

BURUNDIAN LEAGUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS "ITEKA"

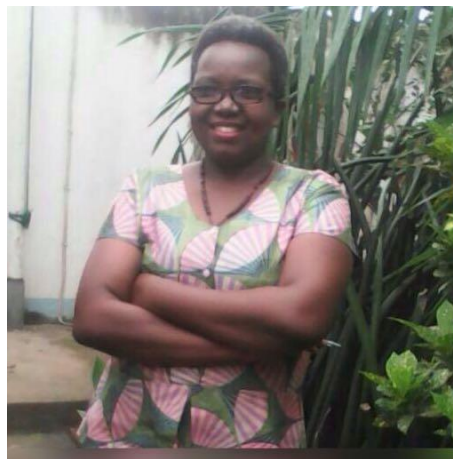
Approved by Ministerial Order n° 530/0273 of 10 November 1994 revising Order No. 550 /029 of 6 February 1991



"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° 146 of the Burundian League of Human Rights "ITEKA"

Week from 21 – 27 January 2019



In memory of Madam Marie Claudette Kwizera, Treasurer of Iteka, reported missing since December 10, 2015. From December 2015 to 27 January 2019, Iteka has documented at least 521 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. PEOPLE KILLED BY IMBONERAKURE</i>	5
<i>I.1.2. PEOPLE KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS</i>	5
<i>I.2. PERSONS ABDUCTED AND / OR REPORTED MISSING</i>	5
<i>I.3. PEOPLE TORTURED BY IMBONERAKURE</i>	6
<i>I.4. PERSONS ARRESTED BY POLICE, IMBONERAKURE, SNR AGENTS AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS</i>	6
<i>I.5. GENDER BASED VIOLENCES</i>	7
<i>I.6. VIOLATIONS OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS</i>	8
<i>II. SECURITY FACTS</i>	8
<i>III. CONCLUSION</i>	9

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AT : *Transmission Agent*

BAE : *Anti-Riot Brigade*

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

DPE : *Provincial Direction of Education*

ECOFO : *Fundamental School*

FNL : *National Liberation Front*

MSD : *Movement for Solidarity and Democracy*

PJ : *Judicial Police*

RDC : *Democratic Republic of Congo*

SNR : *National Intelligence Service*

UPRONA : *Union for National Progress*

VBG : *Gender Based Violence*

0. INTRODUCTION

Allegations and violations of human rights were recorded during this reporting period: at least 6 persons were killed including 2 corpses found, 5 person abducted, 1 tortured and 6 arbitrarily arrested.

Among the victims are 1 woman killed.

The Imbonerakure of CNDD-FDD ruling party's youth, policemen, SNR agents, soldiers and administration officials are blamed as the alleged perpetrators of most of human rights violations.

Forced contributions for the construction of an alliance altar of the CNDD-FDD party were reported throughout the country.

The bulletin also notes cases of killings, abductions and/or enforced disappearances, torture and arbitrary arrest of opponents and alleged opponents of President Pierre Nkurunziza's regime particularly FNL party members of Agathn Rwasas wing.

I. ALLEGATIONS OF VIOLATIONS AND VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

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

I.1.1. PEOPLE KILLED BY IMBONERAKURE

A person killed in Butaganzwa commune, Kayanza province

On 25 January 2019, at around 11:00 pm, at Kigarama hill, Butaganzwa commune, Kayanza province, Simon Nsanzerugeze, trader and deputy of the communal representative of Agathon Rwasa's FNL wing, was killed at his home. According to local sources, his body showed signs that he was beaten with clubs and sticks. According to the same sources, the Imbonerakure of the locality are suspected to be behind the assassination.

I.1.2. PEOPLE KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS

A body found in Mpanda commune, Bubanza province

On January 25, 2019, in a place called Kidwebezi, on Gahwazi hill, Musenyi zone, Mpanda commune, Bubanza province, a body of a man named Sindakira, driver, was found in a water gutter, close to a rice field. According to sources on site, the victim had left for work in a rice field. According to the same sources, the perpetrator and reason of this crime have not been known.

A body found in Muramvya commune and province

On the night of 26 to 27 January 2019, on Busimba hill, Bugarama zone, Muramvya commune and province a body of Innocent Nivyayo, father, of 7 children was found in the bush. According to sources on site, the body was beheaded, amputated arms and the tongue torn off. According to the same sources, six persons including, Anthere Ngendakuriyo, Director of ECOFO Busimba, were arrested and jailed in Muramvya police station cell for investigation reasons.

A person killed in Mwakiro commune, Muyinga

On 26 January 2019, Ernest Ciza, residing on Gisuma hill, Rugabano zone, Mwakiro commune, Muyinga province was killed by unidentified persons. According to local sources, the victim was attacked stabbed him in the stomach as he was coming back from a bar. Police and the administration say they started investigations.

I.2. PERSONS ABDUCTED AND / OR REPORTED MISSING

Two people abducted in Muha commune, Bujumbura Mairie

Information received by Ligue Iteka on January 21, 2019, indicates that on October 21, 2015, at about 600 pm, on Ruheshi Avenue, Kinindo quarter, Bujumbura Mairie, Clovis Ntukamazina, 27 years old, waiter at the bar "Le Canoe" in Rohero I and 31-year-old Emmanuel Kamana, both MSD party members, were abducted by BAE police officers and taken to an unknown location. According to sources on site, Clovis who lived in Musaga had gone to visit his friend Emmanuel Kamana living in

Kinindo. According to the same sources, the two victims were abducted by the police officers from Emmanuel's house.

Two people abducted in Ntahangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie

Information received by Iteka Ligue on 22 January 2019, indicates that on the morning of 13 January 2016, at the 7th avenue No. 113, Cibitoke zone, Ntahangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie, soldiers commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Darius Ikurakure, former commander of Muzinda Camp, abducted Olivier Mugisha alias Che Guevara, aged 32, and Firmin Wakana, tout, 40, at his home at the same address. According to sources on site, soldiers surrounded Cibitoke zone to track protesters against President Pierre Nkurunziza 3rd term. According to the same sources, the victims were accused of being among the protesters against the 3rd term and since that day, they have not been found.

A person abducted in Ntahangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie

Information received by Ligue Iteka on 22 January 2019 indicates that on the evening of 8 December 2015, at around 7:00 pm, Thierry Nijimbere, a taxi driver, was abducted near his home at the 8th Avenue, Mutakura quarter by Lieutenant-Colonel Darius Ikurakure, former commander of Muzinda Camp, accompanied by his ATs who took him to an unknown destination. According to local sources, the victim were sharing a glass of beer with his friends.

I.3. PEOPLE TORTURED BY IMBONERAKURE

A person tortured in Shombo commune, Karuzi province

On 25 January 2019, at about 7:00 pm, on Nguko hill, Maramvya zone, Shombo commune, Karuzi province, a young person named Pepino was attacked, beaten and extorted money and his mobile phone by two Imbonerakure including Vincent. According to sources on site, the two alleged perpetrators accused him of getting drunk and sleeping in their way. According to the same sources, the two Imbonerakure were arrested and taken to Shombo communal cell by police officers.

I.4. PERSONS ARRESTED BY POLICE, IMBONERAKURE, SNR AGENTS AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS

A person arrested in Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province

On 22 January 2019, on Nyabunyegeri hill, Rubirizi zone, Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province, Madjidi Manirakiza, 30 years old, single, son of Saïdi Madjidi and Faïda Nzinahora, from Kinama zone, Ntahangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie, was arrested, accused of having participated in the protests against President Pierre Nkurunziza 3rd term by an Imbonerakure named Jean Claude then handed over to Jean Népomuscène Dusengumuremyi, youth leader Imbonerakure in Mutimbuzi commune. According to local sources, Jean Népomuscène Dusengumuremyi took him to Rubirizi zone cell where he was recovered the same day by Gérard Ndayisenga, SNR head in rural Bujumbura province. On January 25, 2019, the family was informed by telephone that Madjidi Manirakiza is at Murembwe prison in Rumonge province but is not allowed to visit him.

A person arrested in Busoni commune, Kirundo province

On January 22, 2019, at 9:00 am, 35-year-old Jean Luc Niyoyitungiye, IDP in Kabanga Camp since 1993 and a teacher of ECOFO Kididiri, was arrested by Imbonerakure sent by the MP Jean Baptiste Nzigamasabo alias Gihaha. According to sources on site, he was accused of recruiting Tutsi rebels from this camp to Congo. He was taken to Busoni commune cell and transferred to Kirundo police station. According to the same sources, he was released on January 25, 2019 after searching his house and found receipts of all the contributions required by the authorities.

Three person arrested in Nyabihanga commune, Mwaro province

Information received by Ligue Iteka indicates on 22 January 2019 indicated that on January 19, 2019, Salathiel Ntakamurenga, former CNDD-FDD party representative in Mwaro province and ex provincial inspector of education in Mwaro, from Nyabihanga commune and residing there, was arrested and taken to Nyabihanga communal police station cell with two other people Innocent and Oscar under the orders of the communal administrator of Nyabihanga Adrien Ntunzwenimana. According to sources on site, the victims were in a New Year celebration party in their sports team and after the reception, they were arrested by the administrator accusing them of recruiting rebels and making illegal meetings that are causing insecurity. According to the same sources, they were released under the same administrator's order on January 21, 2019 around 10:00 am.

A person arrested in Busoni commune, Kirundo province

On 20 January 2019, around midnight, 25-year-old Ndikumana Clovis of Marembo hill, Busoni commune, repatriated from Rwanda on 6 January 2019 was arrested by Imbonerakure led by Hatari, the leader of this hill. According to local sources, Ndikumana Clovis was taken to Busoni commune cell on 21 January 2019 and was transferred on 22 January 2019 to the police station in Kirundo where he was jailed. According to the same sources, he was accused of possessing a pistol.

1.5. GENDER BASED VIOLENCES

A person killed in Muyinga commune and province

On the night of January 21, 2019, at around 8:00 pm, on Butihinda hill, Cumba zone, Muyinga commune and province, Emelyne Miburo was killed by her husband Roger Nzoyihera. According to local sources, the victim was beaten by her husband during a clash and died straightaway. The alleged perpetrator was arrested by the police and taken to PJ cell in Muyinga

I.6. VIOLATIONS OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Violation of the right to education in Bururi commune and province

On the morning of January 23, 2019, Claver Ndayishimiye, Director of Bururi Communal High School, in Bururi commune and province, expelled all students from this school, who will be at least 18 years old in 2020, having not yet paid 1000 contribution for the 2020 elections.

II. SECURITY FACTS

A person killed in Rumonge commune and province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on January 21, 2019 indicates that during the night of January 20 to 21, 2019, a man nicknamed Firmasoni was killed by the residents of Mugomere quarter, Rumonge commune and province. According to sources on site, the victim was lynched during an attempted robbery in a household. Police arrested three alleged perpetrators for investigation reasons.

Eight people injured in Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie province

On the night of January 27, 2019, at around 8:00, eight people were injured in a grenade explosion launched by unidentified people at a bar owned by Egide Nduwayo, CNDD-FDD member, and Imbonerakure at the 9th Avenue, Buterere I quarter, Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie. According to local sources, the owner of the bar is among the persons injured. According to the same sources, the police said they had started investigations.

A grenade found in Mpanda commune, Bubanza province

On January 21, 2019, around 4:00 pm, a grenade was found near the portal of Mpanda commune office, Bubanza province. According to sources on site, the alleged perpetrator of this act has not been identified. According to the same sources, the police recovered this arm.

Forced contributions

From 24 to 26 January 2019, in Gitega province, in Yoba quarter, on the airfield ground, the CNDD-FDD party organized a national thanksgiving crusade and collecting donations for the construction of an altar of alliance of this party. The inhabitants were forced to participate in this crusade during working hours. State vehicles have been used to transport senior executives from all provinces of the country. The police prevented the free movement of people and the trade was disrupted.

The preparations for this event took place in all provinces of the country on January 23, 2019. According to local sources, Imbonerakure accompanied by CNDD-FDD party officials conducted a forced collection of food and money from the population without distinction of political and religious affiliation. The agents of this collection were crisscrossing all door-to-door households demanding these contributions.

In some provinces, such as Makamba, students and teachers have been forced to suspend classes to participate in the crusade and bring offerings.

In Kirundo province, on 23 January 2019, at Nyarunazi field, Busoni commune, dry food including 35,740 kg of beans and 11,084,000 Bif was collected by Imbonerakure led by all hill heads to celebrate the day of offerings called "amashimwe".

In Karuzi province, from 21 to 23 January 2019, in all communes, Imbonerakure acting under the orders of Stanislas Manirakiza, provincial representative of CNDD-FDD party and DPE in Karuzi, collected by force money and food. A sum of 2000 Bif or one kg of rice or beans was required from each household. On Buhiga hill, zone and commune, taxi-car drivers were to give 5000 Bif or equivalent in food.

Intimidation in Kibago commune, Makamba province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on January 21, 2019 indicates that on January 16, 2019, stones were thrown, around 1:00 am, by Imbonerakure, on the roof of Congera's house, member of Charles Nditije's UPRONA wing on Rubimba hill, Kibago zone and commune, Makamba province. According to local sources, he was accused by the communal leader of CNDD-FDD party of planning the attack on Kibago zone head Phénias Kabura through the organization of clandestine meetings.

III. CONCLUSION

Human rights violations and allegations of violations following the deteriorating political context since the start of President Pierre Nkurunziza's third term challenge continue to be recorded in various parts of the country.

Cases of killings, abductions and/or enforced disappearances, torture, arbitrary and targeted illegal arrests against opponents and alleged opponents of CNDD-FDD party regime are reported.

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