



BURUNDIAN LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS "ITEKA"

WEEKLY REPORT

"Iteka n' Ijambo"

Anyone should be respected

N°528 from 25 to 31 May 2026

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



In memory of Mrs. Marie Claudette KWIZERA, treasurer of the Iteka League, missing since December 10, 2015. From December 2015 to May 31, 2026, at least 870 victims of enforced disappearance have been documented by the Iteka League, at least 87 victims have reappeared, and 783 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:

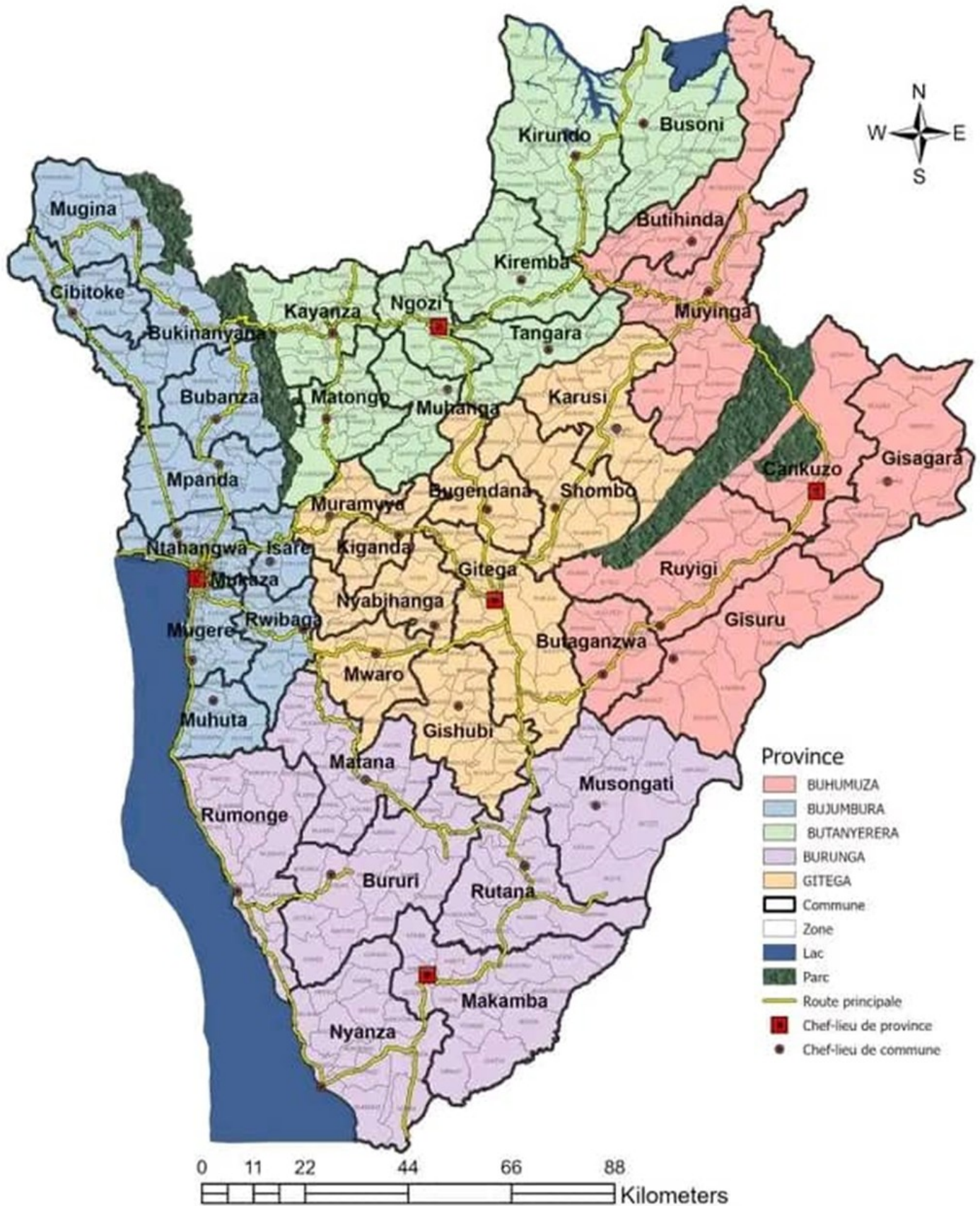
- ◆ "Is a member of the Inter-African Union for Human and Peoples' Rights (UIDH), is an affiliated member of the International Federation for Human Rights Leagues (FIDH),
- ◆ Has observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights under reference number OBS.236 and is a member of 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

BRB: Bank of the Republic of Burundi

CDS: Health Center

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

DCE: Communal Directorate of Education

DPE: Provincial Directorate of Education

ECOFO: Primary School

FDLR: Rwandan Defense and Liberation Force

M23: March 23 Movement

OBR: Burundi Revenue Office

OPJ: Judicial Police Officer

OTB: Burundi Tea Office

RN: National Road

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0. INTRODUCTION

This bulletin presents the human rights situation in Burundi for the week of May 25 to 31, 2026. The Iteka League also examines contexts including political, governance, security, judicial, economic, and humanitarian aspects. It reviews examples of violations of civil and political rights, as well as socio-economic and cultural rights from this week.

The violations reported by the Iteka League include: at least 5 people killed, including 2 bodies found and 1 victim of domestic violence, 2 people abducted, and 1 rape victim. Among the victims, 2 women were killed and 1 was raped.

The suspects of these violations are government officials, police officers, military personnel, and young Imbonerakure from the ruling party, CNDD-FDD.

1. CONTEXT

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT

Organization of sports sessions perceived as intimidating

Since the beginning of May, starting at 5:45 a.m. every Saturday, singing, drumming, and loudspeakers have been used at high volume, with the participation of some students, to rouse the Imbonerakure in the commune of Bugendana, Gitega Province, to participate in sports activities. These Imbonerakure come mainly from the hills of Mukoro, Mugitega, Kibungo, Cishwa, and Mwutire in the Bugendana Zone and travel along National Road RN 15 (Gitega–Ngozi). According to accounts from the local population, during these activities, slogans and messages containing threats against people who do not support the CNDD-FDD party are chanted. For example, when passing by the home of an

individual perceived as not supporting the party, participants sometimes stop briefly in front of the house to march in place while shouting slogans such as: “You still have time to come to your senses,” “Those who delay will regret it,” “Let those who are not welcome watch and hide.” According to various witnesses, including some members of the CNDD-FDD, this behavior has become an incomprehensible practice and underscores that such actions contribute to creating a climate of fear and intimidation within the community.

1.2. SECURITY CONTEXT

Assassination attempt in Bugabira Commune, Butanyerera Province.

On May 31, 2026, around 7 p.m., in Murwa sub-hill, Ruhehe hill, Bugabira zone and commune, Butanyerera province, a group of criminals attempted to assassinate Nzeyimana Dismas, 28 years old, son of Sabumwami Ezekiel and Miburo Marie, and his son Siyoni Jean de Dieu, aged 3, using machetes and bows. According to local witnesses, Nzeyimana Dismas was injured in the arm and his child in the head, and they were transferred to Kirundo hospital after being seen at the Ruhehe La Lumière health center.

The police of the EMS Bugabira on a night

patrol with the Joint Human Security Committee quickly intervened following a call from the local authority. According to the same local witnesses, these criminals viciously destroyed the victim's banana field and fled, but the police, the Joint Security Committee, and the administration in synergy quickly hunted down these criminals by conducting a search and raid on the different sub-hills of Gacamirinda hill and Ruhehe hill, which started from 8:00 PM until 12:30 AM.

Four people: Nkunuzimana Viateur, 42 years

1.2. SECURITY CONTEXT (the following of page 5)

old, son of Ngendakumana and Nyandwi, residing on Ruhehe hill; Munanira Frédéric, 56 years old, son of Misogoro and Nsabayanka, residing on Gacimirinda hill; Nsengiyumva Abdalan, 26 years old, son of Majambere Ferdinand and Mukandamagi

Léonie, residing on Gacimirindi hill, Kinyamateke sub-hill

and Bizimungu Elissa, aged 25, son of Minani Pascal, was arrested with materials covered in blood, including bows and machetes.

Security concerns related to military interference in the mining sector and the presence of the FDLR in certain units of the Burundian army.

The involvement of individuals close to those in power in commercial sectors inevitably leads to social consequences. These repercussions are all the more serious when they originate from the military.

On May 20, 2026, a specific and unusual incident nearly led to a major crisis. The soldiers stationed at the Burundi Tea Office (OTB) factory in Buhoro were due to be relieved by a new team. This new team had the special mission of supervising and gathering intelligence on gold mining activities at the Nyamikoma sites, located near the OTB's tea plantations. Civilians from the surrounding area and OTB workers overheard soldiers speaking Kinyarwanda. The news spread quickly, causing widespread panic. The officer in command of these soldiers made the same observation and

discreetly conducted an investigation. This revealed that, at the time of deployment, he had not been informed of the presence of foreign elements within the new relief team.

Some Imbonerakure were then instructed to sow confusion among the population by spreading the rumor that they were infiltrators from the M23, a Congolese rebel group. The next day, as the peasants returned home early for fear of their safety, these Rwandan elements were evacuated by military vehicles in the evening. Sources indicate that about thirty FDLR elements were involved with these troops.

1.3. GOVERNANCE CONTEXT

Dissatisfaction of the population in Kirundo Commune, Butanyerera Province.

A month ago, the community of the commune of Kirundo was forced to pave the area in front of their residences. The Administrator of the commune of Kirundo, in collaboration with the secretary of the CNDD-FDD party, imposed on citizens whose plots border the national road (RN) to pave the area in front of their homes and businesses, including repairing the roadway when it is damaged.

However, the implementation of this directive proves to be particularly difficult. The community of Kirundo is plagued by extreme poverty, making it challenging for many residents to carry out this task. Those who choose not to comply with this order face a fine of 100,000 FBU.

Voluntary contributions from teachers for the inauguration of a CNDD-FDD veterans' house in Mwaro Commune in Gitega Province.

The inauguration of a CNDD-FDD veterans' center located in the Mwaro district and commune, in Gitega province, is scheduled for June 6, 2026. The center is named "Guheraheza no kwinjira inzu

y'Uwarurwanye." Consequently, the various educational officials of the schools in this area have issued a message addressed to all staff members of each school, requesting a contribution for this event. Each individual is

1.3. GOVERNANCE CONTEXT (the following of page 6)

invited to make a contribution according to their means, to ensure the success of this celebration, by no later than May 30, 2026, without any pressure being exerted. Nevertheless, given that a list of contributors will be submitted to party authorities, some members of the teaching staff who are not affiliated with the party are expressing concerns about the possibility of being denied certain services. It should be noted that the

date of May 30 precedes the payment of civil service salaries. Many teachers indeed consider the end of the month to be a difficult time, as their salaries are meager in the face of rising prices, which makes it hard for them to make ends meet.

Suspension by the municipal administration of the sale of highly alcoholic beverages in Ruyigi Commune, Buhumuza Province.

As of May 20, 2026, the administrator of the commune of Ruyigi, Mrs. Niyibitanga Diane, issued a decision to suspend all sales of highly alcoholic beverages packaged in plastic bottles throughout the entire commune. The products concerned include notably beverages commonly referred to as 'Kiki' as well as those known under the name 'Agasarabwayi.' A grace period of two weeks was granted to traders to sell off the aforementioned goods still present in their shops and kiosks.

The deadline for this process is set for June 3, 2026. Beyond this date, any seller or consumer caught selling or consuming these products will be liable to severe penalties. According to this authority, these drinks are the cause of many ailments, the main one being the risk to consumers' health. Since the majority of these

consumers are young people, it is noted that they often start consuming these products early in the morning, which has harmful repercussions on national and family development, as consumers devote their time to consuming these drinks instead of engaging in productive activities. In this context, the administrator has called for the involvement of the administration, the police forces, the judicial authorities, as well as joint security committees to ensure the strict enforcement of this measure.

1.4. JUDICIAL CONTEXT

Illegal detention of a police cook in Bururi commune, Burunga province.

Since late February 2026, Ferdinand Nivyabandi, 38, a cook at the Bururi police station, has been in police custody on charges of stealing kitchen equipment used to prepare meals for police officers but which was no longer in use. Police sources say he was arrested for investigative purposes and that his case is in the hands of Investigating Officer Vasco. Police authorities, including Police Colonel Venant Barumbanze, the commissioner in charge of the Bururi and Matana districts, and Police Colonel Ladislas, the judicial police commissioner for those

districts, confirm that he was placed in custody to investigate the case.

Ferdinand's family deplores this exceeding of the detention time limit in this cell and wonders why the prosecutor for the Bururi commune, Frédéric Ndayikeza, is not intervening in this case, even though his office regularly visits this cell. They are demanding that Ferdinand be released or that his case be forwarded to the prosecutor's office.

1.4. JUDICIAL CONTEXT (the following of page 7)

Dismissal and detention of a director in Cankuzo commune, Buhumuza province

As of May 21, 2026, in the commune of Cankuzo, Buhumuza province, Anselme Barandya, married, 57 years old, director of ETS Cankuzo (Secondary Technical School) located on the outskirts of the urban center of Cankuzo, hill, zone, and commune of Cankuzo, was dismissed from his position as director and replaced by Audace Saruhene. According to local sources, on May 25, 2026, Anselme Barandya was arrested and detained in the cell of the Cankuzo provincial police station.

According to local witnesses, he hit Jocelyne, the daughter of Bararugira Emile, a teacher at this school, accusing her of not greeting him. According to the same witnesses, a few days earlier, Anselme Barandya had sent an audio message to this teacher proposing to sleep with her, which she refused. Since she was hit, she has filed complaints with the public prosecutor's office and the DCE and DPE, stating that she will no longer return to work as long as this Director is still there.

A judicial police officer demands money from detainees in exchange for a detention cell in Bururi, Burunga province.

The police dungeon in Bururi is divided into three distinct areas. Among these areas, the second, located in the center, serves as an office for the judicial police officers (OPJ). According to information gathered from several detainees, it appears that the third area is rented at a rate of 50,000 Fbu for each detainee wishing to avoid sharing the dormitory with all the other detainees in the first area of the dungeon.

The same sources report that part of this amount, namely 20,000 Fbu, is explicitly

demanded by OPJ Vasco. The remaining 30,000 Fbu is then paid to the police station cooks, who are responsible for secretly feeding the detainees present in this area. The detainees wonder about the basis for Vasco's demands regarding the payment of these 20,000 Fbu, an amount perceived by many as a rental fee for a cell in the dungeon that is not even part of his personal assets or property.

1.5. ECONOMIC CONTEXT

Militarizations of the mining sector in Mugina commune, Bujumbura province

On May 27 and 28, 2026, a significant event took place in Mugina, a commune in the Bujumbura province. The local administration, at the hill level, decided to visit the gold mining sites in the Ruhoro, Mabayi, and Butahana areas. The purpose of this visit was clear: to inform the owners of these mines that they would henceforth have to report only to military representatives. A major change was added to this: each owner would be required to hand over 50% of the gold extracted to the army.

This regulation is seen by many as a worsening of the already difficult conditions for cooperatives and traditional gold panners, who, it is crucial to remember, invest significant sums to cover their various expenses such as fuel, wood, labor, as well as municipal taxes and the tax to the Burundian

Revenue Office (OBR). In addition, there is this 16% levy on products intended for the Bank of the Republic of Burundi (BRB). Surprisingly, the army does not contribute financially at all to this process, thus eliciting criticism from cooperatives and site owners, who see this situation as a true expropriation.

A week earlier, rumors had circulated, hinting at a takeover of the gold-bearing lands in the commune of Mugina. On May 22, 2026, a military delegation from the General Staff even inspected the sites of the former Tanganyika Mining, seeking to establish a position to ensure the security of gold extraction on behalf of Prime Niyongabo, Chief of Staff, and President Evariste Ndayishimiye. The fears expressed by the population therefore seem justified.

1.5. ECONOMIC CONTEXT (the following of page 8)

On one hand, there were gold miners whose survival was increasingly at risk, as they were often forced to go into debt with shopkeepers and other merchants to obtain basic necessities. At the same time, investors within the cooperatives were facing a critical situation, unable to repay their bank loans or recover their mortgaged assets. The victims of these new regulations then turned to the government, requesting loans tailored to this economic reality or, failing that, fair compensation that would allow them to transition to other sectors. Although some small-scale gold miners expressed a willingness to work for the government, others had no choice but to shift to other

activities.

The local population, for its part, reminded the government that the residents of the former commune of Mabayi had always derived their income from gold panning. Thus, they implored the government to halt these new measures, hoping for a return to the free practice of their activity as in the past.

1.6. HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT

Need help for 740 Burundian returnees coming from Tanzania at the Nyabitare transit site.

Burundian returnees from refugee camps in Tanzania who are at the Nyabitare transit site continue to appeal for help from anyone willing to assist them.

As a reminder, these returnees have been at the transit site since April 24, 2026, and have so far received no assistance from humanitarian organizations operating in the transit camp.

After a long wait, they have received only food assistance from Caritas Burundi. In addition to these 27 returnees who have been at the transit camp since April 24, 2026, there are 713 returnees who have arrived at

the transit camp from the Nyarugusu refugee camp; the details, by province of origin, are as follows:

- ⇒ Ruyigi: 22 households comprising 73 members,
- ⇒ Cankuzo: 115 households comprising 561 members
- ⇒ Gitega: 25 households comprising 79 members

A total of 162 households comprising 713 members.

These returnees continue to request return tickets from UNHCR to return to their provinces of origin



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II. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

II.1. RIGHT TO LIFE

II.1.1. VOLUNTARY HOMICIDES

II.1.1.1. PEOPLE KILLED BY IMBONERAKURE

One person killed in Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura province

On May 28, 2026, on the 4th avenue of the Muyinga district, Kinama zone, Ntakangwa commune, Bujumbura province, Didier Nkurunziza, 21 years old, a novice mechanic, was stabbed to death in the evening by an imbonerakure named Yamuremye in a restaurant. According to local witnesses, the victim was in this restaurant and used to have his meal in it.

According to the same witnesses, when it was time to pay his bill, he was missing a thousand francs and the alleged perpetrator jumped on him and

stabbed him in the rib and he died on the spot. His body was taken to the morgue of the military hospital in Kamenge.

The same sources add that the alleged perpetrator of the crime was arrested by the police and taken to the dungeons of the Kinama area.

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

A lifeless body of a woman found in Karusi Commune , Gitega Province.

On May 25, 2026, around 6 a.m., on Kigoma hill, Nyamugari zone, Karusi commune, Gitega province, a woman named Madeleine, a member of the CNDD FDD, over 50 years old, originally from Karunyinya hill, Buhiga zone of Karusi commune, was found dead in an abandoned toilet near the Karusi central market.

A source on site told us that she had gone to attend mass at the Sacred Heart parish of Karusi on May 24, 2026, and upon leaving, she went to a local beer pub and got drunk; when she went to the toilet, she did not return. The next day, she was found by people who were looking for grass for the cows near those old toilets.

A lifeless body of a man found in Gisagara commune in Buhumuza Province.

On May 24, 2026 at around 6 a.m., in the capital of the Mugeru Zone, Gisagara Commune, Province of Buhumuza, a lifeless body of Jean Claude, a retiree from the Ex-FAB of a fifty-year-old was discovered by passers-by on their way to the first mass.

According to local witnesses, the deceased's clothes were torn, which suggests that his clothes were torn when he was trying to defend himself against these criminals and had a large wound on his face. According to the same witnesses, the political motives were behind

this assassination because the deceased was a member of the CNL party, the wing of the Honourable Agathon RWASA.

The body of the deceased was taken to the morgue of the Mishiha Joint Hospital to await burial.

The administrator of the Gisagara commune, NZIRUBUSA Japhet says that he is not aware of it but that he will inquire about the situation because he is on a working mission in the People's Republic of China

II.1.2. PERSONS KILLED FOLLOWING A SETTLEMENT OF SCORES

One person killed and two others injured in Kirembe commune, Butanyerera province

On May 28, 2026, at approximately 9:00 p.m., on Kigufi Hill, in the Marangara area, Kirembe commune, Butanyerera province, Bizoza Isaac, tax collector for the Marangara area, chief of Kigufi Hill, and chief of the Ruvyagira sub-hill, Juvénal Nizigama, were ambushed by RWASA Hermès, known by the nickname “Mpanga,” aged 39, son of Sinzohakurumutwe Balthazar and Banyase Marie, as they were returning home.

According to local sources, RWASA Hermès stabbed Bizoza Isaac three times with a knife: in the chest, back, and eye, and also stabbed Juvénal Nizigama above the eye and the village chief in the cheek.

Bizoza Isaac was rushed to the Kigufi Health Center (CDS), where he died upon arrival, and Juvénal Nizigama was taken to the same facility for treatment. As for the village chief, he sustained only minor injuries, as the stab wound did not penetrate deeply.

After committing this crime, RWASA Hermès took refuge on the roof of his house and began throwing tiles at the people who came to arrest him. The police had to intervene to arrest him, including AP2 Ndoriyobija J. Bosco who fired a warning shot in the air to force the suspect to come down from the roof.

RWASA Hermès tried to flee, but he was quickly subdued by citizens who had mobilized and some residents wanted to take the law into their own hands by lynching him. However, the police intervened to protect him, although he had already been injured in the head by the mob and was kept in the jail of the Marangara police station to prepare the file.

II.1.3. ABDUCTIONS AND/OR FORCED DISAPPEARANCES

Disappearance of two agents presumed to be from intelligence in Muha commune, Bujumbura province

On June 2, 2026, the ITEKA League received information that two men, both informants for the National Intelligence Service (SNR), were kidnapped in Bujumbura on Friday, May 22, 2026.

The incident occurred along Lake Tanganyika, very close to Nyabugete Beach. The two victims of this abduction are Vincent Nsengiyumva and Anicet Nsengiyumva. Vincent Nsengiyumva, aged 33, was a football player on the Burundi National Police team “Rukinzo.”

At the same time, he worked as an informant for the SNR at the Gatumba border post and was involved in fuel smuggling from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Originally from Manga Hill in Kabarore commune of the for-

mer Kayanza province, he lived in Kinama with his family. As for Anicet Nsengiyumva, he is a native of Kabuye Hill, in Buraza commune, Gitega province, and had been living in the Nyabugete quarter of

Bujumbura.

According to information provided by the King Umurundi Freedom organization, the events began on the morning of Friday, May 22, 2026. Another military investigation officer, named Franck and living in Musaga area near Gasekebuye, reportedly asked Vincent to drive his Voxy to a garage in Buyenzi quarter for some repairs. Once the work was completed, Vincent went to Franck’s house, and it was then that the two men set off for Gatumba.

Upon their return from Gatumba, they had planned to relax at a restaurant-bar called MINA RESTO BAR, located in Nyabugete quarter. On the way, Franck reportedly received a phone call from Anicet, who proposed that he carry out an operational mission to track down fabric smugglers from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Franck, however, rejected this proposal, arguing that he could not undertake such an action without first obtaining approval from his superiors.

After some time, Anicet joined his two colleagues in the establishment and ordered a drink to refresh himself. It was then that he received an anonymous call. Overcome with acute worry, he reportedly begged his friend Vincent to accompany him outside.

Since the bistro was built on an upper floor, they went downstairs to meet their interlocutor, who turned out to be a man named Nordin Nsengiyumva, also known as Robati.

He informed them that he wished to hand over some packages to them, but that they were by Lake Tanganyika with another contact. They all then got into the Voxy car, registered FA 9379 and belonging to Anicet, to head towards Lake Tanganyika, near Nyabugete Beach. At the location, they met another individual, whose identity remained anonymous, who was in possession of the packages in question containing fabric cloths and bottles of wine.

After loading this merchandise into their car, and

at the moment they were making a U-turn to return to the Nyabugete quarter, a white Hilux vehicle, without license plates and equipped with tinted windows, suddenly appeared at high speed to block their way. Three men in civilian clothes and four others in police uniforms immediately got out of the interception vehicle. They unloaded all the parcels from the Voxy to transfer them into the Hilux, before arresting Vincent and Anicet and forcibly taking them away. Although the two SNR agents tried to call for help, their efforts were in vain. As for Robati and the second intermediary met at the lakeside, they left safe and sound in the company of law enforcement. So far, no one knows exactly where the two SNR agents are.

Some local sources claim that Vincent might already be dead, because he held many compromising secrets about the circumstances of Anicet's arrest. Other sources rather assert that the two informant agents were personally involved in extortion activities as well as in gasoline and fabric trafficking networks coming from the DRC. It is finally important to point out that the Hilux-brand vehicle used to carry out this kidnapping would belong to Police Brigadier General Domitien Niyonkuru.

II.2. PHYSICAL AND/OR MENTAL INTEGRITY

II.2.1. RAPES

A young girl raped in Rumonge commune, Burunga province

Information received by the Iteka League on May 25, 2026, indicates that on May 20, 2026, on Kanyenkoko Hill, in the commune of Rumonge, province of Burunga, F. S, a 14-year-old schoolgirl in the 6th year at the Congolese school, was raped by the alleged perpetrator named Kampaya, a Congolese resident of the same hill, aged 14 according to what he said during the police interrogation. The alleged perpetrator did not have proof to show that he is a minor. The victim was taken to the Rumonge hospital, and the alleged perpetrator

was incarcerated in the police station jail of Rumonge before being released due to lack of documents disproving the minority age. The incident occurred when the alleged perpetrator tried to call the girl and then took her to an uninhabited house to lock her up and commit the act. It was the parents who noticed the child's absence, then started searching and found her in this house.

II.2.2. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

A woman killed by her husband in Nyanza commune, Burunga province

On the night of May 29, 2026, on Mbizi Hill, Mabanda area, Nyanza commune, Burunga province, Christine Minani was beaten to death with a club by her husband, Miburo Jean Bosco. According to local witnesses, this

couple was always in conflict and they add that this man had consumed alcoholic beverages before killing his wife. The alleged perpetrator of the crime was arrested and held in the police cell in Mabanda.



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III.1. DISRUPTION OF ECONOMIC LIFE

A fire at the Cibitoke market in Bujumbura province

On May 29, 2026, around 6:00 p.m., a fire broke out at the market in the main town of Cibitoke, Bujumbura Province, destroying more than 15 stalls selling vegetables, tomatoes, and other food items.

According to a resident living near the market, the fire broke out in the area where charcoal is sold south of the Cibitoke market, before spreading to the section reserved for the sale of tomatoes.

In addition to the goods destroyed by the fire, others were looted by thieves; the fire truck arrived late, and the looting in the market during the fire was stopped by the military. The merchants affected by the looting and fire say they have suffered enormous losses and

that it will be difficult for them to repay their loans.

For the time being, soldiers and police are patrolling the market. The authorities have closed the site and are conducting investigations to determine the cause of the fire.

The merchants affected by this disaster say they are overcome with sadness and anxiety.

It should be noted that another market in Bujumbura Province the Kinama Market was the victim of a fire on May 7, 2026, and 395 stalls went up in smoke, 25 of which were insured.

III.2. RIGHT TO EDUCATION

School activities replaced by those of the CNDD-FDD

As of April 25, the construction of the zonal office took on a new dimension with the forced involvement of students in the construction work of this office for the ruling party.

In all the schools in the area, students, particularly those from grades 4 to 9, are forced to go into the marshes to transport the bricks used for this construction of the CNDD-FDD office in the Rwisabi zone, Bugendana commune, Gitega province.

Parents claim they do not understand why their children are being deprived of classes to carry out work that does not concern a public interest infrastructure. They also recall that the population had already been financially solicited for these same activities.

Habumukiza Floribert, head of the Rwisabi zone, Nduwimana Edouard and Kubwimana Julien, respectively heads of the Kuvoga and Kidasha hills, Mizero Alphonse, Niyibogora Diomède, and Nshizirungu Nazaire, respectively directors of Ecofo Kidasha, Kivoga, and Rwisabi I, are the most active in monitoring these works and in intimidating students who refuse to participate.

According to our sources, these officials are reportedly responsible for identifying any student who refuses to participate in the work and then summoning their parents to explain their position.

Students in the 9th grade also report having been threatened that they would not be allowed to take the National Exam if they refuse to participate in these activities.

On May 29, 2026, in all the schools in the Muramvya area, all the principals of these schools asked all the students to each bring some dry banana leaves (ibihunda). The next morning, these students were all taken, with these banana leaves, to a coffee field belonging to the CNDD-FDD party on Ndago hill in the Muramvya area.

They spent the entire day maintaining this vast field. Everyone is wondering how all the students can stop school activities in favor of the activities of a political party, especially since the school year is coming to an end. The order had been given by the head of the Muramvya area, Uwimana Jean Marie.

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

The Government of Burundi should:

1. Systematically conduct transparent judicial investigations upon the discovery of dead bodies
2. Guarantee the families of victims the right to file complaints and to access the findings of autopsy reports prior to any burial.
3. Take measures to end impunity for crimes and ensure that those responsible for human rights violations are held accountable for their actions.
4. Ensure that the country's economic resources benefit all citizens and not the personal interests of some leaders, senior officers, and members of the police.
5. Immediately cease using the military for mineral extraction in various parts of the country.
6. Stop turning schools intended for children's education into venues for political meetings.