

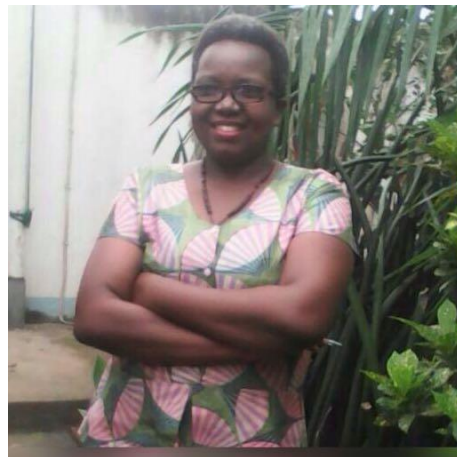
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*Weekly bulletin « ITEKA N'IJAMBO » n° 127 of the Burundian League of Human Rights "ITEKA"*

**Week from 10 - 16 September 2018**



*In memory of Madam Marie Claudette Kwizera, Treasurer of Iteka, reported missing since December 10, 2015. From December 2015 to 9 September 2018, Iteka has documented at least 492 cases of enforced disappearances.*

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## **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

**CDS** : *Health Centre*

**CNDD-FDD** : *National Council for the Defense of Democracy*

**ECOFO** : *Ecole Fondamentale*

**FNL** : *Front for National Liberation*

**GMIR** : *Rapid Mobile Intervention Brigade*

**MSD** : *Movement for Solidarity and Democracy*

**OPC** : *Chief Police Officer*

**OPJ** : *Judicial Police Officer*

**PN** : *National Police*

**SIM** : *Subscriber Identity Module*

**UN** : *United Nations*

**SNR** : *National Intelligence Agency*

## **0. INTRODUCTION**

During the reporting period of this bulletin, allegations of violations and human rights violations were recorded: at least 11 people killed including 9 bodies found, 1 case of abduction and/or reported missing, 7 tortured and 24 arbitrarily arrested.

Among the victims are 2 women killed, 3 tortured, 1 arrested and 1 minor killed as well as another abducted.

Young people from the Imbonerakure militia affiliated to CNDD-FDD ruling party, soldiers, police and administration officials are singled out as the perpetrators of most of these human rights violations.

This bulletin notes cases of killings, abductions, torture and arbitrary arrests of opponents and alleged opponents of President Pierre Nkurunziza's regime.

Demonstration against the report of the United Nations Commission of Inquiry on Burundi are reported in this bulletin.

## ***I. ALLEGATIONS OF VIOLATIONS AND VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS***

### ***I.1. ALLEGATIONS OF VIOLATIONS OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE***

#### ***I.1.1. PERSONS KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED PEOPLE***

##### **A body found in Nyabihanga commune, Mwaro province**

On the morning of September 12, 2018, a body of Marc Gahungu was found in the swamps of Migera hill, Muyange zone, Nyabihanga commune, Mwaro province. According to sources on site, the morning of September 11, 2018, Marc Gahungu had gone to Mbogora center. According to the same sources, the body showed that he was killed with clubs. The perpetrators and the reason for his assassination are not yet known.

##### **A corpse found in Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie**

On 16 September 2018, a body of an unidentified young man was found in a gutter, packed in a bag, in 10 quarter, Ngagara urban zone, Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura mairie. According to sources on site, the victim had injuries on his body.

##### **A person killed in Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province**

On the night of September 15, 2018, around 9 pm, in Gatumba Zone, Mutimbuzi Commune, Bujumbura rural province, unidentified gunmen attacked Gatumba border. According to the Attorney General of the Republic, Sylvestre Nyandwi, the attack resulted in one dead on the side of these gunmen and one wounded on the side of the police.

##### **Two bodies found in Rugombo commune, Cibitoke province**

On the morning of September 11, 2018, two bodies of Adidja Nduwimana, at least 30 years old, and her child were found on Mparambo I hill, Rugombo commune, Cibitoke province. According to sources on site, these two corpses were inside the restaurant of this lady located at the place commonly called "Kukabasazi".

##### **A body found in common and province Makamba**

Information received by Ligue Iteka on September 11, 2018 indicates that on September 4, 2018, a body of an unidentified person was buried by Imbonerakure and administration officials of Makamba commune and province. According to local sources, these Imbonerakure first buried Jacques Ndayisaba's body by confusion and the latter was exhumed to be buried by his family. Afterwards, these Imbonerakure and administration buried the body of an unidentified person who was at the mortuary of Makamba hospital. According to the same sources, the origin of this corpse was not known.

##### **A body found in Mpinga-Kayove commune, Rutana province**

On the morning of September 10, 2018, a body of a man named Lameck was found on Gatoke sub-hill, Ceru hill, Kayero zone, Mpinga-Kayove commune, Rutana province. According to sources on site,

the victim who was of Pentecostal Protestant religion was killed stabbed at the head the day before. The reasons and the alleged perpetrators of this crime remain unknown.

### **Three bodies found in Gitobe commune, Kirundo province**

On September 13 and 14, 2018, on Nyenzi hill, Gitobe commune, Kirundo province, 3 bodies of motorcyclists abducted in Muyinga were found by the police after investigations. According to sources on site, the corpses of Juma Barnabé recognized by his badge, abducted on July 30, 2017, that of Denis Habarugira<sup>1</sup> abducted on August 30, 2018 and that of Déogratias Manirambona who was reported missing on May 10, 2018 were found buried in Samuel Hatungimana's banana plantation, aged 36, a few meters from his house. According to the same sources, Samuel Hatungimana, who was released from Ngozi prison 2013 by the presidential pardon after his conviction following the murder, is now jailed with six other people including Thierry Kwizerimana, aged 20, native of Nyenzi hill, Gitobe commune, Kirundo province; Nshimirimana Ndibanje, 20-year-old Samson Nzigamwanayo, native of Nyenzi hill, Gitobe commune, Kirundo province, 20-year-old Ange Diella Niyuhire, wife of the other alleged perpetrator and Elias Kwizera, native of Gitobe commune, Kirundo province.

### ***1.2. PERSONS ABDUCTED AND / OR REPORTED MISSING***

#### **A person reported missing in Nyabikere commune, Karuzi province**

Since September 11, 2018, on Masama hill, Rugwiza zone, Nyabikere commune, Karuzi province, an eight-year-old child named Viateur has been missing. According to local sources, Ntawusigumwansi went to the parents of this child, accompanied by the hill head and told them that their child was arrested stealing cassava in his field and that the child fled, then the parents were fined 20 000 Bif for the file to be closed. They paid this money and thought the child would come back but they did not see him. They searched everywhere and did not find him. According to the same sources, the parents brought the case to the commune administrator but Ntawusigumwansi remains free and no investigation has been carried out.

#### **A person abducted and reported missing in Mukike commune, Bujumbura rural province<sup>2</sup>**

On November 20, 2016, on Nyagikaranka hill, Mutobo zone, Mukike commune, Bujumbura rural province, at about 1:15 pm, Timothée Ntirubaruto was abducted and taken to a military pickup truck of Mujejuru camp. He was accused of not attending the fighter's day. His family has no news of him and fears for his safety.

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<sup>1</sup> Denis Habarugira was reported in the weekly newsletter Iteka n'Ijambo number 126 as a reported missing person under the name of Denis Ntamubano, we found that Ntamubano was a nickname.

<sup>2</sup> This case was reported in the monthly report of November 2016 as reported missing. He was found in Mpimba Central Prison in Bujumbura. Ligue Iteka received this information on September 10, 2018.

### **Two people abducted in Mugongo-Manga commune, Bujumbura rural province<sup>3</sup>**

On December 8, 2017, around 3:00 am, on Vyuya hill sub-hill, Jenda hill, Mugongo-Manga commune, Bujumbura rural province, Emmanuel Ndayishimiye teacher at ECOFO Gihisi and Fabien Sakubu from this same hill were abducted by GMIR agents. According to our sources, they were abducted after conducting a warrantless search in two houses, one belonging to Fabien Sakubu and the other belonging to Étienne Gahungu. They were embarked in a vehicle registered A329A PN.

### ***1.3. PERSONS TORTURED BY POLICE, IMBONERAKURE AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS***

#### **A person tortured in Rango commune, Kayanza province**

Information received by Ligue Iteka on 10 September 2018 indicates that on 8 September 2018, on Gipfuvya hill, Rango commune, Kayanza province, Philémon Ndayisaba, member of MSD political party, was hit on the head with an empty beer bottle by Gihirwe, an Imbonerakure accompanied by Ngeze. According to sources on site, they accused him of not joining CNDD-FDD party. He went to seek treatment at Gasenyi CDS in the same commune. According to the same sources, the perpetrators were not worried.

#### **A person tortured in Butaganzwa commune, Kayanza province**

Information received by Ligue Iteka on 10 September 2018, indicates that on 9 September 2018, at about 12 o'clock, on Rugoma hill, Butaganzwa commune, Kayanza province, Jean Marie Nduwimana, FNL party member of Agathon Rwasa's wing was stabbed on the ribs by six Imbonerakure Remy Kubwayo, Martin Cishahayo, Claver Nshimirimana, Basil Kwizera, Laurent Niyonzima and Romuald Nzoyisaba. According to sources on site, he refused to give a contribution that these Imbonerakure were collecting for CNDD-FDD party. He was taken to an unknown place and found in an abandoned house on this hill, the same day, around 5:00 pm. He is admitted in Musema.

#### **Two people tortured in Nyanza-Lac commune, Makamba province**

On September 12, 2018, on Nyabigina hill, Kabonga zone, Nyanza-Lac commune, Makamba province, Célestin Misigaro and a woman, followers of the Evangelical Church of Friends of Burambira quarter were arrested, beaten and jailed in Nyabigina police station cell by Imbonerakure. According to local sources, an Imbonerakure, this woman's husband has accused them of disturbing public order and spreading messages of community uprising. According to the same sources, this woman had fled this Imbonerakure because of the sexual harassment of the latter on her daughter. They were released the next day after the pastor of their church intervened.

#### **A person tortured in Rutegama commune, Muramvya province**

On 14 September 2018, at about 10:00 pm, on Nyarunazi hill, Rutegama zone and commune, Muramvya province, Innocent Ruberintwari was arrested in a bar located on this hill and handcuffed,

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<sup>3</sup> These people were reported in the monthly report of December 2017 as reported missing. They were in SNR cell in Bujumbura near Regina Mundi Cathedral and were released. Ligue Iteka received this information on September 10, 2018.

beaten up and taken to the prison by Leonidas Nzoyihiki, head of police station. According to sources on site, the victim had come the day before in the division of land with the family. According to the same sources, he was released on the morning of September 15, 2018 after giving the policeman 26,000 Bif. The victim had two phones and only one was returned without a SIM card.

### **Two women tortured in Musongati commune, Rutana province**

On September 12, 2018, around 3:00 pm, Médiatrice and Esperance, all pregnant and traders of Musongati commune, Rutana province were beaten up by Raphael Mboninyibuka, the commune accountant. According to sources on site, one of the victims gave birth to a premature following the blows received. According to the same sources, he accused them of exceeding the closing time of the market.

## ***1.4. PERSONS ARRESTED BY SNR IMBONERAKURE, POLICE AND SNR AGENTS***

### **Six people arrested in Cankuzo commune and province**

Information received by Ligue Iteka on September 15, 2018, indicates that on September 6, 2018, six persons including two nurses Emmanuel Kabura and his wife Jeannine Bukuru, of Cankuzo commune and province were arrested and jailed at the police station by SNR provincial officer in Cankuzo. According to local sources, the victims were suspected of holding a meeting and were released on September 10, 2018.

### **A person arrested in Kibago commune, Makamba province**

On September 13, 2018, at around 8:00 pm, Lazare Manirambona, aged 65, was arrested by Imbonerakure youth on Jimbi hill, Kibago commune, Makamba province. According to sources on site, he was accused of visiting a widow. He was taken to Kibago police station and his family denounced a fabrication because the widow's name was not revealed.

### **A person arrested in Nyanza-Lac commune, Makamba province**

On the morning of September 12, 2018, Dieudonné Ndayisabe of Ruvumera hill in Muyange zone, Nyanza-Lac commune, Makamba province, a student at Notre Dame du Rosaire High School, was arrested by police on his way to school. According to sources on site, this student was accused of illegal possession of arms and was taken to the commune police cell in Nyanza-Lac. According to the same sources, it is his neighbor with whom his family has a land dispute that slandered him to the police. He was released the next day on the testimony of his neighbors and teachers of his school.

### **Sixteen people arrested in Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie**

On 14 September 2018, in the morning, in Cibitoke zone, Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie, police arrested sixteen people during a search and control of household notebooks between the 60<sup>th</sup> and 124<sup>th</sup> plots, from 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> avenue of the same zone. According to local sources, these people were released on the way for a ransom.



## ***II. SECURITY FACTS***

### **A person killed in Mugamba commune, Bururi province**

Information received by Ligue Iteka on 16 September 2018 indicates that on 8 August 2018, on Kirinzi hill, Vyuya zone, Mugamba commune, Bururi province, 55-year-old Daphrose Cishahayo was beaten to death by his grandson Aloys Nibizi at night at his home. According to local sources, Daphrose Cishahayo was evacuated to CDS Muramba where she died the same night. The alleged perpetrator was taken to Mugamba commune police cell. Land conflicts are at the origin of his assassination, add the same sources.

### **Two people injured in Kayokwe commune, Mwaro province**

On September 12, 2018, around 1:00 am, a group of men in police uniforms, armed with machetes, knives and guns, attacked the home of a man named Niyokindi, on Rugenge hill sub hill, Gihinga hill, Kayokwe commune, Mwaro province. According to local sources, these gunmen wounded Niyokindi with a machete on the mouth and stabbed Darlene, his daughter-in-law on the back. The victims were evacuated by the neighbors to the private CDS of Mwaro. The next day, Niyokindi returned home while Darlene was transferred to Kibumbu Hospital. According to the same sources, these armed people were looking for money received by this family as compensation from SOGEA SATOM during the exploitation of the quarry used for the construction of the tarmac road Nyakararo-Kibumbu-Gitega.

### **Attempted assassination in Kibago commune, Makamba province**

On the night of 12 to 13 September 2018, 60-year-old François Nahimboneye was attacked and wounded with a machete by unidentified people on Nyabigina hill, Kiyange zone, Kibago commune, Makamba province. According to sources on site, he was admitted to CDS Jimbi for medical care.

### **Demonstration against the report of the UN Commission of Inquiry on Burundi**

On September 15, 2018, demonstrations were held in all communes of the country to protest against the report of the United Nations Commission of Inquiry on Burundi, published on September 5, 2018.

Indeed, in Bujumbura City, CNDD-FDD militants, administration officials at various levels, as well as drivers of bicycles and motorcycles forced to attend from all the communes of the capital gathered at the United Nations roundabout, in Ngagara zone to go head to the city center. The free movement of those who had not attended was temporarily blocked

In Karuzi province, the provincial administration organized demonstration in all communes from 8:00 am onwards. The authorities heading the queues followed by Imbonerakure and supporters chanted slogans tarnishing the UN image, the European Union, Burundian leaders of human rights organizations in exile and political opponents qualified as traitors.

### ***III. CONCLUSION***

Violations of human rights and allegations of violations following the deterioration of the political context since the beginning of the challenge of the 3<sup>rd</sup> term of President Pierre Nkurunziza continue to be recorded in various parts of the country.

Cases of killings, abduction, torture, arbitrary and illegal arrests targeted of opponents and alleged opponents to CNDD-FDD party regime are reported.

Ligue Iteka protests against the impunity of crimes attributed to CNDD-FDD party members. Members of this party involved in various crimes enjoy impunity with a complicity by public authorities.