

REPORT NO. 543 OF SOS-TORTURE BURUNDI PUBLISHED ON 10 MAY 2026

This report by SOS-Torture Burundi covers the period from 2 to 9 May 2026.

It documents cases of human rights violations committed on Burundian territory.

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

The report also denounces the case of one (1) person who was kidnapped in the province of Bujumbura.

1. Violation of the right to life

- On Sunday, May 3, 2026, in the morning, the lifeless body of a man identified as Déogratias Bigirimana, 54 years old, was found about 500 meters from his home located on the hill of Rutegama, in the commune and province of Gitega.

According to eyewitnesses, the body of Déogratias Bigirimana, discovered not far from the office of an agency of the Burundian Revenue Office (OBR), had wounds on his face and legs that show that he was killed with a sharp object, in this case a machete. The exact circumstances of his death are not yet clear.

The same sources specify that the body of Déogratias Bigirimana was buried the same day, without waiting for the opening of an investigation to determine the circumstances and the alleged perpetrators of this murder.

SOS-Torture Burundi calls for a thorough investigation to identify the perpetrators of the murder, bring them to justice and punish them in accordance with the law.

2. Case of abduction or enforced disappearance

- On Tuesday, April 5, 2026, at 10 a.m. in the morning, as-yet-unidentified individuals abducted a man known as Samuel Nshimirmana (see his photo below) from his home located in the Gisyo quarter of the Kanyosha zone, in Bujumbura City and drove him to an unknown destination in their Toyota Probox vehicle with tinted windows with registration number JA7135.



According to eyewitnesses, Samuel Nshimirimana, who works in the commune of Cibitoke, had gone to his home to congratulate his wife who had recently given birth. At 10 a.m. on the day of his abduction, he received a call from a false friend who had not yet been identified. As soon as he left his house, unidentified individuals violently rushed him before throwing him into their vehicle and speeding off towards an unknown destination.



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 on the police and administrative authorities to carry out an urgent investigation to identify the kidnappers and determine the fate of Samuel Nshimirimana.

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.