

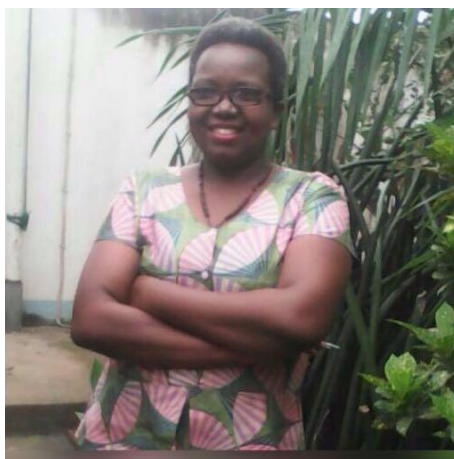
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Weekly bulletin « ITEKA N'IJAMBO » n° 131 of the Burundian League of Human Rights "ITEKA"

Week from 8 – 14 October 2018



In memory of Madam Marie Claudette Kwizera, Treasurer of Iteka, reported missing since December 10, 2015. From December 2015 to 14 October 2018, Iteka has documented at least 498 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 UNIDENTIFIED PEOPLE</i>	5
<i>I.2. PERSONS ABDUCTED AND / OR REPORTED MISSING</i>	6
<i>I.3. PERSONS TORTURED BY ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS AND IMBONERAKURE</i>	7
<i>I.4. PERSONS ARRESTED BY IMBONERAKURE, POLICE AND SNR AGENTS</i>	8
<i>I.5. GENDER BASED VIOLENCE</i>	9
<i>II. SECURITY FACTS</i>	10
<i>III. CONCLUSION</i>	11

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BGF : *Management and Funding Bank*

CDS : *Health Center*

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

DCE : *Communal Direction of Education*

ECOFO : *Fundamental School*

FNL : *National Liberation Front*

FAB : *Burundi Armed Forces*

FNL : *Front for National Liberation*

IRC : *International Rescue Committee*

MSD : *Movement for Solidarity and Democracy*

ONG : *Non-Governmental Organization*

OPJ : *Judicial Police Officer*

PAM : *World Food Programme*

PJ : *Judicial Police*

RDC : *Democratic Republic Of Congo*

SNR : *National Intelligence Service*

UPRONA : *Union for National Progress*

VBG : *Gender based Violence*

0. INTRODUCTION

During the reporting period of this bulletin, allegations of violations and human rights violations were recorded: at least 14 people killed including 4 corpses found, 1 person abducted, 13 tortured, 9 arbitrarily arrested and 1 GBV victim.

Among then victims are 2 women killed, 1 woman abducted, 1 woman tortured and 1 woman arrested.

Young people from the Imbonerakure militia affiliated to CNDD-FDD ruling party, 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, abduction, torture and arbitrary arrests of opponents and alleged opponents of President Pierre Nkurunziza's regime.

The phenomenon of corpses found and the number of people killed by unidentified people are increasing.

The phenomenon of people killed as a result of land conflicts is also intensifying in the country.

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 person killed in Mukaza commune, Bujumbura Mairie

On October 11, 2018, Christophe Ndayishimiye, CNDD-FDD member, plumber and resident at the 9th Avenue, Bwiza urban zone, was killed stabbed by unknown people and thrown in a gutter of the 7th avenue of the same zone. According to local sources, he was killed while returning from a bar commonly known as "cinq sur cinq" located at the 4th Avenue in the same zone. The reasons for this murder are not known.

A body found in Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province

On October 8, 2018, on Kinyinya hill II, Rukaramu zone, Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province, a body of Leopold Nzigamasabo was found hanging on a tree near a plot belonging to a white man named Jacques. According to sources on site, Leopold Nzigamasabo was from Butezi hill, Tangara commune, Ngozi province.

Three people killed in Mugina commune, Cibitoke province

On 8 October 2018, on Camakombe hill, Mugina commune, Cibitoke province, three people, including 40-year-old Ernest Ndayisenga, CNDD-FDD party member, were killed by unidentified people. According to local sources, these people were killed in an attack on the homes of Ernest Ndayisenga and Sylvestre Sendegeya. According to the same sources, these two heads of household used to denounce the clandestine trafficking of goods on the Burundian-Rwandan border.

A body found in Kayogoro commune, Makamba province

On 9 October 2018, on Mugeregere hill, Kayogoro commune, Makamba province, Chadrack Nsengiyumva, from Nyabigega hill, Bururi commune and province, teacher at ECOFO Mugeregere was found dead in his room. According to local sources, this teacher had been redeployed from ECOFO Nyabigega of DCE Bururi. The circumstances of his death remain unknown.

A body found in Mbuye commune, Muramvya province

On October 12, 2018, a body of an unidentified man was found in Mubarazi River, located between Bugerera hill of Mbuye commune and Murambi of Kiganda commune, Muramvya province. According to sources on site, this corpse had blood on his face. According to the same sources, the body of the victim was taken to the morgue of CDS Gatabo waiting for his burial.

A person killed in Gitega commune and province

On the night of October 12, 2018, 33-year-old Dieudonné Havyarimana died of his wounds at the Gitega Regional Hospital. According to sources on site, the victim, native of Kaganda hill Gihogazi commune, Karuzi province, was found abandoned in the first avenue of Nyamugari quarter on 11 October 2018, Gitega province urban center, after being beaten by unidentified people. According to the same sources, the victim had been abandoned there by an unknown person on a motorcycle.

Two people killed in Gasorwe commune, Muyinga province

On 12 October 2018, in the morning on Butirabura hill, Gasorwe commune, Muyinga province, Karabagega and his wife Barijane were found dead in their house. According to sources on site, their bodies had traces of machetes and knives. According to the same sources, the alleged perpetrators were not known and Karabagega was in a land dispute with his brothers.

A body found in Nyabikere commune, Karuzi province

On 12 October 2018, on Mazita hill zone, Gatonde common Nyabikere, Karuzi province, a body of a woman aged 65 named Anatolie was found in a bush in a pack of firewood. According to local sources, the victim was strangled by unidentified people. According to the same sources, land problems are at the origin of this assassination.

A person killed in Butaganzwa commune, Kayanza province

On 13 October 2018, at 9:00 pm, on Munyinya hill, Butaganzwa commune, Kayanza province, Barangendana Berchmans, a farmer and member of UPRONA of Nditije Charles' wing was killed at his home by unidentified people. His body had a lot of injuries. The reasons for this murder remain unknown.

1.2. PERSONS ABDUCTED AND / OR REPORTED MISSING

A person abducted in Buganda commune, Cibitoke province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on 8 October 2018 indicates that on 7 October 2018, on Ruhagarika hill, Gasenyi zone, Buganda commune, Cibitoke province, Mireille Cishahayo, 37 years old and member of MSD party was abducted and taken to an unknown location by Miburo, SNR leader accompanied by local Imbonerakure youth.

1.3. PERSONS TORTURED BY ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS AND IMBONERAKURE

Eight people tortured in Muha commune, Bujumbura Mairie

On October 11, 2018, around 9:00 pm, a group of about 30 Imbonerakures from Gikoto neighborhood beat and injured eight people, including Arsène Uwimana from the first avenue in Musaga urban zone. According to sources on site, these Imbonerakure broke into the 1st Avenue and Gasekebuye quarter, Musaga urban zone, Muha commune, Bujumbura Mairie, and they robbed people and phones of all the people on their way.

A person tortured in Buganda commune, Cibitoke province

On October 12, 2018, on Ndava hill and zone, Buganda commune, Cibitoke province, Jacques Barutwanayo, CNDD-FDD party member, was beaten by a young Imbonerakure named Boniface Manirambona. According to local sources, Jacques Barutwanayo was accused of not reporting the rebels' passage to Bukinanyana from DRC.

A person tortured in Gitega commune and province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on October 10, 2018 indicates that on October 7, 2018, on Bwoga hill, Gitega commune and province, Sandrine Mugisha, aged 21, was beaten up by Cédric Hakizimana and Jean Marie Havyarimana, both Imbonerakure. The young woman was beaten when she went to claim her money for working in a field belonging to one of these Imbonerakure.

A person tortured in Nyabikere commune, Karuzi province

On 8 October 2018, around 7:00 pm, on Ngugo hill, Maramvya zone, Nyabikere commune, Karuzi province, Pascal, aged 15, was beaten up by a group of Imbonerakure commanded by their hill head named Benjamin. According to sources on site, they accused the victim of not paying the beer he had consumed. According to the same sources, this boy was a victim of having refused to join CNDD-FDD party despite requests from Imbonerakure. The victim complained to the hill head to follow up this case but he did nothing.

A person tortured in Buhiga commune, Karuzi province

On October 10, 2018, at about 7:00 pm, on Nzibariba hill, Buhiga zone and commune, Karuzi province, a trader named Niyonzima, from Bugwana hill, Gitaramuka commune of the same province, was ambushed, beaten and his phone and a amount of 320,000 Bif were stolen by two Imbonerakure from Buhiga hill, nicknamed Nzihemba and Egide. According to sources on site, the victim was coming from Muyinga aboard his motorcycle was overturned by a rope stretched by these Imbonerakure. According to the same sources, the victim was rescued by passers-by in a vehicle who called for help and the criminals fled. Local residents found the victim seriously injured in the head and took him to CDS

Buhiga before he was transferred to Buhiga Hospital. The next day, Nzihemba was arrested when he was selling the victim's phone and was taken to the police cell in Buhiga.

A person tortured in Muyinga commune and province

Information received by League Iteka on 8 October 2018 indicates that on 5 October 2018, on Mizuga hill, Cumba zone, Muyinga commune and province, Papias Nduwarugira, teacher at ECOFO Mizuga was arrested, He was beaten up and taken to the police cell in Muyinga by the provincial representative of CNDD-FDD party at the same time Cumba zone head, Shabani Nimubona accompanied by Imbonerakure. According to sources on site, Papias was beaten first when he was arrested in front of schoolchildren of the said ECOFO. He was then beaten up on October 7, 2018 when the zone head came to take him out of the cell, took him to a secret place to torture him before taking him back. According to the same sources, he was accused of stealing food from the school canteen project from WFP.

1.4. PERSONS ARRESTED BY IMBONERAKURE, POLICE AND SNR AGENTS

A person arrested in Gihanga commune, Bubanza province

On October 13, 2018, at about 12 o'clock, in front of Gihanga commune offices, Samson Gahungu, about fifty years old, agent of marital status service in Gihanga commune and member of "Amizero y 'Abarundi" Coalition, was arrested by policemen from Gihanga commune post, Bubanza province, after the mass dedicated to the celebration of the 57th anniversary of the assassination of the National Hero, Prince Louis Rwagasore. According to sources on site, he was transferred and jailed in the police station in Bubanza. According to the same sources, Samson Gahungu was accused of exchanging information on whatsapp with MP Fabien Banciryano.

A person arrested in Bururi commune and province

On October 12, 2018, at around 7:00 am, a man named Adrien, aged 69, from Nanira sub hill, Kiremba hill, Muzenga zone, Bururi commune and province, was arrested by a policeman at his home under the command of Jean Bigirimana alias Bikebes, an Imbonerakure of this locality and technical advisor to Bururi commune administrator. According to sources on site, Adrien was accused by this Imbonerakure of having cut some eucalyptus trees without authorization from environmental protection officials. According to the same sources, the victim was cutting trees on his property to rehabilitate his cowshed. Land disputes with Bikebes parents are behind this arrest. The victim was released at 2:00 pm on the same day by the OPJ after finding that the charges were without merit.

A person arrested in Gitaramuka commune, Karuzi province

On October 11, 2018, on Gitaramuka hill, zone and commune, Karuzi province, Ndayizeye alias Sidoru (Long saw), Imbonerakure of this hill was arrested and taken to the commune cell by the SNR provincial officer in Karuzi. According to sources on site, he leaked the secret of this SNR official who collects money by force from all chemical fertilizer traders and using Imbonerakure including the victim.

A person arrested in Nyanza-lac commune, Makamba province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on 10 October 2018 indicates that on 3 October 2018, Callixte Hategekimana, Rwandan, was arrested in Nyanza-Lac commune, Makamba province by an Imbonerakure named Vivant. According to sources on site, he was taken to Makamba commune police station cell while he was visiting his friend Celestin living in Nyanza-Lac commune. According to the same sources, this Rwandan was arrested while he was in possession of a settlement visa in Burundi.

A person arrested in Makamba commune and province

On October 12, 2018, Gervais Sindayihebura, a BGF employee in Makamba, was arrested by Janvier, SNR head in Mabanda commune on a warrant issued by Makamba prosecutor, Fidèle Nyandwi. According to sources on site, he is accused of spying and was taken to Mabanda commune police station cell.

Three people arrested in Muyinga commune and province

On October 10, 2018, at about 3:00 pm, at IRC office in Muyinga, IRC Field Coordinator Valentin Kabandirwa, Tharcisse Mushengezi, Coordinator of the Child Rights Protection Project and Delphine Musavyimana, working in the same project was arrested by police officers and taken to PJ cell in Muyinga. According to local sources, they were accused of coming to office while the activities of NGOs were suspended. According to the same sources, they were released on 11 October 2018.

A person arrested in Rusaka commune, Mwaro province

On 14 October 2018, in the afternoon, Salvator Budigoma, teacher at ECOFO Rucunda, Kiyege hill, Rusaka commune, Mwaro province, was arrested and jailed at Rusaka commune police station cell. According to sources on site, the victim used to be CNDD-FDD party member. According to the same sources, he was not in good terms with his director and the reason for his arrest remains unknown.

1.5. GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

A person raped in Murwi commune, Cibitoke province

On 9 October 2018, at Muzenga hill, Buhayira zone, Murwi commune, Cibitoke province, J. M., aged 15, was raped by 25-year-old Imbonerakure, 25-year-old Mbumbwa. According to sources on site, the alleged perpetrator was not worried.

II. SECURITY FACTS

A person killed in Gitaramuka commune, Karuzi province

On 11 October 2018, at about 8:00 pm, on Kigozi hill, Gitaramuka zone and commune, Karuzi province, a man named Elie was killed with sticks by his wife Nsabimana, helped by his son named Cyriaque. According to sources on site, they accused him of wanting to marry a second woman. The alleged perpetrators were arrested and taken to Gitaramuka commune cell for investigation.

A person killed in Giharo commune, Rutana province

On October 10, 2018, on Muzye hill and zone, Giharo commune, Rutana province, Kibinakanwa, a butcher, was killed by Kibwa, his colleague using a knife. According to sources on site, they disputed but the reason is not known. The alleged perpetrator was arrested and jailed in Giharo police station cell.

A grenade found in Gitaramuka commune, Karuzi province

On 8 October 2018, at about 10:00 am, on Ngayane hill, Ntunda zone, Gitaramuka commune, Karuzi province, a grenade was found by carpenters in an afforestation belonging to Esperance, widow of Isidore Bukeyenzeza, former commune administrator. According to sources on site, this grenade was installed for explosion using the wires stretched on the tree trunks that were going to be sawed. According to the same sources, the author was not known. The carpenters quickly informed the commune administration who used the police and soldiers who neutralized the grenade.

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, 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.