

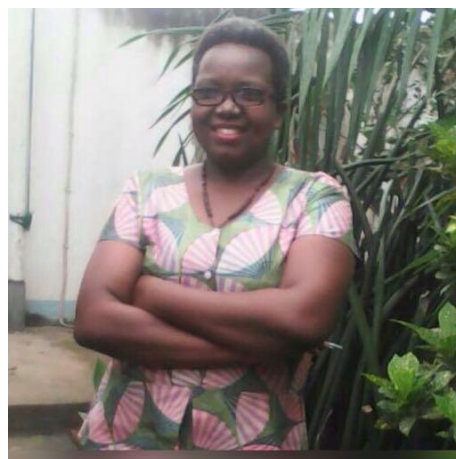
Approved by Ministerial Order n ° 530/0273 of 10 November 1994 revising Order No. 550 /029 of 6 February 1991



"Is a member of the Inter-African Union of Human and Peoples' Rights (UIDH), is an affiliate member of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), has observer status to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and has special consultative status to the ECOSOC"

Weekly bulletin « ITEKA N'IJAMBO » n° 122 of the Burundian League of Human Rights "ITEKA"

Week from 6 – 12 August 2018



In memory of Madam Marie Claudette Kwizera, Treasurer of Iteka, reported missing since December 10, 2015. From December 2015 to 12 August 2018, Iteka has documented at least 494 cases of enforced disappearances.

CONTENTS	PAGES
<i>ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS</i>	3
<i>0. INTRODUCTION</i>	4
<i>I. ALLEGATIONS OF VIOLATIONS AND VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS</i>	5
<i>I.1. ALLEGATIONS OF VIOLATIONS OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE</i>	5
<i>I.1.1. PERSONS KILLED BY POLICE, SNR AGENTS AND SOLDIERS</i>	5
<i>I.1.2. PERSONS KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED PEOPLE</i>	5
<i>I.2. PERSONS ABDUCTED AND / OR REPORTED MISSING</i>	6
<i>I.3. PERSONS TORTURED BY IMBONERAKURE, ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS AND POLICE</i> .	7
<i>I.4. PERSONS ARRESTED BY POLICEMEN, SNR OFFICERS, MILITARY, IMBONERAKURE AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS</i>	7
<i>II. SECURITY FACTS</i>	8
<i>III. CONCLUSION</i>	10

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CDS : *Health Center*

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

ECOFO : *Fundamental School*

FAB : *Burundi Armed Forces*

FNL : *Front for National Liberation*

GMIR : *Rapid Mobile Intervention Group*

MSD : *Movement for Solidarity and Democracy*

OPJ : *Judicial Police officer*

PN : *National Police*

SNR : *National Intelligence Service*

0. INTRODUCTION

During the reporting period of this bulletin, allegations of violations and human rights violations were recorded: at least 11 people killed including 5 corpses found, 2 tortured and 28 arbitrarily arrested.

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

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

GBV cases are also reported in this bulletin

Forced contributions for 2020 elections 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 POLICE, SNR AGENTS AND SOLDIERS

Three people killed in Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie

On August 6, 2018, around 2:00 am, three people were shot by police and soldiers on patrol. According to sources on site, the facts occurred at the 8th avenue of Mutakura quarter, Cibitoke urban zone, Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie. According to police spokesman Pierre Nkurikiye, the people killed were bandits while the locals are worried because there is a police post close to this locality.

A person killed in Gihanga commune, Bubanza province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on August 8, 2018, indicates that on August 5, 2018, at about 9:00 am, on Mudubugu hill, Gihanga commune, Bubanza province, Dieudonné Nduwimana was shot by a military of Mudubugu position. According to local sources, two other people were wounded and transported to Mpanda hospital, another one to David's hospital in Mudubugu. The alleged perpetrator was taken to Bubanza provincial police station cell.

A person killed in Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on August 11, 2018 indicates that in June 2017, Désiré, member of Imbonerakure militia, was killed by SNR agents in collaboration with two Imbonerakure Sébastien and Ibrahim Bizimana alias Mafyeri. According to sources on site, he had witnessed the abduction of his friend, Eric Ntirandekura, FNL member of Agathon Rwasa's wing, on May 23, 2017 by SNR agents in collaboration with two Imbonerakure, Sébastien and Ibrahim Bizimana alias Mafyeri, in Rubira sector, Mpanda commune, Bubanza province. According to the same sources, Désiré was buried on Nyabunyegeri hill, Rubirizi zone, Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province.

I.1.2. PERSONS KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED PEOPLE

A body found in Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province

On August 8, 2018, on Kagaragara sub-hill, Kigwati II hill, Rukaramu zone, Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province, a body of David Nizigiyimana in his forties was discovered. On-site sources indicate that the victim was from Muramvya province and lived on Gaharawe hill, Gatumba zone, Mutimbuzi commune. The perpetrators of the crime as well as the origin of this assassination remain unknown and the body was found not far from two military positions: one located in Ruvyagira sector and the other located just in the junction of Mpanda and Rusizi River in Kagaragara locality.

Two bodies found in Mukike commune, Bujumbura rural province

Information received by Iteka League on August 7, 2018, indicates that on August 4, 2018, on Rutakara sub-hill, Ruzibazi hill, Mayuyu zone, Mukike commune, Bujumbura rural province, two bodies of Jean Nibizi and Blaise were found by the local population. According to sources on site, these bodies were found after an armed attack of unidentified people on August 3, 2018, around 8:00 pm, in Nzoyisaba's bar that killed him and Bukuru Bernard alias Budigoma wounding Tony Alexis Karerwa¹.

A body found in Rutegama commune, Muramvya province

On 6 August 2018, on Camumandu hill, Rutegama commune, Muramvya province, the body of Janvière Ntakarutimana was found in a banana plantation. According to local sources, the victim was in her forties and her body showed signs that she had been raped and slaughtered. The alleged perpetrators remain unknown.

A body found in Bugenyuzi commune, Karuzi province

On August 6th, 2018, on Teme hill, Rugazi zone of Bugenyuzi commune, Karuzi province, the body of Pascaline Ndizeyimana, aged 33, 7 months pregnant, was found hanging on a rope in her house. According to sources on site, Pascaline was abandoned by her husband who is in Tanzania, 5 years ago.

1.2. PERSONS ABDUCTED AND / OR REPORTED MISSING

A person abducted in Rugazi commune, Bubanza province²

The information received by League Iteka on December 25, 2017, indicates that as of December 22, 2017, towards evening, at the bar "Lianny" of Muzinda, Muzinda zone, Rugazi commune, Bubanza province, Olivier Butoyi, old 28-year-old son of Anthère Kubwimana and Anastasie Nzeyimana, provincial representative of MSD party youth in Bubanza, residing on Ruyange sub-hill, Muzinda hill and zone, Rugazi commune, Bubanza province, was abducted by unidentified people in civilian clothes accompanied by an OPJ of Muzinda police station named Berchmas, came in a Jeep vehicle from Bujumbura. According to our sources, Olivier Butoyi had fled during the 2015 demonstrations to Kenya and had just spent 8 months in Burundi. According to the same sources, the reason for his abduction is related to his political affiliation because he refused the CNDD-FDD authorities to divide his MSD party and join CNDD-FDD party.

¹ The armed attack of August 3, 2018 was reported in the weekly bulletin Iteka n'Ijambo number 121, whose victims were Nzoyisaba, owner of the bar and Bukuru Bernard alias Budigoma and the injured Tony Alexis Karerwa.

² The case was reported in the quarterly report of the Burundian League of Human Rights "ITEKA", October-December 2017. Butoyi Olivier was jailed at SNR cell in Bujumbura. He was released in February 2018.

I.3. PERSONS TORTURED BY IMBONERAKURE, ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS AND POLICE

A person tortured in Kibago commune, Makamba province

On August 7, 2018, at around 7:00 pm, Françoise Niyonsaba from Nyarutuntu hill in Kiyange zone of Kibago commune, Makamba province was beaten and seriously injured by two Imbonerakure in complicity with the head of this hill and her husband with whom she is not in good term. According to local sources, these Imbonerakure told her that her husband was calling her and took her to the hill head office where they beat her. According to the same sources, this woman is the victim of having opposed the sale of a family plot by her husband to one of the Imbonerakure.

A person tortured in Rutegama commune, Muramvya province

On August 7, 2018, around 9:00 pm, Cobongo, a cow trader, Kivoga sub-hill, Rutegama hill, zone and commune, Muramvya province, was beaten and handcuffed in a bar at the commune and taken to the commune cell by two policemen including Issa, the logistician of the police station of the commune. According to sources on site, these two police officers accused him of drunkenness.

I.4. PERSONS ARRESTED BY POLICEMEN, SNR OFFICERS, MILITARY, IMBONERAKURE AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS

A person arrested in Gihanga commune, Bubanza province

On 11 August 2018, at around 12:00 pm, Gihanga Brigade Police arrested Nsubije from Gihanga hill and commune, Bubanza province. According to sources on site, around 10:00 am the same day, two grenades were discovered by soldiers between two houses of this hill. According to the same sources, the police came back to arrest Nsubije, owner of one of the two houses. He was handcuffed and taken to Gihanga Brigade. During the interrogation, the police asked him why his wife and some of her children have remained in Rwanda since the 2015 crisis.

Seventeen people arrested in Makamba commune and province

On the morning of August 6, 2018, seventeen masons and masons assistants were arrested by the police in Makamba II quarter, in Makamba province city. According to local sources, during the arrest, they were at the place commonly known as "Kwipine" where many job-seekers are waiting for site owners. They were taken to the commune police station. According to the same sources, the police accused them of delinquency but the reason is to intimidate them after their refusal to continue working without being paid on a construction site of the building of the province offices. They were released the same day, in the afternoon.

A person arrested in Gitanga commune, Rutana province

On 6 August 2018, on Kazeba hill, Gitanga zone and commune, Rutana province, Protais Barutwanayo, a 5th form teacher at ECOFO Migunga and MSD party leader in that commune, was arrested and jailed in the police cell of this same municipality. Sources on site reveal that this teacher was arrested by a group of 5 policemen, on the orders of commune administrator Aaron Nduwabike alias Cuma. According to the same sources, he was charged with attempted theft at CDS Gitanga.

Five people arrested in Gihanga commune, Bubanza province

On August 9, 2018, on the 5th street in Gihanga commune, Bubanza province, 5 members of the same family, Augustin Mbazumutima, ex-FAB ex-demobilized, his wife named Odile, his daughter Leila, his son Bertrand and his younger brother Christophe were arrested by police and Imbonerakure after an search carried out early in the morning at his home and nearby households. According to sources on site, no compromising objects were found. However, a few hours later, police accompanied by young Imbonerakure came back and arrested his wife Odile and Leila, his daughter, a 5th form student. The latter were taken to the police cell in Gihanga. According to the same sources, after learning of the arrest of his family, Augustin Mbazumutima returned hastily and was also arrested with his son Bertrand and his little brother Christophe. They were led manu militari at the SNR prison in Bujumbura after being beaten. Christophe, little brother of Augustin Mbazumutima was released the evening of the same day after being heard.

Four people arrested in Mukaza commune, Bujumbura Mairie

On August 8, 2018, four young boys were arrested by GMIR police officers on the road between the former Central Market and the Régie Nationale des Postes, in Rohero urban zone, Mukaza commune, Bujumbura Mairie. According to sources on site, they were embarked in a pick-up type vehicle registered A 273 A PN towards cathedral Regina Mundi. The reason and their identity remain unknown.

II. SECURITY FACTS

A person dead in Gitega commune and province

On August 12, 2018, in Gitega commune and province, 9-year-old Landry Dusabe died following an explosion of a grenade that also wounded Parfait Bizimana, 11 years old. According to local sources, these victims kept goats in a valley between Musinzira and Zege. They picked up 3 grenades and played with these weapons and one exploded.

Weapons found in commune and province Cankuzo

On August 7, 2018, around 10:00 am, on Cankuzo hill, zone and commune, at the second avenue of Kigwati I quarter, Cankuzo urban center, two grenades were found in a house belonging to late Fortunée, next to a window. According to local sources, these grenades were recovered and taken to Cankuzo police station while the tenants of this house were jailed in this police station cell.

Armed robbery in Mutaho commune, Gitega province

On August 7, 2018, at around 9:00 pm, five armed men attacked and looted three kiosks from a small center on Gerangabo hill in Rwisabi zone, Mutaho commune, Gitega province. According to local sources, these armed men were in police uniform and stole money that was not known, cell phones and items of these kiosks.

Two people ransomed in Rutegama commune, Muramvya province

Information received by League Iteka on August 8, 2018 indicates that on August 5, 2018, Leonidas Nzoyihiki, head of Rutegama commune police station in and Evariste, the SNR head in Rutegama and Kiganda communes, demanded to a woman M. and a man D. the payment of a sum of 500,000 Bif each. According to sources on site, these people from Cumba hill, Rutegama zone and commune, Muramvya province were accused of committing adultery on August 3, 2018 and were driven naked to the police cell in Rutegama commune. The same sources indicate that the man was released after paying a sum of 60,000 Bif while the woman remained in jail and they force her to speed up the divorce process with her husband.

Forced contribution in Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie

According to information received by Ligue Iteka on August 7, 2018, in Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie, no administrative document can be obtained without paying or presenting a contribution receipt to the 2020 elections. Sources on site specify that any service requires the payment of this contribution including the celebration of wedding.

A weapon found in Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie

On August 9, 2018, a Kalashnikov type rifle was found near Lake Tanganyika near the Ubuntu Residence Hotel, in Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie. According to local sources, the rifle was seen by a taxi-biker who later alerted police officers from a position close to the place and they recovered it.

Forced contribution for the 2020 elections in Kinyinya commune, Ruyigi province

Hill heads from Kinyinya commune in Ruyigi province are moving from household to household to collect contributions to the 2020 elections. These hill heads collect a sum of 2000 Bif per household and 1000 Bif for each young person of voting age. According to sources on site, the tax collectors asked residents who did not have money to give them a deadline for payment. The same contribution was cut from source to all employees since January 2018.

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 3rd term of President Pierre Nkurunziza continue to be recorded in various parts of the country.

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

Forced contributions for the 2020 elections were reported in this week.

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.