

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°196 of the Burundian League of Human Rights
"ITEKA"*

Week from 6 to 12 January 2020



In memory of Madam Marie Claudette Kwizera, Treasurer of Iteka, reported missing since December 10 2015. From December 2015 to 12 January 2020, Iteka has documented at least 548 cases of enforced disappearances.

<i>CONTENTS</i>	<i>PAGES</i>
<i>ACRONYMS</i>	3
<i>0. INTRODUCTION</i>	4
<i>I. ALLEGATIONS OF VIOLATIONS, 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 MISSING</i>	5
<i>I.3. PERSONS ARRESTED BY POLICE, ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS, IMBONERAKURE AND SNR AGENTS</i>	5
<i>I.4. GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE</i>	7
<i>II. SECURITY FACTS</i>	7
<i>III. CONCLUSION</i>	8

ACRONYMS

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

CNL : *National Congress for Liberty*

COSSESSONA : *Special Coalition of Teachers' Unions for National Solidarity*

FAB : *Burundi Armed Forces*

OPJ : *Judiciary Police Officer*

RN : *National Road*

SYGEPEBU : *General Education Staff Union of Burundi*

VBG : *Gender Based Violence*

0. INTRODUCTION

Over the reporting period of this bulletin, allegations of violations and human rights violations were recorded as follows: at least 3 people killed, including 1 corpses, 3 persons abducted, 2 VBG victims and 2 arbitrarily arrested.

Among the victims identified is 2 women arrested and 2 students abducted.

Imbonerakure affiliated to CNDD-FDD party, police, SNR agents and administration officials are singled out as alleged perpetrators of most of these human rights violations.

Among the victims recorded are members of CNL party.

This bulletin also notes cases of killings, abductions, GBV and arbitrary arrest in the country.

Over the reporting period, people attacked and injured and a stolen CNL flag were reported in some provinces of the country.

I. ALLEGATIONS OF VIOLATIONS, 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 body found in Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie

Information received by Ligue Iteka on January 6, 2020 indicates that on January 5, 2020, a body of Jérémie Ngendakuriyo alias Kamoteri was found in Gikungu quarter, Gihosha urban zone, Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie. According to sources on site, the victim was killed strangled by unidentified men in a double cabin vehicle. According to the same sources, this victim was a money exchanger, originally from Kirambi sub-hill, Karwa hill, Bamba zone, Bururi commune and province and lived in Bwiza zone, Mukaza commune, Bujumbura Mairie. He had been abducted in Bwiza zone on January 4, 2020.

A member of CNL party killed in Ntega commune, Kirundo province

During the night of January 7 to 8, 2020, on Gihofi sub hill, Gisitwe hill, Ntega commune, Kirundo province, Frédéric Nkezabahizi, 65 years old, member of CNL party, was killed at his home by unidentified people armed with machetes. According to sources on site, these murderers also injured Frédéric Nkezabahizi's wife before running away and she was taken to Kirundo hospital. According to the same sources, the victim's family was threatened by the Imbonerakure and had complained to the administrator, but the administrator had not acted to protect the family.

I.2. PERSONS ABDUCTED AND/OR MISSING

Three people abducted in Mugamba commune, Bururi province

As of January 9, 2020, Arsène Baserukiye and Davis Mugenzi, all students at Lycée communal Kibezi as well as Claver Ndikumana, retired, ex-police officer, were respectively arrested in the localities of Nyarurambi and Gakara, Kivumu hill, Mugamba commune, Bururi province by the head of SNR in Bururi province in collaboration with the communal police commissioner in Mugamba commune. According to sources on site, they were accused of training in the handling of firearms and they were taken aboard a pickup-type police vehicle to an unknown destination.

I.3. PERSONS ARRESTED BY POLICE, ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS, IMBONERAKURE AND SNR AGENTS

A member of CNL party arrested in Mukaza commune, Bujumbura Mairie

On January 7, 2020, at Mutanga campus, Mukaza commune, Bujumbura Mairie, Jean de Dieu Nkuzimana, student at the University of Burundi, in the Faculty of Arts and Human Sciences, member of CNL party, was arrested by the official security assistant at Mutanga campus accompanied by Imbonerakure students. According to sources on site, they took him to Nyakabiga zone cell and he was transferred on 8 January 2020 to Jabe judicial police cell located in Bwiza zone, Bujumbura Mairie. According to the same sources, the victim was accused of holding a CNL party meeting with student members of this party native of Gitega province without having the authorization.

A woman arrested in Buhiga commune, Karuzi province

As of January 9, 2020, on Buhiga hill, zone and commune, Karuzi province, a woman named Bogoye, in her fifties, was arrested by police and taken to Buhiga zone cell. According to local sources, she was accused of complicity in the marketing of prohibited beer. According to the same sources, the victim was in community work on RN 12 when a biker passed by and his small luggage consisting of bags fell. The woman who was nearby picked it up and found inside a one-liter bottle of prohibited beer called "kanyanga". Those who were with this woman informed hill head André Mbonihankuye, who quickly called the police to arrest her. This woman was required to provide the name of the biker who was carrying this prohibited drink in order to be released, but the biker was not known in the locality.

A member of CNL party arrested in Nyabihanga commune, Mwaro province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on January 6, 2020 indicates that on January 5, 2020, on Gisyike hill, Nyabihanga commune, Mwaro province, Mbonigarura, 42 years old, living on the same hill, was arrested by the commune administrator, Adrien Ntunzwenimana. According to local sources, he was accused of drinking a prohibited drink called "umudiringi". According to the same sources, the victim was arrested because he rented his house in Gisyike center as CNL party office. The victim was taken and jailed in Nyabihanga commune cell.

A member of CNL party arrested in Nyabihanga commune, Mwaro province

On January 7, 2020, on Miterama hill, Nyabihanga commune, Mwaro province, Béatrice Barengayabo, 38 years old, resident on this hill, member of CNL party, was arrested at her home by an Imbonerakure on the orders of the commune administrator, Adrien Ntunzwenimana. According to sources on site, the victim was accused of having broadcast on social networks an audio of a so-called patriotic training of students on vacation of December 28, 2019. According to the same sources, this victim was taken and jailed in Nyabihanga commune cell.

Two CNL party members arrested in Nyabihanga commune, Mwaro province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on January 6, 2020 indicates that on January 4, 2020, on Gisyike hill, Nyabihanga commune, Mwaro province, Marcel, 28 years old and Jonas, 31 years old, both from Hill Musongati, members of CNL party, were arrested by police accompanied by an Imbonerakure on the orders of the commune administrator, Adrien Ntunzwenimana. Local sources said they were accused of holding an illegal meeting. These victims were taken to and jailed in Nyabihanga commune cell.

A unionist arrested in commune and Rutana province

On January 8, 2020, around 6:00 p.m., close to Rutana provincial office, Antoine Manuma, chair of SYGEPEBU union, was arrested by Ezechiel, the provincial SNR head, and took him home. According to sources on site, he was accused of refusing the cut of 500 Bif by COSSESSONA from the account of each teacher. According to the same sources, after interrogation, Antoine Manuma was taken to Rutana commune police station cell before being transferred to Bujumbura on January 10, 2020.

I.4.GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

A person raped in Muramvya commune and province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on January 6, 2020 indicates that on the night of January 1 to 2, 2020, on Musagara hill, Muramvya commune and province, N.T., aged 15, was raped in her bedroom by Casimir Ntunzwenimana, house worker. According to sources on site, the latter cried for help and the neighbors intervened by arresting the alleged perpetrator. According to the same sources, the alleged perpetrator was jailed at the provincial police station from 2 to 8 January 2020 and was transferred to Muramvya prison on January 9, 2020.

A person raped in Kiganda commune, Muramvya province

As of January 6, 2020, on Ruvumu hill, Kiganda commune, Muramvya province, D.N., aged 15, mentally disabled, was raped in a cornfield by Isaac Maniratunga when she went to fetch water. According to sources on site, the alleged perpetrator was arrested and jailed in Kiganda brigade the same day. According to the same sources, on January 7, 2020, this alleged perpetrator was transferred to Muramvya prison.

II. SECURITY FACTS

A body of a CNL party member found in Mugina commune, Cibitoke province

On January 10, 2020, in the morning, on Rusagara hill, Mugina commune, Cibitoke province, a body of Gratien Misago, aged about sixty years, member of CNL party, was found to Jean Marie Barayarwiza's home, member of CNDD-FDD party. According to sources on site, as of January 9, 2020, in the evening, Jean Marie Barayarwiza and Gratien Misago had shared banana wine in a nearby bar and the victim had spent the night with Jean-Marie with whom he had in common a field of bean and eggplant. According to the same sources, the victim's body showed signs of strangulation. The neighbors alerted the administration and the police, who took the body to one of the Bujumbura Mairie hospitals for an autopsy, and the alleged perpetrator was arrested and jailed in Mugina commune police station cell.

A member of CNL party attacked and injured in Kirundo commune and province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on January 6, 2020 indicates that on January 5, 2020, around 7:00 p.m., on Mwenya hill, commune and Kirundo province, Julien Bakanibona, leader of CNL party in Kirundo zone was attacked by unidentified people who were sitting by the road in front of the head's home of this hill. According to sources on site, the victim came from Karama sub hill and was injured on his arms and left eye. She was taken to Kirundo hospital for medical treatment.

A CNL party flag robbed in Bubanza commune and province

As of January 8, 2020, at night, on Muhenga hill, Buvyuko zone, Bubanza commune and province, a CNL party flag installed in front of the party office of this party was stolen by unidentified people.

III. CONCLUSION

Allegations of violations, human rights abuses and violations resulting from the deterioration of the political environment since the start of the protests against President Pierre Nkurunziza's third term continue to be recorded across the country.

Cases of killings, abductions, GBV and arbitrary arrests continue to be reported in some localities across the country.

Over this week, attacked and injured people and a theft of a CNL party flag were reported in some provinces of the country.

Ligue Iteka protests against the impunity of crimes which is attributed to those close to CNDD-FDD party. Members of this party involved in various crimes enjoy impunity with a complicity of public authorities.