



LBDH/ 002 /2020

DECLARATION OF LIGUE ITEKA ON EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS IN BUJUMBURA RURAL PROVINCE

Since April 25, 2015, Burundi has been going through an unprecedented crisis following President Pierre Nkurunziza's decision to run for a third unconstitutional term and in violation of the Arusha Agreement. Following the protest movement against the aforesaid term initiated by leaders of opposition parties and those of civil society, the Government of Burundi has established a fierce and merciless system of repression.

The crackdown has resulted in serious crimes under international law such as extrajudicial killings, targeted killings, enforced disappearances, torture and sexual violence. In addition, other forms of inhuman and degrading treatment, as well as arbitrary arrests and detentions, have been recorded.

Thus, since the second half of January 2020, Ligue Iteka has been informed of a regrouping and arming of the young Imbonerakure in the locality of Kajeke in Rukoko forest with the aim of tainting CNL party. These young Imbonerakure came from Buringa and Kagwema in Gihanga commune, Bubanza province.

As of February 19, 2020, in Muyira, Kanyosha commune, Bujumbura rural province, clashes between a group of armed men reported in Kirombwe and elements of the army supported by the police left 2 people killed and two others arrested.

Ligue Iteka has been outraged by a wave of illegal and arbitrary arrests of local CNL party officials in rural Bujumbura province since the announcement of the attack. Thus, around twenty people arrested, including Félix Ndikuriyo, local leader of the aforesaid party and originally from Kiziba hill, Mubimbi commune, died following acts of torture in Mubimbi communal police station cell, accused of belonging to rebel groups.

As of February 23, 2020, on Kinama, Mugendo and Musenyi hills, Nyabiraba commune, rural Bujumbura province, clashes resumed between armed men and soldiers supported by police and Imbonerakure. Fourteen people were killed including 12 among the armed men, 1 police officer and a motorcycle driver. Those killed among the armed men were captured and then tied up by soldiers and police backed up by Imbonerakure before being killed in the sight of the population.



LIGUE BURUNDAISE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

"ITEKA" association sans but lucratif

Agréée par l'ordonnance ministérielle n°530/0273 du 10 novembre 1994 revoyant l'ordonnance 550/029 du 6 février 1991

Membre affilié de la Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme (F.I.D.H)

Ligue Iteka condemns these extrajudicial killings which are a bad omen on the eve of the 2020 elections and recommends:

To the Government of Burundi:

- ❖ Respect the law regarding the treatment of arrested or detained persons.

To CNDD-FDD party:

- ❖ To stop sacrificing the youth of the party for political purposes and to campaign for peace by displaying political maturity.

To other political parties:

- ❖ Show restraint and campaign for long-lasting peace.

To Burundian youth:

- ❖ Resist the divisionist manipulations and teachings of politicians.

To the international community:

- ❖ To double vigilance over human rights violations in Burundi and take consequent decisions.

Done in Kampala, 25 February 2020

Anschaire NIKOYAGIZE

President of Ligue Iteka

