**Coding notes: Bujumbura, Imphal, Colombo, Jaffna, Benghazi**

# Bujumbura

## Introduction

**Conflict**: Burundi (Government). UCDP Conflict ID: 287

**Time period(s) under study**:[[1]](#footnote-1) 2006-09-27 to 2008-03-01 and 2008-08-23 to 2014-12-30

**Conflict termination**:[[2]](#footnote-2)

*First TP:* Even though a Peace Agreement was signed on 7th Sept 2006 between the government and Palipehutu-FNL, violence continued. On 26th Sept 2006, the last deadly event of the year is coded in GED dataset, where 2 civilians died during a battle between Burundi police and a rebel splinter group in the town of Giko.The postwar period came to an end when between the 28th Feb 2008 and 1st March 2008 (date unclear), the Burundian army kills about 20 rebels near capital, as coded in GED dataset, bringing the number of battle related deaths above 25 that year.

*Second TP*: A peace agreement was signed in Dec 2008, but the date chosen reflect the last deadly event of the year, where a Burundian soldier died in rebel skirmish in Murwi town on 22nd Aug 2008 (GED dataset.). The postwar period came to an end when on 30th Dec 2014, a large-scale deadly event is coded in GED dataset between Govt of Burundi and armed group RED-TABARA bringing the number of deaths above 25 that year.

## City description

Prior to the war, Bujumbura has somewhat ethnically diverse city, with some neighbourhoods hosting both Tutsi and Hutus, while others were more segregated along ethnic but also class lines (urban Tutsi often being more white colour or elite, and rural Hutu migrants settling in poorer neighbourhoods). However, the civil war exacerbated the divisions when the violence took an ethnic turn.

In the post-war era, the CNDD-FDD party (Nkurunziza’s party, primarily Hutu) had strong support nationwide, but mostly in the countryside. In Bujumbura, CNDD-FDD faced fierce competition from opposition parties (FNL and MSV), but also from HR activist, journalists and dissident voices in civil society. CNDD-FDD and their majority Hutu base therefore view Bujumbura as the capital of the Tutsi-dominated old regime, where opposition actors, influenced by western NGOs, and out of touch with “real Burundians” will do anything to destabilise the current government.

Note: in 2014, an administrative reorganisation of the communes of Burundi saw the Province of Bujumbura divided into two separate Provinces: Bujumbura Mairie Province and Bujumbura Rural Province. Bujumbura Mairie is divided in three main areas: Muha, Mukaza and Ntahangwa, each subdivided in neighbourhoods.

## Factiva search summary

(Bujumbura or Buja) and (kill\* or murder\* or assassinat\* or attack or die\* or injur\* or dead\* or death\* or wounded or massacre\* or clash\* or riot\* or violent\* or violence\* or rape\* or stab\* or bomb\* or beat\* or kick\* or shot or shooting or hospital\* or tué\* or tue\* or assassin\* or meurtre\* or mour\* or mort\* or attaque\* or attentat\* décéd\* or décèd\* or bléss\* or blessure or massacr\* or affront\* or émeut\* or viol\* or poignard\* or frapp\* or batt\* or coup\* or tir or tirs or tire or tirés or hôpital\* or genocide or grenade or gun or guns or fusil\* or machete or machette or AK47) and (UPRONA or Union pour le Progrès national or PARENA or Parti pour le redressement national or Imbogaraburundi or PRP or Parti de la réconciliation des personnes or Sans Échec or Sans Défaite or Sans Pitié or Sans Capote or FRODEBU or Front pour la Démocratie au Burundi or CNDD or Conseil national pour la défense de la démocratie or FDD or Forces pour la défense de la démocratie or CNDD-FDD or Palipehutu or Parti pour la libération du peuple Hutu or Frolina or Front pour la libération nationale or FAP or Forces Armées Populaires or Palipehutu-FNL or FNL or Forces nationales de libération or Front du Peuple Murundi or Abatabazi or FPM-Abatabazi or FNL-Ubugabo-Burihabwa or CNARED or Conseil National pour le respect de l'Accord d'Arusha pour la Paix et la Réconciliation au Burundi et de l'Etat de droit or Rwasa or Isidore Nibizi or Aloys Nzabampema or Godefroid Niyombare or Banyamulenge or Tutsi or Hutu or Twa or BNUB or Bureau Des Nations Unies Au Burundi or BINUB or Bureau Intégré des Nations Unies au Burundi or FAB or Forces Armées Burundaises or FDN or Forces de défense nationale or Force de défense nationale du Burundi or FDNB or guerre or conflit or groupe armé or armed group or rebel\* or war or conflict)

**2006-09-27 to 2008-03-01**

First TP = 1602 hits (with nothing checked to limit entries except language : Fr + Eng and republished news and market data)

**2008-08-23 to 2014-12-30**

Second TP = 3790hits

=> with all extra words : 4243 if omit republished news and market news

=> with Burundi as a region = only 2907 (so not enough)

## Additional sources

Human Rights Watch reports:

* Human Rights Watch (2009) *Pursuit of Power: Political Violence and Repression in Burundi.*
* Human Rights Watch (2010) *“We’ll Tie You Up and Shoot You”. Lack of Accountability for Political Violence in Burundi*.
* Human Rights Watch (2010) *Closing Doors? The Narrowing of Democratic Space in Burundi.*
* HRW (2012) *“You Will Not Have Peace While You Are Living”. The Escalation of Political Violence in Burundi*.

Other reports:

* Ligue ITEKA - RAPPORT ANNUEL SUR LA SITUATION DES DROITS HUMAINS AU BURUNDI- 2008
* Amnesty International (2010) A STEP BACKWARD 2010 Report

## Geocoding notes

We have used Bujumbura Mairie delimitations as limits for the northern and eastern limits of the city but have chosen to code events that take place as far as the Mugere River (-3.4819; 29.35245) in the South due to visible links of the urban areas extending south of the capital.

Coordinates have been taken from MapCarta and google maps, and this is indicated in the “location source” cell.

## Additional notes

**Political violence and oppression of political opposition :**

The violence coded in our dataset reflects a wider pattern of widespread and brutal politically motivated violence in Burundi. These patterns of violence occurred especially around the elections with 2010 and 2011 experiencing high numbers of FNL and CNDD-FDD members being killed in tit-for-tat reprisal killings. Many of such killings coded in our dataset have been documented in Human Rights Watch reports. Some did appear in the news, but authorities have a tight grip on the press and journalists have been targeted for their reporting, so it is possible that some of these killings went unreported due to fear of punishment. Furthermore, some of the killings have been framed in the government’s discourse of “banditry” and “criminality”, in order to avoid international attention on extra-judicial killings of political opponents. This political violence is however a substantial part of the post-conflict reality in Burundi and although many cases happened in the capital and were therefore added to our dataset, violence in the countryside was also widespread. In September and October 2010 for instance, decapitated and mutilated bodies were found in the Rusizi and Rukoko rivers outside of Bujumbura, some of whom were identified as former FNL members. This example was not coded in our dataset as there was no possibility of knowing when and where the victims were abducted or killed, but it is a real possibility that they were residents of Bujumbura Mairie or Rural provinces and abducted or killed in and around Bujumbura. This kind of political violence is well documented by the Human Rights Watch reports cited in this document, which are useful readings to understand the context of patterns of political violence in Burundi.

**Land conflict relating to the Civil War:**

More than half a million Burundians (mostly Hutu) fled to Tanzania over the course of the 70s, 80s and 90s, following the waves of genocidal violence (1972, 1988, 1993 etc…), and several hundred thousand fled to DRC and Rwanda. Over the years, and especially after the civil war ended, refugees started to return. Land conflicts between those who had left (rapatriés) and those who had stayed (residents) were common, and sometimes took an ethnic dimension as many returnees were Hutu and residents were often Tutsi. However, many residents were also Hutu and Twa, with many violent conflicts between residents and returnees pitted Hutu against Hutu (Schwartz, 2019).

Because land was often expropriated, bought or sold during the war, returnees and residents both claimed the same land, creating tensions and conflict over the precious resource (Schwartz, 2019: 129). When CNDPP took power in 2005, the restitution of land to returnees, especially the 1972 refugees, was considered a form of transitional justice. This approach exacerbated violence between returnees and residents and increased hostility towards returnees.

**Grenade attacks:**

Many grenade attacks have been reported in the time periods this project looked at, however most of them happened outside of the city perimeters, while others didn’t have a clear link to the conflict (family quarrels, unknown perpetrators). However, these attacks, killing over 100 civilians each year (source : Ligue des droits de l'Homme, Iteka / AFP 11/07/2009 ‘*Burundi's hand grenade epidemic’*) are indirectly linked to the conflict in that they are often committed by demobilized combatants who hold on to ammunition and weapons, and they are also often linked to land conflicts, which are likely to be related to ethnic tensions and tensions linked to the return of refugees, as explained above. Thus, these attacks are an aspect of postwar violence in Burundi that should not be ignored.

**Sources: HRW report (2010) Closing Doors:**

*p.22 “Between June 12 and July 19, at least 125 grenades were thrown throughout Burundi. Grenades are frequently used in Burundi for settling personal scores or in common crimes, making it hard to assess which grenade attacks are politically motivated.”*

# Imphal

## Introduction

**Conflict**: India (Manipur). UCDP Conflict ID: 347

**Time period(s) under study**: 2009-12-29 – 2023-06-30

**Conflict termination**: Low activity

## Factiva search summary

Search string:

"in Imphal" and (kill\* or murder\* or die\* or injur\* or dead\* or death\* or wounded or massacre\* or clash\* or riot\* or violent or violence or rape\* or stab\* or bomb\* or beat\* or kick\* or shot or shooting or hospital\*) and ´(insurgency or conflict or war or "security forces" or government\* or army or rebel\* or insurgent\* or militia\* or trib\* or Isak-Muivah or Khaplang or Mayang\* or Pangal\* or Kuki\* or Naga\* or Paite\* or Vaiphei\* or Thadou\* or Simte\* Ralte\* or Gangte\* or Hmar\* or Meitei\* or Zomi\* or Komrem\* or "Kangleipak Communist Party" or KCP or "United National Liberation Front" or UNLF or "People's Liberation Army of Manipur" or PLA or "Kanglei Yawol Kunna Lup" or KYKL or "People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak" or PREPAK or "National Socialist Council of Nagaland-Khaplang" or NSCN-K or "Manipur People's Liberation Front" or MPLF or "Coordination Committee" or CorCom or "Hmar Pepole's Convention-Democracy" or HPC-D or "National Socialist Council of Nagaland-Isak-Muivah" or NSCN-IM or "People's United Liberation Front" or PULF or "Zeliangrong United Front" or ZUF or Maoist Communist Party-Manipur" or MCP-M or "Zomi Re-unification Organisation" or ZRO or "Thadou People's Liberation Army" or TPLA or "National Revolutionary Front of Manipur" or NRFM or "Manipur Naga Revolutionary Front" or MNRF or "Zomi Revolutionary Army" or ZRA or "Kuki National Front" or KNF or "Kuki National Liberation Front" or KNLF or "Manipur Naga People's Front" or MNPF or "Kuki Independent Army" or KIA or "Zomi Revolutionary Front" or ZRF or "United People's Party of Kangleipak" or UPPK or "United Naga People's Council" or UNPC or "United Kuki Liberation Front" or UKLF or "Kuki Defence Force" or KKDF or "Komrem People's Army" or KRPA or "Kuki International Force" or KIF or "Islamic National Front" or INF or "Manipur Komrem Revolutionary Front" or MKRF or "United Socialist Revolutionary Army" or USRA)

* Search limited to title and first paragraph (to reduce number of articles)

Number of hits (2009-12-29 – 2019-12-31): 7,188

Extended time period (<2023-06-30): 702 (full article search, not limited to head & lead)

## Additional sources

Database

* **Global Terrorism Database**

Articles/Reports

* <https://www.mha.gov.in/documents/annual-reports>
* <https://www.satp.org>

## Additional notes

Guidelines on Conflict-Related Clarity in Imphal

Ein Bild, das Tisch enthält.

Automatisch generierte Beschreibung

# Colombo and Jaffna

## Introduction

**Conflict:** Sri Lanka (government) and Sri Lanka (Eelam). UCDP Conflict ID**:**313 (government) and 352 (Eelam)

**Time period(s) under study**: 2009-07-04 to 2020-12-31

**Conflict termination**: Two separate conflicts have different termination date.

* The conflict over government (government of Sri Lanka vs JVP) terminated on 23 February 1990 (government victory)
* Eelam conflict terminated on 04 July 2009 (government victory). Date of termination reflects last day of fighting in line with UCDP conflict termination dataset. In May 2009, after a period of intensive fighting, the government declared that the war was over. Almost the entire political and military leadership of LTTE had been killed and the group recognized defeat.

## City description

**Colombo:**

Colombo is the capital and one of the three districts of the Western province of Sri Lanka. The administrative structure starts with province divided into districts which are then further divided into divisions. The district of Colombo consists of 13 administrative units (namely divisions) including Colombo Metropolitan area. While referring “Colombo”, it is important not to confuse Colombo metropolitan (city) with the entire Colombo district. The urban Colombo stretches beyond the metropolitan area and encompasses the parts of neighbouring divisions under along the shores such as Kolonnawa, Thimbirigasyaya, Sri Jayawardanapura Kotte, Dehiwala, Rathmalana, and Maharagama. According to 2012 census, the major ethnic groups composing the population of Colombo district were Sinhalese (76.7%), Tamil (11.20%), Moors (10.51%), and other (1.61%).

**Jaffna:**

Jaffna is a district in the Northern Province. The administrative structure starts with province divided into districts which are then further divided into divisions. The district of Jaffna consists of 15 administrative units (namely divisions) including Jaffna Municipal Council. While referring “Jaffna”, it is important not to confuse Jaffna Municipality (city) with the entire Jaffna district. The urban Jaffna stretches beyond Jaffna Municipality and encompasses the parts of neighbouring divisions within Jaffna district such as Nallur, and Valikaman East.

According to 2021 Statistics handbook published by Jaffna District Secretariate, the population size of Jaffna district is 624,155 while 82,539 live in Jaffna Municipality. The ethnic composition of Jaffna district consists of 99.15% Tamil, 0.8% Muslims and 0.05% Sinhalese. However, the population of Jaffna city consists of 92.15% Tamil, 7.8% Muslims, and hardly any permanent resident having Sinhalese background. Note that while the Tamils are predominantly Hindu by religion, majority Tamils live in Jaffna municipality are Christians. 2021 Statistics Handbook identifies that 54.37% population of Jaffna municipality are Tamil Christians whereas 37.8% are Tamil Hindus.

## Factiva search summary

Colombo/Jaffna and (kill\* or murder\* or die\* or injur\* or dead\* or death\* or wounded or massacre\* or clash\* or riot\* or violen\* or rape\* or stab\* or bomb\* or beat\* or kick\* or shot or shoot\* or hospital\* or clash\* or fight\*) and (eelam or tamil or LTTE or EPRLF or JVP or war or conflict or terror\*)

Region includes Sri Lanka and excludes India

Language: English

Timeframe: 4 July 2009 to 31 December 2020

Total hits for Colombo: 4,131

Total hits for Jaffna: 951

## Additional sources

ACLED, GTD (Global Terrorism Database), and UCDP have been reviewed. ACLED dataset records 207 in Jaffna incidents during 2010-2020 including a significant number of civil unrest and peaceful protests. The majority of the post-war violence that ACLED recorded were outside the urban Jaffna. The databases reviewed found no more incidents in urban Jaffna than that of identified by the Factiva search. UCDP recorded 260 deaths across Sri Lanka between 2010 and 2019, but 122 in Colombo (all resulted in by the terrorist attack by IS-affiliate in 2019) and none in Jaffna.

Centre for Monitoring Election Violence (CMEV, based in Sri Lanka) recorded election-related violence across Sri Lanka in three parliamentary and presidential elections since the war ended in 2009. However, CMEV’s reports are more driven by quantitative analysis by political parties, which are not very useful in finding details of the incidents.

The NGO and UN reports were more focused on incidents of the abuse of power and discrimination by the government agencies against the minorities which hardly fell under the definition of conflict-related violence.

## Additional notes

The Liberation Tamil Tiger Eelam (LTTE) fought against the government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) to self-determine a Tamil state called Tamil Eelam in the north-east of the Island. While the war was primarily between LTTE and GoSL, there were several major actors became active part of the conflict.

* **Muslims:** In 1985 and 1986, there was a series of raids and reprisals by the LTTE and Muslim Home Guards and/or Muslim “mobs”, which targeted Muslim and Tamil communities respectively. Repeated incidents followed in the following years. By 1994, nearly all Muslims had reportedly been displaced from Tamil-dominated areas of Jaffna, Mannar and Kilinochchi.
* **Indian Peace-Keeping Force (IPKF):** On 29 July 1987, the GoSL and Indian Government signed the Indo-Lanka Accord, to what LTTE refused to be a part of. As a result, the LTTE and IPKF began to engage in regular armed confrontations, which also involved Tamil militant groups that had allied with the IPKF. Conflict between LTTE and IPKF continued until March 1990, when the IPKF withdrew from Sri Lanka.
* **LTTE-defect:** In 2004, LTTE Colonel Karuna, Commander of the Eastern Province, defected along with 2,500-3,500 cadres. This faction regained influence by cooperating with the GoSL and providing with valuable intelligence on the LTTE.
* There were also smaller groups targeting and supporting either LTTE, IPKF or GoSL.

Note that there was no report of an incident perpetuated by directly LTTE (the main warring side) during the post-war period. LTTE is banned in Sri Lanka as a terrorist group and there are laws that incriminates the participation to LTTE and the use of LTTE symbol as well as remembrance. However, there had been constant claim by the government that the LTTE were regrouping and the searching of civilians without a warrant and security surveillance was pervasive. “This narrative feeds into Sri Lanka’s counter terrorism strategy internally and abroad and is used politically in order to justify militarization, securitization and political fear-mongering against minorities.” ITJP [Torture Report 2020-2021](https://itjpsl.com/assets/ITJP-Torture-report-2021-Sep-ENGLISH.pdf) (page 4). Especially, Jaffna remains highly militarized even a decade after the war ended. The guerilla nature of war in Jaffna also reflects post-war period: there were incidents in rural areas of Jaffna and remote areas of former warzones in other districts (especially Vanni and Batticaloa). For Jaffna, ACLED database identifies 207 incidents between 2010 and 2020, however majority of these incidents included peaceful protest and incidents without having any victims mentioned. The location of the incidents in ACLED dataset confuses Jaffna district with Jaffna city.

Government of Sri Lanka intends to and has managed to maintain stability of Colombo with no major conflict-related violence until the IS-backed terrorist attack killing 122 people in Colombo. The terrorist attack is not included in the project database because it appears to be unrelated to the previous war. A few incidents of small explosions were reported in Colombo without having details been published, but it was clear that the government suppressed the follow-up of the incidents to establish that Colombo is safe for the tourists.

# Benghazi

## Introduction

**Conflict**: Libya (government). UCDP Conflict ID: 11346

**Time period(s) under study**: 2011-11-23 - 2013-11-29

**Conflict termination**: Rebel victory.

## Factiva search summary

Benghazi and (kill\* or murder\* or assassin\* or die\* or injur\* or dead or death\* or wound\* or massacre\* or clash\* or riot\* or violen\* or stab\* or bomb\* or explosi\* or grenade\* beat\* or shot or shoot\* or attack or assault or hospital\* or clash\* or fight\* or war or conflict) and ("Government of Libya" or "Libyan National Army" or LNA or "National Transitional Council" or NTC or "Popular Front for the Liberation of Libya" or PFLL or "House of Representatives" or "General National Congress" or GNC or "Ansar al-Sharia" or ASL or "Katibat Ansar al-Shariah" or ASB or ASD or army or military or police or terror\* or militant\* or militia)

Hits: 4,473

## Geocoding notes

This resource was useful to identify some of the locations: <https://www.mapz.com/map?zoom=16&lon=20.081720399317025&lat=32.12883302352258&layers=mapz_multicolor_base>

## Additional notes

Not active in Benghazi but was active in Tripoli: Zintan Military Council or ZMC

Benghazi Revolutionaries Shura Council (Majlis Shura Thuwar Benghazi, sometimes referred to as BRSC or MSTB) was formed after 2014.

ASL (Ansar al-Sharia in Libya, or the “Supporters of Islamic Law in Libya”) was an Islamist militia group active in Libya. ASL was created following the merger of Katibat Ansar al-Shariah in Benghazi (ASB) and Ansar al-Shariah in Derna (ASD) at some point during 2011; both the ASB and ASD had in turn been created during the [uprising](https://ucdp.uu.se/#/conflict/11346) that led to the ousting of Muammar Gaddafi in 2011. The group was initially called just “Ansar al-Sharia”, but changed its name to ASL in October 2012 in order to distinguish itself from a similarly named group in Tunisia. ASL became known to the wider audience in September 2012, when it was accused of participating in an attack against the United States’ consulate in Benghazi, in which the US ambassador Christopher Stevens was killed; ASL did however deny any responsibility for the attack. Following the attack on the consulate, intense popular protests forced ASL to leave its main stronghold in Benghazi in 2012; ASL’s Derna-branch temporarily disbanded itself following the attack, and did not reemerge until late 2013.

1. I.e., period(s) when the city is “post-war”. Follows UCDP conflict termination dataset, which is the basis for our operationalization of post-war period. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Describes how the conflict ended. If there is additional information on the circumstances/dates (i.e. nuancing/questioning the UCDP code) this is noted in the comment. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)