

## BURUNDIAN LIGUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS "ITEKA"

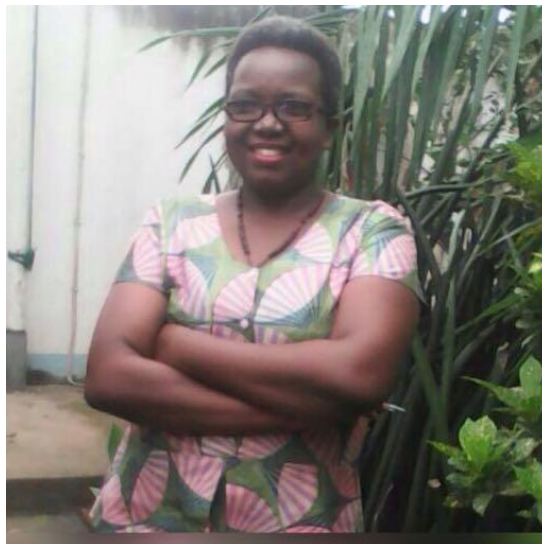
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***Weekly bulletin « ITEKA N'IJAMBO » n°313 of the Burundian Ligue of Human Rights "ITEKA"***

**Week from 11 – 17 April 2022**



***In memory of Madam Marie Claudette Kwizera, Treasurer of Iteka, reported missing since December 10 2015. From December 2015 to 17 April 2022, Iteka has documented at least 644 cases of enforced disappearances.***

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## **ACRONYMS**

**CDS** : *Health Center*

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

**CNL** : *National Congress for Liberty*

**NGO** : *Non-Governmental Organization*

**RN** : *National Road*

**SNR** : *National Intelligence Service*

## ***0. INTRODUCTION***

Over the reporting period of this bulletin, allegations of violations and human rights violations were recorded as follows: at least 2 persons, 1 person abducted and 2 persons arbitrarily arrested.

Among these victims is 2 arbitrarily arrested.

Imbonerakure militiamen, police, SNR agents and administration officials are singled out as alleged perpetrators of most of these human rights violations.

This bulletin also notes cases of violations of the right to life, physical integrity and liberty.

Cases of security facts have been noted in various localities of the country.

## ***I. ALLEGATIONS OF VIOLATIONS, VIOLATIONS AND VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS***

### ***I.1. THE RIGHT TO LIFE***

#### ***I.1.1 PERSONS KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED PEOPLE***

##### **One person killed in Muha commune, Bujumbura Mairie**

On April 11, 2022, around 5:00 a.m., very close to the Military Auditorat, at avenue du large, Kinindo zone, Muha commune, Bujumbura Mairie, Nyandwi, seller of clothes at Kinindo market, married, residing in Muzenga quarter known as Ceceni, head of ten houses in Musaga zone, was stabbed to death by unidentified people. According to sources on site, he was heading to work at Kinindo market. According to the same sources, police and soldiers guarding this military auditorium did not intervene.

##### **A policeman killed and three people injured in Kirundo commune and province**

On April 17, 2022, at Kirundo hospital, Kirundo commune and province, Corporal Jean de Dieu Uwimana, registration number CAP 4724, died after an attack by armed people. According to sources on site, he had just been injured in the head following a grenade thrown against Alpha Hotel by unidentified people, around 1:00 a.m., in Kavogero quarter, Kirundo commune and province. This grenade also injured Corporal Claude Ntahondereye, registration number CAP 4614 and Corporal Yves Manirambona, registration number CAP4009 who were having a drink as well as Wilson Bizimana, aged 35, agent of this hotel. According to the same sources, police officers from Kirundo provincial police station were patrolling very close to this hotel.

#### ***I.1.2. ABUSE AGAINST CHILDREN***

##### **A girl burned in Nyanza-lac commune, Makamba province**

Information received by Ligue Iteka on April 14, 2022, indicates that on April 4, 2022, on Kiderege hill, Kazirabageni zone, Nyanza-lac commune, Makamba province, Fidélité Iteriteka, aged 11, was burned at the mouth by her mother. According to sources on site, this little girl was accused by her mother of having refused to do housework. According to the same sources, the victim was taken to CDS Buheka to receive medical care while the alleged perpetrator fled towards Mabanda where she was arrested by police after two days before being taken to Nyanza-lac commune police station cell.

### ***I.2. THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM***

#### ***I.2.1. PERSONS ABDUCTED AND/OR REPORTED MISSING***

##### **A person abducted in Busoni commune, Kirundo province**

Information received by Ligue Iteka on April 14, 2022 indicates that on March 30, 2022, at displaced persons site located on Rutabo hill, Busoni commune, Kirundo province, Diomede Hakizimana, an internally displaced person from 1993, was abducted by Jovit, provincial SNR head of Kirundo. He was accused of collaborating with a rebel group and of having contact with his brothers exiled in Mahama camp since 2015. According to sources on site, he was watched by the Imbonerakure militiamen throughout the night from 29 to March 30, 2022 and they monitored him every time he talked on the phone and every time he bought airtime top-up cards. According to the

same sources, he was taken on board of an SNR vehicle to an unknown destination. His family looked for him in all the cells of Kirundo but in vain.

### **Five people abducted in Cankuzo province<sup>1</sup>**

From March 31 to April 1, 2022, in Cankuzo commune and province, Anatole Hakizimana, Norbert Hatungimana, Shadrack Sibomana, Norbert Gasugumwa and Jean Claude were arrested by Venant Ndayishimiye, SNR provincial head who took them to his home before driving them to an unknown destination. According to sources on site, Anatole Hakizimana, City Security team leader, assigned to the NGO World Vision in Cankuzo, residing in Ndava quarter, Cankuzo urban center, native of Ramba hill, Gisagara commune of the same province, was arrested at his work on March 31, 2022. Three others were arrested at their home, in Ndava quarter, the next day, on April 1, 2022, including Norbert Hatungimana and Norbert Gasugumwa. A fifth was arrested when he brought clothes to Anatole who was jailed in the cell wearing the service uniform. They were then taken to an unknown destination and accused of belonging to an illegal political party which was not specified.

### ***1.2.2. PERSONS ARBITRARILY ARRESTED***

#### **Two girls arrested in Bururi commune and province**

On April 15, 2022, on Nyagwaga hill, Bamba zone, Bururi commune and province, Gloriose Ndayipfukamiye and Thierryve Niyogusenga were arrested by the police on then behalf of their brother Japhet Nizonkiza. According to sources on site, the latter was accused of cropping hemp at his home. Police officers destroyed a hemp plantation in collaboration with communal administrator Félix Niyongabo. According to the same sources, these two girls were taken to Bururi provincial police station cell for investigation reasons after their brother took off.

## ***II. SECURITY FACTS***

### **A person injured in Gihanga commune, Bubanza province**

On April 12, 2022, around 8:00 p.m., on the hill V, Gihanga zone and commune, Bubanza province, Libère Nduwayezu, motorcycle taxi driver, was beaten and injured by two unidentified customers he was transporting. According to sources on site, they beat him with a small hoe and a knife to the head and stole an unknown amount of money from him before running away. The victim had come from a motorcycle parking on Randa hill, Bubanza commune and province. According to the same sources, this victim was taken to a health facility close to this place for medical care.

### **Clashes of young Inyankamugayo of CNL party and members of the Imbonerakure militia in Mpanda commune, Bubanza province**

On April 13, 2022, on Murengeza hill, Mpanda commune, Bubanza province, a young man from CNL party nicknamed Sigisi was seriously injured during clashes between members of the Imbonerakure militia and youths from CNL party commonly known as Inyankamugayo. According to sources on site, around 11:00 a.m. that day, on this hill, there were elections for community health workers from which members of CNL party were excluded. According to the same sources, these

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<sup>1</sup> This case was reported in the weekly bulletin No. 311 in which it was mentioned that four of the five abducted persons had been found. Ligue Iteka was informed that Anatole had been taken to Mpimba prison after days spent at the SNR office in Bujumbura Mairie.

members of CNL party revolted and sequestered the hill head Emmanuel nicknamed Kibati. Afterwards, around 8:00 p.m., armed with a summons, these members of the Imbonerakure militia accompanied by the hill head went to the CNL party hill office to arrest a young man who had sequestered the hill head. However, members of CNL party opposed this arrest. On April 14, 2022, around 11:00 a.m., a meeting was organized by Melchior Ntakiyiruta, Musenyi zone head to calm the situation while indicating that the alleged perpetrators must be brought to justice. The injured man was taken to Mpanda hospital for treatment.

### **Paramilitary training in Makamba province**

Since April 11, 2022, at the Makamba High School of Excellence, Nyange hill, Makamba commune and province, around three hundred members of the Imbonerakure militia wearing military uniforms and boots have been welcomed by provincial officials of this party for a paramilitary training. According to sources on site, these young people who came from the provinces of Bururi, Rutana and Makamba followed theoretical training during the day and practical training on the playgrounds of this high school in the evening by blocking the paths passing through this high school. The school staff living in the houses inside had difficulty getting in because all the gates were closed. The vehicle of this school had collected the mattresses from Lycée Technique Nyabigina and ETEMA Makamba. Gilbert Nduwayo, provincial secretary of CNDD-FDD party who was aboard the vehicle of the said party made turns throughout the day to supervise these activities.

### **Acts of intimidation by the Imbonerakure in Buhiga commune, Karuzi province**

Information received by Ligue Iteka on April 11, 2022, indicates that on April 7, 2022, around 5:00 a.m., on Buhiga hill and commune, Karuzi province, a group of Imbonerakure from Buhiga hills, Mwoya, Magamba and Rwingoma ran through different quarters of Buhiga and sang songs of intimidation saying that opponents will be corrected. According to sources on site, around 8:00 a.m., they headed to Shanga hill, Rutonganikwa zone of the same commune where CNDD-FDD party demobilized and retirees including Emmanuel Nkurunziza alias Gifaró gave them paramilitary training.

### **Impressive passage of the secretary general of CNDD-FDD party in Karuzi province**

As of April 14, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., from Muyinga-Karuzi border to Gitega-Karuzi border, several members of the Imbonerakure militia were positioned on the RN 12 at an interval of 30 meters, over a distance of more or less 78 km to greet the passage of the Secretary General of CNDD-FDD party, Révérien Ndikuriyo. According to sources on site, these Imbonerakure had begun to criss-cross quarters of Buhiga center and the surrounding hills since 6:00 am to prepare for his passage. According to the same sources, Révérien Ndikuriyo came from Muyinga province and was supposed to pass through this province around 10:00 a.m. but his passage took place at 4:00 p.m.

### ***III. CONCLUSION***

Over the reporting period of this bulletin, allegations and political and civil rights violations, continue to be recorded across the country.

This bulletin reports on cases of violations of the right to life and liberty.

This bulletin also lists issues related to security facts in some localities the country.

Ligue Iteka protests against the impunity of crimes observed and calls on the Government to prosecute the perpetrators without bias.