



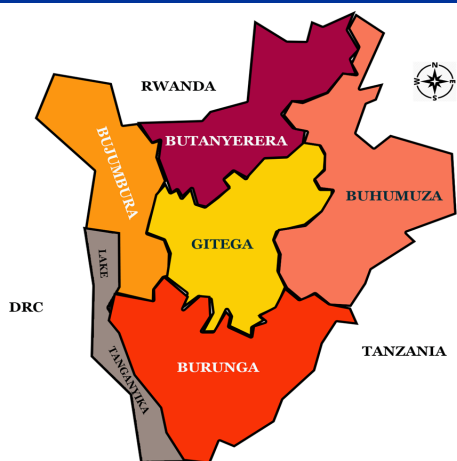
BURUNDIAN LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS "ITEKA"

WEEKLY REPORT

"Iteka n' Ijambo"

Anyone should be respected **N°536 from 20 to 26 July 2026**

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



In memory of Madame Marie Claudette KWIZERA, treasurer of the Iteka League, who has been missing since December 10, 2015. From December 2015 to July 26, 2026, at least 876 victims of forced disappearance have been documented by the Iteka League, at least 87 victims have reappeared, and 789 victims are still missing. The UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID) has already communicated at least 252 cases to the government of Burundi.

The ITEKA League:

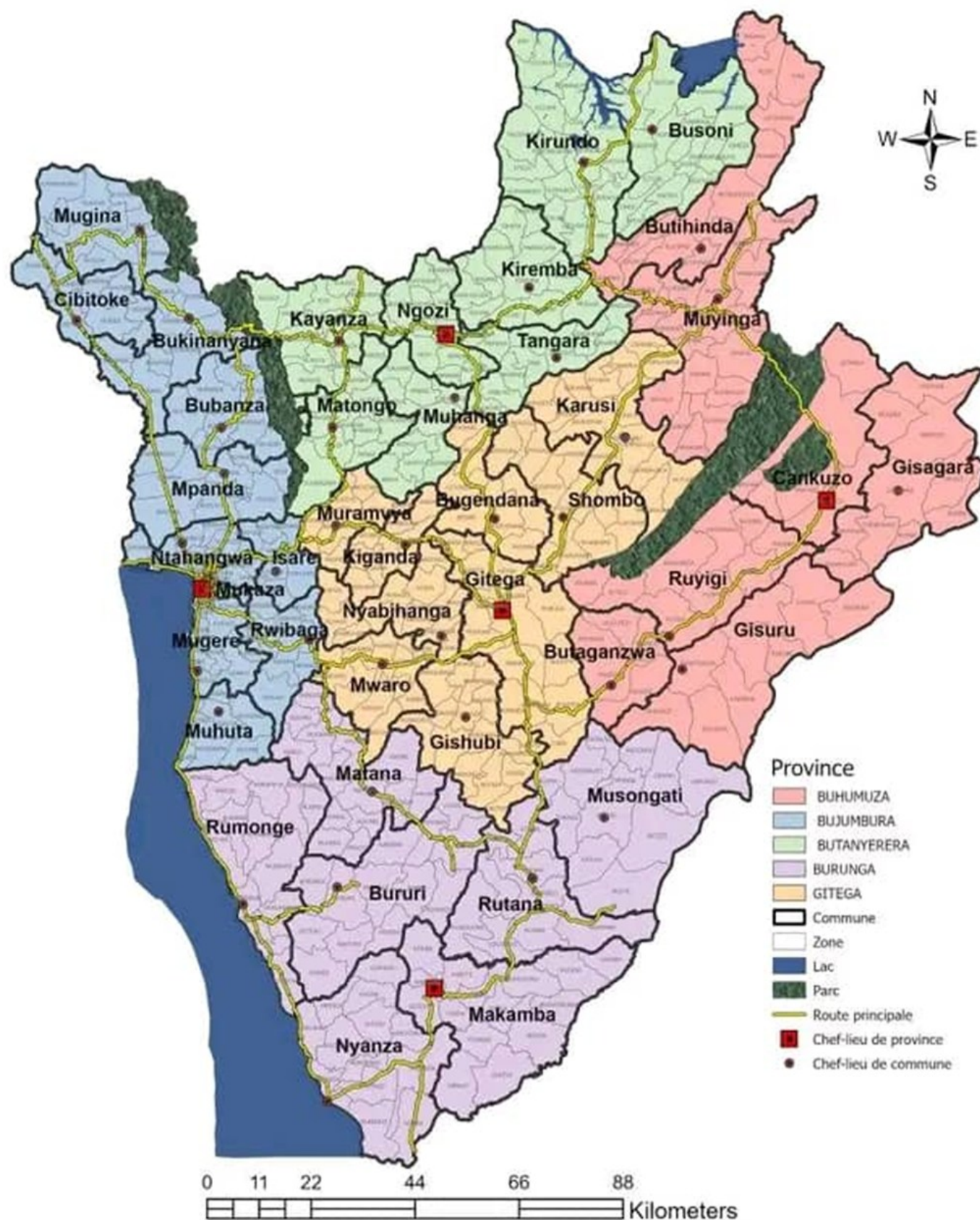
- ♦ 'It is a member of the Inter-African Union for Human and Peoples' Rights (UIDH), is an affiliated member of the International Federation of Human Rights Leagues (FIDH),
- ♦ has observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights under reference number OBS.236, and is a member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

CDS: Health Center

CECI: Independent Communal Electoral Commission

CEPI: Independent National Provincial Commission

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

DPE: Provincial Directorate of Education

ECOFO: Fundamental School

M23: March 23 Movement

OBR: Burundian Revenue Office

OPJ: Chief Police Officer

OTB: Burundi Tea Office

RDC: Democratic Republic of the Congo

RN: National Road

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 July 20 to 26, 2026. In this report, the Iteka League also looks at the security, political, governance, and humanitarian context. It also analyzes illustrative cases of violations of civil and political rights that marked this week.

The human rights violations observed and documented by the Iteka League are as follows: at least 7 people killed, including 3 bodies found dead, 2 of them newborns. 2 children died following a grenade explosion, 1 person electrocuted on a public street by an electric pole. 3 gender-based violence (GBV) cases, including 2 rape victims, and 3 people subjected to arbitrary arrests.

The main suspects in these violations are administrative agents, police officers, intelligence service agents, and young Imbonerakure members of the ruling party, the CNDD-FDD.

I. CONTEXT

I.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT

In previous newsletters, the Iteka League discussed the ongoing preparations for the 2027 presidential elections. These preparations have involved a series of political meetings and presentations to members of the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) and the Independent Provincial Electoral Commissions (CEPI). Subsequently, members of the Independent Communal Electoral Commissions (CECI) have also been consulted, and this process continues. It is worth noting that these structures appear to have been tailor-made by

the ruling party, the CNDD-FDD. They are composed primarily of members of this same party, as well as its allies and supporters. This raises numerous questions about their true independence in the processes of preparing, conducting, and counting the votes during the elections. In addition to dividing and polarizing opposition parties, the current situation reveals a deep disregard for democratic principles, thus making the hope of truly free and transparent elections unlikely.

Introduction of the members of the CECI Bugendana.

On July 22, 2026, the municipality of Bugendana held a ceremony to present the members of the Independent Municipal Electoral Commission (CECI) for the 2027 presidential elections. The session was opened by the Bugendana municipal administrator, Ciza Melchiade. The Independent Provincial Electoral Commission (CEPI) of Gitega was represented by Nahimana Léonard, a CEPI member and the Bugendana municipality's supervisor for these elections.

The CECI members presented were:

⇒ President: Bankibigwira Paul (Hutu, CNDD-FDD), who also held this position during the 2025 elections;

⇒ Vice-President: Ndacayisaba Emelyne (Tutsi), appointed by the CENI; she was also on the 2025 CECI;

⇒ Head of Equipment: Nsengiyumva Jean-Marie Viateur (Hutu), appointed by the CENI. He too was part of the CECI 2025.

⇒ The members of the bureau are:

Ndayisaba Roger (Hutu), nominated by the CNDD-FDD;

⇒ Akimana Evode (Hutu), nominated by the FECABU Church;

⇒ Nizigiyimana Pascasie (Tutsi), nominated by the Administration;

I.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT (the following of page 5)

⇒ Niyonkuru Innocent, Hutu, nominated by the Anglican Church.

As with the presentation of the CEPI members, participants were asked not to criticize the nominees, but only to verify that the commission's composition respects the required balance in terms of ethnicity, gender, and representation of the different groups.

Officials also explained that, unlike previous electoral commissions, the administration is now involved in validating candidacies to ensure that the nominated individuals are qualified to perform their duties, specifying that the administrative authorities are primarily responsible in the event of any malfunctions in the electoral process.

Two interventions stood out during the discussions, including that of Nsabimana Emmanuel, the UPRONA party's local representative, who stated he did not understand why his party was not represented on the Bugendana Independent Electoral Commission (CECI), noting that it was even

represented on the local council. The response was that, even though UPRONA did not win any seats in this commune, it is represented on five of the nine CECIs in Gitega province, added the CEPI representative at the ceremony.

As for Mbazumutima Anatole, the CNDD-FDD party's local representative, he welcomed the establishment of the commission while noting that the ruling party only held two seats, which he considered insufficient. The organizers responded that some individuals appointed from other political groups could also be members of his party.

The meeting also brought together all the zone chiefs and hill chiefs of the commune. During the discussions, a message was repeated several times that "challenging the composition of the electoral bodies (CENI, CEPI or CECI) would amount to opposing the authorities or wanting to disrupt public order".

Introduction of the members of the CECI RUMONGE

On July 22, 2026, at 10:00 AM, in the town of Rumonge, a presentation was held for CECI Rumonge, which will begin its activities in August 2026.

The welcoming remarks were given by the Executive Secretary of the Rumonge Municipality, who reminded participants that the municipality is composed of 13 zones from the former municipalities of Rumonge, Burambi, and Buyengero. He then gave the floor to the representative of CPI Burunga, who highlighted the importance of these activities.

The latter introduced the members of the commission, which is composed of seven people:

⇒ President Birikumana Dieudonné, Hutu from the CNDD-FDD,

⇒ Vice-President Kantungeko Christine, Hutu from the CNDD-FDD,

⇒ Logistics Officer Dushimirimana Adeline, Tutsi from the APDR,

The members of the board are:

⇒ Nzirubusa Omar, Hutu, Muslim, Mpfukamensabe Innocent, Hutu, UPRONA,

⇒ Niyogusenga Diane, Tutsi, CNDD-FDD, Bukeyenze Etienne, Tutsi, CSO (MIPAREC)

It should be noted that the participants in this presentation included representatives of religious denominations, political parties, CSOs, as well as municipal staff.



Anyone should be respected

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT (the following of page 6)

Introduction of the members of the CECI from the Butaganzwa commune, Buhumuza province

On July 21, 2026, in the municipality of Butaganzwa, the CEPI Buhumuza organized a presentation of the members of the CECI of this municipality. According to information gathered on site, it appears that all the members come from the CNDD-FDD party or its allies, and that the composition is almost ethnically homogeneous.

The presented members of the CECI are:

- ⇒ President: NDAYISENGA Hyancinthe; female; Hutu ethnicity, CNDD-FDD
- ⇒ Vice President: NISHIMWE Lionnel; male; Tutsi ethnicity, Administration

⇒ In charge of equipment: NDIKUBWAYO Innocent; male; Hutu ethnicity, CNDD-FDD

The board members are:

- ⇒ DUSABE Amandine; female; Hutu ethnicity, Administration
- ⇒ NDUWARUGIRA Vanessa; female; Hutu ethnicity, Administration
- ⇒ NTIHEBUWAYO Marie Chantal; female; Hutu ethnicity, APDR
- ⇒ NDAGIJIMANA Jérémie; male; Hutu ethnicity, ACOPA Burundi

Political speech of the CNDD-FDD and livestock return at the Rwandan-Burundian border

On July 22, 2026, the Iteka League received information revealing that several CNDD-FDD officials had conducted raids in the communes of Bukinanyana, Mugina, and Cibitoke, in Bujumbura province. Among them were individuals mandated by the party's general secretariat at the national level (Révérien Ndikuriyo), provincial level (Wilson Ndayishimiye, Gertrude Niyokindi), and communal level (Anitha Nininahazwe for Mugina, among others).

These officials claimed to be delivering an urgent message from the secretary general, warning of the dangers posed by Rwandan President Paul Kagame to Burundi. They maintained that, without the CNDD-FDD, the country would be vulnerable to Kagame's actions, which they described as "bloodthirsty and plundering." According to them, after sowing chaos in the Democratic Republic of Congo and suffering defeats against Burundian forces and the Imbonerakure, Kagame now seemed intent on attacking Burundi to seize the mineral wealth that the CNDD-FDD and President Évariste Ndayishimiye were discovering.

These officials added that the Rwandan population was facing a severe famine, thus inciting Rwandans to provoke Burundians living near the border in order to steal their crops. This propaganda aimed to encourage the residents of Bujumbura to renew their support for Évariste Ndayishimiye in the 2027 elections.

They warned that failing to renew their support could lead to a similar ordeal for Burundians as that suffered by the Congolese. This message was broadcast following the official return of the livestock, which took place on June 24, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., at the Ruhororo-Bweyeye border crossing. On this occasion, the Mugina Joint Communal Security Committee returned three cows that had been seized on April 24 of the same year on Ngoma Hill, in the Rubona area. Investigations had determined that these cows had been stolen in Rwanda, specifically in Rushwati, in the Bweyeye cell of the Rusizi district.

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT (the following of page 7)

A political intolerance in the Cankuzo commune, Buhumuza province

Information received by the Iteka League on July 25, 2026, reports political intolerance within the commune of Cankuzo, Buhumuza province. As an example, on July 12, 2026, on Nyarurambi Hill, located in the Kigamba area of Cankuzo Commune, Audifax Kwizera, a member of the CNL party, was subjected to violence by Imbonerakure youth members from that hill. According to local sources, these Imbonerakure forced Audifax Kwizera to remove his shirt and put on a CNDD-FDD party T-shirt.

The young men involved in these acts are:

Gérard Niyonzima, Donatien Gasaba, and Yvan Mbayahaga, all members of the Imbonerakure on that hill. According to the same sources, these acts occurred as the Imbonerakure were returning from community work. Since Audifax Kwizera is a member of the CNL party and did not take part in this work, he was accused of being an opponent of development, a claim they made.

Increased activities of the ruling party in Buhumuza province

Information received by the Iteka League on July 25, 2026, indicates that in Buhumuza province, July 17 and 18, 2026, were marked by sustained activity by the ruling party. The CNDD-FDD party organized meetings in all areas of the province during these two days, namely Friday, July 17, and Saturday, July 18, 2026. Emissaries of the CNDD-FDD party's secretary general were deployed throughout the province, carrying a single message from the party's general secretariat, consisting of seven points from the national congress.

or highly alcoholic beverages, reminding leaders to perform their duties properly and set a good example, and strengthening collaboration between the leaders of the ruling party and administrative authorities.

Furthermore, these emissaries also urged participants to prepare for the upcoming presidential elections to achieve a 100% vote share for their party's candidate. They emphasized that no other political party should be allowed to operate within the country.

These points include: developing a five-year development plan, encouraging the population to dig compost pits, increasing the number of boarding schools, replacing teachers in areas with a critical shortage, combating prohibited

Imposed contributions and their impact in the province of Buhumuza

On July 28, 2026, in the commune of Gisuru, located in Buhumuza province, on the border of the Bwihaniza and Gacokwe hills, Imbonerakure youth, affiliated with the ruling party, established a checkpoint. All passersby aged 18 and over were required to present a receipt proving payment of two contributions: one for the construction of the Buhumuza provincial office and the other for the construction of the Gisuru communal office.

According to information gathered on site, these contributions were set at 2,000 Burundian francs (Fbu) for the provincial office and 7,000 Fbu for the communal office. Individuals unable to produce the receipt were forced to return home, with a one-week grace period. After August 5, 2026, those who have not paid these two contributions will be denied access to healthcare, markets, and the issuance of documents by municipal services.

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT (the following of page 8)

The same sources report that, starting August 5, 2026, on Yogero Hill, in the same commune, late payments will be penalized with a fine of 100,000 Burundian francs (Fbu). In the commune of Cankuzo, on Muyaga Hill, in addition to the contribution required from all persons aged 18 and over throughout

Buhumuza Province, an additional sum of 5,000 Fbu is required for the construction of the hill chief's office. Furthermore, each household is required to contribute 2,000 Fbu for the inauguration of this infrastructure; if unable to pay this amount, they are required to provide five cups of corn.

1.2. SECURITY CONTEXT

Two children killed by a grenade in Rutana commune, Burunga province

On July 23, 2026, around 1 p.m., on Gifunzo hill, in the Rutana zone and commune, Burunga province, two children, John Kelly Nkurunziza, 17, and Audry Irangabiye, 14, died due to a grenade explosion. According to sources on site, these children were handling the grenade in the absence of their parents, Ildephonse Nkurunziza, a police officer serving at the Nyanza-Lac communal police station, and Alice Nshimirimana, his wife. The children were trying to open the grenade with

a hammer in front of their house. The grenade was among their father's belongings. The same sources added that a hammer, which they had used, was in front of their house along with the grenade pin. One died on the spot while his brother passed away at the emergency service of Rutana hospital. Ildephonse was arrested by the police and held in the Rutana communal police station cell for investigations.

Mean destruction of a cow barn in the Karusi Commune in Gitega Province.

On July 21, 2026, around midnight, on Nzibariba hill, Buhiga area, Karusi commune, Gitega province, a stable belonging to a man named Alphonse, a member of the CNDD FDD, over 52 years old, caught fire, set alight by unidentified wrongdoers. According to local witnesses, he shouted for help and the

neighbors intervened before his 3 cows were burned, although the stable was completely destroyed. The same witnesses added that the victim has no problems with those around him but is in conflict with his wife, who went to her family two weeks ago. The police say they have started their investigation.

Fatal electrocution accident in Bubanza commune, Bujumbura province

On July 21, 2026, in the Muzinda neighborhood, within the Mpanda commune of Bujumbura province, a sad event took place. An electric pole, already in poor condition, carrying medium-voltage cables, suddenly collapsed onto the busy road. Unfortunately, the fallen power lines caused the tragic death of a motorcyclist, striking him instantly.

This terrible accident was blamed on the negligence of REGIDESO staff, who had been repeatedly warned by locals about the alarming deterioration of the pole. The day after the tragedy, July 22, 2026, REGIDESO teams quickly went to the site to replace three poles, trying to restore safety to this grieving community.

A man was beaten and injured in Karusi Commune in Gitega Province.

On July 26, 2026, at approximately 7:00 PM in the Kagoti sub-hill, Mwoya hill, Buhiga zone, Karusi commune, Gitega province, a man

named Ezekiel, a member of the CNDD-FDD party, over 35 years old, ambushed his brother Arakaza, a 26-year-old member of the

1.2. SECURITY CONTEXT (the following of page 9)

CNDD-FDD, and beat him severely before striking him on the head with a rock. According to local witnesses, the attack stemmed from Ezekiel's assault on July 21, 2026, when Arakaza was with his construction workers building a house across from Ezekiel's. The workers intervened, and Ezekiel chased them away with a machete. They then called

the police, who detained him for two days. He was released on July 23, 2026, and vowed revenge against his brother, Arakaza. According to a source close to him, he intended to kill him, but passersby intervened, and the victim was taken to Buhiga Hospital where he remains hospitalized, while the perpetrator was returned to the police station in Buhiga.

1.3. GOVERNANCE CONTEXT

Lack of agricultural fertilizers in Mwaro Commune in Gitega Province.

As of July 24, 2026, the ITEKA League received information that farmers working in the marshes in Mwaro commune are facing a shortage of chemical fertilizers.

This growing season C started around May, holding on to the hope that these fertilizers would become available, but in vain. This July,

some prefer to plant their crops without chemical fertilizers because the authorities haven't told them when these fertilizers will reach them.

These marsh crops (potatoes, vegetables...) help the population fight against famine towards the end of the year.

Extortion of administrative staff at the Muyinga commune base, Buhumuza province

The residents of Kinyota Hill are upset given the exorbitant fees that the chief of Kinyota Hill, Richard, is extorting from the population for the purchase of a Regideso water valve. Each household has to pay 50,000F, while even under normal conditions the valve shouldn't cost more than 150,000F according to the pipe connection technicians. The people of this hill wonder how they are supposed to buy Regideso

equipment when it's a commercial agency that should have its own materials and equipment to supply neighborhoods with water and electricity in sufficient quantity and quality, since households are just customers and they pay their bills regularly. It's worth noting that residents of Muyinga municipality can go more than a month without drinking water and have to buy a container for 2,000F.

Bands of fraudsters led by administrators in Muyinga, Buhumuza province

On July 18, 2026, around midnight, on the bridge connecting Nkoyoyo and Tanzania, in Mageni Hill, Kayenzi Zone, Muyinga Commune, Buhumuza Province, the former administrator of the former Gasorwe Commune, currently the Executive Secretary of Muyinga Commune, was arrested in a Muyinga Commune double-cab pickup truck filled with large sacks of dried coffee and a small container also filled with coffee. According to local witnesses, the Imbonerakure (youth wing of the ruling party) surprised him and quickly alerted the head of intelligence in Muyinga,

who came to arrest him accompanied by the communal administrator, Hon. Amédée Misago. The alleged perpetrator has been incarcerated in the SNR (National Intelligence Service) cells in Bujumbura, near Regina Mundi Cathedral, since July 19, 2026. The other individuals who were with him are also being held in the SNR cells in Muyinga, including a man named Robert, from Mukoni Hill. This gang of fraudsters lives together with this executive secretary on Mukoni Hill in the Mukoni extension district.

1.4. HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT

Refugee protest at the Busuma camp, Ruyigi commune in Buhumuza province.

On July 22, 2026, at approximately 10:00 AM, Congolese refugees at the Busuma Refugee Camp in Kayongozi Zone, Ruyigi Commune, Buhumuza Province, protested while being registered by UNHCR staff for repatriation.

According to local witnesses, the protest stemmed from the refugees' being informed that repatriation would not take place this week due to a lack of fuel, despite their usual weekly repatriation schedule. This sparked the violent demonstration.

During the protest, they threw stones at a UNHCR minibus, license plate CD39 B43, and smashed its windshield. The police quickly helped evacuate all UNHCR staff from the offices without incident. Most of the protesters

were children and women requesting an acceleration of the voluntary repatriation process. To disperse the demonstrators and restore order, police fired warning shots into the air.

Police arrested seven leading refugee protesters who are being held at the Ruyigi Judicial Police Station for investigation regarding the violence. According to the same reports, some refugees fainted during the scuffles and were later revived by the sound of police gunfire.

The police arrested seven leading demonstrators who had taken refuge and are being held at the Ruyigi Judicial Police station for the preparation of a criminal case related to the violence.

1.5. JUDICIAL CONTEXT

Conviction of a PNB officer before the Appeal Court in the Commune and Province of Gitega.

In a flagrante delicto trial held on July 18, 2026, at the Gitega central prison, police lieutenant Jean Bosco Nayuburundi, head of the Buhiga police post in the Karusi commune, in the Gitega province, was sentenced to five years in prison and fined 100,000 Fbu by the Gitega Court of Appeal for intentional serious bodily harm. According to local sources, on the night of July 12, 2026, police lieutenant Jean

Bosco Nayuburundi shot Nicolas Nsabimana, who was injured in the thighs. Police lieutenant Jean Bosco Nayuburundi pleaded not guilty and described it as an accident while he was trying to break up a fight among people drinking beer at a bistro known as BANACO BAR in the Buhiga town center.

A family is being stripped of their house in Muramvya commune by the communal administrator.

On July 23, 2026, the family of Sindakira Ferdinand, from Muramvya Hill, Muramvya Commune, Gitega Province, was dispossessed of their house located in the commune's main town.

While there was a dispute over this family home, the Muramvya Commune Administrator, Éric Nkurunziza, bypassed the legal process.

This house belonged to the late Barumpozako Marc, father of Ferdinand and his four

brothers. The brothers had taken the matter to the local elders ("Abahuza"), who in turn referred them to court. The case was registered with the Muramvya Resident Court under number RC 8362.

While the trial was proceeding normally, Ferdinand's brothers, two of whom were living abroad, came to the country to bribe the Commune Administrator. He was naive and complied with their demands. Accompanied by five police officers, the

1.5. JUDICIAL CONTEXT (the following of page 11)

municipal administrator of Muramvya arrived at the property on July 23, 2026, and ordered the occupant (Ferdinand's son) to leave immediately with all his belongings: furniture, beds, mattresses, kitchen utensils, etc. When

he began to hesitate, the police officers immediately forced him to comply and threw everything outside. The affected family is now at their wits' end.

II. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

II.1. RIGHT TO LIFE

II.1.1. PEOPLE KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED PEOPLE OR BODIES FOUND DEAD.

A lifeless body was found in the Gishubi Commune in Gitega Province.

Information received by the Iteka League on July 22, 2026, indicates that on July 16, 2026, on Murangara hill, Nyabiraba area, Gishubi commune, Gitega province, the lifeless body of a 6-year-old boy was found in an eucalyptus plantation, after being missing for seven days. According to local witnesses, the victim was deaf-mute, but his name was not yet known,

and he is the son of Ntahizaniye Georges and Sindayihebura Glorioso. The same witnesses report that, due to the advanced state of decomposition of the body, the administrative authorities ordered its immediate burial. No suspect has been arrested, and no investigation has been opened to determine the circumstances of this death.

A lifeless body found in the Cankuzo commune, Buhumuza province

On the night of July 25, 2026, on Mwuzumure hill, Minyare zone, Cankuzo commune, an unidentified man, about 55 years old, was killed and his body was found the next day, July 26, 2026 by passers-by who were going to their fields. According to sources on the scene, his body was hanging from a tree like a goat. This man's throat was slit and the head was

separated from the rest of the body. The identity of this person was not known because he was not from this locality.

The communal administration proceeded with his burial and the same administration said that investigations are underway to know the identity of this person, the perpetrators and the motives of this crime.

II.2. PHYSICAL AND/OR MENTAL INTEGRITY

II.2.1. THE RAPES

A girl was raped on Nyabikaranka hill, Kayanza commune, in Butanyerera province.

On July 21, 2026, I.L., originally from Nyabikaranka hill in the Kayanza commune of Butanyerera province, was raped by Habarugira Désiré. The victim was taken to

Kayanza hospital to receive medical care, but the alleged rapist fled and has not been caught to face justice.

A girl raped in Mugere commune, Bujumbura province

Information received by the ITEKA League on July 22, 2026, indicates that on July 15, 2026, on Kabezi Hill, Mugere Commune, Bujumbura Province, Manirambona Amissi, 49 years old,

originally from Minago Hill, Minago area, Rumonge Commune, Burunga Province, was arrested on charges of raping N.J., 19 years old, a student at the 9th grade ECOFO

II.2. PHYSICAL AND/OR MENTAL INTEGRITY (the following of page 12)

Rugata school, Minago Zone, Rumonge Commune.

According to local witnesses, the parents noticed the girl's disappearance in May 2026 and began searching for her. The family received information that she was living with the alleged perpetrator. In collaboration with the local administration and police, they arrested him and took him to the Rumonge Communal Police Station, where he is

currently being held. During questioning, the girl stated that after the rape, the alleged perpetrator intimidated her and fled with him to the Mugere commune in Bujumbura province, where he had rented a house to live as husband and wife.

A medical examination at Rumonge Hospital revealed that the girl was two months pregnant at the time of her arrest.

II.2.2. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

A man injured in Karuzi commune, Gitega province

On July 19, 2026, around 7 p.m., on Mwoya hill, Buhiga area, Karuzi commune, Gitega province, Ntukamazina Thaddée, also known as Muzarendo, a member of CNDD FDD, over 35 years old, working as a journalist in Karuzi commune, was injured by his wife during an argument in which she accused him of loving

other women. According to local witnesses, this couple had been arguing for two years, with the wife always accusing him of seeking other women, which the husband denies. The man was taken to Buhiga hospital where he received treatment, and the woman ran off to an unknown location and has not returned yet.

II.3. RIGHT TO FREEDOM

II.3.1. ARBITRARY ARREST

A CNL activist and a Rwandan arrested in the Mugina commune of Bujumbura province.

On July 21, 2026, at approximately 8:00 a.m., at the Ruhororo Health Center in the Ruhororo area of Mugina commune, Bujumbura province, Corneille, a nurse in his forties, was arrested without a warrant and taken away in an unidentified vehicle in Mugina by armed men in civilian clothes while he was at work treating a patient. Nearly a week later, no information has been released regarding the true reasons for his arrest or his whereabouts.

A source within the Imbonerakure youth wing, who were guarding him before his arrest, indicates that he is accused of having taken a walkie-talkie a radio used by many Imbonerakure to communicate with each other from an Imbonerakure member and selling it in Rwanda. However, this accusation was fabricated to frame the victim, who is reportedly a member of the CNL faction led by Agathon Rwasa.

This arrest is causing concern among many other pro-Rwasa activists and is taking place while another group of people are being hunted down and arrested for their Rwandan origins.

On the same Tuesday, July 21, 2026, a Rwandan man in his seventies, nicknamed "Munyarwanda," a butcher and restaurant owner who had lived in Mabayi since 1994, was arrested in Ruseseka, in the Buhoro area, while he was buying meat. The perpetrators of this arrest are believed to be the same armed individuals in civilian clothes.

The residents of Mugina are demanding that the reasons for all these arrests be clearly explained to the public and that these Rwandans be kept informed of any administrative proceedings against them.

II.2. PHYSICAL AND/OR MENTAL INTEGRITY (the following of page 13)

A person arrested in Bubanza commune, Bujumbura province

On July 20, 2026, around five p.m., a young man named Kinure was arrested in a private hospital in Bubanza. He was with his wife, who had been injured the day before during a violent domestic dispute related to an affair. His arrest took place over that weekend, following an operation carried out by members of the Imbonerakure. After being apprehended, Kinure was taken and held in detention for two days in the cell of the local police station in Bubanza.

III. CATEGORY RIGHTS

III.1. VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

III. 1.1. VOLUNTARY HOMICIDES

A newborn thrown into a latrine ditch in Kayanza commune, Butanyerera province.

Information received by the Iteka League on July 24, 2026, indicates that on July 11, 2026, a daughter of Aline Bitangimana, aged 25, from Nyangwe hill, Kayanza commune, Butanyerera province, gave birth to a child and threw it into a latrine ditch. According to local witnesses, neighbors heard the baby crying in the toilet and alerted the joint security committee. Aline Bitangimana was arrested and taken to the Kayanza communal jail, and the baby was pulled from the toilet by Red Cross workers and then buried respectfully.

A lifeless body of a newborn was found in the Bubanza commune, Bujumbura province.

On July 19, 2026, on Mpinga Hill, Ntamba area, Bubanza commune, Bujumbura province, a single woman, mother of two dependent children, gave birth to a child that she then threw into the toilet pit of Ruhondo school. The newborn's body was later taken out of the pit and buried.

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

To the Government of Burundi:

1. Carry out systematic and transparent judicial investigations whenever bodies are found.
2. Ensure that victims' families have the right to file complaints and access autopsy reports before any burial.
3. Take measures to end impunity for crimes and ensure that those responsible for human rights violations are held accountable.