



# BURUNDIAN LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS “ITEKA”

## WEEKLY REPORT

*“Iteka n’ Ijambo”*

*Anyone should be respected*

**N°513 from 09 to 15 February 2026**

Approved by Ministerial Ordinance No. 530/0273 of November 10, 1994,  
Revising Ordinance No. 550/029 of February 6, 1991



In memory of Madam Marie Claudette KWIZERA, treasurer of the Iteka League, missing since December 10, 2015. From December 2015 to February 15, 2026, at least 853 victims of enforced disappearance have been documented by the Iteka League, at least 86 victims have reappeared, and 769 victims are still missing. The UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID) has already communicated at least 252 victims to the government of Burundi.

The ITEKA League:

- ◆ “Is a member of the Inter-African Union for Human and Peoples' Rights (UIDH), is an affiliated member of the International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (FIDH),
- ◆ Has observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights under reference number OBS.236 and is a member of ECOSOC”.
- ◆ The ITEKA League is decentralized into 17 federations and 32 sections.

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# ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF BURUNDI

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE REDIVISION OF MARCH 16, 2023



## *ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS*

ANAGESSA: National Agency for the Management of Food Security Stocks

CNDD-FDD: National Council for the Defense of Democracy – Forces for the Defense of Democracy

CNL: National Congress for Liberty

DCE: Communal Directorate of Education

EAC: East African Community

FOMI: Organic-Mineral Fertilizers

FDNB: National Defense Force of Burundi

M23: March 23 Movement

OTB: Burundi Tea Office

PRODEFI: Value Chain Development Program

PRODER: Rural Entrepreneurship Development Program

PSR: Special Traffic Police

RDC: Democratic Republic of Congo

RN: National Road

SNR: National Enquiry Service

UPRONA: Union for National Progress

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## 0. INTRODUCTION

This bulletin presents the situation of human rights in Burundi during the week of February 9 to 15, 2026. In this report, the Iteka League also examines the political, governance, security, judicial, and environmental context. It also analyzes illustrative cases of violations of civil and political rights, economic, social, and cultural rights, as well as category-specific rights, particularly children's rights.

The allegations of human rights violations observed and documented by the Iteka League are as follows for this period: at least 11 people killed, including 9 found dead, 1 case of enforced disappearance, 1 victim of rape of a minor girl. Two cases of infanticide were reported during this reporting period.

Among the victims were two bodies of young girls, a woman, a child and fetuses killed and a minor raped.

Imbonerakure from the ruling CNDD-FDD party, police and administrative officials are accused of being the main alleged perpetrators of these human rights violations. .

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## I. CONTEXT

### I.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT

***Traders forced to financially contribute to the commemoration of the CNDD-FDD party's victory in Rumonge, in Burunga province.***

The political context was marked by several events over the past week. The celebration of the party's victory is scheduled for February 28, 2026, in Rumonge, according to information provided by traders at the central market of this town. This Friday morning, February 13, 2026, these traders did not open their stalls between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m.

The market was inaccessible. Young members of the Imbonerakure had blocked all the market entrances, thus forcing the traders to attend a meeting organized by the CNDD FDD party, intended for those operating in this market. Furthermore, some traders report that the ruling party officials announced that the commemoration of their victory in the 2025 elections will be celebrated in Rumonge on February 28, 2026.

For this occasion, the party plans to raise a contribution of 7 million francs from the traders of this market in order to organize this event.

Several traders expressed their regret at having lost three hours of work, as they are not members of this party which seems to want to force them to fund its activities. Since Thursday, February 12, 2026, meetings of this party have been held in various neighborhoods of the city of Rumonge. Some activists of this party stated that these meetings are used to spread messages of hatred against members of the Tutsi ethnic group, as well as to recall the tragic events of 1972. Unfortunately, these speeches take place in the presence of Tutsi members belonging to the same party, who are perceived as mere extras.

## ***1.2. JUDICIAL CONTEXT***

### ***Temporary detention of a man in Karusi Commune, Gitega Province.***

Since Monday, February 9, 2026, around 10 a.m., an individual named BUHINJA J. Paul, a member of the CNDD FDD and over 30 years old, originally from KIBENGA hill, in the GITARAMUKA area of the KARUSI commune, was incarcerated by the police forces in the Buhiga zone jail, following a summons by a Judicial Police Officer (OPJ). He is accused of facilitating the transfer to Tanzania of two young men from the same hill. According to our sources, two young men, MUGISHA and Clovis, aged 19 and 21 respectively, allegedly approached him asking to be put in touch with a taxi driver who could take them to CANKUZO to facilitate their passage to Tanzania.

They discussed an unspecified amount, including the fees for the documents required at the border (passes). However, the driver who transported them from Buhiga to

Muyinga recommended another driver in CANKUZO, who took them to the border without the necessary papers. Although they managed to cross the border, they were apprehended and jailed in Tanzania.

The young people's families were informed by phone and went to the police to file complaints against J. Paul, accusing him of embezzling the money intended for their children's documents, which led to their imprisonment in Tanzania. They are demanding that he take the initiative to secure their release. It should be noted that a close source indicated he was released this Thursday under the condition of reimbursing the document fees and going to Tanzania to retrieve them.

### ***Arrest of a man in Karusi Commune, Gitega Province.***

On Wednesday, February 11, 2026, around 3 p.m., a man nicknamed Brasta, originally from Buhiga Hill, BUHIGA Zone of the KARUSI Commune, was arrested by the Police on Rwingoma Hill and was incarcerated in the cell of the same Zone, where he remains. According to local and police sources, Brasta is a smoker and supplier of cannabis on Gashanga Hill. While crossing Rwingoma

Hill towards Gashanga, he encountered one of his clients, and during a discussion, someone living on Rwingoma Hill alerted the Police.

According to our source, he was in possession of two kilograms of cannabis in his bag at the time of his apprehension by the police.

## ***1.3. HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT***

### ***Batwa families still homeless in Muyinga, in Butanyerera province.***

More than 270 Batwa households in the commune of Muyinga, in the province of Butanyerera, still live in extreme hardship, more than a year after the promises of support made by the ministry in charge of National Solidarity.

These families were waiting for the distribution of metal sheets intended to complete their homes. In the meantime, they received temporary tents, which have now become severely deteriorated. The houses under construction are collapsing due to repeated rains, forcing some households to return to straw huts, further exposing

children and vulnerable people.

Pierre Nsabimana, representative of the Batwa families in the Gasorwe area, is making an urgent appeal to the authorities to ensure that the commitments made are finally honored. He regrets that the matter has remained pending, especially after the change in leadership at the relevant ministry. The local authorities, through Léonidas Niyibitanga, adviser to the zone chief in charge of development, are calling for patience, assuring that the families have not been forgotten.

### ***1.3. HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT (the following of page 6)***

For his part, Edouard Kumwami, president of the cooperative of the affected households, encourages families to develop vegetable crops

to survive, an initiative made difficult by the lack of resources and precarious living conditions.

#### ***1.4. I.4. GOVERNANCE CONTEXT***

##### ***Complaints from citizens following the non-delivery of chemical fertilizers in Bugendana Commune in Gitega Province.***

In the Bugendana Commune, Gitega Province, the shortage of FOMI fertilizers is delaying agricultural activities for the current cropping season (Impeshi).

Since last week, farmers have been spending the day in front of stock at distribution points, from morning until sunset, without being able to obtain any.

They are told that priority is given to those who have tickets issued during the previous

season, but even so, some beneficiaries are still not served.

As for farmers who have already paid the full fees for the current season, they express their confusion and dissatisfaction, not knowing when they will receive the fertilizer despite having already paid the full amount required. This situation has been reported in all the communes of Gitega Province.

#### ***1.5. ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT***

##### ***Destruction of the population's property in Cibitoke Commune, Bujumbura Province.***

Ninety-two houses were destroyed, two establishments were demolished, as well as two churches, and cultivated fields were damaged. These are the ravages caused by torrential rains accompanied by winds, which struck on Thursday afternoon in the Kiramira area, within the commune of Cibitoke, in Bujumbura province. For now, individuals

who have lost their homes are turning to their neighbors for shelter, while others spend the night near the walls of their former homes. The head of the Kiramira area is requesting assistance to help the affected population.



***Anyone should be respected***

## II. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

### II.1. RIGHT TO LIFE

#### II.1.1. INTENTIONAL HOMICIDES

##### II.1.1.1. PEOPLE KILLED AS A RESULT OF PAYBACK

*A young man killed by his brother in the city of Bujumbura, in Bujumbura province.*

On February 9, 2026, a young man named Lionel, a bus driver in the Bujumbura-Nyakabiga parking was killed by his brother around 2 a.m.

All from the former Mwaro province, they are brothers of the same parents and came to Bujumbura to practice this profession of public transport in the Nyakabiga car park. The two were in conflict based on the property they inherited from their parents.

Under the influence of alcohol, Lionel slept under the bus that his brother Theogene

drives and when the latter noticed that he was there, he started the bus and ran it over, Lionel died on the spot, and his body was buried on February 10, 2026 in Mpanda.

Those who were aware of their conflict deny the explanations provided by Theogene who tries to cover himself by saying that he did not see that his brother was under his vehicle. Instead, they are demanding that he be apprehended for murder.

##### II.1.1.2. PEOPLE KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS OR BODIES FOUND

*A lifeless body was discovered near the Nyamagana River in Cibitoke, Bujumbura province.*

A lifeless body of a man was discovered this Friday, February 13, 2026 on the hill of Rusiga, in the Cibitoke area, near the Nyamagana River. According to local sources, the victim had a serious head injury, suggesting that he was violently beaten before being abandoned at the scene.

The body, already in an advanced state of decomposition, could have stayed about two days on site.

According to the head of the Cibitoke zone, Louis Ndayishimiye, the identity of the victim remains unknown. Administrative

authorities, accompanied by members of the Imbonerakure, went to the scene and ordered the body to be transferred to the morgue of Cibitoke Hospital for identification.

Residents say this is the fourth similar case recorded in three months on the same hill. Worried about this macabre series, they are calling for in-depth investigations to identify the perpetrators and strengthen security in the locality.

*The lifeless body of a man was discovered in the Makamba Commune, Burunga Province.*

As of February 15, 2026, the ITEKA league received information that on February 12, 2026, around 6 a.m., the lifeless body of a man was discovered in the waters of the Muyogo River, which separates the Muyogo neighborhood from the urban center. According to witnesses on the scene, the victim's body was floating in a shallow part of the river with little water. This caused a great

deal of concern among the surrounding population. Some of the locals believe that the victim may have been killed elsewhere and that his body was dumped at this location. The residents of this neighborhood are calling for thorough investigations to establish accountability. It should be noted that the victim's body was transferred to the morgue at Makamba Hospital.

## ***II.1. RIGHT TO LIFE (the following of page 8)***

### ***A lifeless body discovered in Commune and Gitega Province.***

A lifeless body of a young man was discovered on February 12, 2026 on the banks of the Ruvyironza River on the border of Bwoga Hill in Gitega Commune and Province. According to information gathered from the population, the body of the deceased was first seen by local residents and was in an advanced state of decomposition. This information is confirmed by the Chief of Colline Fiacre Ndagijimana, who specifies that even the

identity of the deceased has not been found. Many are indignant and ask for investigations.

It should be noted that some say that it was a drowning while others say that the victim was killed elsewhere and thrown on the Ruvyironza River.

### ***The lifeless body of a young girl was found in the Commune and Province of Gitega.***

This Saturday, February 14, 2026, at around 8:30 a.m., on the Murago sub-hill, Mubuga hill and zone, commune and province of Gitega, in a eucalyptus plantation, a lifeless body of a 15-year-old girl, a student in 7th grade at Ecofo Mubuga II, was discovered. The victim's name was Ndayishimiye Cécile, daughter of Ndabumvirubusa Jean Bosco and Nitunga Godeberthe.

The body had wounds on the neck and back, and blood on his genitals, near the body, a bottle of an alcoholic drink called "Soma

Rwahiye" was found. According to our source, her parents say that she had left on Friday, February 13 around 5 p.m., when she told them that she was going to her classmate's house to study together.

According to the same source, the alleged perpetrators raped her before killing her. The body was transported to the municipal hospital of Mubuga on the order of the OPJ. The funeral is scheduled for Monday, February 16, 2026.

### ***Discovery of a lifeless body in Bugendana Commune in Gitega Province.***

This Sunday, February 15, 2026, at around 1 p.m., a lifeless body of an unidentified man was discovered in the Mubarazi River separating the Muramvya and Bugendana communes in the province of Gitega. According to our source, the body was seen by people who were cutting grass for cattle, on the bank on the side of Kibasi hill, Bitare area, Bugendana commune.

Our source of information adds that the victim was naked and had injuries on his face, as well as traces of tying up on his arms. The body was transported to the morgue of the Busangana Health Centre. The funeral took place on the evening of Monday, February 16, on the order of the commissioner of the administrator of the commune of Bugendana.

### ***The body of a lifeless woman was discovered on Rubanga Hill in the Ruyigi Commune.***

On the morning of February 15, 2026, the body of a lifeless woman was found on Rubanga Hill, in a rice field. The deceased is named NDAYISENGA Godeberthe, 50 years old, from Nyabigozi hill, in the same Zone. This woman had been missing since Thursday, February 12, 2026, according to her relatives, when she left the house, she showed signs of

mental disorder.

His body was discovered Sunday morning by passers-by on their way to mass. According to witnesses on the scene, her body when she was discovered was naked and showed signs on her body as if she had been raped before being killed.

## ***II.1. RIGHT TO LIFE (the following of page 9)***

In her face, there was a trace that suggests that she was killed with a metal object.

The population of this hill lives in panic because on this same hill in less than six months, 3 corpses have already been found. So far, the population is wondering about the motives and the perpetrators of these crimes. The body of the deceased was buried on the same day on Sunday by her family in collaboration with the municipal administration.

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### ***Burunga Province: The lifeless body of a young girl found on Kirama Hill, Mudende area, Rumonge commune***

On February 15, 2026, on Kirama hill, in the Mudende zone, Rumonge commune, Burunga province, a lifeless body was discovered by the authorities, in collaboration with the local police as well as the doctor of the Kigongo Health Center, who carried out the examination and found that it was a murder

following a rape of the young girl named Iradukunda Estella. The body was transported to the hospital in Rumonge. The alleged suspects, who were arrested by the police, are: 1. Nyishuyimana Claude 2. Nsengiyumva Juvan 3. Mpawenayo Emmanuel.

### ***A lifeless body of a woman found in the commune and province of Gitega***

On February 14, 2026, at 3 p.m., the body of a single mother of three, Ndimuruvugo Alice, 35, was found in the Nyakijanda River, between Musongati (Burunga province) and Gitega. According to the information, she came from Macu hill, in Itaba, in the commune and province of Gitega. We learn that she had been pregnant for some time. Her relatives said they last saw her on February 8, 2026, when she said she was on her way to Mbonwanayo Iréné's house to pick

up a loincloth he had promised her. The day before, on February 7, she had spent the evening with him and a man named Nyandwi Séverin in a bistro. His body was found in a bag, along with a lifeless newborn. His arms and legs were tied. The two men were arrested on the evening of February 14 and are being held at the Gitega police station.



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## ***II.1.2. ABDUCTION AND/OR FORCED DISAPPEARANCE***

### ***A missing person in Muha commune, Bujumbura province***

Information received by the Iteka League on February 15, 2026, indicates that Irakoze Thierry, aged 34, left his home on the morning of February 14, 2026, stating that he was going to the city center. According to his relatives, he has not returned home since his departure.

Originally from Munyina hill, Rutovu area, Bururi commune, Burunga province, Irakoze

lived, until the day of his disappearance, in the Gikoto neighborhood, Musaga area, Muha commune, Bujumbura province. His relatives waited for his return, but to no avail. All of his phones are turned off. Concerned about what might have happened to Thierry, his family and relatives are requesting the involvement of the authorities and security forces in the search for him.

## ***II.2. PHYSICAL AND/OR MENTAL INTEGRITY.***

### ***II.2.1. GBV/RAPE***

#### ***A minor girl raped on Murara hill, Rumonge Commune, Burunga province.***

On February 12, 2026, on Murara Hill, in the commune of Rumonge, Burunga province, a 7-year-old girl named I. A was a victim of rape. Passersby heard screams in the bush and went to see what was happening.

Unfortunately, the attacker escaped and the child did not recognize him. The child was taken to Muyange Hospital to receive medical care.

#### ***An administrative decision undermining women's rights in Ruyigi Commune, Buhumuza Province.***

In the commune of Ruyigi, the miners at the Rusobanya sites, located in Ruyigi Zone, and at Nyabariha, in the Rusengo Zone, are frequently identified as the instigators of family conflicts. To address this situation, the administration has implemented several measures, some of which include restrictions on the hours during which women can be outside the family home. The communal

administration stipulated that, starting from 9 p.m., it is strictly forbidden for a woman to be in a bar at night in the absence of her husband. Human rights defenders have expressed their concerns, stating that this measure constitutes a restriction of women's rights.



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### III. SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

#### III.1. DISRUPTION OF ECONOMIC LIFE

##### ***Fraudulent fuel trading is disrupting economic life in Kayanza, Butanyerera province.***

On February 12, 2026, approximately five thousand five hundred liters of fuel were seized by the police in Kayanza, in the Butanyerera province.

This fuel was sold at auction to vehicle and motorcycle owners in Kayanza, according to Pascal Nshimirimana, the provincial police commissioner in Kayanza. However, according to information from certain administrative authorities, who wish to remain anonymous in this article, this provincial police commissioner in the former Kayanza province wanted to divert this fuel to sell it through illegal means such as smuggling. But Cyriaque Nikoyagize, the governor's advisor in the Butanyerera province in charge of legal and political matters, pressured this police authority, stating that if the fuel was not sold publicly in front of the population, he would report it to the governor of Butanyerera province.

The fuel sold at auction on Thursday, February 12, 2026, was seized by the police in former communes of Kayanza province, and this product was being fraudulently marketed by fraudsters who obtained it from service stations in collusion with the managers of these stations. Another part of this fuel comes from Tanzania, and it is illegally imported by a certain Minani, also known as Mano y'isake, an Imbonerakure who does so under the cover of the provincial police commissioner in Kayanza. This commissioner is also accused by the population in Kayanza of receiving sums of money from him to protect him in this smuggling. Other information from the population in Kayanza also indicates that he would be involved in the fraud of Skol-type beverages produced in Rwanda, which he allegedly imports through the Kabarore area of Butanyerera province.

##### ***The distribution of FOMI fertilizers is suspended in Bururi, in Burunga province.***

The distribution of FOMI fertilizers has been suspended in Bururi, in the Burunga province. As of February 11, 2026, the municipal authorities, in collaboration with the DPAE of Bururi, decided on Tuesday to put an end to the distribution of FOMI fertilizers, in response to a protest movement from farmers who denounce a system considered unfair. This decision has led to complaints from beneficiaries who have outstanding arrears. The suspension is due to a disagreement in the implementation of directives issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Environment. According to ministerial instructions, the distribution was supposed to primarily serve farmers who had arrears from the previous cropping season, before addressing new applicants. However, some local

administrative authorities considered a "bulk" distribution, without distinction between former and new beneficiaries. This decision sparked the anger of farmers affected by arrears, who organized a sit-in in front of the Bururi zone offices to express their dissatisfaction. Faced with this tense situation, the municipal administrator of Bururi decided to postpone the distribution to the following Monday. According to local authorities, this suspension is also justified by the insufficient stocks available.

Indeed, this Tuesday, the DPAE of Bururi only had 30 tons of FOMI Imbura, an amount far below demand. Furthermore, distribution had not yet started in the Bamba and Muzenga areas. Farmers interviewed report that the quantities already delivered in some district capitals, particularly in the

### ***III.1. DISRUPTION OF ECONOMIC LIFE (the following of page 12)***

commune of Bururi, remain insufficient. Conversely, in the commune of Matana, it seems that distribution has followed ministerial guidelines, as according to local sources, farmers with outstanding arrears

were served first, each receiving two bags of FOMI.

#### ***The sale of corn is prohibited, and farmers are crying foul in Buganda, Bukinanyana commune, Bujumbura province.***

In the municipality of Bukinanyana, in the province of Bujumbura, discontent is rising among farmers in the Ndava and Buganda areas. The cause: a municipal decision dated February 10, 2026, banning the sale of corn to traders as well as its marketing in local markets. The measure is described by farmers as unfair, and they suspect it hides ulterior motives.

At the Gasenyi market, misunderstanding and anger prevail. A roasted corn seller of more than ten years, a family man, says he sees his livelihood suddenly challenged. "It is through this activity that I support my family and pay for my children's schooling. Today, it is being forbidden to us. It's an injustice," he laments, visibly affected.

Some claim to have invested all their savings in growing corn and now find themselves unable to sell their harvest, even at home, as they used to. For them, this decision constitutes a direct infringement on their right to freely dispose of their production.

Officially, the measure is said to be aimed at combating corn theft. But in the hills of Ndava and Buganda, the explanations are hard to swallow. Persistent rumors speak of fields belonging to certain administrative officials, already ready to be harvested. Several residents believe that the ban could make it

#### ***Businesses were ordered to close in the Commune of Karusi in Gitega Province.***

On the morning of Saturday, February 14, 2026, around 7 a.m. on the Buhiga Hill and Zone, groups of Imbonerakure were marching through the center in preparation for ceremonies organized within the CNDD-FDD, which take place in all areas. According to one of the Imbonerakure, the purpose of this march is part of the celebration at the end of

easier to prioritize the sale of these crops.

Adding to this situation is a financial dispute with the National Agency for Food Security Stocks (ANAGESA). Farmers claim to have delivered maize to this institution on credit nearly a year ago, without having been paid yet. "We delivered our production and we are still waiting for our money. Today, we are even being prevented from selling elsewhere," they lament.

In the face of this accumulation of frustrations, the residents are demanding the immediate suspension of the measure and the opening of a transparent dialogue with the local authorities. Contacted on the matter, the administrator of the Bukinanyana commune assures that the decision was made in the interest of the farmers. He categorically rejects the accusations of favoritism, calling the allegations unfounded and false. Pending a possible review of the decision, tensions remain palpable in this farming community, where maize represents much more than just a crop: An essential pillar of the local economy and the survival of many families.

each year and of their victory. As a result, and what is always worrying, is that all shops, stores, and other market places were closed, and Imbonerakure were turning against those who opened their shops. The population, who often rely on the market for supplies, faced many problems.

### ***III.1. DISRUPTION OF ECONOMIC LIFE (the following of page 13)***

#### ***Forced contributions imposed on the population by the Imbonerakure in Kirundo Commune, Butanyerera Province.***

On February 10, 2026, on Bushaza Hill, in the Bushaza area of the Kirundo Commune in the Butanyerera Province, the Communal Secretary of the CNDD-FDD party, Habimana Tite, had organized a meeting of CNDD-FDD party leaders and technical and political sectors.

According to one of the officials, this meeting had two objectives. The first was to reinforce the planting of avocado trees along roads and paths and to impose a fine of 10,000 F on those who boycotted this decision. The second was to raise awareness among the population to contribute food supplies to help Congolese refugees.

According to our source, each sub-hill was forced to give 100 kg, either of maize, beans,

or a mix of both. The collection of this contribution has caused tensions within the population. The Imbonerakure invaded households and seized everything inside (whether food, money, or clothing). Those who did not comply positively are labeled *ibipinga* (opponents), sympathizers of the M23, and restrictive measures follow. Those who were absent from community work (on Saturday, February 14, 2026) were fined 10,000 francs, with or without a receipt.

Know that once someone is labeled *igipinga*, it carries a very risky negative connotation. Because, once caught in an offense, one is severely punished, or even killed.

### ***III.2. RIGHT TO LIFE***

#### ***Shortage of medicines and a worrying increase in cholera cases in the Nyanza commune, Burunga province.***

On the shores of Lake Tanganyika, in the Nyanza commune, the health situation is becoming increasingly concerning. Cases of cholera, commonly called the 'dirty hands disease,' continue to be reported while healthcare facilities face a persistent shortage of essential medicines. According to local sources, medical care is no longer reassuring for the population. For more than a year, health centers and the Nyanza-Lac hospital have been experiencing repeated stock shortages of medicines, complicating the treatment of patients suffering from cholera, fever, or malaria.

The consequences of this situation are already visible. Several deaths have been recorded in the Nyanza-Lac health district following medical diagnosis. Patients arrive in critical condition and do not always receive appropriate care due to the lack of medicines.

As of February 8, 2026, six (6) death cases have been reported at Nyanza-Lac hospital. Hospital sources indicate that the shortage of medicines has severely limited the ability to provide adequate patient care. In response to this health crisis, residents are expressing their concern and calling on the authorities to intervene quickly to strengthen the supply of medicines and improve care conditions. Without urgent action, the spread of diseases and the increase in the number of deaths could worsen in this already vulnerable region.

## IV. CATEGORY RIGHTS

### IV.1. CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

#### IV.1.1. INFANTICIDE

##### *A 3-year-and-6-month-old child killed in Buhoro, Tangara commune, in Butanyerera*

On February 10, 2026 at around 2:00 p.m., Mr. Busokoza Divin of Buhoro Hill, Gatobo Zone, Tangara Commune, Butanyerera Province was arrested by the police just after voluntarily confessing that it was he who killed Gatekakimana King, aged 3 years and 6 months, child of his wife Niyukuri Joselyne on February 09, 2026.

According to local sources, the author showed the place where he had hidden the child's body in a coffee field of his father Mbonabuca.

He had decapitated his head with a sharp object.

In his statements, he accepted that he killed him for fear that he would inherit him in the future and he would give him property. Reliable information indicates that Busokoza Divin and his wife Niyukuri Joselyne had just married legally on December 31, 2025. The author is before the judicial police officer for questioning. The population of this locality is demanding that justice be done.

##### *A 3-month-old fetus aborted with pharmaceutical drugs in Rukina, Rwibaga commune, Bujumbura province.*

Information received by the Iteka League on February 12, 2026, indicates that on February 4, 2026, a 25-year-old young woman aborted a 3-month-old fetus using pills that she had purchased at a pharmacy.

This young woman, known as NIBITANGA Solange, daughter of NDAYAHUNDWA Léandre and NAHIMANA Marie Chantal, is originally from Rukina Hill, Rukina area, RWIBAGA commune, Bujumbura province. According to neighbors' testimonies, she became pregnant unintentionally and then decided to terminate the pregnancy using pills bought from a pharmacy.

The abortion was reportedly difficult, her health condition worsened, and she was taken

to Ijenda Hospital, but the doctors could not save her as she was already in critical condition.

She received medical care, but what surprises many people is that the doctors claim the termination of the pregnancy was not done voluntarily. Some residents of Rukina believe this could be related to bribes that were allegedly paid to doctors at Ijenda Hospital as well as to the local police officials in Mukike.



## V. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Iteka League strongly condemns the ongoing deterioration of human rights in Burundi and denounces the impunity of the perpetrators of crimes. It calls on the Burundian authorities to take all possible measures and recommends the following:

### ***To the Government of Burundi:***

1. To ensure respect for human rights, including the right to life, physical integrity, and liberty.
2. To investigate the phenomenon of bodies not being recovered in various localities across the country, without any action being taken by the government.
3. To take measures to end impunity for crimes and ensure that those responsible for human rights violations are held accountable for their actions.
4. To guarantee access to basic services, including water, sanitation, health, education, and justice, for all citizens.

### ***To the technical and financial partners of the Government of Burundi, including the UN, EU, and diplomatic missions accredited to Burundi:***

1. To support the efforts of the Iteka League and other human rights organizations in monitoring human rights violations in Burundi.
2. To use their influence to pressure the Burundian authorities to respect human rights and put an end to impunity.