

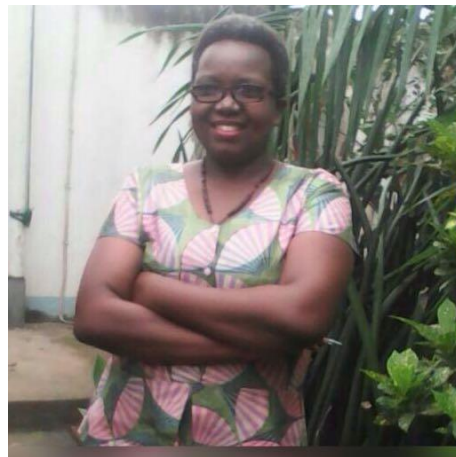
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*Weekly bulletin « ITEKA N'IJAMBO » n° 128 of the Burundian League of Human Rights "ITEKA"*

**Week from 17 - 23 September 2018**



*In memory of Madam Marie Claudette Kwizera, Treasurer of Iteka, reported missing since December 10, 2015. From December 2015 to 23 September 2018, Iteka has documented at least 496 cases of enforced disappearances.*

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## **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

**AMOTABU** : *Burundi Taxi and Biker Drivers Association*

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

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

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

**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 10 people killed including 5 bodies found, 4 case of abduction and/or reported missing, 6 tortured and 18 arbitrarily arrested.

Among the victims are 3 women killed, 1 tortured, 5 arrested and 2 minors killed.

Young people from the Imbonerakure militia affiliated to CNDD-FDD ruling party, SNR agents, 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.

The phenomenon of corpses found and infanticide has been 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***

##### **Two people killed in Kabarore commune, Kayanza province**

On 18 September 2018, around midnight, on Buyumpu hill, Rugazi zone, Kabarore commune, Kayanza province, Daniel Ngendakumana, Imbonerakure youth representative and his wife were killed by unidentified people. According to local sources, people armed with guns burst into Daniel Ngendakumana's house and shot dead both people. According to the same sources, the perpetrators cut off the head of the husband they took away.

##### **A body found in Bubanza commune and province**

On September 21, 2018, in the morning, a body of Fabien Hakizimana, 42 years old, residing in Kanama, Shari hill I, Bubanza zone, commune and province, son of Fidèle alias Comité, was discovered in Kidahwe River of the downtown hill, Bubanza zone, commune and province. According to sources on site, the body was wounded in the head. According to the same sources, the victim returned at around 11:00 pm and came from a bar belonging to a person named Mamert where he shared a drink with his brother.

##### **A body found in Rumonge commune and province**

On September 19, 2018, a body of a 6-year-old child was found dead in a puddle of water in Kanyenkoko quarter, Rumonge commune and province. According to sources on site, the quarter head indicated that this child died by drowning.

##### **A body found in Ruyigi commune and province**

On September 20, 2018, a 25-year-old young man of Mukungugu family was found dead in his home on Gitsiro sub-hill, Gisoro hill, Rusengo zone, Ruyigi commune and province. According to sources on site, unidentified people have smashed the window of his house before killing him. According to the same sources, his neck was wrapped with a mosquito net.

##### **A person killed in Ryansoro commune, Gitega province**

On 17 September 2018, at about 1:00 am, on Mahwa hill in Ryansoro commune, Gitega province, Celine, aged 84, was slaughtered by unidentified people. One person was arrested for investigation reasons.

### ***I.2. PERSONS ABDUCTED AND / OR REPORTED MISSING***

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

On 17 September 2018, on Gaharawe hill, Gatumba zone, Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province, Jean-Paul Nduwayo, son of Barabonerana and Mukarukundo, from Mukenke hill, Bwambarangwe commune, Kirundo province, was abducted by Salvator, SNR head in rural Bujumbura province. According to sources on site, Jean-Paul Nduwayo was embarked into a Hilux-type tinted vehicle, without registration, to an unknown destination.

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

On 21 September 2018, at about 4:00 pm, at the 13<sup>th</sup> street, on Maramvya hill and zone, Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province, Emmanuel Nduwimana, aged 26, son of Mvuyekure and Sibomana, from Kansenga hill, Buganda commune, Cibitoke province, member of FNL of Agathon Rwasa's party wing was abducted by Jean-Népomuscène Dusengumuremyi, Imbonerakure leader in Mutimbuzi commune, in complicity with CNDD-FDD party leader on Maramvya 13<sup>th</sup> street hill and an Imbonerakure Darius Ntamavukiro. According to sources on site, Emmanuel Nduwimana was embarked in a Prado-type vehicle owned by Jean-Népomuscène Dusengumuremyi and was taken to an unknown destination. According to the same sources, the victim's friends and family searched in vain in police station cells in Maramvya zone, Rubirizi zone, in SNR cell in Ngagara quarter and in SNR cell near Regina Mundi cathedral.

### **A person abducted in Bujumbura Mairie**

On September 17, 2018, Jean Claude Habiyakare alias Kibaju, a soldier working at the General Staff and living in Ngagara camp, Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie was abducted with his motorcycle back from work by unidentified people. According to sources on site, the perpetrators of this abduction remain unknown.

### **A person abducted in commune and Ngozi province**

Information received by Ligue Iteka on 17 September 2018 indicates that since 21 August 2018, Marius Ndayikengurutse, 34 years old, from Musenyi, Tangara commune, Ngozi province, residing in Ngozi town, MSD party representative in Tangara commune and teacher at Normal School of Rukago, Gahombo commune, Kayanza province cannot be found. According to sources on site, Marius was last seen around 8:00 pm at the place commonly known as "on the farm" when he was heading to Muremera neighborhood saying that he was going to meet someone who had just called him for a meeting to the old petrol station commonly called at Khalfan's.

## ***I.3. PERSONS TORTURED BY IMBONERAKURE AND ADMINISTRATORS***

### **A person tortured in Muha commune, Bujumbura Mairie**

On 21 September 2018, in Musaga zone, Muha commune, Bujumbura Mairie, Léonce Ndayikunda, a non-commissioned officer of the Burundi army, was beaten by Imbonerakure when he went to see a woman who lives on the second avenue of this same zone who owed him money. According to sources on site, as soon as he arrived, the woman alerted the surrounding Imbonerakure who rushed on the soldier and beat him. According to the same sources, Léonce Ndayikunda was rescued by other soldiers from Muha Camp.

### **Three people tortured in Gashikanwa commune, Ngozi province**

On 18 September 2018, around 8:00 pm, on Rusengo hill, Gashikanwa zone and commune, Ngozi province, Ferdinand Minani, Désiré Niyonsaba and Bazira, all from the same hill and FNL party members of Agathon Rwasa's wing, were arrested and then tortured by Imbonerakure including Elie Ntakirutimana and François Niyokindi led by their hill representative Daniel Pfakwiseka and hill head Gervais Nahimana. According to sources on site, this torture by Imbonerakure occurred a week after Imbonerakure sensitization on all the hills, organized by Simon Nduwimana, commune representative of CNDD-FDD party who called them to crack down and hunt all the opponents.

### **A person tortured in Gishubi commune, Gitega province**

On 17 September 2018, Bernadette, a pregnant woman, was beaten publicly to miscarriage by an Imbonerakure from Ruvumu sub-hill, Rukiga hill, Mugaruro zone, Gishubi commune, Gitega province. According to sources on site, this Imbonerakure accused this woman from Mikore hill for selling drinks on Rukiha hill without permission from the Imbonerakure youth.

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

On 22 September 2018, at about 11:00 pm, on Gikungere hill, Butaganzwa commune, Kayanza province, Jean Bosco Harerimana, FNL member of Agathon Rwasa's wing, was beaten up by 5 Imbonerakure led by Xavier Cishahayo. He was accused of not contributing to the 2020 elections.

## ***I.4. PERSONS ARRESTED BY IMBONERAKURE, POLICE AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS***

### **Nine people arrested in Mpanda commune, Bubanza province**

On 19 September 2018, at about 1:00 pm, on Rubira hill, Musenyi zone, Mpanda commune, Bubanza province, nine FNL members of Agathon Rwasa's wing including 3 women and 6 men: Claudine Kwizerimana, Evelyne Harerimana, Claudine Vumiriya, Dieudonné Mvuyekure, Chadrack Manirambona, Venuste Nduwayo, Etienne Minani, Audredi Ndacayizigiye and Fabien Bigirimana, were arrested by Imbonerakure and administration officials in complicity with police officers and taken to Mpanda commune police station cell. According to local sources, they were accused of holding a clandestine meeting. On 21 September 2018, at approximately 12:00, the victims were transferred to Bubanza province police station cell under file number 15149/NDAM for breaching the internal security of the State. According to the same sources, 8 people were transferred to Bubanza prison after interrogation at the prosecutor's office and 16-year-old Chadrack Manirambona was held at Bubanza province police station cell.

### **Two people arrested in Rugombo commune, Cibitoke province**

On 21 September 2018, 20-year-old Sandrine Kwizera, CNDD-FDD party member, Kabere hill, Mabayi commune, and 22-year-old Violette Nizigiyimana were arrested at a bqr by young Imbonerakure in Cibitoke province city. According to sources on site, Violette Nizigiyimana had refused to have sex with Bucumi, head of the Imbonerakure and Sandrine was accused of advising Violette so as not to have sex with Bucumi. According to the same sources, they were taken to the police station cell in Cibitoke.

### **A person arrested in Murwi commune, Cibitoke province**

On September 18, 2018, on Buzirasazi hill, Murwi commune, Cibitoke province, Nicolas Munezero, 25 years old, biker and FNL party member, Agathon Rwasa's wing, was arrested by Imbonerakure from this hill and then taken to Buzirasazi police post. According to local sources, he was accused by these young Imbonerakure of transporting a rebel who was heading to Kibira forest in Bukinanyana commune.

### **Three people arrested in Nyanza-Lac commune, Makamba province**

On September 19, 2018, Dieudonné Kigingi and a Lambert, all bikers were arrested by the communal commissioner in complicity with Hassan Nibogora, representative of AMOTABU in Nyanza-Lac. According to sources on site, these two bikers asked the head of their association the bank statements and were embarked by the communal police commissioner. Samuel Ndayishimiye, accused of collecting money to assist his colleagues, was also arrested the same day. Lambert, CNDD-FDD member, was released the same day while Samuel Ndayishimiye and Dieudonné Kigingi remained in the commune police station cell in Nyanza-Lac.

### **Two people arrested in Nyabihanga commune, Mwaro province**

On 20 September 2018, Sylvain Havugiyaremye and Balthazar, both members of Agathon Rwasa's FNL wing, Kivuzo hill, Nyabihanga zone and commune, were arrested by Adrien Ntunzwenimana, administrator of Nyabihanga commune and Venant Ndababise, representative of CNDD-FDD party in Nyabihanga commune. According to sources on site, it was in a bar called 'Chez Thomas' in Nyabihanga that Sylvain Havugiyaremye passed by the administrator sitting with this CNDD-FDD party representative. According to the same sources, Sylvain Havugiyaremye and Balthazar were accused of non-compliance with the commune authorities. On the afternoon of September 22, 2018, Balthazar was released, but Sylvain remained in Nyabihanga commune cell.

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

On 23 September 2018, at about 3:00 pm, on Nyabibuye hill, Rango commune, Kayanza province, Didace Habimana, MSD party member, was arrested and jailed in the cell of that commune by two Imbonerakure Gédéon and Joachim. According to local sources, he was accused of being part of a rebellion while in Rwanda. He returned home in March 2018.

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

### **Two bodies found in Gitega commune and province**

Information received by Ligue Iteka on 17 September 2018 indicates that on 14 September 2018, on Rweza hill, Gitega commune and province, two bodies of a woman and her child were found in Ruvyironza River. According to sources on site, the two bodies were in decomposing and were not identified. The administration in collaboration with the police for civil protection immediately buried these bodies.

### **A person killed in Gitaramuka commune, Karuzi province**

On 20 September 2018, at about 7:00 pm, on Maramvya hill, Nyaruhinda zone, Gitaramuka commune, Karuzi province, Pascal Macumi, aged 65, was beaten to death by his neighbors. According to sources on site, the victim had seriously wounded his nephew Mizero Pacifique, aged 31, using a knife during a land dispute. According to the same sources, neighbors came to rescue Pacifique and took justice. The victim died at Buhiga hospital.



### **A body found in Gitega commune and province**

On September 22, 2018, at around 6:00 pm, a body of a male newborn was found in a plastic bag on Kamabuye sub-hill, Bwoga hill, Gitega-rural zone in Gitega commune and province. According to sources, the circumstances of the baby's death have not been elucidated.

### **A burned house in Bugenyuzi commune, Karuzi province**

On September 18, 2018, at about 2:00 am, on Nyagoba hill, Bugenyuzi zone and commune, Karuzi province, a house of an Imbonerakure named Djuma was burned by unedified persons. According to the sources on site, the fire started at the level of the ceiling of his room when he was back from a night patrol. According to sources, Djuma saved his family but did not save any objects from his house. The cause and the perpetrators of this fire have not been known.

### **Paralysis of activities in Kirundo commune and province**

Information received by Ligue Iteka on 17 September 2018 indicates that on 5 September 2018, at Kirundo Central Market and in the streets entering to this market, police accompanied by Ezekiel, zone head and Imbonerakure led by Bisereka blocked roads preventing activities of this market. According to local sources, the population was forced to go and receive the torch of peace. According to the same sources, goods of small traders were thrown to the ground and they were whipped accused of being CNDD-FDD party opponents.

### **Demonstration in Kirundo province**

On September 22, 2018, in Kirundo downtown, a demonstration of the Imbonerakure in uniform was organized by CNDD-FDD party members including Dr. Jonas, director of the hospital and Ezekiel, Kirundo zone head as well as the administrator of Kirundo commune. According to local sources, they chanted slogans asking the Government to leave the UN. The same sources indicate that words of incitement to hatred against human rights defenders in exile have been heard.

### **A family harassed in Busoni commune, Kirundo province**

Information received by Ligue Iteka on 23 September 2018 indicates that Ryarahiye's family, an Imbonerakure of Kagege hill, Busoni commune killed by his companions on 7 June 2018, is threatened by Imbonerakure, including Karori. According to local sources, these Imbonerakure prohibit children from getting drinking water and throwing stones at the family home at night. According to the same sources, the alleged perpetrators including Karori have been released by the Prosecutor of the Republic in Kirundo under pressure from Abel Ahishakiye, provincial leader of Imbonerakure.

### **A person assaulted in Gishubi commune, Gitega province**

On 17 September 2018, at about 9:00 pm, on Budida sub-hill, Cimba hill, Nyabiraba zone, Gishubi commune, Gitega province, Jean Marie was attacked by machete by an Imbonerakure, a resident of that locality, accusing him of walking around during patrol hours. According to sources on site, the victim protected himself with a can. The latter complained to the elderly of this hill and they covered up this case by fining 70,000 Bif to this Imbonerakure.

## **Refusal to grant administrative services in Gahombo commune, Kayanza province**

Residents of Gahombo commune, Kayanza province, complain that the administration and the police of this commune serve them only if they present the receipt of the contribution to the 2020 elections. The illustrative case is that of September 18, 2018 when Dorothée Rurakengereza, a woman from Rukago hill, went to claim the biological father's alimony, as well as her son's school equipment and fees. This woman was ordered to pay a contribution of 2000 Bif and to present a receipt before being heard.

### ***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.