Before arriving at their destination, the two men came across a patrol of soldiers in charge of monitoring the border between Burundi and the DRC who ordered them to stop immediately. Panicked, the owner of the field tried to flee and the soldiers immediately opened fire, hitting him with several bullets, including five in the back, and others in the ribs. He died on the spot while the man who accompanied him was arrested by the soldiers for questioning.

This tragedy occurred the day after a security meeting of the governor of the province of Bujumbura, Major General Aloys Ndayikengurukiye, held on January 9, 2026 at the Buganda stadium in the commune of Bukinanyana, in the company of defense, security and religious officials, during which a formal order not to approach the border was given to the population.



SOS – Torture/Burundi

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

SOS-Torture Burundi calls for the opening of an impartial investigation to identify the soldiers involved in the commission of this murder and punish them in accordance with the law.

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.